

## Agenda Council

**You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, to be held on Tuesday, 1 March 2022 at 6.00 pm for the purpose of transacting the following business:-**

**The Mayor of Sandwell, Councillor Mushtaq Hussain, in the Chair**

- |   |  |         |
|---|--|---------|
| 1 | <b>Apologies for Absence</b>   | 9 - 10  |
|   | To receive apologies for absence (if any).   |         |
| 2 | <b>Declarations of Interest</b>  | 11 - 12 |
|   | Members to declare any interests in matters to be discussed at the meeting.                    |         |
| 3 | <b>Minutes</b>   | 13 - 24 |
|   | To confirm as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 18 January 2022. |         |
| 4 | <b>Urgent Business</b>   | 25 - 26 |
|   | To consider any urgent business (with prior approval by the Mayor).                            |         |
| 5 | <b>Mayor's Announcements</b>   | 27 - 28 |
|   | To receive announcements from the Mayor.   |         |



6      **Petitions**      29 - 30

To receive petitions under Standing Order No. 5.

7      **Written Questions**      31 - 32

To consider written questions under Standing Order No. 6 to:-

- (a) the Mayor;
- (b) the Leader of the Council;
- (c) any other member of the Cabinet;
- (d) any person appointed to preside at a committee, sub-committee or panel;
- (e) the members of the Council nominated pursuant to Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1985, on the discharge of the functions of the following Joint Authorities:-
  - (i) West Midlands Combined Authority (the Leader);
  - (ii) West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority (Councillor C Padda);
  - (iii) Transport for the West Midlands (Councillor Akhter);
- (f) a nominated member appointed by the Council to the Board of Sandwell Leisure Trust;
- (g) a member of the Council who is, as a result of action taken by or on behalf of the Council, a member or director of any company.

- |    |  |           |
|----|--|-----------|
| 8  | <b>Council Finances &amp; Council Tax Resolution 2022/23</b>   | 33 - 372  |
|    | To consider the Council Finances & Council Tax Resolution 2022/23.   |           |
| 9  | <b>Pay Policy 2022 and Gender Pay Gap Reporting</b>  | 373 - 386 |
|    | To approve the Pay Policy statement 2022 and the Gender Pay Gap data.  |           |
| 10 | <b>Proposed Departure from the Development Plan on land at Summerton Road, Oldbury</b>   | 387 - 390 |
|    | To consider a proposed departure from the development plan.  |           |
| 11 | <b>Appointment to the Statutory roles of Electoral Registration Officer, Returning Officer and Deputy Electoral Registration Officer</b> | 391 - 396 |
|    | To consider appointments to statutory roles.   |           |
| 12 | <b>Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1985 Update</b>  | 397 - 448 |
|    | To receive updates from the Council's lead representatives on:-  |           |
|    | (a) West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority;   |           |
|    | (b) Transport for the West Midlands;   |           |
|    | (c) West Midlands Police and Crime Panel;  |           |
|    | (d) West Midlands Combined Authority.  |           |
| 13 | <b>The Air Quality (Domestic Solid Fuels Standards) (England) Regulations 2020</b>   | 449 - 452 |
|    | To consider an addition to the Scheme of Delegation for Officers.  |           |

- 14      **Constitution and Political Balance of Committees and Boards and Appointment to Vacancies on Committee, Boards and Other Bodies**      453 - 462
- To approve the political balance of the committees, boards and other fora for the remainder of the 2021-22 municipal year and nominations to vacancies on committees, boards and other bodies.
- 15      **Extension to Six Month Attendance Rule**      463 - 466
- To consider requests for an extension to the six month attendance rule.
- 16      **To receive the minutes and recommendations of Cabinet**      467 - 516
- To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 12 January and 9 February 2022.
- 17      **To receive the minutes of Audit and Risk Assurance Committee**      517 - 526
- To receive the minutes of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee held on 11 January 2022 and consider the recommendations arising from the meeting:-
- (a)      Appointment of External Auditor.
- 18      **To receive the minutes of the Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee**      527 - 532
- To receive the minutes of the Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee held on 9 November 2021.

19 **To receive the minutes of the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board**

533 - 538

To receive the minutes of the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board held on 8 February 2021.

20 **Notice of Motion**

To consider the following motions received under Standing Order No. 7:-

20(a) **Armed Forces Bill 2021**

**Proposer: Councillor Melia**  
**Seconder: Councillor Moore**

“This Council:

- Stands firmly behind our UK Armed Forces and fully supports the aims of the Armed Forces Covenant as amended.
- Welcomes the new Armed Forces Act but sees the legislation as a missed opportunity to improve the lives of veterans in the Birmingham and Black Country Area.
- Notes with disappointment that the Act which makes Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council and local public bodies legally bound to have “due regard” to the Covenant when providing support to Forces communities but exempts central government from any such duty, creating a two-tier Covenant for veterans.
- Notes with further disappointment that Labour led proposals backed by the Royal British Legion and Ex-Service organisation chiefs to enshrine the Covenant fully into law but Conservative MPs voted down these plans to improve Armed Forces accommodation,

employment, support and pensions.

- Notes that Conservative MPs failed to end the scandal of visa-fees for Commonwealth and Gurkha personnel.
- Resolves to continue the campaign with Forces charities to see the Government strengthen the Covenant and improve vital services to veterans.”

## 20(b) **Equality and Diversity**

**Proposer: Councillor McVittie**

**Seconder: Councillor Taylor**

“Sandwell Council understands the harm caused to our LGBT+ community in the past by certain elements within society through the denial of rights and equal treatment and recognises that despite all the efforts to address such discrimination, it still exists today.

This Council recognises and opposes the ongoing harm the practice of so-called conversion therapy brings to LGBT+ people.

This Council calls on the Government to follow through on promises made for a number of years, to outlaw the practise of so-called conversion therapy.

This Council notes the ongoing Government consultation on this matter and requests that the Leader of the Council writes to Government and calls for the introduction of an effective ban on conversion therapy within England, supported by a programme of work to help tackle these practices in all their forms.

Furthermore this Council renews its commitment to highlight promote and improve the continued support, counselling

and advocacy our local groups provide to members of the LGBT+ Community.”

21 **Response to Notice of Motion**

539 - 544

To receive the response received from Paul Scully MP in relation to the Fireworks motion.



**Kim Bromley-Derry CBE DL**  
**Interim Chief Executive**  
Sandwell Council House  
Freeth Street  
Oldbury  
West Midlands

**Distribution**  
All Members of the Council

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## **Apologies**

To receive any apologies from members

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## **Declarations of Interest**

Members to declare any interests in matters to be discussed at the meeting.

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## Minutes of Council

**Tuesday 18 January 2022 at 6.00pm  
in the Council Chamber, Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

**Present:** Deputy Mayor, Councillor R Jones (in the Chair);

Councillors Abrahams, Ahmed, Akhter, Akpoteni, Allen, Anandou, Ashman, Bhullar, Bostan, Carmichael, Chambers, Chapman, Chidley, Crompton, Fenton, Fisher, Gavan, E M Giles, E A Giles, L Giles, G Gill, M Gill, W Gill, Hackett, Hadley, Hartwell, Henlan, Hinchliff, Hughes, Z Hussain, O Jones, S Jones, Kalari, Kaur, Kausar, Khatun, Mabena, McVittie, Melia, Millar, Millard, Moore, Owen, C S Padda, I Padda, Piper, Randhawa, Rollins, Rouf, Simms, S Singh, Smith, Taylor, Webb and Williams.

**Officers:** Kim Bromley-Derry – Interim Chief Executive; Surjit Tour – Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer; Suky Suthi-Nagra – Democratic Services Manager; Stephnie Hancock – Senior Democratic Services Officer; Matt Powis – Senior Democratic Services Officer; Connor Robinson – Democratic Services Officer and Kennedy Brown, Sergeant at Arms.

### 1/22 **Minute Silence**

The Council observed a minute silence to mark the passing of Honorary Alderman and former long serving councillor Gurcharan Singh Sidhu.

Alderman Sidhu represented Greets Green and Lyng ward for 32 years between 1986 and 2018 before retiring due to ill health. He was Mayor of Sandwell in 2007-2008.



Members paid tribute to Gurcharan Singh Sidhu and joined the Deputy Mayor in extending their condolences to his family.

**2/22 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Akhtar, Ali, Allcock, Costigan, Davies, Dhallu, S Gill, M Hussain, Jalil, Phillips, Shackleton, Shaeen, K Singh and Tagger.

**3/22 Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were received.

**4/22 Minutes**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 7 December 2021 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Deputy Mayor.

**5/22 Additional Item of Business**

There were no additional items of business to consider.

**6/22 Mayor's Announcements**

Details of Mayoral and Deputy Mayoral engagements since the last meeting of the Council had been circulated to members.

**7/22 Petitions**

No petitions were received under Standing Order No. 5.



8/22 **Written Questions**

Questions received under Standing Order No. 6 were asked of the relevant members and responses provided.

9/22 **External Audit Report - Value For Money Governance Review and Improvement Plan**

The Interim Chief Executive made an announcement in relation to the ministerial statement which had been issued by Kemi Badenoch MP (Minister of State for Equalities and Levelling Up Communities) and the letter from the Deputy Director of Local Government Stewardship (Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities), seeking representations regarding the proposed intervention measures at Sandwell Council following the publishing of the Grant Thornton report containing 45 recommendations.

Officers from the Council's external auditor, Grant Thornton, presented the Value For Money Governance Review and Improvement Plan and outlined the key findings.

In response to questions it was highlighted:-

- Audit and Risk Assurance Committee had looked in detail at the Wragge Report and the Council had also spent a number of years looking into these matters that happened almost a decade ago and this was one of reasons that had triggered the review;
- the level of partnership working had not been as strong as it could have been over recent years, and action was required to rectify this;
- scrutiny played an important role and strong scrutiny in delivering agreed areas and holding the executive to account would be welcomed;
- while it is important to celebrate success, success had not been delivered across the board and it was not appropriate to focus on particular areas – a corporate grip was required;



- the use of Council policies and procedures had not operated and had not fully protected the Council either in terms of procurement or service delivery;
- the report does reflect a number of positive steps and actions that have been taken in terms of member development over the past year, the report does however, have a number of recommendations to take that forward.
- the Commonwealth Games was an important programme and a clear plan was in place;
- the timescales were considered to be comfortable and would be monitored, holding Cabinet and officers to account;
- the waste review being undertaken by scrutiny was welcomed;
- training did not have to be face-to-face but be via a number of different media that could ensure members were appropriately trained;
- it had been recognised that officers had been impacted by issues identified and appropriate support would be provided.

In accordance with Standing Order No. 11, Councillor Abrahams moved the following amendment, which was duly seconded:-

“This Council calls upon the Chief Executive to respond to the letter from the Secretary of State regarding the Grant Thornton audit report accepting the recommendation that commissioners are appointed to assist Sandwell Council with the development and implantation of an improvement plan and assist with any other business of the Council as necessary to ensure best value for the people of Sandwell”.

In accordance with Standing Order No. 12, Councillor Abrahams called for a named vote. The required support to the request was achieved and the amendment was put to a named vote as follows:-

For:

Councillors Abrahams, Anandou, Chambers, Chapman, Fisher, W Gill, Henlan, Kalari, S Singh, and Williams.





Against:

Councillors Ahmed, Akhter, Akpoteni, Allen, Ashman, Bhullar, Bostan, Carmichael, Chidley, Crompton, Fenton, Gavan, E M Giles, E A Giles, L Giles, G Gill, M Gill, Hackett, Hartwell, Hinchliff, Hughes, Z Hussain, O Jones, S Jones, Kaur, Kausar, Khatun, Mabena, McVittie, Melia, Millar, Millard, Moore, Owen, C S Padda, I Padda, Piper, Randhawa, Rollins, Rouf, Simms, Taylor and Webb.

Abstentions:

Councillor Hadley.

The original recommendations were put to the vote and, having been carried, it was

**Resolved** that the Improvement Plan to address the recommendations made by Grant Thornton and the proposed reporting mechanisms to ensure progress is managed effectively be approved.

10/22

**Council Tax Base 2022-23**

Council considered the proposed Council Tax base for 2022-2023.

**Resolved:-**

- (1) that the Council Tax Base for 2022/2023 be set at 74,858.45;
- (2) that the Section 151 Officer be authorised to adjust the Council Tax Base as required following approval of the 2022-2023 Council Tax Reduction Scheme.



11/22 **Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2022-23**

Council considered the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2022-2023.

**Resolved** that the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2022/23 be approved.

12/22 **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Update Report**

The Sandwell Equalities Commission had been established to support the celebration and promotion of the rich and diverse backgrounds and cultures of its employees and residents across all six towns. The Board was meeting and engaging with the Disability Staff Network, LGBT+ Staff Network and Ethnicity Equality Impact Network.

Work had been undertaken to establish an excellence and inclusion calendar, a review of the equality policy and working towards the commitment to becoming a recognised Borough of Sanctuary.

**Resolved** that the draft work programme of the Equalities Commission Board be endorsed.

13/22 **Corporate Parenting Annual Report 2020-21**

Council received the Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report 2020-21.

The Annual Report highlighted the work of the Corporate Parenting Board during the academic year September 2020 to August 2021. The report included feedback from young people presented to Corporate Parenting Board throughout the year in Young People's reports from Voices of Sandwell Board and Care Leavers Forum.



14/22

## **Sandwell Children's Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report 2020-21**

Council received the Sandwell Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2020-21.

The report provided evidence of the impact of the work of the safeguarding partners and relevant agencies and recognised the increased challenges brought about by the global Covid pandemic and the impact this has had and continued to have on the entire population; particularly on all agencies working to safeguard vulnerable children and families. Despite the very difficult year, SCSP had been able to evidence the delivery of the core functions, including training; monitoring outcomes for children and families from early help to looked-after children and care leavers; a record of decisions and actions taken by the partners during the year to implement the recommendations of any local and national child safeguarding practice reviews, including any resulting in improvements; and the ways in which partners have sought and utilised feedback from children and families to inform their work and influence service provision.

15/22

## **Appointments to Committees, Boards and Other Bodies**

This item was withdrawn from the agenda.

16/22

## **Cabinet**

The minutes of the meetings of the Cabinet held on 18 and 24 November and 15 December 2021 were received.

17/22

## **Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board**

The minutes of the meetings of the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board held on 1 December 2021 were received.



18/22 **Audit and Risk Assurance Committee**

The minutes of the meeting of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee held on 18 November and 21 December 2021 were received.

19/22 **General Purposes and Arbitration Committee**

The minutes of the meetings of the General Purposes and Arbitration Committee held on 16 December 2021 were received.

The Council considered the recommendations of the General Purposes and Arbitration Committee on the following matters of strategic significance:-

20/22(a) **Admission Agreements to participate in the Local Government Pension Scheme**

Council considered recommendations in relation to Admission Agreements to participate in the Local Government Pension Scheme.

**Resolved that:-**

- (1) the Chief Executive/Director of Finance be given the delegated authority to sign the Admission Agreements relating to the transfer of catering staff from Old Park Primary School to Mellors Catering Services, and Whitecrest Primary School to Aspens Services Limited, and for the Director of Legal Services to make arrangements for the necessary documents to be signed or executed under deed of seal (as required);



- (2) where the future pension liability/guarantee is below £250,000 that the Chief Executive/Director of Finance be given the delegated authority to sign all future Pension Admission Agreements below this limit, and for the Director of Legal Services to make arrangements for the necessary documents to be signed or executed under deed of seal (as required) to give effect to relevant organisations becoming admitted bodies;
- (3) where the pension liability/guarantee is greater than £250,000 that a separate report is presented to seek approval for the Chief Executive/Director of Finance to be given the delegated authority to sign the Pension Admission Agreement and for the Director of Legal Services to make arrangements for the necessary documents to be signed or executed under deed of seal (as required) to give effect to relevant organisations becoming admitted bodies.

**21/22(b) Review of Polling Places and Polling Stations 2021/22**

Council considered the recommendations in relation to the review of polling stations and polling stations 2021/22.

In accordance with Standing Order No. 11, Councillor Piper moved the following amendment to the recommendations, which was duly seconded:-

“That the polling station at Bearwood Road School be moved to the Baptist Church on Rawlings Road instead of Thimble Mill Library”.



The amendment was put to the vote and

**Resolved:-**

- (1) that, subject to the polling station at Bearwood Road School being moved to the Baptist Church on Rawlings Road instead of Thimblemill Library, the changes to specific Polling Places and Polling Stations as set out in the Appendix to the report be approved;
- (2) in connection with (1) above, the Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer be authorised to implement the approved changes detailed in the Appendix to the report;
- (3) subject to any required changes with a Polling Place or Polling Station within the Borough prior to elections in 2022 (and beyond), the Returning Officer (or in their absence/unavailability, the Deputy Returning Officer) be authorised to change any Polling Place(s) and/or Polling Station(s), following consultation with relevant Ward Members and the Chair of the General Purposes and Arbitration Committee, as considered necessary to enable the efficient and effective running of elections.

22/22

**Notice of Motion**

The Council received the following motions under Standing Order No. 7.



22/22(a) **Road Safety**

It was moved by Councillor Williams and seconded by Councillor Kalari: -

“This council supports proposing a strict limit to the amount of vehicle collisions that can occur on any one road before launching an investigation in regard to implementing road safety or speed calming measures. This council requests that the cabinet member for environment uses his office to initiate this proposal.

Approximately 800 road accidents occur in Sandwell annually. The majority of causes being identified as either speeding, congestion or poor pedestrian safety. Residents across the borough have conveyed severe disappointment, anger and disgust at the current policy regarding taking action to prevent these collisions and in some cases, fatalities. They feel that the council are taking a reactive approach and not a proactive approach to prevent fatalities from road accidents.

It is unacceptable to wait for a life to be exchanged in order to highlight the dangers of a road, which we most often are already aware of. There are innumerable roads and streets which have been, and continue to be brought forward by our residents to be made safe for them and their families.

Unfortunately they're left with nothing but disappointment as neither police, nor us as a council have been willing to implement measures to make them safe until it suffers a fatality. We must put people's lives before our budgeting priorities. We cannot justify the loss of a single life in the name of money."

In accordance with Standing Order No.7, Councillor Bostan moved the following amendment to the motion, which was seconded by Councillor Piper:-

“This council considers road safety to be of the highest importance for the health and well-being of our residents and it is with regard to this that the implementation of road safety and speed calming measures are introduced.



Approximately 800 road accidents occur in Sandwell annually which is a 55% reduction since the year 2000, during the same period, accidents resulting in people being killed or seriously injured have reduced by 52% and accidents with child casualties have reduced by a significant 72% testament to the excellent work of this Labour council's highways authority. The majority of causes of accidents have been identified as either speeding, congestion or poor pedestrian safety.

Despite significant progress in our road safety provision, this council recognises there is room for improvement and accepts residents across the borough have requested that the Strategic Road Safety Plan is updated in order to address the growing challenges Sandwell faces including an increasing number of vehicles on the road, climate change, adaptations to public transport and other such imperatives.

This council as an authority that is always listening to and guided by its residents, calls upon the Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Committee to conduct a review into the current Strategic Road Safety Plan in order to make recommendations for the consideration of Cabinet“.

The amendment, having been moved and seconded, was put to the vote and approved. The substantive motion was put to the vote and, having been carried, it was RESOLVED accordingly.

Meeting ended at 8.31pm

Contact: [democratic\\_services@sandwell.gov.uk](mailto:democratic_services@sandwell.gov.uk)







## **Urgent Business**

To consider any urgent business (with prior approval by the Mayor).

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## **EVENTS ATTENDED SINCE 18TH JANUARY 2022**

- Virtual Holocaust Memorial Video
- Judge Online Photography Competition for Wednesbury through the Lens
- Tipton Civic Society Tree of Light Presentation Evening
- Drag Queen Story Hour
- UK Youth Parliament Announcement Evening
- LGBT+ History Walk at Sandwell Valley
- Grand Opening of Causeway Green Primary School Library

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## **Petitions**

To receive any petitions under Standing Order No. 5 (strategic policy issues or which are of a Borough-wide significance if they are relevant to some matter to which the Council has functions and responsibilities, or which affects the Borough, or part of it, or its citizens or a number of them).

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## Report to Council

**1 March 2022**

<b>Subject:</b>	Written Questions
<b>Director:</b>	Surjit Tour – Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer

The following written questions have been received:-

### 7(a) **Councillor Hackett to the Cabinet Member for Community Safety**

For several years myself, local council staff and Wednesbury Police have been trying to tackle off road bikes. This has now become the number one complaint by local residents in Friar Park, Woods Estate, Park Hill, Tiffany Green, Newtown, Mesty Croft and both Johnson Road and Hydes Road areas. Residents believe our area has become the off road bike capital of the Black Country and sadly has become a forgotten crime. This has become an all year round daily problem. Everyday I am reporting or witnessing the problems that off road bikes are causing to our community. Can I ask the Cabinet Member to make sure that at the very highest level within the council and Police that everything that can be done will be done to tackle this massive anti-social behaviour problem in my local area.







## Report to Council

**1 March 2022**

<b>Subject:</b>	Council Finances & Council Tax Resolution 2022/23
<b>Director:</b>	Simone Hines – Director of Finance
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Rebecca Maher – Head of Finance <a href="mailto:Rebecca_Maher@sandwell.gov.uk">Rebecca_Maher@sandwell.gov.uk</a>

### 1 Recommendations

1.1 That Council: -

- (1) Approve the expenditure level for 2022-23 as set out in Appendix E and the resultant Council Tax as set out in Appendix E of the report to Cabinet on 23 February 2022.
- (2) Approve the budget for 2022/23 and provisional budgets for 2023/24 to 2024/25 as shown in Appendix E of the report to Cabinet on 23 February 2022.
- (3) Note the supporting information on the robustness of the budget process and adequacy of the Council's reserves as detailed in Appendix G of the report to Cabinet on 23 February 2022.
- (4) Approve the Treasury Management & Investment Strategy together with prudential indicators outlined in Appendix J of the report to Cabinet on 23 February 2022.
- (5) Approve the Capital Programme 2021/22 to 2025/26 as set out in Appendix H and the Capital Strategy as set out in Appendix I of the report to Cabinet on 23 February 2022.



- (6) That it be noted that the Cabinet meeting on the 15th December 2021 approved the amount of 74,858.45 as its Council Tax base for the year 2022/2023 in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 made under Section 33 (5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992;
- (7) That the following amounts be calculated by the Council for the year 2022/2023 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992: -
- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| (a) Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) (a) to (f) of the Act;  | £1,155,646,739 |
| (b) Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) (a) to (d) of the Act;  | £1,037,678,805 |
| (c) Being the amount by which the aggregate at 7(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 7(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act, as its Council Tax requirement for the year; | £117,967,934   |
| (d) Being the amount at 7(c) above, all divided by the amount at 6 above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year;               | £1,575.88      |



(e) Valuation Bands

£

A	1,050.59
B	1,225.68
C	1,400.78
D	1,575.88
E	1,926.08
F	2,276.27
G	2,626.47
H	3,151.76

Being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at 7(d) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands;

- (8) That it be noted that for the year 2022/2023 the major precepting authorities have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below: -

Valuation Bands	West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority	Police & Crime Commissioner for the West Midlands
	£	£
A	45.35	125.03
B	52.91	145.87
C	60.47	166.71
D	68.03	187.55
E	83.14	229.23
F	98.26	270.91
G	113.38	312.58
H	136.05	375.10



- (9) That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 7(e) and 8 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2022/2023 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

Valuation Band	£
A	1,220.97
B	1,424.46
C	1,627.96
D	1,831.46
E	2,238.45
F	2,645.44
G	3,052.43
H	3,662.91

- (10) That the Chief Financial Officer be authorised to take any necessary action to collect revenues and disburse monies from the relevant accounts;
- (11) That the requirements of any relevant legislation, to consider reports as a consequence of the approval of the Council's Finances 2022/2023 report, be dispensed with on the grounds that in the opinion of the Council the items are urgent.







## 2 Reasons for Recommendations

Council are required to approve the Council Tax resolution as outlined in the recommendations above.



### 3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

Stable council finances underpin all of the objectives in the Corporate Plan.

	Best start in life for children and young people
	People live well and age well
	Strong resilient communities
	Quality homes in thriving neighbourhoods
	A strong and inclusive economy
	A connected and accessible Sandwell

### 4 Context and Key Issues

The Cabinet Report of 23 February 2022 appended sets these out.

### 5 Alternative Options

There are no alternative options. Council must approve a reasonable level of Council Tax in order to balance the authority's budget.

### 6 Implications

<b>Resources:</b>	See Cabinet Report.
<b>Legal and Governance:</b>	
<b>Risk:</b>	
<b>Equality:</b>	
<b>Health and Wellbeing:</b>	
<b>Social Value</b>	



## 7. Appendices

Cabinet Report 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022

## 8. Background Papers



# Report to Cabinet

**23 February 2022**

<b>Subject:</b>	General Fund, Housing Revenue Account and Capital Programme Budgets 2022/23
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Cllr Crompton – Cabinet Member for Finance & Resources
<b>Director:</b>	Simone Hines - Director of Finance
<b>Key Decision:</b>	Yes
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Rebecca Maher (Head of Finance) <a href="mailto:Rebecca_Maher@sandwell.gov.uk">Rebecca_Maher@sandwell.gov.uk</a>

## 1 Recommendations

### That Cabinet:

- 1.1 Note the key points from the Local Government Finance Settlement and the impact on the budget position for 2022/23
- 1.2 Note the feedback on the draft budget proposals from the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Board at para 4.26.
- 1.3 Note the feedback on the draft budget from business representatives at para 4.25.
- 1.4 That Cabinet have due regard to the feedback from Equality Impact Assessments and consultation feedback as set out in the report and Appendix C.
- 1.5 That the fees and charges increases for 2022/23, as set out at Appendix D, be approved.



- 1.6 That the contract sum for Sandwell Children's Trust of £70.474m be approved as set out at para 4.10.
- 1.7 That the final General Fund budget position as set out at Appendix E be approved and recommended to Council.
- 1.8 That the Housing Revenue Account budget for 2022/23 be approved as shown at Appendix E and recommended to Council.
- 1.9 That the Council Tax precept for 2022/23 of £117,967,934, representing a 1.99% increase in Council Tax and a further 3% increase in the Adult Social Care precept be recommended to Council for approval.
- 1.10 That the Director of Finance's assurance statement on the robustness of the budget estimates and reserves at Appendix G position be noted.
- 1.11 That the Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators at Appendix J be recommended to Council for approval.
- 1.12 That the Capital Programme for the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account for 2022/23 and Capital Strategy be approved and recommended to Council as set out at Appendix H and I.
- 1.13 That the Director of Finance be authorised to make transfers to or from reserves during the financial year to ensure that adequate reserves are maintained and adjusted when spend from earmarked reserves is required.
- 1.14 That the Director of Finance be authorised to adjust the funding sources applied to the Capital Programme during the year to maximise flexibility in use of capital resources and minimise borrowing costs where possible.
- 1.15 That a fundamental review of the Medium-Term Financial Plan and Capital Strategy be undertaken in the first quarter of 2022/23 and brought back to Cabinet for approval.
- 1.16 That the Director of Finance, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, be authorised to approve and administer the Council Tax rebate scheme for 2022/23 and approve a policy for the discretionary element of the scheme.











## 2 Reasons for Recommendations

2.1 The Local Government Finance Act 1972 requires the Council to set a balanced, risk assessed budget each year and approve a Council Tax precept by 11<sup>th</sup> March.

### 3. How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

The Council's financial position helps to underpin the Council's Corporate Plan and the associated aspirations.

	Best start in life for children and young people
	People live well and age well
	Strong resilient communities
	Quality homes in thriving neighbourhoods
	A strong and inclusive economy
	A connected and accessible Sandwell

## 4 Context and Key Issues

4.1 The provisional Local Government Finance Settlement was announced on 16<sup>th</sup> December. The key points from the settlement were as follows:

- The settlement is for a single year only, and further details on proposed funding reform and consultations are due to follow in the new year
- The £1.6bn additional funding announced at the Spending Review has been distributed as follows:



- £0.8bn to a 2022/23 Services Grant, distributed using the 2013/24 Settlement Funding Assessment formula. The statement highlights that this is a one-off grant and will not be taken into consideration for transitional support when future system changes are made.
  - £0.7bn to social care, with additional Social Care Grant (£0.6bn, distributed using the Adult Social Care Relative Needs Formula, with equalisation for the impact of the 1% social care precept) and an inflationary increase to the Improved Better Care Fund.
  - £0.1bn to provide an inflationary increase to Revenue Support Grant.
- In addition, £162m has been allocated to local authorities from the funds raised in the National Insurance Health & Social Care levy.
  - Authorities do not receive separately identified funding for the costs to them of the increase in National Insurance Contributions (the funding for this is assumed to be included in the new 2022/23 Services Grant).
  - Referendum limits have been confirmed at 2% (or £5 for districts and fire authorities, where this is more than 2%). PCCs will be subject to a £10 referendum limit.
  - An additional 1% social care precept for social care authorities (who will also be able to raise any balance of last year's 3% social care precept).
  - The New Homes Bonus has been 'rolled over' for another year, with allocations made and the final 2019/20 legacy payment honoured.
  - The lower tier services grant has been 'rolled over' at £111m nationally, and with a new cash terms funding floor.
  - The compensation for under-indexing of the business rates multiplier will continue at RPI, though the settlement figures only include this at CPI.
  - No detailed announcements were made on future funding reform

4.2 The Council has benefited from additional grant funding from the settlement, although much of it is either ring-fenced or to cover additional costs (such as the 1.25% increase in National Insurance Contributions). The financial impact of the settlement announcement compared to the draft budget is shown in the next section.



4.3 The final Local Government Finance Settlement was announced on 8<sup>th</sup> February and there were no significant changes for the Council compared to the provisional settlement.

#### 4.4 Changes to the budget position

4.5 Cabinet noted the draft budget position for 2022/23 in December and approved in principle a number of savings options amounting to £14.6m. A list of the savings proposals are shown at Appendix B to the report. Assuming that all savings were approved and implemented, there still remained a gap of £1.5m prior to the settlement announcement.

4.6 The draft budget also included a number of assumptions about income and expenditure changes, such as inflation and taxbase. These are summarised below and there are no changes to these assumptions since the draft budget report:

- Inflation where contractual and unavoidable
- Provision for an annual pay award
- Pension contributions in line with the current triennial valuation
- Business Rates income based on current trends and assuming there is not a re-set of business rates baselines or any change to the 100% pilot arrangements
- 0.6% increase in the Council Tax Base, which is slightly lower than the 1% increase assumed in the Medium-Term Financial Plan.
- 3.99% increase in Council Tax, made up of 1.99% 'core' increase and 2% Adult Social Care precept unused from 2021/22
- A number of spend pressures identified during the budget process, as shown at Appendix A

4.7 The table below shows the financial impact of the settlement on the Council and also the areas of additional spending need that have arisen since the draft budget report in December:



	£'m
<b>Deficit per draft budget report</b>	<b>1.457</b>
<b>Change in funding from settlement</b>	
New Homes Bonus	(0.32)
Services Grant 2022/23 (one-off)	(7.015)
Additional Business Rates top-up grant	(1.056)
<b>Technical and Reserve Changes</b>	
Net change in Collection Fund income and grant funding	(1.042)
Reserve contribution for Oracle Fusion project	1.000
Increased debt costs for capital financing	0.285
Establish Financial Planning earmarked reserve	2.500
Other net changes	1.006
<b>Additional spend pressures</b>	
Additional inflationary costs on utilities and pay	1.852
National Insurance increase	0.820
Adult Social Care extra inflationary pressures	0.921
Additional contract sum to Sandwell Children's Trust (compared to original MTFP forecast)	0.172
2% increase in the Transport Levy paid to WMCA	0.235
Additional Democratic and Policy resources	0.350
<b>Net impact on draft budget position</b>	<b>(0.292)</b>
<b>Revised budget deficit</b>	<b>1.165</b>

- 4.9 In addition to the funding changes shown above, the Council has also received additional Social Care grant of £5.7m, and a new 'Market Sustainability and Fair Cost of Care Fund'. The final budget assumes that the latter grant is ring-fenced for Adult Social Care and will be passed on to the care sector. The additional Social Care grant has been contributed to an earmarked reserve in order to fund emerging social care pressures (both Adults and Children's) as they arise in year, which may be exacerbated by high inflation rates during the course of 2022. The grant will also enable the Council to accelerate early help and preventative work, particularly in Children's social care. The Better Care Fund allocation has also increased by £676k compared to the provisional settlement.



- 4.10 As part of the budget process, the Council also has to agree the contract sum payable to Sandwell's Children's Trust for the next financial year. This is a dialogue process which begins in the autumn so that the Council and Trust can agree the assumptions on which the contract sum shall be based. The contract sum provisionally agreed for 2022/23 is £70.474m which is an increase of £2.4m or approx. 4%. This will generate a surplus of £1.9m which will assist in reducing the cumulative deficit position of £7.8m as at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021.
- 4.11 It should be noted that the impact of inflation has created further pressures for the budget setting process, as shown in the table above. The Retail and Consumer Price Indices are currently at 30-year high levels of 7.5% and 5.4% respectively. This has led to increased estimated costs for utilities as well as on some of our key contracts.
- 4.12 The table above shows that there has been a further increase in the cost of placements in Adult Social Care due to the impact of inflation and national minimum wage increases. The average inflationary pressure included in the budget for ASC placements is 4.1%, with the 6.6% increase in National Minimum Wage being a key contributing factor. The impact of inflation over the course of 2022 is seen as a risk factor in the 2022/23 budget.
- 4.13 The Public Health Grant allocations were announced on 7<sup>th</sup> February with a below inflation increase of 2.7%. Sandwell's funding allocation is £25.816m and the Public Health budget appendices has been updated to reflect this.
- 4.14 As part of the budget process the Council also allocates the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) to schools in consultation with the Schools Forum. The Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) announced the DSG allocation for 2022/23 in December 2022/23 and Cabinet approved the formula allocations on 12<sup>th</sup> January and the High Needs allocations on 9<sup>th</sup> February. A summary of the 2022/23 DSG by block is shown below:

DSG Block	Allocation prior to Adjustments	Adjustments	Allocation after adjustments
	£m	£m	£m
Schools	308.463	(2.961)	305.502
Central School Services	2.283	0.000	2.283
High Needs	61.267	(3.130)	58.137
Early Years	23.387	0.000	23.387
<b>Total</b>	<b>395.400</b>	<b>(6.091)</b>	<b>389.309</b>



- 4.15 It is recommended that a new Financial Planning earmarked reserve be created to help manage any slippage in savings programmes during the year and any in-year cost pressures, particularly in relation to inflation. This is discussed further in the Reserves and Budget Risk Assessment sections later in the report.
- 4.16 Overall, the table above shows that no further savings are needed to close the budget gap, assuming that all savings approved in principle in December are implemented. There is an update on progress on the consultation on these savings in the following section.

#### **4.17 Feedback on Budget Consultation and Equality Impact Assessments**

As noted above, the draft budget report in December approved £14.6m of savings for 2022/23 in principle. These have been subject to consultation and Equality Impact Assessments where needed. Copies of the Equality Impact Assessments that have been undertaken are included at Appendix C.

- 4.18 The Equality Impact Assessment for the Advocacy proposal within Adult Social Care does highlight some potential impacts on some groups. The suggested mitigation is to consult on the changes for two months with feedback reported to Cabinet by June for a final decision on whether to proceed. Therefore, this saving cannot be confirmed, although the saving is minor and so any slippage can be managed within the overall Adult Social Care budget.
- 4.19 Consideration of the equality impact of the proposal to increase the Council's charges for Court costs has also been carried out. The advice from the Council's Equalities Team is that a full EqiA was not required. This is because the amount charged is to cover the Council's administration costs when taking court action and is a standard charge so does not discriminate against any particular groups.
- 4.20 The draft savings proposals included an £80k saving to be achieved by reducing the Council's current contribution to the Sandwell Council of Voluntary Organisations. However, this has now been widened to a fundamental review of all of the Council's grants and contributions to the voluntary and community sector being undertaken in the first quarter of 2022/23, with consultation being undertaken in line with the Compact.



The Council's current budget for this is in the region of £7m in 2021/22 so the £80k saving is still considered a reasonable and prudent estimate for a part-year saving. The outcome of the consultation will be brought back to Cabinet prior to any funding decisions being made.

- 4.21 The savings proposal in relation to the review of the Non-Residential Charging policy also requires in-depth consultation and Equality Impact Assessment which will take place in the first quarter of 2022/23 due to the complexity of the modelling required to bring forward alternative options for consideration. The saving put forward in the draft budget of £300k had been calculated assuming part year implementation, so this is still considered a reasonable estimate.
- 4.22 In terms of the proposal to increase Garage Rents, whilst there is a risk that garage tenants may not be able to afford the increased rent for their garage, we do not consider there to be any equality matters arising from this action or risk. The allocation of garages are not provided based on any need assessment, they are allocated in date order of applications therefore are not considered to be an essential service that being unable to access will have any adverse impact on residents with protected characteristics. We will monitor any terminations of garage tenancies arising after notification of the rent increase to consider if a further Equality Impact Assessment or mitigation is necessary.
- 4.23 On the proposal to charge for Choice Base Lettings, there are no equality risks associated with the implementation of this charge as the burden for paying falls to Housing Associations who benefit from the service, including the rent collected from the property we let on their behalf. Housing Associations do not recover any charges for letting from the applicants.
- 4.24 There were a number of savings relating to the Council's staffing structures which are still being consulted on in line with Council policies. Where possible these savings will be achieved through the Council's Planned Leavers Scheme or through deletion of vacant posts. Until the consultation process is complete the actual savings level or staffing impact cannot be confirmed, but the savings proposals are still considered to be a prudent assessment of overall savings opportunities, and Directors have delegated authority, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member, to make changes to their structures after following due process.



4.25 The Council is also required in the Local Government Finance Act to consult with Business Ratepayers in its area. A number of business representatives from the Black County Chamber of Commerce, Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership and Business Ambassadors network were contacted and asked for their feedback on the Council's draft budget report. There were two formal written responses received which are summarised below for Cabinet's information and consideration:

Business Representative A	We always encourage business rates reductions as businesses are really struggling due to Covid currently. Footfall is very low at the moment in West Bromwich.
Business Representative B	<p>It is clearly very difficult to budget with so many unknowns in the Government support schemes. The current situation is also clearly very challenging.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inflation is likely to be higher than the figures you have used.</li> <li>• Very important to seek at least a breakeven position with contingencies</li> <li>• Seek to maintain current service levels with improved productivity.</li> <li>• We would review income and costs on a pareto basis as small changes have a bigger effect and would consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Raising Council Tax by a higher level</li> <li>○ Increasing all charges by least inflation plus 2%</li> <li>○ Reviewing staff costs.</li> <li>○ I presume Council efficiency/productivity is constantly reviewed. However, the general impression to private industry is that there is scope for savings.</li> <li>○ Why is there such a large increase in the communications budget?</li> <li>○ Monitoring staff absences and take action to achieve a 2/3% level achieved in private industry.</li> <li>○ It is not clear what level of bad debts you have. If significant, I would recommend stronger action.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>





	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reviewing the cost/value of any external consultants. Reduce the number of senior interim appointments.</li> <li>○ Current proposed individual savings are relatively small, but with potential significant impacts. <i>The example given was reduction in respite packages.</i></li> </ul>
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4.26 The draft budget proposals were also considered by the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Board on 8<sup>th</sup> February and the Committee asked a number of questions, particularly around the savings proposals. The recommendations from the Committee were as follows: that Cabinet be requested to consider the comments and observations of the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board in relation to the Draft Budget 2022/23 as follows:

- (a) further efficiencies within the Fleet Management Services, for e.g the introduction of a booking system for employees to book fleet to get the best use of resources;
- (b) that the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board be requested to consider the cost effectiveness of garage rents, including the occupancy levels and whether advertising of space is done well;
- (c) that a review of the Property Maintenance Account is added to the work programme of the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board.

4.27 In summary, following consultation and Equality Impact Assessments where necessary, the Leadership Team have the required level of assurance and plans in place to achieve the £14.6m of savings as set out in the draft report to Cabinet in December.



## 4.28 Fees and Charges

- 4.29 A review of Fees and Charges has been undertaken as part of the budget setting process to ensure that each charge is appropriate and achieving its objective. Where charges are intended to either break even or maximise income, analysis has been carried out to look at the total costs of providing the service to understand what the position is.
- 4.30 There are examples where full cost recovery is not being achieved and these have been challenged to ensure that there is a clear rationale for this – for social or financial inclusion reasons for example. Further work is ongoing to review all of these and separate reports may be brought to Cabinet during the year.
- 4.31 There are some fees and charges that are set by statute or are required to break even and not make a surplus, so these have been considered separately.
- 4.32 The Council has also made use of benchmarking information to compare our income from Fees and Charges with other similar authorities to identify any opportunities to increase charges or introduce new charges. The proposed increases in Libraries, Highways and Regulatory services have all been recommended based on a review of neighbouring authority charges.
- 4.33 The fees for Registration Services (which includes the registration of deaths and births, weddings, civil partnerships and citizenship ceremonies, burial and cremation registration, and the management of cemeteries and crematoria to the residents of Sandwell) have been reviewed in light of future changes to the service. In 2023/2024 an increase of between 4500-5000 registration events for Sandwell as a Local Registration Service is likely as health care services move from City hospital in Birmingham to the new Midland Metro Hospital in Smethwick. This will also likely see an impact on the complexity of cases referred to the Black Country Coroner as well the number of cases referred to the Bereavement services team which relate to Public Health Act funerals.
- 4.34 The revenue implications to meet the new business need will include the creation of 7 FTE new additional posts for the service. Expenditure related to these posts will be accounted for by the additional income generated by a suggested 7% increase on non-statutory fees and charges



for Registration related services.

- 4.35 In addition, and in response to an increasing demand for burial services from families out of the borough, the surcharge related to the interment of non-Sandwell residents will increase from 15% to 30%. This is to ensure the costs associated with burial services for non-Sandwell residents in Sandwell are at similar levels to those in other areas more local to them. This increase will also likely have a positive impact on maintaining the availability of future burial space in the borough.
- 4.36 The suggested increases to Fees and Charges per service is set out at Appendix D. The increases have been informed by the review set out above, and so they vary by service. In making any decisions about increases in fees and charges it is important to balance the need to cover costs, particularly when inflation is high, whilst not discouraging customers to take up the services from the Council. A summary of the increases by service are shown in the table below:

Environment & Fleet	7.5%
Public Health	0%
Community Facilities	Range
Green Services	Range
Facilities Management	3%
Museum & Art	New Charging Structure
Markets & Street Trading	3%
Legal Services	3%
Building Control	0-10%
Adults	0%
Adult & Family Learning	0%
Youth Service	5%
Taxi Licensing	0%
Pest Control	New Charging Structure
Env Protection & Enforcement	0%
General Licensing	Range
CCP-EHTS	Range
Private Sector Housing – HMO licensing	5.1%
Highways Services	Range
Libraries	Range
Registration Services	7%



4.37 The overall additional income that is anticipated from these increases is £0.6m, of which £0.16m had already been included in the savings proposals agreed as part of the draft budget report.

4.38 The review of Fees and Charges is an ongoing piece of work that will form part of the review of the Medium-Term Financial Plan review. There are some services – such as markets – where consideration needs to be given to the longer-term impact of COVID and how the markets service needs to operate in the future. There are also some services where a commercial approach could be considered, and the Council is currently developing a Commercial Strategy which will incorporate these options.

#### 4.39 Reserves Position

4.40 The Council has two types of reserves:

- Earmarked Reserves which are for specific future projects, commitments or risks, both revenue and capital
- Unallocated Balance, which is to ensure the Council can manage unexpected financial challenges.

4.41 The level of unallocated balances at the end of March 2022 was £8.4m, which is the lower end of a prudent level. Part of the budget strategy for 2022/23 has been to restructure reserves to increase the level of unallocated balances and also to create an Invest to Save reserve. This will allow transformational projects to be carried out to both improve the way the Council delivers services to its customers but also enable service to delivery to be provided in a more efficient and effective way.

The table below summarises the Council's level of earmarked reserves as at the end of March 2021 and the projected balances at the end of March 2022 and 2023. Further detail is set out at	<b>31/03/2021</b> <b>£m</b>	<b>31/03/2022</b> <b>£'m</b>	<b>31/03/2023</b> <b>£'m</b>



Appendix F.			
Earmarked Reserve Balances	135.595	113.814	72.870
General Fund unallocated balance	8.431	12.400	12.600
<b>Total</b>	<b>114.026</b>	<b>126.214</b>	<b>85.470</b>

4.42 The risk-based reserves are to cover the financial risks that the Council may face in the future and where an in-year budget may not be sufficient. Risk based reserves include the Insurance Fund (£6.875m) which is to fund any losses which the Council is not insured for, and the Business Rates Volatility Reserve (£7m). Business Rates are a particularly volatile source of income for the Council due to the appeals system, which allows businesses to appeal to the Valuation Office for a reduction in the business rates that they have to pay. The Council has to fund any successful appeals but does not have any control in the process or outcome. It is therefore prudent to hold a reserve to cover losses that may arise from appeals in-year.

4.43 This shows that the level of reserves is estimated to reduce significantly between 2021-23, although this is in part due to the S31 grant held in reserves to deal with the timing differences between accounting for various COVID relief grants and the government grant being received. The amounts held in this reserve were purely for technical adjustments rather than being usable reserves for the Council. The other main reason for the reduction in reserve balances is the use of COVID emergency funding which was received in 2020/21 and projected to be used during 2021/22 and 2022/23 as the COVID pandemic continues to impact on the Council.

4.44 The General Fund unallocated balance is in addition to those shown in the table above. At the end of March 2021 this stood at £8.4m but the budget strategy for 2022/23 has been to increase this to at least £12m, which is approximately 5% of the net budget for next year. As part of the earmarked reserves review, £3m of earmarked reserves have been identified as no longer required and have been reallocated to the General Fund balance. It is further proposed that £1m of the currently forecast underspend on the 2021/22 budget will be contributed to General Fund balances. This will take the revised level of the unallocated reserve to



£12.4m as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. This represents approximately 5% of the net budget for 2022/23 per the target level. This is deemed a prudent level by the S151 officer and the policy for the level of unallocated reserves will be to maintain 5% of the net budget as a minimum at all times. The S151 considers it prudent to maintain the level of unallocated reserves at slightly above 5% at this point given the savings targets to be delivered in year and the high level of inflation being experienced in the UK.

- 4.45 As already shown in the table at 4.8, a Financial Planning earmarked reserve has been established at £2.5m, which has been set based on 0.5% of the Council's gross spend. This is to ensure that the authority has sufficient resources to deal with any in-year fluctuations, slippage in achieving savings targets and to smooth the delivery of future year savings, especially in the initial years of the Medium-Term Financial Plan when the Transformation Savings Programme is still in its early stages of delivery. It will also provide contingency for any further upward pressures in Adult Social Care over the short to medium term, particularly with the uncertainty around government plans for Social Care Reform and the potential financial implications.
- 4.46 The appropriate level of reserves that an authority should maintain will be dependent on the S151's judgments based on a range of factors, including the financial risks it faces, future savings proposals and the scale of capital expenditure. The CIPFA Resilience Index, which is a data analysis tool which compares the financial resilience of local authorities using a range of indicators, can be a useful consideration when determining the robustness of reserve levels. The updated Resilience Index for 2022 shows that Sandwell has a slightly higher risk profile than other similar authorities in terms of the overall level of reserves, but a slightly lower risk than comparators in terms of how quickly reserves are being used. This supports the budget strategy for 2022/23 in terms of increasing the level of unallocated reserves and not relying on reserves to close the budget gap for next year.



## 4.47 Council Tax proposals

4.48 The draft budget assumed a 3.99% increase in Council Tax, made up of 2% 'core' increase and 1.99% for Adult Social Care. In 2021/22 all local authorities with responsibility for Social Care were able to apply an Adult Social Care precept of up to 2.99%, spread over two years (21/22 and 22/23). The Council opted to apply 1% in 2021/22 and therefore has the ability to use the remaining 1.99% in 2022/23.

4.49 The provisional settlement confirmed a referendum principle of 2% for core Council Tax and 1% for the Adult Social Care precept. This means that the Council can raise Council Tax by a total of 4.99% in 2022/23 which would be made up of:

- 2% core Council Tax
- 1.99% Adult Social Care precept from 2021/22
- 1% Adult Social Care precept for 2022/23

4.50 Each 1% increase in Council Tax raises approximately £1.1m in additional Council Tax income. The draft budget assumption of 3.99% will generate increased income of approximately £4.3m for the Council. Approving the further 1%, to take the total increase to 4.99%, would generate additional income of £1.1m compared to the current draft budget forecast. Furthermore, because of the referendum principles that limit Council Tax increases every year, if the Council opted not to apply the further 1% increase, the Council Taxbase would be permanently reduced and the £1.1m additional income would be forgone every year. Over a 5-year period for instance, the taxbase would be around £5.5m lower that it would have been if the additional 1% had been approved for 2022/23.

4.51 The majority of properties in Sandwell are in Council Tax Bands A and B, with 43% being in Band A and 32% Band B. A Band B property, as an example, currently pays £1,167.43 per year for the Council's element of the Council Tax. The impact of a 3.99% or 4.99% increase on a Band B, is shown below:

Increase	3.99%	4.99%
Band B per annum	£46.58	£58.25
Band B per week	0.90p	£1.12



- 4.52 As noted in section 4.12 above, the Council is experiencing demand and inflationary pressures in Adult Social Care and spend pressures of over £6m have already been included in the draft budget for 2022/23. Since the draft budget was approved there are further inflationary pressures of almost £1m in Adult Social Care placements. Approving a further 1% for the ASC precept will not only contribute towards funding these additional costs but will help to ensure sustainability of the care sector over the next 12 months and in to the future, particularly in light of the ongoing impact of COVID, the increase in National Insurance Contribution and increase in the National Minimum Wage.
- 4.53 As the billing authority, the Council also bills and collects the precepts for the Police and Fire authorities. At the time of writing the report the Fire service had informed us of their provisional intention to increase Council Tax on a Band D property by £4.99, which would represent a 7.92% increase. The Police are proposing a £10 increase on a Band D, which represents a 5.6% increase.
- 4.54 The Council Tax bill issued to residents incorporates the precept from the Council, Fire and Police. Based on the provisional figures above, the overall increase on the bill would be 5.16% based on a 4.99% increase for the Council.
- 4.55 It is therefore recommended that a 4.99% increase is approved to ensure that the taxbase is maximised in future years and provide additional contingency to manage rising Adult Social Care costs in the future and ensure the local care sector remains sustainable.
- 4.56 Based on a 4.99% increase, the Council Tax precept for 2022/23 will be £117,967,934 and is reflected in the budget summary shown at Appendix E.
- 4.57 On 3<sup>rd</sup> February the government announced a Council Tax rebate scheme, whereby households in Council Tax bands A-D will receive £150 rebate in 2022/23. There will also be a discretionary scheme for Council's to administer for households in higher Council Tax bands but who can demonstrate financial hardship. The Council has approx. 134,000 properties, of which 130,000 are within Bands A-D. At the time of writing the report the scheme guidance had not been released but the indications are that the £150 will not be applied as a rebate against Council Tax bills but will need to be paid as a separate payment into bank accounts. Of the 130,000 households that are likely to qualify for the payment, the Council





only holds around 70,000 bank details which is due to the lower than average Direct Debit take-up in Sandwell and the Council offering a 100% Council Tax Reduction Scheme. The government is expecting payments to be made in April, so to avoid any delays in administering the scheme when the guidance is received, the recommendation at 1.16 is to give the Director of Finance delegated authority in consultation with the Cabinet Member to agree the necessary policies and procedures to administer the scheme.

#### 4.58 Final Budget Position

4.59 After taking into account the changes at para 4.8 above, and the fees and charges and Council tax proposals, the final budget position for 2022/23 is summarised below and is shown at Appendix E.

	£m
<b>Deficit from para 4.8</b>	<b>1.165</b>
Add:	
Fees and Charges income	(0.500)
1% Adult Social Care precept	(1.124)
<b>Amount to contribute to General Fund balances</b>	<b>0.459</b>

#### 4.60 Housing Revenue Account

4.61 Cabinet has previously approved a 2% rent increase for 2022/23 and in December 2021 also agreed increases to service charges of 4.1% as well as increases in other HRA related charges. These have been incorporated into the HRA budget for 2022/23 which is shown at Appendix E. This is a surplus for the year of £300k, which takes the unallocated general HRA balance to £10.6m.

4.62 The budget incorporates the latest information on the stock condition of HRA properties and the resources needed to continue the HRA investment and new build programmes. Other budget assumptions, in terms of general pay and price inflation mirror those in the General Fund budget.



4.63 The Directors of Housing and Director of Finance have commissioned a fundamental review into the HRA Business Plan which is currently underway. A key factor in the Business Plan is the stock condition information that we hold on our properties so that accurate repairs and maintenance and capital spend can be factored into the Business Plan. This will give a more accurate picture of the capacity that is within the HRA to undertake further investment and New Build programmes and potentially increase the scale of new properties that can be added to the stock. This work is expected to be complete during the first quarter of 2022/23 and a revised 30-Year HRA Business Plan will be presented to Cabinet.

4.64 As at the end of March 2021 the HRA had reserves of £41.3m, of which £15m is earmarked for capital investment. The Director of Finance is satisfied that the HRA maintains sufficient levels of reserves, although this will be informed in more detail by the Business Plan review referred to above.

#### 4.65 Budget Risk Assessment

4.66 The Local Government Finance Act 2003 requires the S151 Officer to provide assurance that the level of reserves that the authority holds are adequate and that the base budget proposals are reasonable in terms of their robustness and deliverability. The S151's assurance statement is shown at Appendix G.

4.67 When setting the annual budget and reviewing the appropriate level of reserves, the Director of Finance and Leadership Team have considered the financial risks that the authority faces and the mitigations that are in place. These are summarised in the table below:

Risk	Impact	Likelihood	Mitigation or Reserve Cover
Further impact of COVID-19 either due to a further period of restrictions, continued Health Protection Regulations or change in	Medium	Medium	The Base Budget includes assumptions about the longer-term impact of COVID-19, particularly on income streams. COVID-19 reserve held of approx. £8m at the end of 21/22 and ability to carry forward unspent Contain



residents' behaviours.			Outbreak Management Fund.
Children's Social Care – Sandwell Children's Trust experiencing increased volume of cases and increased cost of placement.	Medium	High	Social Care Grant earmarked reserve of £5.7m. High Cost Placement Reserve of £500k General SCT Contingency - £1.6m
Children's Social Care – pay pressures due to labour market shortages and comparative salary levels	Medium	High	Additional cost pressures could be in the region of £500k p.a. In the short term this can be managed through the Social Care or Financial Planning reserves but will need to be factored in to the MTFP review to reflect long term pressures.
Adult Social Care – increased demand for care packages and increased placement costs due to impact of inflation and salary increases	Medium	High	Adult Social Care budgets for 22/23 have been increased to reflect inflationary increases in placement costs and forecast increase in demand. Social Care Grant of £5.7m, Adult Social Care reserve of £1m and Better Care Fund reserve of £9m
Adult Social Care – future funding reform	High	High	We are awaiting further information from government on this, expected imminently. This could be a significant financial risk across the medium to longer term.
Major capital projects – exposure to financial and reputational risk	High	High	Contingencies included within capital budgets.  General capital reserve held.



particularly due to build-cost inflation and supply chain shortages			
Business Rates volatility – impact of business rate appeals, increase in rate relief of loss of collection	Medium	High	A forecast for likely business rates appeals is included when calculating business rates income each year. This is based on information from an external specialist. A Business Rates Volatility Reserve held of £7m
Future funding changes from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction in grant funding</li> <li>• Reset of Business Rates baseline</li> <li>• Business Rates Pilot scheme ending</li> </ul>	High	High	Assumptions about funding changes are built into the Medium-Term Financial Plan. Transformation Savings Plan agreed by Cabinet and Leadership Team The government has indicated that there will be some level of transitional relief Business Rates reserve to help smooth impact
Reduction in income from services due to less customer demand (e.g. car parks)	Medium	Medium	Each 1% reduction in gross income = £4m
Pay award higher than budgeted	Medium	Medium	Budget monitoring procedures would identify potential budget overspends and allow mitigating action to be taken. Each 1% increase in the pay award = £1.3m approx.



Major contractor failure	High	Medium	Financial Planning Reserve and specific service reserves held
Failure to deliver in-year savings programme	Medium	Low	Savings have been assessed as realistic and deliverable. Budget monitoring procedures during the year would highlight any variances at an early stage so mitigating action could be taken. Financial Planning reserve created to smooth any impact of undelivered savings or create headroom for lead-in time for savings in future years.

4.68 Overall, the Director of Finance can confirm that the level of reserves that the Council holds are of a prudent level to mitigate the financial risks that it faces. Further information on this can be found in the S25 Assurance Statement at Appendix G.

#### 4.69 Capital Programme

4.70 The Capital Programme for the General Fund and HRA is shown at Appendix H, along with the sources of finance. The total Capital Programme for 2022/23 is recommended to be set at £118.3m, of which £69.5 is for the HRA. This is to be funded by a combination of grants, earmarked reserves, revenue contributions, Right to Buy receipts and borrowing.

4.71 This programme does not yet include the Children's Services programme as the Basic Need Allocations have not yet been confirmed. A separate report will be brought to Cabinet with proposed schemes once allocations have been announced.



- 4.72 In 2021 the Council was provisionally awarded £67m from the government's Towns Fund initiative, to undertake 16 regeneration projects across West Bromwich, Smethwick and Rowley Regis. The Council is now completing the process to submit full business cases in March and once final confirmation of funding has been received, the schemes will be added to the Capital Programme as appropriate. The only exception to this is the acquisition of Kings Square, which is a separate report on this agenda. Due to the timing of the acquisition and its strategic importance to the wider West Bromwich Masterplan, it is recommended that this purchase is progressed prior to final confirmation of Towns Fund funding being secured. The rationale and risk assessment for this recommendation is set out in the separate report but the total acquisition costs have been included in the Capital Programme which is attached at Appendix H.
- 4.73 A wider regeneration pipeline is also being developed, which will incorporate Towns Fund projects but also wider opportunities to deliver new homes, jobs and skills. Those that the Council agrees to move forward will need to be included in a future capital programme update with an appropriate funding strategy.
- 4.74 The Archive service in Sandwell requires a new facility, as the current accommodation does not fulfil the requirements for mandatory accreditation of the service. Initial feasibility research work has been undertaken and funded by The National Archives (TNA). Further work is now required to identify potential sites and progress full feasibility, costing and design, external funding to complete this phase of work is also available through TNA. This may be a pressure on the Capital Programme in future years.
- 4.75 The Council also has some significant IT related projects in the pipeline. These are likely to include:
- A new telephony system to replace the current system which is no longer fit for purpose and no longer supported.
  - Improvements to the Council's Cyber Security software which will provide more protective measures from potential cyber-attacks.
  - Replacement for the Council web platform for make it more user friendly and easier to maintain.



4.76 The Council does not hold any significant unallocated capital receipts to fund the programme in future years and is currently carrying out a piece of work to identify possible surplus assets that could be disposed of to generate capital receipts. These can then be reinvested to ensure the Council's assets are maintained to a sufficient standard and can also contribute to the delivery of the Council's regeneration pipeline.

4.77 The Capital Programme presented for approval appears lower than in previous years due to the issues raised in sections 4.59-4.62 above, and currently only includes the projects that are either underway or will begin during 2022/23. There are further opportunities and investment requirements in the pipeline and the Council will need to consider affordability and an appropriate financing strategy in the medium to longer term. This review will be incorporated into the Medium-Term Financial Plan work which is discussed at section 4.49 below.

#### **4.78 Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators**

4.79 The Prudential Code, introduced as part of the Local Government Act 2003, requires the Council to establish its own borrowing limits regarding affordability and capital investment plans.

4.80 Full Council is also required to approve the authority's Treasury Management and Investment Strategies and Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy prior to the beginning of the financial year. These are attached as Appendix E for Cabinet approval and recommendation to Council. It is likely that the strategy will be updated during 2022/23 to reflect the expenditure and funding requirements for the Council's regeneration ambitions.



## 4.81 Medium Term Financial Plan Update

4.82 The Council's Medium-Term Financial Plan was last approved in February 2021. Whilst best practice would usually be to update the MTFP as part of the budget setting process each year, a different approach is being taken this year. This is due to the ongoing uncertainty around:

- The long-term impact of COVID-19 on the Councils services and income streams
- Government plans for Business Rates Retention and Fair Funding Reform (with further information expected from DLUHC in the spring).
- Impact of Adult Social Care reform in terms of demand and charging policies

4.83 The focus of Cabinet and Leadership team through the budget process for 2022/23 has been to ensure the budget gap for next year could be closed in a sustainable way whilst protecting frontline services as much as possible. The budget proposals for 2022/23 achieve that, and the focus now needs to turn to developing a Medium-Term Financial Strategy that is closely aligned to the new Corporate Plan and reflects the priorities of the Council, residents, businesses and wider stakeholders. The aim is to undertake a fundamental review of the MTFP and over the next three months and bring it back for Cabinet approval in early summer, so the Council is well placed to develop longer term budget proposals for 2023/24 onwards.

4.84 A high-level review of the Council's financial position has been undertaken as part of the budget process for 2022/23 and a summary of this is shown in the table below:

	2023/24 £'m	2024/25 £'m
Forecast Net Expenditure	274,747	281,214
Forecast Funding	260,615	268,180
<b>Cumulative (surplus)/deficit</b>	<b>14,132</b>	<b>13,034</b>





4.85 It is important to note some key risks in the Council's financial position from 2023/24 onwards:

- The impact of a potential Business Rates Reset from April 2023 and potential move away from 100% Business Rates Retention
- The loss of short-term grant funding, such as the Services Grant 2022/23 and New Homes Bonus
- Contractual increases as a result of high inflation and increase in employers National Insurance Contributions
- Upward pressures on pay due to inflation and supply issues in key sectors
- Resources required for the Council's Climate Change Action Plan – there are currently no revenue or capital resources allocated to this in the General Fund.

4.86 The Council has achieved a balanced budget for 2022/23 but based on the forecast and risks set out above, it will need to immediately work on developing savings plans for the medium term so there is a rolling pipeline of initiatives to underpin the updated MTFP.

4.87 In preparation for this, Leadership Team has developed a draft Transformation Savings Programme, which has identified a number of cross-cutting, transformational projects that will both deliver service improvements and either reduce costs or generate more external income. The projects identified so far include:

- Reviewing the Council's front-facing services and facilities to ensure they meet the needs of customers and are making most effective use of resources
- Review of the Waste and Transport service
- Development of a Commercial Strategy
- Transition between children and adults social care
- Reviewing the way the Council handles incoming and outgoing mail
- Achieving efficiencies from Oracle Fusion
- Shared services
- Review of surplus assets



- 4.88 A project sponsor from Leadership Team has been identified for each project, and they will be responsible for setting the scope of the review, identifying the cashable and non-cashable savings and implementing the outcomes of each project.
- 4.89 In order to resource this effectively and ensure savings can be achieved in a timely way, additional change management and business process reengineering will be required. It is proposed that a Programme Manager, two Business Analysts and a Business Process Reengineering Analyst will be required for a 2-year period. The costs of this are estimated to be in the region of £450k and will be shared between the General Fund and HRA, with the General Fund's proportion to be approximately £335k. This has been included in the budget for 2022/23, to be funded from the Invest to Save Reserve.
- 4.90 There are a number of key principles that will provide the basis for the review and development of the Plan over the next three months:
- The Council will take a longer-term approach to financial planning to facilitate a more strategic focus on service delivery and redesign
  - The Council will maintain a minimum level of unallocated reserves, equivalent to 5% of net budget
  - The Council will take a corporate approach to maintaining and using reserves and acknowledge that reserves should not be used to fund ongoing expenditure
  - The links between the Corporate Plan and Medium-Term Financial Plan should be strengthened to ensure resources are directed at priorities
  - Benchmarking and other comparative data will be used to assess Value for Money and direct savings targets and various budget approaches will be used to understand cost drivers and unit costs
  - There should be corporate responsibility for delivering excellent financial management, with Directors and all Budget Holders taking responsibility for budget monitoring and identification and delivery of savings
  - Strategic principles will be developed to guide capital investment decisions to ensure the long-term impact on the revenue budget is considered



4.91 A key part of the MTFP review will be the development of the Capital Strategy to understand the Council's capacity to take forward its ambitious regeneration ambitions. This is not only in relation to the Towns Fund projects, but other development opportunities that are currently being identified. Some of these will require Council investment and the ability to prudentially borrow.

4.92 The Section 151 Officer will develop an action plan to ensure that the Plan is reviewed within a reasonable timescale in order to inform the budget setting process for 2023/24 at an early stage.

## 5 Alternative Options

5.1 Cabinet could request that alternative savings options be proposed and agreed, although there is limited time to do this and still be able to carry out the appropriate consultation on alternative savings. Cabinet could also consider an alternative Council Tax increase, subject to adhering to the Referendum Principles, or alternative increases in Fees and Charges.

## 6 Implications

<b>Resources:</b>	Resource implications are contained within the main body of the report.
<b>Legal and Governance:</b>	No direct implications arising from the recommendations.
<b>Risk:</b>	This information is contained within the main body of this report.
<b>Equality:</b>	No direct implications arising from the recommendations.
<b>Health and Wellbeing:</b>	No direct implications arising from the recommendations.
<b>Social Value</b>	No direct implications arising from the recommendations.



## 7. Appendices

- A.) Spend Pressures and Growth items
- B.) Savings proposals
- C.) Equality Impact Assessments
- D.) Fees and Charges
- E.) Budget 2022/23 Summaries
- F.) Earmarked Reserves
- G.) S25 Assurance Statement
- H.) Capital Programme
- I.) Capital Strategy
- J.) Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators

## 8. Background Papers

None



AREA OF BUDGET PRESSURE	GROWTH/P RESSURE	NET PRESSURE (£)	PRESSURE (£)	GROWTH (£)
<b>AGREED PRE-TEMPLATES</b>				
Equalities Commission	Pressure	430	430	
Graduate Programme	Pressure	350	350	
Human Rights Act Claims	Pressure	200	200	
General capital matchfunding/project/revenue costs	Growth	200		200
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,180</b>	<b>980</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>LEGAL</b>				
Elections - Local Election Costs	Pressure	220	220	
Legal Services - Children's Trust Income for GDPR	Pressure	100	100	
Registration Services - new cemetery in West Bromwich	Pressure	2,225	2,225	
Governance Services	Growth	62		62
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>2,607</b>	<b>2,545</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>ADULTS</b>				
Projected contractual inflation on care costs 2022/23	Pressure	2,750	2,750	
Increase Dom Care Packages	Pressure	2,500	2,500	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>5,250</b>	<b>5,250</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>HR</b>				
Income pressures in relation to income from schools	Pressure	400	400	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>400</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>CHILDRENS</b>				
SEND Transport	Pressure	1,871	1,871	
RAA	Pressure	48	48	

<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,919</b>	<b>1,919</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>CORPORATE</b>				
SHAPE Programme	Growth	125		125
SCT Contract Sum	Pressure	665	665	
Pay Award	Pressure	1,000	1,000	
Local Welfare Provision	Growth	275		275
Apprentice Pay	Growth	456		456
Support Partner - Oracle Fusion	Growth	90		90
Oracle Change Management Team	Growth	0		0
Business Rates Growth	Pressure	287	287	
Chief Executive salary increase	Pressure	25	25	
Reduction in CT Base	Pressure	426	426	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3,349</b>	<b>2,403</b>	<b>946</b>
<b>FINANCE</b>				
Service Manager post to be reinstated	Pressure	100	100	
Additional Principal Accountant required	Growth	63		63
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>163</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>REGEN</b>				
Highways Maintenance - pressure re high priority works	Pressure	70	70	
Car Parking - Post COVID	Pressure	500	500	
Markets - unachievable income due to Covid for indoor and outdoor market	Pressure	150	150	
Dangerous Structures Reserve	Pressure	190	190	
Mark Drake -PMA programme of works	Pressure	220	220	
Mark Drake - Schools repairs account loss of contracts	Pressure	120	120	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,250</b>	<b>1,250</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>BUSINESS STRATEGY &amp; TRANSFORMATION</b>				
Increase in Comms Team	Growth	287		287
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>287</b>		<b>287</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>16,405</b>	<b>14,847</b>	<b>1,558</b>

Adult Social Care Service	Proposal	Saving £m	Impact
Social Work and Therapy	Undertake strength based reviews of cases where weekly care costs are below £100 or above £2,200	£0.7	Reduction in payment to providers and reduction in commissioned support. May result in reduced support.
Social Work and Therapy	Develop an alternative approach to double handed care calls	£1.4	Reduction in the number of double handed care calls i.e. more calls dealt with by one carer rather than multiple. Will need investment in equipment.
Direct Services	Use vacant units at Walker Grange and Willow Gardens for placements of people with dementia to reduce external placement costs	£0.65	Using the Councils own properties rather than external placements. No impact on existing residents.
Meals on Wheels	Delete vacant posts	£0.03	No impact
Respite Service	Review policy on Respite Support to reduce from offering 56 days to 28	£0.1	This will reduce the level of service offered to some users
Commissioning	Fund Domestic Refuge services through use of New Burdens Grant	£0.5	Less funding to invest in extra commissioned services. No impact on existing service
Commissioning	De-Commission non-statutory Community Advocacy Services	£0.05	Service would not be available to residents. Alternatives are available through partners
Total		£3.5	

Service – Children’s and Education	Proposal	Saving £m	Impact
School improvement	Staffing reductions	0.09	Reduction in advisory support and more pressure on rest of the team. Linked to reduced DFE funding but subject to consultation
Early Years	Remove vacant post and reduce training budget	0.06	Workforce receive less training. Impact on the service will be monitored
Employment and Skills	Using staff in a different way to support employment fairs	0.02	Very little
Education Support	Restructure and remodelling of services	0.16	More efficient service and reduction in staff. Minimal impact.
Connexions	Various staffing reductions and increased income	0.25	Reduced staffing capacity
Post 16 Service	Delete Manager post	0.07	Reduced staffing capacity
Workforce Nursery	Review delivery model and charging structure to break even	0.06	May result in higher charges for users or different service being offered
<b>Total</b>		<b>0.7</b>	



Service – Public Health and Corporate	Proposal	Saving £m	Impact
Public Health	Fund Detached Youth Service, Air Quality and SHAPE from PH grant	0.4	None
Central – Waste Contract	Reduction in contract budget based on current trends	0.5	None – based on current costs
Central – Leisure	Reduction in fee paid to Sandwell Leisure Trust	0.2	Based on current forecasts. Dependent on negotiation with SLT
Central – technical changes	Use of COVID grant funding to cover airport dividend loss and reduced Collection Fund deficit	2.5	None
<b>Total</b>		<b>3.6</b>	

Service – Legal and Governance	Proposal	Saving £m	Impact
Legal	Staffing restructure	0.2	Reduction in staffing capacity but mitigated by improved processes
Legal	Increased income from providing services to others	0.02	None
Elections	Hand delivery of forms rather than postal and using tablets for canvassing	0.12	None – should have a positive impact on the service
Registration	Increase fees and charges by 4% above inflation.	0.16	Increased charges to customers. Options for charging structure being reviewed.
<b>Total</b>		<b>0.5</b>	

Service - Housing	Proposal	Saving £m	Impact
Housing Management	Increase Garage rents by 50%	0.4	Customers will need to pay more, but rents are low compared to others. May reduce demand.
Floating Support	Fund from Preventing Homelessness Grant	0.05	None
Communities	Reduce funding to Voluntary Sector Organisation.	0.08	Relatively small proportion of total Voluntary Sector funding. Subject to consultation and Impact Assessment to understand full impact.
Housing Management	Staffing reduction and other minor savings	0.12	None – vacant post
Welfare Rights	Increase the HRA contribution towards this team.	0.14	None
Allocations	Charge providers for properties let through Choice Based Lettings	0.02	Minimal – charge based on current market rate
<b>Total</b>		<b>0.81</b>	

Service – Business Strategy and Change	Proposal	£m	Impact
HR	Reduce training, conferences, Management Development and professional training budgets	0.2	Reduced training for workforce. May impact on capability and recruitment and retention
HR – Graduate Scheme	Remove budget for graduate scheme and substitute with funding from vacant posts	0.17	None, assuming graduates are used for existing posts.
HR – staffing reductions	Senior HR Business Partners and Learning and Development Officer posts to be deleted	0.1	Reduced staffing capacity, likely to be voluntary under Planned Leavers
Contact Centre	Reduce staffing by 1.5 FTE and remove winter temporary workers budget	0.07	May impact on Contact Centre performance, but there will still be increased staffing due to additional 10 FTE recruited this year
Service Improvement	Minor staffing reductions	0.06	Minimal, but will reduce flexibility
ICT/Digital	Staffing reductions (Planned Leavers)	0.18	Less IT capacity to support the business
ICT/Digital	Various contract changes	0.32	None
<b>Total</b>		<b>1.1</b>	

Service – Finance	Proposal	Saving	Impact
Finance, Audit and Procurement	Staffing restructures	0.2	Less staffing capacity but more efficient to meet needs of the Council. Likely to involve redundancies.
Adult Social Care Charging	Review current policy for non-residential charging. Subject to consultation.	0.3	Consultation on options to increase the amount that people have to pay for their care. Currently 47% of income is taken into account. Many other authorities take 100% into account
Benefits	Fund Local Welfare Scheme from Council Tax Support Grant	0.3	None – funding service from government grant instead of Council budget. One-off saving
Council Tax	Increased the summons charge for Council Tax and Business Rates debts	0.17	Charge increased by £10 to £79. The amount the Council has to collect will increase.
Revenues and Benefits	Staffing reductions across the service	0.3	Mostly vacant posts so little impact. Possibly one redundancy but options for redeployment.
Cashiers	Review current provision and opening hours and consolidate service across the Council	0.05	Maintaining current reduced opening hours. Cashless Strategy is reducing the cash that the Council take and customers are paying by other means.
Total		1.3	

Service – Borough Economy	Proposal	Saving £m	Impact
Waste and Fleet	Charging for 2 <sup>nd</sup> Green Bin (£40)	0.17	Charges applied to residents 2 <sup>nd</sup> bin only, estimated 5,000 uptake, less admin costs
Waste and Fleet	Review Street Cleansing approach, review contract and move to bill of quantities	0.5	Depends on outcome of contract review
Libraries	Relocation of services and creation of hubs	0.2	Greater use of self-serve technology, relocation of some services and additional grant funding.
Museums	Review current Museum and Arts Service provision	0.1	Consolidation of services and rationalising management
Events, Sandwell Valley and Lightwood House	Review Business Plan and income targets with the aim of becoming cost neutral within 3 years	0.1	Increase number of events and charging structure for events and facilities
Corporate Fleet Review	Review current approach to fleet management	0.1	Minimal – savings should come from more efficient procurement and use of fleet
Pest Control	Review fees and charges to become cost neutral within 3 years	0.06	Increase in charges payable by customers
<b>Total</b>		<b>1.25</b>	

Service – Regeneration and Growth	Proposal	Saving	Impact
Strategic Assets and Facilities Management	Staffing restructures	0.06	Reduced staffing capacity
Strategic Assets	Reviewing property leases	0.6	Changes to property portfolio – combination of increased rental income and reduced rental costs
Building Control	Increase fees – between 10-20%	0.04	Increased charges to customers, may impact on demand
Planning	Introduce new pre-application charges	0.005	New charges for customers
Strategic Assets and Growth	Various staffing changes and reductions in supplies and service budgets	0.3	May reduce ability to carry out research for statutory service and reduced number of business events carried out
Strategic Assets	Capitalise some major repairs works	0.8	No impact on service – will fund from capital resources
<b>Total</b>		<b>1.8</b>	

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# **Equality Impact Assessment Template**

**Version 4: January 2019**

Title of proposal (include forward plan reference if available)	Staff reductions
Directorate and Service Area	School Improvement
Name and title of Lead Officer completing this EIA	Julie Andrews
Contact Details	Email: <a href="mailto:julie_andrews@sandwell.gov.uk">julie_andrews@sandwell.gov.uk</a> Mobile: 07919291012
Names and titles of other officers involved in completing this EIA	
Partners involved with the EIA where jointly completed	
Date EIA completed	04 February 2022
Date EIA signed off or agreed by Director or Executive Director	
Name of Director or Executive Director signing off EIA	
Date EIA considered by Cabinet Member	

**See [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance](#) for key prompts that must be addressed for all questions**

**1. The purpose of the proposal or decision required  
(Please provide as much information as possible)**

Staffing reductions linked to reduced DfE funding but subject to consultation.

The proposed saving is £90,000.

**2. Evidence used/considered**

Feedback from maintained schools and academies using the service. This indicates that services currently being provided are viewed positively and are valued.

**3. Consultation**

Service users (predominantly maintained schools and academies) have been informed of the potential impact of the withdrawal of grant funding for school improvement services. Consultation will continue as alternative models for delivering these services with a reduced budget and /or workforce are considered.

Alternative models of service delivery are being discussed with the school improvement team and potential partners.

The potential impact of a reduced workforce on overall and individual workload is being discussed with the school improvement team.

Sandwell MBC has offered all employees the opportunity to express an interest in leaving their post under the Planned Leavers Scheme.

Reductions outside of this route, if any, would necessitate a redundancy consultation involving all affected employees and relevant trade unions.

**4. Assess likely impact**

Please give an outline of the overall impact if possible.

The proposal could lead to a reduction in advisory support and more pressure on the rest of the team.

Reduction in staffing may mean that it would no longer be feasible to provide some of the services currently offered or that services would need to be offered in a different way.

Service users may need to source some services from an alternative provider which could lead to an increase in cost to them.

**Please complete the table below at 4a to identify the likely impact on specific protected characteristics**

**4a. Use the table to show:**

- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a negative impact on any of the equality strands (protected characteristics), that is it could disadvantage them or if there is no impact, please note the evidence and/or reasons for this.
- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a positive impact on any of the groups or contribute to promoting equality, equal opportunities or improving relationships within equality characteristics.

Protected Characteristic	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	No Impact	Reason and evidence (Provide details of specific groups affected even for no impact and where negative impact has been identified what mitigating actions can we take?)
	✓	✓	✓	
Age			✓	<p><b><i>NB: Comments below are applicable to all characteristics listed in section 4a.</i></b></p> <p><b>The proposed saving could be achieved via deleting vacant posts.</b></p> <p><b>Further staffing reductions are being sought through the Council's planned leavers scheme. Deletions to posts by this means would be via expressions of interest.</b></p> <p><b>Reduction in services offered to service users would be unlikely to affect any of the listed protected characteristics more adversely than another as provision is typically directed at a whole organisational level. Overall provision of service would be reduced, rather than</b></p>

<b>Disability</b>			✓	
<b>Gender reassignment</b>			✓	
<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>			✓	
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>			✓	
<b>Race</b>			✓	

<b>Religion or belief</b>			✓	
<b>Sex</b>			✓	
<b>Sexual orientation</b>			✓	
<b>Other</b>				N/A

Does this EIA require a full impact assessment? Yes  No

If there are no adverse impacts or any issues of concern or you can adequately explain or justify them, then you do not need to go any further. You have completed the screening stage. You must, however, complete sections 7 and 9 and publish the EIA as it stands.

If you have answered yes to the above, please complete the questions below referring to the guidance document.



**5. What actions can be taken to mitigate any adverse impacts?**

**6. As a result of the EIA what decision or actions are being proposed in relation to the original proposals?**

**7. Monitoring arrangements**

## **8. Action planning**

You may wish to use the action plan template below



**9. Publish the EIA**

# Equality Impact Assessment Template

Please complete this template using the [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance document](#)

**Version 4: January 2019**

Title of proposal <i>(include forward plan reference if available)</i>	Remove vacant post and reduce training budget
Directorate and Service Area	Early Years
Name and title of Lead Officer completing this EIA	Sara Baber – Lead Manager for Early Years Services
Contact Details	<a href="mailto:sara_baber@sandwell.gov.uk">sara_baber@sandwell.gov.uk</a> or 07769 283297
Names and titles of other officers involved in completing this EIA	
Partners involved with the EIA where jointly completed	
Date EIA completed	03.02.22
Date EIA signed off or agreed by Director or Executive Director	
Name of Director or Executive Director signing off EIA	Michael Jarrett
Date EIA considered by Cabinet Member	

**See [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance](#) for key prompts that must be addressed for all questions**

**1. The purpose of the proposal or decision required  
(Please provide as much information as possible)**

To reduce the Early Years target budget to produce the required budget savings.

1. Remove vacant post from FIS structure Band C admin assistant.
2. Reduce the workforce development fund of £120,000 (05161) by £32,000 to £88,000 (this amount has been agreed, and due to clerical error, represents a 26% cut of budget in 1 year)
3. Reduce the sustainability fund of £100,000 (05165) by 10% to £90,000.

**2. Evidence used/considered**

The available target budget was considered and reduced accordingly.

**3. Consultation**

None, due to the timing request to produce savings.

**4. Assess likely impact**

Please give an outline of the overall impact if possible.

The workforce development

1. Admin post vacant due to retirement. No longer required due to the changing nature of the FIS service developing social media and online presence. FIS team also have access to the Early Years Team admin team if required.
2. The workforce development fund is used to provide ongoing CPD opportunities and Statutory Training courses to the early years workforce and schools to develop the quality of provision and to ensure that statutory requirements are met. Mandatory training such as paediatric first aid, Food safety and Hygiene and risk assessment have to be delivered by recognised organisations.  
We will have to increase the charges made to providers to attend training events, this may well impact on the take up of training as providers struggle with increased business rates, increases in NI contributions and National Living Wage and rising utility bills.
3. The sustainability fund is used to support providers with health and safety actions following an Inadequate or Requires Improvement Ofsted judgement to enable the provider to ensure the environment is safe for the children attending. The impact of the withdrawal of this funding could mean that child care providers close before they get a chance to

improve. This would then impact on the local authority's duty to ensure sufficiency of child care places.

**Please complete the table below at 4a to identify the likely impact on specific protected characteristics**



**4a. Use the table to show:**

- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a negative impact on any of the equality strands (protected characteristics), that is it could disadvantage them or if there is no impact, please note the evidence and/or reasons for this.
- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a positive impact on any of the groups or contribute to promoting equality, equal opportunities or improving relationships within equality characteristics.

Protected Characteristic	Positive Impact ✓	Negative Impact ✓	No Impact ✓	Reason and evidence (Provide details of specific groups affected even for no impact and where negative impact has been identified what mitigating actions can we take?)
Age			✓	
Disability			✓	
Gender reassignment			✓	

<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>			√	
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>			√	
<b>Race</b>			√	
<b>Religion or belief</b>			√	
<b>Sex</b>			√	
<b>Sexual orientation</b>			√	
<b>Other</b>			√	

Does this EIA require a full impact assessment? Yes  No

**5. What actions can be taken to mitigate any adverse impacts?**

**6. As a result of the EIA what decision or actions are being proposed in relation to the original proposals?**

**7. Monitoring arrangements**

The impact of reducing support to child care providers will be monitored by;

- the judgements Ofsted make at inspection
- parental complaints
- the annual Childcare Sufficiency Report.
- Officer visit notes
- The uptake of training events

**8. Action planning**

You may wish to use the action plan template below



## **9. Publish the EIA**

This report will be published alongside other reports that are produced to demonstrate budget cutting.

# Equality Impact Assessment Template

Please complete this template using the [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance document](#)

**Version 4: January 2019**

Title of proposal (include forward plan reference if available)	Employment and Skills staff reduction
Directorate and Service Area	Childrens Services and Education
Name and title of Lead Officer completing this EIA	Kelly Thomas – Employment and Skills Services Manager
Contact Details	Kelly_thomas@sandwell.gov.uk
Names and titles of other officers involved in completing this EIA	N/A
Partners involved with the EIA where jointly completed	
Date EIA completed	04.02.22
Date EIA signed off or agreed by Director or Executive Director	
Name of Director or Executive Director signing off EIA	
Date EIA considered by Cabinet Member	

**See [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance](#) for key prompts that must be addressed for all questions**

**1. The purpose of the proposal or decision required  
(Please provide as much information as possible)**

The reduction of Employment advisers from 8 to 7. Area employment advisers provide information, advice and guidance and job brokerage support to local residents.

**2. Evidence used/considered**

Ability/Capacity to deliver current contracts  
Match funding arrangements

**3. Consultation**

Meetings with team managers regarding current workloads/pipeline of work

**4. Assess likely impact**

Please give an outline of the overall impact if possible.

Reducing the core advisers from the Employment and Skills team would reduce our ability to provide match funding for future projects. Reducing staffing will reduce capacity in the team however team managers assessed the delivery of employment support in the community could be covered by existing resources and staff funded via external programmes.

**Please complete the table below at 4a to identify the likely impact on specific protected characteristics**



**4a. Use the table to show:**

- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a negative impact on any of the equality strands (protected characteristics), that is it could disadvantage them or if there is no impact, please note the evidence and/or reasons for this.
- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a positive impact on any of the groups or contribute to promoting equality, equal opportunities or improving relationships within equality characteristics.

Protected Characteristic	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	No Impact	Reason and evidence (Provide details of specific groups affected even for no impact and where negative impact has been identified what mitigating actions can we take?)
	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Age</b>			✓	<b>Reducing the staffing will not have an adverse impact on the age range served by the service.</b>
<b>Disability</b>			✓	<b>The staff reduction would not have an adverse impact on the support offered to residents with disabilities.</b>

<b>Gender reassignment</b>			✓	<b>It has been assessed there are no adverse impacts to protected characteristics.</b>
<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>			✓	<b>It has been assessed there are no adverse impact to any protected characteristics.</b>
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>			✓	<b>It has been assessed there are no adverse impact to any protected characteristics.</b>
<b>Race</b>			✓	<b>It has been assessed there are no adverse impact to any protected characteristics.</b>
<b>Religion or belief</b>			✓	<b>It has been assessed there are no adverse impact to any protected characteristics.</b>

<b>Sex</b>			✓	<b>It has been assessed there are no adverse impact to any protected characteristics.</b>
<b>Sexual orientation</b>			✓	<b>It has been assessed there are no adverse impact to any protected characteristics.</b>
<b>Other</b>			✓	<b>It has been assessed there are no adverse impact to any protected characteristics.</b>

Does this EIA require a full impact assessment? Yes  No

If there are no adverse impacts or any issues of concern or you can adequately explain or justify them, then you do not need to go any further. You have completed the screening stage. You must, however, complete sections 7 and 9 and publish the EIA as it stands.

If you have answered yes to the above, please complete the questions below referring to the guidance document.

**5. What actions can be taken to mitigate any adverse impacts?**

**6. As a result of the EIA what decision or actions are being proposed in relation to the original proposals?**

**7. Monitoring arrangements**

**8. Action planning**

You may wish to use the action plan template below



**9. Publish the EIA**

# Equality Impact Assessment Template

Please complete this template using the [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance document](#)

**Version 4: January 2019**

Title of proposal <i>(include forward plan reference if available)</i>	
Directorate and Service Area	Children and Education Support Services
Name and title of Lead Officer completing this EIA	Sue Moore Group Head Education Support Services
Contact Details	sue_moore@sandwell.gov.uk
Names and titles of other officers involved in completing this EIA	
Partners involved with the EIA where jointly completed	
Date EIA completed	3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2022
Date EIA signed off or agreed by Director or Executive Director	
Name of Director or Executive Director signing off EIA	
Date EIA considered by Cabinet Member	

**See [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance](#) for key prompts that must be addressed for all questions**



## 1. The purpose of the proposal or decision required (Please provide as much information as possible)

Efficiency saving

- Re-structuring of Business Support function across directorate
- Remodelling of Attendance Service
- Merger of Admissions an Education Benefits and Transport under one manager
- Developing multi functionally posts that work across a number of teams

Re-structure of Business Support function for directorate	50	Efficiency savings generated by establishing a single business team for directorate
Re-modelling of Attendance Service	50	Reduction in senior practitioners from 4 to 3 as part of a restructure of service
Re-modelling of School Organisation	9	Re-assign project officer to business support
Merge Admissions with Education Benefits	55	Loss of Band G post

## 2. Evidence used/considered

Future business needs

## 3. Consultation

Proposed savings have been discussed and agreed by DMT and with key officers involved in proposed restructure

## 4. Assess likely impact

Please give an outline of the overall impact if possible.

Impact will be minimal in terms of service delivery, and reflect;

- different ways of working that are already in place
- a need to change service focus as the education sector continues to re-cover from the impact of COVID
- request from officers to leave the Council's employment

**Please complete the table below at 4a to identify the likely impact on specific protected characteristics**

**4a. Use the table to show:**

- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a negative impact on any of the equality strands (protected characteristics), that is it could disadvantage them or if there is no impact, please note the evidence and/or reasons for this.
- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a positive impact on any of the groups or contribute to promoting equality, equal opportunities or improving relationships within equality characteristics.

Protected Characteristic	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	No Impact	Reason and evidence (Provide details of specific groups affected even for no impact and where negative impact has been identified what mitigating actions can we take?)
	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Age</b>			√	<b>Changes proposed relate to efficiency savings and the need to re-model service provision to meet changing priorities</b>
<b>Disability</b>			√	<b>Changes proposed relate to efficiency savings and the need to re-model service provision to meet changing priorities</b>

Gender reassignment			√	<b>Changes proposed relate to efficiency savings and the need to re-model service provision to meet changing priorities</b>
Marriage and civil partnership			√	<b>Changes proposed relate to efficiency savings and the need to re-model service provision to meet changing priorities</b>
Pregnancy and maternity			√	<b>Changes proposed relate to efficiency savings and the need to re-model service provision to meet changing priorities</b>
Race			√	<b>Changes proposed relate to efficiency savings and the need to re-model service provision to meet changing priorities</b>
Religion or belief			√	<b>Changes proposed relate to efficiency savings and the need to re-model service provision to meet changing priorities</b>

<b>Sex</b>			√	<b>Changes proposed relate to efficiency savings and the need to re-model service provision to meet changing priorities</b>
<b>Sexual orientation</b>			√	<b>Changes proposed relate to efficiency savings and the need to re-model service provision to meet changing priorities</b>
<b>Other</b>			√	<b>Changes proposed relate to efficiency savings and the need to re-model service provision to meet changing priorities</b>

Does this EIA require a full impact assessment? Yes  No X

If there are no adverse impacts or any issues of concern or you can adequately explain or justify them, then you do not need to go any further. You have completed the screening stage. You must, however, complete sections 7 and 9 and publish the EIA as it stands.

If you have answered yes to the above, please complete the questions below referring to the guidance document.

**5. What actions can be taken to mitigate any adverse impacts?**

**6. As a result of the EIA what decision or actions are being proposed in relation to the original proposals?**

**7. Monitoring arrangements**

## **8. Action planning**

You may wish to use the action plan template below



**9. Publish the EIA**



# Equality Impact Assessment Template

Please complete this template using the [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance document](#)

**Version 4: January 2019**

Title of proposal <i>(include forward plan reference if available)</i>	Various staffing reductions and increased income
Directorate and Service Area	Connexions
Name and title of Lead Officer completing this EIA	Erroll Blackwood
Contact Details	erroll_blackwood@sandwell.gov.uk
Names and titles of other officers involved in completing this EIA	None
Partners involved with the EIA where jointly completed	None
Date EIA completed	04/02/22
Date EIA signed off or agreed by Director or Executive Director	
Name of Director or Executive Director signing off EIA	Michael Jarrett
Date EIA considered by Cabinet Member	

**See [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance](#) for key prompts that must be addressed for all questions**

**1. The purpose of the proposal or decision required  
(Please provide as much information as possible)**

To request approval to reduce the size of the Connexions staff due to the pressure to save money as part of the Council's 3-year efficiency savings plan.

**2. Evidence used/considered**

Chief Executive all staff meeting  
Director attending staff meeting

**3. Consultation**

Several meeting and discussions with  
Finance  
Staff  
Line Manager & Director

**4. Assess likely impact**

Please give an outline of the overall impact if possible.

The Careers, information, advice and guidance statutory function for the Authority is currently delivered by a Team of 36 staff. The proposal is to reduce the staffing by just under 4 FTE, releasing a saving of circa £250k (including some associated supplies and services savings).

The proposal would result in a 10% reduction in the capacity of the team to deliver 3 roles:

- Reduced capacity for Careers Adviser to provide information, advice and guidance
- Developing and delivering a range of initiatives the Council wishes to prioritise that improve the lives of young people
- Sitting on some Boards/groups/partnerships led by other organisations/partners and other departments within the Council.

The impact on the work of Connexions will be mitigated (to be neutral impact) by a prioritisation of this area of work within the reduced staffing.

**Please complete the table below at 4a to identify the likely impact on specific protected characteristics**

**4a. Use the table to show:**

- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a negative impact on any of the equality strands (protected characteristics), that is it could disadvantage them or if there is no impact, please note the evidence and/or reasons for this.
- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a positive impact on any of the groups or contribute to promoting equality, equal opportunities or improving relationships within equality characteristics.

Protected Characteristic	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	No Impact	Reason and evidence (Provide details of specific groups affected even for no impact and where negative impact has been identified what mitigating actions can we take?)
	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Age</b>			<b>X</b>	By ensuring that there are clear robust staff allocations in place there should be no impact.
<b>Disability</b>			<b>X</b>	By ensuring that there are clear robust staff allocations in place there should be no impact.

<b>Gender reassignment</b>			<b>X</b>	By ensuring that there are clear robust staff allocations in place there should be no impact.
<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>			<b>X</b>	By ensuring that there are clear robust staff allocations in place there should be no impact.
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>			<b>X</b>	By ensuring that there are clear robust staff allocations in place there should be no impact.
<b>Race</b>			<b>X</b>	By ensuring that there are clear robust staff allocations in place there should be no impact.
<b>Religion or belief</b>			<b>X</b>	By ensuring that there are clear robust staff allocations in place there should be no impact.

<b>Sex</b>			<b>X</b>	By ensuring that there are clear robust staff allocations in place there should be no impact.
<b>Sexual orientation</b>			<b>X</b>	By ensuring that there are clear robust staff allocations in place there should be no impact.
<b>Other</b>			<b>X</b>	By ensuring that there are clear robust staff allocations in place there should be no impact.

Does this EIA require a full impact assessment? Yes  No

If there are no adverse impacts or any issues of concern or you can adequately explain or justify them, then you do not need to go any further. You have completed the screening stage. You must, however, complete sections 7 and 9 and publish the EIA as it stands.

If you have answered yes to the above, please complete the questions below referring to the guidance document.

**5. What actions can be taken to mitigate any adverse impacts?**

**6. As a result of the EIA what decision or actions are being proposed in relation to the original proposals?**

**7. Monitoring arrangements**

- Monthly team meeting with staff to discuss caseloads
- Six month staff Business Plan meetings
- Quarterly review with Service Manager.

**8. Action planning**

You may wish to use the action plan template below

Question no. (ref)	Action required	Lead officer/ person responsible	Target date	Progress
7	Monthly Team meeting	Erroll Blackwood	Monthly	ongoing
7	Six month Business Planning	Erroll Blackwood	June 22 & December 22	ongoing
7	Quarterly review with Service Manager.	Erroll Blackwood/Andrew Timmins	March, June, September December 2022	Ongoing



**9. Publish the EIA**

# Equality Impact Assessment Template

Please complete this template using the [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance document](#)

**Version 4: January 2019**

Title of proposal (include forward plan reference if available)	Deletion of Management Post
Directorate and Service Area	Post 16 Service
Name and title of Lead Officer completing this EIA	Andy Timmins
Contact Details	andrew_timmins@sandwell.gov.uk
Names and titles of other officers involved in completing this EIA	N/A
Partners involved with the EIA where jointly completed	N/A
Date EIA completed	4.2.22.
Date EIA signed off or agreed by Director or Executive Director	
Name of Director or Executive Director signing off EIA	
Date EIA considered by Cabinet Member	

**See [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance](#) for key prompts that must be addressed for all questions**

**1. The purpose of the proposal or decision required  
(Please provide as much information as possible)**

Pressure to save money and provide cuts to address the demands of Strategic Finance. The Manager however is of an age where retirement / redundancy would be an option

**2. Evidence used/considered**

Meetings and discussions with the Manager and other senior leaders

**3. Consultation**

Spoken with the Manager on many occasions both formally and informally about this decision to apply for planned leavers

**4. Assess likely impact**

Loss of knowledge and management capacity in a number of areas including Post 16, Connexions and Adult Learning. However, this will create new opportunities for other staff to develop their own careers.

**4a. Use the table to show:**

- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a negative impact on any of the equality strands (protected characteristics), that is it could disadvantage them or if there is no impact, please note the evidence and/or reasons for this.
- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a positive impact on any of the groups or contribute to promoting equality, equal opportunities or improving relationships within equality characteristics.

Protected Characteristic	Positive Impact ✓	Negative Impact ✓	No Impact ✓	Reason and evidence (Provide details of specific groups affected even for no impact and where negative impact has been identified what mitigating actions can we take?)
Age			✓	
Disability			✓	

<b>Gender reassignment</b>			✓	
<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>			✓	
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>			✓	
<b>Race</b>			✓	
<b>Religion or belief</b>			✓	

<b>Sex</b>			✓	
<b>Sexual orientation</b>			✓	
<b>Other</b>			✓	

Does this EIA require a full impact assessment? Yes  No

If there are no adverse impacts or any issues of concern or you can adequately explain or justify them, then you do not need to go any further. You have completed the screening stage. You must, however, complete sections 7 and 9 and publish the EIA as it stands.

If you have answered yes to the above, please complete the questions below referring to the guidance document.

**5. What actions can be taken to mitigate any adverse impacts?**

Undertake meetings with the Manager and other senior Officers to put in place suitable replacements to backfill the gap left by the Manager

**6. As a result of the EIA what decision or actions are being proposed in relation to the original proposals?**

**7. Monitoring arrangements**



## **8. Action planning**

You may wish to use the action plan template below



**9. Publish the EIA**

# Equality Impact Assessment Template

Please complete this template using the [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance document](#)

**Version 4: January 2019**

Title of proposal (include forward plan reference if available)	Review delivery model and charging structure to break even
Directorate and Service Area	Workforce Nursery
Name and title of Lead Officer completing this EIA	Sara Baber – Early Years Manager
Contact Details	<a href="mailto:sara_baber@sandwell.gov.uk">sara_baber@sandwell.gov.uk</a> 07769 283297
Names and titles of other officers involved in completing this EIA	
Partners involved with the EIA where jointly completed	
Date EIA completed	03.02.22
Date EIA signed off or agreed by Director or Executive Director	
Name of Director or Executive Director signing off EIA	Michael Jarrett
Date EIA considered by Cabinet Member	

See [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance](#) for key prompts that must be addressed for all questions

## 1. The purpose of the proposal or decision required (Please provide as much information as possible)

To reduce the Workplace Nursery target budget to £0 and ensure the nursery reaches break even point.

## 2. Evidence used/considered

The nursery has recently lost a good proportion of their paid for child care hours due the changing nature of child care during and following the Coronavirus pandemic.

In December 2021 an external child care consultancy was tasked with completing a full financial audit and asked for recommendations to ensure the nursery remains sustainable. The report contains a number of recommendations;

### 3.1 Short- to medium-term recommendations

- Improve the accommodation for nursery children inside and the outside play space and signage to improve the nurseries visibility (cost implication)
- Develop a strategic business plan that can be monitored, used to forecast and track progress by the management team.
- Improve the financial forecasting and monitoring using a commercial nursery package, freeing up budget officers and enabling nursery management to monitor effectively. (cost implications)
- Reviewing fee and funding structure
- Current council purchasing arrangements mean that the nursery cannot demonstrate best value for money for every day resource purchases.
- Consider how savings can be made to the food and meals budget. Breakfasts and teas could be provided by the nursery if the kitchen is refurbished to meet hygiene and safety standards ( cost implications)
- Complete a breakeven analysis
- Track all funding is received by the nursery ie SEND funding.
- Improving marketing and online presence with the development of a website.

### 3.2 Medium- to long-term recommendations

- Remodelling occupancy to maximise the funded income across the day.

- Consider Governance of the nursery
- Conduct a staffing restructure to ensure the needs of the nursery are met and that it maximises the hours that are available for parents to purchase. This will involve a consultation and a change in staffing contracted hours.

### 3. Consultation

None, due to the timing request to produce savings. Would be required for a staffing restructure.

### 4. Assess likely impact

Please give an outline of the overall impact if possible.

Higher charges for parents could impact on the uptake of places and some parents might move their children to find cheaper places creating surplus places and impacting on the income.

Changing the operational offer to parents may also result in losing business.

Currently the nursery is losing business because of the material impression prospective parents have when shown around the nursery. It is not reflective of an outstanding child care provision.

**Please complete the table below at 4a to identify the likely impact on specific protected characteristics**

**4a. Use the table to show:**

- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a negative impact on any of the equality strands (protected characteristics), that is it could disadvantage them or if there is no impact, please note the evidence and/or reasons for this.
- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a positive impact on any of the groups or contribute to promoting equality, equal opportunities or improving relationships within equality characteristics.

Protected Characteristic	Positive Impact ✓	Negative Impact ✓	No Impact ✓	Reason and evidence (Provide details of specific groups affected even for no impact and where negative impact has been identified what mitigating actions can we take?)
Age			✓	
Disability			✓	



<b>Gender reassignment</b>			√	
<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>			√	
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>			√	
<b>Race</b>			√	
<b>Religion or belief</b>			√	

<b>Sex</b>			√	
<b>Sexual orientation</b>			√	
<b>Other</b>			√	

Does this EIA require a full impact assessment? Yes  No

If there are no adverse impacts or any issues of concern or you can adequately explain or justify them, then you do not need to go any further. You have completed the screening stage. You must, however, complete sections 7 and 9 and publish the EIA as it stands.

If you have answered yes to the above, please complete the questions below referring to the guidance document.

**5. What actions can be taken to mitigate any adverse impacts?**

**6. As a result of the EIA what decision or actions are being proposed in relation to the original proposals?**

**7. Monitoring arrangements**

Through;

- the post audit action plan
- the business plan
- termly finance meetings
- occupancy figures and projections

## 8. Action planning

You may wish to use the action plan template below

Question no. (ref)	Action required	Lead officer/ person responsible	Target date	Progress

## **9. Publish the EIA**

This report will be published alongside other reports that are produced to demonstrate budget cutting.

## Equality Impact Assessment Template

Please complete this template using the [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance document](#)

**Version 1: August 2020**

Title of proposal (include forward plan reference if available)	Consultation and Proposed change/closure of Generic Advocacy Service
Directorate and Service Area	Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing
Name and title of Lead Officer completing this EIA	Beverley Stevens – Commissioning Officer Justin Haywood, Operations Manager
Contact Details	<a href="mailto:Justin_Haywood@sandwell.gov.uk">Justin_Haywood@sandwell.gov.uk</a> 0121 569 5504
Names and titles of other officers involved in completing this EIA	Justin Haywood, Operations Manager Beverley Stevens, Commissioning Officer
Partners involved with the EIA where jointly completed	None
Date EIA completed	11 January 2021
Date EIA signed off or agreed by Director or Executive Director	
Name of Director or Executive Director signing off EIA	Rashpal Bishop
Date EIA considered by Cabinet Member	



See [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance](#) for key prompts that must be addressed for all questions

**1. The purpose of the proposal or decision required  
(Please provide as much information as possible)**

1. The proposal was to close or to tighten access criteria for this advocacy to release capacity for statutory Care Act or IMCA advocacy

The Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS) will be implemented in Sandwell in 2022 and the remit of the statutory IMCA role will be widened, taking up more hours per case, and there is expected to be a rise in demand for the statutory IMCA service due to legislative change – including more referrals for 16-17 year olds and more referrals from Health and independent hospitals in the future. There may also be some impact on other statutory advocacy services.

2. More recently an option to decommission the Generic Non-Statutory Advocacy Service has been proposed and Equality Impact issues pertaining to this potential outcome are also covered in this EIA.

3. A further report be presented to Cabinet, to agree the future for generic advocacy in Sandwell, following completion of the consultation, which was originally is contracted to run for 1 year only until March 31, 2022, with 2 options to extend the contract for a further year each.

It is likely that an initial extension of 12onths will be required to undertake the consultation period and to implement either the alignment with Care Act / IMCA advocacy eligibility or to decommission the service.

**2. Evidence used/considered**

The current Advocacy Services Contract started in April 2021 and covers all statutory services and generic advocacy which is non- statutory. The

services are for vulnerable residents in Sandwell (or those legally entitled to the advocacy because Sandwell are paying for their care or they are detained in a hospital in Sandwell) with the overall aim of ensuring that these people access support to get their views heard on issues and decisions that affect their lives.

The services are: IMCA, IMHA, ICAS, Care Act and Generic advocacy. These have all been delivered by Powher since 2016 – who were successful in both tenders in 2015 and 2020.

Analysis of take up of the generic and other advocacy services since April 2016 have been analysed to demonstrate current and future capacity, movement and expected demand across the services, in terms of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010. The overall take up of generic advocacy has reduced over last few years from 303 in 2018/19 to 214 in 2019/20, and 193 in 2020/21, unlike statutory services which all increased pre-COVID. COVID reduced take up of all services. It should be noted that from 2016- 2020 the take up of Generic Advocacy and Care Act advocacy by different groups were reported together as they were part of the same contract- but most cases were generic, with Care Act cases taking an increasing share as referrals increased.

Discussions with relevant staff, partners and contractors about the generic advocacy service, and other advocacy services, have been recorded and considered, including outcomes, any issues raised by casework, and their views about the impact of the introduction of LPS, and COVID and lockdown on advocacy take up.

Consultation survey forms will be collated and analysed to find out the views of generic advocacy service users on the usefulness and difference the service makes to their lives, and the views of referrers on the same.

The good practice in advocacy commissioning in the West Midlands region will be looked at and compared to Sandwell.

### **3. Consultation**

Commissioners have identified individuals and groups who will be consulted. These include:

Stakeholders who refer or use the generic services – social workers in Adult Social Care and Children’s Services, community organisations, carer groups etc

Staff who refer to the services – social care and volunteers, Powher staff such as statutory advocates

Service users of Generic Advocacy

Intentions to decommission the Generic Advocacy service or to significantly change access to it will require a reasonable period of Consultation Further paper will be presented to Cabinet outlining the findings of the consultation, and further proposals for generic advocacy – this may include extending the contracted service but with a waiting list for the service if needed by increased demand for IMCA, tightening the access criteria/remodelling and closure of the service.

#### **4. Assess likely impact**

There may be an impact on the service users who are concerned about the possibility of change or reductions in advocacy services, and where they will access support in future. The consultation will include maintenance and updating of the EIA to provide a breakdown of stakeholders by protected characteristics.

The protected characteristics most likely to impact on the service users if service closed/tightened/waiting list are age, parental responsibility and disability because people undergoing Continuing Health Care or Child Protection Proceedings are extremely vulnerable/stressed and unable to gain support easily elsewhere.

**Please complete the table below at 4a to identify the likely impact on specific protected characteristics**

**4a. Use the table to show:**

- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a negative impact on any of the equality strands (protected characteristics), that is it could disadvantage them or if there is no impact, please note the evidence and/or reasons for this.
- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a positive impact on any of the groups or contribute to promoting equality, equal opportunities or improving relationships within equality characteristics.

Protected Characteristic	Positive Impact ✓	Negative Impact ✓	No Impact ✓	Reason and evidence (Provide details of specific groups affected even for no impact and where negative impact has been identified what mitigating actions can we take?)
<b>Age</b>		✓		Many of the service users of generic advocacy service are older adults, and they will be given opportunity to comment on the proposals, and how they can be supported. In 2016 - 18% of Generic/Care Act service users were aged over 75 and 28% over 60, by 2022 this share dropped to 9% over 75 and 22% over 60 - this group are more likely to be frail and have health conditions, so may need advocacy for Continuing Health Care (CHC -a process to decide if they have needs for health care or social care), or communication with health or care services - the communication can be covered by NHS and services in Community and Voluntary Sector, but CHC cannot.

<b>Disability</b>			✓	<p>Many service users of generic advocacy have some form of disability, and they will give the opportunity to comment on the proposals and how they can be supported. The group with disabilities with the largest take up of generic advocacy are adults with learning disabilities (26/125)– who are more likely to need advocacy for communication, care, housing etc, followed by physical disabilities (20/125)– these could be supported by Community Offer/local voluntary organisations. There was low take up by those with Sensory impairments - there are voluntary organisations and Sensory team in Council who support these.</p>
<b>Gender reassignment</b>			✓	<p>Generic advocacy does not cover support specifically around this but may deliver this in response to related issues that are presented e.g. communication issues because of gender reassignment. In the last few years, some service users have declared they are intersex.</p>
<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>			✓	<p>Generic advocacy does not cover support to personal relationships but may deliver this in response to related issues that are presented – e.g. housing cases, mental health cases or child protection cases can be related (not always) to abusive or broken relationships. There is no monitoring to cover marriage/civil partnership.</p>
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>		✓		<p>About a third of the non- statutory Generic Advocate time is taken up by parents with learning disabilities and/or mental health conditions who are undergoing child protection processes. These parents are in high need of advocacy support and the consultation, while causing uncertainty in the short term, will offer these parents an opportunity to express their needs and how they can be most effectively supported. Many but not all the parents are mothers – some of whom are pregnant and/or have had several children legally removed. When advocates were asked not to</p>

				attend court proceedings to support the parents, due to waiting time involved, the parents presented at other voluntary organisations for additional support. There is reported a high level of satisfaction with this part of the service, and no alternative advocacy provision for this.
<b>Race</b>			✓	60% of generic advocacy service users who declared race are white, with 18% Asian, 23% Black/African Caribbean, and 1% other/mixed, which roughly matches the makeup of Sandwell, as at January 2022 (2021/22). Many of the service users of generic advocacy service are black and minority groups and communities, and they will be given opportunity to comment on the proposals, and how they can be supported. The provider has made links with community organisations who support minority ethnic groups.
<b>Religion or belief</b>			✓	Generic advocacy does not cover support specifically around this but may provide support around related issues. e.g. religious discrimination, religious practices/preferences in health and care, and hate crime. 35% of service users who declared their faith were Christian, 41% no religion, and other faiths had less than 10% each, 9% Muslim.
<b>Sex</b>			✓	69% of the service users of generic advocacy service who declared gender are women up to January 2021/22, and 31% men. 22% of those using the service are either over 60 (with more women in this age group) or are mothers or couples whose children have or may be removed due to child protection proceedings. They will be given the opportunity to say how they can be best supported.
<b>Sexual orientation</b>			✓	Generic advocacy does not cover support specifically around this – but may provide support around related issues e.g. discrimination at work.

			<p>About 2% self-declared as LGBT in 2016 and 1% in 2021/22– the non-declaration rate is high (43 out of 125) and the contractor is making links with LGBT organisations.</p>
<b>Other</b>	✓	✓	<p>The main group of service users are adults with mental health (55/125) or long-term conditions (37/125) whose conditions are not (at the time of the case) severe to warrant residential care - so generic advocacy acts as a preventative service to support with care, housing etc. Many are repeat service users who could be referred to other Community Offer and other providers in voluntary and community sector for preventative support. Other service users include small numbers with autism, dementia, cognitive impairment/stroke/acquired brain injury etc.</p> <p>Case studies show that there are Generic Advocacy Service Users who are undergoing Continuing Health Care assessments due to their possible need for health funded care, and they have difficulty accessing this care due to fluctuating conditions, or other reasons that the Generic Advocate can support with addressing.</p> <p>Adults who are assessed as lacking mental capacity, or with mental health condition and needing to be detained, or as having a substantial difficulty in engaging with social care processes, use IMCA, IMHA, Care Act advocacy may benefit from the closure/tightening of Generic Advocacy, which will increase capacity to deliver these statutory services. These people may have dementia, head injury or complex needs which affect their need for these services. Many of these people have statutory advocacy but then need further support such as with housing or care in the community which the Generic Advocate picks up – they could be referred to a housing charity or voluntary sector befriending/care agency for this support.</p>

Does this EIA require a full impact assessment? Yes  No

If there are no adverse impacts or any issues of concern or you can adequately explain or justify them, then you do not need to go any further. You have completed the screening stage. You must, however, complete sections 7 and 9 and publish the EIA as it stands.

If you have answered yes to the above, please complete the questions below referring to the guidance document.



**5. What actions can be taken to mitigate any adverse impacts?**

Many service users can be referred to Community Offer and other Organisations in Community and Voluntary Sector, or statutory services including

- Health – Healthwatch and their respective PALS service
- Housing – Local housing officer or SHELTER etc
- Immigration Issues -Judiciary - A solicitor
- Welfare rights Benefits and Money – Citizens Advice Bureaux
- Mental Health issues – Healthwatch
- Communication – reasonable Adjustments by the organisations implicated

**6. As a result of the EIA what decision or actions are being proposed in relation to the original proposals?**

A survey of service users and referrers to understand need for service, any alternative places to refer or use, and difference that the service makes to service users with different protected characteristics.

**7. Monitoring arrangements**

The consultation will be done by the Commissioning team. Monitoring of the Generic Advocacy service will be done quarterly.

**8. Action planning**

You may wish to use the action plan template below

Question no. (ref)	Action required	Lead officer/ person responsible	Target date	Progress
All	Undertake survey of service users and referrers to Generic Advocacy Service	BS	2-3 months	
All	Analyse results	BS	2 months	
4a	Look at alternative options for any adverse impacts that surface- especially for parents undergoing Child Protection proceedings and People undergoing CHC.	BS	2 months	

**9. Publish the EIA**

# **Equality Impact Assessment**

## **Carers -reducing the number of respite stays, budget saving proposal 2022-23**

Please complete this template using the [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance document](#)

**Date: December 2021**

Title of proposal <i>(include forward plan reference if available)</i>	Review policy on respite support to reduce from offering 56 days to 28.
Directorate and Service Area	Adult Social Care, Health and Well Being – Social Work & Therapy
Name and title of Lead Officer completing this EIA	Graham Terry – Interim Assistant Director Social Work and Therapy
Contact Details	Graham_Terry@sandwell.gov.uk 0121 569 2266
Names and titles of other officers involved in completing this EIA	
Partners involved with the EIA where jointly completed	N/A
Date EIA completed	18.1.2022
Date EIA signed off or agreed by Director or Executive Director	TBC
Name of Director or Executive Director signing off EIA	Rashpal Bishop Director of Adult Social Care Rashpal_bishop@sandwell.gov.uk
Date EIA considered by Cabinet Member	Councillor Suzanne Hartwell

**See [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance](#) for key prompts that must be addressed for all questions**

**1. The purpose of the proposal or decision required  
(Please provide as much information as possible)**

The Equality Impact Assessment is being undertaken in respect of the saving proposal being put forward to review the practice or policy on respite support to reduce from offering 56 days to 28 days in a year. This EIA will be considered in determining whether the proposal is approved for inclusion in the Directorates budget savings plan for 2022-23.

**2. Evidence used/considered**

The Council currently has statutory responsibilities under the provision of the Care Act 2014. The Act gives local authorities a duty to carry out a needs assessment to determine whether an adult has needs for care and support. The care and support planning process then decides the best way to meet the person's needs. It also considers the needs of the person and their carer/s for respite which is often designed to enable the carer to continue to provide care and support to the individual to stay in the family home. The support plan outlines the number of nights of respite that can be drawn upon in a year up to a current maximum of 56 days. The adequacy and appropriateness of the respite provision is considered within the annual review of a care and support plan. The amount of respite can change if a person's needs have increased or decreased.

**3. Consultation**

The savings proposal has not been consulted on with carers or those in receipt of a care and support plan at this stage. Section 4 below outlines the individual involvement of the person being assessed and their carer/s in the assessment of need and support planning, and the provision of respite based on those needs.

#### 4. Assess likely impact

Please give an outline of the overall impact if possible.

The potential number of people impacted:

The number of people and the amount of respite accessed during 2019/2020 (pre Covid pattern of usage) is as follows.

No of Nights	People
1 – 28 nights	148
29 – 56 nights	29
57+ nights	2
Total	179

The above data shows that a total of 148 people had respite stays within the proposed maximum guide of 28 nights and 31 people exceeded this amount.

A reassessment of a person's needs would be required, and the person and their carer/s involved in that reassessment to identify any changes in the level of need and a revised care and support plan. If a person's needs have not changed then the amount of respite provided is unlikely to change.

Therefore, any changes from a review of respite practice and policy and a new maximum guide level of respite at 28 days would apply to people not currently in receipt of respite care. A policy of allocating a guide maximum of 28 days of respite care would still be subject to an annual review of an individual's needs. An appropriate level of respite support based on the level of need or circumstances may result in a higher amount of respite than the guide maximum 28 days.

The application of a policy of a maximum guide of 28 days allocation of respite days would be monitored via the current senior sign off of assessments and care and support plans with professional practice supported by new policy and guidance approved by the Director of Adult Social Care. Any unforeseen adverse impacts will be identified through monitoring processes and statistical / other data analysis and mitigating action taken to ensure continued compliance with the Care Act 2014.

Each existing respite recipient above the 28 days would have their needs reviewed during their annual review and if needs have changed a reassessment would be undertaken as described above. The new maximum guide of 28 days policy would be applied to new assessments. There are risks to carer breakdown if respite is reduced.



**4a. Use the table to show:**

- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a negative impact on any of the equality strands (protected characteristics), that is it could disadvantage them or if there is no impact, please note the evidence and/or reasons for this.
- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a positive impact on any of the groups or contribute to promoting equality, equal opportunities or improving relationships within equality characteristics.

Protected Characteristic	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	No Impact	Reason and evidence (Provide details of specific groups affected even for no impact and where negative impact has been identified what mitigating actions can we take?)
	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Age</b>			✓	<p><b>Workforce:</b> The proposal does not change the requirements of the workforce of this protected characteristic.</p> <p><b>Public:</b> The proposal does not change the services approach to supporting people of this protected characteristic due to the assessment of individual need.</p>
<b>Disability</b>			✓	<p><b>Workforce:</b> The proposal does not change the requirements of the workforce of this protected characteristic.</p> <p><b>Public:</b> The majority of the people in receipt of more than 28 days of</p>

				<p>respite a year are people with a learning disability. A new guide maximum of 28 days will not affect existing recipients of respite care as the amount is based on their current level of needs, unless those needs decrease and less respite is required.</p> <p>For new assessments, the maximum guide level of 28 days will apply unless the level of needs exceeds this on assessment or subsequent review.</p> <p>The proposal does not otherwise change the services approach to supporting people of this protected characteristic.</p>
<b>Gender reassignment</b>			✓	<p><b>Workforce:</b> No known impact</p> <p><b>Public:</b> The proposal does not change the services approach to supporting people of this protected characteristic due to the assessment of individual need.</p>
<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>			✓	<p><b>Workforce:</b> No Known impact</p> <p><b>Public:</b> The proposal does not change the services approach to supporting people of this protected characteristic due to the assessment of individual need.</p>
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>			✓	<p><b>Workforce:</b> The proposal does not change the requirements of the workforce of this protected characteristic.</p> <p><b>Public:</b></p>

				The proposal does not change the services approach to supporting people of this protected characteristic due to the assessment of individual need.
<b>Race</b>			✓	<p><b>Workforce:</b> The proposal does not change the requirements of the workforce of this protected characteristic.</p> <p><b>Public:</b> The proposal does not change the services approach to supporting people of this protected characteristic due to the assessment of individual need.</p>
<b>Religion or belief</b>			✓	<p><b>Workforce:</b> No known impact</p> <p><b>Public:</b> The proposal does not change the services approach to supporting people of this protected characteristic due to the assessment of individual need.</p>
<b>Sex</b>			✓	<p><b>Workforce:</b> The proposal does not change the requirements of the workforce of this protected characteristic.</p> <p><b>Public:</b> Most care givers are women and therefore most at risk from this proposal. This is mitigated by the requirement to base the amount of respite required on the assessed needs of the cared for. The application of the proposal for new assessments will similarly take into account individual</p>

				<p>need in the allocation of respite days.          Otherwise, the proposal does not change the services approach to supporting people of this protected characteristic due to the assessment of individual need.</p>
<b>Sexual orientation</b>			✓	<p><b>Workforce:</b>          No known impact</p> <p><b>Public:</b>          The proposal does not change the services approach to supporting people of this protected characteristic due to the assessment of individual need.</p>
<b>Other</b>				

Does this EIA require a full impact assessment? Yes  No

If there are no adverse impacts or any issues of concern or you can adequately explain or justify them, then you do not need to go any further. You have completed the screening stage. You must, however, complete sections 7 and 9 and publish the EIA as it stands.

If you have answered yes to the above, please complete the questions below referring to the guidance document.

**5. What actions can be taken to mitigate any adverse impacts?**

Section 4 of this EIA outlines the actions required in assessing and reviewing people's needs to be compliant with the Care Act 2014 and care act requirements that are required.

The application of a policy of a maximum guide of 28 days allocation of respite days would monitored via the current senior sign off of assessments and care and support plans with professional practice supported by new policy and guidance approved by the Director of Adult Social Care. Any unforeseen adverse impacts will be identified through monitoring processes and statistical / other data analysis and mitigating action taken to ensure continued compliance with the Care Act 2014.

**6. As a result of the EIA what decision or actions are being proposed in relation to the original proposals?**

N/A

**7. Monitoring arrangements**

The application of a policy of a maximum guide of 28 days allocation of respite days would monitored via the current senior sign off of assessments and care and support plans with professional practice supported by new policy and guidance approved by the Director of Adult Social Care. Any unforeseen adverse impacts will be identified through monitoring processes and statistical / other data analysis and mitigating action taken to ensure continued compliance with the Care Act 2014.

**8. Action planning**

You may wish to use the action plan template below



**9. Publish the EIA**

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**ADULTS**

Service Provided	Current Charge 2021/22	Proposed Charge 2022/23	% Increase
<b>Meals</b>			
Fountain Court – Breakfast (For penmakers only)	£2.20	£2.20	0.0%
Fountain Court – Lunch (For penmakers only)	£3.50	£3.50	0.0%
Fountain Court – Tea (For penmakers only)	£1.20	£1.20	0.0%
Lunch - Manifolia, Holly and Walker Grange	£3.50	£3.50	0.0%
Community Meals – Hot	£3.65	£3.65	0.0%
<b>Financial Deputyship</b>			
Work up to & including the date which the Court appoints a Deputy	£745.00	£745.00	0.0%
Annual Management Fee - year 1	£775.00	£775.00	0.0%
Annual Management Fee - year 2+	£650.00	£650.00	0.0%
Property Management Fee	£300.00	£300.00	0.0%
Preparation of annual report to the OPG	£216.00	£216.00	0.0%
Deferred Charges			
Valuation Fee	£150.00	£150.00	0.0%
Legal & Administration Fee	£450.00	£450.00	0.0%
Associated Disbursements & Fees	At Cost	At Cost	
<b>Community Alarms</b>			
Community Alarms - weekly service charge (Other Tenants 52 weeks pa)	£4.64	£4.64	0.0%
Community Alarms - Installation charge	£26.52	£26.52	0.0%

<b>ADULT &amp; FAMILY LEARNING</b>			
<b>Service Provided</b>	<b>Current Charge 2021/22</b>	<b>Proposed Charge 2022/23</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
<b>SERVICE AREA Sandwell Adult and Family Learning Course Fees</b>			
English and Maths Courses	£0.00	£0.00	0%
Digital Skills Entry and Level 1 qualifications	£0.00	£0.00	0%
Entry Level - Level 2 Qualification Courses JSA Claimant	£0.00	£0.00	0%
Entry Level - Level 2 Qualification Courses in receipt of ESA - Work related benefit	£0.00	£0.00	0%
Entry Level - Level 2 Qualification Courses In receipt of universal credit	£0.00	£0.00	0%
19-23 studying Entry - Level 1 qualification within no prior Level 2	£0.00	£0.00	0%
Aged 19-23 studying first Full Level 2 qualification	£0.00	£0.00	0%
Qualification Course Fee per Guided Learning Hour	£3.50	£3.50	0%
Qualification Course Fee per Guided Learning Hour for over 60's not in fulltime paid employment	£1.75	£1.75	0%
Community Learning Course Fee per guided Learning Hour	£3.50	£3.50	0%
Community Learning Course Fee - My Future/My Community in receipt of JSA	£0.00	£0.00	0%
Community Learning Course Fee - My Future/My Community in receipt of ESA work related	£0.00	£0.00	0%
Community Learning Course Fee - My Future/My Community in receipt of universal credit	£0.00	£0.00	0%
Community Learning Course Fee - My Interests in receipt of JSA	£0.00	£0.00	0%
Community Learning Course Fee - My Interests in receipt of ESA work related	£0.00	£0.00	0%
Community Learning Course Fee - My Interests in receipt of universal credit	£0.00	£0.00	0%
Community Learning Course Fee - My Family Parents with children 2 to 16	£0.00	£0.00	0%

**BUILDING CONTROL, PLANNING & PROPERTY SEARCHES**

Service Provided	Current Charge 2021/22	Proposed Charge 2022/23	% Increase
<b>Building Control</b>			
<b>TABLE A - STANDARD CHARGES FOR THE CREATION OR CONVERSION TO NEW HOUSING</b>			
Table A Category 1 - Number of dwellings: 1			
Plan Charge	£206.00	£226.60	10.0%
Inspection Charge	£309.00	£339.90	10.0%
Building Notice Charge +20%	£618.00	£679.80	10.0%
Regularisation Charge (does not include electrical inspection & test)	£834.30	£917.73	10.0%
Table A Category 2 - Number of dwellings: 2			
Plan Charge	£231.75	£254.93	10.0%
Inspection Charge	£463.50	£509.85	10.0%
Building Notice Charge +20%	£834.30	£917.73	10.0%
Regularisation Charge (does not include electrical inspection & test)	£1,126.30	£1,238.93	10.0%
Table A Category 3 - Number of dwellings: 3			
Plan Charge	£309.00	£339.90	10.0%
Inspection Charge	£618.00	£679.80	10.0%
Building Notice Charge +20%	£1,112.40	£1,223.64	10.0%
Regularisation Charge (does not include electrical inspection & test)	£1,501.75	£1,651.93	10.0%
Table A Category 4 - Number of dwellings: 4			
Plan Charge	£386.25	£424.88	10.0%
Inspection Charge	£669.50	£736.45	10.0%
Building Notice Charge +20%	£1,266.90	£1,393.59	10.0%
Regularisation Charge (does not include electrical inspection & test)	£1,710.30	£1,881.33	10.0%
Table A Category 5 - Number of dwellings: 5			
Plan Charge	£463.50	£509.85	10.0%
Inspection Charge	£721.00	£793.10	10.0%
Building Notice Charge +20%	£1,421.40	£1,563.54	10.0%
Regularisation Charge (does not include electrical inspection & test)	£1,918.90	£2,110.79	10.0%
Table A Category 6 - Number of dwellings: 6			
Plan Charge	£515.00	£566.50	10.0%

Inspection Charge	£798.25	£878.08	10.0%
Building Notice Charge +20%	£1,575.90	£1,733.49	10.0%
Regularisation Charge (does not include electrical inspection & test)	£2,127.45	£2,340.20	10.0%
<b>Table A Category 7 - Number of dwellings: 7</b>			
Plan Charge	£540.75	£594.83	10.0%
Inspection Charge	£927.00	£1,019.70	10.0%
Building Notice Charge +20%	£1,823.10	£2,005.41	10.0%
Regularisation Charge (does not include electrical inspection & test)	£2,461.20	£2,707.32	10.0%
<b>Table A Category 8 - Number of dwellings: 8</b>			
Plan Charge	£566.50	£623.15	10.0%
Inspection Charge	£1,055.75	£1,161.33	10.0%
Building Notice Charge +20%	£1,946.70	£2,141.37	10.0%
Regularisation Charge (does not include electrical inspection & test)	£2,628.05	£2,890.86	10.0%
<b>Table A Category 9 - Number of dwellings: 9</b>			
Plan Charge	£592.25	£651.48	10.0%
Inspection Charge	£1,184.50	£1,302.95	10.0%
Building Notice Charge +20%	£2,132.10	£2,345.31	10.0%
Regularisation Charge (does not include electrical inspection & test)	£2,878.35	£3,166.19	10.0%
<b>Table A Category 4 - Over 10 dwellings</b>			
Plan Charge, Inspection Charge, Building Notice Charge, Regularisation Charge	Fees are individually assessed	Fees are individually assessed	Fees are individually assessed
<b>TABLE B - Domestic Extensions to a Single Building</b>			
<b>Table B Category 1 - Single storey Extensions, less than 10m2</b>			
Plan charge	£141.65	£155.82	10.0%
Inspection charge	£169.95	£186.95	10.0%
Building Notice	£373.90	£411.29	10.0%
Regularisation	£504.75	£555.23	10.0%
<b>Table B Category 2 - Single storey extension greater than 10m2but less than 40m2</b>			
Plan charge	£198.30	£218.13	10.0%
Inspection charge	£226.60	£249.26	10.0%
Building Notice	£509.85	£560.84	10.0%
Regularisation	£688.30	£757.13	10.0%

<b>Table B Category 3 - Single storey extension greater than 40m2 but less than 100m2</b>			
Plan charge	£254.95	£280.45	10.0%
Inspection charge	£311.55	£342.71	10.0%
Building Notice	£679.80	£747.78	10.0%
Regularisation	£917.75	£1,009.53	10.0%
<b>Table B Category 4 - Two storey extension not exceeding 40m2</b>			
Plan charge	£226.60	£249.26	10.0%
Inspection charge	£254.95	£280.45	10.0%
Building Notice	£577.85	£635.64	10.0%
Regularisation	£780.05	£858.06	10.0%
<b>Table B Category 5 - Two storey extension greater than 40m2 but less than 200m2</b>			
Plan charge	£283.25	£311.58	10.0%
Inspection charge	£339.90	£373.89	10.0%
Building Notice	£747.80	£822.58	10.0%
Regularisation	£1,009.50	£1,110.45	10.0%
<b>Table B Category 6 - Loft conversion floor area not exceeding 50m2</b>			
Plan charge	£226.60	£249.26	10.0%
Inspection charge	£169.95	£186.95	10.0%
Building Notice	£475.85	£523.44	10.0%
Regularisation	£642.40	£706.64	10.0%
<b>Table Garage - Domestic Garages and Carports</b>			
<b>Table Garage Category 7 - Non-exempt detached garage or carport up to 100m2</b>			
Plan charge	£169.95	£186.95	10.0%
Inspection charge	Covered in plan charge	Covered in plan charge	
Building Notice	£203.95	£224.35	10.0%
Regularisation	£275.30	£302.83	10.0%
<b>Table Garage Category 8 - Non-exempt attached single storey garage or carport up to 100m2</b>			
Plan charge	£141.65	£155.82	10.0%
Inspection charge	£141.65	£155.82	10.0%
Building Notice	£339.90	£373.89	10.0%
Regularisation	£458.85	£504.74	10.0%
<b>Table Garage Category 9 - Conversion of a garage to habitable use</b>			
Plan charge	£113.30	£124.63	10.0%

Inspection charge	£141.65	£155.82	10.0%
Building Notice	£305.90	£336.49	10.0%
Regularisation	£413.00	£454.30	10.0%
<b>Pre-application works Category 10 - Trial hole</b>			
Inspection charge	Didn't exist	£100.00 (This fee would be deducted from your application submission fee)	
<b>TABLE C - Alterations to a Single Domestic Building</b>			
<b>Table C Category 1 - Installation of a controlled fitting , i.e. installation of a bathroom, or of a wc, shower, bath or sink</b>			
Plan charge (FP)	£169.95	£186.95	10.0%
Inspection charge	covered in plan charge	covered in plan charge	
Building notice charge (N)	£203.95	£224.35	10.0%
50% reduction if carried out at same time as an extension (FP)	£85.00	£93.50	10.0%
50% reduction if carried out at same time as an extension (N)	£101.95	£112.15	10.0%
Regularisation charge	£275.30	£302.83	10.0%
<b>Table C Category 2. a - Foundation underpinning of main house</b>			
Plan charge (FP)	£169.95	Merged into Cat 3	
Inspection charge	£226.60	Merged into Cat 3	
Building notice charge (N)	£475.85	Merged into Cat 3	
50% reduction if carried out at same time as an extension (FP)	£198.30	Merged into Cat 3	
50% reduction if carried out at same time as an extension (N)	£237.95	Merged into Cat 3	
Regularisation charge	£642.40	Merged into Cat 3	
<b>Table C Category 2.b - Foundation underpinning of wing building</b>			

Plan charge (FP)	£113.30	Merged into Cat 3	
Inspection charge	£113.30	Merged into Cat 3	
Building notice charge (N)	£249.25	Merged into Cat 3	
50% reduction if carried out at same time as an extension (FP)	£113.30	Merged into Cat 3	
50% reduction if carried out at same time as an extension (N)	£124.65	Merged into Cat 3	
Regularisation charge	£336.50	Merged into Cat 3	
<b>Table C - Category 2 - Solid Conservatory Roof</b>			
Plan charge (FP)	Didn't exist	£78.75	
Inspection charge	Didn't exist	£105.00	
Building notice charge (N)	Didn't exist	£220.50	
Regularisation charge	Didn't exist	£264.60	
<b>Table C Category 3 - Internal alterations to layout or structural alterations , that are not ancillary to an extension</b>			
Plan charge (FP)	£113.30	£124.63	10.0%
Inspection charge	£113.30	£124.63	10.0%
Building notice charge (N)	£249.25	£274.18	10.0%
50% reduction if carried out at same time as an extension (FP)	£113.30	£124.63	10.0%
50% reduction if carried out at same time as an extension (N)	£124.65	£137.12	10.0%
Regularisation charge	£336.50	£370.15	10.0%
<b>Table C Category 4. a - Replacement or renovation of a thermal element to a single dwelling, i.e. new ground floor or floor exposed to the elements, external cladding or rendering, new internal linings to external walls</b>			
Plan charge (FP)	£169.95	£186.95	10.0%
Inspection charge	covered in plan charge	covered in plan charge	
Building notice charge (N)	£203.95	£224.35	10.0%
50% reduction if carried out at same time as an extension (FP)	£85.00	£93.50	10.0%
50% reduction if carried out at same time as an extension (N)	£101.95	£112.15	10.0%
Regularisation charge	£275.30	£302.83	10.0%

<b>Table C Category 4. b - Reroofing of main house</b>			
Plan charge (FP)	£73.65	£81.02	10.0%
Inspection charge	£73.65	£81.02	10.0%
Building notice charge (N)	£169.95	£186.95	10.0%
50% reduction if carried out at same time as an extension (FP)	£73.65	£81.02	10.0%
50% reduction if carried out at same time as an extension (N)	£85.00	£93.50	10.0%
Regularisation charge	£229.45	£252.40	10.0%
<b>Table C Category 4. c - Reroofing of wing building/extension</b>			
Plan charge (FP)	£107.65	No longer exists	
Inspection charge	covered in plan charge	No longer exists	
Building notice charge (N)	£129.15	No longer exists	
50% reduction if carried out at same time as an extension (FP)	£53.80	No longer exists	
50% reduction if carried out at same time as an extension (N)	£64.60	No longer exists	
Regularisation charge	£174.35	No longer exists	
<b>Table Electric - Electrical Installations, inspection and test</b>			
Table Electric Category 1 - Certification of electrical works by non-registered but suitably qualified competent persons			
Building Notice	£73.65	£81.02	10.0%
Regularisation charge	£99.45	£109.40	10.0%
<b>Table Window - Window and Door Replacement</b>			
Table Window Category 1 - Up to 10 frames			
Plan charge (FP)	£85.00	Covered with building notice	
Inspection charge	covered in plan charge	Covered with building notice	
Building notice charge (N)	£85.00	£93.50	10.0%
50% reduction if carried out at same time as an extension	Not applicable.	Not applicable.	
Regularisation charge	£114.70	£126.17	10.0%



<b>Table Window Category 2 - Over 10 frames</b>			
Plan charge (FP)	£113.30	Covered with building notice	
Inspection charge	covered in plan charge	Covered with building notice	
Building notice charge (N)	£113.30	£124.63	10.0%
50% reduction if carried out at same time as an extension	Not applicable.	Not applicable.	
Regularisation charge	£152.95	£168.25	10.0%
<b>TABLE D - ALL OTHER NON-DOMESTIC WORK &amp; NEW BUILD - including Non-domestic extensions and new build up to 200m2 (Use of buildings excluding industrial and storage buildings)</b>			
<b>Table D Category 1 - Floor area not exceeding 10m2</b>			
Plan charge (FP)	£185.65	£204.22	10.0%
Inspection charge	£265.25	£291.78	10.0%
Regularisation charge	£608.70	£669.57	10.0%
<b>Table D Category 2 - Floor area greater than 10m2 but less than 40m2</b>			
Plan charge (FP)	£265.25	£291.78	10.0%
Inspection charge	£371.30	£408.43	10.0%
Regularisation charge	£859.35	£945.29	10.0%
<b>Table D Category 3 - Floor area greater than 40m2 but less than 100m2</b>			
Plan charge (FP)	£371.30	£408.43	10.0%
Inspection charge	£477.40	£525.14	10.0%
Regularisation charge	£1,145.75	£1,260.33	10.0%
<b>Table D Category 4 - Floor area greater than 100m2 but less than 200m2</b>			
Plan charge (FP)	£530.45	£583.50	10.0%
Inspection charge	£636.55	£700.21	10.0%
Regularisation charge	£1,575.45	£1,733.00	10.0%
<b>Table Industrial - Use for Industrial and storage Purposes</b>			
<b>Table Industrial Category 1 - Floor area not exceeding 10m2</b>			
Plan charge (FP)	£159.15	£175.07	10.0%
Inspection charge	£159.15	£175.07	10.0%
Regularisation charge	£429.65	£472.62	10.0%
<b>Table Industrial Category 2 - Floor area greater than 10m2 but less than 40m2</b>			

Plan charge (FP)	£265.25	£291.78	10.0%
Inspection charge	£265.25	£291.78	10.0%
Regularisation charge	£716.10	£787.71	10.0%
<b>Table Industrial Category 3 - Floor area greater than 40m2 but less than 100m2</b>			
Plan charge (FP)	£318.25	£350.08	10.0%
Inspection charge	£318.25	£350.08	10.0%
Regularisation charge	£859.35	£945.29	10.0%
<b>Table Industrial Category 4 - Floor area greater than 100m2 but less than 200m2</b>			
Plan charge (FP)	£424.35	£466.79	10.0%
Inspection charge	£424.35	£466.79	10.0%
Regularisation charge	£1,145.75	£1,260.33	10.0%
<b>TABLE E - ALL OTHER NON-DOMESTIC WORK</b>			
<b>Category 1a - Window replacements , Fixed price - Installation of up to 10 frames</b>			
Plan charge	£106.10	£116.71	10.0%
Inspection charge	Covered in plan charge	Covered in plan charge	
Regularisation charge	£143.20	157.52	10.0%
<b>Category 1b - Window replacements , Fixed price - Installation of up to 20 frames</b>			
Plan charge	£159.15	£175.07	10.0%
Inspection charge	Covered in plan charge	Covered in plan charge	
Regularisation charge	£214.85	£236.34	10.0%
<b>Category 2a - Renovation of thermal element - Estimated cost less than £50,000</b>			
Plan charge	£159.15	Merged with category 5	
Inspection charge	Covered in plan charge	Merged with category 5	
Regularisation charge	£214.85	Merged with category 5	
<b>Category 2b - Renovation of thermal element - Estimated cost between £50,001-£100,000</b>			
Plan charge	£159.15	Merged with category 5	

Inspection charge	£132.60	Merged with category 5	
Regularisation charge	£393.85	Merged with category 5	
<b>Category 3 - Installation of mezzanine storage platform up to 500m2, Fixed price</b>			
Plan charge	£371.30	£408.43	10.0%
Inspection charge	£212.20	£233.42	10.0%
Regularisation charge	£787.70	£866.47	10.0%
<b>Category 4a - Office or shop fit out, Fixed price- Floor area up to 200m2</b>			
Plan charge	£159.15	£175.07	10.0%
Inspection charge	£159.15	£175.07	10.0%
Regularisation charge	£429.65	£472.62	10.0%
<b>Category 4b - Office or shop fit out, Floor area between 200-1000m2</b>			
Plan charge	£265.25	£291.78	10.0%
Inspection charge	£265.25	£291.78	10.0%
Regularisation charge	£716.10	£787.71	10.0%
<b>Category 5a - Alterations not described elsewhere, Fixed price Estimated cost less than £5,000</b>			
Plan charge	£106.10	Merged with 5b	
Inspection charge	£106.10	Merged with 5b	
Regularisation charge	£286.45	Merged with 5b	
<b>Category 5b - Alterations not described elsewhere, Fixed price Estimated cost £1-£25,000</b>			
Plan charge	£159.15	£175.07	10.0%
Inspection charge	£212.20	£233.42	10.0%
Regularisation charge	£501.30	£551.43	10.0%
<b>Category 5c - Alterations not described elsewhere, Fixed price Estimated cost £25,001-£50,000</b>			
Plan charge	£265.25	£291.78	10.0%
Inspection charge	£318.25	£350.08	10.0%
Regularisation charge	£787.70	£866.47	10.0%
<b>Category 5d - Alterations not described elsewhere, Fixed price Estimated cost £50,001-£75,000</b>			
Plan charge	£371.30	Merged with 5e	

Inspection charge	£371.30	Merged with 5e	
Regularisation charge	£1,002.55	Merged with 5e	
<b>Category 5e - Alterations not described elsewhere, Fixed price Estimated cost £50,001-£100,000</b>			
Plan charge	£424.35	£466.79	10.0%
Inspection charge	£477.40	£525.14	10.0%
Regularisation charge	£1,217.40	£1,339.14	10.0%
Building Regulations Compliance Letter	£150.00	£175.00	16.7%
<b>Planning</b>			
<b>Category I - Development Type : Operation</b>			
<b>Category 1a - The erection of dwellinghouses (other than development within category 6 below). Where the application is for outline planning permission</b>			
fees per 0.1 hectare and the site area does not exceed 2.5 hectares,	£462.00	£462.00	0.0%
standard fees for site area exceeds 2.5 hectares,	£11,432.00	£11,432.00	0.0%
additional fees per 0.1 hectare for sites in excess of 2.5 hectares, subject to a maximum in total of £150,000	£138.00	£138.00	0.0%
<b>Category 1b - The erection of dwellinghouses (other than development within category 6 below). Where the application is not for outline planning permission</b>			
fees for each dwelling house, where the number of dwellinghouses to be created by the development is 50 or fewer, ;	£462.00	£462.00	0.0%
standard fee for the development exceeding 50 dwellings, £19,049, .	£22,859.00	£22,859.00	0.0%
additional fees for each dwelling house where the number of dwellinghouses to be created by the development exceeds 50, subject to a maximum in total of £300,000.	£138.00	£138.00	0.0%
<b>Category 2a - The erection of buildings (other than buildings in categories 1, 3, 4, 5 or 7). Where the application is for outline planning permission</b>			
fees per 0.1 hectare and the site area does not exceed 2.5 hectares,	£462.00	£462.00	0.0%
standard fees for site area exceeds 2.5 hectares,	£11,432.00	£11,432.00	0.0%
additional fees per 0.1 hectare for sites in excess of 2.5 hectares, subject to a maximum in total of £150,000.	£138.00	£138.00	0.0%
Where the application is for permission in principle, £402 for each 0.1 hectares of the site area.	£402.00	£402.00	0.0%
<b>Category 2b - The erection of buildings (other than buildings in categories 1, 3, 4, 5 or 7). Where the application is NOT for outline planning permission</b>			

where no floor space is to be created by the development,	£234.00	£234.00	0.0%
where the area of gross floor space to be created by the development does not exceed 40 square metres,	£234.00	£234.00	0.0%
where the area of the gross floor space to be created by the development exceeds 40 square metres, but does not exceed 75 square metres,	£462.00	£462.00	0.0%
fees for each 75 square metres of that area, where the area of the gross floor space to be created by the development exceeds 75 square metres, but does not exceed 3750 square metres, ;	£462.00	£462.00	0.0%
Standard fees where the area of gross floor space to be created by the development exceeds 3750 square metres,	£22,859.00	£22,859.00	0.0%
additional fees for each 75 square metres in excess of 3750 square metres, subject to a maximum in total of £300,000.where the area of gross floor space to be created by the development exceeds 3750 square metres,	£115.00	£115.00	0.0%
<b>Category 3a - The erection, on land used for the purposes of agriculture, of buildings to be used for agricultural purposes (other than buildings in category 4). Where the application is for outline planning permission</b>			
fees per 0.1 hectare and the site area does not exceed 2.5 hectares,	£462.00	£462.00	0.0%
standard fees for site area exceeds 2.5 hectares,	£11,432.00	£11,432.00	0.0%
additional fees per 0.1 hectare for sites in excess of 2.5 hectares, subject to a maximum in total of £150,000.	£138.00	£138.00	0.0%
Where the application is for permission in principle, £402 for each 0.1 hectares of the site area.	£402.00	£402.00	0.0%
<b>Category 3b- The erection, on land used for the purposes of agriculture, of buildings to be used for agricultural purposes (other than buildings in category 4). Where the application is NOT for outline planning permission</b>			
fees where the area of gross floor space to be created by the development does not exceed 465 square metres,	£96.00	£96.00	0.0%
Fees where the area of gross floor space to be created by the development exceeds 465 square metres but does not exceed 540 square metres,	£462.00	£462.00	0.0%
Standard fees for the first 540 square metres, where the area of the gross floor space to be created by the development exceeds 540 square metres but does not exceed 4215 square metres,	£462.00	£462.00	0.0%

additional fees for each 75 square metres in excess of 540 square metres, where the area of the gross floor space to be created by the development exceeds 540 square metres but does not exceed 4215 square metres,	£462.00	£462.00	0.0%
Standard fees , where the area of gross floor space to be created by the development exceeds 4215 square metres,	£22,859.00	£22,859.00	0.0%
additional fees for or each 75 square metres in excess of 4215 square metres, subject to a maximum in total of £250,000, where the area of gross floor space to be created by the development exceeds 4215 square metres,	£138.00	£138.00	0.0%
<b>Category 4 - Application for approval of reserved matters following outline approval.</b>			
Full fee due or if full fee already paid then £385.00 due.	£462.00	£462.00	0.0%
<b>Category 5 - The erection of glasshouses on land used for the purposes of agriculture.</b>			
Where the gross floor space to be created by the development does not exceed 465 square metres,	£96.00	£96.00	0.0%
Where the gross floor space to be created by the development exceeds 465 square metres,	£2,580.00	£2,580.00	0.0%
<b>Category 6 - The erection, alteration or replacement of plant or machinery.</b>			
fees for each 0.1 hectare of the site area, where the site area does not exceed 5 hectares	£462.00	£462.00	0.0%
Standard fees , where the site area exceeds 5 hectares, ,	£19,049.00	£19,049.00	0.0%
additional fees for each 0.1 hectare in excess of 5 hectares, subject to a maximum in total of £250,000.	£115.00	£115.00	0.0%
<b>Category 7 - The enlargement, improvement or other alteration of existing dwellinghouses.</b>			
Where the application relates to one dwelling house,	£206.00	£206.00	0.0%
Where the application relates to 2 or more dwellinghouses,	£407.00	£407.00	0.0%
<b>Category 8 - Miscellaneous</b>			
The carrying out of operations (including the erection of a building) within the curtilage of an existing dwelling house, for purposes ancillary to the enjoyment of the dwelling house as such, or the erection or construction of gates, fences, walls or other means of enclosure along a boundary of the curtilage of an existing dwelling house; or	£206.00	£206.00	0.0%

The construction of car parks, service roads and other means of access on land used for the purposes of a single undertaking, where the development is required for a purpose incidental to the existing use of the land.	£234.00	£234.00	0.0%
<b>Category 9 - The carrying out of any operations connected with exploratory drilling for oil or natural gas.</b>			
fees for each 0.1 hectares of the site area, where the site area does not exceed 7.5 hectares	£508.00	£508.00	0.0%
Where the site area exceeds 7.5 hectares, subject to a maximum in total of £300,000.	£38,070.00	£38,070.00	0.0%
<b>Category 9a - The carrying out of any operations (other than operations coming within category 9) for the winning and working of oil or natural gas.</b>			
Where the site area does not exceed 15 hectares.	£257.00	£257.00	0.0%
Where the site area exceeds 7.5 hectares, subject to a maximum in total of £78,000.	£38,520.00	£38,520.00	0.0%
<b>Category 10 - The carrying out of any operations not coming within any of the above categories.</b>			
<b>Category 10a - In the case of operations for the winning and working of minerals –</b>			
fees for each 0.1 hectare of the site area, where the site area does not exceed 15 hectares,	£234.00	£234.00	0.0%
Where the site area exceeds 15 hectare, subject to a maximum in total of £78,000.	£34,934.00	£34,934.00	0.0%
<b>Category 10b - In any other case</b>			
Fees for each 0.1 hectare of the site area, subject to a maximum of £2,028.00.	£234.00	£234.00	0.0%
<b>Category II - Development Type : Uses of Land</b>			
The change of use of a building to use as one or more separate dwellinghouses.			
Where the change of use is from a previous use as a single dwelling house to use as two or more single dwellinghouses –			
fees for each additional dwelling house; where the change of use is to use as 50 or fewer dwellinghouses,	£462.00	£462.00	0.0%
Standard fees where the change of use is to use as more than 50 dwellinghouses	£22,859.00	£22,859.00	0.0%
additional fees for each dwelling house in excess of 50 dwellinghouses, subject to a maximum in total of £300,000.	£138.00	£138.00	0.0%
<b>Category 11b - In all other cases</b>			
Fees	£462.00	£462.00	0.0%

<b>Category 12 - The use of land for the a) disposal of refuse or waste materials; b) the deposit of material remaining after minerals have been extracted from land; or c) the storage of minerals in the open.</b>			
fees for each 0.1 hectare of the site area; where the site area does not exceed 15 hectares,	£234.00	£234.00	0.0%
Standard fee where the site area exceeds 15 hectares	£34,934.00	£34,934.00	0.0%
additional fees for each 0.1 hectare in excess of 15 hectares, subject to a maximum in total of £78,000.	£138.00	£138.00	0.0%
<b>Category 13 - The making of a material change in the use of a building or land (other than a material change of use in category 11, 12(a), (b) or (c)).</b>			
Fees	£462.00	£462.00	0.0%
<b>Category II - Development Type : Advertisements</b>			
<b>Category 14 - Advertisements displayed externally on business premises, on the forecourt of business premises or other land within the curtilage of business premises, wholly with reference to all or any of the following matters –</b>			
Matters as follow: a) the nature of the business or other activity carried on the premises; b) the goods sold or the services provided on the premises; or c) the name and qualifications of the person carrying on such business or activity or supplying such goods or services.	£132.00	£132.00	0.0%
<b>Category 15 - Advertisements for the purpose of directing members of the public to, or otherwise drawing attention to the existence of, business premises which are in the same locality as the site on which the advertisement is to be displayed but which are not visible from that site.</b>	£110.00	£110.00	0.0%
All other advertisements.	£462.00	£462.00	0.0%
<b>Category 17 - Determinations, Whether the prior approval of the Council is required for –</b>			
Agriculture/forestry buildings or private ways;	£96.00	£96.00	0.0%
Demolition of building only (where no other development is taking place);	£96.00	£96.00	0.0%
Part 24 (development by telecommunications code system operators);	£462.00	£462.00	0.0%
Part 3 (Changes of use);	£96.00	£96.00	0.0%
Part 3 (changes of use) with associated building operations;	£206.00	£206.00	0.0%
Other Permission			
<b>Category 18a - Variation of condition(s).</b>			
Removal or variation of condition(s) on a planning permission	£234.00	£234.00	0.0%



<b>Category 18b - Request for confirmation that one or more planning conditions have been complied with.</b>			
Fees per request for Householder	£34.00	£34.00	0.0%
Fees per request otherwise .	£116.00	£116.00	0.0%
<b>Category 18c - A Non-material Amendment following a Grant of Planning Permission</b>			
Applications in respect of householder developments	£28.00	£28.00	0.0%
Applications in respect of other developments	£234.00	£234.00	0.0%
<b>Category 19 - Lawful Development Certificate</b>			
Application for an existing use of land or operational development; The same fee as for an equivalent planning application.	as specified	as specified	
Failure to comply with conditions; £195.	£234.00	£234.00	0.0%
Application for proposed use of building(s) or operations over or under land; Half fee of equivalent application.	as specified	as specified	
<b>Category Concession - EXEMPTIONS FROM PAYMENT</b>			
<b>Pre-planning application charges</b>			
Householder proposals (domestic extensions)	£45.00	£45.00	0.0%
Changes of use	£96.00	£96.00	0.0%
1 - 4 dwellings	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%
5 or more dwellings	£300.00	£300.00	0.0%
Commercial <10,000sqm	£0.00	£100.00	
Commerical >10,000sqm	£0.00	£300.00	
Telecoms	£0.00	£100.00	
Adverts (Hoardings)	£0.00	£100.00	
Adverts other	£0.00	£30.00	
Trees <10	£0.00	£20.00	
Trees >10	£0.00	£50.00	
S106 enquiries	£0.00	£116.00	
<b>High Hedges</b>			
High Hedges Complaint	£200.00	£300.00	50.0%
<b>PROPERTY SEARCHES &amp; ASSOCIATED LAND CHARGES SERVICES</b>			
<b>Standard Charges</b>			
LLC1 - Residential	£15.45	£15.45	0.0%

Additional parcels	£2.05	£2.05	0.0%
LLC1 - Commercial	£15.45	£15.45	0.0%
Additional parcels	£2.05	£2.05	0.0%
Con29(R) - Residential	£92.70	£92.70	0.0%
Additional parcels	£22.25	£22.25	0.0%
Con29(R) - Commercial	£191.58	£191.58	0.0%
Additional parcels	£22.25	£22.25	0.0%
TOTAL - Residential (i.e. for a 'Full' Local Authority Search)	£108.15	£108.15	0.0%
TOTAL - Commercial (i.e. for a 'Full' Local Authority Search)	£207.03	£207.03	0.0%
Set of Compiled data to complete a Con29(R)	£86.52	£86.52	0.0%
Set of Compiled data to complete a Con29(R) except that Publicly available	£70.44	£70.44	0.0%
Con29(O) Enquiries 5-22	£12.36	£12.36	0.0%
Limestone Enquires	£24.72	£24.72	0.0%
Landfill Enquiries	£12.36	£12.36	0.0%
Planning Site Histories : Standard charge for the first hour (or part), Charges relate per property, if on an industrial estate, then per unit, if open land then per plot	£30.90	£30.90	0.0%
Planning Site Histories : addition fee for every hour (or part) thereafter of standard charge. Charges relate per property, if on an industrial estate, then per unit, if open land then per plot	£15.45	£15.45	0.0%
Planning Decision Notices - Fee per Decision Notice	£2.05	£2.05	0.0%
Building Regulations – Supply of Approvals/Completion Certificates - Fee per Approval/Certificate	£10.30	£10.30	0.0%
Supply copy of Section 38 & 104 Agreements	£51.50	£51.50	0.0%
Supply copy of Section 106 Agreements	£51.50	£51.50	0.0%
Supply copy of Tree Preservation Order	15.45	15.45	0.0%
Supply copy of Combined Drainage Agreement	£15.45	£15.45	0.0%
<b>MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES &amp; DOCUMENTS NOT CONTAINED IN THE CURRENT PUBLICATION SCHEME</b>			
A4 B&W Plain paper copying	£0.20	£0.20	0.0%
A3 B&W Plain paper copying	£0.40	£0.40	0.0%
A4 Colour Plain paper copying	£1.25	£1.25	0.0%
A3 Colour Plain paper copying	£1.75	£1.75	0.0%
A2 Plain paper copying	£1.45	£1.45	0.0%
A1 Plain paper copying to Paper	£1.85	£1.85	0.0%
A0 Plain paper copying to Paper	£2.95	£2.95	0.0%

Lamination - A4	£2.80	£2.80	0.0%
Lamination - A3	£4.55	£4.55	0.0%
Lamination - A2	£5.25	£5.25	0.0%
Lamination - A1	£8.30	£8.30	0.0%
Binding - 8mm-12mm	£0.70	£0.70	0.0%
Binding - 14mm-19mm	£1.45	£1.45	0.0%
Binding - 22mm-28mm	£2.10	£2.10	0.0%
Binding - A4 Acetate Sheets	£0.30	£0.30	0.0%
Binding - A4 Clear Pockets	£0.55	£0.55	0.0%
Microfilm Enlargements - A4	£2.80	£2.80	0.0%
Microfilm Enlargements - A3	£4.15	£4.15	0.0%
Microfilm Enlargements - A2	£5.45	£5.45	0.0%
Microfilm Enlargements - A1	£8.15	£8.15	0.0%
Microfilm Enlargements - A0	£10.82	£10.82	0.0%
Plotter Prints - A4	£1.05	£1.05	0.0%
Plotter Prints - A3	£2.10	£2.10	0.0%
Plotter Prints - A2	£4.20	£4.20	0.0%
Plotter Prints - A1	£6.35	£6.35	0.0%
Plotter Prints - A0	£10.60	£10.60	0.0%
Reduction to A4 from A2	£0.70	£0.70	0.0%
Reduction to A4 from A1	£1.45	£1.45	0.0%
Reduction to A4 from A0	£2.80	£2.80	0.0%
Ordnance Survey Block Plans (Location Plan) - fee per sheet of 10 copies	£22.65	£22.65	0.0%
Ordnance Survey Block Plans (Location Plan) - fee per set of 3 copies (only for solicitors undertaking search enquiries)	£15.45	£15.45	0.0%
Sandwell Street Map	£10.00	£10.00	0.0%
Written responses to Planning Permitted Development Enquiries or Requests for information from householders	£29.60	£29.60	0.0%
Written responses to Planning Permitted Development Enquiries or Requests for information from Solicitors, Developers or Professional Agents	£59.25	£59.25	0.0%
Written responses to Building Control Enquiries or Requests for information from householders	£29.60	£29.60	0.0%
Written responses to Building Control Enquiries or Requests for information from Solicitors, Developers or Professional Agents	£59.25	£59.25	0.0%

Written responses to Planning & Building Control 'Permitted Development 'Enquiries or Requests for information from householders	£41.45	£41.45	0.0%
Written responses to Planning & Building Control 'Permitted Development 'Permitted Development Enquiries or Requests for information from Solicitors, Developers or Professional Agents	£82.90	£82.90	0.0%
Charge rate for work in relation to EIR Requests (per hour)	£45.68	£45.68	0.0%
Letter of Compliance (Building Control)	£150.00	£175.00	16.7%
Discharge of conditions letter	£116.00	£116.00	0.0%

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

<b>Service Provided</b>	<b>Current Charge 2021/22</b>	<b>Proposed Charge 2022/23</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
<b>Large Hall</b>			
Monday to Friday 09.00 – 17.00	£12.70	£13.20	3.9%
Monday to Friday 17.00 – 23.00	£21.70	£22.60	4.1%
Weekend and Bank Holiday	£38.70	£40.20	3.9%
<b>Medium Hall</b>			
Monday to Friday 09.00 – 17.00	£10.90	£11.30	3.7%
Monday to Friday 17.00 – 23.00	£18.70	£19.40	3.7%
Weekend and Bank Holiday	£27.50	£28.60	4.0%
<b>Large Room</b>			
Monday to Friday 09.00 – 17.00	£7.10	£7.40	4.2%
Monday to Friday 17.00 – 23.00	£9.50	£9.90	4.2%
Weekend and Bank Holiday	£12.40	£12.90	4.0%
<b>Small Room</b>			
Monday to Friday 09.00 – 17.00	£5.60	£5.80	3.6%
Monday to Friday 17.00 – 23.00	£7.40	£7.70	4.1%
Weekend and Bank Holiday	£10.50	£10.90	3.8%
<b>Mobility Service</b>			
Membership fee	£18.40	£19.10	3.8%
Half day visitor charge (3 hour session)	£4.50	£4.70	4.4%
<b>Lightwoods House</b>			
<b>PEAK TIME MAY, JUNE, JULY AUGUST, SEPT, DEC</b>			
Ceremony on Bandstand/in Long Room Monday-Thursday	£250.00	£300.00	20.0%
Ceremony on Bandstand/in Long Room Friday and Sunday	£400.00	£450.00	12.5%
Ceremony on Bandstand/in Long Room Saturdays and Bank Holidays	£500.00	£550.00	10.0%
Ceremony, reception and evening Monday - Thursday	£1,286.50	£1,500.00	16.6%
Ceremony, reception and evening Friday and Sunday	£2,058.00	£2,250.00	9.3%
Ceremony, reception and evening Saturday and Bank Holidays	£2,573.00	£2,950.00	14.7%
Reception and evening Monday - Thursday	£1,001.00	£1,250.00	24.9%
Reception and evening Friday and Sunday	£1,601.00	£1,850.00	15.6%
Reception and evening Saturday and Bank Holidays	£2,002.00	£2,250.00	12.4%
Ceremony and reception, no evening Monday - Thursday	£893.50	£995.00	11.4%
Ceremony and reception, no evening Friday and Sunday	£1,429.00	£1,650.00	15.5%
Ceremony and reception, no evening Saturday and Bank Holidays	£1,787.00	£1,950.00	9.1%

**OFF PEAK TIMES OCT, NOV, JAN, FEB, MAR, APR**

Ceremony on Bandstand/in Long Room Monday-Thursday	£200.00	£250.00	25.0%
Ceremony on Bandstand/in Long Room Friday and Sunday	£320.00	£350.00	9.4%
Ceremony on Bandstand/in Long Room Saturdays and Bank Holidays	£400.00	£450.00	12.5%
Ceremony, reception and evening Monday - Thursday	£1,001.00	£1,250.00	24.9%
Ceremony, reception and evening Friday and Sunday	£1,601.00	£1,850.00	15.6%
Ceremony, reception and evening Saturday and Bank Holidays	£2,002.00	£2,250.00	12.4%
Reception and evening Monday - Thursday	£857.00	£995.00	16.1%
Reception and evening Friday and Sunday	£1,372.00	£1,500.00	9.3%
Reception and evening Saturday and Bank Holidays	£1,715.00	£1,950.00	13.7%
Ceremony and reception, no evening Monday - Thursday	£643.00	£750.00	16.6%
Ceremony and reception, no evening Friday and Sunday	£1,028.00	£1,250.00	21.6%
Ceremony and reception, no evening Saturday and Bank Holidays	£1,286.00	£1,500.00	16.6%
Chance Room	£20.60	£21.50	4.4%
Weatherhead Room	£15.45	£17.00	10.0%
Long Room - Bay End	£30.90	£32.00	3.6%
Long Room - Aviary End	£25.75	£27.00	4.9%
Long Room combined	£56.65	£59.00	4.1%
Chance Room (Charges where more staff required)		£40.00	
Weatherhead Room		£30.00	
Long Room - Bay End		£55.00	
Long Room - Aviary End		£45.00	
Long Room combined		£100.00	

**CCP-EHTS**

Service Provided	Current Charge 2021/22	Proposed Charge 2022/23	% Increase
<b>Fixed Penalty Notices</b>			
Failure to produce waste transfer note - set by statute	£300.00	£300.00	0.0%
Failure to produce waste carriers docs - set by statute	£300.00	£300.00	0.0%
Offences in relation to waste receptacles (Household) **	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%
Offences in relation to waste receptacles (Commercial)	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%
Fixed penalty for the unauthorised deposit of waste	£400.00	£400.00	0.0%
Offences in relation to intruder alarm notification	£75.00	£75.00	0.0%
Noise Act 1996, noise from licensed premises-by statute	£500.00	£500.00	0.0%
Noise Act 1996, offence in relation to noise from dwellings	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%
<b>Miscellaneous</b>			
Performing Animals Act	£241.74	£254.00	5.1%
Riding Establishments	£208.86	£220.00	5.3%
Pet Shops	£148.24	£174.00	17.4%
Skin Piercing Premises	£235.92	£248.00	5.1%
Transfer of Skin Piercing Registration to New Premise		£70.00	
Mobile Trader Consents (ice cream vans)	£386.30	£406.00	5.1%
Food Safety Health Export Certificates	£87.67	£90.00	2.7%
Reissue of Food Safety Health Export Certificate		£35.00	
Provision of statements to solicitors	£179.00	£188.00	5.0%
Animal Boarding Establishments	£124.44	£174.00	39.8%
Dog breeding establishments	£91.98	£174.00	89.2%
Dangerous wild animals	£87.57	£174.00	98.7%
Registration of persons skin piercing	£56.26	£59.00	4.9%
Food Hygiene Rating Scheme Reinspection	£157.59	£166.00	5.3%
<b>Primary Authority</b>			
Primary Authority - Regulatory Services and PSH	£75.75	£80.00	5.6%
<b>Trading Standards Environmental Health</b>			
Hourly rate	£121.95	£128.00	5.0%
Responsible Retailer Scheme	£159.00	£167.00	5.0%

**ENVIRONMENT & FLEET**

Service Provided	Current Charge 2021/22	Proposed Charge 2022/23	Increase %
<b>Trade Waste Charges - (Standard Pricing Structure provided by Serco - Indicative costs only)</b>			
50 Blue Trade Sacks (including disposal and Waste Transfer Note)	£170.65	£183.43	7.5%
1100 Litre Euro Container	£17.79	£19.12	7.5%
660 Litre Mini Euro Container	£12.18	£13.09	7.5%
360 Litre Mini Euro Container	£8.58	£9.22	7.5%
240 Litre Wheeled bin	£7.36	£7.91	7.5%
50 Sacks - Co-mingled mixed dry recycling (Including disposal and Waste Transfer Note)	£80.00	£85.99	7.5%
240 Litre Co-mingled mixed dry recycling	£6.04	£6.49	7.5%
360 Litre Co-mingled mixed dry recycling	£6.92	£7.44	7.5%
660 Litre Co-mingled mixed dry recycling	£9.23	£9.92	7.5%
1100 Litre Co-mingled mixed dry recycling	£12.98	£13.95	7.5%
FEL Skip GW 4M	£50.00	£53.75	7.5%
FEL Skip GW 6M	£60.00	£64.49	7.5%
FEL Skip GW 8M	£75.00	£80.62	7.5%
Admin Charge/Annual DoC - National Charge	£78.00	£83.84	7.5%
Landfill tax per tonne	£96.15	£103.35	7.5%
<b>Domestic Charges Bulky Collections:</b>			
Fridge/Freezer	£13.34	£14.34	7.5%
Bulky - 1 item	£13.34	£14.34	7.5%
Bulky - 2 to 4 items	£20.02	£21.52	7.5%
Bulky - 5 to 8 items	£40.03	£43.03	7.5%
<b>Garden Waste</b>			
Additional Garden Waste Container - Delivered	£41.00	£44.07	7.5%
<b>Replacement containers - Lost and stolen:</b>			
180 litre wheeled bin (any type)	£13.52	£14.53	7.5%
240 litre wheeled bin (any type)	£13.52	£14.53	7.5%
360 litre wheeled bin (any type)	£13.52	£14.53	7.5%
Concessionary rate	£5.41	£5.82	7.6%



**ENV PROTECTION AND ENFORCEMENT**

<b>Service Provided</b>	<b>Current Charge 2021/22</b>	<b>Proposed Charge 2022/23</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
<b>Fixed Penalty Notices</b>			
Depositing Litter	£100.00	£150.00	50.0%
Dog Fouling	£100.00	£150.00	50.0%
Graffiti & Flyposting	£75.00	£75.00	0.0%
Breach of Public Space Protection Order	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%
Breach of Community Protection Notice	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%
Abandoned Vehicle	£200.00	£200.00	0.0%
Fly Tipping	£400.00	£400.00	0.0%
Householder Duty of Care	£400.00	£400.00	0.0%
Repairing Cars on the highway	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%
Exposing vehicles for sale on the highway	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%
<b>Transit Site</b>			
Weekly Rental	£82.40	£82.40	0.0%
Deposit for caravan pitch	£257.50	£257.50	0.0%

**FACILITIES MANAGEMENT**

<b>Service Provided</b>	<b>Current Charge 2021/22</b>	<b>Proposed Charge 2022/23</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
<b>Sandwell Council House</b>			
Council Chamber per hour or part thereof, Minimum 2 hours booking	£29.72	£30.61	3.0%
Council Chamber per hour or part thereof, Annexes, Committee Rooms & Dining Room per hour or part thereof,	£54.64	£56.28	3.0%
Annexes, Committee Rooms & Dining Room per hour or part thereof,	£20.14	£20.74	3.0%
Annexes, Committee Rooms & Dining Room per hour or part thereof,	£29.72	£30.61	3.0%
<b>Hire of West Bromwich Town Hall, Wednesbury Town Hall and Smethwick Council House</b>			
<b>Main Hall</b>			
Internal Users & Community Groups only if no entrance fee being charged	No Charge	No Charge	
Internal Users and Community Groups if entrance fee being charged per hour or part thereof	£8.76	£9.02	3.0%
Internal Users and Community Groups if entrance fee being charged per hour or part thereof	£55.72	£57.39	3.0%
External Users per hour or part thereof	£28.63	£29.49	3.0%
External Users per hour or part thereof	£55.72	£57.39	3.0%
<b>Hire of Room accommodating up to 30 persons (WTH Council chamber / WBTH Rooms A,B,C, &amp; Members / Smethwick CH Freemans room)</b>			
Internal Users and Community Groups if no entrance fee being charged per hour or part thereof	No Charge	No Charge	
Internal Users and Community Groups if entrance fee being charged per hour or part thereof	£5.67	£5.83	3.0%
Internal Users and Community Groups if entrance fee being charged per hour or part thereof	£25.44	£26.20	3.0%
External Users per hour or part thereof	£20.14	£20.74	3.0%
External Users per hour or part thereof	£31.83	£32.78	3.0%
<b>Hire of Room accommodating above 30 people (WBTH room D &amp; Council Chamber)</b>			

Internal Users and Community Groups if no entrance fee being charged per hour or part thereof	No Charge	No Charge	
Internal Users and Community Groups if entrance fee being charged per hour or part thereof	£5.67	£5.83	3.0%
Internal Users and Community Groups if entrance fee being charged per hour or part thereof	£25.44	£26.20	3.0%
External Users per hour or part thereof	£20.14	£20.74	3.0%
External Users per hour or part thereof	£31.83	£32.78	3.0%
<b>Weekend Full Site Booking Rate West Bromwich Town Hall</b>	0		
All Users - All Rooms at Site Option A	£1,177.60	£1,212.93	3.0%
All Users - All rooms except Council Chamber Option B	£997.25	£1,027.16	3.0%
All Users - All Rooms at Site Option A	£1,177.60	£1,212.93	3.0%
All Users - All rooms except Council Chamber Option B	£997.25	£1,027.16	3.0%
<b>Other Hire Charges</b>			
Hire of Kitchen (per function)	£54.13	£55.75	3.0%
Hire of Kitchen (per function) - Concession for community	£27.04	£27.85	3.0%
Hire of Organ (per function)	£71.07	£73.20	3.0%
Hire of Concert Piano (per function)	£55.16	£56.81	3.0%
Hire of Upright Piano (per function)	£32.91	£33.90	3.0%
Performing Rights Fee	nil	nil	
<b>Cancellation Fee external bookings Only</b>			
Less than 6 days-notice	Full Cost	Full Cost	
7-12 days-notice - cancellation charge	50% charge	50% charge	
13-23 days-notice	25% charge	25% charge	
Over 23 days-notice	nil	nil	
<b>Concessions</b>			
Pensioners Fish & Chip Afternoon @ Wednesbury per annum	£37.08	£38.19	3.0%
Pensioners Tea Dance @ Wednesbury per annum	£37.08	£38.19	3.0%
Mayors Charity Events	2 events Free of Charge	2 events Free of Charge	

**GENERAL LICENSING**

<b>Service Provided</b>	<b>Current Charge 2021/22</b>	<b>Proposed Charge 2022/23</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
<b>Licencing</b>			
<b>Licensing Act 2003</b>			
Temporary event notice	£21.00	£21.00	0.0%
Theft, loss etc of temporary event notice	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%
Theft, loss, etc of premises licence or summary	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%
Premises licence notification of change of name or address	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%
Application to vary licence to specify individual as premises supervisor	£23.00	£23.00	0.0%
Application for transfer of premises licence	£23.00	£23.00	0.0%
Theft, loss etc of club certificate or summary	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%
Notification of change of name or alteration of rules of club	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%
Change of relevant registered address of club	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%
Right of freeholder etc to be notified of licensing matters	£21.00	£21.00	0.0%
Interim authority notice following death etc of licence holder	£23.00	£23.00	0.0%
Application for a provisional statement where premises being built etc.	£315.00	£315.00	0.0%
Minor variation application	£89.00	£89.00	0.0%
Personal licence grant application	£37.00	£37.00	0.0%
Theft, loss, etc of personal licence or summary	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%
Personal licence notification of change of name or address	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%
Application to vary premises licence at community premises to include alternative licence condition	£23.00	£23.00	0.0%
<b>New applications and variations according to rateable value</b>			
Band A (None - £4,300)	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%
Band B (£4,301 - £33,000)	£190.00	£190.00	0.0%
Band C (£33,001 - £87,000)	£315.00	£315.00	0.0%
Band D (£87,001 - £125,000)	£450.00	£450.00	0.0%
Band E (£125,001+)	£635.00	£635.00	0.0%
<b>Multiplier applied to premises used exclusively or primarily for the supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises</b>			
Band D x2 (£87,001 - £125,000)	£900.00	£900.00	0.0%
Band E x3 (£125,001+)	£1,905.00	£1,905.00	0.0%

<b>Annual Fee (charge) according to rateable value</b>			
Band A (None - £4,300)	£70.00	£70.00	0.0%
Band B (£4,301 - £33,000)	£180.00	£180.00	0.0%
Band C (£33,001 - £87,000)	£295.00	£295.00	0.0%
Band D (£87,001 - £125,000)	£320.00	£320.00	0.0%
Band E (£125,001+)	£350.00	£350.00	0.0%
<b>Annual Charge multiplier applied to premises used exclusively or primarily for the supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises</b>			
Band D x2 (£87,001 - £125,000)	£640.00	£640.00	0.0%
Band E x3 (£125,001+)	£1,050.00	£1,050.00	0.0%
<b>New application and variation clubs according to rateable value</b>			
Band A (None - £4,300)	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%
Band B (£4,301 - £33,000)	£190.00	£190.00	0.0%
Band C (£33,001 - £87,000)	£315.00	£315.00	0.0%
Band D (£87,001 - £125,000)	£450.00	£450.00	0.0%
Band E (£125,001+)	£635.00	£635.00	0.0%
<b>Annual charge clubs according to rateable value</b>			
Band A (None - £4,300)	£70.00	£70.00	0.0%
Band B (£4,301 - £33,000)	£180.00	£180.00	0.0%
Band C (£33,001 - £87,000)	£295.00	£295.00	0.0%
Band D (£87,001 - £125,000)	£320.00	£320.00	0.0%
Band E (£125,001+)	£350.00	£350.00	0.0%
<b>Additional premises licence fee (Number in attendance at any one time)</b>			
5,000 to 9,999	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0.0%
10,000 to 14,999	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	0.0%
15,000 to 19,999	£4,000.00	£4,000.00	0.0%
20,000 to 29,999	£8,000.00	£8,000.00	0.0%
30,000 to 39,999	£16,000.00	£16,000.00	0.0%
40,000 to 49,999	£24,000.00	£24,000.00	0.0%
50,000 to 59,999	£32,000.00	£32,000.00	0.0%
60,000 to 69,999	£40,000.00	£40,000.00	0.0%
70,000 to 79,999	£48,000.00	£48,000.00	0.0%
80,000 to 89,999	£56,000.00	£56,000.00	0.0%
90,000 and over	£64,000.00	£64,000.00	0.0%

<b>Additional Annual fee payable if applicable</b>			
5,000 to 9,999	£500.00	£500.00	0.0%
10,000 to 14,999	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0.0%
15,000 to 19,999	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	0.0%
20,000 to 29,999	£4,000.00	£4,000.00	0.0%
30,000 to 39,999	£8,000.00	£8,000.00	0.0%
40,000 to 49,999	£12,000.00	£12,000.00	0.0%
50,000 to 59,999	£16,000.00	£16,000.00	0.0%
60,000 to 69,999	£20,000.00	£20,000.00	0.0%
70,000 to 79,999	£24,000.00	£24,000.00	0.0%
80,000 to 89,999	£28,000.00	£28,000.00	0.0%
90,000 and over	£32,000.00	£32,000.00	0.0%
<b>Gambling Act 2005</b>			
<b>Converted casino premises licences</b>			
Grant	£1,290.30	£2,500.00	93.8%
Annual fee	£1,290.30	£1,600.00	24.0%
Fee for application to vary licence	£969.00	£970.00	0.1%
Fee for application to transfer a licence	£644.54	£645.00	0.1%
Fee for application for reinstatement of a licence	£644.54	£645.00	0.1%
Copy licence	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%
Notification of change	£35.70	£36.00	0.8%
<b>Bingo premises licence</b>			
Grant	£1,932.90	£2,200.00	13.8%
Annual fee	£515.61	£600.00	16.4%
Fee for application to vary licence	£840.07	£840.07	0.0%
Fee for application to transfer a licence	£581.40	£581.40	0.0%
Fee for application for reinstatement of a licence	£581.40	£581.40	0.0%
Fee for application for provisional statement	£1,932.90	£2,200.00	13.8%
Copy licence	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%
Notification of change	£35.70	£36.00	0.8%
<b>Betting premises (track) licence</b>			
Grant	£1,290.30	£1,500.00	16.3%
Annual fee	£515.61	£600.00	16.4%
Fee for application to vary licence	£644.54	£644.54	0.0%

Fee for application to transfer a licence	£515.61	£515.61	0.0%
Fee for application for reinstatement of a licence	£515.61	£515.61	0.0%
Fee for application for provisional statement	£1,290.30	£1,500.00	16.3%
Copy licence	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%
Notification of change	£35.70	£36.00	0.8%
<b>Betting premises (other) licence</b>			
Grant	£1,290.30	£1,500.00	16.3%
Annual fee	£326.00	£390.00	19.6%
Fee for application to vary licence	£644.54	£645.00	0.1%
Fee for application to transfer a licence	£515.61	£515.61	0.0%
Fee for application for reinstatement of a licence	£515.61	£515.61	0.0%
Fee for application for provisional statement	£1,289.08	£1,290.00	0.1%
Copy licence	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%
Notification of change	£35.70	£36.00	0.8%
<b>Family entertainment centre premises licence</b>			
Grant	£775.20	£1,000.00	29.0%
Annual fee	£391.12	£391.12	0.0%
Fee for application to vary licence	£515.61	£515.61	0.0%
Fee for application to transfer a licence	£453.90	£455.00	0.2%
Fee for application for reinstatement of a licence	£453.90	£455.00	0.2%
Fee for application for provisional statement	£775.20	£775.20	0.0%
Copy licence	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%
Notification of change	£35.70	£36.00	0.8%
<b>Adult gaming centre premises</b>			
Grant	£969.00	£969.00	0.0%
Annual fee	£515.61	£600.00	16.4%
Fee for application to vary licence	£515.61	£515.61	0.0%
Fee for application to transfer a licence	£581.40	£581.40	0.0%
Fee for application for reinstatement of a licence	£581.40	£581.40	0.0%
Fee for application for provisional statement	£969.00	£969.00	0.0%
Copy licence	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%
Notification of change	£35.70	£36.00	0.8%
<b>Temporary Use Notice</b>			
Temporary Use Notice	£500.00	£500.00	0.0%
Temporary Use Notice - Copy Notice	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%

<b>Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permit</b>			
Grant	£150.00	£150.00	0.0%
Grant (Existing Operator)	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%
Annual Fee	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%
Variation	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%
Transfer	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%
Change of Name	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%
Copy of permit	£15.00	£15.00	0.0%
<b>Club Gaming &amp; Club Machine Permits</b>			
Grant or Renewal	£200.00	£200.00	0.0%
Grant or Renewal (Fast Track)	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%
Variation	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%
Annual Fee	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%
Copy of permit	£15.00	£15.00	0.0%
<b>Lottery Registration:-</b>			
Grant statutory fee	£40.00	£40.00	0.0%
Annual statutory fee	£20.00	£20.00	0.0%
<b>Automatic Entitlement – up to two Cat C or D machines</b>			
Notification	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%
<b>Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centre</b>			
Grant	£300.00	£300.00	0.0%
Grant (Existing Operator)	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%
Renewal	£300.00	£300.00	0.0%
Copy of permit	£15.00	£15.00	0.0%
Change of Name	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%
<b>Prize Gaming Permit</b>			
Grant	£300.00	£300.00	0.0%
Grant (Existing Operator)	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%
Renewal	£300.00	£300.00	0.0%
Copy of permit	£15.00	£15.00	0.0%
Change of Name	£25.00	£25.00	0.0%
<b>Sex Establishments</b>			
Sex Establishments (grant)	£3,259.41	£3,300.00	1.2%
Sex Establishments (renewal)	£3,259.41	£3,300.00	1.2%



Sex Establishments (transfer)	£3,259.41	£3,300.00	1.2%
Sex Establishments (variation)	£3,259.41	£3,300.00	1.2%
Sexual Entertainment Venues (grant)	£3,259.41	£3,300.00	1.2%
Sexual Entertainment Venues (renewal)	£3,259.41	£3,300.00	1.2%
Sexual Entertainment Venues (transfer)	£3,259.41	£3,300.00	1.2%
Sexual Entertainment Venues (variation)	£3,259.41	£3,300.00	1.2%
<b>Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013</b>			
Grant/Renewal of Site Licence - one site	£383.47	£550.00	43.4%
Each additional site on grant/renewal application	£58.09	£58.09	0.0%
Grant/Renewal of Collectors Licence	£278.41	£280.00	0.6%
Replacement or copy licence	£31.52	£31.52	0.0%
Variation to change licensee name	£36.77	£37.00	0.6%
Variation to change site details (add or remove a site)	£58.09	£58.09	0.0%
Variation to change Site Manager	£89.30	£89.30	0.0%
	£89.30	£89.30	0.0%

**GREEN SERVICES**

Service Provided	Current Charge 2021/22	Proposed Charge 2022/23	% Increase
<b>Allotments</b>			
Allotment Plot Sandwell Residents	£41.20	£43.35	5.0%
Allotment Plot non-Sandwell Residents	£82.40	£86.65	4.9%
Association sites (Charge and rebate per plot)	£30.90	£32.50	4.9%
<b>Outdoor Pitches-Regular Users (Ex VAT) SANDWELL LEAGUES</b>			
Class A - Pitches with changing facilities	£72.10	£75.80	4.9%
Class A - Junior - Concessionary Charge	£46.35	£48.75	4.9%
Class C - Pitch no changing facility	£46.35	£48.75	4.9%
Mini Soccer/7 a Side - Children's football no changing	£36.05	£37.90	4.9%
Sandwell Minor League (per season) - Use of pavilion year round	£2,832.50	£2,977.00	4.9%
Self Managed (per pitch per season)	£226.60	£238.20	4.9%
<b>Outdoor Pitches-Regular Users (Ex VAT) NON SANDWELL LEAGUES</b>			
Class A - Pitch with changing facilities	£72.10	£75.80	4.9%
Class A - Junior - Concessionary Charge	£51.50	£54.15	4.9%
Class C - Pitch no changing facility	£51.50	£54.15	4.9%
Mini Soccer/7 a Side - Children's football no changing	£41.20	£43.35	5.0%
Self-Managed (per pitch per season)	£236.90	£249.00	4.9%
<b>Outdoor Pitches-Casual Users (Inc VAT) SANDWELL LEAGUES</b>			
Class A - Pitch with changing facilities	£103.00	£108.30	4.9%
Class A - Junior - Concessionary Charge	£46.35	£48.75	4.9%
Class B	£72.10	£75.80	4.9%
Class C - Pitch no changing facility	£46.35	£48.75	4.9%
Closed season/Pre- Season Friendlies (All Users)	£46.35	£48.75	4.9%
<b>Outdoor Pitches-Casual Users (Inc VAT) NON SANDWELL LEAGUES</b>			
Class A - Pitch with changing facilities	£108.15	£113.70	4.9%
Class A - Junior - Concessionary Charge	£51.50	£54.15	4.9%
Class B	£77.25	£81.20	4.9%
Class C - Pitch no changing facility	£51.50	£54.15	4.9%
<b>Football Training</b>			
Playing Field only (2 hour session)	£20.60	£21.70	5.1%

Playing Field & Changing Rooms (2 hour session)	£87.55	£92.05	4.9%
Pitch overmarking (per pitch)	£20.60	£21.70	5.1%
<b>Room Hire Changing Rooms and Pavilions</b>			
Barnford/Red House/QE2 Churchfields/Victoria Smethwick (Minimum 2 hours)	£61.80	£65.00	4.9%
Barnford/Red House/QE2 Churchfields/Victoria Smethwick (per additional hour)	£30.90	£32.50	4.9%
<b>Coaching/Training Sessions</b>			
Less than 10 students/trainers	£20.00	£21.05	5.0%
Up to 20 students/trainers (Monday to Friday)	£36.05	£37.90	4.9%
21 to 50 students/trainers (Monday to Friday)	£51.50	£54.15	4.9%
51+ students/trainers (Monday to Friday)	£66.95	£70.40	4.9%
Up to 20 students/trainers (Saturday & Sunday)	£46.35	£48.75	4.9%
21 to 50 students/trainers (Saturday & Sunday)	£61.80	£65.00	4.9%
51+ students/trainers (Saturday & Sunday)	£77.25	£81.20	4.9%
<b>Cricket - Regular Users (Ex VAT) SANDWELL LEAGUES</b>			
Wicket and dressing rooms	£103.00	£108.30	4.9%
Wicket only - no changing	£77.25	£81.20	4.9%
Synthetic Wicket	£22.65	£23.85	5.0%
<b>Cricket - Casual Users (Inc VAT) SANDWELL LEAGUES</b>			
Wicket and dressing rooms	£113.30	£119.10	4.9%
Wicket only - no changing	£87.55	£92.05	4.9%
Synthetic Wicket	£27.80	£29.25	5.0%
<b>Cricket - Regular Users (Ex VAT) NON SANDWELL LEAGUES</b>			
Wicket and dressing rooms	£113.30	£119.10	4.9%
Wicket only - no changing	£87.55	£92.05	4.9%
Synthetic Wicket	£28.85	£30.35	4.9%
<b>Cricket - Casual Users (Inc VAT) NON SANDWELL LEAGUES</b>			
Wicket and dressing rooms	£144.20	£151.60	4.9%
Wicket only - no changing	£103.00	£108.30	4.9%
Synthetic Wicket	£36.05	£37.90	4.9%
<b>Outdoor Activities - Minor Games</b>			
Bowls (per person per hour)	£4.10	£4.35	5.7%
Bowls (per person per hour) - Concessionary Charge	£2.05	£2.20	6.8%
Bowls Season Ticket/Club use. Part/self-maintained green	£257.50	£270.65	4.9%
Bowls Season Ticket/Club use. Council maintained	£803.40	£844.40	4.9%

<b>Fairs &amp; Circuses (per day)</b>		£0.00	
Up to 8 Junior Rides - Monday to Thursday	£92.70	£97.45	4.9%
Up to 8 Junior Rides - Friday to Sunday (Inc Bank Hols)	£180.25	£189.45	4.9%
Up to 4 Adult Rides &/or up to 8 Junior Rides - Mon to Thur	£180.25	£189.45	4.9%
Up to 4 Adult Rides &/or up to 8 Junior Rides - Fri to Sun (Inc Bank Hols)	£360.50	£378.90	4.9%
Up to 7 Adult Rides &/or up to 12 Junior Rides - Mon to Thur	£257.50	£270.65	4.9%
Up to 7 Adult Rides &/or up to 12 Junior Rides - Fri to Sun (Inc Bank Hols)	£515.00	£541.30	4.9%
8+ Adult Rides and/or 13+ Junior Rides - Mon to Thur	£360.50	£378.90	4.9%
8+ Adult Rides &/or 13+ Junior Rides - Fri to Sun (inc Bank Hols)	£721.00	£757.80	4.9%
Circus (per day)	£360.50	£378.90	4.9%
Water Supply (per day - circus and fair only)	£34.00	£35.75	4.9%
Electricity Supply (per day - circus and fair only)	£34.00	£35.75	4.9%
<b>Council Event Charges</b>			
Parking Fee - Special Events	£5.00	£5.30	5.7%
Parking Fee - Albion Football Charges	£4.00	£4.25	5.9%
<u>Bonfire &amp; Firework Charges (change to standard ticketed events)</u>			
Online Adult 18+	£5.00	£5.30	5.7%
Online Child 2-17	£3.00	£3.20	6.3%
Online Family Ticket (2 adults & 2 children)	£10.00	£10.55	5.2%
Online under 2	£0.00	£0.00	
On the gate Adult 18+	£6.00	£6.35	5.5%
On the gate Child 2-18	£4.00	£4.25	5.9%
On the gate family ticket (2 adults & 2 children)	£15.00	£15.80	5.1%
On the gate under 2	£0.00	£0.00	
<u>Christmas at the Valley admission Adults tickets</u>			
Children 2-11	£11.00	£11.60	5.2%
Adults	£7.00	£7.40	5.4%
Under 2	£5.00	£5.30	5.7%
Over 60	£4.00	£4.25	5.9%
<b>Special Events in Parks (per day)</b>			
Hire of bandstand for weddings (Brunswick)	£103.00	£108.30	4.9%
Wedding Photographs	£103.00	£108.30	4.9%
Filming - TV / Production companies per day	£206.00	£216.55	4.9%
Event application license fee (commercial event organisers to apply for own license)	£61.80	£65.00	4.9%
Event manager on the day support (per hour)	£51.50	£54.15	4.9%

Community use by friends groups is free of charge	£0.00	£0.00	
Site fee per day - Community / Charity small (1 - 250 attendees)	£51.50	£54.15	4.9%
Site fee per day - Community / Charity Med ( 1 ) (250 - 500 attendees)	£103.00	£108.30	4.9%
Site fee per day - Community / Charity Med ( 2 ) (500 - 1000 attendees)	£206.00	£216.55	4.9%
Site fee per day - Community / Charity large (1000 - 2000 attendees)	£412.00	£433.05	4.9%
Site fee per day - Community / Charity Very large (2000 - 5000 attendees)	£618.00	£649.55	4.9%
Site fee per day - Community / Charity Major (5000 + attendees)	£1,030.00	£1,082.55	4.9%
Site fee per day - Commercial Event - Very Small (1 - 250 attendees)	£309.00	£324.80	4.9%
Site fee per day - Commercial Event - Small (250 - 500 attendees)	£515.00	£541.30	4.9%
Site fee per day - Commercial Event - Medium ( 1 ) (500 - 1000 attendees)	£1,030.00	£1,082.55	4.9%
Site fee per day - Commercial Event - Large (1000 - 5000 attendees)	£5,150.00	£5,412.65	4.9%
Site fee per day - Commercial Event - V. Large (5000 - 10000 attendees)	Negotiable	Negotiable	
Site fee per day - Commercial Event - Major (10000 - 20000 attendees)	Negotiable	Negotiable	
* Event Bond is payable 7 days prior to event and applicable to all event application terms and conditions			
<b>Event Infrastructure Hire</b>		£0.00	
Hire of trestle tables (per table)	£5.15	£5.45	5.5%
Hire metal / wooden stakes (per stake)	£1.50	£1.60	6.3%
Hire of 6x3m marquee	£61.80	£65.00	4.9%
Hire of 3x3m marquee	£30.90	£32.50	4.9%
Hire of chairs	£2.05	£2.20	6.8%
Hire of megaphone	£10.30	£10.85	5.1%
Hire of high vis vests	£2.05	£2.20	6.8%
Hire of hot water urn	£6.15	£6.50	5.4%
Hire of rope (per metre)	£1.00	£1.10	9.1%
Hire of crowd control barriers	£4.10	£4.35	5.7%
Hire of wheelie bins (without litter removal)	£10.30	£10.85	5.1%
Hire of PA System and microphone	£100.00	£105.10	4.9%
Hire of vehicle & 2 staff (4 hours)	£309.00	£324.80	4.9%
Hire of vehicle & 2 staff (8 hours)	£618.00	£649.55	4.9%
<b>Craft Fairs / Stalls - Sandwell Valley</b>			
Easter (Saturday & Sunday)	£51.50	£54.15	4.9%
Easter Week (Tuesday to Friday)	£61.80	£65.00	4.9%
Bank Holiday (per day)	£30.90	£32.50	4.9%
Christmas Event	£51.50	£54.15	4.9%

Weekend (non-event)	£41.20	£43.35	5.0%
Weekday (per day)	£18.55	£19.50	4.9%
<b>Fishing</b>			
Day/Part Day max 2 rods - all Sandwell waters	£6.15	£6.50	5.4%
Day/Part Day max 2 rods - all Sandwell waters - Concessionary Charge	£3.60	£3.80	5.3%
Season Ticket - All Sandwell waters	£51.50	£54.15	4.9%
Season Ticket - All Sandwell waters - Concessionary Charge	£25.75	£27.10	5.0%
<b>Outdoor Activities - Water Based at Swan Pool</b>		£0.00	
Long Distance Swimming (per event)	£36.05	£37.90	4.9%
<b>Sailing and Windsurfing (per boat per annum)</b>			
Club Use	£75.00	£78.85	4.9%
Club Use - Concessionary Charge	£43.00	£45.20	4.9%
<b>Sandwell Valley</b>			
Parking Charges (Annual Pass)	£41.20	£43.35	5.0%
Caravan site (per night per van - minimum charge)	£7.20	£7.60	5.3%
Horse Grazing only - per horse per week	£20.00	£21.05	5.0%
Hay Bales - per bale including delivery	£30.90	£32.50	4.9%
Helicopter Landings (Minimum charge)			
<b>Visitor Centres/Countryside Management Room Hire</b>			
Sandwell Park Farm New Barn - Per full day – 20 max	£56.65	£59.55	4.9%
Sandwell Park Farm New Barn - per half day – 20 max	£30.00	£31.55	4.9%
Sandwell Park Farm Study Centre - Per full day – 50 max	£90.00	£94.60	4.9%
Sandwell Park Farm Study Centre - per half day – 50 max	£50.00	£52.55	4.9%
Sandwell Park Farm Small Meeting Room - Per full day – 15 max	£80.00	£84.10	4.9%
Sandwell Park Farm Small Meeting Room - per half day – 15 max	£45.00	£47.30	4.9%
Dartmouth Park Pavilion meeting room - Per full day – 30 max	£80.00	£84.10	4.9%
Dartmouth Park Pavilion meeting room - per half day – 30 max	£45.50	£47.85	4.9%
Forge Mill Farm Meeting Room / Portable Cabin - Per full day – 25 max	£75.00	£78.85	4.9%
Forge Mill Farm Meeting Room /Portable Cabin - per half day – 25 max	£40.00	£42.05	4.9%
Room hire bond	£50.00	£52.55	4.9%
Cancelled Room Bookings	£36.05	£37.90	4.9%
A4 B&W	£0.20	£0.25	20.0%
A3 B&W	£0.40	£0.45	11.1%
A4 Colour	£1.25	£1.35	7.4%

A3 Colour	£1.75	£1.85	5.4%
<b>Sandwell Park Farm &amp; Forge Mill Farm Admission Charges</b>			
Per Adult per Day	£2.65	£2.80	5.4%
Per Day - Concessionary Charge (junior / OAP)	£2.15	£2.30	6.5%
Family ticket (2 adults & up to 3 children)	£10.30	£10.85	5.1%
Family ticket (1 adult & up to 3 children)	£8.20	£8.65	5.2%
6 month pass (individual)	£36.05	£37.90	4.9%
6 month pass (individual) - Concessionary Charge	£25.75	£27.10	5.0%
12 month pass (individual)	£51.50	£54.15	4.9%
12 month pass (individual) - Concessionary Charge	£36.05	£37.90	4.9%
6 month pass (joint - 2 adults)	£51.50	£54.15	4.9%
6 month pass (joint - 2 adults) - Concessionary Charge	£41.20	£43.35	5.0%
12 month pass (joint - 2 adults)	£82.40	£86.65	4.9%
12 month pass (joint - 2 adults) - Concessionary Charge	£61.80	£65.00	4.9%
6 month pass (family 2 adults & up to 3 children)	£66.95	£70.40	4.9%
12 month pass (family 2 adults & up to 3 children)	£97.85	£102.85	4.9%
<b>Forge Mill Farm Visitor Center</b>			
Off Peak Per Adult per Day	£2.00	Included in Sandwell Valley Visitor Centre	
Off Peak Per Day - Concessionary Charge (junior / OAP)	£1.50	Included in Sandwell Valley Visitor Centre	
Off Peak Family ticket (2 adults & up to 3 children)	£6.00	Included in Sandwell Valley Visitor Centre	
Off Peak Family ticket (1 adult & up to 3 children)	£4.00	Included in Sandwell Valley Visitor Centre	
Peak Per Adult per Day	/	Included in Sandwell Valley Visitor Centre	
Peak Per Day - Concessionary Charge (junior / OAP)	/	Included in Sandwell Valley Visitor Centre	

Peak Family ticket (2 adults & up to 3 children)

Peak Family ticket (1 adult & up to 3 children)

Included in Sandwell Valley  
Visitor Centre

Included in Sandwell Valley  
Visitor Centre



**HIGHWAYS**

<b>Service Provided</b>	<b>Current Charge 2021/22</b>	<b>Proposed Charge 2022/23</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
<b>Highways Act 1980</b>			
Section 171 Consent for making of excavations in the Street Administration & Inspection Fee (excluding footway crossings)	£754.00	£800.00	6.1%
Section 139 Control of builders skips. Consideration of an application to deposit a builders skip on the public highway for up to 10 days.	£36.00	£40.00	11.1%
Section 139 Control of builders skips. Consideration of an application to renew a permit to deposit a builders skip on the public highway charge for each and every subsequent period of up to 10 days.	£23.50	£25.00	6.4%
Retrospective Skip Permit Fee		£200.00	
Section 169 & 172 Control of hoarding and scaffolding. Consideration of an application to deposit scaffolding and hoarding on the public highway for up to 90 days	£240.00	£252.00	5.0%
Section 115E Control of street cafes tables and chairs. Consideration of an application to deposit tables and chairs on the public highway (charge for an annual licence)	£294.50	£310.00	5.3%
Section 177 Consideration of a temporary application to deposit a crane on the public highway (charge for each licence issued)	£119.50	£125.00	4.6%
Section 177 Consideration of a permanent application for highway projections (charge for each licence issued)	£294.50	£310.00	5.3%
<b>Footway Crossing</b>			
Footway Crossing inspection and Supervisory Fee. *Fee approved by Cabinet Member at his meeting on 17th October 2008.	£201.50	£215.00	6.7%
<b>Street Naming and Numbering</b>			
Street Naming - Section 17 of the Public Health Act 1925	£230.00	£245.00	6.5%
Property Numbering - Section 64 of the Town Improvement Clauses Act 1847	£23.50	£150 Plus £25 per plot	
Highway Plans (showing the extent of the public highway)	£59.50	£65.00	9.2%
General Highway Enquiry	£59.50	£65.00	9.2%
<b>Traffic Signals</b>			
Consideration of application for switch on/off of traffic signals on Week days	£174.00	£250.00	43.7%
Consideration of application for switch on/off of traffic signals at Weekends	£272.00	£750.00	175.7%
<b>Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984</b>			

Section 14(1) or 16(A) temporary traffic order restricting or prohibiting temporary use of all or part of a road.	£2,059.00	£2,200.00	6.8%
Section 14(2) or 16(A) by Notice restrict Or temporarily prohibit use of all or part of a road if necessary by expedient.	£1,011.00	£1,100.00	8.8%
<b>Section 38 Agreement</b>			
% of estimated construction costs of highways and sewers in conjunction with road adoptions. Minimum charge of £2000	10%	4% in advance for technical appraisal 6% for supervision on signing the agreement	
<b>Section 278 Agreement</b>			
% of estimated construction costs of highways and sewers in conjunction with road adoptions , Minimum charge of £2000	10%	4% in advance for technical appraisal 6% for supervision on signing the agreement	
Technical Appraisal for Private Road - % of estimated construction costs of highways and sewers in conjunction with road adoptions. Minimum charge of £1000	3%	4%	33.3%
Land Drainage Consent under S23 of Land Drainage Act 1991	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%
<b>Highways</b>			
Section 50 Street Works Licence (Standard), (Licence to person without a statutory right to place, retain and remove apparatus in the street)			
S50 Administration & Inspection Fee (of which £150 is nationally agreed inspection fee)	£754.00	£800.00	6.1%
S72 Defective Reinstatement Inspection charges (nationally agreed 3 x £47.50)	£142.50	£150.00	5.3%
S72 Third Party Inspection Fee (nationally agreed)	£204.00	£215.00	5.4%
<b>Off Street Car Parking Charges - Long Stay Season Tickets</b>			
Annual All Areas All days	£240.00	£240.00	0.0%
Annual All areas for 3 specified days of the week	£144.00	£144.00	0.0%

Monthly all areas All Days	£24.00	£24.00	0.0%
Monthly All Area 3 specified days of the week	£14.40	£14.40	0.0%
<b>Car Parking General</b>			
Waivers up to 7 days	£12.85	£12.85	0.0%
Waivers after/longer than 7 days	£6.15	£6.15	0.0%
Suspensions	£58.70	£58.70	0.0%
<b>Off Street Pay &amp; Display plus on street Long Stay at Albert St, Stafford Street, and Victoria St., Wednesbury and Shaftsbury St West Brom</b>			
Up to 1 hour	£0.40	£0.40	0.0%
1 – 2 hours	£0.80	£0.80	0.0%
2 – 3 hours	£1.20	£1.20	0.0%
3 – 4 hours	£1.60	£1.60	0.0%
Long Stay Only over 4 hours	£4.00	£4.00	0.0%
<b>All Areas - Short stay On Street Pay &amp; Display</b>			
Up to 15 minutes	£0.30	£0.30	0.0%
Up to 30 minutes	£0.60	£0.60	0.0%
Up to 1 hour	£1.20	£1.20	0.0%
1 – 2 hours	£2.40	£2.40	0.0%
<b>Parking Permit, Voucher and regulation charges</b>			
1 <sup>st</sup> Residents Permit	£34.00	£36.00	5.9%
2 <sup>nd</sup> Residents Permit	£40.00	£42.00	5.0%
Authorised replacement of all Permits	£14.00	£15.00	7.1%
20 – 2 Hour Visitors Vouchers	£7.00	£8.00	14.3%
10 – 6 Hour Visitors Vouchers	£8.00	£9.00	12.5%
Weekly Visitor Voucher	£8.00	£9.00	12.5%
Business Permit (Annual)(In resident Scheme areas)	£125.00	£200.00	60.0%
3rd Residents Permit	£55.00	£100.00	81.8%
advisory disabled markings	£85.00	£90.00	5.9%
"H" BAR MARKINGS	£63.00	£70.00	11.1%
parents annual parking permit charges for P& D car parks for limited period AM and PM	£34.00	£40.00	17.6%
TRO MAKING - Statutory process, adverts, public consultation, procure & install road signs, road lines etc.	£4,540.00	£4,600.00	1.3%
resident permit for commercial vehicles	£114.00	£120.00	5.3%
Bikeability session cancellation charges to schools per session	£245.00	£260.00	6.1%

Bikeability session per child

£12.00

£12.00

0.0%

**LEGAL SERVICES**

<b>Service Provided</b>	<b>Current Charge 2021/22</b>	<b>Proposed Charge 2022/23</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
<b>Legal and Governance- Legal</b>			
External schools trading ended rate blended (per Hour)	£87.55	£90.18	3.0%
External charges for administrative work (per Hour)schools	£53.60	£55.21	3.0%
External legal charges for legal assistance (per Hour)school	£74.60	£76.84	3.0%
External legal charges for solicitor (per Hour)schools	£90.30	£93.01	3.0%
External legal charge for advocatesolicitor (per Hour) school	£96.60	£99.50	3.0%
External legal charges for manager (per Hour)school	£106.10	£109.28	3.0%
Legal charges for service manager (per Hour)	£119.50	£123.09	3.0%
HRA housing possessions fixed fee stage 1	£97.85	£100.79	3.0%
HRA Possessions stage 2 court	£139.05	£143.22	3.0%
HRA Possessions stage 3 re start	£51.50	£53.05	3.0%
HRA possessions stage 4 warrant	£92.70	£95.48	3.0%
HRA stage 5 ASWOP	£160.68	£165.50	3.0%
External legal fire (per hour) manager	£88.20	£90.85	3.0%
External legal fire (per hour) solicitor advocate	£79.80	£82.19	3.0%
External legal fire (per hour) solicitor	£76.70	£79.00	3.0%
external legal fire (per our) snr legal assistant	£58.80	£60.56	3.0%
eternal legal fire (per hour) admin	£46.25	£47.64	3.0%
S106 agreements	£144.00	£148.32	3.0%
Highway act agreements s38, 278 116	£144.00	£148.32	3.0%

**LIBRARIES & ARCHIVES**

Service Provided	Current Charge 2021/22	Proposed Charge 2022/23	% Increase
<b>Reservation fee – in stock and purchased for stock</b>			
Standard charge	£0.00	£0.00	
Concessionary charge	£0.00	£0.00	
<b>Reservation fee – not in stock (ie. Inter library loan and includes journal articles)</b>			
Standard charge	£4.00	£5.00	25.0%
Concessionary charge	£2.00	£2.50	25.0%
<b>DVDs loan charge – all other (loan period 1 week)</b>			
Standard charge	£2.00	£2.00	0.0%
Concessionary charge	£1.00	£1.00	0.0%
<b>Photocopying</b>			
B&W per A4 sheet	£0.15	£0.25	66.7%
B&W per A3 sheet	£0.30	£0.50	66.7%
Colour per A4 sheet	£1.00	£1.50	50.0%
Colour per A3 sheet	£1.50	£2.00	33.3%
<b>Computer printouts</b>			
B&W per A4 sheet	£0.15	£0.25	66.7%
B&W per A3 sheet	£0.30	£0.50	66.7%
Colour per A4 sheet	£1.00	£1.50	50.0%
Colour per A3 sheet	£1.50	£2.00	33.3%
<b>Overdue, lost and damaged items</b>			
<b>Fines per item, per day (all items except CDs and DVDs)</b>			
Concessionary charge	£0.00	£0.00	
<b>Overdue reminders letter</b>			
Email / Text message	£0.00	£0.00	
Postal	£0.00	£1.50	
<b>Replacement Library card – (children no charge)</b>			
Standard charge	£1.00	£2.00	100.0%
Concessionary charge	£1.00	£2.00	100.0%
<b>Lost items – (under 5's no charge)</b>			

Standard charge	Full replacement charge or average replacement cost	Full replacement charge or average replacement cost	
Concessionary charge	50% replacement charge	50% replacement charge	
<b>Damaged items – (under 16's no charge)</b>			
Standard charge	Full replacement charge or average replacement cost	Full replacement charge or average replacement cost	
Concessionary charge	50% replacement charge	50% replacement charge	
<b>Author Events (outside opening hours)</b>			
Standard charge	£3.00	£8.50	183.3%
Concessionary charge	£1.50	£6.50	333.3%
<b>Commercial Room hire (during opening hours)</b>			
Small room	£8.00	£12.00	50.0%
Large room	£13.50	£20.00	48.1%
Main library	£20.00	£25.00	25.0%
outside opening hours	£20.00	£25.00	25.0%
<b>Refreshment sales</b>			
Hot drinks from machines	£1.00	£1.20	20.0%
Alcohol at evening events	cost price + vat + 100%	cost price + vat + 100%	
Tuck shop items	cost price + vat + 80%	cost price + vat + 100%	
<b>Archives Service</b>			
<b>Photocopying</b>			
A4 B&W	£0.20	£0.30	50.0%

A3 B&W	£0.40	£0.60	50.0%
A4 Colour	£1.25	£1.75	40.0%
A3 Colour	£1.75	£2.50	42.9%
<b>Microprint – self service</b>			
A4	£0.60	£1.00	66.7%
<b>Microprint – orders</b>			
A4	£3.00	£5.00	66.7%
Photographs	£5.50	£10.00	81.8%
<b>Camera Licence</b>			
One day	£3.00	£5.00	66.7%
One week	£7.00	£15.00	114.3%
<b>Post &amp; packing</b>			
UK	£2.05	£5.00	143.9%
Overseas	£4.10	£5.00 + postage	
Research service per 30 minutes	£10.00	£25.00	150.0%
<b>Replacement archives card</b>			
Standard charge	£1.00	£2.00	100.0%
Freedom of Information searches in closed records	£10.00	£25.00	150.0%
Certified / authenticated copies of records	£10.00	£15.00	50.0%
Talks to external groups minimum charge	£30.00	£75.00	150.0%
Image display in commercial premises	£15.00	£100.00	566.7%
Commercial publication* (print and digital) Maximum 10 images, 50% reduction for local history societies/community groups	£10.00	£250.00	2400.0%
TV/Radio broadcast (minimum charge)	£25.00	£100.00	300.0%
TV/Radio broadcast (maximum charge)	£300.00	£500.00	66.7%



**MARKETS & STREET TRADING**

Service Provided	Current Charge 2021/22	Proposed charge 2022/2023	% Increase
<b>Market Fees</b>			
<b>New Market - Fees Nominal Small Stall</b>	£337.13	£347.24	3.0%
Fee if settled by 15 <sup>th</sup> day of month (4%)	£323.64	£333.35	3.0%
<b>New Market Fees Nominal Large Stall</b>	£674.26	£694.49	3.0%
Fee if settled by 15 <sup>th</sup> day of month (4%)	£647.29	£666.71	3.0%
<b>New Market - miscellaneous fees</b>			
Concessionary discount off standard fee - Fee for occupancy of new market hall stall on a temporary weekly basis by registered charity	Free of Charge	Free of Charge	
Maximum kit out time of 4 weeks for new traders occupying stalls within the new market hall subject to the manager's discretion	Free of Charge	Free of Charge	
Use of vacant stalls within new market hall for charitable or arts based purposes if deemed to be in the interest of the market by the markets manager	Free of Charge	Free of Charge	
Additional empty stalls allocated to existing stall holders on rolling one week agreement	Free of Charge	Free of Charge	
<b>New Market - Car Parking Fee</b>			
Yearly (payable quarterly in 4 instalments)	£83.60	£86.11	3.0%
<b>WEST BROMWICH OPEN MARKET - Casual Traders and Regular (daily charge including parking fee of £1.70)</b>			
Monday Regular 10FT	£16.60	£17.10	3.0%
Monday Regular 8FT	£13.65	£14.06	3.0%
Monday Casual 10FT	£17.10	£17.61	3.0%
Monday Casual 8FT	£14.05	£14.47	3.0%
Monday 8FT Storage	£6.00	£6.18	3.0%
Monday 10FT Storage	£7.45	£7.67	3.0%
Tuesday / Thursday Regular 10FT	£20.75	£21.37	3.0%
Tuesday / Thursday Regular 8FT	£16.95	£17.46	3.0%
Tuesday / Thursday Casual 10FT	£21.30	£21.94	3.0%
Tuesday / Thursday Casual 8FT	£17.40	£17.92	3.0%
Tuesday / Thursday 8FT Storage	£7.65	£7.88	3.0%

Tuesday / Thursday 10FT Storage	£9.55	£9.84	3.0%
Wednesday / Friday Regular 10FT	£21.90	£22.56	3.0%
Wednesday / Friday Regular 8FT	£17.90	£18.44	3.0%
Wednesday / Friday Casual 10FT	£22.40	£23.07	3.0%
Wednesday / Friday Casual 8FT	£18.25	£18.80	3.0%
Wednesday / Friday 8FT Storage	£8.10	£8.34	3.0%
Wednesday / Friday 10FT Storage	£10.10	£10.40	3.0%
Saturday Regular 10FT	£30.50	£31.42	3.0%
Saturday Regular 8FT	£24.65	£25.39	3.0%
Saturday Casual 10FT	£30.90	£31.83	3.0%
Saturday Casual 8FT	£25.05	£25.80	3.0%
Saturday 8FT Storage	£11.50	£11.85	3.0%
Saturday 10FT Storage	£14.35	£14.78	3.0%
<b>SPECIALIST FLOWER TRAILER, WEST BROMWICH HIGH STREET MARKET</b>			
Specialist flower trailer - Cost per annum	£8,404.80	£8,656.94	3.0%
<b>WEDNESBURY MARKET STANDARD FEES</b>			
Tuesday - Standard pitch	£12.45	£12.82	3.0%
Friday Standard pitch	£6.45	£6.64	3.0%
Saturday - Standard pitch	£5.30		
Charity Stalls	50% discount	50% discount	
<b>OLDBURY MARKET</b>			
Standard pitch on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Thursday, Friday, Saturday	£6.45	£6.64	3.0%
<b>GREAT BRIDGE MARKET</b>			
Standard pitch on Wednesday, Saturday	£6.45	£6.64	3.0%
<b>ENTERTAINMENTS AREA - WEST BROMWICH TOWN CENTRE</b>			
Type ENT 3/NS3 - Monday, Tuesday	£75.40	£77.66	3.0%
Type ENT 3/NS3 - Saturday	£106.00	£109.18	3.0%
Type ENT 3/NS 3 - Wednesday, Thursday, Friday	£75.40	£77.66	3.0%
Type ENT 1,2,4,5,6 (Sides) - Monday, Tuesday	£70.10	£72.20	3.0%
Type ENT 1,2,4,5,6 (Sides) - Saturday	£96.60	£99.50	3.0%
Type ENT 1,2,4,5,6 (Sides) - Wednesday, Thursday, Friday	£80.65	£83.07	3.0%
<b>CHARITABLE CAR BOOT SALE LICENCE FEE</b>			
Standard pitch	£20.60	£21.22	3.0%
<b>SPECIAL EVENTS</b>			

Car Boot Sale pitch	£5.30	£5.46	3.0%
Car Boot Sale pitch	£6.33	£6.52	3.0%
Car Boot Sale pitch	£8.45	£8.70	3.0%
Speciality market up to 1 week	£530.45	£546.36	3.0%
Speciality festive market each side of Entertainment Area West Brom High Street	£1,591.35	£1,639.09	3.0%
Public Toilets	£0.20	£0.20	0.0%
<b>WEST BROMWICH TOWN CENTRE</b>			
Type PITCH 3 (eg In front Spencers, adj stalls ) - Alternative to annual cost - Fees per day	£17.00	£17.51	3.0%
Type PITCH 4 (eg adj. Cash Generator) Alternative to annual cost - Fees per day	£17.00	£17.51	3.0%
Type Pitch 5 (eg adj Star and Garter)	£17.00	£17.51	3.0%
<b>REST OF BOROUGH</b>			
Daily Street Trading cost	£17.00	£17.51	3.0%
Type B1 ( Eg Bearwood)	£3,713.15	£3,824.54	3.0%
Type W1 (Eg adj.Clocktower, Union Street Wednesbury)	£3,713.15	£3,824.54	3.0%
Type O1 (Eg Mkt Place 1990, Oldbury)	£2,474.88	£2,549.13	3.0%
Type C1 (Eg Cemeteries)	£1,237.32	£1,274.44	3.0%
Type S1 (Eg Stone Cross)	£1,237.32	£1,274.44	3.0%
Type N1 (Eg Newton Road)	£5,299.32	£5,458.30	3.0%
Type O2 (Eg Town Square, Oldbury)	£2,074.57	£2,136.81	3.0%
Type W4 (Eg Union Street, West Bromwich)	£2,475.81	£2,550.08	3.0%

## MUSEUM &amp; ART

Service Provided	Current Charge 2021/22	Proposed Charge 2022/23 £
<b>Haden Hill House</b>		
Large room (up to 40 people)		
9am - 4.30pm	£144.20	£65.00 - £150.00
half day am or pm	£82.40	
evenings per hour 6pm - 9pm (min 3 hours)	£44.30	£50.00
weekends		£75.00-
		£165.00
Small Room (up to 15 people)		
9am - 4.30pm	£89.60	£45.00-£95.00
half day am or pm	£57.70	
evenings per hour 6pm - 9pm (min 3 hours)	£42.25	£45.00
weekends		£60.00-
		£105.00
Craft Room (up to 15 people)		
minimum booking 3 hrs 10% discount for block bookings per 10 payable in advance	£8.75	
As small room		see above
room hire for wedding/ commitment ceremonies		
Fee including photographs - fri/sat/sum and BH	£473.80	
per hour/part hour additional to standard wedding hire fee	£47.40	
fee mon-thur	£360.50	
wedding fee (seasonal and peak hours ) (2 hour package)		£263.00-
		£538.00
per hour additional hour (including on-site photography		£26.00- £53.50
<b>Manor House</b>		
Great Hall per hour		
10am - 12pm weekdays (per hour) minimum charge	£37.10	
10am - 12pm weekdays (per hour) maximum charge	£74.15	

Weekends & Bank Holidays 10am - 12pm (per hour)	£52.55	
weekday charge hourly		£5.40 - £34.50
weekend hourly charge		£10.80 -£67.00
<b>Wedding/commitment ceremonies</b>	£684.95	
Fee including photographs -	£47.40	no service
Additional hour/part hour outside opening hours		no service
<b>Wednesbury Museum &amp; Art Gallery</b>		
Private Bookings clubs & societies	£24.00	
9am -5pm weekdays min		£80.00
9am-5pm weekdays max	£29.00	£160.00
Evening (after 5 pm) and Weekends - additional hour rate		£35.00
<b>Museum Art Groups</b>	£5.35	
Per person, per session , Price includes materials and refreshments		£5.50
<b>Oak House Museum -</b>		
<b>Oak House Museum - Classroom Hire</b>	£203.00 per day	
Monday to Friday 9am-4.30pm (per hour)		£18.00- £34.00
Oak House weddings/commitment services	£473.80	£400.00
Fee including photographs -	£47.40	
wedding photo fee (no ceremony) per hour		£45.00
per hour/part hour additional to standard wedding hire fee	£360.50	no service
<b>Bishop Asbury Cottage - Pre booked tours</b>	£5.25	£5.50
Price per person, min. 10 people (Price includes information material)		
<b>Adult Tours (all sites)</b>		
Within Opening Hours Minimum Fee per Group (minimum of 10 people)	£63.20	£65.00
a) Within Opening Hours Minimum Fee per person in the Group	£3.20	£3.50
b) Within Opening Hours Maximum Fee per person in the Group	£7.35	£8.00
Outside Opening Hours Minimum Fee per Group (minimum of 10 people)	£63.20	£70.00
a) Outside Opening Hours Minimum Fee per person in the Group	£4.20	£4.50
b) Outside Opening Hours Maximum Fee per person in the Group	£10.55	£11.00

Handling Collections		
Per day	£2.10	£2.50
Craft Fairs		
Per table/stall standard	£10.55	£12.00
Per table/stall holiday periods	£21.10	£23.00
Halloween Living History bookable events and open days		
per person min	£4.10	£4.00
per person max	£25.75	£30.00
concerts and theatre		
Carols / Concerts including open mic night	£8.50	£10.00
Wedding Photographs		
At Oak House and the Manor House Per hour (Access to grounds outside normal opening hours e.g. Saturday afternoons)	£73.65	see above
At Haden Hill House (Access to house per hour or part hour)	£84.45	see above
Commercial Photography / Filming / building hire		
min. price per day or part day plus reimbursement of lost income	£315.95	£320.00
Talks Given Off Site		
During Opening Hours	£20.60	£20.00
Out of Opening Hours	£30.90	£20.00
Refreshments		
Coffee, per jug (10 cups)	£10.00	£10.50
Coffee, per cup min	£0.60	£0.75
Coffee, per cup max	£1.75	£1.80
Coffee, per mug and hot chocolate min	£0.90	£1.00
Coffee, per mug and hot chocolate max	£2.10	£2.15
Tea, per cup or mug min	£0.50	£0.55
Tea, per cup or mug max	£1.55	£0.80
Biscuits	£0.25	£0.50
Biscuits	£1.05	£1.50
75cl mineral water	£1.25	£1.30
Orange Juice, per litre	£2.60	£2.00
Orange Juice, per wine glass	£1.00	£1.00
Retail Mark-up		
all goods	33-60%	33-66%

"Ghost Hunt"		
9pm to 2am (outside normal opening hours)minimum	£659.70	
9pm to 2am (outside normal opening hours)max	£30.00	
paranormal private hires		£383.00- £838.00
School sessions all Key stages min	£360.00	£400.00
School sessions all Key stages max	£40.00	
Trusted group out of hours hire		no charge
Internal users/ community groups during opening hours		no charge

**PEST CONTROL**

Service Provided	Current Charge 2021/22	Proposed Charge 2022/23	% Increase
Rats	£0.00	£0.00	
Mice	£0.00	£71.00	
Wasps	£50.00	£61.00	22.0%
Cockroaches	£0.00	£95.00	
Fleas	£50.00	£68.00	36.0%
Bedbugs	£0.00	£113.00	
Insects (Other) 'Indoor Only' treatments for carpet beetles / moths / flies	£0.00	£50.00	
Call outs for advisory service and/or pest identification (no treatments undertaken)	£0.00	£35.00	



**PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING**

Service Provided	Current Charge 2021/22	Proposed Charge 2022/23	% Increase
<b>Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation</b>			
Initial licence fee	£850.00	£893.35	5.1%
Renewal licence fee	£605.00	£635.86	5.1%
Discount for second and subsequent properties	£55.00	£55.00	0.0%
Discount for MLAS membership	£165.00	£165.00	0.0%
Discount for membership of Landlord Association	£55.00	£55.00	0.0%
<b>Charges for Housing Act 2004 Enforcement Action</b>			
Charge per hour based on officer grade, eg SCP 31	£35.67 per hour	£35.67 per hour	
<b>Immigration Entry Clearance Inspections</b>			
Charges for House Surveys in support of UK Entry Clearance Applications	£95.48 ex VAT	£100.15 ex VAT	
<b>Offences under The Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm (England) Regulations 2015</b>			
First offence	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0.0%
Second offence	£2,500.00	£2,500.00	0.0%
Three or more offences	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	0.0%
<b>Offences under The Redress Schemes for Letting Agency Work and Property Management Work (Requirement to Belong to a Scheme etc) (England) Order 2014</b>			
Failure of letting agent to register with redress scheme	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	0.0%
<b>Financial Penalties imposed under Housing Act 2004</b>			
<b>Failure to comply with an Improvement Notice (Section 30)</b>			
1st offence	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	0.0%
2nd subsequent offence by same person/company	£15,000.00	£15,000.00	0.0%
Subsequent offences by same person/company	£25,000.00	£25,000.00	0.0%

<b>Offences in relation to licensing of HMOs under Part 2 of the Act</b>			
Failure to obtain property Licence (section 72(1))	£10,000.00	£10,000.00	0.0%
2nd subsequent offence by same person / company	£30,000.00	£30,000.00	0.0%
Breach of Licence conditions (Section 72(2) and (3)) - Per licence breach	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	0.0%
<b>Offences in relation to licensing under Part 3 of the Act (Section 95)</b>			
Failure to Licence (section 95(1))	£10,000.00	£10,000.00	0.0%
2nd subsequent offence by same person / company	£30,000.00	£30,000.00	0.0%
Breach of Licence conditions (Section 95(2)) - Per licence breach	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	0.0%
<b>Offences of contravention of an overcrowding notice (section 139)</b>			
1st relevant offences	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0.0%
2nd subsequent offence by same person/company	£4,000.00	£4,000.00	0.0%
<b>Failure to comply with management regulations in respect of HMOs (Section 234)</b>			
1 <sup>st</sup> relevant offences - per offence	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0.0%
Second subsequent offences by same person/company for the same offence	£3,000.00	£3,000.00	0.0%

**PUBLIC HEALTH**

Service Provided	Current Charge 2021/22	Proposed Charge 2022/23	% Increase
Environmental Permitting Fees (set by Government)		<a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/636243/env-permit-part-b-fees-2017.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/636243/env-permit-part-b-fees-2017.pdf</a>	
Workplace Physical Activity Sessions	£2.00	£2.00	0%
Landfill location plan and data sheet	£43.52	£43.52	0%
Check if property <250m from landfill site	£11.69	£11.69	0%
Detailed report on contaminated land/hour	£82.25	£82.25	0%

**REGISTRATION SERVICES**

Service Provided	Current Charge 2021/22	Proposed Charge 2022/23	% Increase
Register Office Ceremony Room	£46.00	£46.00	0.0%
S Suite Marriage or CP Ceremony Mon to Thurs	£324.00	£346.70	7.0%
S Suite Marriage or CP Ceremony Fri/Sat	£452.00	£483.60	7.0%
S Suite Marriage or CP Ceremony Sun/BH	£526.00	£562.80	7.0%
Highfields Room Marriage or CP Ceremony Mon to Thurs	£113.00	£120.90	7.0%
Highfields Room Marriage or CP Ceremony Fri/Sat	£158.00	£169.10	7.0%
Garden Room Marriage or CP Ceremony Mon to Thurs NEW FEE	NA	£197.00	
Garden Room Marriage or CP Ceremony Fri-Sat NEW FEE	NA	£275.00	
Garden Room Marriage or CP Ceremony Sun/BH NEW FEE	NA	£314.00	
Approved Premise Mon to Thurs	£324.00	£346.70	7.0%
Approved Premise Fri/Sat	£452.00	£483.60	7.0%
Approved Premise Sun/BH	£526.00	£562.80	7.0%
Registrar at Religious Building	£86.00	£86.00	0.0%
Registration of Building for Religious Worship	£29.00	£29.00	0.0%
Registration of Building for Marriage	£123.00	£123.00	0.0%
Notice of Marriage (Designated when referred to Home Office) New Variation on notice fee	£47.00	£47.00	0.0%
Notice of Marriage Individual Fee	£35.00	£35.00	0.0%
Civil partnership conversion( from 10 Dec 2015 ) Provide information only	£27.00	£27.00	0.0%
Civil partnership conversion( from 10 Dec 2015 )	£45.00	£45.00	0.0%
Licence or Renewal for Approved Premise	£256.00	£273.90	7.0%
Renewal/Naming Ceremony Sandwell Suite - Mon - Thur	£256.00	£273.90	7.0%
Renewal/Naming Ceremony Sandwell Suite - Fri-Sat	£320.00	£342.40	7.0%
Renewal/Naming Ceremony Sandwell Suite - Sunday - Bank Holiday	£348.00	£372.40	7.0%
Individual Citizenship Ceremony Mon to Thurs	£127.00	£135.90	7.0%
Individual Citizenship Ceremony Fri/Sat	£159.00	£170.10	7.0%
Individual Citizenship Ceremony Sun/BH	£173.00	£185.10	7.0%
Group Citizenship Ceremony Sat	£93.00	£99.50	7.0%
Certificate Service	£11.00	£11.00	0.0%

Archive Priority Certificate Service (Same Day)	£35.00	£35.00	0.0%
Certificates of Birth Death and Marriage at time of Registration	£11.00	£11.00	0.0%
Priority postage (NEW FEE)	N/A	£2.50	
Certificates of Birth Death and Marriage issues after Registration	£11.00	£11.00	0.0%
Provisional Booking (holding fee)	£61.00	£65.30	7.0%
Renewal/Naming Ceremony approved venues Mon to Thurs -	£256.00	£273.90	7.0%
Renewal/Naming Ceremony approved venue Fri/Sat -	£320.00	£342.40	7.0%
Renewal/Naming Ceremony approved venue Sun/BH -	£348.00	£372.40	7.0%
Space 17 Amendment	£40.00	£40.00	0.0%
Divorce or Dissolution from outside the British Isles. (LA only)	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%
Customer at fault corrections(LA only)	£75.00	£75.00	0.0%
Consideration of reduction in Notice period (LA and GRO)	£60.00	£60.00	0.0%
Corrections(LA and GRO)	£90.00	£90.00	0.0%
Divorce or Dissolution from outside the British Isles. (LA and GRO)	£75.00	£75.00	0.0%
Visual Tribute (Up to 25 photographs played on a loop)	£38.00	£40.70	7.1%
Live webcast	£44.00	£47.10	7.0%
Live webcast with 28 day playback	N/A	£74.00	
Pro Visual Tribute (up to 25 photographs professionally edited and set to Music) - NEW FEE	N/A	£70.00	
Keepsake copy of visual tribute available on DVD, Blu-ray or USB in presentation case	N/A	£25.00	
Keepsake copy of web cast available on DVD, Blu-ray or USB in presentation case	£44.00	£50.00	13.6%
<b>Photography</b>			
SD card (min 30 photos)	£148.00	£158.40	7.0%
Package SD card (min 30 photos)+ up to 30 prints + Album	£332.00	£355.20	7.0%
Single print 12" x8"	£14.00	£15.00	7.1%
<b>Interment fee in respect of all graves</b>			
Interment fee*	£1,065.00	£1,140.00	7.0%
Cremated remains plot type interment fee*	£330.00	£353.00	7.0%
Baby section interment fee	£330.00	£353.00	7.0%
Scattering of cremated remains on full grave	£44.00	£47.00	6.8%
Late arrival fee additional charge	£317.00	£339.00	6.9%
<b>Exclusive Right of Burial</b>			
Purchase of Baby Section Grave *	£230.00	£246.10	7.0%
Purchase Grave for 1 Burial*	£1,988.00	£2,127.20	7.0%
Purchase Grave for 2 Burials*	£2,064.00	£2,208.50	7.0%

Purchase Grave for 3 Burials*	£2,139.00	£2,288.70	7.0%
Plot for cremated remains – for a 99 year period*	£1,333.00	£1,426.30	7.0%
<b>Traditional Section 5' centre</b>			
Traditional Grave 5' Centre for 1 Burial*	£2,401.00	£2,569.10	7.0%
Traditional Grave 5' Centre for 2 Burials*	£2,494.00	£2,668.60	7.0%
Traditional Grave 5' Centre for 3 Burials*	£2,586.00	£2,767.00	7.0%
Vault Grave additional charge*	£723.00	£773.60	7.0%
<b>Memorials, vases &amp; additional inscriptions</b>			
Additional Inscription Permit fee	£87.00	£93.10	7.0%
Purchase of a Temporary Grave Marker	£28.00	£30.00	7.1%
Memorial Vase Infant's Section	£246.00	£263.20	7.0%
Motif	£27.00	£28.90	7.0%
<b>Miscellaneous charges</b>			
Transfer of Grant	£51.00	£54.60	7.1%
Searching of Burial Register (per hour)	£43.00	£46.00	7.0%
Biodegradable Urn	£87.00	£93.10	7.0%
Section 46 – Administration Fee	£477.00	£510.40	7.0%
Registration Fee Hourly Rate	£42.00	£44.90	6.9%
Out of hours supplement	£15.00	£15.00	0.0%
Additional charge to be applied to where services are subject to out of borough supplement.(Burial)	£15.00	£30.00	100.0%
<b>Cremation</b>			
Direct cremation - no funeral service all ages (Price unchanged following benchmarking exercise )	£628.00	£628.00	0.0%
Cremation - fee all ages	£775.00	£829.30	7.0%
Service exceeds allotted time an additional charge of:	£330.00	£353.10	7.0%
For an extended service – additional charge	£147.00	£157.30	7.0%
Cremation body parts NEW FEE	N/A	£165.00	
Use of Chapel (including use of organ and Obitus music system)*	£147.00	£157.30	7.0%
<b>Urns and containers</b>			
Purchase of a wooden casket	£76.00	£81.30	7.0%
Disposal of Cremated Remains of person cremated elsewhere	£44.00	£47.10	7.0%
The services of a council employee acting as a coffin bearer	£45.00	£48.20	7.1%
<b>Media</b>			

Audio recording of service	£37.00	£39.60	7.0%
Audio & Visual recording of service	£44.00	£47.10	7.0%
Live Webcast	£44.00	£47.10	7.0%
Live webcast plus visual recording of service	£83.00	£88.80	7.0%
Visual Tribute single photograph NEW	£20.00	£21.40	7.0%
Visual Tribute (Up to 25 photographs played on a loop)	£38.00	£40.70	7.1%
Additional 25 photos	N/A	£21.00	
Live webcast	£44.00	£47.10	7.0%
Live webcast with 28 day playback	N/A	£74.00	
Family made tribute NEW FEE	N/A	£18.00	
Pro Visual Tribute (up to 25 photographs professionally edited and set to Music) - NEW FEE	N/A	£70.00	
Keepsake copy of visual tribute available on DVD, Blu-ray or USB in presentation case	N/A	£25.00	
Keepsake copy of web cast available on DVD, Blu-ray or USB in presentation case	£44.00	£50.00	13.6%
Additional keepsake copies NEW FEE	N/A	£21.00	
Miscellaneous charges (Extra Work) NEW FEE	N/A	£21.00	
<b>Memorials and inscriptions (including VAT)</b>			
Minimum entry 2 lines	£97.00	£103.80	7.0%
5 lines	£122.00	£130.50	7.0%
8 lines	£144.00	£154.10	7.0%
Each additional line	£34.00	£36.40	7.1%
Badges, Crests, Floral Tributes	£72.00	£77.00	6.9%
Coat of Arms	£82.00	£87.70	7.0%
<b>Plaques</b>			
Plaque purchase including first inscription	£1,135.00	£1,214.50	7.0%
Burial of Cremated Remains including casket	£100.00	£107.00	7.0%
Engraving – per line	£46.00	£49.20	7.0%
Cover Slab	£62.00	£66.30	6.9%
Photo Plaque	£127.00	£135.90	7.0%
Replacement Plaque (residue of lease)	£245.00	£262.20	7.0%
Plaque Renewal (10 Years)	£223.00	£238.60	7.0%
Plaque Renewal (20 Years)	£332.00	£355.20	7.0%
Plaque Renewal (40 Years)	£610.00	£652.70	7.0%
Plaque Renewal forever	£1,504.00	£1,609.30	7.0%
Renovation Fee	£74.00	£79.20	7.0%

Asbury Garden Memorial (10 years)	N/A	N/A	
Asbury garden memorial (10 years) replacement	£182.00	£194.70	7.0%
Renewal (10 years)	£108.00	£115.60	7.0%
Renewal (20 years)	£157.00	£168.00	7.0%
Renewal (40 years)	£284.00	£303.90	7.0%
Renewal (forever)	£724.00	£774.70	7.0%
<b>Wall mounted plaques</b>			
Plaque purchase including first inscription	£480.00	£513.60	7.0%
Additional lines of inscription (residue of lease) – per line	£46.00	£49.20	7.0%
Wall Plaque Renewal Fee (10 Years)	£108.00	£115.60	7.0%
Renewal (20 years)	£157.00	£168.00	7.0%
Renewal (40 years)	£284.00	£303.90	7.0%
Renewal (forever)	£724.00	£774.70	7.0%
Replacement (residue of lease)	£245.00	£262.20	7.0%
<b>Memorial vases</b>			
Memorial Vase Purchase including first inscription	£607.00	£649.50	7.0%
Replacement Vase (residue of lease)	£245.00	£262.20	7.0%
Vase Renewal Fee (10 Years)	£223.00	£238.60	7.0%
Vase Renewal Fee (20 Years)	£332.00	£355.20	7.0%
Vase Renewal Fee (40 Years)	£610.00	£652.70	7.0%
Vase Renewal Fee (forever)	£1,504.00	£1,609.30	7.0%
Vase Renovation Fee	£74.00	£79.20	7.0%
<b>Memorial vaults</b>			
Memorial Vault Purchase including first inscription	£1,135.00	£1,214.50	7.0%
Replacement Vault (residue of lease)	£245.00	£262.20	7.0%
Burial of cremated remains including casket	£100.00	£107.00	7.0%
Motif/Photo	£127.00	£135.90	7.0%
Vault Renewal Fee (10 Years)	£223.00	£238.60	7.0%
Vault Renewal Fee (20 Years)	£332.00	£355.20	7.0%
Vault Renewal Fee (40 Years)	£610.00	£652.70	7.0%
Vault Renewal Fee (forever)	£1,504.00	£1,609.30	7.0%
Vault Renovation Fee	£74.00	£79.20	7.0%
<b>Sanctum Memorial</b>			
Sanctum Memorial purchase including first inscription	£1,277.00	£1,366.40	7.0%
Sanctum Memorial with garden purchase including first inscription	£1,423.00	£1,522.60	7.0%



Replacement Fascia (residue of lease)	£424.00	£453.70	7.0%
Second Inscription (residue of lease)	£562.00	£601.30	7.0%
Motif/Photo	£127.00	£135.90	7.0%
Casket for interment of Cremated Remains	£76.00	£81.30	7.0%
Family Sanctum Memorial including first inscription	£1,850.00	£1,979.50	7.0%
Family Sanctum Memorial with Garden including first inscription	£2,060.00	£2,204.20	7.0%
Family Sanctum Replacement Fascia (residue of lease)	£563.00	£602.40	7.0%
10 year renewal	£248.00	£265.40	7.0%
20 year renewal	£372.00	£398.00	7.0%
40 year renewal	£685.00	£733.00	7.0%
Renewal (forever)	£1,690.00	£1,808.30	7.0%
<b>Squirrel Walk Memorial</b>			
Additional engraving (including motif – residue of lease)	£324.00	£346.70	7.0%
Replacement Memorial (residue of lease)	£490.00	£524.30	7.0%
Resold space	£1,034.00	£1,106.40	7.0%
Motif/Photo	£127.00	£135.90	7.0%
Casket for interment of Cremated Remains	£76.00	£81.30	7.0%
10 year renewal	£248.00	£265.40	7.0%
20 year renewal	£372.00	£398.00	7.0%
40 year renewal	£685.00	£733.00	7.0%
Renewal (forever)	£1,690.00	£1,808.30	7.0%
<b>Memorial Benches</b>			
Memorial bench purchase	£1,931.00	£2,066.20	7.0%
Memorial bench renewal of lease	£362.00	£387.30	7.0%
Additional Plaque Granite Bench for residue of period	£265.00	£283.60	7.0%
Additional Plaque Wooden Bench for residue of period	£265.00	£283.60	7.0%
<b>Prairie Unit (continue only)*</b>			
Replacement Fascia (residue of lease)	£88.00	£94.20	7.0%
Second Inscription (residue of lease)	£56.00	£59.90	7.0%
10 year renewal	£248.00	£265.40	7.0%
20 year renewal	£372.00	£398.00	7.0%
40 year renewal	£685.00	£733.00	7.0%
Renewal (forever)	£1,690.00	£1,808.30	7.0%
<b>Cloister memorial</b>			
Cloister Memorial Purchase including inscription	£1,021.00	£1,092.50	7.0%

Replacement Fascia (residue of lease)	£422.00	£451.50	7.0%
Second Inscription (residue of lease)	£278.00	£297.50	7.0%
Motif/Photo	£127.00	£135.90	7.0%
Casket for interment of Cremated Remains	£76.00	£81.30	7.0%
10 year renewal	£248.00	£265.40	7.0%
20 year renewal	£372.00	£398.00	7.0%
40 year renewal	£685.00	£733.00	7.0%
Renewal (forever)	£1,690.00	£1,808.30	7.0%
<b>Children's Section Memorial</b>			
Mushroom Memorial Plaque for a 5 year period inc inscription	£345.00	£369.20	7.0%
10 year renewal	£125.00	£133.80	7.0%
20 year renewal	£226.00	£241.80	7.0%
40 year renewal	£406.00	£434.40	7.0%
Renewal forever	£1,038.00	£1,110.70	7.0%
<b>Monolith Memorial</b>			
Monolith Memorial for a 10 year period	£957.00	£1,024.00	7.0%
Monolith Memorial with garden for a 10 year period	£1,096.00	£1,172.70	7.0%
Second Inscription (residue of lease)	£265.00	£283.60	7.0%
Motif/Photo	£127.00	£135.90	7.0%
Urn for interment of cremated remains	£76.00	£81.30	7.0%
Replacement Plaque (residue of lease)	£230.00	£246.10	7.0%
10 year renewal	£248.00	£265.40	7.0%
20 year renewal	£372.00	£398.00	7.0%
40 year renewal	£685.00	£733.00	7.0%
Renewal (forever)	£1,690.00	£1,808.30	7.0%
<b>Rose bush memorials for a 5 year period</b>			
Name Plate Renewal (5 years)	£125.00	£133.80	7.0%
<b>Memory Garden Memorials</b>			
Memory Garden Memorial Purchase including first inscription	£370.00	£395.90	7.0%
Motif/Photo	£74.00	£79.20	7.0%
MGM Renewal Fee (10 Years)	£108.00	£115.60	7.0%
MGM Renewal (20 years)	£157.00	£168.00	7.0%
MGM Renewal (40 years)	£284.00	£303.90	7.0%
MGM Renewal (forever)	£714.00	£764.00	7.0%

<b>Pet Funeral Services</b>				
Burial in an individual plot	Small	£151.00	£161.60	7.0%
Burial in an individual plot	Medium	£210.00	£224.70	7.0%
Burial in an individual plot	Large	£314.00	£336.00	7.0%
Coffin (24" x 14" x 8")	Small	£114.00	£122.00	7.0%
Coffin (30" x 20" x 10")	Medium	£137.00	£146.60	7.0%
Coffin (40" x 20" x 12")	Large	£158.00	£169.10	7.0%
Casket for ashes		£73.00	£78.10	7.0%
Burial Memorial headstone		£453.00	£484.70	7.0%
Plot Marker		£26.00	£27.80	6.9%
Pet ashes scattering with small inscribed plaque		£102.00	£109.10	7.0%
Pet ashes scattering with large inscribed plaque		£112.00	£119.80	7.0%
Pet ashes in Leaf memorial Medium inc. urn		£453.00	£484.70	7.0%
Pet ashes in Leaf Memorial Large inc. urn		£566.00	£605.60	7.0%
<b>Sandwell Funeral Service (Cremation)</b>				
Cremation funeral for all ages		£1,643.00	£1,758.00	7.0%
<b>Catering - Wake at Reception Suite inclusive of room hire at Sandwell Valley Crematorium</b>				
Morning Menu 20 guests NEW TABLE SERVICE		N/A	£184.00	
Morning Menu 30 guests NEW TABLE SERVICE		N/A	£276.10	
Morning Menu 60 guests NEW TABLE SERVICE		N/A	£579.00	
All day Menu 20 guests NEW TABLE SERVICE		N/A	£252.50	
All day Menu 30 guests NEW TABLE SERVICE		N/A	£396.00	
All day Menu 60 guests NEW TABLE SERVICE		N/A	£792.00	
Smirnoff Vodka - Double		£4.00	£4.30	7.5%
Smirnoff Vodka -Single		£3.00	£4.00	33.3%
Jameson Whiskey - Double		£4.50	£4.80	6.7%
Jameson Whiskey -Single		£3.50	£3.70	5.7%
Jack Daniels - Double		£4.50	£4.80	6.7%
Jack Daniels -Single		£3.50	£3.70	5.7%
Famous Goose - Double		£4.20	£4.50	7.1%
Famous Goose -Single		£3.20	£3.40	6.2%
Malibu - Double		£4.00	£4.30	7.5%
Malibu -Single		£3.00	£4.00	33.3%
Couvosier Brandy - Double		£5.00	£5.00	0.0%

Couvosier Brandy -Single	£4.00	£4.00	0.0%
Bombay Sapphie - Double	£5.00	£5.00	0.0%
Bombay Sapphie -Single	£4.00	£4.00	0.0%
Gordons Gin - Double	£4.00	£4.30	7.5%
Gordons Gin -Single	£3.00	£4.00	33.3%
Martell Brandy - Double	£4.50	£4.80	6.7%
Martell Brandy -Single	£3.50	£3.70	5.7%
Captain Morgan Rum - Double	£4.20	£4.50	7.1%
Captain Morgan Rum -Single	£3.20	£3.40	6.2%
Spiced Rum - Double	£4.20	£4.50	7.1%
Spiced Rum -Single	£3.20	£3.40	6.2%
Bacardi - Double	£4.20	£4.50	7.1%
Bacardi -Single	£3.20	£3.40	6.2%
Sherry - glass	£3.00	£3.20	6.7%
Baileys 50ml	£2.50	£2.70	8.0%
Port	£2.50	£2.70	8.0%
Chardonnay 187ml	£4.00	£4.30	7.5%
Pinot 187ml	£4.00	£4.30	7.5%
Rose 187 ml	£4.00	£4.30	7.5%
Shiraz 187ml	£4.00	£4.30	7.5%
Bud 300ml	£4.00	£4.00	0.0%
Becks	£4.00	£4.00	0.0%
Peroni	£4.00	£4.00	0.0%
Stella Artois	£4.00	£4.00	0.0%
Guinness 440ml	£4.00	£4.00	0.0%
London Pride	£4.00	£4.00	0.0%
John Smiths	£3.50	£4.00	14.3%
Rekorderlig Wildberry	£4.50	£4.80	6.7%
Raspberry/Mango	£4.50	£4.80	6.7%
Lime/Strawberry	£4.50	£4.80	6.7%
Strongbow	£3.50	£5.00	42.9%
Spitfire	£4.00	£4.00	0.0%
Speckled Hen	£4.00	£4.00	0.0%
Backyard Blonde	£4.00	£4.00	0.0%
Newcastle Brown	£4.00	£4.00	0.0%

Ginger Ale 125ml	£1.20	£1.30	8.3%
Orange Juice	£1.30	£1.40	7.7%
Red Bull	£2.00	£2.10	5.0%
Slimline Tonic	£1.30	£1.40	7.7%
Soda Water	£1.30	£1.40	7.7%
Sparkling Water	£1.50	£1.60	6.7%
Still Water	£1.00	£1.10	10.0%
Lemonade	£1.50	£1.60	6.7%
Coke	£2.00	£2.10	5.0%
Diet Coke	£2.00	£2.10	5.0%
J20 Orange/Passion fruit	£2.20	£2.00	-9.1%
Apple & Raspberry	£2.20	£2.00	-9.1%
Pink gin	£3.50	£5.00	42.9%

**RENT CONTROL**

Service Provided	Current Charge 2021/22	Proposed Charge 2022/23	% Increase
<b>Solicitor</b>			
Responses to LPE1 Questionnaires	£0.00	£90.00	New Charge



**TAXI LICENSING**

Service Provided	Current Charge 2021/22	Proposed Charge 2022/23	% Increase
<b>DRIVERS</b>			
Badge Deposit	£30.00	£30.00	0.0%
Badge Replacement (if lost or stolen)	£4.50	£4.50	0.0%
New Private Hire Driver's Licence Application (incl. CRB/DBS + DVLA check)*	£153.00	£153.00	0.0%
New Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence Application (incl. CRB/DBS + DVLA check)*	£153.00	£153.00	0.0%
Private Hire Driver's Licence Renewal Application (incl. CRB/DBS fee) - Every 3rd year*	£148.00	£148.00	0.0%
Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence Renewal Application (incl. CRB/DBS fee) - Every 3rd year*	£148.00	£148.00	0.0%
Private Hire Driver's Licence Renewal Application	£104.00	£104.00	0.0%
Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence Renewal Application	£104.00	£104.00	0.0%
New Dual Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence Application (incl. CRB/DBS + DVLA check)*	£204.00	£204.00	0.0%
Dual Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence Renewal Application	£155.00	£155.00	0.0%
Dual Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence Renewal Application (incl. CRB/DBS check)* - Every 3rd year	£199.00	£199.00	0.0%
New 3-year Private Hire Driver's Licence Application (incl. CRB/DBS + DVLA check)*	£352.00	£352.00	0.0%
New 3-year Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence Application (incl. CRB/DBS + DVLA check)*	£352.00	£352.00	0.0%
Renewal 3-year Private Hire Driver's Licence Application (incl. CRB/DBS check)*	£347.00	£347.00	0.0%
Renewal 3-year Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence Application (incl. CRB/DBS check)*	£347.00	£347.00	0.0%
New 3-year Dual Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence Application (incl. CRB/DBS + DVLA check)*	£503.00	£503.00	0.0%
Renewal 3-year Dual Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence Application (incl. CRB/DBS)*	£498.00	£498.00	0.0%
CRB/DBS Disclosure Application* (Private Hire)	£44.00	£44.00	0.0%
CRB/DBS Disclosure Application* (Hackney Carriage)	£44.00	£44.00	0.0%
DVLA Driver History Trace* (Private Hire)	£5.00	£5.00	0.0%
DVLA Driver History Trace* (Hackney Carriage)	£5.00	£5.00	0.0%
Knowledge test (Private Hire)	£30.00	£30.00	0.0%
Knowledge test (Hackney Carriage)	£30.00	£30.00	0.0%

Knowledge test (Dual Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence)	£30.00	£30.00	0.0%
<b>Concessionary fees are offered to licensed drivers who have successfully completed the BTEC &amp; NVQ driver training. (£10 reduction per year) - (See Drivers List Below)</b>			
Private Hire Driver's Licence Renewal Application (incl. CRB/DBS fee) - Every 3rd year*	£138.00	£138.00	0.0%
Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence Renewal Application (incl. CRB/DBS fee) - Every 3rd year*	£138.00	£138.00	0.0%
Private Hire Driver's Licence Renewal Application	£94.00	£94.00	0.0%
Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence Renewal Application	£94.00	£94.00	0.0%
Dual Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence Renewal Application	£145.00	£145.00	0.0%
Dual Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence Renewal Application (incl. CRB/DBS check)* - Every 3rd year	£189.00	£189.00	0.0%
Renewal 3-year Private Hire Driver's Licence Application (incl. CRB/DBS check)*	£317.00	£317.00	0.0%
Renewal 3-year Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence Application (incl. CRB/DBS check)*	£317.00	£317.00	0.0%
Renewal 3-year Dual Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence Application (incl. CRB/DBS)*	£468.00	£468.00	0.0%
<b>* non-refundable administration fee is payable on every licence application</b>	£30.00	£30.00	0.0%
<b>VEHICLES</b>			
Full test / retest fee (free or) (Private Hire Vehicle)	£55.00	£55.00	0.0%
Full test / retest fee (free or) (Hackney Carriage)	£55.00	£55.00	0.0%
Interim Safety test (ISC) / retest fee / partial (free or) (Private Hire Vehicle)	£27.50	£27.50	0.0%
Interim Safety test (ISC) / retest fee / partial (free or) (Hackney Carriage)	£27.50	£27.50	0.0%
Plate deposit	£30.00	£30.00	0.0%
Replacement of large plate (incl. pins)	£10.00	£10.00	0.0%
Replacement of small plate	£6.50	£6.50	0.0%
Replacement bracket	£13.00	£13.00	0.0%
<b>VOSA MAY INCREASE FEES WITHIN THE YEAR – FEE INCREASE WILL BE PASSED ON</b>			
Private Hire Vehicle Licence - Brand new vehicle (annual including Interim Vehicle Check x 1)	£325.00	£325.00	0.0%
Hackney Carriage Licence - Brand new vehicle (annual including Interim Vehicle Check x 1)	£325.00	£325.00	0.0%
Private Hire Vehicle Licence - New Application (annual including Full Test & Interim Vehicle Check x 1) (less than 5 years old)	£381.00	£381.00	0.0%



Hackney Carriage Licence - New Application (annual including Full Test & Interim Vehicle Check x 1) (less than 5 years old)	£381.00	£381.00	0.0%
Private Hire Vehicle Licence - Renewal Application (annual including Full Test & Interim Vehicle Check x 1) (less than 5 years old)	£353.00	£353.00	0.0%
Hackney Carriage Licence - Renewal Application (annual including Full Test & Interim Vehicle Check x 1) (less than 5 years old)	£353.00	£353.00	0.0%
Hackney Carriage Licence New/Renewal Application (annual including Full Test & Interim Vehicle Check x 2) (more than 5 years old)	£399.00	£399.00	0.0%
Private Hire Vehicle Licence Renewal Application (annual including Full Test & Interim Vehicle Check x 2) (more than 5 years old)	£399.00	£399.00	0.0%
New/Renewal Application (1st 4 months) (more than 5 years old) (incl. full test) (Hackney Carriage only)	£160.00	£160.00	0.0%
Renewal Application (1st 4 months) (more than 5 years old) (incl. full test) (Private Hire Vehicle or Hackney Carriage)	£160.00	£160.00	0.0%
2nd 4 months (including Interim Vehicle Check) (Private Hire Vehicle)	£157.00	£157.00	0.0%
2nd 4 months (including Interim Vehicle Check) (Hackney Carriage)	£157.00	£157.00	0.0%
3rd 4 months (including Interim Vehicle Check) (Hackney Carriage)	£157.00	£157.00	0.0%
3rd 4 months (including Interim Vehicle Check) (Private Hire Vehicle or Hackney Carriage)	£157.00	£157.00	0.0%
New/Renewal Application (1st 6 months including Full Test) (less than 5 years old) (Private Hire Vehicle)	£218.00	£218.00	0.0%
2nd 6 months (including Interim Vehicle Check) (Private Hire Vehicle)	£216.00	£216.00	0.0%
New/Renewal Application (1st 6 months including Full Test) (less than 5 years old) (Hackney Carriage)	£218.00	£218.00	0.0%
2nd 6 months (including Interim Vehicle Check) (Hackney Carriage)	£216.00	£216.00	0.0%
Plate extension (Hackney Carriage)	£20.00	£20.00	0.0%
Plate extension (Private Hire Vehicle)	£20.00	£20.00	0.0%
Cherished Number Plate Transfer (Private Hire Vehicle or Hackney Carriage)	£30.00	£30.00	0.0%
Transfer a vehicle Licence (a new owner) (Covers cost of plates and £30 administration fee) (Hackney Carriage)	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%
Transfer a vehicle Licence (a new owner) (Covers cost of plates and £30 administration fee) (Private Hire Vehicle)	£50.00	£50.00	0.0%
Transfer a vehicle Licence (a new owner) (New Plates not required, covers cost of £30 administration fee)(Private Hire)	£30.00	£30.00	0.0%

Transfer a vehicle Licence (a new owner) (New Plates not required, covers cost of £30 administration fee) (Hackney Carriage)	£30.00	£30.00	0.0%
Replacement vehicle Application (same expiry date) (includes full test, set of plates and £30 administration fee) (Private Hire)	£104.00	£104.00	0.0%
Replacement vehicle Application (same expiry date) (includes full test, set of plates and £30 administration fee) (Hackney Carriage)	£104.00	£104.00	0.0%
Administration fee for missed garage appointment (Full Test) (payable when 1 clear working days' notice has not been provided)	£55.00	£55.00	0.0%
Administration fee for missed garage appointment (Interim Vehicle Check) (payable when 1 clear working days' notice has not been provided)	£27.50	£27.50	0.0%
<b>Specialist Vehicle Application (e.g. limousine or novelty vehicles.) Fees are the same as Private Hire Vehicle licence fees. The fee will be dependent on the age of the vehicle and the period of licence applied for - SEE LIST OF PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE FEES</b>	£0.00	£0.00	
Application for exemption from displaying roof sign and/or door stickers	£30.00	£30.00	0.0%
<b>* non-refundable administration fee is payable on every licence application.</b>	£30.00	£30.00	0.0%
<b>OPERATORS</b>			
New Application (one year) New App fee payable if base move or changes ownership.	£624.00	£624.00	0.0%
Renewal (one year)	£520.00	£520.00	0.0%
New Application (three years) New App fee payable if base move or changes ownership.	£1,650.00	£1,650.00	0.0%
Renewal (three years)	£1,450.00	£1,450.00	0.0%
New Application (five years) New App fee payable if base move or changes ownership.	£2,500.00	£2,500.00	0.0%
Renewal (five years)	£2,250.00	£2,250.00	0.0%
<b>* non-refundable administration fee is payable on every licence application.</b>	£30.00	£30.00	0.0%

<b>YOUTH SERVICE</b>			
<b>Service Provided</b>	<b>Current Charge 2021/22</b>	<b>Proposed Charge 2022/23</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
<b>Section A - Malthouse Stables</b>			
Climbing Wall/ Mobile Climbing Wall - week days	£43.52	£45.70	5.0%
Associated Preparation fee week days - week days	£76.53	£80.36	5.0%
Climbing Wall/ Mobile Climbing Wall Saturday	£51.04	£53.59	5.0%
Associated Preparation fee week days - Saturdays	£89.20	£93.66	5.0%
Climbing Wall/ Mobile Climbing Wall Sundays and Bank Holidays	£58.04	£60.94	5.0%
Associated Preparation fee week days - Sundays and Bank Holidays	£101.87	£106.96	5.0%
All Other Mobile activities	£43.52	£45.70	5.0%
Meeting Room Hire	£19.00	£19.95	5.0%
<b>Section A - Malthouse Stables Activities with Instruction Sandwell Residents</b>			
Adult	£4.02	£6.03	50.0%
Junior (under 18)	£2.68	£4.02	50.0%
<b>Section A - Malthouse Stables Activities with Instruction Out of Borough Users</b>			
Adult	£9.58	£10.06	5.0%
Junior (under 18)	£6.49	£6.81	5.0%
<b>Section B - Moorings</b>			
UNDER 20 FT	£19.52	£20.50	5.0%
21 - 30 FT	£24.21	£25.42	5.0%
31 - 40FT	£30.44	£31.96	5.0%
41 - 50 FT	£36.82	£38.66	5.0%
51 - 60 FT	£42.13	£44.24	5.0%
61 - 70 FT	£47.59	£49.97	5.0%
71 FT AND OVER	£54.02	£56.72	5.0%
<b>Section C - transport</b>			
0-50 MILES	£0.67	£0.70	5.0%
50+ MILES	£0.57	£0.60	5.0%
Hire of driver per hour	£13.29	£13.95	5.0%
Hire of minibus per day	£47.74	£50.13	5.0%
<b>Section D - Coneygre Art Centre</b>			

Meeting Room	£19.00	£19.95	5.0%
Dance Studio	£24.10	£25.31	5.0%
Multi Purpose Room	£24.10	£25.31	5.0%
Theatre	£32.91	£34.56	5.0%
Meeting Room	£140.96	£148.01	5.0%
Dance Studio	£156.30	£164.12	5.0%
Multi Purpose Room	£156.30	£164.12	5.0%
Theatre	£232.78	£244.42	5.0%
<b>Section E - Conegre Arts Centre - Recording Studio</b>			
Sandwell Residents	£26.52	£27.85	5.0%
non-Sandwell Residents and Businesses	£31.83	£33.42	5.0%
Sandwell Residents	£212.18	£222.79	5.0%
non-Sandwell Residents and Businesses	£244.00	£256.20	5.0%
<b>Section E - Conegre Arts Centre - Multi Media Room</b>			
Sandwell Residents	£26.52	£27.85	5.0%
non-Sandwell Residents and Businesses	£31.83	£33.42	5.0%
Sandwell Residents	£212.18	£222.79	5.0%
non-Sandwell Residents and Businesses	£244.00	£256.20	5.0%

**SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL****General Fund Summary 2022/23**

	Original Budget 2021/2022 £	Forecast Outturn 2021/2022 £	Original Budget 2022/2023 £	Per Band D Property 2022/2023 £
<b>Service Targets</b>				
Corporate Management	-246,000	-254,000	-204,000	-2.73
Finance	18,658,000	11,505,000	9,483,000	126.68
Legal	0	2,387,000	2,162,000	28.88
Adult Social Care	92,047,000	80,900,000	81,511,000	1,088.87
Childrens	86,156,000	90,463,000	88,362,000	1,180.39
Public Health	97,000	38,000	64,000	0.85
Regeneration and the Economy	25,741,000	10,345,000	9,667,000	129.14
Housing & Assets	18,638,000	2,598,000	2,263,000	30.23
Business Strategy & Change	0	12,604,000	11,916,000	159.18
Borough Economy	0	62,909,000	63,558,000	849.04
<b>Total Service Targets</b>	<b>241,091,000</b>	<b>273,495,000</b>	<b>268,782,000</b>	<b>3,591</b>
Central Items	-6,161,000	-35,650,000	-25,055,000	-334.70
Capital Charge Adjustment	-30,504,000	-27,350,000	-26,461,000	-353.48
Revenue Contribution Towards Capital	0	0	0	0.00
Contingency	1,541,000	2,811,000	7,883,000	105.31
<b>Total Service Projections</b>	<b>205,967,000</b>	<b>213,306,000</b>	<b>225,149,000</b>	<b>3,008</b>
External Interest Payments	16,106,000	16,290,000	16,555,000	221.15
Interest / Dividend Receipts	-3,246,000	-3,246,000	-3,753,000	-50.13
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>218,827,000</b>	<b>226,350,000</b>	<b>237,951,000</b>	<b>3,179</b>
Changes in Balances - General	-7,972,000	-7,972,000	459,066	6.13
Changes in Balances - Services	-4,728,000	4,351,000	0	0.00
Changes in Balances - Earmarked Funds	-5,831,000	-22,433,000	-14,612,000	-195.20
<b>Net Cost of Borough Services</b>	<b>200,296,000</b>	<b>200,296,000</b>	<b>223,798,066</b>	<b>2,990</b>
West Midlands Integrated Transport Levy	12,887,000	12,887,000	13,117,000	175.22
West Midlands Magistrates Courts	41,000	41,000	41,000	0.55
Environment Agency (Flood Defence Levy)	88,000	88,000	88,000	1.18
<b>Net Borough Expenditure</b>	<b>213,312,000</b>	<b>213,312,000</b>	<b>237,044,066</b>	<b>3,167</b>
Less:				
<b>Funding:</b>				
Revenue Support Grant	0	0	0	0.00
Retained Business Rates	99,364,293	99,364,293	93,221,768	1,245.31
Business Rates Top Up	41,770,764	41,770,764	42,827,253	572.11
<b>Collection Fund Surplus/(Deficit) Resulting from:</b>				
Council Tax	2,919,000	2,919,000	56,284	0.75
National Non Domestic Rates	-42,396,445	-42,396,445	-17,029,173	-227.48
<b>Amount Raised From Council Tax</b>	<b>111,654,388</b>	<b>111,654,388</b>	<b>117,967,934</b>	<b>1,575.88</b>
	213,312,000	213,312,000	237,044,066	3,167 Check

<b>Council Tax - Sandwell M.B.C Only</b>				
Council Tax Base	74,387.79	74,387.79	74,858.45	Increase
Council Tax (Band A)	1,000.65	1,000.65	1,050.59	0.0499
Council Tax (Band B)	1,167.43	1,167.43	1,225.68	0.0499
Council Tax (Band C)	1,334.20	1,334.20	1,400.78	0.0499
Council Tax (Band D)	1,500.98	1,500.98	1,575.88	0.0499
Council Tax (Band E)	1,834.53	1,834.53	1,926.08	0.0499
Council Tax (Band F)	2,168.08	2,168.08	2,276.27	0.0499
Council Tax (Band G)	2,501.63	2,501.63	2,626.47	0.0499
Council Tax (Band H)	3,001.95	3,001.95	3,151.76	0.0499

# SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

## CENTRAL TARGET ITEMS

2022/2023  
Original  
Estimates  
£

### Resources

Local Welfare Provision	501,000
Pensions (Allowances, VPR, College Residuals, School Meals)	4,559,000
Payment to Wolverhampton : Former WMCC & WMRE	45,000
External Audit Fee	144,000
Joint Committee Servicing - Payment to Birmingham	19,000
A.M.A Local Authority Subscriptions	85,000
New Homes Bonus Grant	-786,000
Business Rates Compensation Grant (Section 31)	-28,253,330
Superannuation - Past Service	5,178,000
Bank Charges (Inc Debit & Credit Cards)	335,000
Airport Income	-100,000
Members Allowances	1,474,000
Coroners	352,000
Special Events	25,000
Insurance	-395,000
Templink	-429,000
Apprenticeship Levy	480,000
Public Law Fees	300,000
Safeguarding Fees	66,000
No Recourse To Public Funds	531,000
Combined Authority	1,660,000
ICT Licences	1,000,000
COVID Funding - Collection Fund Deficit	-1,900,000
COVID Funding - Airport Dividends	-1,488,000

**-16,597,330**

### Individual Schools Budgets

Building Schools For The Future	400,000
	<b>400,000</b>

### Adults Social Care

Market Sustainability & Fair Cost of Care Fund	-1,247,000
	<b>-1,247,000</b>

### Regeneration & Growth

Lower Tier Services Grant	-596,000
New Services Grant 2022/23	-7,015,000

**-7,611,000**

**TOTAL CENTRAL ITEMS**

**-25,055,330**

### Sandwell MBC : Levies

West Midlands Integrated Transport Levy	13,117,000
West Midlands Magistrates Courts	41,000
Environment Agency (Flood Defence Levy)	88,000

**13,246,000**

**TOTAL CENTRAL ITEMS + LEVIES**

**-11,809,330**

**SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**General Fund Summary 2022/23 - 2024/25**

	<b>Original Budget 2022/2023 £</b>	<b>Provisional Budget 2023/2024 £</b>	<b>Provisional Budget 2024/2025 £</b>
<b>Service Targets</b>			
Corporate Management	-204,000	-204,000	-204,000
Finance	9,483,000	9,483,000	9,483,000
Legal	2,162,000	2,193,000	2,228,000
Adult Social Care	81,511,000	81,609,000	81,633,000
Childrens	88,362,000	89,612,000	90,466,000
Public Health	64,000	64,000	64,000
Regeneration and the Economy	9,667,000	9,920,000	10,210,000
Housing & Assets	2,263,000	2,288,000	2,316,000
Business Strategy & Change	11,916,000	11,916,000	11,916,000
Borough Economy	63,558,000	63,302,000	64,015,000
<b>Total Service Targets</b>	<b>268,782,000</b>	<b>270,183,000</b>	<b>272,127,000</b>
Central Items	-25,055,000	-6,779,000	-6,776,000
Capital Charge Adjustment	-26,461,000	-26,461,000	-26,461,000
Revenue Contribution Towards Capital	0	0	0
Contingency	7,883,000	12,408,000	17,664,000
<b>Total Service Projections</b>	<b>225,149,000</b>	<b>249,351,000</b>	<b>256,554,000</b>
External Interest Payments	16,555,000	16,782,000	16,894,000
Interest / Dividend Receipts	-3,753,000	-4,752,000	-5,600,000
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>237,951,000</b>	<b>261,381,000</b>	<b>267,848,000</b>
Changes in Balances - General	459,066	0	0
Changes in Balances - Services	0	0	0
Changes in Balances - Schools	0	0	0
Changes in Balances - Earmarked Funds	-14,612,000	0	0
<b>Net Cost of Borough Services</b>	<b>223,798,066</b>	<b>261,381,000</b>	<b>267,848,000</b>
West Midlands Passenger Transport Levy	13,117,000	13,117,000	13,117,000
West Midlands Magistrates Courts	41,000	41,000	41,000
Environment Agency (Flood Defence Levy)	88,000	88,000	88,000
<b>Net Borough Expenditure</b>	<b>237,044,066</b>	<b>274,627,000</b>	<b>281,094,000</b>
Less:			
<b>Funding:</b>			
Revenue Support Grant	0	0	0
Retained Business Rates	93,221,768	98,169,013	100,176,393
Business Rates Top Up	42,827,253	42,827,253	42,827,253
<b>Collection Fund Surplus/(Deficit) Resulting from:</b>			
Council Tax	56,284	0	0
National Non Domestic Rates	-17,029,173	-1,900,000	0
<b>Amount Raised From Council Tax</b>	<b>117,967,934</b>	<b>121,518,566</b>	<b>125,176,154</b>
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>237,044,066</b>	<b>260,614,832</b>	<b>268,179,800</b>
<b>Forecast Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-14,012,168</b>	<b>-12,914,200</b>

# SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

## COUNCIL TAX 2022/2023

Band	Sandwell £	Fire £	Police £	Total £
A ( up to £40,000 )	1,050.59	45.35	125.03	1,220.97
B ( £40,000 to £52,000 )	1,225.69	52.91	145.87	1,424.47
C ( £52,000 to £68,000 )	1,400.78	60.47	166.71	1,627.96
D ( £68,000 to £88,000 )	1,575.88	68.03	187.55	1,831.46
E ( £88,000 to £120,000 )	1,926.08	83.14	229.23	2,238.45
F ( £120,000 to £160,000 )	2,276.27	98.26	270.91	2,645.44
G ( £160,000 to £320,000 )	2,626.47	113.38	312.58	3,052.43
H ( over £320,000 )	3,151.76	136.05	375.10	3,662.91

**NOTE : The Council Tax levels shown apply to properties with 2 or more adults.  
Single person households will pay 25% less than this.**

### 2022/2023 Increase

<b>2021/22 Band D (£68,000 to 88,000)</b>	1,500.98	63.04	177.55	<b>1,741.57</b>
<b>2022/2023 (£) Increase</b>	74.90	4.99	10.00	<b>89.89</b>
<b>2022/2023 (%) Increase</b>	4.99	7.92	5.63	<b>5.16</b>



**DIRECTORATE PLANNING - WHOLE BUDGET 2021/2025**

<b>Directorate: Adult Social Care</b>	<b>Director: Rashpal Bishop</b>
<b>Total No. of Units: 8</b>	

**SUMMARY SHEET**

**Context:**  
 The Adult Social Care directorate supports the development of strong supportive communities that enable people, regardless of ability, to live as independently and as safely as possible. The service undertakes a range of activities including; assessments, the commissioning of care & support and the direct provision of care across a range settings. The service works collaboratively with Health to support people to live in their own homes longer, to prevent hospital admissions and to enable timely hospital discharges.

<b>Unit Description:</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
<b>Management Team</b>	<b>(1,164)</b>	1,377	1,377	1,377
<b>Business Management</b>	571	671	671	671
<b>Social Work &amp; Therapy</b>	4,417	4,425	4,427	4,429
<b>External Placements</b>	63,741	65,400	65,477	65,477
<b>Integrated Hub</b>	467	530	530	530
<b>Direct Services</b>	6,393	6,323	6,342	6,364
<b>Commissioning</b>	3,366	2,785	2,785	2,785
<b>Better Care Fund</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>* Total Net Target Budget:</b>	<b>77,791</b>	<b>81,511</b>	<b>81,609</b>	<b>81,633</b>
<b>* Staffing Levels:</b>	869	869	869	869
<b>* Total Full Time Equivalents</b>	710	710	710	710

<b>Summary of Target Budget</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	25,131	27,736	27,736	27,736
Premises	690	690	711	735
Transport	380	379	379	379
Supplies & Services	38,675	39,100	39,100	39,020
Third Party	123,723	114,353	114,430	114,430
Transfer Payments	9,426	9,426	9,426	9,426
Capital Charges	596	284	284	284
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>198,621</b>	<b>191,968</b>	<b>192,066</b>	<b>192,010</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	40,003	30,232	30,232	30,232
Partner Contributions	36,063	34,917	34,917	34,917
Fees & Charges	14,523	14,954	14,954	14,954
Charges to Other Council Areas	30,241	30,354	30,354	30,274
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>120,830</b>	<b>110,457</b>	<b>110,457</b>	<b>110,377</b>
<b>Net Target Budget</b>	<b>77,791</b>	<b>81,511</b>	<b>81,609</b>	<b>81,633</b>

The directorate services are delivered through a range of units and teams. The above information provides an overview of the structure of the directorate and highlights the level of financial resources allocated to deliver the services that we provide.

<b>DIRECTORATE</b>	<b>UNIT:</b>	<b>Service Director:</b>		
<b>Adult Social Care</b>	<b>Management Team</b>	<b>Rashpal Bishop</b>		
<b>Context:</b>				
The directorate Management Team, incorporating the Director, Deputy Director, Service Managers and the Adult Social Care Covid grants for 2021/22 which have been distributed across the local provider market.				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	(1,464)	1,202	1,202	1,202
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	2	2	2	2
Supplies & Services	485	214	214	214
Third Party	9,303	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	425	129	129	129
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>8,751</b>	<b>1,547</b>	<b>1,547</b>	<b>1,547</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	9,754	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	161	161	161	161
Fees & Charges	0	9	9	9
Charges to Other Council Areas	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>9,915</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>170</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>(1,164)</b>	<b>1,377</b>	<b>1,377</b>	<b>1,377</b>
<b>Staffing Levels:</b>	18	19	19	19
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent</b>	17	18	18	18
<b>DIRECTORATE</b>				
<b>Adult Social Care</b>	<b>Business Management</b>	<b>Service Manager:</b>		
<b>Context:</b>				
Incorporates facilities management and Interpreters service				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	437	536	536	536
Premises	24	25	25	25
Transport	1	1	1	1
Supplies & Services	109	109	109	109
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>571</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>671</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Charges to Other Council Areas	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>571</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>671</b>
<b>Staffing Levels:</b>	9	9	9	9
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent</b>	7	7	7	7

<b>DIRECTORATE</b>	<b>UNIT:</b>		<b>Service Manager:</b>	
<b>Adult Social Care</b>	<b>Social Work &amp; Therapy</b>		<b>Graham Terry</b>	
<b>Context:</b>				
Borough wide Social Work Teams, the Safeguarding team and Therapy Services. The service works with people in need to support them to restore, maintain or enhance their independence and where necessary to help them transition to long term support.				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	8,772	8,778	8,778	8,778
Premises	155	157	159	161
Transport	56	56	56	56
Supplies & Services	642	722	722	642
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>9,625</b>	<b>9,713</b>	<b>9,715</b>	<b>9,637</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	40	40	40	40
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	74	74	74	74
Charges to Other Council Areas	5,094	5,174	5,174	5,094
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>5,208</b>	<b>5,288</b>	<b>5,288</b>	<b>5,208</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>4,417</b>	<b>4,425</b>	<b>4,427</b>	<b>4,429</b>
<b>Staffing Levels:</b>	231	232	232	232
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent</b>	204	203	203	203
<b>DIRECTORATE</b>	<b>UNIT:</b>		<b>Service Manager:</b>	
<b>Adult Social Care</b>	<b>External Placements</b>		<b>Graham Terry</b>	
<b>Context:</b>				
Externally commissioned packages of care and support and the resources for self-directed support (direct payments) for adults with assessed care needs.				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	241	0	0	0
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	61	61	61	61
Supplies & Services	238	238	238	238
Third Party	95,016	95,540	95,617	95,617
Transfer Payments	9,286	9,286	9,286	9,286
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>104,842</b>	<b>105,125</b>	<b>105,202</b>	<b>105,202</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	7,756	7,064	7,064	7,064
Partner Contributions	7,403	6,290	6,290	6,290
Fees & Charges	13,507	13,936	13,936	13,936
Charges to Other Council Areas	12,435	12,435	12,435	12,435
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>41,101</b>	<b>39,725</b>	<b>39,725</b>	<b>39,725</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>63,741</b>	<b>65,400</b>	<b>65,477</b>	<b>65,477</b>
<b>Staffing Levels:</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent</b>	0	0	0	0

<b>DIRECTORATE</b>	<b>UNIT:</b>		<b>Service Manager:</b>	
<b>Adult Social Care</b>	<b>Integrated Hub</b>		<b>Colin Marsh</b>	
<b>Context:</b>				
The social work teams supporting hospital discharges and the Short Term Assessment & Reablement Team (STAR) which provides time limited support for people in their own home following a stay in hospital.				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	6,493	6,556	6,556	6,556
Premises	149	149	149	149
Transport	114	114	114	114
Supplies & Services	223	223	223	223
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>6,979</b>	<b>7,042</b>	<b>7,042</b>	<b>7,042</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Charges to Other Council Areas	6,512	6,512	6,512	6,512
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>6,512</b>	<b>6,512</b>	<b>6,512</b>	<b>6,512</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>530</b>
<b>Staffing Levels:</b>	243	243	243	243
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent</b>	194	194	194	194

<b>DIRECTORATE</b>	<b>UNIT:</b>		<b>Service Manager:</b>	
<b>Adult Social Care</b>	<b>Direct Services</b>		<b>Colin Marsh</b>	
<b>Context:</b>				
A range of directly provided care services including residential, extra care, day-care and the Joint Equipment Store. The service objectives are to support people to live as independently as possible and to prevent earlier than necessary escalation to more intensive support.				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	8,741	8,745	8,745	8,745
Premises	309	306	325	347
Transport	135	135	135	135
Supplies & Services	2,105	2,050	2,050	2,050
Third Party	48	48	48	48
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	162	146	146	146
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>11,500</b>	<b>11,430</b>	<b>11,449</b>	<b>11,471</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	191	158	158	158
Fees & Charges	935	935	935	935
Charges to Other Council Areas	3,981	4,014	4,014	4,014
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>5,107</b>	<b>5,107</b>	<b>5,107</b>	<b>5,107</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>6,393</b>	<b>6,323</b>	<b>6,342</b>	<b>6,364</b>
<b>Staffing Levels:</b>	332	330	330	330
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent</b>	254	254	254	254

<b>DIRECTORATE</b>	<b>UNIT:</b>		<b>Service Manager:</b>	
<b>Adult Social Care</b>	<b>Commissioning</b>		<b>Chris Guest</b>	
<b>Context:</b>				
The Commissioning Team which oversees the development of value for money services that enable people to live safe and independent lives. The team manages a number of block contracts for care and support and has responsibility for the design and delivery of the carers offer within the borough.				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	1,707	1,715	1,715	1,715
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	11	10	10	10
Supplies & Services	1,940	1,935	1,935	1,935
Third Party	1,953	1,362	1,362	1,362
Transfer Payments	140	140	140	140
Capital Charges	9	9	9	9
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>5,760</b>	<b>5,171</b>	<b>5,171</b>	<b>5,171</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	109	108	108	108
Partner Contributions	59	59	59	59
Fees & Charges	7	0	0	0
Charges to Other Council Areas	2,219	2,219	2,219	2,219
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,394</b>	<b>2,386</b>	<b>2,386</b>	<b>2,386</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>3,366</b>	<b>2,785</b>	<b>2,785</b>	<b>2,785</b>
<b>Staffing Levels:</b>	34	34	34	34
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent</b>	32	32	32	32

<b>DIRECTORATE</b>	<b>UNIT:</b>		<b>Service Manager:</b>	
<b>Adult Social Care</b>	<b>Better Care Fund</b>		<b>Chris Guest</b>	
<b>Context:</b>				
A Pool Budget hosted by the local authority and managed in partnership with the Black Country & West Birmingham CCG. The main focus is the management of patient flow through the promotion of independence, hospital avoidance, timely discharge and a range of reablement opportunities.				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	204	204	204	204
Premises	53	53	53	53
Transport	0	0	0	0
Supplies & Services	32,933	33,609	33,609	33,609
Third Party	17,403	17,403	17,403	17,403
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>50,593</b>	<b>51,269</b>	<b>51,269</b>	<b>51,269</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	22,344	23,020	23,020	23,020
Partner Contributions	28,249	28,249	28,249	28,249
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Charges to Other Council Areas	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>50,593</b>	<b>51,269</b>	<b>51,269</b>	<b>51,269</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Staffing Levels:</b>	2	2	2	2
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent</b>	2	2	2	2

	<b>Total Adult Social Care, Health &amp; Wellbeing</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
	Employees	25,131	27,736	27,736	27,736
	Premises	690	690	711	735
	Transport	380	379	379	379
	Supplies & Services	38,675	39,100	39,100	39,020
	Third Party	123,723	114,353	114,430	114,430
	Transfer Payments	9,426	9,426	9,426	9,426
	Capital Charges	596	284	284	284
	<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>198,621</b>	<b>191,968</b>	<b>192,066</b>	<b>192,010</b>
	<b>INCOME:-</b>				
	Specific Grants	40,003	30,232	30,232	30,232
	Partner Contributions	36,063	34,917	34,917	34,917
	Fees & Charges	14,523	14,954	14,954	14,954
	Charges to Other Council Areas	30,241	30,354	30,354	30,274
	Other	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>120,830</b>	<b>110,457</b>	<b>110,457</b>	<b>110,377</b>
	<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>77,791</b>	<b>81,511</b>	<b>81,609</b>	<b>81,633</b>
	<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	869	869	869	869
	<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	710	710	710	710

**DIRECTORATE PLANNING - WHOLE BUDGET 2022/2025**

V01

<b>Directorate: Borough Economy</b>	<b>Director: Alice Davey</b>
<b>Total No. of Units: 6</b>	

**Context:**  
The directorate is responsible for driving the neighbourhood delivery agenda. The focus will be on maximising opportunities within each Town to transform local services delivered at a local level to ensure that they are meeting residents' needs within towns as well as providing the shared space where wider community activity can thrive and develop.

<b>Unit Description:</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
<b>Tourism, Culture &amp; Leisure</b>	10,183	9,723	8,820	8,936
<b>Commercial Services</b>	4,118	3,991	4,138	4,168
<b>Regulated Services</b>	3,435	3,403	3,404	3,405
<b>Highways Services</b>	15,250	16,649	17,148	17,714
<b>Waste Partnership</b>	29,489	29,643	29,643	29,643
<b>Directorate Management</b>	149	149	149	149
<b>* Total Net Target Budget:</b>	<b>62,625</b>	<b>63,558</b>	<b>63,302</b>	<b>64,015</b>
<b>* Staffing Levels:</b>	576	566	566	566
<b>* Total Full Time Equivalents</b>	441	439	439	439

<b>Summary of Target Budget</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	17,893	17,806	17,806	17,806
Premises	2,596	2,742	2,897	3,083
Transport	2,482	2,274	2,381	2,363
Supplies & Services	45,776	46,701	47,230	47,822
Third Party	4,250	4,068	3,068	3,068
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	13,435	13,657	13,657	13,657
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>86,432</b>	<b>87,248</b>	<b>87,039</b>	<b>87,799</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	2,589	2,536	2,537	2,536
Partner Contributions	1,533	1,520	1,558	1,597
Fees & Charges	10,587	10,470	10,470	10,470
Charges to Other Council Areas	9,098	9,164	9,172	9,181
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>23,807</b>	<b>23,690</b>	<b>23,737</b>	<b>23,784</b>
<b>Net Target Budget</b>	<b>62,625</b>	<b>63,558</b>	<b>63,302</b>	<b>64,015</b>

The directorate services are delivered through a range of units and teams. The above information provides an overview of the structure of the directorate and highlights the level of financial resources allocated to deliver the services that we provide.

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Borough Economy	<b>UNIT:</b> Tourism, Culture & Leisure	<b>Service Manager:</b> Jane Lilystone		
<b>Context:</b> This includes the libraries and archives service, museums and arts, PE & Sports including the contractual payments to Sandwell Leisure Trust and Places Leisure. It also includes Sandwell Valley and Shows & Events.				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	4,594	4,616	4,616	4,616
Premises	1,265	1,345	1,442	1,558
Transport	55	51	51	51
Supplies & Services	1,628	1,465	1,465	1,465
Third Party	4,250	4,068	3,068	3,068
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	2,304	2,304	2,304	2,304
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>14,096</b>	<b>13,849</b>	<b>12,946</b>	<b>13,062</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	1,208	1,208	1,208	1,208
Partner Contributions	33	1	1	1
Fees & Charges	1,819	2,058	2,058	2,058
Charges to Other Council Areas	853	859	859	859
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>3,913</b>	<b>4,126</b>	<b>4,126</b>	<b>4,126</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>10,183</b>	<b>9,723</b>	<b>8,820</b>	<b>8,936</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	209	203	203	203
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	135	135	135	135

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Borough Economy	<b>UNIT:</b> Commercial Services	<b>Service Manager:</b> Gary Charlton		
<b>Context:</b> This service maintains the public parks and green spaces including prestige sites such as Dartmouth Park. It delivers the grounds maintenance service for the borough and includes the centralised costs of the fleet service for the council.				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	4,982	4,991	4,991	4,991
Premises	444	494	535	583
Transport	1,972	1,769	1,876	1,858
Supplies & Services	915	918	918	918
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	2,405	2,405	2,405	2,405
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>10,718</b>	<b>10,577</b>	<b>10,725</b>	<b>10,755</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	38	38	38
Fees & Charges	1,958	1,987	1,987	1,987
Charges to Other Council Areas	4,641	4,562	4,562	4,562
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>6,599</b>	<b>6,587</b>	<b>6,587</b>	<b>6,587</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>4,119</b>	<b>3,990</b>	<b>4,138</b>	<b>4,168</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	156	156	156	156
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	137	137	137	137

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)



<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Borough Economy	<b>UNIT:</b> Regulated Services		<b>Service Manager:</b> Nicola Plant	
<b>Context:</b> A range of services responsible for protecting Sandwell residents and communities by ensuring businesses, landlords, residents and people working in the borough abide by the laws and regulations applicable to the wide array of activities they are involved in.				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget</b>	<b>Target Budget</b>	<b>Target Budget</b>	<b>Target Budget</b>
	<b>2021/22</b> £'000	<b>2022/23</b> £'000	<b>2023/24</b> £'000	<b>2024/25</b> £'000
Employees	4,880	4,747	4,747	4,747
Premises	77	78	79	80
Transport	274	274	274	274
Supplies & Services	2,276	2,383	2,383	2,383
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	33	33	33	33
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>7,540</b>	<b>7,515</b>	<b>7,516</b>	<b>7,517</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	1,343	1,289	1,289	1,289
Partner Contributions	188	188	188	188
Fees & Charges	1,712	1,772	1,772	1,772
Charges to Other Council Areas	862	861	862	862
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>4,105</b>	<b>4,110</b>	<b>4,111</b>	<b>4,111</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>3,435</b>	<b>3,405</b>	<b>3,405</b>	<b>3,406</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	96	96	96	96
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	88	88	88	88

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Borough Economy	<b>UNIT:</b> Highways Services		<b>Service Manager:</b> Robin Weare	
<b>Context:</b> This includes car parking, flood protection, highways maintenance, road casualty reduction, highways planning and development, engineers and highways consultancy and traffic management and road safety.				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget</b>	<b>Target Budget</b>	<b>Target Budget</b>	<b>Target Budget</b>
	<b>2021/22</b> £'000	<b>2022/23</b> £'000	<b>2023/24</b> £'000	<b>2024/25</b> £'000
Employees	3,288	3,304	3,304	3,304
Premises	810	824	842	862
Transport	180	180	180	180
Supplies & Services	9,389	10,146	10,628	11,172
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	8,694	8,916	8,916	8,916
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>22,361</b>	<b>23,370</b>	<b>23,870</b>	<b>24,434</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	38	38	38	38
Partner Contributions	15	15	15	15
Fees & Charges	5,044	4,654	4,654	4,654
Charges to Other Council Areas	2,013	2,013	2,013	2,013
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>7,110</b>	<b>6,720</b>	<b>6,720</b>	<b>6,720</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>15,251</b>	<b>16,650</b>	<b>17,150</b>	<b>17,714</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	114	110	110	110
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	80	78	78	78

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Borough Economy	<b>UNIT:</b> Waste Partnership		<b>Service Manager:</b> Gary Charlton	
<b>Context:</b> This budget relates to the Serco Waste contract.				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget	Target Budget	Target Budget	Target Budget
	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
Employees	0	0	0	0
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	0	0	0	0
Supplies & Services	31,568	31,790	31,837	31,885
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>31,568</b>	<b>31,790</b>	<b>31,837</b>	<b>31,885</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	1,297	1,278	1,316	1,356
Fees & Charges	53	0	0	0
Charges to Other Council Areas	729	869	878	886
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,079</b>	<b>2,147</b>	<b>2,194</b>	<b>2,242</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>29,489</b>	<b>29,643</b>	<b>29,643</b>	<b>29,643</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>				
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>				

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Borough Economy	<b>UNIT:</b> Directorate Management		<b>Service Manager:</b> Alice Davey	
<b>Context:</b> This budget is related to the Director of Borough Economy.				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget	Target Budget	Target Budget	Target Budget
	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
Employees	149	149	149	149
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	0	0	0	0
Supplies & Services	0	0	0	0
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>149</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Charges to Other Council Areas	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>149</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Borough Economy	<b>UNIT:</b>		<b>Service Manager:</b>	
<b>Context:</b>				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget</b>	<b>Target Budget</b>	<b>Target Budget</b>	<b>Target Budget</b>
	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Employees	17,893	17,806	17,806	17,806
Premises	2,596	2,742	2,897	3,083
Transport	2,482	2,274	2,381	2,363
Supplies & Services	45,776	46,701	47,230	47,822
Third Party	4,250	4,068	3,068	3,068
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	13,435	13,657	13,657	13,657
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>86,432</b>	<b>87,248</b>	<b>87,039</b>	<b>87,799</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	2,589	2,536	2,537	2,536
Partner Contributions	1,533	1,520	1,558	1,597
Fees & Charges	10,587	10,470	10,470	10,470
Charges to Other Council Areas	9,098	9,164	9,172	9,181
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>23,807</b>	<b>23,690</b>	<b>23,737</b>	<b>23,784</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>62,625</b>	<b>63,558</b>	<b>63,302</b>	<b>64,015</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	576	566	566	566
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	441	439	439	439

**DIRECTORATE PLANNING - WHOLE BUDGET 2022/2025**

V01

<b>Directorate: Business Strategy and Change</b>	<b>Director: Neil Cox</b>
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**Total No. of Units: 4**

**Divisional Context:**

The Business Strategy and Change directorate consists of four distinct areas providing a range of functions both front facing and back office. With budget cuts and a change in working methods the council is going through a massive transformation right now. The services within Business Strategy and Change have a wide range of both internal and external customers with conflicting needs and priorities. These services need to be resilient but flexible enough, in order that they can rise to the challenge of continuous change so that they can shape, influence and drive the council forward.

<b>Unit Description:</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
<b>Director</b>	149	149	149	149
<b>ICT</b>	6,201	5,271	5,271	5,271
<b>Human Resources</b>	3,347	3,662	3,662	3,662
<b>Service Improvement and Communications</b>	1,946	2,178	2,178	2,178
<b>Business Excellence</b>	809	656	656	656
<b>* Total Net Target Budget:</b>	<b>12,452</b>	<b>11,916</b>	<b>11,916</b>	<b>11,916</b>
<b>* Staffing Levels:</b>	362	355	355	355
<b>* Total Full Time Equivalents</b>	344	336	336	336

<b>Summary of Target Budget</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	14,398	14,334	14,334	14,334
Premises	75	75	75	75
Transport	19	17	17	17
Supplies & Services	6,443	6,099	6,099	6,099
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	1,637	1,171	1,171	1,171
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>22,572</b>	<b>21,696</b>	<b>21,696</b>	<b>21,696</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	115	115	115	115
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	2,485	2,106	2,106	2,106
Charges to Other Council Areas	7,520	7,559	7,559	7,559
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>10,120</b>	<b>9,780</b>	<b>9,780</b>	<b>9,780</b>
<b>Net Target Budget</b>	<b>12,452</b>	<b>11,916</b>	<b>11,916</b>	<b>11,916</b>

<b>Central Items</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>700</b>
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The directorate services are delivered through a range of units and teams. The above information provides an overview of the structure of the directorate and highlights the level of financial resources allocated to deliver the services that we provide.

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Business Strategy and Change	<b>UNIT:</b> Director	<b>Service Manager:</b> Neil Cox		
<b>Divisional Context:</b> The Business Strategy and Change directorate consists of four areas providing a range of functions both front facing and back office. These services include ICT, Human Resources, Service Improvement and Communications and Business Excellence.				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget</b> 2021/22 £'000	<b>Target Budget</b> 2022/23 £'000	<b>Target Budget</b> 2023/24 £'000	<b>Target Budget</b> 2024/25 £'000
Employees	149	149	149	149
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	0	0	0	0
Supplies & Services	0	0	0	0
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>149</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Charges to Other Council Areas	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>149</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	1	1	1	1
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	1	1	1	1

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Business Change and Strategy	<b>UNIT:</b> ICT	<b>Service Manager:</b> Sue Knowles		
<b>Divisional Context:</b> Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is responsible for a range of activities ranging from the development and review of the council's ICT and Digital Strategies to the day-to-day support and maintenance of the ICT infrastructure and digital transformation.				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	4,778	4,379	4,379	4,379
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	9	9	9	9
Supplies & Services	2,649	2,584	2,584	2,584
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	1,637	1,171	1,171	1,171
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>9,073</b>	<b>8,143</b>	<b>8,143</b>	<b>8,143</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	816	816	816	816
Charges to Other Council Areas	2,056	2,056	2,056	2,056
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,872</b>	<b>2,872</b>	<b>2,872</b>	<b>2,872</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>6,201</b>	<b>5,271</b>	<b>5,271</b>	<b>5,271</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	98	95	95	95
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	96	93	93	93

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Business Strategy and Change	<b>UNIT:</b> Human Resources		<b>Service Manager:</b> Sue Stanhope	
<b>Divisional Context:</b> Human Resources delivers a wide range of excellent services to the council including: Learning & Development, Advisory and Resourcing, Occupational Health & Employee Benefits Scheme. They also offer a range of services to schools and Academies				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	4,766	4,901	4,901	4,901
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	1	1	1	1
Supplies & Services	1,893	1,694	1,694	1,694
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>6,660</b>	<b>6,596</b>	<b>6,596</b>	<b>6,596</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	1,524	1,145	1,145	1,145
Charges to Other Council Areas	1,789	1,789	1,789	1,789
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>3,313</b>	<b>2,934</b>	<b>2,934</b>	<b>2,934</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>3,347</b>	<b>3,662</b>	<b>3,662</b>	<b>3,662</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	133	131	131	131
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	127	125	125	125

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Business Strategy and Change	<b>UNIT:</b> Service Improvement and Communications		<b>Service Manager:</b> Kate Ashley / Vacant / Sue Knowles / Helen Green	
<b>Divisional Context:</b> Service Improvement and Communications is made up of services who deliver a wide range of excellent services to all the communities of Sandwell alongside working on Corporate Strategies and the council's Performance Management Framework. This includes Service Improvement, Communications, Performance Teams and Statutory Complaints				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	2,396	2,660	2,660	2,660
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	7	6	6	6
Supplies & Services	282	245	245	245
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>2,685</b>	<b>2,911</b>	<b>2,911</b>	<b>2,911</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	115	115	115	115
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	22	22	22	22
Charges to Other Council Areas	602	596	596	596
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>739</b>	<b>733</b>	<b>733</b>	<b>733</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>1,946</b>	<b>2,178</b>	<b>2,178</b>	<b>2,178</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	51	51	51	51
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	50	50	50	50

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Business Strategy and Change	<b>UNIT:</b> Business Excellence	<b>Service Manager:</b> Helen Green / Kate Ashley		
<b>Divisional Context:</b> Business Excellence covers a range of front facing services including the Conact Centre, One Stop Shop and Customer Focus. It also contains the Voluntary Sector Grants for SCVO and Local Area Budgets.				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	2,309	2,245	2,245	2,245
Premises	75	75	75	75
Transport	2	1	1	1
Supplies & Services	1,619	1,576	1,576	1,576
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>4,005</b>	<b>3,897</b>	<b>3,897</b>	<b>3,897</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	123	123	123	123
Charges to Other Council Areas	3,073	3,118	3,118	3,118
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>3,196</b>	<b>3,241</b>	<b>3,241</b>	<b>3,241</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>809</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>656</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	79	77	77	77
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	70	68	68	68

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>Total Business Strategy and Change</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	14,398	14,334	14,334	14,334
Premises	75	75	75	75
Transport	19	17	17	17
Supplies & Services	6,443	6,099	6,099	6,099
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	1,637	1,171	1,171	1,171
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>22,572</b>	<b>21,696</b>	<b>21,696</b>	<b>21,696</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	115	115	115	115
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	2,485	2,106	2,106	2,106
Charges to Other Council Areas	7,520	7,559	7,559	7,559
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>10,120</b>	<b>9,780</b>	<b>9,780</b>	<b>9,780</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>12,452</b>	<b>11,916</b>	<b>11,916</b>	<b>11,916</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	362	355	355	355
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	344	336	336	336



**DIRECTORATE PLANNING - WHOLE BUDGET 2021/2025**

Directorate: Children's Services

Director: Michael Jarrett

Total Number of Units: 5

**SUMMARY SHEET**

**Context:**

Children's Services provides Early Help, Education, Skills and Employment support for the children and young people of Sandwell. The service consists of two interconnected areas: Early Help and Education, Skills and Employment. From 1 April 2018, the Children's Social Care element of Children's Services will be delivered by Sandwell's Children's Trust which is independent to the council.

Unit Description:	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Director of Children's Services	14,779	14,600	14,615	15,469
Education Support Services	1,837	1,701	1,701	1,701
Learning Improvement	3,288	2,792	2,792	2,792
Inclusive Learning	6,384	8,274	8,274	8,274
Sandwell Children's Trust	58,549	60,995	62,230	62,230
<b>* Total Net Target Budget:</b>	<b>84,837</b>	<b>88,362</b>	<b>89,612</b>	<b>90,466</b>
<b>* Staffing Levels:</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>452</b>
<b>* Total Full Time Equivalents</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>334</b>

Summary of Divisional Target Budget	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	14,733	14,373	14,373	14,373
Premises	919	920	935	887
Transport	5,938	7,807	7,807	7,807
Supplies & Services	8,871	6,939	6,939	7,841
Third Party	69,308	71,802	73,037	73,037
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	10,040	9,685	9,685	9,685
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>109,808</b>	<b>111,526</b>	<b>112,776</b>	<b>113,630</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	10,155	9,651	9,651	9,651
Partner Contributions	3,262	1,524	1,524	1,524
Fees & Charges	990	1,208	1,208	1,208
Other	1,989	2,093	2,093	2,093
Recharges - Non GRF	8,575	8,688	8,688	8,688
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>24,971</b>	<b>23,164</b>	<b>23,164</b>	<b>23,164</b>
<b>Net Target Budget</b>	<b>84,837</b>	<b>88,362</b>	<b>89,612</b>	<b>90,466</b>

The directorate services are delivered through a range of units and teams. The above information provides an overview of the structure of the directorate and highlights the level of financial resources allocated to deliver the services that we provide.

<b>DIRECTORATE:</b>	<b>UNIT:</b>	<b>Service Manager:</b>		
Children's Services	Director of Children's Services	Michael Jarrett		
<b>Context:</b>				
Director of Children's Services includes the following key services:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director of Children's Services and Client Team</li> <li>• Children's Centres</li> <li>• Other Commissioned Services</li> <li>• Youth Services</li> </ul>				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	1,523	1,492	1,492	1,492
Premises	564	564	579	531
Transport	11	11	11	11
Supplies & Services	3,668	3,893	3,893	4,795
Third Party	1,280	1,328	1,328	1,328
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	9,690	9,335	9,335	9,335
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>16,736</b>	<b>16,623</b>	<b>16,638</b>	<b>17,492</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	138	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	54	173	173	173
Other	0	0	0	0
Recharges - Non GRF	1,765	1,850	1,850	1,851
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,957</b>	<b>2,023</b>	<b>2,023</b>	<b>2,023</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>14,779</b>	<b>14,600</b>	<b>14,615</b>	<b>15,469</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE:</b>	<b>UNIT:</b>	<b>Service Manager:</b>		
Children's Services	Education Support Services	Sue Moore		
<b>Context:</b>				
Education Support Services encompasses 4 discreet service areas all of which contribute to the education directorate's objectives of learning support and school improvement across Sandwell. These service areas are:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Organisation and Development (which has a responsibility for forecasting pupil numbers and planning and providing new, quality school places)</li> <li>• Attendance and Prosecution (which supports pupils, families and schools in improving attendance)</li> <li>• School admissions and appeals (undertakes a coordinating role between all admission authorities, assisting parents in making realistic preferences and supporting the appeals process)</li> <li>• Education Benefits (supporting families and schools in assessing free school meal eligibility and entitlement to transport) and Residential Centres (providing residential placements for children at 4 out of borough centres)</li> </ul>				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	4,311	4,272	4,272	4,272
Premises	245	246	246	246
Transport	268	267	267	267
Supplies & Services	744	751	751	751
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	283	283	283	283
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>5,851</b>	<b>5,819</b>	<b>5,819</b>	<b>5,819</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	32	32	32	32
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	215	215	215	215
Other	1,989	2,093	2,093	2,093
Recharges - Non GRF	1,778	1,778	1,778	1,778
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>4,014</b>	<b>4,118</b>	<b>4,118</b>	<b>4,118</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>1,837</b>	<b>1,701</b>	<b>1,701</b>	<b>1,701</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>130</b>
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>111</b>

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE:</b> Children's Services	<b>UNIT:</b> Learning Improvement		<b>Service Manager:</b> Andrew Timmins	
<b>Context:</b> School Improvement provides challenge and support for all phases including primary, secondary, special schools and				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	7,439	7,130	7,130	7,130
Premises	46	46	46	46
Transport	38	38	38	38
Supplies & Services	4,285	2,120	2,120	2,120
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	66	66	66	66
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>11,874</b>	<b>9,400</b>	<b>9,400</b>	<b>9,400</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	507	141	141	141
Partner Contributions	3,262	1,524	1,524	1,524
Fees & Charges	721	820	820	820
Other	0	0	0	0
Recharges - Non GRF	4,096	4,123	4,123	4,123
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>8,586</b>	<b>6,608</b>	<b>6,608</b>	<b>6,608</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>3,288</b>	<b>2,792</b>	<b>2,792</b>	<b>2,792</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>205</b>
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>171</b>

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE:</b> Children's Services	<b>UNIT:</b> Inclusive Learning		<b>Service Manager:</b> Moira Tallents/Mel Barnett	
<b>Context</b> Inclusive Learning supports vulnerable children and young people to achieve positive outcomes and engage in learning. In order to achieve this, it provides a number of key services. These include: •Inclusion Support provides advice guidance, information and support to parents, carers and schools regarding children and young people who may have a broad spectrum of special educational needs •Exclusions Service enabling the local authority to dispatch its statutory responsibilities in relation to the exclusion of school aged pupils •SEN Home to School Transport				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	1,460	1,479	1,479	1,479
Premises	63	63	63	63
Transport	5,621	7,492	7,492	7,492
Supplies & Services	175	175	175	175
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>7,319</b>	<b>9,209</b>	<b>9,209</b>	<b>9,209</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Recharges - Non GRF	935	935	935	935
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>935</b>	<b>935</b>	<b>935</b>	<b>935</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>6,384</b>	<b>8,274</b>	<b>8,274</b>	<b>8,274</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE:</b>	<b>UNIT:</b>		<b>Service Manager:</b>	
Sandwell Childrens Trust	Director of Children's Services		Michael Jarrett	
<b>Context:</b>				
Director of Children's Services includes the following key services:				
• Sandwell Childrens Trust Contract				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	0	0	0	0
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	0	0	0	0
Supplies & Services	0	0	0	0
Third Party	68,028	70,474	71,709	71,709
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>68,028</b>	<b>70,474</b>	<b>71,709</b>	<b>71,709</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	9,479	9,479	9,479	9,479
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Recharges - Non GRF	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>9,479</b>	<b>9,479</b>	<b>9,479</b>	<b>9,479</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>58,549</b>	<b>60,995</b>	<b>62,230</b>	<b>62,230</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>				
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>				

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

TOTAL Target Budget Line	Target Budget £'000	Target Budget £'000	Target Budget £'000	Target Budget £'000
Employees	14,733	14,373	14,373	14,373
Premises	919	920	935	887
Transport	5,938	7,807	7,807	7,807
Supplies & Services	8,871	6,939	6,939	7,841
Third Party	69,308	71,802	73,037	73,037
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	10,040	9,685	9,685	9,685
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>109,808</b>	<b>111,526</b>	<b>112,776</b>	<b>113,630</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	10,156	9,651	9,651	9,651
Partner Contributions	3,262	1,524	1,524	1,524
Fees & Charges	990	1,208	1,208	1,208
Other	1,989	2,093	2,093	2,093
Recharges - Non GRF	8,575	8,688	8,688	8,688
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>24,971</b>	<b>23,164</b>	<b>23,164</b>	<b>23,164</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>84,837</b>	<b>88,362</b>	<b>89,612</b>	<b>90,466</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	455	452	452	452
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	340	334	334	334

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

**DIRECTORATE PLANNING - WHOLE BUDGET 2022/2025**

V01

<b>Directorate: Finance</b>		<b>Director: Simone Hines</b>		
<b>Total No. of Units: 3</b>				
<b>Divisional Context:</b> The Finance Directorate is intergal in making sure that the council has stability in their finances. The Directorate is made up of three sections: Financial Management - Who ensure the financial stability of the council Revenues and Benefits - Who are responsible for the collection of Council Tax and NNDR and administer Housing Benefit Business Management - Administration and financial services for Adult Social Care				
<b>Unit Description:</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Director	149	149	149	149
Financial Management	4,021	4,009	4,009	4,009
Revenues and Benefits	2,937	2,472	2,472	2,472
Business Management	3,123	2,853	2,853	2,853
<b>* Total Net Target Budget:</b>	<b>10,230</b>	<b>9,483</b>	<b>9,483</b>	<b>9,483</b>
<b>* Staffing Levels:</b>	428	414	414	414
<b>* Total Full Time Equivalents</b>	393	381	381	381

<b>Summary of Target Budget</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	14,518	14,209	14,209	14,209
Premises	5	3	3	3
Transport	14	12	12	12
Supplies & Services	1,486	1,490	1,490	1,490
Third Party	880	880	880	880
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>16,903</b>	<b>16,594</b>	<b>16,594</b>	<b>16,594</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	2,439	2,394	2,394	2,394
Partner Contributions	918	918	918	918
Fees & Charges	1,594	2,069	2,069	2,069
Charges to Other Council Areas	1,722	1,730	1,730	1,730
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>6,673</b>	<b>7,111</b>	<b>7,111</b>	<b>7,111</b>
<b>Net Target Budget</b>	<b>10,230</b>	<b>9,483</b>	<b>9,483</b>	<b>9,483</b>

<b>Central Items</b>	<b>(38,342)</b>	<b>(19,489)</b>	<b>(8,256)</b>	<b>(8,253)</b>
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The directorate services are delivered through a range of units and teams. The above information provides an overview of the structure of the directorate and highlights the level of financial resources allocated to deliver the services that we provide.

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Finance	<b>UNIT:</b> Director	<b>Service Manager:</b> Simone Hines		
<b>Divisional Context:</b> The Finance Directorate is intergal in making sure that the council has stability in their finances. The Directorate is made up of three sections: Financial Management - Who ensure the financial stability of the council Revenues and Benefits - Who are responsible for the collection of Council Tax and NNDR and administer Housing Benefit Business Management - Administration and financial services for Adult Social Care				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget</b> 2021/22 £'000	<b>Target Budget</b> 2022/23 £'000	<b>Target Budget</b> 2023/24 £'000	<b>Target Budget</b> 2024/25 £'000
Employees	195	149	149	149
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	0	0	0	0
Supplies & Services	3	32	32	32
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>181</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Charges to Other Council Areas	49	32	32	32
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>149</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	2	1	1	1
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	2	1	1	1

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Finance	<b>UNIT:</b> Financial Management	<b>Service Manager:</b> Rebecca Maher		
<b>Divisional Context:</b> Financial Services comprises three areas, all of which are vital in ensuring the financial stability of the council. the three areas are:- • Finance, incorporating (1) Financial Reporting & Systems and (2) Financial Management • Audit, Fraud and Risk • Procurement				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget</b> 2021/22 £'000	<b>Target Budget</b> 2022/23 £'000	<b>Target Budget</b> 2023/24 £'000	<b>Target Budget</b> 2024/25 £'000
Employees	4,896	4,907	4,907	4,907
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	5	3	3	3
Supplies & Services	813	797	797	797
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>5,714</b>	<b>5,707</b>	<b>5,707</b>	<b>5,707</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	393	398	398	398
Charges to Other Council Areas	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,693</b>	<b>1,698</b>	<b>1,698</b>	<b>1,698</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>4,021</b>	<b>4,009</b>	<b>4,009</b>	<b>4,009</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	105	105	105	105
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	101	101	101	101

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

DIRECTORATE		UNIT:		Service Manager:	
Finance		Revenues and Benefits		Ian Dunn	
<b>Divisional Context:</b>					
Revenues and Benefits provide the following services:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The billing and collection of Council Tax and Non Domestic Rates and General Debt Recovery</li> <li>• Cashier services</li> <li>• Administration of Housing Benefit, Local Council Tax Reduction, Discretionary Housing Payments and Local Welfare Provision</li> </ul>					
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000	
Employees	6,089	5,794	5,794	5,794	
Premises	5	3	3	3	
Transport	4	4	4	4	
Supplies & Services	500	482	482	482	
Third Party	880	880	880	880	
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0	
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0	
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>7,478</b>	<b>7,163</b>	<b>7,163</b>	<b>7,163</b>	
<b>INCOME:-</b>					
Specific Grants	2,439	2,394	2,394	2,394	
Partner Contributions	918	918	918	918	
Fees & Charges	947	1,117	1,117	1,117	
Charges to Other Council Areas	237	262	262	262	
Other	0	0	0	0	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>4,541</b>	<b>4,691</b>	<b>4,691</b>	<b>4,691</b>	
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>2,937</b>	<b>2,472</b>	<b>2,472</b>	<b>2,472</b>	
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	191	178	178	178	
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	177	166	166	166	

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

DIRECTORATE		UNIT:		Service Manager:	
Finance		Business Management		Kay Murphy	
<b>Divisional Context:</b>					
Business Management includes business support to the ASC Directorate. It includes administration and a range of financially orientated services which deal with payments, social care charging and safeguarding vulnerable people's assets.					
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000	
Employees	3,338	3,359	3,359	3,359	
Premises	0	0	0	0	
Transport	5	5	5	5	
Supplies & Services	170	179	179	179	
Third Party	0	0	0	0	
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0	
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0	
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>3,513</b>	<b>3,543</b>	<b>3,543</b>	<b>3,543</b>	
<b>INCOME:-</b>					
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0	
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0	
Fees & Charges	254	554	554	554	
Charges to Other Council Areas	136	136	136	136	
Other	0	0	0	0	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>690</b>	
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>3,123</b>	<b>2,853</b>	<b>2,853</b>	<b>2,853</b>	
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	130	130	130	130	
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	113	113	113	113	

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>Total Finance</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	14,518	14,209	14,209	14,209
Premises	5	3	3	3
Transport	14	12	12	12
Supplies & Services	1,486	1,490	1,490	1,490
Third Party	880	880	880	880
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>16,903</b>	<b>16,594</b>	<b>16,594</b>	<b>16,594</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	2,439	2,394	2,394	2,394
Partner Contributions	918	918	918	918
Fees & Charges	1,594	2,069	2,069	2,069
Charges to Other Council Areas	1,722	1,730	1,730	1,730
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>6,673</b>	<b>7,111</b>	<b>7,111</b>	<b>7,111</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>10,230</b>	<b>9,483</b>	<b>9,483</b>	<b>9,483</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	428	414	414	414
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	393	381	381	381



Directorate: Housing Revenue Account	Director: Gillian Douglas
Total No. of Units: 8	

**Context:**  
The HRA is split into 8 distinct areas, with the main operational costs being split between 4 service managers that have a HRA and General Fund split. All costs and income relating to the provision of HRA services are contained within these 8 areas.

Unit Description:	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Asset Management & Maintenance	39,031	39,672	40,481	41,318
Borough Economy	3,558	3,572	3,643	3,714
Business Strategy & Change	3,357	3,305	3,351	3,398
Corporate HRA	48,776	48,904	49,574	50,007
Housing Management	13,021	14,394	14,434	14,708
PFI	(471)	(594)	(563)	(533)
Rents & Other Charges	(115,007)	(117,153)	(118,896)	(120,665)
SLA's	7,435	7,600	7,676	7,753
<b>* Total Net Target Budget:</b>	<b>(300)</b>	<b>(300)</b>	<b>(300)</b>	<b>(300)</b>
<b>* Staffing Levels:</b>	926	926	926	926
<b>* Total Full Time Equivalents</b>	913	883	883	883

Summary of Target Budget	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	39,129	38,478	39,263	40,069
Premises	2,521	2,678	2,830	3,000
Transport	2,154	2,155	2,180	2,203
Supplies & Services	42,622	43,849	44,092	44,564
Third Party	560	560	566	572
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	45,700	45,876	46,494	46,873
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>132,686</b>	<b>133,596</b>	<b>135,425</b>	<b>137,281</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	5,713	5,713	5,713	5,713
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	125,469	127,424	129,253	131,109
Charges to Other Council Areas	1,804	759	759	759
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>132,986</b>	<b>133,896</b>	<b>135,725</b>	<b>137,581</b>
<b>Net Target Budget</b>	<b>(300)</b>	<b>(300)</b>	<b>(300)</b>	<b>(300)</b>

The directorate services are delivered through a range of units and teams. The above information provides an overview of the structure of the directorate and highlights the level of financial resources allocated to deliver the services that we provide.

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> <b>Housing Revenue Account</b>	<b>UNIT:</b> <b>Asset Management &amp; Maintenance</b>	<b>Service Manager:</b> <b>Steve Greenhouse</b>		
<b>Context:</b> This service area is responsible for the repairs of and maintenance of the housing stock, along with the ongoing improvements associated with the capital programme				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	21,248	21,780	22,237	22,706
Premises	1,494	1,604	1,738	1,889
Transport	1,922	1,922	1,945	1,966
Supplies & Services	16,787	16,787	16,980	17,176
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>41,451</b>	<b>42,093</b>	<b>42,900</b>	<b>43,737</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	2,051	2,051	2,051	2,051
Charges to Other Council Areas	368	368	368	368
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,419</b>	<b>2,419</b>	<b>2,419</b>	<b>2,419</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>39,032</b>	<b>39,674</b>	<b>40,481</b>	<b>41,318</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>503</b>
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>498</b>

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> <b>Housing Revenue Account</b>	<b>UNIT:</b> <b>Borough Economy</b>	<b>Service Manager:</b>		
<b>Context:</b> This service looks after the grounds maintenance of HRA properties along with ASB & CCTV service				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	2,150	2,163	2,205	2,248
Premises	210	210	213	215
Transport	60	60	61	61
Supplies & Services	2,531	2,532	2,557	2,583
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>4,951</b>	<b>4,965</b>	<b>5,036</b>	<b>5,107</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	1,140	1,140	1,140	1,140
Charges to Other Council Areas	253	253	253	253
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,393</b>	<b>1,393</b>	<b>1,393</b>	<b>1,393</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>3,558</b>	<b>3,572</b>	<b>3,643</b>	<b>3,714</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>62</b>

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Housing Revenue Account	<b>UNIT:</b> Business Strategy & Change	<b>Service Manager:</b> Neil Cox		
<b>Context:</b> This service provides support to the HRA for strategic development, performance monitoring & customer contact				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	1,337	1,371	1,398	1,426
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	3	3	3	3
Supplies & Services	2,017	1,931	1,950	1,969
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>3,357</b>	<b>3,305</b>	<b>3,351</b>	<b>3,398</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Charges to Other Council Areas	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>3,357</b>	<b>3,305</b>	<b>3,351</b>	<b>3,398</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Housing Revenue Account	<b>UNIT:</b> Corporate HRA	<b>Service Manager:</b> Gillian Douglas		
<b>Context:</b> This includes non operational costs such as capital financing charges & pension liabilities.				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	2,506	2,456	2,504	2,554
Premises	125	125	126	128
Transport	3	3	3	3
Supplies & Services	449	449	454	456
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	45,700	45,876	46,494	46,873
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>48,783</b>	<b>48,909</b>	<b>49,581</b>	<b>50,014</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	7	7	7	7
Charges to Other Council Areas	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>48,776</b>	<b>48,902</b>	<b>49,574</b>	<b>50,007</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Housing Revenue Account	<b>UNIT:</b> Housing Management	<b>Service Manager:</b> Nigel Collumbell		
<b>Context:</b> This budget relates to the Director of Housing and Assets. This service is responsible for the management of local offices and letting of the Housing stock. It also includes income management services				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	11,888	10,708	10,919	11,135
Premises	389	436	446	458
Transport	165	166	167	169
Supplies & Services	2,711	4,071	3,883	3,921
Third Party	560	560	566	572
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>15,713</b>	<b>15,941</b>	<b>15,981</b>	<b>16,255</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	1,509	1,409	1,409	1,409
Charges to Other Council Areas	1,183	138	138	138
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,692</b>	<b>1,547</b>	<b>1,547</b>	<b>1,547</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>13,021</b>	<b>14,394</b>	<b>14,434</b>	<b>14,708</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	328	325	325	325
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	328	293	293	293

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Housing Revenue Account	<b>UNIT:</b> PFI	<b>Service Manager:</b> Trevor Fields		
<b>Context:</b> The management of the PFI stock is carried out by Riverside, with the contract running until 2031. The unitary fee is payable from here, along with the grant received from Central Government.				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	0	0	0	0
Premises	53	53	54	55
Transport	1	1	1	1
Supplies & Services	9,577	9,363	9,457	9,551
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>9,631</b>	<b>9,417</b>	<b>9,512</b>	<b>9,607</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	5,713	5,713	5,713	5,713
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	4,389	4,298	4,362	4,427
Charges to Other Council Areas	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>10,102</b>	<b>10,011</b>	<b>10,075</b>	<b>10,140</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>(471)</b>	<b>(594)</b>	<b>(563)</b>	<b>(533)</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	0	0	0	0

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Housing Revenue Account	<b>UNIT:</b> Rents & Other Charges	<b>Service Manager:</b> Gillian Douglas		
<b>Context:</b> This includes rental income from council properties and expenditure mainly relates to a provision for bad debts.				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget	Target Budget	Target Budget	Target Budget
	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
Employees	0	0	0	0
Premises	250	250	253	255
Transport	0	0	0	0
Supplies & Services	1,116	1,116	1,135	1,155
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>1,366</b>	<b>1,366</b>	<b>1,388</b>	<b>1,410</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	116,373	118,519	120,284	122,075
Charges to Other Council Areas	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>116,373</b>	<b>118,519</b>	<b>120,284</b>	<b>122,075</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>(115,007)</b>	<b>(117,153)</b>	<b>(118,896)</b>	<b>(120,665)</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	0	0	0	0

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Housing Revenue Account	<b>UNIT:</b> SLA's	<b>Service Manager:</b> Gillian Douglas		
<b>Context:</b> This is budgets for agreed internal support towards the HRA including ICT, Finance & HR				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget	Target Budget	Target Budget	Target Budget
	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
Employees	0	0	0	0
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	0	0	0	0
Supplies & Services	7,435	7,600	7,676	7,753
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>7,435</b>	<b>7,600</b>	<b>7,676</b>	<b>7,753</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Charges to Other Council Areas	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>7,435</b>	<b>7,600</b>	<b>7,676</b>	<b>7,753</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	0	0	0	0

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

Directorate: Housing & Assets	Director: Gillian Douglas
Total No. of Units: 5	

**Context:**  
 Housing & Assets will lead on all housing commissioning, delivery and management functions including strategic housing in the Council. We will lead on the management and monitoring of the private sector rented sector, with the objective of improving the quality of accommodation across the sector. This includes overseeing the administration of relevant licensing schemes.

Unit Description:	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Community Partnerships and Support Services	1,763	1,590	1,605	1,622
Income Management and Money Advice	359	202	202	202
Housing Solutions	984	912	923	934
Tenancy & Estate Management	(359)	(765)	(766)	(766)
Management	94	324	324	324
<b>* Total Net Target Budget:</b>	<b>2,841</b>	<b>2,263</b>	<b>2,288</b>	<b>2,316</b>
<b>* Staffing Levels:</b>	156	153	153	153
<b>* Total Full Time Equivalents</b>	141	142	142	142

Summary of Target Budget	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	5,223	7,137	7,137	7,137
Premises	2,696	1,567	1,592	1,620
Transport	49	48	48	48
Supplies & Services	3,164	2,361	2,361	2,361
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	3,878	3,878	3,878	3,878
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>15,010</b>	<b>14,991</b>	<b>15,016</b>	<b>15,044</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	3,108	2,004	2,004	2,004
Partner Contributions	1,020	589	589	589
Fees & Charges	946	1,377	1,377	1,377
Charges to Other Council Areas	3,510	5,173	5,173	5,173
Other	3,585	3,585	3,585	3,585
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>12,169</b>	<b>12,728</b>	<b>12,728</b>	<b>12,728</b>
<b>Net Target Budget</b>	<b>2,841</b>	<b>2,263</b>	<b>2,288</b>	<b>2,316</b>

The directorate services are delivered through a range of units and teams. The above information provides an overview of the structure of the directorate and highlights the level of financial resources allocated to deliver the services that we provide.

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Housing & Assets	<b>UNIT:</b> Community Partnerships and Support Services		<b>Service Manager:</b> Nigel Collumbell	
<b>Context:</b> This includes the development of relationships with the voluntary and community sector especially linked to community centres and floating support services.				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	1,819	2,329	2,329	2,329
Premises	224	236	249	266
Transport	25	24	24	24
Supplies & Services	1,333	853	853	853
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	138	138	138	138
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>3,539</b>	<b>3,580</b>	<b>3,593</b>	<b>3,610</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	580	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	61	64	64	64
Fees & Charges	97	97	97	97
Charges to Other Council Areas	1,037	1,827	1,827	1,827
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,775</b>	<b>1,988</b>	<b>1,988</b>	<b>1,988</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>1,764</b>	<b>1,592</b>	<b>1,605</b>	<b>1,622</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	62	54	54	54
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	51	45	45	45

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Housing & Assets	<b>UNIT:</b> Income Management and Money Advice		<b>Service Manager:</b> Nigel Collumbell	
<b>Context:</b> This service includes Welfare Rights and Right to Buy.				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	1,062	1,099	1,099	1,099
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	9	4	4	4
Supplies & Services	177	177	177	177
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>1,248</b>	<b>1,280</b>	<b>1,280</b>	<b>1,280</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Charges to Other Council Areas	889	1,078	1,078	1,078
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>1,078</b>	<b>1,078</b>	<b>1,078</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>202</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	26	26	26	26
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	25	25	25	25

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Housing & Assets	<b>UNIT:</b> Housing Solutions	<b>Service Manager:</b> Nigel Collumbell		
<b>Context:</b> This service provides homelessness support and locality working in the borough as well as private sector housing.				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	2,509	3,619	3,619	3,619
Premises	2,281	1,124	1,135	1,146
Transport	16	20	20	20
Supplies & Services	1,548	1,262	1,262	1,262
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	3,359	3,359	3,359	3,359
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>9,713</b>	<b>9,384</b>	<b>9,395</b>	<b>9,406</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	2,528	2,004	2,004	2,004
Partner Contributions	959	525	525	525
Fees & Charges	73	91	91	91
Charges to Other Council Areas	1,584	2,267	2,267	2,267
Other	3,585	3,585	3,585	3,585
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>8,729</b>	<b>8,472</b>	<b>8,472</b>	<b>8,472</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>984</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>923</b>	<b>934</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	66	71	71	71
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	63	70	70	70

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Housing & Assets	<b>UNIT:</b> Tenancy & Estate Management	<b>Service Manager:</b> Nigel Collumbell		
<b>Context:</b> This service includes garage rentals and traveller sites.				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	21	22	22	22
Premises	191	208	208	208
Transport	0	0	0	0
Supplies & Services	51	40	40	40
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	154	154	154	154
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>424</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	776	1,189	1,190	1,190
Charges to Other Council Areas	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>776</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>1,190</b>	<b>1,190</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>(359)</b>	<b>(765)</b>	<b>(766)</b>	<b>(766)</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	1	1	1	1
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	1	1	1	1

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)



<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Housing & Assets	<b>UNIT:</b> Management		<b>Service Manager:</b> Gillian Douglas	
<b>Context:</b> This budget relates to the Director of Housing and Assets.				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	(188)	68	68	68
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	0	0	0	0
Supplies & Services	55	29	29	29
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	227	227	227	227
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>324</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Charges to Other Council Areas	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>324</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	1	1	1	1
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	1	1	1	1

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Total Housing & Assets	<b>UNIT:</b>		<b>Service Manager:</b>	
<b>Context:</b>				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	5,223	7,137	7,137	7,137
Premises	2,696	1,567	1,592	1,620
Transport	49	48	48	48
Supplies & Services	3,164	2,361	2,361	2,361
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	3,878	3,878	3,878	3,878
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>15,010</b>	<b>14,991</b>	<b>15,016</b>	<b>15,044</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	3,108	2,004	2,004	2,004
Partner Contributions	1,020	589	589	589
Fees & Charges	946	1,377	1,377	1,377
Charges to Other Council Areas	3,510	5,173	5,173	5,173
Other	3,585	3,585	3,585	3,585
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>12,169</b>	<b>12,728</b>	<b>12,728</b>	<b>12,728</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>2,841</b>	<b>2,263</b>	<b>2,288</b>	<b>2,316</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	156	153	153	153
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	141	142	142	142

Directorate: Law and Governance		Director: Surjit Tour		
Total No. of Units: 3				
<b>Divisional Context:</b> Law and Governance Services comprises three divisions, delivering a wide range of excellent services to all the communities of Sandwell: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal Services</li> <li>• Governance Services</li> <li>• Registration Services</li> </ul>				
Unit Description:	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Director	359	177	177	177
Legal	1,140	1,669	1,669	1,669
Registration Services	(1,578)	(1,793)	(1,762)	(1,727)
Democracy	1,589	2,109	2,109	2,109
<b>* Total Net Target Budget:</b>	<b>1,510</b>	<b>2,162</b>	<b>2,193</b>	<b>2,228</b>
<b>* Staffing Levels:</b>	178	198	198	198
<b>* Total Full Time Equivalents</b>	171	191	191	191

Summary of Target Budget	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	7,936	8,903	9,014	9,014
Premises	574	569	639	674
Transport	86	87	101	101
Supplies & Services	1,939	1,954	1,996	1,996
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	119	116	116	116
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>10,654</b>	<b>11,629</b>	<b>11,866</b>	<b>11,901</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	7,291	7,612	7,818	7,818
Charges to Other Council Areas	1,853	1,855	1,855	1,855
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>9,144</b>	<b>9,467</b>	<b>9,673</b>	<b>9,673</b>
<b>Net Target Budget</b>	<b>1,510</b>	<b>2,162</b>	<b>2,193</b>	<b>2,228</b>

<b>Central Items</b>	<b>2,157</b>	<b>2,191</b>	<b>2,220</b>	<b>2,220</b>
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The directorate services are delivered through a range of units and teams. The above information provides an overview of the structure of the directorate and highlights the level of financial resources allocated to deliver the services that we provide.

DIRECTORATE Law and Governance		UNIT: Director		Service Manager: Surjit Tour	
<b>Divisional Context:</b> Law and Governance Services comprises three divisions, delivering a wide range of excellent services to all the communities of Sandwell: • Legal Services • Governance Services • Registration Services					
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000	
Employees	449	267	267	267	
Premises	0	0	0	0	
Transport	0	0	0	0	
Supplies & Services	0	0	0	0	
Third Party	0	0	0	0	
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0	
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0	
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>267</b>	
<b>INCOME:-</b>					
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0	
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0	
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0	
Charges to Other Council Areas	90	90	90	90	
Other	0	0	0	0	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>177</b>	
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

DIRECTORATE Law and Governance		UNIT: Legal		Service Manager: Maria Price	
<b>Divisional Context:</b> Legal services offers a number of services to internal and external customers. This includes contract work, notice to quit and planning.					
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000	
Employees	3,692	4,145	4,145	4,145	
Premises	0	0	0	0	
Transport	8	8	8	8	
Supplies & Services	861	851	851	851	
Third Party	0	0	0	0	
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0	
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0	
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>4,561</b>	<b>5,004</b>	<b>5,004</b>	<b>5,004</b>	
<b>INCOME:-</b>					
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0	
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0	
Fees & Charges	2,190	2,104	2,104	2,104	
Charges to Other Council Areas	1,231	1,230	1,230	1,230	
Other	0	0	0	0	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>3,421</b>	<b>3,335</b>	<b>3,335</b>	<b>3,335</b>	
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>1,140</b>	<b>1,669</b>	<b>1,669</b>	<b>1,669</b>	
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>79</b>	
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>79</b>	

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

DIRECTORATE		UNIT:		Service Manager:	
Law and Governance		Registration Services		Mark Satchwell	
<b>Divisional Context:</b>					
Registration Services provides a range of services supporting individuals and communities through life changing events, including the registration of deaths and births, weddings, civil partnerships and citizenship ceremonies, burial and cremation registration, the management of cemeteries and crematoria and the provision of memorials to the families of Sandwell and neighbouring local authorities. As the relevant authority, the service is also responsible for providing the Senior Coroner for the Black Country with the necessary resources to enable him/her to discharge their judicial responsibilities					
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000	
Employees	2,088	2,350	2,461	2,461	
Premises	524	519	589	624	
Transport	63	63	77	77	
Supplies & Services	737	673	715	715	
Third Party	0	0	0	0	
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0	
Capital Charges	116	114	114	114	
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>3,528</b>	<b>3,719</b>	<b>3,956</b>	<b>3,991</b>	
<b>INCOME:-</b>					
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0	
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0	
Fees & Charges	5,101	5,508	5,713	5,713	
Charges to Other Council Areas	5	5	5	5	
Other	0	0	0	0	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>5,106</b>	<b>5,513</b>	<b>5,718</b>	<b>5,718</b>	
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>(1,578)</b>	<b>(1,794)</b>	<b>(1,762)</b>	<b>(1,727)</b>	
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	66	73	77	77	
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	61	68	72	72	

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

DIRECTORATE		UNIT:		Service Manager:	
Law and Governance		Democracy		Elaine Newsome	
<b>Divisional Context:</b>					
Democracy is responsible for delivering core statutory functions relating to electoral registration, elections, referenda and management of the decision making infrastructure. The service also provides support to all elected members					
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000	
Employees	1,707	2,141	2,141	2,141	
Premises	50	50	50	50	
Transport	15	16	16	16	
Supplies & Services	341	430	430	430	
Third Party	0	0	0	0	
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0	
Capital Charges	3	2	2	2	
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>2,116</b>	<b>2,639</b>	<b>2,639</b>	<b>2,639</b>	
<b>INCOME:-</b>					
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0	
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0	
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0	
Charges to Other Council Areas	527	530	530	530	
Other	0	0	0	0	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>530</b>	
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>1,589</b>	<b>2,109</b>	<b>2,109</b>	<b>2,109</b>	
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	37	38	38	38	
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	35	36	36	36	

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>Total Law &amp; Governance</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	7,936	8,903	9,014	9,014
Premises	574	569	639	674
Transport	86	87	101	101
Supplies & Services	1,939	1,954	1,996	1,996
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	119	116	116	116
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>10,654</b>	<b>11,629</b>	<b>11,866</b>	<b>11,901</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	7,291	7,612	7,818	7,818
Charges to Other Council Areas	1,853	1,855	1,855	1,855
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>9,144</b>	<b>9,467</b>	<b>9,673</b>	<b>9,673</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>1,510</b>	<b>2,162</b>	<b>2,193</b>	<b>2,228</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	178	198	198	198
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	171	191	191	191

**DIRECTORATE PLANNING - WHOLE BUDGET 2022/2025**

<b>Directorate: Public Health</b>	<b>Director: Dr Lisa McNally</b>
<b>Total No. of Units: 8</b>	

**Context:**  
Public Health seeks to improve the physical and mental health and wellbeing of Sandwell residents. This involves: protecting communities from public health hazards such as infectious diseases and environmental threats; reducing health inequalities, by resourcing and delivering services at a scale and intensity proportionate to the degree of need; and influencing stakeholders both within and outside the council to improve the health and wellbeing of the population and to ensure they consider the health impacts of all policies. The public health budget is used to tackle the wide range of determinants of health affecting communities in Sandwell and supports the delivery of many services including Health Visiting, School Nursing, Stop Smoking Services, Sexual Health, NHS Health Checks, Drug and Alcohol, Physical Activity and Weight Management Services. The Pollution Control Team moving into public health has strengthened our ability to influence how environmental issues such as how air pollution, the planning process and environmental permitting impacts human health. The Director of Public Health is the statutory chief officer and champion for health across the whole of the local authority and is the principal advisor for all health matters to elected members, officers, and partners across the local economy.

<b>Unit Description:</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
<b>Communicable Disease</b>	3,220	3,270	3,270	3,270
<b>Long Term Conditions</b>	2,414	2,507	2,507	2,507
<b>Childrens</b>	10,055	10,274	10,274	10,274
<b>Substance Misuse &amp; Smoking</b>	3,547	3,747	3,749	3,750
<b>Wider Determinants</b>	4,143	4,192	4,192	4,192
<b>Public Health Management</b>	2,231	2,253	2,253	2,253
<b>Public Health Grant</b>	(25,111)	(25,263)	(25,263)	(25,263)
<b>Public Health Savings Target</b>	(222)	(916)	(918)	(919)
<b>* Total Net Target Budget:</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>* Staffing Levels:</b>	65	69	69	69
<b>* Total Full Time Equivalents</b>	62	67	67	67

<b>Summary of Target Budget</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	3,631	2,804	2,802	2,801
Premises	183	186	187	188
Transport	6	7	7	7
Supplies & Services	24,672	22,588	22,589	22,589
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	6	6	6	6
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>28,498</b>	<b>25,591</b>	<b>25,591</b>	<b>25,591</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	27,879	25,263	25,263	25,263
Partner Contributions	189	10	10	10
Fees & Charges	74	74	74	74
Charges to Other Council Areas	79	180	180	180
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>28,221</b>	<b>25,527</b>	<b>25,527</b>	<b>25,527</b>
<b>Net Target Budget</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>64</b>

The directorate services are delivered through a range of units and teams. The above information provides an overview of the structure of the directorate and highlights the level of financial resources allocated to deliver the services that we provide.

<b>DIRECTORATE</b>	<b>UNIT:</b>	<b>Service Manager:</b>		
Public Health	Communicable Disease	Valerie Unsworth		
<b>Context:</b>				
Communicable diseases are spread from person to person and usually caused by bacteria or viruses. The role of prevention of these diseases (e.g. through vaccination) is vital, particularly in the context of the rise of antimicrobial resistance. This unit provides assurance and services to protect the population from communicable diseases including mandatory genitourinary medicine.				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	568	276	276	276
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	1	1	1	1
Supplies & Services	4,073	2,993	2,993	2,993
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>4,642</b>	<b>3,270</b>	<b>3,270</b>	<b>3,270</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	1,422	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Charges to Other Council Areas	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,422</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>3,220</b>	<b>3,270</b>	<b>3,270</b>	<b>3,270</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	2	4	4	4
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	2	4	4	4
<i>(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)</i>				
<b>DIRECTORATE</b>	<b>UNIT:</b>	<b>Service Manager:</b>		
Public Health	Long Term Conditions	Katie Deeley		
<b>Context:</b>				
Obesity has been rising in our population over the last quarter of a century and is a major threat to the residents' quality and length of life. We provide services to support people in managing their weight, eating healthy diets, promoting exercise as well as the mandatory NHS Health Checks programme designed to identify those at risk of long-term conditions.				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	903	955	955	955
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	2	3	3	3
Supplies & Services	1,974	1,703	1,703	1,703
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>2,879</b>	<b>2,661</b>	<b>2,661</b>	<b>2,661</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	321	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	74	74	74	74
Charges to Other Council Areas	70	80	80	80
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>154</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>2,414</b>	<b>2,507</b>	<b>2,507</b>	<b>2,507</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	18	19	19	19
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	18	19	19	19
<i>(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)</i>				

<b>DIRECTORATE</b>	<b>UNIT:</b>		<b>Service Manager:</b>	
<b>Public Health</b>	<b>Childrens</b>		<b>Sarah Farmer</b>	
<b>Context:</b>				
Included here are our programmes to improve the health of children and adolescents. Covering mandatory service such as the health child programme and national child measurement programme, as well as improving health in partnership with schools, teenage pregnancy prevention and family nurse partnership, parenting, breast feeding, health visiting and school nursing services.				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	168	286	286	286
Premises	126	126	126	126
Transport	0	0	0	0
Supplies & Services	9,761	9,862	9,862	9,862
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>10,055</b>	<b>10,274</b>	<b>10,274</b>	<b>10,274</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Charges to Other Council Areas	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>10,055</b>	<b>10,274</b>	<b>10,274</b>	<b>10,274</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	6	5	5	5
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	6	5	5	5
<i>(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)</i>				

<b>DIRECTORATE</b>	<b>UNIT:</b>		<b>Service Manager:</b>	
<b>Public Health</b>	<b>Substance Misuse &amp; Smoking</b>		<b>Mary Bailey</b>	
<b>Context:</b>				
Death rates and hospital admissions due to alcohol are rising. Alcohol misuse is also associated with many social problems such as anti-social behaviour and violence. This unit develops strategic approaches to the prevention of addictive and harmful substance misuse, including alcohol, drugs and tobacco as well as providing treatment services for those who want to quit.				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	192	200	200	200
Premises	57	60	61	62
Transport	1	1	1	1
Supplies & Services	3,698	3,570	3,571	3,571
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	6	6	6	6
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>3,954</b>	<b>3,837</b>	<b>3,839</b>	<b>3,840</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	407	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Charges to Other Council Areas	0	90	90	90
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>3,547</b>	<b>3,747</b>	<b>3,749</b>	<b>3,750</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	3	3	3	3
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	3	3	3	3
<i>(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)</i>				



<b>DIRECTORATE</b>	<b>UNIT:</b>	<b>Service Manager:</b>		
<b>Public Health</b>	<b>Wider Determinants</b>	<b>Eilish James</b>		
<b>Context:</b>				
We understand that factors such as education, housing, transport, employment and the environment have a much more profound effect on how well and how long people live, than health care services. Such factors also have an impact on emotional health and wellbeing and this in turn can impact on lifestyles such as alcohol consumption or smoking. We develop and invest in programmes to maximise health benefits through the wider determinants and wellbeing.				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	655	737	737	737
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	1	1	1	1
Supplies & Services	4,120	3,454	3,454	3,454
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>4,776</b>	<b>4,192</b>	<b>4,192</b>	<b>4,192</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	618	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	15	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Charges to Other Council Areas	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>633</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>4,143</b>	<b>4,192</b>	<b>4,192</b>	<b>4,192</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	14	16	16	16
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	13	15	15	15
<i>(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)</i>				
<b>DIRECTORATE</b>	<b>UNIT:</b>	<b>Service Manager:</b>		
<b>Public Health</b>	<b>Public Health Management</b>	<b>Lisa McNally</b>		
<b>Context:</b>				
Understanding the needs of our population, evaluating services, learning from published evidence, are all key to ensuring that we provide the right services to our population and make the best of available resources. This unit provides these important services for the directorate, the council and the CCG as part of our statutory requirements.				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	1,367	1,266	1,266	1,266
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	1	1	1	1
Supplies & Services	1,046	1,006	1,006	1,006
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>2,414</b>	<b>2,273</b>	<b>2,273</b>	<b>2,273</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	174	10	10	10
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Charges to Other Council Areas	9	10	10	10
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>2,231</b>	<b>2,253</b>	<b>2,253</b>	<b>2,253</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	22	22	22	22
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	21	21	21	21
<i>(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)</i>				

<b>DIRECTORATE</b>	<b>UNIT:</b>		<b>Service Manager:</b>	
Public Health	Public Health Grant		Lisa McNally	
<b>Context:</b>				
Public Health Grant is used to fund the services identified on these templates and is received on an annual basis.				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	0	0	0	0
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	0	0	0	0
Supplies & Services	0	0	0	0
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	25,111	25,263	25,263	25,263
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Charges to Other Council Areas	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>25,111</b>	<b>25,263</b>	<b>25,263</b>	<b>25,263</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>(25,111)</b>	<b>(25,263)</b>	<b>(25,263)</b>	<b>(25,263)</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	0	0	0	0
<i>(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)</i>				
<b>DIRECTORATE</b>	<b>UNIT:</b>		<b>Service Manager:</b>	
Public Health	Public Health Savings Target		Lisa McNally	
<b>Context:</b>				
The allocated budgets exceed the annual value of the Public Health Grant. For long term financial sustainability efficiencies and budget savings will need to be identified. However, in the short term services can be maintained at current levels through the application of the Public Health Reserve which has been funded from historic under spends against the PH Grant.				
<b>Target Budget Line</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	(222)	(916)	(918)	(919)
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	0	0	0	0
Supplies & Services	0	0	0	0
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>(222)</b>	<b>(916)</b>	<b>(918)</b>	<b>(919)</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Charges to Other Council Areas	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>(222)</b>	<b>(916)</b>	<b>(918)</b>	<b>(919)</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	0	0	0	0
<i>(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)</i>				

<b>Total Public Health</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	3,631	2,804	2,802	2,801
Premises	183	186	187	188
Transport	6	7	7	7
Supplies & Services	24,672	22,588	22,589	22,589
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	6	6	6	6
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>28,498</b>	<b>25,591</b>	<b>25,591</b>	<b>25,591</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	27,879	25,263	25,263	25,263
Partner Contributions	189	10	10	10
Fees & Charges	74	74	74	74
Charges to Other Council Areas	79	180	180	180
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>28,221</b>	<b>25,527</b>	<b>25,527</b>	<b>25,527</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	65	69	69	69
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	62	67	67	67

Directorate: Regeneration & Growth	Director: Tony McGovern
Total No. of Units: 4	

**Context:**

The directorate vision is to ensure the smooth and effective delivery of Sandwell Council's Regeneration Strategy together with ensuring that there are robust planning and development controls are in place leading on strategic regeneration opportunities as well as supporting work with the Combined Authority and the Black Country Partnership as they relate to regeneration issues. The key focus will be the Regeneration and Inclusive Growth as well as working with partners and local members, consulting with residents and local school pupils to identify the priorities for each of our six unique towns leading to healthier communities, increased employment opportunities, prevention and response to community issues and positive regeneration of places and communities.

Unit Description:	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Growth and Spatial Planning	2,149	2,399	2,399	2,399
Development Planning and Building Control	507	662	662	662
Strategic Assets and Land	6,866	6,194	6,447	6,737
Regeneration and Growth Management	682	412	412	412
<b>* Total Net Target Budget:</b>	<b>10,204</b>	<b>9,667</b>	<b>9,920</b>	<b>10,210</b>
<b>* Staffing Levels:</b>	314	323	323	323
<b>* Total Full Time Equivalents</b>	259	267	267	267

Summary of Target Budget	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	11,600	11,960	11,960	11,960
Premises	12,639	11,467	11,720	12,010
Transport	69	59	59	59
Supplies & Services	6,031	6,250	6,250	6,250
Third Party	15	15	15	15
Transfer Payments	1	1	1	1
Capital Charges	1,210	1,210	1,210	1,210
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>31,565</b>	<b>30,962</b>	<b>31,215</b>	<b>31,505</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	185	193	193	193
Partner Contributions	473	723	723	723
Fees & Charges	13,068	12,676	12,676	12,676
Charges to Other Council Areas	7,635	7,703	7,703	7,703
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>21,361</b>	<b>21,295</b>	<b>21,295</b>	<b>21,295</b>
<b>Net Target Budget</b>	<b>10,204</b>	<b>9,667</b>	<b>9,920</b>	<b>10,210</b>

The directorate services are delivered through a range of units and teams. The above information provides an overview of the structure of the directorate and highlights the level of financial resources allocated to deliver the services that we provide.

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Regeneration & Growth	<b>UNIT:</b> Growth and Spatial Planning		<b>Service Manager:</b> Tammy Stokes	
<b>Context:</b> This includes regeneration, strategic policy, transportation, housing and partnerships.				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	2,225	2,455	2,455	2,455
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	10	5	5	5
Supplies & Services	1,071	1,451	1,451	1,451
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>3,306</b>	<b>3,911</b>	<b>3,911</b>	<b>3,911</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	185	193	193	193
Partner Contributions	338	588	588	588
Fees & Charges	145	195	195	195
Charges to Other Council Areas	489	536	536	536
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,157</b>	<b>1,512</b>	<b>1,512</b>	<b>1,512</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>2,149</b>	<b>2,399</b>	<b>2,399</b>	<b>2,399</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	43	51	51	51
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	40	48	48	48

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Regeneration & Growth	<b>UNIT:</b> Development Planning and Building Control		<b>Service Manager:</b> John Baker	
<b>Context:</b> This includes development management, building consultancy, systems and services and land charges.				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	1,991	2,098	2,098	2,098
Premises	2	0	0	0
Transport	10	9	9	9
Supplies & Services	249	430	430	430
Third Party	0	0	0	0
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	3	3	3	3
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>2,255</b>	<b>2,540</b>	<b>2,540</b>	<b>2,540</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	1,650	1,758	1,758	1,758
Charges to Other Council Areas	98	119	119	119
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,748</b>	<b>1,877</b>	<b>1,877</b>	<b>1,877</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>662</b>	<b>662</b>	<b>662</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	51	51	51	51
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	46	46	46	46

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Regeneration & Growth	<b>UNIT:</b> Strategic Assets and Land	<b>Service Manager:</b> Vacant		
<b>Context:</b> This includes asset management, facilities management, urban design and building services, development and commercial property and markets.				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	7,056	7,211	7,211	7,211
Premises	12,636	11,467	11,720	12,010
Transport	49	45	45	45
Supplies & Services	4,367	4,163	4,163	4,163
Third Party	5	5	5	5
Transfer Payments	1	1	1	1
Capital Charges	1,208	1,208	1,208	1,208
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>25,322</b>	<b>24,100</b>	<b>24,353</b>	<b>24,643</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	135	135	135	135
Fees & Charges	11,273	10,722	10,722	10,722
Charges to Other Council Areas	7,048	7,048	7,048	7,048
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>18,456</b>	<b>17,905</b>	<b>17,905</b>	<b>17,905</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>6,866</b>	<b>6,194</b>	<b>6,447</b>	<b>6,737</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	216	219	219	219
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	170	171	171	171

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Regeneration & Growth	<b>UNIT:</b> Regeneration and Growth Management	<b>Service Manager:</b> Tony McGovern		
<b>Context:</b> This relates to budgets directly controlled by the Regeneration & Growth director including the contribution to the Black Country Consortium				
Target Budget Line	Target Budget 2021/22 £'000	Target Budget 2022/23 £'000	Target Budget 2023/24 £'000	Target Budget 2024/25 £'000
Employees	328	196	196	196
Premises	0	0	0	0
Transport	0	0	0	0
Supplies & Services	345	206	206	206
Third Party	10	10	10	10
Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0
Capital Charges	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>683</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>412</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	0	0	0	0
Partner Contributions	0	0	0	0
Fees & Charges	0	0	0	0
Charges to Other Council Areas	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>412</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	4	2	2	2
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	4	2	2	2

(1) (Totals to be transferred to overall summary doc.)

<b>DIRECTORATE</b> Regeneration & Growth	<b>UNIT:</b> Total R&G		<b>Service Manager:</b>	
<b>Context:</b>				
<b>Total Regeneration &amp; Growth</b>	<b>Target Budget 2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2022/23 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2023/24 £'000</b>	<b>Target Budget 2024/25 £'000</b>
Employees	11,600	11,960	11,960	11,960
Premises	12,639	11,467	11,720	12,010
Transport	69	59	59	59
Supplies & Services	6,031	6,250	6,250	6,250
Third Party	15	15	15	15
Transfer Payments	1	1	1	1
Capital Charges	1,210	1,210	1,210	1,210
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>31,565</b>	<b>30,962</b>	<b>31,215</b>	<b>31,505</b>
<b>INCOME:-</b>				
Specific Grants	185	193	193	193
Partner Contributions	473	723	723	723
Fees & Charges	13,068	12,676	12,676	12,676
Charges to Other Council Areas	7,635	7,703	7,703	7,703
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>21,361</b>	<b>21,295</b>	<b>21,295</b>	<b>21,295</b>
<b>Net Expenditure - GRAND TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>10,204</b>	<b>9,667</b>	<b>9,920</b>	<b>10,210</b>
<b>Staffing Levels: (1)</b>	314	323	323	323
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent (1)</b>	259	267	267	267

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<b>Earmarked Reserve Balances</b>	<b>31/03/2021</b>	<b>31/03/2022</b>	<b>31/03/2023</b>
Ring-fenced Grants	(17,390)	(16,850)	(16,850)
Risk	(26,843)	(24,946)	(24,446)
Capital and Regeneration	(28,799)	(26,758)	(26,401)
Service related and future projects	(7,928)	(6,119)	(5,173)
NNDR S31	(34,390)	(30,896)	0
COVID	(20,245)	(8,245)	0
	<b><u>(135,595)</u></b>	<b><u>(113,814)</u></b>	<b><u>(72,870)</u></b>
 <b>General Fund Unallocated Balance</b>	 (8,431)	 (12,400)	 (12,600)

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## **SECTION 25 ASSURANCE STATEMENT**

### **Report of the Acting S151 Officer as required by Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003**

Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 requires the designated Chief Finance Officer of the Authority (Director of Finance) to report to it on the following matters:

(a) the robustness of the estimates for the purposes of the statutory budget calculation;

(b) the adequacy of the proposed financial reserves;

and the Authority must then have regard to that report when making decisions about the statutory budget calculations.

#### **Robustness of estimates**

The estimates upon which the final budget proposals are based include reasonable assumptions of expenditure and income, based on known commitments, a prudent allowance for pay awards and spending pressures and an appropriate assessment of the potential risks and uncertainties. The S151 Officer has been involved throughout the budget process, working closely with the Finance Team and engaging with Leadership Team and Cabinet. The S151 Officer has also had regard to the availability of external funding, particularly specific Government Grants and partnership funding and income levels from fees and charges.

Assumptions have also been made regarding the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Government funding that has been announced to fund this, although it must be noted that there is still much uncertainty around the long-term impact of the pandemic on the Council's services and financial position.

The budget is risk assessed to ensure that the Council has adequate funding identified for known liabilities and to provide sufficient capacity for the Council to carry out the required service redesign and transformation programmes over the Medium-Term Financial Plan period. The risk assessment has highlighted key risks around:

- The potential impact of COVID-19
- Inflationary pressures given the exceptionally high inflation in the UK at the time of setting the budget
- Reductions in income from services
- Increased service demand, specifically in Adults and Children's Social Care
- Future changes to Local Government funding, particularly in relation to Business Rates Retention and the Fair Funding review
- Unachieved savings or lead-in time to deliver future savings

The risk assessment sets out where existing reserve cover exists and concludes that it would be prudent to establish a Financial Planning Reserve of £2.5m, which has been set based on 0.5% of gross spend. This will provide contingency against in-year pressures and capacity to manage savings targets and transformation programmes. This is discussed further in the next section.

### The adequacy of the proposed financial reserves

The table below shows the forecast movement on General Fund reserves, excluding schools as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, 2022 and 2023.

	<b>31/03/2021</b> <b>£m</b>	<b>31/03/2022</b> <b>£'m</b>	<b>31/03/2023</b> <b>£'m</b>
Earmarked Reserve Balances	135.595	113.814	72.870
General Fund unallocated balance	8.431	12.400	12.600
<b>Total</b>	<b>114.026</b>	<b>126.214</b>	<b>85.470</b>

The 2021/22 budget utilised reserves to fund one-off COVID pressures and released earmarked reserves for use in the budget following a review of reserves requirements. The S25 Assurance Statement from 2021/22 noted that reserves would need to be replenished in future years and a longer-term savings plan developed. As such, part of the budget strategy in 2022/23 has been to increase the level of General Fund Unallocated balance and ensure that earmarked reserves are of a sufficient level to cover identified risks and commitments but also provide capacity for the organisation to transform and redesign services.

Whilst reserves are reducing over the next three years, this is largely due to use of COVID-19 funding and Business Rates COVID funding. The earmarked reserve balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 and 2023 are sufficient to meet the risks and commitments that the Council faces.

The table above demonstrates that the General Fund unallocated balance will increase to £11.4m as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. This is subject to the outturn position for 2021/22 and whether any forecast underspend is added to the unallocated balance or earmarked for specific commitments.

The Council will always aim is to have a prudent level of unallocated balance of 5% of the total net general fund revenue budget which is approx. £12m based on the 2022/23 net budget.

**The Opinion of the S151 Officer:**

The budget for 2022/23 has been prepared based on reasonable and prudent estimates with a supporting risk assessment. The level of reserves has been assessed as being of a sufficient level to meet the financial risks that the Council faces. I can therefore confirm that:

(a) the estimates made for the purposes of the calculation of the Council's budget requirement under Section 32 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, contained in this report, are robust;

(b) the financial reserves that will remain available to the Council as a result of agreeing the proposals contained in this report are adequate to enable the setting of a lawful budget for 2022/23.

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**SANDWELL M.B.C. - CAPITAL PROGRAMME - 2021/22 - 2025/26 (As At Dec 2021)****SERVICE SUMMARY**

	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	Total
<b><u>Director of Finance</u></b>						
Main Programme	0	6	0	0	0	6
Grant / Self Financing	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>	<b><i>6</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>	<b><i>6</i></b>
<b><u>Law &amp; Governance</u></b>						
Main Programme	1,100	4,525	0	0	0	5,625
Grant / Self Financing	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><i>1,100</i></b>	<b><i>4,525</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>	<b><i>5,625</i></b>
<b><u>Business Strategy &amp; Change</u></b>						
Main Programme	325	3,963	1,200	1,200	1,200	7,888
Grant / Self Financing	0	33	0	0	0	33
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><i>325</i></b>	<b><i>3,996</i></b>	<b><i>1,200</i></b>	<b><i>1,200</i></b>	<b><i>1,200</i></b>	<b><i>7,921</i></b>
<b><u>Adult Social Care</u></b>						
Main Programme	11,674	110	0	0	0	11,784
Grant / Self Financing	781	1,023	0	0	0	1,804
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><i>12,455</i></b>	<b><i>1,133</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>	<b><i>13,588</i></b>
<b><u>Public Health</u></b>						
Main Programme	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grant / Self Financing	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>
<b><u>Borough Economy</u></b>						
Main Programme	2,796	4,566	1,520	1,520	1,520	11,922
Grant / Self Financing	9,587	7,335	5,094	5,094	5,094	32,204
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><i>12,383</i></b>	<b><i>11,901</i></b>	<b><i>6,614</i></b>	<b><i>6,614</i></b>	<b><i>6,614</i></b>	<b><i>44,126</i></b>
<b><u>Regeneration &amp; Growth</u></b>						
Main Programme	12,388	12,582	1,217	1,300	1,300	28,787
Grant / Self Financing	27,365	8,444	0	0	0	35,809





**SANDWELL M.B.C. - CAPITAL PROGRAMME - 2021/22 - 2025/26 (As At Dec 2021)**

**SERVICE SUMMARY**

	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	Total
<b><u>Housing &amp; Assets</u></b>						
Main Programme	703	970	0	0	0	1,673
Grant / Self Financing	3,813	10,300	3,300	3,300	3,300	24,013
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>4,516</b>	<b>11,270</b>	<b>3,300</b>	<b>3,300</b>	<b>3,300</b>	<b>25,686</b>
<b><u>Childrens</u></b>						
Main Programme	0	81	0	0	0	81
Grant / Self Financing	12,523	6	0	0	0	12,529
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>12,523</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12,610</b>
<b><u>HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT</u></b>						
Main Programme	66,058	69,511	45,612	45,612	45,612	272,405
Grant / Self Financing	1,318	0	0	0	0	1,318
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>67,376</b>	<b>69,511</b>	<b>45,612</b>	<b>45,612</b>	<b>45,612</b>	<b>273,723</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>150,431</b>	<b>123,455</b>	<b>57,943</b>	<b>58,026</b>	<b>58,026</b>	<b>447,881</b>
Check	150,431	123,455	57,943	58,026	58,026	447,881

**COUNCIL SUMMARY**

	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	Total
<b><u>SANDWELL MBC</u></b>						
Main Programme	95,044	96,314	49,549	49,632	49,632	340,171
Grant / Self Financing	55,387	27,141	8,394	8,394	8,394	107,710
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>150,431</b>	<b>123,455</b>	<b>57,943</b>	<b>58,026</b>	<b>58,026</b>	<b>447,881</b>

**SANDWELL M.B.C. - CAPITAL PROGRAMME - 2021/22 - 2025/26 (As At Dec 2021)**

**DIRECTOR OF FINANCE - AWAITING FURTHER REPORTS / SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b><u>£'000</u></b>	<b><u>£'000</u></b>	<b><u>£'000</u></b>	<b><u>£'000</u></b>	<b><u>£'000</u></b>
<b><u>Main Programme :</u></b>					
<b><u>Supported Borrowing:</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Prudential Borrowing:</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>RCCO</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Thematic Pot - Unallocated</u></b>					
3rd Floor - Providence Place	0	6	0	0	0
<b><u>Other Main Programme Resources</u></b>					
	0	0	0	0	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>6</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>
<b><u>Grant / Self Financing :</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>6</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>

**SANDWELL M.B.C. - CAPITAL PROGRAMME - 2021/22 - 2025/26 (As At Dec 2021)****LAW & GOVERNANCE - AWAITING FURTHER REPORTS / SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
<b><u>Main Programme :</u></b>					
<b><u>Supported Borrowing:</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Prudential Borrowing:</u></b>					
Rowley Cemetery	1,100	843	0	0	0
<b><u>RCCO</u></b>					
New Cemetery - West Bromwich (20/21 Outturn Report)	0	1,455	0	0	0
New Cemetery - West Bromwich (COVID 19 Funding)	0	2,225	0	0	0
<b><u>Thematic Pot - Unallocated</u></b>					
	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Other Main Programme Resources</u></b>					
Sandwell Valley Crematorium - Catering Facility	0	2	0	0	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><u>1,100</u></b>	<b><u>4,525</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>
<b><u>Grant / Self Financing :</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b><u>1,100</u></b>	<b><u>4,525</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>

**SANDWELL M.B.C. - CAPITAL PROGRAMME - 2021/22 - 2025/26 (As At Dec 2021)****Business Strategy & Change**

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
	<u>£'000</u>	<u>£'000</u>	<u>£'000</u>	<u>£'000</u>	<u>£'000</u>
<b><u>Main Programme :</u></b>					
<b><u>Supported Borrowing:</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Prudential Borrowing:</u></b>					
Public Realm - Match Funding - Living Landscapes _ Dartmouth	0	15	0	0	0
<b><u>RCCO:</u></b>					
Technology Modernisation Programme (TMP) (19/20 Outturn Report)	0	1,009	0	0	0
ICT - New Laptops including Security (20/21 Outturn Report)	0	429	0	0	0
ICT - Ongoing Capital Project Support	0	318	0	0	0
<b><u>Thematic Pot Allocations:</u></b>					
Health & Safety	0	50	0	0	0
<b><u>Other Main Programme Resources</u></b>					
Sandwell Business Services: Development	25	0	0	0	0
ICT End User Computing 2	300	2,142	1,200	1,200	1,200
	0	0	0	0	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><u>325</u></b>	<b><u>3,963</u></b>	<b><u>1,200</u></b>	<b><u>1,200</u></b>	<b><u>1,200</u></b>
<b><u>Grant / Self Financing :</u></b>					
Public Realm	0	33	0	0	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>33</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b><u>325</u></b>	<b><u>3,996</u></b>	<b><u>1,200</u></b>	<b><u>1,200</u></b>	<b><u>1,200</u></b>

SANDWELL M.B.C. - CAPITAL PROGRAMME - 2021/22 - 2025/26 (As At Dec 2021)

ADULT SOCIAL CARE

	2021/22 Total £'000	2022/23 Total £'000	2023/24 Total £'000	2024/25 Total £'000	2025/26 Total £'000
<b><u>Main Programme :</u></b>					
<b><u>Supported Borrowing:</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Prudential Borrowing:</u></b>					
New Social Care & Health Centre - Rowley Regis	1,775	0	0	0	0
<b><u>RCCO:</u></b>					
New Social Care & Health Centre - Rowley Regis	3,500	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Thematic Allocation:</u></b>					
Disability Day	0	9	0	0	0
10 St Michaels Court	0	1	0	0	0
<b><u>Other Main Programme Resources</u></b>					
New Social Care & Health Centre - Rowley Regis	318	0	0	0	0
Swift Impress System - Earmarked Balances	81	100	0	0	0
New Social Care & Health Centre - Rowley Regis	6,000	0	0	0	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b>11,674</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b><u>Grant / Self Financing :</u></b>					
ASC System Development	80	260	0	0	0
New Social Care & Health Centre - Rowley Regis	693	0	0	0	0
ASC Capital Grant 2015/16	0	763	0	0	0
Contaminated Land Grant	8	0	0	0	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b>781</b>	<b>1,023</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>12,455</b>	<b>1,133</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**SANDWELL M.B.C. - CAPITAL PROGRAMME - 2021/22 - 2025/26 (As At Dec 2021)**

**PUBLIC HEALTH**

	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b><u>£'000</u></b>	<b><u>£'000</u></b>	<b><u>£'000</u></b>	<b><u>£'000</u></b>	<b><u>£'000</u></b>
<b><u>Main Programme :</u></b>					
<b><u>Supported Borrowing:</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Prudential Borrowing:</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>RCCO:</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Other Main Programme Resources</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Sub Total</i>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b><u>Self Financing:</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Sub Total</i>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<u><u>0</u></u>	<u><u>0</u></u>	<u><u>0</u></u>	<u><u>0</u></u>	<u><u>0</u></u>

**SANDWELL M.B.C. - CAPITAL PROGRAMME - 2021/22 - 2025/26 (As At Dec 2021)**

**BOROUGH ECONOMY**

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b><u>Main Programme :</u></b>					
<b><u>Supported Borrowing:</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Prudential Borrowing:</u></b>					
Lightwoods Park - Prudential	44	0	0	0	0
Acquisition of Vehicles (Prudential)	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
<b><u>RCCO:</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Thematic Allocations:</u></b>					
Forge Mill Farm	0	2	0	0	0
Lightwoods Park	0	35	0	0	0
<b><u>Other Main Programme Resources</u></b>					
Section 106 Monies - Lyng Lane	2	0	0	0	0
Reservoirs Act	58	20	20	20	20
Birchley Island - 10% Local Contribution	0	2,620	0	0	0
Street Lighting SOX to LED Conversion (Salix)	196	0	0	0	0
Environmental Improvements To Neighbourhoods	92	0	0	0	0
Smethwick Hall Park - Pool	0	342	0	0	0
West Smethwick Park - HLF Match Funding	768	0	0	0	0
Oak House Museum Roof Repairs	0	10	0	0	0
Charlemont Com Centre Wigmore	0	37	0	0	0
Blackheath Library - Fit Out Costs	124	0	0	0	0
Manor House - Phase 2	12	0	0	0	0
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>2,796</b>	<b>4,566</b>	<b>1,520</b>	<b>1,520</b>	<b>1,520</b>
<b><u>Self Financing:</u></b>					
Structural Maintenance Roads	1,135	2,211	2,211	2,211	2,211
Structural Maintenance Bridges	516	967	967	967	967
Street Lighting - Maintenance Block	130	222	222	222	222
Incentive Fund	445	0	0	0	0
Pothole Fund	1,780	0	0	0	0
Major Schemes - Design	220	0	0	0	0
Major Route Signing	60	0	0	0	0
Local Safety Schemes	160	0	0	0	0
Road Safety Schemes	115	0	0	0	0
Traffic Initiated Schemes (Traffic Calming)	100	0	0	0	0
Measures to encourage cycling	125	0	0	0	0
Measures to encourage walking	125	0	0	0	0
Child Safety - Safe Routes to School	125	0	0	0	0
Traffic & Demand Management Measures	100	0	0	0	0
Major Schemes Contributions	356	0	0	0	0
Estimated & Provisional	0	1,694	1,694	1,694	1,694
TIIF Challenge Fund - Dudley Street Bridge / Scott Bridge Repairs	2,456	2,000	0	0	0
Birchley Island - BCLEP (Walsall MBC)	161	0	0	0	0
Manor House Conservation Plan	0	241	0	0	0
Dartmouth Park - HLF	2	0	0	0	0
West smetwick Park - HLF	1,280	0	0	0	0
Oakhouse Barns Restoration Project	10	0	0	0	0
Youth Centre, Queens Way	5	0	0	0	0
<b>Section 106 Monies:</b>					
Section 106 : Other	181	0	0	0	0
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>9,587</b>	<b>7,335</b>	<b>5,094</b>	<b>5,094</b>	<b>5,094</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>12,383</b>	<b>11,901</b>	<b>6,614</b>	<b>6,614</b>	<b>6,614</b>

**REGENERATION & GROWTH**

	2021/22 Total £'000	2022/23 Total £'000	2023/24 Total £'000	2024/25 Total £'000	2025/26 Total £'000
<b><u>Main Programme :</u></b>					
<b><u>Supported Borrowing:</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Prudential Borrowing:</u></b>					
Aquatic Centre - Commonwealth Games 2022	1,761	0	0	0	0
King Street, Wednesbury Health Centre	0	3,874	0	0	0
<b><u>RCCO:</u></b>					
Property Refurbishment - WPV	2,000	0	0	0	0
Sandwell Aquatic Centre (COVID 19 Emergency Funding Cabinet Report)	415	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Thematic Pot Allocations:</u></b>					
Idox Public Access & Consultee Access Modules	0	7	0	0	0
H&S Compliance with Construction	0	8	0	0	0
<b><u>Other Main Programme Resources</u></b>					
College Relocation of Car Parking Costs	0	14	0	0	0
West Bromwich Town Square Development	0	6	0	0	0
SOHO Foundry	0	21	0	0	0
Living Landscapes - Green Bridge P1	0	16	0	0	0
Living Landscapes - Green Bridge P2	0	15	0	0	0
BSF - Schools For The Future	0	0	0	0	0
Wednesbury High Streets - Heritage Action Zone (HAZ)	0	981	0	0	0
Property Refurbishment - WPV	817	0	917	1,000	1,000
Access Fund	448	300	300	300	300
Bear Junction Upgrade (Earmarked Balances)	0	10	0	0	0
Brindley II	0	21	0	0	0
Smethwick Council House Boiler Replacement	0	4	0	0	0
Temporry Transit Site - Gypsy	0	5	0	0	0
Sandwell Aquatic's Centre - Main Programme	369	300	0	0	0
Sandwell Aquatic's Centre - RTB Receipts	6,578	7,000	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b>12,388</b>	<b>12,582</b>	<b>1,217</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>1,300</b>
<b><u>Grant / Self Financing :</u></b>					
MSCP Demolition Bull Street (WMCA)	590	0	0	0	0
Heat Networks	240	0	0	0	0
Towns Fund - Rowley Regis/Smethwick/West Bromwich	1,137	0	0	0	0
Towns Fund - 5% accelerated funding	3,300	0	0	0	0
Towns Fund - Kings Square	0	5,105	0	0	0
Woods Lane Re-development	1	0	0	0	0
Childrens Trust Accommodation Works	246	0	0	0	0
BSF - Schools For The Future	74	0	0	0	0
Mobile Working	41	0	0	0	0
Sandwell Aquatic's Centre - DCMS	20,972	0	0	0	0
Sandwell Aquatic's Centre - LEP	0	0	0	0	0
Sandwell Aquatic's Centre - Sport England	60	0	0	0	0
Sandwell Aquatic's Centre - Sandwell Leisure Trust	540	0	0	0	0
Sandwell Aquatic's Centre - Highways - Walsall Growth Fund	15	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Section 106</u></b>					
Roway Lane	0	48	0	0	0
Construction Of Homes & Sports Facilities - Churchfields School	0	17	0	0	0
Affordable Housing	0	1,234	0	0	0
Spon Lane, West Bromwich - Highways Construction	0	447	0	0	0
TESCO - Planning / Env. Health Contribution	0	50	0	0	0
Sandwell Rd - Public Realm / Highways Contribution	0	175	0	0	0
Ashes Rd, Oldbury Contribution	0	336	0	0	0
Upper Church Lane, Tipton Contribution	0	32	0	0	0
Regeneration Reserve	149	1,000	0	0	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b>27,365</b>	<b>8,444</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>39,753</b>	<b>21,026</b>	<b>1,217</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>1,300</b>



**SANDWELL M.B.C. - CAPITAL PROGRAMME - 2021/22 - 2025/26 (As At Dec 2021)**

**HOUSING & ASSETS**

	2021/22 Total £'000	2022/23 Total £'000	2023/24 Total £'000	2024/25 Total £'000	2025/26 Total £'000
<b><u>Main Programme :</u></b>					
<b><u>Supported Borrowing:</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Prudential Borrowing:</u></b>					
The Public	0	341	0	0	0
<b><u>RCCO:</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Thematic Allocations:</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Other Main Programme Resources</u></b>					
Self Service Customer Portal	235	0	0	0	0
HMRA Ringfenced Receipts - Vulnerable Home Owners	373	0	0	0	0
Empty Properties	95	600	0	0	0
Housing Stock Condition Survey	0	29	0	0	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><u>703</u></b>	<b><u>970</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>
<b><u>Self Financing:</u></b>					
Grants : Private Sector (Grant) - DFG (Mandatory)	3,419	10,300	3,300	3,300	3,300
Warm Homes Healthy People	8	0	0	0	0
Vulnerable Homeowners Improvements - Kick Start	386	0	0	0	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><u>3,813</u></b>	<b><u>10,300</u></b>	<b><u>3,300</u></b>	<b><u>3,300</u></b>	<b><u>3,300</u></b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b><u>4,516</u></b>	<b><u>11,270</u></b>	<b><u>3,300</u></b>	<b><u>3,300</u></b>	<b><u>3,300</u></b>

SANDWELL M.B.C. - CAPITAL PROGRAMME - 2021/22 - 2025/26 (As At Dec 2021)

CHILDRENS

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b><u>Main Programme :</u></b>					
<b><u>Supported Borrowing:</u></b>					
BSF - ICT Element	0	80	0	0	0
<b><u>Prudential Borrowing:</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>RCCO:</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Thematic Allocations:</u></b>					
Edmond Cottage Extension	0	1	0	0	0
<b><u>Other Main Programme Resources</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>81</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>

**Self Financing:**

PLAY Pathfinder 0 6 0 0 0

**Insurance:**

None 0 0 0 0 0

**Schools Capital Programme Schemes:**

New School Kelvin Way - West Bromwich Collegiate Academy	0	0	0	0	0
West Bromwich Collegiate Academy - Phase 2	3,200	0	0	0	0
Q3 Langley Phase 2	0	0	0	0	0
Q3 Langley Phase 3	3,790	0	0	0	0
Shireland Collegiate Academy	3	0	0	0	0
George Salter Academy	0	0	0	0	0
St Matthews CE	110	0	0	0	0
School Condition - LifeCycle property maintenance	1,500	0	0	0	0
Priory Primary Expansion	0	0	0	0	0
Annie Lennard Infant	0	0	0	0	0
New Oldbury Primary - Lightwoods	3	0	0	0	0
Hargate Primary	0	0	0	0	0
RSA Academy	0	0	0	0	0
Victoria Park Academy	258	0	0	0	0
All Saints CE Primary	0	0	0	0	0
Great Bridge Primary	1	0	0	0	0
Feasibility Work Expansion of Secondary	210	0	0	0	0
Tipton Green Junior School - Flood	69	0	0	0	0
Bristnall Hall Academy	2,420	0	0	0	0
St Michaels	0	0	0	0	0
Old Park/Wood Green Junior	0	0	0	0	0
Rood End Bulge Class	0	0	0	0	0
St Gregorys	0	0	0	0	0
Moorlands	0	0	0	0	0
Joseph Turner	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary Expansions	0	0	0	0	0
Perryfields - Purchase Mobile Classrooms - Portakabin	0	0	0	0	0
Hollies Refurbishment	0	0	0	0	0
School Kitchen Repairs	1	0	0	0	0
SRES Development Plan	0	0	0	0	0

Shireland High Tech Primary	1	0	0	0	0
Brickhouse Primary	2	0	0	0	0
Shenstone Lodge School	1	0	0	0	0
Sacred Heart Primary	0	0	0	0	0
Contingency 5% on Major Schemes	329	0	0	0	0
Yew Tree Primary	0	0	0	0	0
Menzies/Phoenix	120	0	0	0	0
School Capital Feasibility Works	0	0	0	0	0
ESFA Shireland Primary Free school	108	0	0	0	0
Rowley Hall Primary	1	0	0	0	0
Additional Secondary Places 2020	14	0	0	0	0

**Targeted Basic Needs Grant:**

Devolved Formula Capital	0	0	0	0	0
Devolved Formula Capital - School Contribution	0	0	0	0	0
Devolved Formula Capital - PRU's	0	0	0	0	0
BSF Oldbury	171	0	0	0	0
Two Years Old Entitlement - Early Years Capital	2	0	0	0	0
Orchard Building Work/ Primrose Caretaker House	17	0	0	0	0
EVOLVE Funding	171	0	0	0	0
Healthy Pupils Capital Fund	19	0	0	0	0
Health Futures UTC	2	0	0	0	0
PSBP - Abbey Infants School (DfE Funded)	0	0	0	0	0
PSBP - Yew Tree Primary School (DfE Funded)	0	0	0	0	0

**Sub Total**

<b>12,523</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
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**TOTAL EXPENDITURE**

<b>12,523</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
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**HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT**

	2021/22 Total £'000	2022/23 Total £'000	2023/24 Total £'000	2024/25 Total £'000	2025/26 Total £'000
<b><u>Main Programme :</u></b>					
<b><u>Supported Borrowing:</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Prudential Borrowing:</u></b>					
<b><u>New Build:</u></b>					
New Stock	493	19,601	15,000	15,000	15,000
Oxford Road Extra Care	338	0	0	0	0
More Lane Extra Care	4,328	0	0	0	0
West Road Extra Care	581	116	0	0	0
Strathmore Road	362	1,255	0	0	0
Adaptations For Disabled	4,045	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Boiler Replacements	3,509	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
ECO Projects	0	3,240	1,000	1,000	1,000
Churchvale	1,440	2,219	0	0	0
Reservoir Road	2,417	1,263	0	0	0
Bull St / Albion Road	987	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Other:</u></b>					
High Rise	500	15,641	9,633	9,633	9,633
Allen House	100	410	0	0	0
Moorland & St Giles	180	0	0	0	0
Lakes	1,860	2,043	0	0	0
Lion Farm	20	180	0	0	0
Darley House	1,223	542	0	0	0
Alfred Gunn House	6,693	0	0	0	0
Friardale Close Bungalows	154	1,400	0	0	0
High Rise General (Cyclical Maintenance)	471	0	0	0	0
Soil Stack Replacement	800	0	0	0	0
Emergency Cladding Works	200	0	0	0	0
Estate Improvements	276	0	0	0	0
Property Conversions	106	0	0	0	0
Mountford House	51	0	0	0	0
Replacement of CO2 and Smoke Alarms	267	0	0	0	0
Brittania	277	360	0	0	0
M3 Block Refurbishment	50	0	0	0	0
St Giles	100	0	0	0	0
Alfred Gunn House - (Old Hibiscus)	986	0	0	0	0
1-4-1 Property Purchases	7,400	0	0	0	0
Sandfield House	59	0	0	0	0
1-4-1 Property Professional Fees	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>RTB 1-4-1 Receipts</u></b>					
Friardale Close Bungalows	100	566	0	0	0
Brittania	185	88	0	0	0
Oxford Road Extra Care - New Build	216	0	0	0	0
Churchvale	960	608	0	0	0
Alfred Gunn House (Old Hibiscus)	657	0	0	0	0
1-4-1 Property Purchases	5,200	0	0	0	0
King Street	652	0	0	0	0
<b><u>RCCO: MRA / Ringfenced Approvals:</u></b>					
Internal Refurbishment	15,036	13,979	13,979	13,979	13,979
Single to Double Glazing & Composite Doors	940	0	0	0	0
<b><u>RCCO: Other</u></b>					
CCTV Expansions	0	0	0	0	0
Applewood Grove Conversion	538	0	0	0	0

Greenwood Avenue Conversion	266	0	0	0	0
Greenford House (additional flats)	97	0	0	0	0
Kenrick House (additional flats)	38	0	0	0	0
Workplace Vision	850	0	0	0	0
ICT Strategy	50	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Other Main Programme Resources</u></b>					
None	0	0	0	0	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><u>66,058</u></b>	<b><u>69,511</u></b>	<b><u>45,612</u></b>	<b><u>45,612</u></b>	<b><u>45,612</u></b>
<b><u>Grant / Self Financing :</u></b>					
Carrisbrooke Close	0	0	0	0	0
West Road	0	0	0	0	0
Moore Lane Extra Care	978	0	0	0	0
Strathmoore Road	0	0	0	0	0
Reservoir Road	340	0	0	0	0
<b><i>Sub Total</i></b>	<b><u>1,318</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b><u>67,376</u></b>	<b><u>69,511</u></b>	<b><u>45,612</u></b>	<b><u>45,612</u></b>	<b><u>45,612</u></b>

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# CAPITAL STRATEGY

## 2021/22 TO 2025/26

### 1 INTRODUCTION

The prudential code for capital finance in local authorities sets out the requirement that authorities should have in place a capital strategy and governance procedures for the setting and revising of the strategy and prudential indicators. This will be done by the same body that approves the local authority's budget, which for Sandwell is Full Council.

The Director of Resources is responsible for ensuring that all matters required to be taken into account are reported to the decision-making body for consideration and for establishing procedures to monitor performance.

Under the prudential code guidance, a capital strategy needs to demonstrate that Sandwell takes capital expenditure and investment decisions in line with service objectives and properly takes account of stewardship, value for money, prudence, sustainability and affordability.

In the period 2021/22 to 2025/26 total capital expenditure is expected to be in the region of £443m – detail provided in Appendix F, and it is currently proposed that this expenditure will be financed as follows:

- £199m Prudential Borrowing
- £ 85m Revenue Contribution
- £103m Capital Grants
- £ 56m Capital Receipts

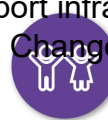
This Capital Strategy sits alongside the Medium-Term Financial Strategy and feeds into the annual revenue budget as part of an integrated revenue and capital financial strategy. The ongoing implications for the revenue budget strategy are fully considered before any capital funding decisions are confirmed.

Major new capital investment within Sandwell includes:

- New and expanded schools.
- New Council housing
- Investment in council housing stock to deliver improved energy efficiency.
- The new Sandwell Aquatic Centre that will be used for the Commonwealth Games in 2022.
- Investment in our transport infrastructure.



Investment in Climate Change through Heat Pump Technology and Heat Networks



- Investment in our Towns through the Towns Fund programme.
- Funding out ICT and Workplace Vision strategies.

We are also continuing to develop plans for significant investment in our town centres.

A continuous review of the capital programme is essential to ensure that resources are aligned to the corporate plan and 2030 Vision at all times.

Details of the Councils financial instruments and borrowings are included within the Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) that is produced and reported separately as an Appendix to this budget report.

## 2 CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLANS

Sandwell Council has a range of ambitious, affordable capital investment plans designed to achieve the plans set out in our corporate plan and 2030 Vision.

### 2.1 Housing – Ambitions 1,2,5 & 7

One in 20 new council houses built in England in 2018 were built in Sandwell, but we will do much more over the next five-year period as we continue our plans to deliver good quality, affordable housing for the people of Sandwell.

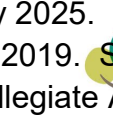
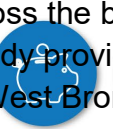
We are also working on a number of energy efficiency upgrades to heating systems and boilers across council properties in order to help reduce fuel poverty across Sandwell. The HRA business plan includes £3 million annually for these improvements and a further £3 million annually for disabled adaptations to council homes.

This investment sits alongside a programme of refurbishment in our council housing stock.

### 2.2 Schools – Ambitions 3 & 4

In recent years we have focussed the majority of our available resources on the provision of new school places. The Pupil Place Planning Strategy continues to build on the Councils commitment of ensuring every Sandwell child has access to a place at a good school by expanding successful and popular schools. Between 2010 and 2019 an additional 5,348 primary places were provided. The birth rate has decreased since peaking at 5,063 in 2012 and the places provided in primary schools are now sufficient in number to provide adequate surpluses in Reception. More pressure is placed on schools because of inward migration as cohorts move through. Based on existing trends, cohorts can increase by as much as 4% (200 pupils) as they move through from Reception to Year 6.

The impact on secondary provision of increasing numbers is now being seen with around 3,200 new secondary places needed across the borough by 2025. This is in addition to the 2,145 new secondary places already provided up to 2019. Some of this need will be met with the recent opening of West Bromwich Collegiate Academy,





a new 750 place secondary school on Kelvin Way in West Bromwich. The school opened with an initial pupil capacity of 300 places, the remaining 450 places will need to be provided for September 2021. A number of secondary schools agreed to take extra pupils in 2019 and 2020 to assist the Council in managing the delay of a new free school to be delivered by the Department for Education. It is hoped that with completion of the under-mentioned scheduled expansions in Summer 2021, that there will not be a dependency upon “bulge” classes to accommodate a shortfall in accommodation for 2021/22.

Current capital schemes that are scheduled for completion Summer 2021 will provide new permanent provision at Bristnall Hall Academy (150 places), Q3 Academy Langley (390 places), and West Bromwich Collegiate Academy (450 places). In addition, the opening of a new Secondary Free School involving the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra will provide 750 new places in West Bromwich. A further Free School, Windsor Olympia Academy is to be delivered by the Department of Education (DfE), and will be sponsored by Windsor Academy Trust, is scheduled to open in September 2022 and will offer 900 new secondary places.

The Council’s ability to proceed with the programme of secondary expansion for completion by September 2022 and beyond continues to be affected by the uncertainty surrounding basic need capital grant funding received from the Department for Education (DfE). It is anticipated a full report will be presented to the Council’s Cabinet in early Summer 2022 following the DfE’s confirmation as to the level of Basic Need funding to be allocated to the Council.

### **2.3 Adult Social Care & Health – Ambition 2**

The capital resources available to Adult Social care will be used in three main areas:

- The Design & Build of a new £14m Social Care & Health Centre in Rowley Regis.
- To support the ongoing development of the social care business system; and
- To fund a range of ICT related expenditure to support mobile working, an integral element in the adult social care customer journey.

### **2.4 Transport – Ambitions 6,8 & 10**

We are leading the delivery of the Birchley Island transport scheme at Junction 2 of the M5 in Oldbury.

We are a partner in Wednesbury- Brierley Hill West Midlands Metro Corridor (£450million investment) which is the largest light rail project in Europe and is coming to Wednesbury in 2022 creating a strategic link to Dudley and through West Bromwich to Birmingham.

We are also committed to enabling people to get around in a healthy and sustainable way which supports our health and wellbeing and our climate change strategies. We want to make sure that all public transport options available locally are as green as

possible, so we will lobby for clean green buses for our borough. We will be bringing forward a cycling and walking strategy to develop more routes particularly using our extensive canal network as a means for cycling and walking and invest in green infrastructure as part of the successful delivery of the Local Transport Plan.

In addition, our partnership work with the Canal and River Trust will enable us to make the best use of our waterways.

## 2.5 Parks and green spaces – Ambitions 2 & 8

Sandwell has 12 parks and green spaces with prestigious Green Flag status. We will strive to maintain this status, whilst also working to enhance our existing green and open spaces, create new places to play and committing to plant a tree for every child starting school in Sandwell up to 2030.

West Smethwick Park will benefit from a Heritage Lottery Fund grant of £5.2 million, which will include a new community pavilion and enhanced greenspace and historical features.

The new Green Space Strategy adopted in 2020 will require medium to long term investment strategy in our parks & green spaces.

We have aspirations to make Sandwell Valley a major cultural and tourist destination and we will work with our partners to make the best use of our canal network. To facilitate this, we will be developing culture and tourism strategies that will set out our key objectives and the outcomes we aspire to achieve.

## 2.6 Leisure facilities – Ambitions 1,2,9 & 10

The Council continues to develop modern leisure facilities within the borough. Over the past few years we have opened new leisure centres in Tipton, Oldbury, West Bromwich, and Wednesbury.

However, as proud as we are of those facilities, the most high-profile development in the history of Sandwell Council is now well underway with the building of the new Sandwell Aquatic Centre in Smethwick, which will be used to host events at the Commonwealth Games in 2022. Good progress has been made on this project since enabling works commenced in July 2019 and main construction works commenced in January 2020. The project, which will provide much needed community leisure facilities in the Smethwick area and will result in the closure of two aging and outdated leisure centres generating a revenue saving for the Council. To be in this position, having faced the wettest winter in 100 years, the uncertainty of the exit from the EU, and a worldwide pandemic during the period, is demonstrative of the resilience of Sandwell Council and its ability to work well with external partners.

## 2.7 Climate Change

Sandwell Council is now actively pursuing capital investments to deliver on our climate change agenda, including Heat Networks and Heat Pump Technology.

These will be reported to Cabinet in due course.



### 3 THE GOVERNANCE PROCESS

#### 3.1 Revenue Implications of Capital Investment

The council takes into consideration the ongoing revenue implications of capital investment and has a consolidated revenue and capital budget setting process. The Cabinet receives all reports and information about the council's revenue and capital strategies and expenditure plans. The merging of the two processes allows the council to fully consider the implications on revenue of any capital schemes (whether savings or increased costs) and also places it in a position to consider the impact of the Prudential Framework in the future.

The cost of borrowing over the medium term expressed through the Minimum Revenue Provision is fully incorporated into the revenue budget setting process to ensure prudence and affordability.

The appraisal forms submitted when requesting a scheme to be included within the capital programme highlights both the financing of borrowing costs that the council may need to incur in pursuing the scheme together with the ongoing revenue costs of 'running' the asset once it is operational. The inclusion of these costs allows decisions to be taken with full consideration of the impact on the revenue position of the council.

#### 3.2 Allocating Resources to Capital Projects - The Capital Appraisal Process

The Council has a comprehensive project appraisal process based on best practice principles as a means of assessing the merits and identifying the risks of individual capital schemes and the evaluation and comparison of such schemes for selection in times of limited resources.

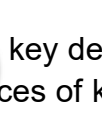
Project appraisals are the basis for formal monitoring and reporting on any capital schemes which are approved.

All capital appraisal applications should be submitted through Firmstep to Financial Planning for independent appraisal and evaluation. For further information on the appraisal process and the use of Firmstep to submit applications please refer to the Financial Planning Team page on the Finance Section of the Intranet.

Financial Planning will produce an appraisal report of their findings back to the project officer. It is the responsibility of the Project Lead Officer to allow sufficient time for the capital approvals process when considering applying for capital resources.

Once the appraisal has achieved a score which would enable it to be recommended for approval it is the responsibility of the project lead to submit a report to the Cabinet to obtain formal budget approval. Projects that achieve a score of less than 65% will not be recommended for approval.

Democratic Services are required to publish 28 days notice of all key decisions. The Project Lead Officer is responsible for notifying Democratic Services of key decisions



in accordance with their timetable. Further guidance on what constitutes a key decision and the required timescales can be obtained from Democratic Services Unit on 0121 569 3736.

### **3.3 Project Monitoring & Evaluating Progress**

Capital monitoring is completed monthly and reported quarterly to the Director of Resources and the Head of Finance. Any matters of concerns are then brought to the attention of the relevant Cabinet Member.

Reports are prepared for Cabinet on a quarterly basis. Narrative is included in the quarterly monitoring report to explain movements in capital budgets since the previous period.

These reports are also presented to the Budget and Corporate Services Scrutiny Management board for consideration.

Project Officers are consulted monthly to ensure capital forecast expenditure is accurate. Expenditure is monitored and analysed to ensure it is in accordance with the nature of the project and can be applied to the relevant asset register.

Slippage of capital resources into future years is reflected where necessary.

Capital Grant Claims are completed in accordance with grant terms and conditions to ensure all expenditure is financed.

Capital Receipts are analysed monthly, to ensure all projects are financed correctly.

## **4 PFI**

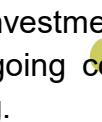
The council has previously pursued the use of Public Private Partnerships and Private Finance Initiatives as a means of funding the investment identified through the Capital Strategy and Capital Programme. The council will continue to consider future opportunities as they arise but is no longer actively pursuing this funding option.

## **5 COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY**

The Council currently holds commercial properties that generate significant revenue income to the authority. At present, the authority is not actively pursuing new investment in commercial assets for the sole purpose of providing income streams to aid the future funding of services. However, any new schemes will be evaluated to ensure that Members are fully informed of the risks and rewards of such investments

## **6 ASSET MANAGEMENT**

Sandwell Council is committed to proactive management of our assets, as reflected in the rolling programme of investment in buildings and our ICT infrastructure. A 5-year programme of refurbishment of Sandwell Council House is well underway that will secure this key asset for the longer-term but, alongside this investment, we will continue to rationalize our office accommodation to reduce ongoing costs to the council as we reap the benefits of new, more agile ways of working.



The next year will see our biggest ever investment in our ICT infrastructure as we implement a major upgrade to our Oracle e-business suite; deliver our technology modernization programme; and continue to roll out our expanding digital offer.

## 7 KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

Sandwell Council has built up a significant pool of internal expertise and has a well-earned reputation for delivering projects on time and within budget. However, we will also buy in additional capacity and expertise as required.



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# TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT AND ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2022/23

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

The Council is required to operate a balanced budget, which broadly means that cash raised during the year will meet cash expenditure. Part of the treasury management operation is to ensure that this cash flow is adequately planned, with cash being available when it is needed. Surplus monies are invested in low risk counterparties or instruments commensurate with the Council's low risk appetite, providing adequate liquidity initially before considering investment return.

The second main function of the treasury management service is the funding of the Council's capital plans. These capital plans provide a guide to the borrowing need of the Council, essentially the longer-term cash flow planning, to ensure that the Council can meet its capital spending obligations. This management of longer-term cash may involve arranging long or short-term loans or using longer-term cash flow surpluses. On occasion, when it is prudent and economic, any debt previously drawn may be restructured to meet Council risk or cost objectives.

The contribution the treasury management function makes to the authority is critical, as the balance of debt and investment operations ensure liquidity or the ability to meet spending commitments as they fall due, either on day-to-day revenue or for larger capital projects. The treasury operations will see a balance of the interest costs of debt and the investment income arising from cash deposits affecting the available budget. Since cash balances generally result from reserves and balances, it is paramount to ensure adequate security of the sums invested, as a loss of principal will in effect result in a loss to the General Fund Balance.

CIPFA defines treasury management as:

*"The management of the local authority's borrowing, investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks."*

### 1.2 Reporting Requirements

#### Capital Strategy

The CIPFA 2017 Prudential and Treasury Management Codes require all local authorities to prepare a capital strategy report which will provide the following:

- a high-level long-term overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing and treasury management activity contribute to the provision of services
- an overview of how the associated risk is managed
- the implications for future financial sustainability

The aim of this capital strategy is to ensure that all elected members on the full council fully understand the overall long-term policy objectives and resulting capital strategy requirements, governance procedures and risk appetite.

The capital strategy is included as a separate document within the budget report.

### **Treasury Management Reporting**

The council is currently required to receive and approve, as a minimum, three main treasury reports each year, which incorporate a variety of policies, estimates and actuals:

- a. Prudential and treasury indicators and treasury strategy (this report) –** This will provide members with an outline of how investments and borrowings are to be organised in coming years, including an Investment Strategy and relevant indicators.
- b. A mid-year treasury management report –** This is primarily a progress report and will update members on the capital position, amending prudential indicators as necessary, and whether any policies require revision.
- c. An annual treasury report –** This is a backward-looking review document and provides details of a selection of actual prudential and treasury indicators and actual treasury operations compared to the estimates within the strategy.

The above reports are required to be adequately scrutinised before being recommended to the council. This role is undertaken by the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board.

### **1.3 Treasury Management Strategy for 2022/23**

The strategy for 2022/23 covers two main areas:

#### **Capital Issues**

- the capital expenditure plans and the associated prudential indicators;
- the minimum revenue provision (MRP) policy.

#### **Treasury Management Issues**



- the current treasury position;
- treasury indicators which will limit the treasury risk and activities of the council;
- prospects for interest rates;
- the borrowing strategy;
- policy on borrowing in advance of need;
- debt rescheduling;
- the investment strategy;
- creditworthiness policy; and
- policy on use of external service providers.

These elements cover the requirements of the Local Government Act 2003, CIPFA Prudential Code, MHCLG MRP Guidance, CIPFA Treasury Management Code and the MHCLG Investment Guidance.

#### **1.4 Training**

The CIPFA Code requires the responsible officer to ensure that members with responsibility for treasury management receive adequate training in treasury management. This especially applies to members responsible for scrutiny. An overview of treasury management training was undertaken by the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board in December 2018 and further training for members will be arranged for June 2022.

The training needs of treasury management officers are periodically reviewed.

#### **1.5 Treasury Management Consultants**

The council uses Link Group, Treasury solutions as its external treasury management advisors.

The council understands that responsibility for treasury management decisions remains with the organization at all times and will ensure that undue reliance is not placed upon the services of our external service providers. All decisions will be undertaken with regards to all available information, including, but not solely, our treasury advisers.

It also recognises that there is value in employing external providers of treasury management services in order to acquire access to specialist skills and resources. The council will ensure that the terms of their appointment and the methods by which their value will be assessed are properly agreed and documented and subjected to regular review.

## **2 THE CAPITAL PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2022/23 – 2025/26**

The council's capital expenditure plans are the key driver of treasury management activity. The output of the capital expenditure plans is reflected in prudential indicators, which are designed to assist member's overview and confirm capital expenditure plans.

## 2.1 Capital Expenditure and Financing

This prudential indicator is a summary of the Council's capital expenditure plans, both those agreed previously, and those forming part of this budget cycle. Members are asked to approve the capital expenditure forecasts:

	2020/21 Actual £'m	2021/22 Estimate £'m	2022/23 Estimate £'m	2023/24 Estimate £'m	2024/25 Estimate £'m	2025/26 Estimate £'m
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>						
General Fund	82.301	83.055	48.839	12.331	12.414	12.414
HRA	50.315	67.376	69.511	45.612	45.612	45.612
<b>Total</b>	<b>132.616</b>	<b>150.431</b>	<b>118.350</b>	<b>57.943</b>	<b>58.026</b>	<b>58.026</b>

Other long-term liabilities - The above financing need excludes other long-term liabilities, such as PFI and leasing arrangements that already include borrowing instruments.

The table below summarises the above capital expenditure plans and how these plans are being financed by capital or revenue resources. Any shortfall of resources results in a funding borrowing need.

	2020/21 Actual £'m	2021/22 Estimate £'m	2022/23 Estimate £'m	2023/24 Estimate £'m	2024/25 Estimate £'m	2025/26 Estimate £'m
<b>Resourced by:</b>						
Capital Receipts	18.869	25.255	8.496	7.299	7.351	7.419
Capital Grants & Contributions	58.737	55.387	22.036	8.394	8.394	8.394
Revenue	24.107	23.730	19.415	13.979	13.979	13.979
<b>Capital Expenditure Financed from Borrowing</b>	<b>30.903</b>	<b>46.059</b>	<b>68.403</b>	<b>28.271</b>	<b>28.302</b>	<b>28.234</b>

## 2.2 The Council's Borrowing Need (the Capital Financing Requirement)

The second prudential indicator is the council's Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). The CFR is simply the total historic outstanding capital expenditure which has not yet been paid for from either revenue or capital resources. It is essentially a measure of the council's indebtedness and so its underlying borrowing need. Any capital expenditure above, which has not immediately been paid for, will increase the CFR.

The CFR does not increase indefinitely, as the minimum revenue provision (MRP) is a statutory annual revenue charge which broadly reduces the borrowing need in line with each assets life and so charges the economic consumption of capital assets as they are used.

The CFR includes any other long-term liabilities such as PFI schemes and finance leases. Whilst these increase the CFR, and therefore the council's borrowing requirement, these types of scheme include a borrowing facility and so the council is not required to separately borrow for these schemes. The council currently has £74.308m of such schemes within the CFR as at 31 March 2020.

The council is asked to approve the CFR projections below:

	2020/21 Actual £'m	2021/22 Estimate £'m	2022/23 Estimate £'m	2023/24 Estimate £'m	2024/25 Estimate £'m	2025/26 Estimate £'m
<b>Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)</b>						
General Fund	326.457	317.837	317.436	298.510	279.165	259.822
HRA	468.374	497.324	540.238	560.482	580.692	600.701
<b>Total CFR @ 31 March</b>	<b>794.831</b>	<b>815.161</b>	<b>857.674</b>	<b>858.992</b>	<b>859.857</b>	<b>860.523</b>
<b>Movement in CFR</b>		<b>20.330</b>	<b>42.513</b>	<b>1.318</b>	<b>0.865</b>	<b>0.666</b>
<b>Movement Represented by:</b>						
Capital expenditure to be financed from borrowing		46.059	68.403	28.271	28.302	28.234
Less MRP/VRP and other financing movements *		-25.729	-25.890	-26.953	-27.437	-27.568
<b>Movement in CFR</b>		<b>20.330</b>	<b>42.513</b>	<b>1.318</b>	<b>0.865</b>	<b>0.666</b>

\* Includes PFI annual principal repayments

## 2.3 Core funds and expected investment balances

The application of resources (capital receipts, reserves etc.) to either finance capital expenditure or other budget decisions to support the revenue budget will have an ongoing impact on investments unless resources are supplemented each year from new sources (asset sales etc.). Detailed below are estimates of the year-end balances for each resource and anticipated day-to-day cash flow balances.

	2020/21 Actual £'m	2021/22 Estimate £'m	2022/23 Estimate £'m	2023/24 Estimate £'m	2024/25 Estimate £'m	2025/26 Estimate £'m
Balances	98.516	107.000	87.000	77.000	77.000	77.000
Specific reserves	137.834	114.000	99.000	89.000	79.000	69.000
Capital Receipts Unapplied	15.083	15.000	10.000	5.000	5.000	5.000
Capital Grants Unapplied	2.790	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000
Con Adv & Borrowing	17.982	15.000	15.000	15.000	15.000	15.000
Collection Fund	-41.588	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
<b>Total Core Funds</b>	<b>230.617</b>	<b>254.000</b>	<b>214.000</b>	<b>189.000</b>	<b>179.000</b>	<b>169.000</b>
Net Working capital *	73.026	25.000	25.000	25.000	25.000	25.000
Expected investments	37.319	40.000	23.000	23.000	23.000	23.000

\* Working capital balances shown are estimated year-end; these may be lower or higher mid-year

## 2.4 Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy Statement

The council is required to pay off an element of the accumulated General Fund capital spend each year (the CFR) through a revenue charge (the minimum revenue provision - MRP), although it is also allowed to undertake additional voluntary payments if required (voluntary revenue provision - VRP).

MHCLG Regulations have been issued which require the full council to approve an MRP Statement in advance of each year. A variety of options are provided to councils, so long as there is a prudent provision. The council is recommended to approve the following MRP Statement:

For capital expenditure incurred before 1 April 2008 or which in the future will be Supported Capital Expenditure, the MRP policy will be:

**Average Asset Life method** - MRP will be based on the total average estimated life of assets held by the authority.

From 1 April 2008 for all unsupported borrowing (including PFI and finance leases) the MRP policy will be:

**Individual Asset Life Method** - MRP will be based on the estimated life of the assets, in accordance with the proposed regulations (this option must be applied for any expenditure capitalised under a Capitalisation Direction). This provides for a reduction in the borrowing need over the assets' life.

There is no requirement on the HRA to make a minimum revenue provision but there is a requirement to make a charge for depreciation.

Annual principal repayments included in PFI schemes or finance leases are applied as MRP.

A change introduced by the revised DLUHC MRP Guidance was the allowance that any charges made over the statutory minimum revenue provision (MRP), voluntary revenue provision or overpayments, can, if needed, be reclaimed in later years if deemed necessary or prudent. For this sum to be reclaimed for use in the budget, this policy must disclose the cumulative overpayment made each year. Up until the 31 March 2021 the total VRP overpayments made by the General Fund account was £5.423m.

## **2.5 West Midlands Combined Authority: Collective Investment Fund**

The agreed Combined Authority Devolution Deal proposes the establishment of a Collective Investment Fund to support investment in the region. It is possible that some of this investment may be delivered by individual districts and funded from prudential borrowing.

MRP on capitalised loan advances to other organisations or individuals will not be required. Instead, the capital receipts arising from the capitalised loan repayments will be used as provision to repay debt. However, revenue MRP contributions would still be required equal to the amount of any impairment of the loan advanced.

MRP on investments in Equities will be made on an annuity profile over 20 years, as recommended by Government guidance.

## **3 Borrowing**

The capital expenditure plans set out in Section 2 provide details of the service activity of the council. The treasury management function ensures that the council's cash is organised in accordance with the relevant professional codes, so that sufficient cash is available to meet this service activity and the council's capital strategy. This will involve both the organisation of the cash flow and, where capital plans require, the organisation of appropriate borrowing facilities. The strategy covers the relevant treasury / prudential indicators, the current and projected debt positions and the annual investment strategy.

### 3.1 Current Portfolio Position

The overall treasury management portfolio as at 31 March 2021 and for the position as 31 December 2021 are shown below for both borrowing and investments:

Treasury Portfolio				
	Actual 31/03/2021 £'000	Actual 31/03/2021 %	Current 31/12/2021 £'000	Current 31/12/2021 %
<b>Treasury Investments</b>				
Banks	556	1%	8,731	10%
Temporary Deposits	0	0%	0	0%
Money Market Funds	36,500	98%	74,800	89%
Local Authorities	0	0%	0	0%
6 Towns Credit Union	250	1%	250	0%
<b>Total Managed In House</b>	<b>37,306</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>83,781</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Total Treasury Investments</b>	<b>37,306</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>83,781</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Treasury External Borrowing</b>				
Local Authorities	10,046	2%	9,905	2%
PWLB	324,288	67%	305,060	63%
LOBO's	82,000	17%	82,000	17%
Market Fixed Loan	10,000	2%	10,000	2%
Temporary Loans	52,344	11%	72,403	15%
Soft Loans	2,915	1%	2,510	1%
<b>Total External Borrowing</b>	<b>481,593</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>481,879</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Net Treasury Investments/(Borrowing)</b>	<b>(444,287)</b>		<b>(398,098)</b>	

The council's forward projections for borrowing are summarised below. The table shows the actual external debt, against the underlying capital borrowing need, (the Capital Financing Requirement – CFR), highlighting any over or under borrowing.

	2020/21 Actual £'m	2021/22 Estimate £'m	2022/23 Estimate £'m	2023/24 Estimate £'m	2024/25 Estimate £'m	2025/26 Estimate £'m
External Debt as at 1 April	481.593	490.964	511.294	553.806	555.124	555.989
Expected change in Debt	2.571	20.330	42.513	1.318	0.865	0.666
Other Long Term Liabilities (OLTL)*	74.308	68.289	66.057	62.774	58.718	54.393
Expected change in OLTL	-4.613	-3.638	-3.283	-4.056	-4.325	-4.599
<b>External Debt as at 31 March</b>	<b>553.859</b>	<b>575.945</b>	<b>616.581</b>	<b>613.842</b>	<b>610.382</b>	<b>606.449</b>
<b>Capital Financing Requirement</b>	<b>794.831</b>	<b>815.161</b>	<b>857.674</b>	<b>858.992</b>	<b>859.857</b>	<b>860.523</b>
<b>Under / (Over) Borrowing</b>	<b>240.972</b>	<b>239.216</b>	<b>241.093</b>	<b>245.150</b>	<b>249.475</b>	<b>254.074</b>

Within the range of prudential indicators, there are several key indicators to ensure that the council operates its activities within well-defined limits. One of these is that the council needs to ensure that its gross debt, does not, except in the short term, exceed the total of the CFR in the preceding year plus the

estimates of any additional CFR for 2021/22 and the following two financial years. This allows some flexibility for limited early borrowing for future years but ensures that borrowing is not undertaken for revenue purposes or speculative purposes.

Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) confirms that the council complied with this prudential indicator in the current year and does not envisage difficulties for the future. This view considers current commitments, existing plans, and the proposals in this budget report.

### 3.2 Treasury Indicators: Limits to Borrowing Activity

#### The Operational Boundary

The Operational Boundary is the limit beyond which external debt would not normally be expected to exceed. In most cases, this would be a similar figure to the CFR, but may be lower or higher depending on the levels of actual debt and the ability to fund under-borrowing by other cash resources.

	2019/20 Actual £'m	2020/21 Estimate £'m	2021/22 Estimate £'m	2022/23 Estimate £'m	2023/24 Estimate £'m	2024/25 Estimate £'m
External Debt	484.164	511.294	553.807	555.124	555.989	556.655
Other Long Term Liabilities*	69.695	64.651	62.774	58.718	54.393	49.794
<b>Operational Boundary</b>	<b>553.859</b>	<b>575.945</b>	<b>616.581</b>	<b>613.842</b>	<b>610.382</b>	<b>606.449</b>

#### The Authorised Limit

The Authorised Limit for external debt is a further key prudential indicator, which represents control over the maximum level of debt. This represents a legal limit beyond which external debt is prohibited and this limit needs to be set or revised by the full council. It reflects the level of external debt which, while not desired, could be afforded in the short term, but is not sustainable in the longer term.

This is the statutory limit determined under section 3 (1) of the Local Government Act 2003. The Government retains an option to control either the total of all councils' plans, or those of a specific council, although this power has not yet been exercised.

The council is recommended to approve the following Authorised Limit:

	2019/20 Actual £'m	2020/21 Estimate £'m	2021/22 Estimate £'m	2022/23 Estimate £'m	2023/24 Estimate £'m	2024/25 Estimate £'m
External Debt	725.136	750.510	794.900	800.274	805.464	810.729
Other Long Term Liabilities*	69.695	64.651	62.774	58.718	54.393	49.794
<b>Authorised Limit</b>	<b>794.831</b>	<b>815.161</b>	<b>857.674</b>	<b>858.992</b>	<b>859.857</b>	<b>860.523</b>

The HRA CFR is built into the total reported Authorised Limit, this revised limit is currently £815.161m; the UK Government announced that there would be a policy change which led, in October 2018, to the HRA debt cap being abolished. The HRA therefore, are no longer restricted to a debt ceiling however, although the debt cap has now been lifted, the HRA will still follow the principals of the Prudential Code; (as a result will still use the CFR as their ultimate debt ceiling).

### 3.3 Prospects for Interest Rates

The council has appointed Link Group as its treasury advisor and part of their service is to assist the council to formulate a view on interest rates. Link provided the following forecasts on 20 December 2021, these are forecasts for certainty rates, gilt yields plus 80 bps.

	Bank Rate %	PWLB Borrowing Rates % (including certainty rate adjustment)		
		5 year	25 year	50 year
Dec-21	0.25	1.40	1.80	1.50
Mar-22	0.25	1.50	1.90	1.70
Jun-22	0.50	1.50	2.00	1.80
Sep-22	0.50	1.60	2.10	1.90
Dec-22	0.50	1.60	2.10	1.90
Mar-23	0.75	1.70	2.20	2.00
Jun-23	0.75	1.80	2.20	2.00
Sep-23	0.75	1.80	2.20	2.00
Dec-23	0.75	1.80	2.30	2.10
Mar-24	1.00	1.90	2.30	2.10
Jun-24	1.00	1.90	2.40	2.20
Sep-24	1.00	1.90	2.40	2.20
Dec-24	1.00	2.00	2.50	2.30
Mar-25	1.25	2.00	2.50	2.30

A more comprehensive list of these rates is detailed in Appendix 1.

Link Group have also provided a detailed analysis of the economic background for the UK and the rest of the world which is given as Appendix 2 to this report. However, their general comments are as follows:

Over the last two years, the coronavirus outbreak has done huge economic damage to the UK and to economies around the world. After the Bank of England took emergency action in March 2020 to cut Bank Rate to 0.10%, it left the Bank Rate unchanged at its subsequent meetings until raising it to 0.25% at its meeting on 16 December 2021.

As shown in the forecast table above, the forecast for the Bank Rate now includes four increases, one in December 2021 to 0.25%, then quarter 2 of 2022 to 0.50%, quarter 1 of 2023 to 0.75%, quarter 1 of 2024 to 1.00% and finally one in quarter 1 of 2025 to 1.25%.

- Investment returns are expected to improve in 2022/23 however, while markets are pricing in a series of Bank Rate hikes, actual circumstances may see the MPC fall short of these elevated expectations.

- Borrowing interest rates fell to historically very low rates as a result of the COVID crisis and the quantitative easing operations of the Bank of England and still remain at historically low levels. The policy of avoiding new borrowing by running down spare cash balances has served local authorities well over the last few years.
- While this authority will not be able to avoid borrowing to finance new capital expenditure, to replace maturing debt and any rundown on reserves, there will be a cost of carry, (the difference between higher borrowing costs and lower investment returns), to any new short or medium-term borrowing that causes a temporary increase in cash balances as this position will, most likely, incur a revenue cost.

### **3.4 Borrowing Strategy**

The Council is currently maintaining an under-borrowed position. This means that the capital borrowing need, (the Capital Financing Requirement), has not been fully funded with loan debt as cash supporting the Council's reserves, balances and cash flow has been used as a temporary measure. This strategy is prudent as investment returns are low and counterparty risk is still an issue that needs to be considered.

Against this background and the risks within the economic forecast, caution will be adopted with the 2022/23 treasury operations. The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) will monitor interest rates in financial markets and adopt a pragmatic approach to changing circumstances:

- If it was felt that there was a significant risk of a sharp FALL in borrowing rates, then borrowing will be postponed.
- If it was felt that there was a significant risk of a much sharper RISE in borrowing rates than that currently forecast, perhaps arising from an acceleration in the rate of increase in central rates in the USA and UK, an increase in world economic activity, or a sudden increase in inflation risks, then the portfolio position will be re-appraised. Most likely, fixed rate funding will be drawn whilst interest rates are lower than they are projected to be in the next few years.

Any decisions will be reported to the appropriate decision making body at the next available opportunity.

### **3.5 Policy on Borrowing In Advance of Need**

The council will not borrow more than or in advance of its needs purely in order to profit from the investment of the extra sums borrowed. Any decision to borrow in advance will be within forward approved Capital Finance Requirement estimates and will be considered carefully to ensure that value for money can be demonstrated and that the council can ensure the security of such funds.

Borrowing in advance will be made within the constraints that:



- It will be limited to no more than 20% of the expected increase in borrowing need (CFR) over a three-year planning period

Risks associated with any borrowing in advance activity will be subject to prior appraisal and subsequent reporting through the mid-year or annual reporting mechanism.

### **3.6 Debt Rescheduling**

Rescheduling of current borrowing in our debt portfolio is unlikely to occur as there is still a very large difference between premature redemption rates and new borrowing rates, even though the general margin of PWLB rates over gilt yields was reduced by 100 bps in November 2020.

If rescheduling was done, it will be reported to the council at the earliest meeting following its action.

### **3.7 New Financial Institutions (as a source of borrowing or types of borrowing)**

Currently the PWLB Certainty Rate is set at gilts + 80 basis points for both HRA and non-HRA borrowing however, consideration may still need to be given to sourcing funding from the following sources for the following reasons:

- Local authorities (primarily shorter dated maturities out to 3 years or so – still cheaper than the certainty rate)
- Financial institutions (primarily insurance companies and pension funds but also some banks, out of forward dates where the objective is to avoid “cost of carry” or to achieve refinancing certainty over the next few years)

Our advisors will keep us informed as to the relative merits of each of these alternative funding sources.

## **4 ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY**

### **4.1 Investment policy – management of risk**

The Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC – this was formerly the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and CIPFA have extended the meaning of ‘investments’ to include both financial and non-financial investments. This report deals solely with treasury (financial) investments, (as managed by the treasury management team). Non-financial investments, essentially the purchase of income yielding assets, are covered in the Capital Strategy, (a separate report).

The council’s investment policy has regard to the following: -

- DLUHC’s Guidance on Local Government Investments (“the Guidance”)
- CIPFA Treasury Management in Public Services Code of Practice and Cross Sectoral Guidance Notes 2017 (“the Code”)

- CIPFA Treasury Management Guidance Notes 2018

The council's investment priorities will be security first, portfolio liquidity second and then yield (return). The Council will aim to achieve the optimum return (yield) on its investments commensurate with proper levels of security and liquidity and with the Council's risk appetite. In the current economic climate, it is considered appropriate to keep investments short term to cover cash flow needs. However, where appropriate (from an internal as well as external perspective), the Council will also consider the value available in periods up to 12 months with high credit rated financial institutions, as well as wider range fund options.

The above guidance from the DLUHC and CIPFA place a high priority on the management of risk. This authority has adopted a prudent approach to managing risk and defines its risk appetite by the following means: -

1. Minimum acceptable **credit criteria** are applied to generate a list of highly creditworthy counterparties. This also enables diversification and thus avoidance of concentration risk. The key ratings used to monitor counterparties are the short term and long-term ratings.
2. **Other information:** ratings will not be the sole determinant of the quality of an institution; it is important to continually assess and monitor the financial sector on both a micro and macro basis and in relation to the economic and political environments in which institutions operate. The assessment will also take account of information that reflects the opinion of the markets. To achieve this consideration the council will engage with its advisors to maintain a monitor on market pricing such as "**credit default swaps**" and overlay that information on top of the credit ratings.
3. **Other information sources** used will include the financial press, share price and other such information pertaining to the banking sector in order to establish the most robust scrutiny process on the suitability of potential investment counterparties.
4. This authority has defined the list of **types of investment instruments** that the treasury management team are authorised to use. There are two lists in Appendix 3 under the categories of 'specified' and 'non-specified' investments.
  - **Specified investments** are those with a high level of credit quality and subject to a maturity limit of one year.
  - **Non-specified investments** are those with less high credit quality, may be for periods more than one year, and/or are more complex instruments which require greater consideration by members and officers before being authorised for use. Once an investment is classed as non-specified, it remains non-specified all the way through to maturity i.e. an 18-month deposit would still be non-specified even if it has only 11 months left until maturity.

5. **Non-specified investments limit.** The council has determined that it will limit the maximum total exposure to non-specified investments as being 30% of the total investment portfolio.
6. **Lending limits**, (amounts and maturity), for each counterparty will be set through applying the matrix table in section 4.2.
7. **Transaction limits** are set for each type of investment in section 4.2.
8. This authority will set a limit for the amount of its investments which are invested for **longer than 365 days**, (see paragraph 4.4).
9. Investments will only be placed with counterparties from countries with a specified minimum **sovereign rating**, (see paragraph 4.3).
10. This authority has engaged **external consultants**, (see paragraph 1.5), to provide expert advice on how to optimise an appropriate balance of security, liquidity and yield, given the risk appetite of this authority in the context of the expected level of cash balances and need for liquidity throughout the year.
11. All investments will be denominated in **sterling**.
12. As a result of the change in accounting standards for 2022/23 under IFRS 9, this authority will consider the implications of investment instruments which could result in an adverse movement in the value of the amount invested and resultant charges at the end of the year to the General Fund. (In November 2018, the MHCLG, concluded a consultation for a temporary override to allow English local authorities time to adjust their portfolio of all pooled investments by announcing a statutory override to delay implementation of IFRS 9 for five years ending 31 March 2023.
13. If considering 'Property Funds' or other 'Diversified Income Funds' in the future, the council may look to use externally appointed fund managers.

However, this authority will also pursue **value for money** in treasury management and will monitor the yield from investment income against appropriate benchmarks for investment performance, (see paragraph 4.5). Regular monitoring of investment performance will be carried out during the year.

## 4.2 Creditworthiness policy

The primary principle governing the council's investment criteria is the security of its investments, although the yield or return on the investment is also a key consideration. After this main principle, the council will ensure that:

- It maintains a policy covering both the categories of investment types it will invest in, criteria for choosing investment counterparties with adequate security, and monitoring their security. This is set out in the Specified and Non-Specified investment sections below; and

- It has sufficient liquidity in its investments. For this purpose, it will set out procedures for determining the maximum periods for which funds may prudently be committed. These procedures also apply to the council's prudential indicators covering the maximum principal sums invested.

The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) will maintain a counterparty list in compliance with the following criteria and will revise the criteria and submit then to council for approval as necessary. These criteria are separate to that which determines which types of investment instrument are either Specified or Non-Specified as it provides an overall pool of counterparties considered high quality which the council may use, rather than defining what types of investment instruments are to be used.

Credit rating information is supplied by Link Group, our treasury advisors, on all active counterparties that comply with the criteria below. Any counterparty failing to meet the criteria would be omitted from the counterparty (dealing) list. Any rating changes, rating watches (notification of a likely change), rating outlooks (notification of a possible long-term change) are provided to officers almost immediately after they occur, and this information is considered before dealing. For instance, a negative rating watch applying to a counterparty at the minimum council criteria will be suspended from use, with all others being reviewed in light of market conditions.

The criteria for providing a pool of high-quality investment counterparties (both Specified and Non-specified investments) is:

- Banks 1 - good credit quality – the council will only use banks which:
  - i. are UK banks and/or
  - ii. are non-UK and domiciled in a country which has a minimum sovereign long-term rating of AA-

and have, as a minimum, the following Fitch, Moody's and Standard and Poors credit ratings (where rated):

- i. Short term - F1, P-1, A-1 respectively
  - ii. Long term – A-, A1 and A- respectively
- Banks 2 – Part nationalised UK banks – Royal Bank of Scotland ringfenced operations. These banks can be included provided they continue to be part nationalised or meet the ratings in Banks 1 above.
  - Banks 3 – The council's own banker for transactional purposes if the bank falls below the above criteria, although in this case balances will be minimised in both monetary size and time invested.
  - Bank subsidiary and treasury operation. The council will use these where the parent bank has provided an appropriate guarantee or has the necessary ratings outlined above.

- Building societies - The council will use all societies which meet the above criteria.
- Money Market Funds (MMFs) CNAV – AAA rated money market funds.
- Money Market Funds (MMFs) LVNAV – AAA rated money market funds.
- Money Market Funds (MMFs) VNAV – AAA rated money market funds.
- Ultra-Short Dated Bond Funds with a credit rating of at least – AAA
- UK Government (including gilts, Treasury Bills and the DMADF)
- Local authorities, parish councils etc
- Supranational institutions
- Property Funds.
- Building Schools for the Future Local Education Partnership
- Sandwell Inspired Partnership Services
- Sandwell Children’s Trust
- West Midlands Fire & Rescue Authority

A limit will be applied to the use of Non-Specified investments, further details can be found at Appendix 3.

### **Use of additional information other than credit ratings**

Additional requirements under the Code require the council to supplement credit rating information. Whilst the above criteria rely primarily on the application of credit ratings to provide a pool of appropriate counterparties for officers to use, additional operational market information will be applied before making any specific investment decision from the agreed pool of counterparties. This additional market information (for example Credit Default Swaps, negative rating watches/outlooks) will be applied to compare the relative security of differing investment counterparties.

### **Time and monetary limits applying to investments**

The time and monetary limits for institutions on the council’s counterparty list are as follows (these will cover both Specified and Non-Specified Investments):

	Fitch Long term Rating (or equivalent)	Money Limit	Time Limit
Banks 1 category high quality	AA-	£30m	3yrs
Banks 1 category medium quality	A-	£10m	364 days
Limit 3 category – council’s banker (not meeting Banks 1)	-	£15m	1 day
Other institutions limit	-	£10m	364 days
DMADF	AAA	unlimited	6 months
Money market Funds (CNAV)	AAA	£20m	Liquid
Money market Funds (LVNAV)	AAA	£20m	Liquid
Money market Funds (VNAV)	AAA	£10m	1yr plus
Ultra-Short Dated Bond Funds	AAA	£10m	1yr plus
Local authorities	-	£10m	364 days
Property Funds	-	£10m	10yrs plus

The proposed criteria for Specified and Non-Specified investments are shown in Appendix 3 for approval.

### **Creditworthiness**

Significant levels of downgrades to short-term and long-term credit ratings have not materialised since the crisis in March 2020. In the main, where they did change, any alterations were limited to outlooks however, as economies are beginning to reopen, there have been some instances of previous lowering of outlooks being reversed.

### **CDC Prices**

Although bank CDS prices (these are market indicators of credit risk) spiked upwards at the end of March, early April 2020, due to the heightened market uncertainty and ensuing liquidity crisis that affected financial markets, they have returned to more average levels since then. That being said, sentiment can easily shift, so it will remain important to undertake continual monitoring of all aspects of risk and return in the current circumstances. Link monitor the CDS prices as part of their creditworthiness service to local authorities and the council has access to this information via its Link-provided Passport portal.

### **4.3 Other limits**

Due care will be taken to consider the exposure of the council’s total investment portfolio to non-specified investments, countries, groups and sectors.

- a) **Non-specified investment limit.** The council has determined that it will limit the maximum total exposure of treasury management investments to non-specified investments as being 30% of the total investment portfolio.

- b) **Country limit.** The council has determined that it will only use approved counterparties from the UK and from countries with a minimum sovereign credit rating of AA- from Fitch or equivalent. The list of countries that qualify using this credit criteria, will be added to or deducted from, by officers should ratings change in accordance with this policy.
- c) **Other limits.** In addition:
- no more than 20% will be placed with any non-UK country at any time;
  - limits in place above will apply to a group of companies;
  - sector limits will be monitored regularly for appropriateness.

## 4.4 Investment Strategy

### In-house funds

Investments will be made with reference to the core balance and cash flow requirements and the outlook for short-term interest rates (i.e. rates for investments up to 12 months). Greater returns are usually obtainable by investing for longer periods. While most cash balances are required in order to manage the ups and downs of cash flow, where cash sums can be identified that could be invested for longer periods, the value to be obtained from longer term investments will be carefully assessed.

- If it is thought that the bank rate is likely to rise significantly within the time horizon being considered, then consideration will be given to keeping most investments as being short term or variable.
- Conversely, if it is thought that bank rate is likely to fall within that time period, consideration will be given to locking in higher rates currently obtainable, for longer periods.

### Investment returns expectations

The current forecast shown in paragraph 3.3 includes a forecast for a first increase in Bank Rate in May 2022, though it could come in February.

The suggested budgeted investment earnings rates for returns on investments placed for periods up to about three months during each financial year are as follows (the long term forecast is for periods over 10 years in the future):

Average earnings in each year	Now	Previously
2022/23	0.50%	0.50%
2023/24	0.75%	0.75%
2024/25	1.00%	1.00%
2025/26	1.25%	1.25%
Long term later years	2.00%	2.00%

For its cash flow generated balances, the council will seek to utilise its business reserve instant access and notice accounts, money market funds and short-dated deposits, (overnight to 100 days), in order to benefit from the compounding of interest.

### **WM Combined Authority**

The council will be prepared to lend to the Combined Authority. Such lending may be as part of arrangements agreed with the Combined Authority and other constituent authorities.

#### **Investment treasury indicator and limit**

These are the total principal funds invested for greater than 365 days. These limits are set with regard to the council's liquidity requirements and to reduce the need for early sale of an investment and are based on the availability of funds after each year-end.

The council is asked to approve the treasury indicator and limit:

<b>Maximum principal sums invested &gt; 364 days</b>			
	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>
Principal sums invested > 365 days	£30m	£30m	£30m

## **4.5 Investment Risk Benchmarking**

These benchmarks are simple guides to maximum risk, so they may be breached from time to time, depending on movements in interest rates and counterparty criteria. The purpose of the benchmark is that officers will monitor the current trend position and amend the operational strategy to manage risk as conditions change. Any breach of the benchmarks will be reported, with supporting reasons in the Mid-Year or Annual Report.

Security - The council's maximum-security risk benchmark for the current portfolio, when compared to these historic default tables, is:

- 0.00% historic risk of default when compared to the whole portfolio.

Liquidity – the council seeks to maintain:

- Bank overdraft - £2m
- Liquid short-term deposits of at least £21m available with a week's notice.

Yield - Local measures of yield benchmarks are:

- Investments – internal returns above the over-night SONIA compounded rate

The current SONIA benchmarks are reported below; please note that these rates are variable and change daily. They are linked to current market conditions and may go up or down as those conditions change.



<b>% Benchmarks</b>	<b>Over-Night</b>	<b>1 Month</b>	<b>3 Month</b>	<b>6 Month</b>	<b>12 Month</b>
Benchmark Return (SONIA compounded)	0.06%	0.07%	0.10%	0.18%	0.35%

Note: This benchmark is an average risk of default measure and would not constitute an expectation of loss against a particular investment.

#### **4.6 End of year investment report**

At the end of the financial year, the council will report on its investment activity as part of its Annual Treasury Report.

#### **4.7 External Fund Manager**

£74.8m of the council's funds is externally managed on a discretionary/pooled basis by the following:

- Aberdeen Standard Liquidity Fund (Lux) – Sterling Fund (Class 1)
- Aviva Investors Sterling Liquidity Fund (Class 3)
- BlackRock Institutional Sterling Liquidity Fund (Heritage)
- BNP Paribas Insticash Sterling (Institutional)
- CCLA – The Public Sector Deposit Fund (Class 4)
- Federated Short-Term Sterling Prime Fund (Class 3)
- Fidelity Institutional Liquidity Sterling Fund (Class A)
- Invesco Sterling Liquidity Portfolio (Institutional)

The council's external fund managers will comply with the Annual Investment Strategy. The agreements between the council and the fund managers additionally stipulate guidelines on duration and other limits in order to contain and control risk.

The council fully appreciates the importance of monitoring the activity and resultant performance of its appointed external fund managers. In order to aid this assessment, the council is provided with a suite of regular reporting from its managers via both the Institutional Cash Distributions (ICD) Portal and the fund managers themselves.

In addition to formal reports, the council also meets the representatives of the fund managers on an annual basis. These meetings allow for additional scrutiny of the manager's activity as well as discussions on the outlook for the fund as well as wider markets.

### **5 TREASURY INDICATORS 2022/23 – 2025/26**

#### **5.1 Affordability Prudential Indicators**

Prudential indicators are required to assess the affordability of the capital investment plans. These provide an indication of the impact of the capital investment plans on the council's overall finances. The council is asked to approve the following indicator:

##### **Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream**

This indicator identifies the trend in the cost of capital (borrowing and other long-term obligation costs net of investment income) against the net revenue stream.

	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Estimate	2022/23 Estimate	2023/24 Estimate	2024/25 Estimate	2025/26 Estimate
General Fund	5.53%	6.55%	5.15%	4.70%	4.45%	4.19%
HRA	22.63%	21.69%	21.91%	22.28%	22.33%	22.20%

The estimates of financing costs include current commitments and the proposals in this budget report.

## HRA Ratios

	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Estimate	2022/23 Estimate	2023/24 Estimate	2024/25 Estimate	2025/26 Estimate
HRA Debt (£m)	353.950	336.868	327.801	316.413	308.913	303.626
HRA Revenues (£m)	130.290	132.381	135.351	136.538	136.538	136.538
Ratio of Debt to Revenues (%)	2.72%	2.54%	2.42%	2.32%	2.26%	2.22%

	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Estimate	2022/23 Estimate	2023/24 Estimate	2024/25 Estimate	2025/26 Estimate
HRA Debt (£m)	353.950	336.868	327.801	316.413	308.913	303.626
Number of HRA Dwellings	28,292	28,142	27,992	27,842	27,692	27,542
Debt Per Dwelling (£m)	12.511	11.970	11.711	11.365	11.155	11.024

## 5.2 Maturity Structure of Borrowing

Maturity structure of borrowing. These gross limits are set to reduce the council's exposure to large fixed rate sums falling due to refinancing and are required for upper and lower limits.

The council is asked to approve the following treasury indicators and limits:

Maturity Structure of Fixed Interest Rate Borrowing 2021/22		
	Lower %	Upper %
Under 12 months	0%	10%
12 months to 2 years	0%	10%
2 years to 5 years	0%	20%
5 years to 10 years	0%	20%
10 years to 20 years	0%	20%
20 years to 30 years	0%	30%
30 years to 40 years	0%	40%
40 years to 50 years	0%	50%
50 years plus	0%	90%

Maturity Structure of Variable Interest Rate Borrowing 2021/22		
	Lower %	Upper %
Under 12 months	0%	5%
12 months to 2 years	0%	5%
2 years to 5 years	0%	5%
5 years to 10 years	0%	5%
10 years to 20 years	0%	5%
20 years to 30 years	0%	10%
30 years to 40 years	0%	10%
40 years to 50 years	0%	10%
50 years plus	0%	10%

## APPENDIX 1: Interest Rate Forecasts

The Council has appointed Link Group as its treasury advisor and part of their service is to assist the Council to formulate a view on interest rates. Link provided the following forecasts on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2021. These are forecasts for certainty rates, gilt yields plus 80 bps.

Link Group Interest Rate View	20.12.21													
	Dec-21	Mar-22	Jun-22	Sep-22	Dec-22	Mar-23	Jun-23	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24	Jun-24	Sep-24	Dec-24	Mar-25
BANK RATE	0.25	0.25	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.25
3 month ave earnings	0.20	0.30	0.50	0.50	0.60	0.70	0.80	0.90	0.90	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
6 month ave earnings	0.40	0.50	0.60	0.60	0.70	0.80	0.90	1.00	1.00	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10
12 month ave earnings	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.80	0.90	1.00	1.10	1.10	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20
5 yr PWLB	1.40	1.50	1.50	1.60	1.60	1.70	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.90	1.90	1.90	2.00	2.00
10 yr PWLB	1.60	1.70	1.80	1.80	1.90	1.90	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.20	2.30
25 yr PWLB	1.80	1.90	2.00	2.10	2.10	2.20	2.20	2.20	2.30	2.30	2.40	2.40	2.50	2.50
50 yr PWLB	1.50	1.70	1.80	1.90	1.90	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.10	2.10	2.20	2.20	2.30	2.30

Additional notes by Link on this forecast table:-

- *LIBOR and LIBID rates will cease from the end of 2021. Work is currently progressing to replace LIBOR with a rate based on SONIA (Sterling Overnight Index Average). In the meantime, our forecasts are based on expected average earnings by local authorities for 3 to 12 months.*
- *Our forecasts for average earnings are averages i.e., rates offered by individual banks may differ significantly from these averages, reflecting their different needs for borrowing short term cash at any one point in time.*

Over the last two years, the coronavirus outbreak has done huge economic damage to the UK and to economies around the world. After the Bank of England took emergency action in March 2020 to cut Bank Rate to 0.10%, it left Bank Rate unchanged at its subsequent meetings until raising it to 0.25% at its meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

As shown in the forecast table above, the forecast for Bank Rate now includes four increases, one in December 2021 to 0.25%, then quarter 2 of 2022 to 0.50%, quarter 1 of 2023 to 0.75%, quarter 1 of 2024 to 1.00% and, finally, one in quarter 1 of 2025 to 1.25%.

### **Significant risks to the forecasts**

- **Mutations** of the virus render current vaccines ineffective, and tweaked vaccines to combat these mutations are delayed, or cannot be administered fast enough to prevent further lockdowns. 25% of the population not being vaccinated is also a significant risk to the NHS being overwhelmed and lockdowns being the only remaining option.
- **Labour and supply shortages** prove more enduring and disruptive and depress economic activity.
- **The Monetary Policy Committee** acts too quickly, or too far, over the next three years to raise Bank Rate and causes UK economic growth, and increases in inflation, to be weaker than we currently anticipate.
- **The Monetary Policy Committee** tightens monetary policy too late to ward off building inflationary pressures.
- **The Government** acts too quickly to cut expenditure to balance the national budget.
- **UK / EU trade arrangements** – if there was a major impact on trade flows and financial services due to complications or lack of co-operation in sorting out significant remaining issues.
- **Longer term US treasury yields** rise strongly and pull gilt yields up higher than forecast.
- **Major stock markets** e.g., in the US, become increasingly judged as being over-valued and susceptible to major price corrections. Central banks become increasingly exposed to the “moral hazard” risks of having to buy shares and corporate bonds to reduce the impact of major financial market selloffs on the general economy.
- **Geopolitical risks**, for example in Ukraine, Iran, North Korea, but also in Europe and Middle Eastern countries; on-going global power influence struggles between Russia/China/US. These could lead to increasing safe-haven flows.

### **The balance of risks to the UK economy: -**

- The overall balance of risks to economic growth in the UK is now to the downside, including risks from Covid and its variants - both domestically and their potential effects worldwide.

### **Forecasts for Bank Rate**

It is not expected that Bank Rate will go up fast after the initial rate rise as the supply potential of the economy is not likely to have taken a major hit during the pandemic: it should, therefore, be able to cope well with meeting demand after supply shortages subside over the next year, without causing inflation to remain elevated in the medium-term, or to inhibit inflation from falling back towards the MPC's 2% target after the spike up to around 5%. The forecast includes four increases in Bank Rate over the three-year forecast period to March 2025, ending at 1.25%. However, it is likely that these forecasts will need changing within a relatively short timeframe for the following reasons: -

- We do not know how severe an impact Omicron could have on the economy and whether there will be another lockdown or similar and, if there is, whether there would be significant fiscal support from the Government for businesses and jobs.
- There were already increasing grounds for viewing the economic recovery as running out of steam during the autumn and now into the winter. And then along came Omicron to pose a significant downside threat to economic activity. This could lead into stagflation, or even into recession, which would then pose a dilemma for the MPC as to whether to focus on combating inflation or supporting economic growth through keeping interest rates low.
- Will some current key supply shortages spill over into causing economic activity in some sectors to take a significant hit?
- Rising gas and electricity prices in October and next April and increase in other prices caused by supply shortages and increases in taxation next April, are already going to deflate consumer spending power without the MPC having to take any action on Bank Rate to cool inflation.
- On the other hand, consumers are sitting on over £160bn of excess savings left over from the pandemic so when will they spend this sum, in part or in total?
- It looks as if the economy coped well with the end of furlough on 30<sup>th</sup> September. It is estimated that there were around 1 million people who came off furlough then and there was not a huge spike up in unemployment. The other side of the coin is that vacancies have been hitting record levels so there is a continuing acute shortage of workers. This is a potential danger area if this shortage drives up wages which then feed through into producer prices and the prices of services i.e., a second-round effect that the MPC would have to act against if it looked like gaining significant momentum.

- We also recognise there could be further nasty surprises on the Covid front beyond the Omicron mutation.
- If the UK invokes article 16 of the Brexit deal over the dislocation in trading arrangements with Northern Ireland, this has the potential to end up in a no-deal Brexit.

In summary, with the high level of uncertainty prevailing on several different fronts, we expect to have to revise our forecasts again - in line with whatever the new news is.

It should also be borne in mind that Bank Rate being cut to 0.25% and then to 0.10%, were emergency measures to deal with the Covid crisis hitting the UK in March 2020. At any time, the MPC could decide to simply take away such emergency cuts on no other grounds than they are no longer warranted, and as a step forward in the return to normalisation. In addition, any Bank Rate under 1% is both highly unusual and highly supportive of economic growth.

### **Forecasts for PWLB rates and gilt and treasury yields**

Since the start of 2021, we have seen a lot of volatility in gilt yields, and hence PWLB rates. As the interest forecast table for PWLB certainty rates above shows, there is forecast to be a steady, but slow, rise in both Bank Rate and gilt yields during the forecast period to March 2025, though there will doubtless be a lot of unpredictable volatility during this forecast period.

While monetary policy in the UK will have a major impact on gilt yields, there is also a need to consider the potential impact that rising treasury yields in America could have on our gilt yields. **As an average since 2011, there has been a 75% correlation between movements in US 10-year treasury yields and UK 10-year gilt yields. This is a significant UPWARD RISK exposure to our forecasts for longer term PWLB rates. However, gilt yields and treasury yields do not always move in unison.**

**US treasury yields.** During the first part of 2021, US President Biden's, and the Democratic party's, determination to push through a \$1.9trn (equivalent to 8.8% of GDP) fiscal boost for the US economy as a recovery package from the Covid pandemic was what unsettled financial markets. However, this was in addition to the \$900bn support package already passed in December 2020. This was then followed by additional Democratic ambition to spend \$1trn on infrastructure, (which was eventually passed by both houses later in 2021), and an even larger sum on an American family plan over the next decade; this is still caught up in Democrat / Republican haggling. Financial markets were alarmed that all this stimulus was happening at a time when: -

1. A fast vaccination programme had enabled a rapid opening up of the economy during 2021.
2. The economy was growing strongly during the first half of 2021 although it has weakened overall during the second half.

3. It started from a position of little spare capacity due to less severe lockdown measures than in many other countries.
4. And the Fed was still providing substantial stimulus through monthly QE purchases during 2021.

It was not much of a surprise that a combination of these factors would eventually cause an excess of demand in the economy which generated strong inflationary pressures. This has eventually been recognised by the Fed at its December meeting with an aggressive response to damp inflation down during 2022 and 2023.

**At its 3<sup>rd</sup> November Fed meeting**, the Fed decided to make a start on tapering its \$120bn per month of QE purchases so that they ended next June. However, at its **15<sup>th</sup> December meeting** it doubled the pace of tapering so that they will end all purchases in February. These purchases are currently acting as downward pressure on treasury yields and so it would be expected that Treasury yields will rise over the taper period and after the taper ends, all other things being equal. The Fed also forecast that it expected there would be three rate rises in 2022 of 0.25% from near zero currently, followed by three in 2023 and two in 2024, taking rates back above 2% to a neutral level for monetary policy.

There are also possible **DOWNSIDE RISKS** from the huge sums of cash that the UK populace have saved during the pandemic; when savings accounts earn little interest, it is likely that some of this cash mountain could end up being invested in bonds and so push up demand for bonds and support their prices i.e., this would help to keep their yields down. How this will interplay with the Bank of England eventually getting round to not reinvesting maturing gilts and then later selling gilts, will be interesting to monitor.

There is likely to be **exceptional volatility and unpredictability in respect of gilt yields and PWLB rates** due to the following factors: -

- How strongly will changes in gilt yields be correlated to changes in US treasury yields (see below). Over 10 years since 2011 there has been an average 75% correlation between movements in US treasury yields and gilt yields. However, from time to time these two yields can diverge. Lack of spare economic capacity and rising inflationary pressures are viewed as being much greater dangers in the US than in the UK. This could mean that central bank rates will end up rising earlier and higher in the US than in the UK if inflationary pressures were to escalate; the consequent increases in treasury yields could well spill over to cause (lesser) increases in gilt yields. There is, therefore, an upside risk to forecasts for gilt yields due to this correlation. The Link Group forecasts have included a risk of a 75% correlation between the two yields.
- Will the Fed take action to counter increasing treasury yields if they rise beyond a yet unspecified level?
- Would the MPC act to counter increasing gilt yields if they rise beyond a yet unspecified level?

- How strong will inflationary pressures actually turn out to be in both the US and the UK and so put upward pressure on treasury and gilt yields?
- How will central banks implement their new average or sustainable level inflation monetary policies?
- How well will central banks manage the withdrawal of QE purchases of their national bonds i.e., without causing a panic reaction in financial markets as happened in the “taper tantrums” in the US in 2013?
- Will exceptional volatility be focused on the short or long-end of the yield curve, or both?

As the US financial markets are, by far, the biggest financial markets in the world, any upward trend in treasury yields will invariably impact and influence financial markets in other countries. Inflationary pressures and erosion of surplus economic capacity look much stronger in the US compared to those in the UK, which would suggest that Fed rate increases eventually needed to suppress inflation, are likely to be faster and stronger than Bank Rate increases in the UK. This is likely to put upward pressure on treasury yields which could then spill over into putting upward pressure on UK gilt yields.

The forecasts are also predicated on an assumption that there is no break-up of the Eurozone or EU within the forecasting period, despite the major challenges that are looming up, and that there are no major ructions in international relations, especially between the US and Russia, China / North Korea and Iran, which have a major impact on international trade and world GDP growth.

**The balance of risks to medium to long term PWLB rates: -**

- There is a balance of upside risks to forecasts for medium to long term PWLB rates.

**A new era for local authority investing  
– a fundamental shift in central bank monetary policy**

One of the key results of the pandemic has been a fundamental rethinking and shift in monetary policy by major central banks like the Fed, the Bank of England and the ECB, to tolerate a higher level of inflation than in the previous two decades when inflation was the prime target to bear down on so as to stop it going above a target rate. There is now also a greater emphasis on other targets for monetary policy than just inflation, especially on ‘achieving broad and inclusive “maximum” employment in its entirety’ in the US, before consideration would be given to increasing rates.

- The Fed in America has gone furthest in adopting a monetary policy based on a clear goal of allowing the inflation target to be symmetrical, (rather than a ceiling to keep under), so that inflation averages out the dips down and surges above the target rate, over an unspecified period of time.
- The Bank of England has also amended its target for monetary policy so that inflation should be ‘sustainably over 2%’ before starting on raising Bank Rate and the ECB now has a similar policy.



- **For local authorities, this means that investment interest rates and very short term PWLB rates will not be rising as quickly or as high as in previous decades when the economy recovers from a downturn and the recovery eventually runs out of spare capacity to fuel continuing expansion.**
- Labour market liberalisation since the 1970s has helped to break the wage-price spirals that fuelled high levels of inflation and has now set inflation on a lower path which makes this shift in monetary policy practicable. In addition, recent changes in flexible employment practices, the rise of the gig economy and technological changes, will all help to lower inflationary pressures.
- Governments will also be concerned to see interest rates stay lower as every rise in central rates will add to the cost of vastly expanded levels of national debt; (in the UK this is £21bn for each 1% rise in rates). On the other hand, higher levels of inflation will help to erode the real value of total public debt.

### **Investment and borrowing rates**

- **Investment returns** are expected to improve in 2022/23. However, while markets are pricing in a series of Bank Rate hikes, actual economic circumstances may see the MPC fall short of these elevated expectations.
- **Borrowing interest rates** fell to historically very low rates as a result of the COVID crisis and the quantitative easing operations of the Bank of England and still remain at historically low levels. The policy of avoiding new borrowing by running down spare cash balances has served local authorities well over the last few years.
- On 25.11.20, the Chancellor announced the conclusion to the review of margins over gilt yields for PWLB rates which had been increased by 100 bps in October 2019. The standard and certainty margins were reduced by 100 bps but a prohibition was introduced to deny access to borrowing from the PWLB for any local authority which had purchase of assets for yield in its three-year capital programme. The current margins over gilt yields are as follows: -
  - **PWLB Standard Rate** is gilt plus 100 basis points (G+100bps)
  - **PWLB Certainty Rate** is gilt plus 80 basis points (G+80bps)
  - **PWLB HRA Standard Rate** is gilt plus 100 basis points (G+100bps)
  - **PWLB HRA Certainty Rate** is gilt plus 80bps (G+80bps)
  - **Local Infrastructure Rate** is gilt plus 60bps (G+60bps)
- **Borrowing for capital expenditure.** Our long-term (beyond 10 years), forecast for Bank Rate is 2.00%. As some PWLB certainty rates are currently below 2.00%, there remains value in considering long-term borrowing from the PWLB where appropriate. Temporary borrowing rates are likely, however, to remain near Bank Rate and may also prove attractive as part of a balanced debt portfolio. In addition, there are also some cheap alternative sources of long-term borrowing if an authority is seeking to avoid a “cost of carry” but also wishes to mitigate future re-financing risk.

- While this authority will not be able to avoid borrowing to finance new capital expenditure, to replace maturing debt and the rundown of reserves, there will be a *cost of carry*, (the difference between higher borrowing costs and lower investment returns), to any new borrowing that causes a temporary increase in cash balances.

## **APPENDIX 2: Economic Background**

### **COVID-19 vaccines.**

These were the game changer during 2021 which raised high hopes that life in the UK would be able to largely return to normal in the second half of the year. However, the bursting onto the scene of the Omicron mutation at the end of November, rendered the initial two doses of all vaccines largely ineffective in preventing infection. This has dashed such hopes and raises the spectre again that a fourth wave of the virus could overwhelm hospitals in early 2022. What we now know is that this mutation is very fast spreading with the potential for total case numbers to double every two to three days, although it possibly may not cause so much severe illness as previous mutations. Rather than go for full lockdowns which heavily damage the economy, the government strategy this time is focusing on getting as many people as possible to have a third (booster) vaccination after three months from the previous last injection, as a booster has been shown to restore a high percentage of immunity to Omicron to those who have had two vaccinations. There is now a race on between how quickly boosters can be given to limit the spread of Omicron, and how quickly will hospitals fill up and potentially be unable to cope. In the meantime, workers have been requested to work from home and restrictions have been placed on large indoor gatherings and hospitality venues. With the household saving rate having been exceptionally high since the first lockdown in March 2020, there is plenty of pent-up demand and purchasing power stored up for services in sectors like restaurants, travel, tourism and hotels which had been hit hard during 2021, but could now be hit hard again by either, or both, of government restrictions and/or consumer reluctance to leave home. Growth will also be lower due to people being ill and not working, similar to the pandemic in July. The economy, therefore, faces significant headwinds although some sectors have learned how to cope well with Covid. However, the biggest impact on growth would come from another lockdown if that happened. The big question remains as to whether any further mutations of this virus could develop which render all current vaccines ineffective, as opposed to how quickly vaccines can be modified to deal with them and enhanced testing programmes be implemented to contain their spread until tweaked vaccines become widely available.

### **A SUMMARY OVERVIEW OF THE FUTURE PATH OF BANK RATE**

- In December, the Bank of England became the first major western central bank to put interest rates up in this upswing in the current business cycle in western economies as recovery progresses from the Covid recession of 2020.
- The next increase in Bank Rate could be in February or May, dependent on how severe an impact there is from Omicron.

- If there are lockdowns in January, this could pose a barrier for the MPC to putting Bank Rate up again as early as 3<sup>rd</sup> February.
- With inflation expected to peak at around 6% in April, the MPC may want to be seen to be active in taking action to counter inflation on 5<sup>th</sup> May, the release date for its Quarterly Monetary Policy Report.
- The December 2021 MPC meeting was more concerned with combating inflation over the medium term than supporting economic growth in the short term.
- Bank Rate increases beyond May are difficult to forecast as inflation is likely to drop sharply in the second half of 2022.
- However, the MPC will want to normalise Bank Rate over the next three years so that it has its main monetary policy tool ready to use in time for the next down-turn; all rates under 2% are providing stimulus to economic growth.
- We have put year end 0.25% increases into Q1 of each financial year from 2023 to recognise this upward bias in Bank Rate - but the actual timing in each year is difficult to predict.
- Covid remains a major potential downside threat in all three years as we ARE likely to get further mutations.
- How quickly can science come up with a mutation proof vaccine, or other treatment, – and for them to be widely administered around the world?
- Purchases of gilts under QE ended in December. Note that when Bank Rate reaches 0.50%, the MPC has said it will start running down its stock of QE.

#### **MPC MEETING 16<sup>H</sup> DECEMBER 2021**

- The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) voted 8-1 to raise Bank Rate by 0.15% from 0.10% to 0.25% and unanimously decided to make no changes to its programme of quantitative easing purchases due to finish in December 2021 at a total of £895bn.
- The MPC disappointed financial markets by not raising Bank Rate at its November meeting. Until Omicron burst on the scene, most forecasters, therefore, viewed a Bank Rate increase as being near certain at this December meeting due to the way that inflationary pressures have been comprehensively building in both producer and consumer prices, and in wage rates. However, at the November meeting, the MPC decided it wanted to have assurance that the labour market would get over the end of the furlough scheme on 30<sup>th</sup> September without unemployment increasing sharply; their decision was, therefore, to wait until statistics were available to show how the economy had fared at this time.
- **On 10<sup>th</sup> December we learnt of the disappointing 0.1% m/m rise in GDP** in October which suggested that economic growth had already slowed to a crawl even before the Omicron variant was discovered in late November. Early evidence suggests growth in November might have been marginally better. Nonetheless, at such low rates of growth, the government's "Plan B" COVID-19 restrictions could cause the economy to contract in December.

- **On 14<sup>th</sup> December, the labour market statistics** for the three months to October and the single month of October were released. The fallout after the furlough scheme was smaller and shorter than the Bank of England had feared. The single-month data were more informative and showed that LFS employment fell by 240,000, unemployment increased by 75,000 and the unemployment rate rose from 3.9% in September to 4.2%. However, the weekly data suggested this didn't last long as unemployment was falling again by the end of October. What's more, the 49,700 fall in the claimant count and the 257,000 rise in the PAYE measure of company payrolls suggests that the labour market strengthened again in November. The other side of the coin was a further rise in the number of vacancies from 1.182m to a record 1.219m in the three months to November which suggests that the supply of labour is struggling to keep up with demand, although the single-month figure for November fell for the first time since February, from 1.307m to 1.227m.
- These figures by themselves, would probably have been enough to give the MPC the assurance that it could press ahead to raise Bank Rate at this December meeting. However, the advent of Omicron potentially threw a spanner into the works as it poses a major headwind to the economy which, of itself, will help to cool the economy. The financial markets, therefore, swung round to expecting no change in Bank Rate.
- **On 15th December we had the CPI inflation** figure for November which spiked up further from 4.2% to 5.1%, confirming again how inflationary pressures have been building sharply. However, Omicron also caused a sharp fall in world oil and other commodity prices; (gas and electricity inflation has generally accounted on average for about 60% of the increase in inflation in advanced western economies).
- **Other elements of inflation are also transitory** e.g., prices of goods being forced up by supply shortages, and shortages of shipping containers due to ports being clogged have caused huge increases in shipping costs. But these issues are likely to clear during 2022, and then prices will subside back to more normal levels. Gas prices and electricity prices will also fall back once winter is passed and demand for these falls away.
- Although it is possible that the Government could step in with some **fiscal support for the economy**, the huge cost of such support to date is likely to pose a barrier to incurring further major economy wide expenditure unless it is very limited and targeted on narrow sectors like hospitality, (as announced just before Christmas). The Government may well, therefore, effectively leave it to the MPC, and to monetary policy, to support economic growth – but at a time when the threat posed by rising inflation is near to peaking!
- This is the adverse set of factors against which the MPC had to decide on Bank Rate. For the second month in a row, the MPC blind-sided financial markets, this time with a **surprise increase in Bank Rate from 0.10% to 0.25%**. What's more, the hawkish tone of comments indicated that the MPC

is now concerned that inflationary pressures are indeed building and need concerted action by the MPC to counter. This indicates that there will be more increases to come with financial markets predicting 1% by the end of 2022. The 8-1 vote to raise the rate shows that there is firm agreement that inflation now poses a threat, especially after the CPI figure hit a 10-year high this week. The MPC commented that “there has been significant upside news” and that “there were some signs of greater persistence in domestic costs and price pressures”.

- On the other hand, it did also comment that “**the Omicron variant is likely to weigh on near-term activity**”. But it stressed that at the November meeting it had said it would raise rates if the economy evolved as it expected and that now “these conditions had been met”. It also appeared more worried about the possible boost to inflation from Omicron itself. It said that “the current position of the global and UK economies was materially different compared with prior to the onset of the pandemic, including elevated levels of consumer price inflation”. It also noted the possibility that renewed social distancing would boost demand for goods again, (as demand for services would fall), meaning “global price pressures might persist for longer”. (Recent news is that the largest port in the world in China has come down with an Omicron outbreak which is not only affecting the port but also factories in the region.)
- On top of that, there were no references this month to inflation being expected to be below the **2% target in two years’ time**, which at November’s meeting the MPC referenced to suggest the markets had gone too far in expecting interest rates to rise to over 1.00% by the end of the year.
- These comments indicate that there has been a material reappraisal by the MPC of the inflationary pressures since their last meeting and the Bank also increased its forecast for inflation to peak at 6% next April, rather than at 5% as of a month ago. However, as the Bank retained its guidance that only a “**modest tightening**” in policy will be required, it cannot be thinking that it will need to increase interest rates that much more. A typical policy tightening cycle has usually involved rates rising by 0.25% four times in a year. “Modest” seems slower than that. As such, the Bank could be thinking about raising interest rates two- or three-times next year to 0.75% or 1.00%.
- In as much as a considerable part of the inflationary pressures at the current time are indeed **transitory**, and will naturally subside, and since economic growth is likely to be weak over the next few months, this would appear to indicate that this tightening cycle is likely to be comparatively short.
- As for the timing of the next increase in Bank Rate, the MPC dropped the comment from November’s statement that Bank Rate would be raised “in the coming months”. That may imply another rise is unlikely at the next meeting in February and that May is more likely. However, much could depend on how adversely, or not, the economy is affected by Omicron in the run up to the next meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> February. Once 0.50% is reached, the

Bank would act to start shrinking its stock of QE, (gilts purchased by the Bank would not be replaced when they mature).

- **The MPC's forward guidance on its intended monetary policy** on raising Bank Rate versus selling (quantitative easing) holdings of bonds is as follows: -
  - Raising Bank Rate as “the active instrument in most circumstances”.
  - Raising Bank Rate to 0.50% before starting on reducing its holdings.
  - Once Bank Rate is at 0.50% it would stop reinvesting maturing gilts.
  - Once Bank Rate had risen to at least 1%, it would start selling its holdings.
- **US.** Shortages of goods and intermediate goods like semi-conductors, have been fuelling increases in prices and reducing economic growth potential. In November, **CPI inflation hit a near 40-year record level of 6.8%** but with energy prices then falling sharply, this is probably the peak. The biggest problem for the Fed is the mounting evidence of a strong pick-up in cyclical price pressures e.g., in rent which has hit a decade high.
- **Shortages of labour** have also been driving up wage rates sharply; this also poses a considerable threat to feeding back into producer prices and then into consumer prices inflation. It now also appears that there has been a sustained drop in the labour force which suggests the pandemic has had a longer-term scarring effect in reducing potential GDP. Economic growth may therefore be reduced to between 2 and 3% in 2022 and 2023 while core inflation is likely to remain elevated at around 3% in both years instead of declining back to the Fed's 2% central target.
- Inflation hitting 6.8% and the feed through into second round effects, meant that it was near certain that the **Fed's meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> December** would take aggressive action against inflation. Accordingly, the rate of tapering of monthly \$120bn QE purchases announced at its November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, was doubled so that all purchases would now finish in February 2022. In addition, Fed officials had started discussions on running down the stock of QE held by the Fed. Fed officials also expected three rate rises in 2022 of 0.25% from near zero currently, followed by three in 2023 and two in 2024, taking rates back above 2% to a neutral level for monetary policy. The first increase could come as soon as March 2022 as the chairman of the Fed stated his view that the economy had made rapid progress to achieving the other goal of the Fed – “maximum employment”. The Fed forecast that inflation would fall from an average of 5.3% in 2021 to 2.6% in 2023, still above its target of 2% and both figures significantly up from previous forecasts. What was also significant was that this month the Fed dropped its description of the current level of inflation as being “transitory” and instead referred to “elevated levels” of inflation: the statement also dropped most of the language around the flexible average inflation target, with inflation now described as having exceeded 2 percent “for some time”. It did not see Omicron as being a major impediment to the need to take action now to curtail the level of inflationary pressures that have built up, although Fed officials did note that it has the potential to exacerbate supply chain problems and add to price pressures.

*See also comments in paragraph 3.3 under PWLB rates and gilt yields.*

- **EU.** The slow roll out of vaccines initially delayed **economic recovery** in early 2021 but the vaccination rate then picked up sharply. After a contraction of -0.3% in Q1, Q2 came in with strong growth of 2%. With Q3 at 2.2%, the EU recovery was then within 0.5% of its pre Covid size. However, the arrival of Omicron is now a major headwind to growth in quarter 4 and the expected downturn into weak growth could well turn negative, with the outlook for the first two months of 2022 expected to continue to be very weak.
- **November's inflation figures** breakdown shows that the increase in price pressures is not just due to high energy costs and global demand-supply imbalances for durable goods as services inflation also rose. Headline inflation reached 4.9% in November, with over half of that due to energy. However, oil and gas prices are expected to fall after the winter and so energy inflation is expected to plummet in 2022. Core goods inflation rose to 2.4% in November, its second highest ever level, and is likely to remain high for some time as it will take a long time for the inflationary impact of global imbalances in the demand and supply of durable goods to disappear. Price pressures also increased in the services sector, but wage growth remains subdued and there are no signs of a trend of faster wage growth which might lead to *persistently* higher services inflation - which would get the ECB concerned. The upshot is that the euro-zone is set for a prolonged period of inflation being above the ECB's target of 2% and it is likely to average 3% in 2022, in line with the ECB's latest projection.
- **ECB tapering.** The ECB has joined with the Fed by also announcing at its meeting on 16th December that it will be reducing its QE purchases - by half from October 2022, i.e., it will still be providing significant stimulus via QE purchases for over half of next year. However, as inflation will fall back sharply during 2022, it is likely that it will leave its central rate below zero, (currently -0.50%), over the next two years. The main struggle that the ECB has had in recent years is that inflation has been doggedly anaemic in sticking below the ECB's target rate despite all its major programmes of monetary easing by cutting rates into negative territory and providing QE support.
- The ECB will now also need to consider the impact of **Omicron** on the economy, and it stated at its December meeting that it is prepared to provide further QE support if the pandemic causes bond yield spreads of peripheral countries, (compared to the yields of northern EU countries), to rise. However, that is the only reason it will support peripheral yields, so this support is limited in its scope.
- The EU has entered a **period of political uncertainty** where a new German government formed of a coalition of three parties with Olaf Scholz replacing Angela Merkel as Chancellor in December 2021, will need to find its feet both within the EU and in the three parties successfully working together. In France there is a presidential election coming up in April 2022 followed by the legislative election in June. In addition, Italy needs to elect a new president in January with Prime Minister Draghi being a favourite due to having suitable gravitas for this post. However, if he switched office, there is a significant risk that the current government coalition could collapse. That could then cause differentials between Italian and German bonds to widen when 2022 will also see a gradual

running down of ECB support for the bonds of weaker countries within the EU. These political uncertainties could have repercussions on economies and on Brexit issues.

- **CHINA.** After a concerted effort to get on top of the virus outbreak in Q1 2020, economic recovery was strong in the rest of **2020**; this enabled China to recover all the initial contraction. During 2020, policy makers both quashed the virus and implemented a programme of monetary and fiscal support that was particularly effective at stimulating short-term growth. At the same time, China's economy benefited from the shift towards online spending by consumers in developed markets. These factors helped to explain its comparative outperformance compared to western economies during 2020 and earlier in 2021.
- However, the pace of economic growth has now fallen back in **2021** after this initial surge of recovery from the pandemic and looks likely to be particularly weak in 2022. China has been struggling to contain the spread of the Delta variant through using sharp local lockdowns - which depress economic growth. Chinese consumers are also being very wary about leaving home and so spending money on services. However, with Omicron having now spread to China, and being much more easily transmissible, this strategy of sharp local lockdowns to stop the virus may not prove so successful in future. In addition, the current pace of providing boosters at 100 billion per month will leave much of the 1.4 billion population exposed to Omicron, and any further mutations, for a considerable time. The **People's Bank of China** made a start in December 2021 on cutting its key interest rate marginally to stimulate economic growth. However, after credit has already expanded by around 25% in just the last two years, it will probably leave the heavy lifting in supporting growth to fiscal stimulus by central and local government.
- Supply shortages, especially of coal for power generation, were causing widespread power cuts to industry during the second half of 2021 and so a sharp disruptive impact on some sectors of the economy. In addition, recent regulatory actions motivated by a political agenda to channel activities into officially approved directions, are also likely to reduce the dynamism and long-term growth of the Chinese economy.
- **JAPAN.** 2021 has been a patchy year in combating Covid. However, recent business surveys indicate that the economy has been rebounding rapidly in 2021 once the bulk of the population had been double vaccinated and new virus cases had plunged. However, Omicron could reverse this initial success in combating Covid.
- The Bank of Japan is continuing its **very loose monetary policy** but with little prospect of getting inflation back above 1% towards its target of 2%, any time soon: indeed, inflation was actually negative in July. New Prime Minister Kishida, having won the November general election, brought in a supplementary budget to boost growth, but it is unlikely to have a major effect.
- **WORLD GROWTH.** World growth was in recession in 2020 but recovered during 2021 until starting to lose momentum in the second half of the year, though overall growth for the year is expected to be about 6% and to be around 4-5% in 2022. Inflation has been rising due to increases in gas and electricity prices, shipping costs and supply shortages, although these should subside



during 2022. While headline inflation will fall sharply, core inflation will probably not fall as quickly as central bankers would hope. It is likely that we are heading into a period where there will be a **reversal of world globalisation** and a decoupling of western countries from dependence on China to supply products, and vice versa. This is likely to reduce world growth rates from those in prior decades.

- **SUPPLY SHORTAGES.** The pandemic and extreme weather events, followed by a major surge in demand after lockdowns ended, have been highly disruptive of extended worldwide supply chains. Major queues of ships unable to unload their goods at ports in New York, California and China built up rapidly during quarters 2 and 3 of 2021 but then halved during quarter 4. Such issues have led to a misdistribution of shipping containers around the world and have contributed to a huge increase in the cost of shipping. Combined with a shortage of semi-conductors, these issues have had a disruptive impact on production in many countries. The latest additional disruption has been a shortage of coal in China leading to power cuts focused primarily on producers (rather than consumers), i.e., this will further aggravate shortages in meeting demand for goods. Many western countries are also hitting up against a difficulty in filling job vacancies. It is expected that these issues will be gradually sorted out, but they are currently contributing to a spike upwards in inflation and shortages of materials and goods available to purchase.

### **APPENDIX 3: Treasury Management Practice (TMP1) – Credit and Counterparty Risk Management**

The DLUHC issued Investment Guidance in 2018 and this forms the structure of the council's policy below. These guidelines do not apply to either trust funds or pension funds that operate under a different regulatory regime.

The key intention of the Guidance is to maintain the current requirement for councils to invest prudently and that priority is given to security and liquidity before yield. To facilitate this objective, the guidance requires this council to have regard to the CIPFA publication Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes. In accordance with the Code, the Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) has produced its Treasury Management Practices (TMPs). This part, TMP 1(1), covering investment counterparty policy requires approval each year.

**Annual Investment Strategy** - The key requirements of both the Code and the investment guidance are to set an annual investment strategy, as part of its annual treasury strategy for the following year, covering the identification and approval of the following:

- The strategy guidelines for choosing and placing investments, particularly non-specified investments.
- The principles to be used to determine the maximum periods for which funds can be committed.

- Specified investments that the council will use. These are high security (i.e. high credit rating, although this is defined by the council, and no guidelines are given), and high liquidity investments in sterling and with a maturity of no more than a year.
- Non-specified investments, clarifying the greater risk implications, identifying the general types of investment that may be used and a limit to the overall number of various categories that can be held at any time.

The investment policy proposed for the council is:

**Strategy Guidelines** – The main strategy guidelines are contained in the body of the treasury strategy statement.

**Specified Investments** – These investments are sterling investments of not more than one-year maturity, or those which could be for a longer period but where the council has the right to be repaid within 12 months if it wishes. These are considered low risk assets where the possibility of loss of principal or investment income is small. These would include sterling investments which would not be defined as capital expenditure with:

1. UK Government (such as the Debt Management Account deposit facility, UK Treasury Bills or a Gilt with less than one year to maturity).
2. Supranational bonds of less than one year's duration.
3. A local authority, housing association, parish council or community council.
4. Pooled investment vehicles (such as money market funds) that have been awarded a high credit rating by a credit rating agency. For category 4 this covers pooled investment vehicles, such as money market funds, rated AAA by Standard and Poor's, Moody's or Fitch rating agencies.
5. A body that is considered of a high credit quality such as a bank or building society. This covers bodies with a minimum short-term rating of A (or equivalent) as rated by Standard and Poor's, Moody's or Fitch rating agencies.

Within these bodies, and in accordance with the Code, the council has set additional criteria to set the time and amount of monies which will be invested in these bodies; this criteria is as per the Investment Counter Party and Liquidity Framework.

**Non-Specified Investments** – are any other type of investment (i.e. not defined as Specified above). The identification and rationale supporting the selection of these other investments and the maximum limits to be applied are set out below. Non-specified investments would include any sterling investments with:

	<b>Non-Specified Investment Category</b>	<b>Limit (£ or %)</b>
a.	<b>Supranational Bonds greater than 1 year to maturity</b> <b>(a) Multilateral development bank bonds</b> - These are bonds defined as an international financial institution having as one of its objects economic development, either generally or in any region of the world (e.g. European Reconstruction and Development Bank etc.).	30%

	<p><b>(b) A financial institution that is guaranteed by the United Kingdom Government</b> (e.g. National Rail, the Guaranteed Export Finance Company {GEFCO})</p> <p>The security of interest and principal on maturity is on a par with the Government and so very secure. These bonds usually provide returns above equivalent gilt-edged securities. However, the value of the bond may rise or fall before maturity and losses may accrue if the bond is sold before maturity.</p>	
b.	<p><b>Gilt edged securities</b> with a maturity of greater than one year. These are Government bonds and so provide the highest security of interest and the repayment of principal on maturity. Similar to category (a) above, the value of the bond may rise or fall before maturity and losses may accrue if the bond is sold before maturity.</p>	30%
c.	<p><b>The council's own banker</b> if it fails to meet the basic credit criteria. In this instance balances will be minimized as far as is possible.</p>	£15m
d.	<p>Any <b>bank or building society</b> that has a minimum long-term credit rating of AA-, for deposits with a maturity of greater than one year (including forward deals in excess of one year from inception to repayment).</p>	3 Years and £30m
e.	<p><b>Building Schools for the Future Local Education Partnership.</b> Whilst this is not a usual investment counter party, the council is likely to invest a small amount as part of the wider Building Schools for the Future project. As this institution is not credit rated it falls under the Non-specified criteria.</p>	£1m
f.	<p><b>Sandwell Inspired Partnership Services.</b> Whilst this is not a usual investment counter party, the council is likely to invest a small amount for the organisation to be use as working capital in its infancy. As this institution is not credit rated it falls under the Non-specified criteria.</p>	£1.2m
g.	<p><b>Bond funds</b> this Authority will seek further advice on the appropriateness and associated risks with investments in these categories.</p>	£10.0m
h.	<p><b>Property funds</b> the use of these instruments can be deemed to be capital expenditure and as such will be an application (spending) of capital resources. This Authority will seek guidance on the status of any fund it may consider using.</p>	£10.0m (10 years plus)

This Authority will seek further advice on the appropriateness and associated risks with investments in these categories.

**The Monitoring of Investment Counterparties** - The credit rating of counterparties will be monitored regularly. The council receives credit rating information (changes, rating watches and rating outlooks) from Link Asset Services as and when ratings change, and counterparties are checked promptly. On occasion ratings may be downgraded when an investment has already been made. The criteria used are such that a minor downgrading should not affect the full receipt of the principal and interest. Any counterparty failing to meet the criteria will be removed from the list immediately by the Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and if required new counterparties which meet the criteria will be added to the list.

**Use of External Fund Managers** – It is the council's policy to use external fund managers for part of its investment portfolio. The fund managers will use both specified and non-specified investment categories and are contractually committed to keep to the council's investment strategy.

The council fully appreciates the importance of monitoring the activity and resultant performance of its appointed external fund managers. To aid this assessment, the council is provided with a suite of reporting from its managers. This includes access to funds via the ICD Portal, containing fact sheets, fund performance reviews, daily interest rate sheets, daily access to the council's investment activity and interest accrued reports.

## Report to Council

1 March 2022

<b>Subject:</b>	Pay Policy 2022 & Gender Pay Gap Reporting
<b>Director:</b>	Interim HR Director Sue Stanhope
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Sue Stanhope, Interim HR Director <a href="mailto:sue_stanhope@sandwell.gov.uk">sue_stanhope@sandwell.gov.uk</a> David Briggs, Assistant HR Business Partner <a href="mailto:david_briggs@sandwell.gov.uk">david_briggs@sandwell.gov.uk</a>

### 1 Recommendations



- 1.1 That the Pay Policy Statement 2022, as now submitted, be approved. Following approval, this statement is published prior to 31 March 2022.
- 1.2 That the Gender Pay Gap data, as now submitted, be approved. Following approval, this data is published prior to 30 March 2022.

### 2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 Each year the Council is required by the Localism Act 2011, to prepare and publish a Pay Policy Statement setting out its policies relating to: the remuneration of their chief officers, the remuneration of their lowest-paid employees, and the relationship between the pay of chief officers and that of other employees.
- 2.2 Each year the Council is also required by the Equality Act (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017, to prepare and publish its Gender Pay Gap data. These provisions form part of a range of transparency obligations placed upon local authorities.



### 3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

	Strong resilient communities - Sandwell now has a national reputation for getting things done, where all local partners are focused on what really matters in people's lives and communities
	A strong and inclusive economy - Our workforce is skilled and talented, geared up to respond to changing business needs and to win rewarding jobs in a growing economy.

### 4 Context and Key Issues

#### Pay Policy Statement

4.1 The Localism Act determined that the Statement must cover a range of the authority's policies relating to the pay of Chief Officers including: -

- The level and elements of remuneration for each officer (including salary, bonuses, performance-related pay and benefits in kind);
- remuneration of chief officers on recruitment;
- increases and additions to remuneration and
- the approach to the payment of chief officers on their ceasing to hold office or to being employed by the authority.

4.2 Supplementary Guidance has since added to and clarified the information required to be published, notably that the Council should be given the opportunity to vote before: -

- large salary packages (are) offered in respect of a new appointment" and "large severance packages .... are approved for staff leaving the organisation".
- and that the Council should state the thresholds at which it wishes to require approval.

The Guidance considered that £100,000 is an appropriate threshold.



- 4.3 Section 40 of the Localism Act requires the Council to have regard to this guidance in the exercise of its functions under pay accountability provisions. The Council follows the spirit of the guidance, should particular circumstances dictate, and this approach has duly been reflected in the Pay Policy Statement.
- 4.4 The Council's previous Annual Pay Policy statement 2021 had informed that the pay ratio between the median FTE employee and the Chief Executive had narrowed from 1:6 to 1:5. Although this pay ratio has remained at 1:5, this median salary figure has increased over the last year from £27,741 to £28,672 per annum.
- 4.5 Analysis has also shown that the median Chief Officer salary has reduced over the last year from £110,890 to £107,731 per annum. This is a result of the recent and completed senior management restructure and realignment of services, with all directors now in post.
- 4.6 The Pay Policy Statement for the Council for 2022, covering the period 1 February 2021 to 31 January 2022 is attached for approval, prior to publishing.

### **Gender Pay Gap Reporting**

- 4.7 The Council is required to publish the following statistics on its public-facing web site, and report the same, to the government online:
- The mean gender pay gap
  - The median gender pay gap
  - The proportion of male and female employees in each pay quartile
  - A narrative to supplement the data
- 4.8 The gender pay gap is an equality measure that shows the difference in average earnings between men and women, expressed as a percentage of male earnings.
- 4.9 The legislation details that employees at 'Maintained Schools' must be treated as if employed by the governing body, therefore the Council must exclude schools from its gender pay gap reporting.



- 4.10 Sandwell Council's 'mean' Gender Pay Gap figure for 2022 has narrowed from 5.1% to 3.4% over the last 12 months.
- 4.11 It should be noted that the first 'mean' Gender Pay Gap figure, published in 2018, was 8.4%. It was agreed that the Council would use this figure as an initial baseline to enable the monitoring of progress.
- 4.12 By way of a benchmark, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) recently published the results of its annual survey of the gender pay gap in the United Kingdom. The mean Gender Pay Gap figure as at 1 April 2021 was 7.9%.
- 4.13 In addition, it should be noted that the median Gender Pay Gap figure has also narrowed in the last year from 12.1% to 10.4%.
- 4.14 Although the Gender Pay Gap figures continue to reduce, the causes of any gender pay gap remain complex and overlapping and there is not one single over-riding reason why a gender pay gap exists. For the purposes of this report however, the following three points are worthy of note:
- 4.15 In October 2017, Cabinet agreed for the Council to start paying the hourly rate set and promoted by the Living Wage Foundation, as a minimum, to all its internal employees. By paying the Foundation Living Wage, Sandwell is honouring a long-term commitment to improve the lives of employees at the lower end of the pay scale and has voluntarily taken a stand to ensure employees earn a wage which is sufficient to live on. The Council's decision to pay this hourly rate has been applied consistently ever since, to all Council and school based (non-teaching) employees. Reporting has identified that around 80% of those employees receiving this wage are female.
- 4.16 Each April, and in accordance with their terms and conditions of employment, employees receive a pay increment until they reach the top of their respective grade. Analysis has identified that in pay bands A to F 418 male and 563 female employees are not currently at the top of their grades. Therefore, incremental progression is still available for more female employees than male employees. In summary, over time, female employees pay will start to reflect the male position which in turn will close the gender pay gap still further.





4.17 There has been an improvement over the last 3 years in the number of female employees employed in more senior roles.

Grade	Gender	Director	Service Manager	Band J	Band I	Band H	Band G	All grades
2021/22	Male	4	14	26	32	91	144	1713
	Female	4	18	14	47	98	168	2367
2020/21	Male	6	17	23	34	85	149	1731
	Female	6	15	13	44	96	174	2413
2019/20	Male	6	21	27	33	89	152	1739
	Female	4	14	16	35	92	167	2381

4.18 A supporting narrative to explain and compliment the Council's gender pay gap data will be developed and published.

4.19 All calculations have been made in line with the regulations set out in the gender pay gap reporting legislation.

### **Consultation**

4.20 There are no specific consultation requirements to be carried out with Customers or Stakeholders as a result of the contents of this report.

## **5 Alternative Options**

5.1 In accordance with the requirement of the Localism Act 2011, and the Equality Act (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017, the Council is required to publish the pay policy statement prior to 31 March 2022 and its gender pay gap data prior to 30 March 2022.

5.2 There are not any alternative courses of action available that would otherwise satisfy these requirements.



## 6 Implications

<b>Resources:</b>	There are no specific resource implications arising from the contents of this report.
<b>Legal and Governance:</b>	<p>Personal data relating to chief officers' pay will appear in the public domain.</p> <p>The Council will be acting illegally if it does not comply with the requirement to publish a Pay Policy Statement as soon as is reasonably practical after it's approved and, in any event, by the end of March in each year.</p> <p>The Council must publish a report setting out its gender pay gap data relating to all its employees by the end of March each year.</p> <p>Section 40 of the Localism Act requires authorities to have regard to guidance issued by the Secretary of State in the exercise of their functions under pay accountability provisions.</p>
<b>Risk:</b>	<p>Publication of these statistics are part of the range of obligations placed upon local authorities to be open and transparent.</p> <p>The Corporate Risk Management Strategy (CRMS) has been complied with – to identify and assess the significant risks associated with this decision/project.</p> <p>Based on the information provided, it is the officers' opinion that there are no significant risks associated with the decisions being sought that need to be reported.</p>
<b>Equality:</b>	An initial screening was undertaken in January 2012 when the first annual pay policy statement was being developed. It was agreed at this time that the subject of the statement did not meet the criteria for undertaking a full EIA.



	An initial screening was carried out in January 2018 on Gender Pay Gap reporting, when the first set of data was produced. It was agreed at this time that a full EIA was not required.
<b>Health and Wellbeing:</b>	There are no specific health and wellbeing implications arising from the contents of this report.

## 7 Conclusions and Reasons for the Recommendations

- 7.1 The Council is required, by the Localism Act 2011 and its supplementary guidance, to prepare a Pay Policy Statement each year as detailed in this report.
- 7.2 In addition, the Council is required, by the Equality Act (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017, to prepare and publish its Gender Pay Gap data.
- 7.3 The Council will be acting illegally if it does not comply with these acts and publish this data as soon as is reasonably practical after its approval and, in any event, by 31 March 2022 and 30 March 2022 respectively.

## 8. Appendices

Pay Policy Statement 2022

## 9. Background Papers

- 9.1 Section 38, 40 and 43 of the Localism Act 2011
- 9.2 Supplementary Guidance provided by the Department for Communities and Local Government
- 9.3 Equality Act (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017.



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## **SANDWELL MBC**

### **PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2022**

#### **Introduction and Purpose**

Under section 112 of the Local Government Act 1972, Sandwell Council has the “power to appoint officers on such reasonable terms and conditions as authority thinks fit.” This Pay Policy Statement (the ‘statement’) sets out the Council’s approach to pay policy in accordance with the requirements of Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011 and Supplementary Guidance provided by the Department for Communities and Local Government.

The purpose of the statement is to provide transparency with regard to the Council’s approach to setting the pay of its employees by identifying:

- the methods by which salaries of all employees are determined;
- the detail and level of remuneration of its most senior staff i.e. ‘chief officers’, as defined by the relevant legislation;
- the Committee or Panel responsible for ensuring the provisions set out in this statement are applied consistently throughout the Council and recommending any amendments to the full Council.

Once approved by the full Council, this policy statement will come into immediate effect and will be subject to review on a minimum of an annual basis in accordance with the relevant legislation prevailing at that time.

This statement covers the period 1 February 2021 to 31 January 2022.

#### **Legislative framework**

In determining the pay and remuneration of all of its employees, the Council will comply with all relevant employment legislation. This includes the Equality Act 2010, Part Time Workers (Prevention of Less Favourable Treatment) Regulations 2000, The Agency Workers Regulations 2010 and where relevant, the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006. With regard to the Equal Pay requirements contained within the Equality Act, the Council ensures there is no pay discrimination within its pay structures and that all pay differentials can be objectively justified through the use of equality-proofed Job Evaluation mechanisms which directly relate salaries to the requirements, demands and responsibilities of each role.

## **Pay Structure**

The Council has adopted and applies the Local Government Single Status Job Evaluation Scheme and uses the nationally-negotiated pay spine as the basis for its local grading structure. This determines the salaries of the vast majority of the Council's non-teaching workforce. Since April 2009, there have been seven "cost-of-living" increases in the national pay spine. These were effective on 1 April 2013, 1 January 2015, 1 April 2016, 1 April 2017, 1 April 2018, 1 April 2019 & 1 April 2020. The "cost-of-living" increase for the national pay spine from 1 April 2021 is still pending.

The current salaries of Chief Officers were determined following an independent evaluation of their duties and responsibilities in 2010 and reviewed for Corporate Services in 2014. Chief Officers earning less than £100,000 per year received a cost-of-living salary increase on 1 January 2015, and all Chief Officers received a 1% pay rise on 1 April 2016 and 1 April 2017, a 2% pay rise on 1 April 2018 and 1 April 2019, and a 2.75% pay rise on 1 April 2020. The pay rise for Chief Officers from 1 April 2021 is also still pending.

All other pay-related allowances are the subject of either nationally or locally negotiated rates, having been determined from time-to-time in accordance with collective bargaining machinery and/or as determined by council policy.

In determining its grading structure and setting remuneration levels for all posts, the Council takes account of the need to ensure value-for-money in respect of the use of public expenditure, balanced against the need to recruit and retain employees who are able to meet the requirements of providing high quality services to the community, delivered effectively and efficiently and at times at which those services are required.

New appointments should normally be made at the minimum of the relevant grade, although this can be varied, where necessary, to secure the best candidate.

Employees of the local authority's schools and those on teachers' terms and conditions of service who are not attached to a school, do not fall within the scope of this policy.

## **Senior Management Remuneration**

For the purposes of this statement, senior management means 'chief officers' as defined within s43 of the Localism Act. The posts falling within the statutory definition, together with details of their basic salaries as at 31 January 2022 are set out below;

a) Chief Executive (one post)

The annual salary of the post designated as the Chief Executive is £151,580. This amount is inclusive of Returning Officer duties. This post is currently being covered by an interim arrangement.

b) Directors (nine posts)

The annual salaries of Directors posts fall within a range of six incremental points between £95,092 rising to a maximum of £110,890.

The total number of Chief Officer posts above, is ten. This is one post less than the number reported in 2021.

Salaries specified above are inclusive of a travel allowance.

## **Recruitment of Chief Officers**

The Council's policy and procedures with regard to the recruitment and appointment of chief officers is set out within the Officer Employment Procedure Rules under Part 4 of the Constitution. The determination of the remuneration to be offered to any newly appointed chief officer will be in accordance with the pay structure and relevant policies in place at the time of recruitment.

When making appointments, the Council will follow the spirit of Supplementary Guidance issued by the Secretary of State, should circumstances dictate.

## **Additions to Salaries of Chief Officers**

With the exception of progression through the incremental scale of the relevant grade being subject to an annual assessment of performance, the level of remuneration is fixed.

## **Payments on Termination of Chief Officers**

The Council's approach to discretionary payments on termination of employment of chief officers, prior to reaching normal retirement age, is set out within its Pensions Policy Statement in accordance with Regulations 5 and 6 of the Local Government (Early Termination of Employment) (Discretionary Compensation) Regulations 2006 and Regulation 31 of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Membership, Contribution and Benefits) Regulations 2013.

In appropriate circumstances, any other payments falling outside the provisions, or the relevant periods of contractual notice shall be dealt with by the Committee established by the Council to deal with Chief Officers' Terms and Conditions of Employment.

When making payments to Chief Officers on their termination, the Council will follow the spirit of Supplementary Guidance issued by the Secretary of State, should particular circumstances dictate.

## **Publication**

Upon approval by the full Council, this statement will be published on the Council's Website. ([www.sandwell.gov.uk](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk)). In addition, for chief officers, where their full time equivalent salary is at least £50,000, the Council's Annual Statement of Accounts will include a note setting out the total amount of:-

- salary, fees or allowances paid to or receivable by the person in the current and previous year;
- any bonuses so paid or receivable by the person in the current and previous year;
- any sums payable by way of expenses allowance that are chargeable to UK income tax;
- any compensation for loss of employment and any other payments connected with termination;
- any benefits received that do not fall within the above.

## **Lowest Paid Employees**

The lowest paid persons employed under a contract of employment with the Council are employed on full time (37 hours per week) equivalent salaries in accordance with the minimum Spinal Column Point currently in use within the Council's grading structure.

In the period 1 February 2021 to 31 January 2022, the minimum annual full-time salary was £17,364.



The relationship between the rate of pay for the lowest paid and chief officers is determined by the processes used for determining pay and grading structures as set out earlier in this Pay Policy Statement.

The statutory guidance under the Localism Act recommends the use of pay multiples as a means of measuring the relationship between pay rates across the workforce and that of senior managers, as included within the Hutton 'Review of Fair Pay in the Public Sector' (2010). The Hutton report was asked by Government to explore the case for a fixed limit on dispersion of pay through a requirement that no public-sector manager can earn more than 20 times the lowest paid person in the organisation.

The report concluded that the relationship to median earnings was a more relevant measure and the Government's Code of Recommended Practice on Data Transparency recommends the publication of the ratio between highest paid salary and the median average salary of the whole of the authority's workforce.

On 31 January 2022, the median Full Time Equivalent (FTE) salary was £28,672.

The pay level ratios within the Council as at 31 January	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
a) between the lowest paid FTE employee and the Chief Executive's pay	1:8	1:8	1:8	1:9	1:9	1:10	1:10
b) between the lowest paid FTE employee and median Chief Officers' pay	1:6	1:6	1:6	1:6	1:7	1:7	1:7
c) between the median FTE earnings and the Chief Executive's pay	1:5	1:5	1:6	1:6	1:5	1:5	1:5
d) between the median FTE earnings and median Chief Officers' pay	1:4	1:4	1:4	1:4	1:4	1:4	1:4

Ratios have been rounded to the nearest whole figure.

As part of its overall and ongoing monitoring of alignment with external pay markets, both within and outside the sector, the Council will use available benchmark information as appropriate.

## **Accountability and Decision Making**

In accordance with Part 3 (Responsibility for Functions) of the Council's Constitution, the Council's executive is responsible for making recommendations and/or determining issues relating to the Council's Corporate Pay, Terms and Conditions and Grading Structure and severance arrangements in relation to employees of the Council, with the exception of posts which are defined as Chief Officer posts in accordance with Sections 2 (6), (7) and (8) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

The Council each year will establish a committee responsible for determining matters in relation to the employment, remuneration and terms and conditions of employment of the Head of the Paid Service and Chief Officers of the Council as defined in Sections 2 (6), (7) and (8) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

## Report to Council

1 March 2022

<b>Subject:</b>	Proposed Departure from the Development Plan - Proposed industrial unit (Use Class E(g)(iii) Industrial processes) with ancillary offices and associated parking, Summerton Road, Oldbury
<b>Director:</b>	Tony McGovern - Director of Regeneration & Growth - Neighbourhoods
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Andrew Dean Senior Planner <a href="mailto:andrew_dean@sandwell.gov.uk">andrew_dean@sandwell.gov.uk</a>

### 1 Recommendations

- 1.1 That Council allow an exception to the local development plan in respect of planning application DC/21/66106 - Proposed industrial unit (Use Class E(g)(iii) Industrial processes) with ancillary offices and associated parking, land at Summerton Road, Oldbury.

### 2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 The proposal is on land allocated for housing within the Site Allocations and Delivery Development Plan Document. It is necessary for the Council to consider whether or not to grant an exception to its policy to allow the application to proceed.



2.2 Although the site is allocated for housing land, it is part of a wider allocation and could not be developed in isolation for residential development, as adjacent to the site are located existing employment uses. For housing to be acceptable on the site, the Council would be looking for a comprehensive development of the wider residential allocation. The proposed development is acceptable in its scale, design and appearance, and would not cause significant harm to the amenity of the occupiers of adjacent properties. Furthermore, there would be no significant impact to the safety and convenience of users of the highway as a result of the proposed development.

### 3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?



A strong and inclusive economy – the proposal would create jobs within the local area.

### 4 Context and Key Issues

- 4.1 At the meeting of Planning Committee held on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022 consideration was given to planning application DC/21/66106 for a proposed industrial unit (Use Class E(g)(iii) Industrial processes) with ancillary offices and associated parking.
- 4.2 At the meeting, the Committee approved the planning application with conditions subject to the application being referred to Full Council as a departure from the approved development plan.
- 4.3 The application was publicised by neighbour notification letter, site notice and press notice with one objection being received.
- 4.4 Council will need to approve the application as it is a departure from the Development Plan. The site is currently allocated for housing; therefore it is necessary for the Council to consider whether or not to grant an exception to adopted policy to allow the application to proceed.
- 4.5 The purpose of this report is to discuss the ‘departure’ from the Development Plan only. It is not the role of Council to reconsider the wider planning merits of the application which have already been considered by the Planning Committee.



4.6 The Council’s Highways, Planning Policy, Transportation Planning and Public Health (noise, contaminated land and air quality have all been consulted as well as West Midlands Police and the Canal and River Trust. There were no objections subject to various conditions being imposed.

## 5 Alternative Options

5.1 Refusing the departure is an option, in doing so clear planning justification would have to be provided as any refusal of planning permission could result in an appeal and costs being awarded against the Council.

## 6 Implications

<b>Resources:</b>	The granting of exceptions to the Development Plan would not have any implications for the resources of the Council.
<b>Legal and Governance:</b>	The Planning Committee has delegated powers to determine planning applications within current Council policy. The decision to grant permission for this proposal would be contrary the Development Plan. Consequently, the Committee has referred the application to the Council to consider whether or not an exception to the development plan should be granted.
<b>Risk:</b>	None Relevant.
<b>Equality:</b>	None Relevant.
<b>Health and Wellbeing:</b>	None Relevant.
<b>Social Value</b>	The proposal would create jobs and apprentices during the construction phase.

## 7. Appendices

7.1 None.



## 8. Background Papers

- 8.1 Planning application reference – DC/21/66106 - Proposed industrial unit (Use Class E(g)(iii) Industrial processes) with ancillary offices and associated parking, land at Summerton Road, Oldbury.

[https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200197/councillors\\_committees\\_and\\_meetings/428/planning\\_committee\\_reports](https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200197/councillors_committees_and_meetings/428/planning_committee_reports)



## Report to Council

1 March 2022

<b>Subject:</b>	Appointment to the Statutory roles of Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) and Returning Officer (RO) and Deputy Electoral Registration Officer (DERO)
<b>Director:</b>	Director of Law and Governance Surjit Tour
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Tracey Hurst Electoral Services Manager Tracey_Hurst@sandwell.gov.uk

### 1. Recommendations


- 1.1 That the Interim Chief Executive, Kim Bromley – Derry, be appointed as Returning Officer (RO) in accordance with section 35(1) of the Representation of the People Act 1983 with immediate effect.
- 1.2 That Council notes the Interim Chief Executive, Kim Bromley – Derry is appointed under the Council’s Scheme of Delegation to Officers, as the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) in accordance with section 8(2)(a) of the Representation of the People Act 1983.
- 1.3 That the Monitoring Officer and Director of Law and Governance, Surjit Tour, be appointed as Deputy Electoral Registration Officer (DERO) under Section 52 (2) & (3) of the Representation of the People Act 1983.



## 2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 The Council is required to appoint a Returning Officer in accordance with Section 35(1) of the Representation of the People Act 1983. The duties of the Returning Officer are separate and one of a personal nature from his/her duties as a local government officer. The Returning Officer is directly accountable to the courts as an independent statutory office holder.
- 2.2 Returning Officers are under Sections 28(5) and 35(4) of the Representation of the People Act 1983 entitled to appoint deputies to discharge all or any of the duties placed upon them. There are no restrictions on the number of Deputies that can be appointed.
- 2.3 The Council is required to appoint an Electoral Registration Officer in accordance with Section 8(2)(a) of the Representation of the People Act 1983. By virtue of Section 23 (1) of the Act, only the appointed ERO may act as Acting Returning Officer at Parliamentary Elections. A previous resolution by Council confirmed the appointment of the Chief Executive as the Council's Electoral Registration Officer and is detailed within the Council's Scheme of Delegation to Officers.
- 2.4 The responsibility to appoint Deputies falls to the RO. However, Section 52(2) of the Act provides that any Deputy ERO must be appointed by the Council.

## 3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

	<p>Strong resilient communities.</p> <p>The recommendations detailed in this report ensure the Council has appointed officers in place to be responsible and accountable for the delivery of all the required elements of Electoral Registration and all Elections and Referenda in accordance with law. Representative and participative democracy can strengthen the democratic process which in turn helps to build strength within communities.</p>
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## 4 Context and Key Issues

- 4.1 The Returning Officer is the person who has overall responsibility for the conduct of Local Elections in Sandwell. Returning Officers also take on responsibilities at National and Local referendums.
- 4.2 Returning Officers are impartial and ensure that the conduct of the process is in accordance with law. The duties and responsibilities become personal to the officer undertaking them, they are independent of the local authority.
- 4.3 Interim Returning Officer arrangements were previously considered by Council at its meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021. These were agreed in accordance with the envisaged timeframe for the permanent recruitment to the post of Chief Executive. As interim arrangements have now been extended in the short term, it is prudent for the Council to consider and re-confirm the appointment of the interim Chief Executive as the Returning Officer.
- 4.4 The Returning Officer at a UK Parliamentary election is a ceremonial role with the office holder only being permitted to reserve two duties, the receiving of the writ and the declaration of the result. In Sandwell, this is the role of the elected Mayor. The Acting Returning Officer administers the electoral process.
- 4.5 There is no requirement for the local authority to appoint an Acting Returning Officer as the duties and responsibilities automatically fall to the Electoral Registration Officer.
- 4.6 The Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) is the person with statutory responsibility for the creation and maintenance of the register of electors and the absent voters list. This person takes responsibility for publishing a revised electoral register and issuing monthly alterations notices.
- 4.7 The Electoral Registration Officer is an Officer of the Council, but the role of the Electoral Registration Officer is a personal responsibility, independent and separate from their duties as an employee of the Council.



## 5 Implications

<b>Resources:</b>	The Local Authority has a duty to assist the Electoral Registration Officer as may be required to carry out their statutory functions and to pay any expenses “properly incurred” in performance of their duties. For Local Elections, provisions are set within the Electoral Services budget for delivery of all Elections, Referenda and Electoral Registration. For national elections, the fees and charges order for each specific election type confirm the maximum recoverable amounts for the specified services.
<b>Legal and Governance:</b>	<p>The Representation of the People Act 1983 section 35 requires the Council to appoint an officer of the council to be the Returning Officer for Local Elections.</p> <p>It is a requirement of Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 that the Council appoints an Electoral Registration Officer. The Electoral Registration Officer must be an officer of the council. By virtue of Section 28 (1) of the Act only the ERO may act as Acting Returning Officer in Parliamentary Elections</p> <p>Responsibility for appointing a Deputy Returning Officer rests with the Returning Officer. However, Section 52(2) of the Act provides that any Deputy ERO must also be approved by the Council</p>
<b>Risk:</b>	Failure to appoint an officer to the statutory roles could lead to the council being challenged for failing to meet its statutory duties. The recommendations contained in this report enable Sandwell Council to comply with the legal requirements for the appointment of statutory officers.
<b>Equality:</b>	No Equality implications are contained within this report
<b>Health and Wellbeing:</b>	No Health and Wellbeing implications are contained within this report
<b>Social Value</b>	No Social Value implications are contained within this report



## 6 Appendices

None

## 7. Background Papers

None



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## Report to Council

**1 March 2022**

<b>Subject:</b>	Reports from the Council's representative on the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority, Transport for West Midlands, Police and Crime Panel and West Midlands Combined Authority
<b>Director:</b>	Surjit Tour – Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer <a href="mailto:Surjit_Tour@sandwell.gov.uk">Surjit_Tour@sandwell.gov.uk</a>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Trisha Newton <a href="mailto:Trisha_newton@sandwell.gov.uk">Trisha_newton@sandwell.gov.uk</a>

### 1 Recommendations

- 1.1 That Council receives updates from the Council's representatives on the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority, Transport for the West Midlands, Police and Crime Panel and West Midlands Combined Authority.







### 2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 The Council, at its annual meeting on 24 May 2011, approved an arrangement whereby members nominated pursuant to Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1985 to answer questions on the discharge of the functions of any joint authority or any joint board of which the Council is a constituent authority (Section 41 members) would report to the Council twice a year on important and contentious matters relating to the joint authority/board, and on any other occasion by exception. Procedural Standing Orders provide that any member of the Council shall be entitled to ask questions of the relevant members and the Council on these reports.



Reports are attached in respect of the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority (Councillor C Padda), Transport for the West Midlands (Councillor Akhter), West Midlands Police and Crime Panel (Councillor R Jones) and West Midlands Combined Authority (The Leader).

## 2 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

		The involvement of Council representatives in the decision-making process of joint authorities will encourage better understanding of local and wider needs and viewpoints.
		
		

## 3 Context and Key Issues

- 3.1 Council will receive an update on the work undertaken by the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority, Transport for the West Midlands, Police and Crime Panel and West Midlands Combined Authority from the member nominated pursuant to Section 41 of the Local Government Act.

## 4 Alternative Options

- 4.1 It is usual practice to receive six monthly update reports.

## 5 Implications

<b>Resources:</b>	There are no strategic resource implications arising from this report.
<b>Legal and Governance:</b>	Under Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1985, arrangements have been made for enabling questions on the discharge of a joint authority's functions to be put in the course of the proceedings of any constituent district council. A member is nominated by the joint authority for that purpose (the Section 41 member).



	It is customary for the Council to receive six monthly reports from those members appointed pursuant to Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1985 to answer questions put to them at council meetings relating to the discharge of functions of joint authorities. This was the case in respect of the West Midlands Police Authority until the Police and Crime Commissioner [PCC] took office on 22 November 2012. The West Midlands Police Authority ceased to exist at that point. The West Midlands Police and Crime Panel, on which the Council is represented, now holds the Police and Crime Commissioner to account.
<b>Risk:</b>	There are no direct risks associated with this report.
<b>Equality:</b>	There is no requirement for an equality impact assessment.
<b>Health and Wellbeing:</b>	There are no direct health and wellbeing implications from this report.
<b>Social Value</b>	There are no direct social value implications from this report.

## 7. Appendices

- Appendix A – West Midlands Fire and Rescue Service update.
- Appendix B – Transport for West Midlands update.
- Appendix C – West Midlands Police and Crime Panel update.
- Appendix D – West Midlands Combined Authority update.

## 8. Background Papers

None



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**WEST MIDLANDS FIRE SERVICE**

Making the West Midlands Safer, Stronger and Healthier

**wmfs.net @WestMidsFire**

Fire Service Headquarters,  
99 Vauxhall Road, Birmingham B7 4HW

**Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council  
1 March 2022**

**West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority**

*'Making the West Midlands Safer, Stronger and Healthier'*

Report by Cllr Charn Singh Padda



## **West Midlands Fire Authority (WMFRA)**

Since the last reporting, two hybrid Fire Authority (FRA) meetings have taken place on Monday 13 December 2021 and 14 February 2022. The following public business items discussed were:

### **Statement of Assurance - FRA December 2021**

The Fire and Rescue National Framework for England published in May 2018 sets out a requirement for Fire and Rescue Authorities to review and publish a 'Statement of Assurance' on an annual basis. The following three key areas must form part of any Statement of Assurance: financial, governance and operational, all of which form part of the WMFRA assurance process, as per the report.

### **Financial Regulations - FRA December 2021**

The financial regulations that provide a framework for managing the WMFRA financial affairs were outlined within this report. The regulations were revised to reflect the WMFRA current financial processes, policies, regulations and reflect updates to the WMFRA Constitution and Committee structures and relevant accounting regulations.

### **Analysis of Progress of Quarterly Performance Against the Plan - FRA December 2021**

The report provided an analysis of the organisation's performance against 'Our Plan' for 2021-2024. The setting of targets against the Key Performance Indicators enables the service to define key areas of improvements which contribute to making the West Midlands safer, stronger and healthier.

### **Monitoring of Finances - FRA December 2021 and February 2022**

Both meetings included the Monitoring of Finances report that deals with the monitoring of the finances of the Authority in the current financial year and covers revenue expenditure and the Capital Programme. The report also outlined all expenditure compared with a profile of the Authorities budget.

### **3 Year Rolling Strategy – 2022-2025 – FRA February 2022**

The report provided an overview of the progression of Community Risk Management (CRMP) objectives, how these would be enabled through the 3-year rolling strategy (2022-2025) and reviewed the Authorities vision and

strategic objectives and annual priorities that set out the context for the 3-year rolling strategy.

**Budget and Precept 2022-2023 and Budget Forecast 2023/2024 - 2024/2025 – February 2022**

The report outlined the Authorities Net Revenue budget for 2022-2023, the Authorities capital programme for 2022-2023 to 2024-2025 and the Authorities Treasury Management Strategy.

## **WMFS Activities during the last quarter**

### **1. HMICFRS Inspection Update**

Following round one of the HMICFRS Inspections that took place throughout 2018-2019, confirmation received that the Service will be re-inspected during Round 2 commencing from January 2022, with the 6-week inspection scheduled to start from the 21st of March 2022. Round 2 will continue to assess performance within the three main themes of Effectiveness, Efficiency and People. Reports will be published in late 2022.

### **2. Levelling Up - White Paper**

The Government published its policy paper 'Levelling Up the United Kingdom' on 2 February 2022. This includes details of a new devolution framework, the establishment of a new independent data body and a new Levelling Up Advisory Council. The White Paper also provides detail on 12 new missions across four areas. A detailed overview by the Local Government Association of the report can be found: [Here](#).

### **3. Community Risk Management Objectives**

Progress continues across these objectives following public consultation in early 2021. Each CRMP objective is developed using data to support evidence-based decision in how they are designed and implemented into the Service Delivery Model from 2022 onward. The most advanced of these objectives are those of a third Technical Rescue Unit based at Sutton Coldfield which will be launched in May 2022 and the roll out of Risk Based Crewing following successful trials across the West Midlands.

### **4. Risk Based Crewing**

From 1 April 2022, West Midlands Fire Service will be rolling out an innovative "Risk Based Crewing" model across eleven of its fire stations. This new approach forms a part of our wider efforts to ensure our firefighters and service can operate in a manner that is truly responsive to risk.

Specifically, it will allow the service to staff its emergency response vehicles more flexibly, meeting our need for financial efficiencies, keeping more appliances available and freeing up more time for important community prevention and protection work.

Currently, we crew all our vehicles in the same way – five firefighters on a fire engine (which we call a PRL), and three on a Brigade Response Vehicle (BRV).

This means that regardless of the kind of incident that we are called to, we can only send a fully crewed PRL or a fully crewed BRV or combinations of those, even if the incident might not require it.

Risk-Based Crewing enables our fire control operators and fire officers on station to assess the risk based on information and intelligence to tailor the number of personnel we send to certain types of incidents. For example, attending 'low risk incidents' such as a minor outdoor fires or lock outs might be manageable with just two firefighters on a BRV, or a grass fire in a higher risk area might necessitate a PRL crewed with five as a first response, rather than a BRV with three.

This more flexible approach will mean more firefighters are available to undertake training or vital prevention and protection activity like Safe and Well Checks in people's homes or Safe and Strong visits with local businesses, using an appropriate number of people. Risk Based Crewing will also allow us to keep more appliances "on the run" and available to respond to emergencies, rather than standing down BRVs as we currently do to meet budget shortfalls.

The station(s) involved in Birmingham/Wolverhampton/Coventry/Solihull are Aston, Perry Barr, Ward End, Solihull, Sheldon, Foleshill, Northfield, Hay Mills, West Bromwich, Wolverhampton and Fallings Park. If you have any questions about this new approach, please contact Group Manager Marc Hudson at [marc.hudson@wmfs.net](mailto:marc.hudson@wmfs.net)

## Key Themes

### **Van-tastic Road Safety Boost:**

Our new road safety van is helping us deliver important road safety advice to thousands of people across the West Midlands.

The vehicle will be used by firefighters and our Road Casualty Reduction Team (RCRT) to deliver life-saving information at schools, colleges and community events.

It provides a 'live' link to our fire stations, so audiences can see fire crews as they undertake their training – much of it focused on providing the best possible 999 response to victims of road traffic collisions.

Visit our [road safety pages](#) for some great tips on staying safe when you're out and about.

### **Attacks on Firefighters:**

Any emergency service worker being attacked as they go about their work is clearly wrong and won't be tolerated.

Whilst most of the incidents recorded are verbal, this can still be intimidating for our crews who are simply trying to do their job and safely resolve an emergency.

The Service have a reporting system so our staff can report instances, meaning hot spots can be identified and enabling local Station Commanders to work with their local contacts to try to resolve things. Data is also used to highlight 'problem' locations to our crews before they arrive and, if absolutely necessary, call for urgent assistance from the police.

The National Fire Chiefs Council has called for increased custodial sentences for those who commit attacks against firefighters, citing a 4% increase in attacks in England. Read their full statement here: <https://wmfs.link/3nSqsN4>

### **West Midlands Firefighter receives New Year Honour**

A firefighter with West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS) has received a New Year Honour for his work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Crew Commander Dave Pitt was recognised a year ago for his contribution to ensuring the health and safety of colleagues across WMFS.

He was presented with his Queen's Fire Service Medal (QFSM) today (7 Dec) by HRH Prince William, The Duke of Cambridge at Windsor Castle.

Based at Fallings Park fire station in Wolverhampton, Dave worked tirelessly on helping to plan, devise and deliver a wide range of pandemic-related activities within demanding time constraints – whilst continuing to serve as an operational firefighter at Smethwick fire station, where he was then based.

### Fire at Wolves FC's Molineux ground

Business owners across the West Midlands are being urged to check they have a fire risk assessment in place, following a fire at Wolverhampton Wanderers' football ground.

And West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS) is urging members of the public to take care with electrical appliances after the blaze, which appears to have started in a dishwasher.

At 1.56am on Sunday 23 January we responded to a fire at The Molineux Stadium, Waterloo Road, Wolverhampton. Four fire engines attended, crewed by 20 firefighters from Wolverhampton, Fallings Park, Willenhall and Bilston fire stations. The first of our crews was at the scene two minutes after being mobilised.



(<https://www.wmfs.net/news/wolves-fire>)

For the most up to date themes and subject areas issued by the West Midlands Fire Service, please visit either our website at: <https://www.wmfs.net/> or via our [Twitter](#) account or [Facebook](#) page.

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# Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council

## Transport for West Midlands (TfWM)

1 March 2022

### Overview

#### 1. Local Transport Plan (LTP) Review and Transport Green Paper

WMCA is the Local Transport Authority and has duties to produce and review the Local Transport Plan that covers the West Midlands’ seven metropolitan districts. The LTP sets out policies and implementation proposals for tackling the regions transport challenges and opportunities. Transport for West Midlands (TfWM) advises WMCA on this responsibility.

Engagement on the transport green paper, Reimagining Transport in the West Midlands, was completed in early December 2021 with good response rates from the public.

Both businesses and the public were generally supportive of the aims (5 Motives for Change) and placed particular emphasis on the importance of public transport and active travel to future life in the West Midlands.



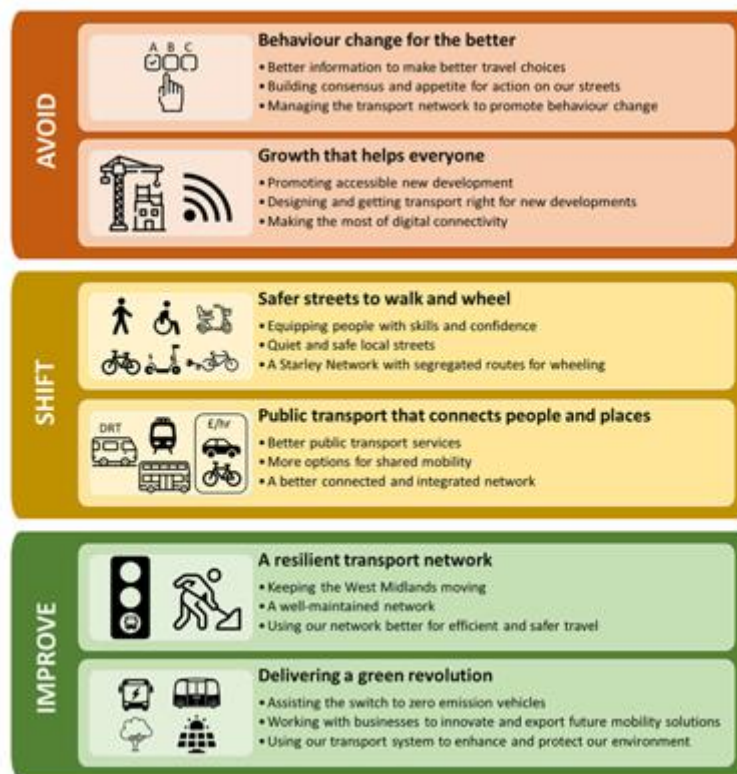
A Transport Summit for the seven leaders of the metropolitan districts was held on 24<sup>th</sup> September to discuss ambition and direction for the new LTP.

During the summit, the leaders agreed that being risk averse and continuing with the same policy approach will be a strategy that fails to deliver the kind of transport system we need for the aims we are trying to achieve. The importance of demand management to achieve change was acknowledged, and there was an understanding that Government policy is channelling local government towards such measures.

However, implementation of demand management remains too politically risky to make progress and despite a growing understanding and awareness from the public that more restrictive measures are needed, critical mass of support is in general, not present. The draft Core Strategy sets out that in order to deliver against the 5 Motives there are three key transport system changes which are required:



The draft Core Strategy provides a policy tool kit in the form of six Big Moves which present a range of measures across transport, land use and digital connectivity which will need to be employed to generate the behaviour change required.



The plan is purposely dynamic and non-prescriptive, but it is honest about the need for a demand management approach to achieve widely held transport goals and vision alongside improvements to the existing transport infrastructure. It is positioning the choice to manage demand as something that needs to be worked through with communities, with an understanding of the issues that will need to be managed if we carry-on as is.

Strategic Transport Board agreed the draft Core Strategy on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021 and Leaders were also been invited to the session. It was then considered and approved by WMCA Board on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Following this approval an 8-week engagement plan was set out. The draft LTP, under the same name as the green paper, is currently out for consultation, after being released on the 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

Consultation includes feedback via the LTP webpage on TfWM’s website, public engagement stakeholder sessions and presentations to scrutiny committees. TfWM officers will be attending Sandwell’s Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board on 10<sup>th</sup> March.

Next steps on the LTP will include the development of 4 Area Strategies, for Birmingham, Solihull, Coventry and the Black Country. Work on the Black Country Area Strategy in collaboration with Sandwell officers is now underway. It is anticipated

that the final LTP Core Strategy will be presented to WMCA Board in the summer, with engagement on the draft Area Strategies taking place in the autumn.

## **2. Covid-19 update**

TfWM continues to work with partners to ensure the best possible response and ongoing recovery of the region by maintaining an integrated transport network, which has in turn supported the wider economic recovery of the region by ensuring key workers could get to work. All of the following activities of TfWM and its partners have generally taken place with updates and engagement being provided between TfWM and Sandwell throughout the Covid recovery period.

TfWM has worked closely with its constituent authorities on matters relating to transport and have also cooperated with other metropolitan and major urban authorities to coordinate Government communication, responses and engagement on various fast-moving agenda changes linked to the recovery including funding, modal proposals and strategies, conditions, communications, and policy.

We have continued to work with the Department for Transport (DfT) to maintain funding to Metro and bus services across the region, working through the West Midlands Bus Alliance to communicate the requirements to Government, as well as working with partners across the sector to maintain a reliable, safe transport network that continues to respond to the changes in Government guidance as required.

Much of the Covid related activity has been absorbed into the mainframe of the directorates daily work alongside managing all 'business as usual' activities and updates will be provided in the individual sections of this report.

Patronage remains higher than initial periods of the pandemic and subsequent lockdowns, but pre-pandemic patronage levels have not yet been recovered on some modes of transport. As we know, the shift in working patterns and how people work has impacted on the frequency and way people travel which is still evident on the network today.

Following the implementation of Plan B, we have now moved back to Plan A where further restrictions have been lifted and people can return to their places of work where relevant and will hopefully provide a further increase in patronage.

TfWM continues to engage with the Local Resilience Forum and ensure its multi-agency structure informs resilience and emergency planning. Through this forum we have provided training for staff. Feedback from this month's General Working Group will also be factored into future planning.

As in all other regions of the UK, local bus operators are reporting an increased risk of short notice service cancellations due to driver shortages. TfWM are working closely with operators to ensure passengers are kept informed and that measures are being put in place to try and identify timely mitigation. We anticipate that during October 2021 TfWM may need to support some further changes to registrations to allow for a reduced level of service on some high frequency bus services whilst the driver shortages and sickness levels are resolved. The same has been observed across rail services.

Throughout the pandemic TfWM have worked in partnership with Sandwell Council officers and local colleges to ensure the transport network is safe and has sufficient capacity to enable pupils and students to get to school and college. This engagement has developed into new professional relationships which have been a positive legacy from the last few months and has already led to discussions around future developments and improvements.

Throughout the duration of the pandemic TfWM has supported and enforced the use of face coverings in a variety of ways across all modes of transport, stations, and transport hubs in line with the government guidance. TfWM continues to reinforce the Governments guidance, in that the public are recommended and expected to continue to use face coverings in crowded places such as public transport (and socially distance where possible). However, we are unable to enforce the use of face coverings.

Although Transport for London have amended their conditions of carriage to make the use of face coverings a requirement of travel, this is not an option available within the West Midlands as the transport network is operated and resourced in a very different way. The long-term core messaging will continue to be focused on planning ahead, hand sanitising, open windows (where appropriate), distancing (where possible) as well as the use of face coverings.

In addition to the operational aspects, TfWM teams have managed to work with our partners to maintain the delivery of the capital programme schemes. This required new Covid processes to be created, additional risk assessments and health and safety protocol and processes to be implemented to enable the delivery teams to continue delivering in a safe way adhering to all government guidance.

TfWM have continued to provide Covid recovery updates to Transport Delivery Committee during this time also.

### **3. 2022 Commonwealth Games**

#### *Games Transport Plan*

The Games Transport Plan, a statutory plan under the Birmingham Commonwealth Games Act 2020, was approved by WMCA Board in January 2022. The Secretary of State had directed WMCA/TfWM to prepare the plan. Sandwell were consulted in the preparation of the plan.

#### *Network Management / Games Route Network/Local Area Traffic Management*

For any Games' related Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TTROs) within Sandwell, the agreed approach for delivery is that TfWM develop the TTROs plans and appropriate orders and Sandwell assume responsibility for delivery.

Concurrent Powers under the Games Act 2020 enables TfWM to create and implement TTROs for Games purposes within the boundaries of the Council, should this be required at Games time.

Discussions are also ongoing with Wolverhampton's Urban Traffic Control team about management of Games Route Network (GRN) across the Black Country. This will lead to a GRN operations plan to be prepared and published in March 2022.

### *Spectator Transport*

The area around Hawthorns rail station will be the primary transport hub to access Sandwell Aquatics Centre by spectators. It will provide:

- Rail (from Birmingham Moor Street/Snow Hill) and tram access via Hawthorne station and tram stop
- Park and Ride for up to 500 vehicles at West Bromwich Albion FC and Sandwell Academy
- Taxi & Accessible Shuttlebus via existing rail station park and ride.
- Spectators accessing the Hawthorns will then use a shuttle buses on Halfords Drive to be taken to the venue with shuttle load zones on Manor Road

Smethwick Galton Bridge will provide an alternative rail station option. This has direct services to Birmingham New Street (up to 4 trains per hour, not evenly spread across the hour), as well as being served by all trains that also serve The Hawthorns.

Smethwick Rolfe Street is a third station option. Although not promoted, it is a less frequent service than Smethwick Galton Bridge with a similar walking distance to the venue.

Venue planning has now transitioned to operational delivery and readiness, including developing plans to test the spectator operation at the Aquatics Centre test event on 21/22 May. The test event could include delivery for most of the local area traffic management measures planned for games time and has potential for testing a park and ride site around the Hawthorns. This is, however, subject to further detailed planning.

### *Communications and Engagement*

Sandwell officers are working with TfWM, the B2022 Organising Committee and West Midlands Police in developing an engagement approach on Local Area Traffic Management Plans (LATMP). It is proposed that consultation information for LATMPs will be available on the B2022 website from the end of February. Cabinet Member and local councillor briefing sessions will be held followed by a series of community engagements events planned through March and April.

### *Travel Demand Management (TDM)*

The Games TDM programme is now well underway with a first version of the 'Core Narrative' completed for partner consultation. The Core Narrative sets out the issues and opportunities facing the region in the build up to, and during the games and provides a framework for delivery of a range of TDM interventions to manage impacts on the region's transport network. A TDM Working Group has been established to develop tactical TDM action plans for the priority area and council officers, an integral part of this work.

## **4. Bus Network**

### *Local Bus Services*

#### *Covid-19 Response & Recovery*

Since restrictions have eased following the initial periods of lockdown the demand for travel has increased, bus patronage has shown a steady rate of growth. There are fluctuations by service however the network in total is currently carrying approximately 73% (14-01-2022) of expected patronage in comparison to the equivalent period pre-Covid.

Patronage recovery did reach approximately 80% in the Autumn as passengers returned to the network as school, colleges and universities returned after the summer break and more workers returned to their usual place of work following the removal of working from home guidance. Bus patronage recovery has dipped during December due to the increase in national Covid cases and the resultant strengthening of national Covid guidance in December which included the requirement of working from home where possible to do so.

On most routes service levels are now at 100% of pre-covid levels with only minor variances on some corridors to reflect seasonal variations, changes in travel behaviour or to reflect current pressures due to driver shortages.

The operational performance of the bus network has been impacted by industry wide bus driver shortages, the impact of which was first realised in the autumn. The driver shortage has been caused by a number of factors. The high demand for drivers across all driving professions was seen as economic activity increased and changed rapidly in the autumn as the country recovered from the pandemic. This high demand for drivers resulted in the provision of enhanced terms and conditions across all industries. This general enhancement has resulted in the movement of drivers between companies and wider industries. Within the West Midlands bus market this resulted in some bus operators enhancing their own terms and conditions to retain and attract drivers.

Additionally, operators reported that driver availability was impacted by a higher than usual retirement rate and a lower propensity for drivers to work overtime. It is understood both trends have developed following the pandemic as drivers are placing a greater value on their non-work time due to their personal experiences during the pandemic.

The impact of driver shortages has resulted in a higher than usual level of scheduled mileage not being operated. A number of operators have had to make some permanent and temporary service reductions to reduce the resource requirements of their operation. Please see Network Changes section for further details.

#### *Supporting Bus Operators*

The reduced number of passengers using local bus services means that fare revenue for operators is also reduced. To support bus operators through this period and ensure

the bus network continues to operate to aid the recovery of the region, TfWM have worked with the Department for Transport (DfT) to develop and administer several measures.

TfWM have continued to provide support in the form of maintaining contract payments for tendered services at pre-Covid levels as well as maintaining payments for the English National Concessionary Travel Scheme (ENCTS) at the predicted rate assuming the pandemic hadn't occurred. Any payments to operators of ENCTS take into account the base line trend of reducing passengers and also reflect any % reduction in pre-Covid mileage. Subject to agreement and managing other budgetary pressures, this support could continue to the end of March 2022, whilst the funding commitments from the DfT are better understood.

Commercial bus operators and TfWM have received funding from the DfT Covid-19 Bus Services Support Grant (CBSSG), designed to ensure bus services could continue to operate to full-service levels during the pandemic. This grant was provided through to the end of August 2021 and ensured that operators costs were covered but didn't allow operators to make a profit.

From September 2021 the DfT has continued to support operators and local authorities through the Bus Recovery Grant (BRG). This revised funding mechanism is based upon a grant formula rather than 'topping-up' operators to cover their costs. Under the revised conditions for this grant operators are required to maintain a minimum of 90% of pre-Covid mileage, will be able to make a profit and also make commercial service changes. However, the conditions of the grant are such that any service changes must be undertaken in consultation with the Local Transport Authority. If agreement cannot be reached locally an appeals process has been put in place by the DfT.

The period of BRG will be from September 2021 to the end of March 2022 and we will seek to maintain service stability and continuity from operators during this period. Discussions continue between the DfT and the Treasury on funding availability beyond March 2022. Without or with reduced funding it is highly likely that we will see significant services changes as operators adjust to a changed operating environment.

TfWM are engaged in discussions with the DfT on the specific risks for the West Midlands on any reduction, or loss of, grant funding for the region and seeking to maintain a stable network for passengers in the coming months.

### *Ring & Ride*

Use of the West Midlands Ring & Ride remains very low with passenger trips currently at just 20% of pre-Covid levels. This is expected given the demographic of the users and the number of regular destinations currently being closed but does significantly fall behind patronage recovery on other modes. We are hoping to see patronage increase as destinations continue to re-open and confidence to travel continues to grow.

From December the service hours were expanded to operate Monday to Saturday 0800 to 1800 and Sunday 0800 to 1530. During peak times we have also agreed an

increased number of vehicles to be available to provide additional capacity on the service and improve availability.

Like other public transport operators National Express Accessible Transport (NEAT), the operators of Ring & Ride, have also been affected by driver shortages due to increased sickness levels and drivers moving to other driving jobs within the sector. We are continuing to work with NEAT to minimise any disruption for passengers. Where disruption is unavoidable, we are working with NEAT to ensure that passengers are kept informed of any revisions to their planned journeys. On-time performance is currently around 96%; 96% of passenger collections are within 10 mins of stated times which is the stated traffic commissioner window for flexibly routed services.

TfWM are in the process of agreeing a revised contract with National Express Accessible Transport (NEAT) up to the end of March 2022. We continue to have discussions regarding contractual and service arrangements to ensure the service reflects any changes in travel demand and aligns with the ambitions of the Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) which may include wider use of Demand Responsive Services in the region.

#### *National Bus Strategy and Bus Service Improvement Plans*

The National Bus Strategy (NBS) published in March 2021 sets out the requirements for all Local Transport Authorities (LTAs) to access transformational funding from April 2022. TfWM is the LTA for the WMCA constituent area. This included publishing a Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) that sets out a roadmap to better services for passengers and communities.

Our West Midlands BSIP was published on 5th November 2021. It sets out our ambitions for continued investment in our local bus services to level up the West Midlands through Better Buses, Better Journeys and Better Fares for all our residents and visitors.

The Department for Transport continues to review and assess the BSIPs covering all 79 LTAs and expects to provide details of indicative funding by February 2022. This will recognise that the budget available for transformation, including Zero Emission Buses, is around £1.4 billion for the next 3 years and that prioritisation is inevitable, given the scale of ambition across the country greatly exceeds this amount.

TfWM has already begun to seek alternative funding for BSIP delivery, including more bus priority and improvements to ticketing and emissions through the WMCA's City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS).

#### *Network Changes*

In this reporting period there has been the following network changes; in Sandwell

##### *Partnership Routes – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2021*

- Service 40 – West Bromwich to Wednesbury via Stone Cross
- Service 42 – Dudley to West Bromwich via Tipton
- Service 43 – Bilston to West Bromwich



The partnership route services are operated by both National Express and Diamond Bus. The timetables of both operators services were revised to improve the service co-ordination between the two operators journeys and therefore providing passengers with an improved service provision. National Express and Diamond Bus will continue to accept each other's tickets on these services meaning passengers can travel on the first bus that arrives regardless of the operator.

Upcoming service changes are updated on a weekly basis on the TfWM website; [Upcoming Bus Changes | Transport for West Midlands \(tfwm.org.uk\)](https://www.tfwm.org.uk/Upcoming-Bus-Changes).

### *Birmingham Outer Circle*

National Express had made a change to bus services 11 A/C; the outer circle. The service was changed from a continuous orbital service to operate as two overlapping services. Section 1 operates between Acocks Green to Erdington and Section 2 operates between Acocks Green to Perry Barr. All sections of the existing route remained served. Prior to the change, reliability on the service had dropped to as low as 74.5%.

National Express with TfWM committed to reviewing the decision at each fundamental change to the traffic management arrangements at Perry Barr. With effect from Friday 18th February (date TBC) the traffic management arrangements will change with a number of changes to the existing stopping arrangements to service 11A/11C. Service 11C will also return to using Wellington Road, the service has been temporarily operating via Churchill Road.

Prior to this change the performance of the service was reviewed. In September 2021 service reliability improved to 94.5% of daytime buses and 90.3% of PM peak journeys. Operating conditions worsened in late autumn in the lead up to Christmas across the whole network and reliability dropped to 88.5% of daytime journeys and 82.6% of PM peak journeys. However, the first two weeks of January 2022 have seen improved operating conditions, in comparison to late autumn, and the service has recorded improved reliability of 96.4% for daytime journeys and 93.2% for PM peak journeys.

It is difficult to accurately assess the impact on passenger numbers due to the many other factors currently affecting patronage, for example in the winter of 2021/22 there were numerous changes to guidance and restrictions on the population to help reduce the impact of the omicron variant. However, NX have reported the patronage recovery of service 11A/C is relatively high compared to the average recovery rate of the whole network. Passenger numbers are improving proportionally in correlation with the improved operational performance.

As a result of this improved service performance and positive patronage trends the current arrangement of the two overlapping services is retained for the next phase of the Traffic Management. At the current time there is still additional resource required to operate the service to the current service frequencies, estimated as 17% higher than pre-Covid. It is hoped if the improved traffic conditions are maintained and upon the completion of the Perry Barr works, both resource and journey times can be reduced.

### *West Midlands Bus Alliance*

The West Midlands Bus Alliance has continued to oversee and influence the bus network response and recovery to the Covid-19 pandemic and has sought to ensure that operators and wider stakeholders are fully aligned on issues affecting passengers and future aspirations through the BSIP. This has included developing a consistent approach to passenger communication at the various stages to the release from Covid measures including changes to social distancing on-bus and continuing to encourage and expect passengers to continue to wear a face covering.

The Alliance has continued to hold fortnightly bus operator sessions to discuss operational issues relating to the current operating environment, recovery and longer-term ambitions in the BSIP.

The Alliance played an integral role in the development of the West Midlands BSIP, with active operator engagement to achieve bold ambitions for Better Buses, Better Journeys and Better Fares. This includes more bus priority measures, improvements to bus emission standards to decarbonise the fleet, initiatives to improve the fares and ticketing structure and RTI passenger information as part of an integrated network.

The Bus Alliance board agreed a new governance structure in November 2021, that oversees the BSIP and delivery through the Enhanced Partnership. This will allow current and future BSIP initiatives being delivered by partners to be captured through the Enhanced Partnership.

### *Cross City Region Bus Priority*

As part of the Better deal for Bus Users funding package, TfWM received over £20 million to fund the first phases of prioritised bus priority measures. These measures are the beginning of a journey to unlock and free buses from delays in Birmingham city centre and support the wider delivery of cross-city bus routes. The measures include; providing new bus only roads, junction upgrades and enhanced waiting facilities whilst complementing projects such as Sprint (Bus Rapid Transit in the West Midlands), Metro and rail networks.

The western arm of Package 3 is served by the 82 and 87 routes. The 82 runs to Bearwood, which is a spur off Package 3, and the 87 runs to Dudley. This package extends beyond the Birmingham boundary, into the Sandwell and Dudley, serving Dudley Bus Station. Schemes proposed are;

- Cape Hill Junction Improvements – Cape Hill / Shireland Road / High Street / Windmill Lane junction and convert streets to one-way.
- Oldbury Ring Road Bus Lane
- Waterloo Road Crossing Improvements – Upgrade Zebra Crossing to signal controlled to increase pedestrian safety and junction capacity. (now complete)
- Burnt tree island junction improvements – Junction upgrade (New Birmingham Road/Birmingham Road/Burnt Tree and New Birmingham Road/Tividale Rd/Bunn's Lane)

Extensive traffic modelling has been undertaken on Cape Hill and Oldbury with a preferred option shared with Sandwell Officers for consultation with an ambition to begin construction in Autumn 2022 (subject to approvals including land purchase agreements).

Burnt Tree Island preliminary design has been approved for public consultation with this scheduled for February 2022

### *Tendered Bus Services*

Due to the continued unusual and difficult market conditions, including the on-going public sector financial support and a level of uncertainty in estimating future patronage, there has not been a significant tender round in this period. The exception to this has been where there has been a requirement to replace a withdrawal of a service which has happened on three occasions. Service 93 (replacing a new service combining the common the routes of service 28A and 53), service 54 and service 96 were all issued for general tender.

The Bus Delivery Team have worked with the existing operators to agree an extension of applicable contracts for suitable periods in adherence to procurement rules. A number of contracts are currently due to expire in April 2022 and it is intended to continue the provision of these contracts by both tendering and seeking extensions to existing contractual arrangements.

At the time of writing it is not known if there will be a continuation of Bus Recovery Grant (BRG) funding for subsidised services beyond April 2022. This funding is currently being used to help support operators of subsidised services by providing a level of revenue support to offset the reduction in fare revenue. A reduction or loss of BRG would place significant pressures on the budget for the provision of subsidised bus services at a time when further commercial services will be deemed by operators to not be commercially viable adding further to the list of services which will need to be considered for support by TfWM. This pressure on the subsidised bus budget will come from two factors; each tendered service will get more expensive when re-let because costs have increased and fare box / ENCTS revenue has reduced; secondly, more commercial services will be deemed uncommercial.

As with the commercial network the average patronage on tendered bus services is lower than the equivalent pre-Covid usage. The recovery level of concessionary passengers is lower than fare paying passengers which has impacted some tendered services which have a high proportion of concessionary passengers.

The level of usage is an important factor in the rationale for the provision of subsidised bus services so TfWM Officers continue to closely monitor use which is assisting with our understanding of recovery rates of services and changes in demand in comparison to pre-Covid. Given this current and projected position TfWM are seeking to revise the access standards to inform what are likely to be difficult decisions in April 2022.

## Bus Stop Infrastructure

In accordance with a key West Midlands Bus Alliance deliverable TfWM continues to invest in improving the safety, security and appearance of our bus stop infrastructure estate.

Digital advertising is continuing to be introduced as part of a committed programme that also seeks to provide further capital upgrades, and re-branding of existing infrastructure as part of the West Midlands Bus brand update.

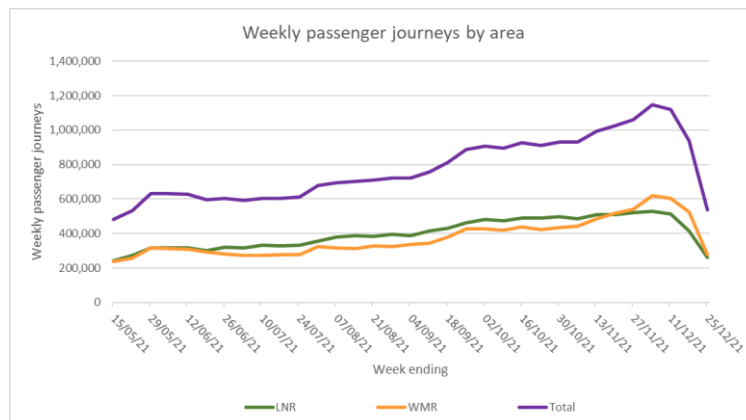
Between 20th August 2021 and 14th January 2022, a further 47 new shelters have been installed across the network with 21 of these being the new style Sprint shelter. 101 were installed in 2021.

To date, 1558 shelters have been rebranded with the new West Midlands Bus brand, 1110 have been repainted and 448 replaced through the TfWM capital programme or other various schemes/projects, out of a total of 5,100. All stop flags have now been changed to the new brand.

## 5. Rail Network

### Coronavirus

WMT's patronage at the end the year had declined from around 58% of pre-COVID levels in November, to 45% on the final working days of 2021. This trend is shared by both London Northwestern (LNR) and West Midlands Railway (WMR) business units, as per the graph below:



Patronage was undoubtedly affected by the arrival of the Omicron variant. The reintroduction of the work from home directive, coupled to fewer people travelling to shops and Christmas markets, meant that December saw a drop in both commuter and leisure travel. Ordinarily, a drop in the former would be offset by a surge in the latter, as people socialise, shop, and travel to family and friends.

COVID related absence has risen across the rail industry, with operators across the country experiencing service perturbation as a result <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/dec/30/southern-cancels-london-victoria-trains-for-two-weeks-over-covid>

As of New Year's Eve, 165 WMT colleagues were off work as a result of the virus. Of these, 106 were traincrew (52 drivers and 54 guards). Two thirds of those absent were with confirmed COVID cases. Unsurprisingly, this led to challenges in the delivery of the timetable over the holiday period, with cancellations unavoidable.

As the absence rate is not expected to fall in the immediate future, WMT have made some short-term changes to the timetable. This is to reduce the timetable to a level that can be reliably delivered with the expected available traincrew. These changes do not directly affect services calling at Walsall stations. Routes affected are Birmingham New Street to Birmingham International, and Leamington to Nuneaton via Coventry.

Other operators have not been immune to the pressures of Omicron. From 17<sup>th</sup> January CrossCountry Trains and Avanti West Coast scaled back services in the region. CrossCountry services between Birmingham and Cardiff became every other hour, whilst there were also changes to the route between Birmingham and Stanstead Airport. The former took effect from 24th January. Avanti West Coast services reduced to one train an hour between Euston and the West Midlands. Three other trains an hour depart Euston, running via the Trent Valley Line to Scotland and the North West. The West Midlands service alternates every hour between continuing to Preston/Blackpool and Edinburgh.

#### *West Midlands Trains' Performance*

November and December proved to be a challenging time for rail network performance. November in particular is always a challenging time of year for performance, with rail head adhesion often at its worst, and bad weather commonplace. This year WMT also had to contend with high levels of traincrew absence, caused by COVID sickness, the historic traincrew backlog, and full annual leave complements.

Traincrew availability was largely responsible for cancellations. The proportion of cancelled trains was actually greater on LNR than WMR, although in terms of the gross number of services, WMR was more severely affected. As reported previously, WMT have a detailed traincrew recovery plan that shows all legacy training being completed in late summer 2022. This will enable WMT's c.100 trainee drivers to become fully qualified, significantly bolstering their organisational capability.

By comparison to cancellations, a lower than expected score for T-3 (a measure of punctuality calculated by the percentage of trains arriving at all advertised station stops within three minutes) was due to externally caused issues. Trees on the line were a regular occurrence during the period. Excluding named storms, WMT experienced five instances of trees falling on to the Overhead Line Equipment. WMT are working with NR to see what more can be done to manage lineside vegetation.

Worryingly, anti-social behaviour is on the rise, with recorded incidents at their highest since 2015. As well as making other customers feel unsafe, this problem also causes train delays. WMT have a positive relationship with the British Transport Police, but policing needs are becoming increasingly stretched across the region.

### *Integrated Rail Plan, HS2 and Midlands Rail Hub*

The Integrated Rail Plan (IRP) was published on 18 November 2021, announcing £96bn of rail enhancements in the Midlands and North of England.

Of this Grant Shapps has confirmed that £42.5bn is already committed to Phases 1 and 2a of HS2 from London to Birmingham and Crewe, so there is circa £55bn available for the main IRP proposals across the North and the East Midlands.

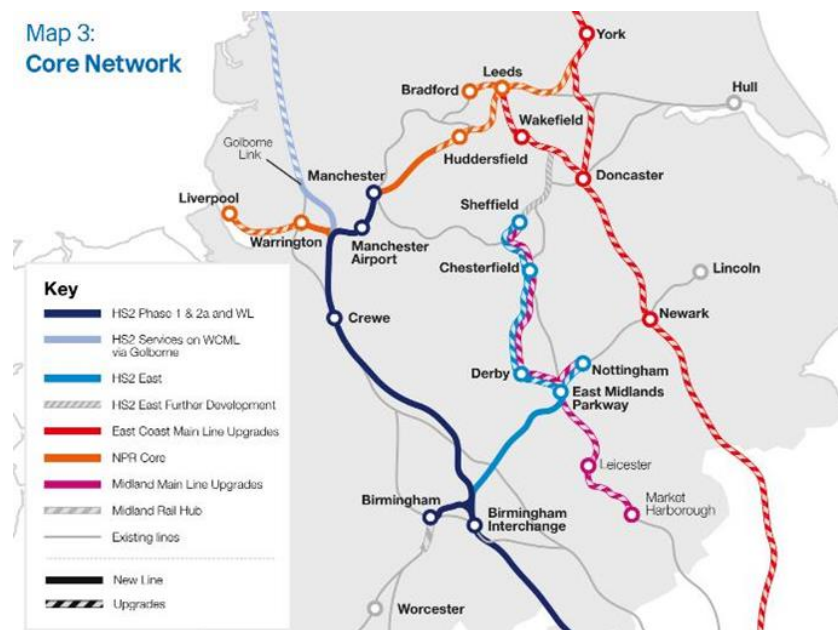
Potentially some of the announced £1.5bn for smaller schemes could help fund the priority Kings Norton and Snow Hill station capacity enhancements of Midlands Rail Hub.

In December 2021 the Transport Select Committee announced an Inquiry into the IRP and WMRE will be submitted evidence to this.

### *Key Integrated Rail Plan Headlines for West Midlands*

The IRP confirms that Phase 2b of HS2 will connect the West Midlands to both Manchester via Crewe and Nottingham via the existing East Midlands Parkway station which will have a transformational impact on journey times reducing Birmingham – Nottingham from 1hr and a quarter to just 26 minutes city centre to city centre.

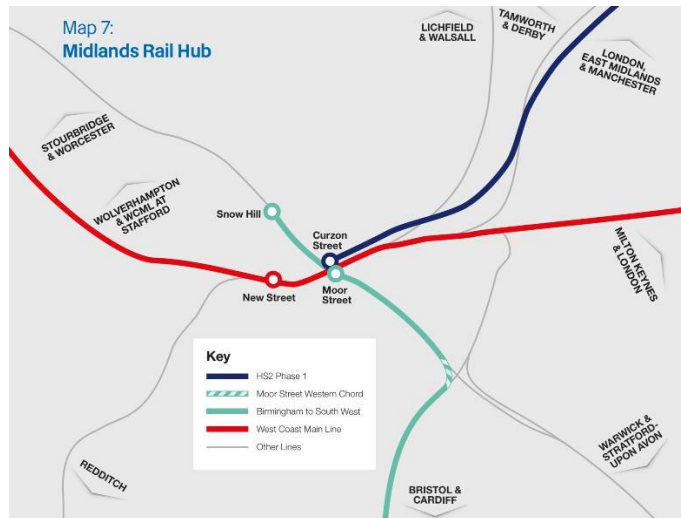
However, the IRP has also moved the delivery of Phase 2b of HS2 (originally scheduled for 2022/23 and then the late 2030s), both to Manchester and to the East Midlands, to the longer term with completion now anticipated in the early/mid-2040s.



*Integrated Rail Plan: Key Proposals*

- a) The IRP also supports Midlands Rail Hub (MRH), with a focus on improving services to Worcester and Hereford and improving access to HS2 (via the South West Bordesley Chord to Moor St Station) from Bristol and Cardiff.
- b) However, the IRP also notes that the new high-speed line to the East Midlands “could realise many of the benefits of the Midlands Rail Hub

Eastern section” by providing improved connectivity from the West Midlands to Nottingham and potentially improved service frequency to Derby.



*Integrated Rail Plan: Partial Support for Midlands Rail Hub*

- c) The Government is therefore asking “Network Rail to work with Midlands Connect to review the Midlands Rail Hub proposals”. WMRE has already been engaging with Network Rail and Midlands Connect in seeking to build a wider strategic case for completing Midlands Rail Hub in its entirety. WMRE and other partners will need to be closely involved in the proposed review as we seek to rebuild the case for the MRH Eastern Section.

*Sir Peter Hendy’s Union Connectivity Review*

In 2020 the UK Government asked Sir Peter Hendy CBE to undertake a detailed review into how transport connectivity across the UK can support economic growth and quality of life in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The Union Connectivity - Final Report was published on 26 November 2021 and it picks up some further issues touched on in the recently published Integrated Rail Plan. Key recommendations which impact on the West Midlands are:

- a) a package of railway improvements to increase connectivity and reduce journey times between **Cardiff and Birmingham** (which aligns with Midlands Rail Hub aspirations).
- b) train service frequency and network capacity improvements to **improve connectivity between Mid Wales and the Midlands via Shrewsbury**.
- c) **reduce rail journey times and increase rail capacity between Scotland and the West Midlands** by:
  - i. upgrading the West Coast Main Line (WCML) north of Crewe
  - ii. reviewing options for northerly connections between HS2 & WCML

The review also proposes **revising existing subsidy rules for domestic aviation, which may benefit regional airports such as Birmingham**, although there is a

degree of concern regarding whether such changes **might adversely impact on the rail markets** between the West Midlands and Scotland or South West England.

#### *West Midlands Rail Programme*

We have started early works on the ground at Willenhall and Darlaston as part of Rail Package 1, including site clearance and investigation. We are currently finalising negotiations with our contractor for Rail Package 1 to reflect the latest position with regard to land access and delivery. This suggests that, based on current assumptions, both stations would be delivered by the end of 2023.

The bulk of land at Willenhall is now secured including the critical Triple R site; we are finalising acquisition of the final parcel with WMBC. In parallel the Combined Authority approved the making of a Compulsory Purchase Order. This will establish title over several land parcels where no title currently exists, and secure acquisition of land at Darlaston (Eurofoods) where we have to date been unable to reach a deal. Discussions continue with the owner of Eurofoods at Darlaston with the aim of securing a deal for temporary access and permanent acquisition without the need for CPO.

The other key activity at Darlaston is finalising the details required for the Section 106 agreement with WMBC, which is necessary to finalise planning permission for the station. The text of an agreement is understood to be agreed and the final plans are in preparation.

Progress continues elsewhere on the Rail Programme. At University the rail link bridge and canal bridges have both been installed on schedule, and we have instructed a further round of construction acceleration to our contractor, with work continuing to establish what elements of scope can be entered into service in advance of the Commonwealth Games.

At Perry Barr, steelwork is now complete and 'topping out' of the station was marked on 17th November 2021 with a small event. Work continues in parallel with the development of the bus interchange. The kerb line, which is a critical interface between the rail station and bus interchange, has now been installed. In parallel with the station development, the project is also working with Network Rail and other partners on further works to improve the Perry Barr platforms.

Learning the lessons from other projects, we have continued to work closely with the rail regulator and other partners to start planning early for the regulatory and legal processes associated with bringing the station into service. The aim is to reduce the risk of late challenges for both University and Perry Barr and ensure that we are entering the stations into service as efficiently and quickly as possible while maintaining safety standards.

Progress also continues on the delivery of the Camp Hill Line stations, with the Invitation to Tender successfully released to prospective contractors in November 2021. The project is completing on the acquisition of land in Hazelwell and working with Network Rail to secure land at Moseley which is currently leased by NR to a third party.



Network Rail is due to start work on site at Smethwick Rolfe Street station in January to deliver lifts and other accessibility improvements, with delivery planned to be achieved in July prior to the Commonwealth Games.

Subject to the final confirmation of the CRSTS settlement, WMRE and TfWM will be working to develop proposals to improve the quality and accessibility of Dudley Port station and wider Integrated Transport Hub to align with opening of the new Metro stop.

## 6. HS2 Connectivity Package

The HS2 Growth Strategy sets out how the positive effect of HS2 will be felt across the region. The approach uses HS2 to create an outstanding legacy in terms of regeneration, jobs, skills, economic development and connectivity for the Midlands. The strategy has been refreshed, with 'The Defining Decade – The Midlands high speed path to recovery' approved by WMCA Board in February 2021.

Work on the Connectivity Package has been progressing in line with the Implementation Plan, with updates being provided through regular dashboard reports to the HS2 Growth Delivery Board. A headline summary of activity is set out below:

**Sprint:** Significant progress has been made with the Walsall to Birmingham via Sandwell (A34) and Birmingham to Birmingham Airport and Solihull (A45) in construction. Joint work undertaken by TfWM and Local Authorities during this period includes:

- A45 main works underway with completion expected in line with programme
- A34 procured as four separate packages of work which are all on site with completion expected in line with the programme
- Sprint A34 and A45 Phase 2 is included within the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement proposals which has been approved by WMCA Board

Rail projects are listed within section 5 of this report.

## 7. Metro Delivery Programme

The Metro programme is defined into two main phases based on funding position and current project status.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Planned Opening</b>
<b>Phase 1</b>	
Centenary Square Extension	Opened December 2019
Wolverhampton City Centre Extension	Summer 2022
Edgbaston Extension	Summer 2022
Wednesbury to Brierley Hill Extension	November 2024
<b>Phase 2</b>	
Birmingham Eastside Extension	2026/7
East Birmingham Solihull	No schedule yet defined.

Work continues to progress with all extension projects being undertaken by the Midland Metro Alliance (MMA). During this period, the following activity has been undertaken:

- Wolverhampton City Centre Extension – Works have continued on all section including the final stage into the Station Plaza, however work at the station was suspended in November as design was not approved by NR. There is now only one key design element which needs closure before work can be completed, but we have now re-started work in this section. Once design is fully approved, we will be able to confirm opening to public service, which is still hoped to be before CWG.
- Wednesbury to Brierley Hill Metro Extension – Work has proceeded as planned on many sections of this extension, and in particular in Dudley Centre and at the Wednesbury connection into the existing line. However, pressures on revenue impacting the TfWM borrowing capacity mean that we will review if there is an advantage to look at a phased delivery, while committing to the full scheme.
- Edgbaston Extension – Most construction is now complete with final elements to be finished at the Edgbaston terminus tram stop. We are waiting for the acceptance of the current TROs which will allow us to complete construction and proceed to testing and commissioning. We are planning to open for public service in May/June.
- Birmingham Eastside Extension (BEE) – Tracks are due to be installed along Lower Bull Street shortly, and this will allow Section 1 to be completed before CWG. On Section 5 for Digbeth High Street, the highway has been moved across to allow the permanent highway to be delivered. However, we have faced an issue with a major gas main which is in very poor condition and poses a safety hazard. We will work closely with Cadent to define a programme of works jointly before CWG and define what will need to be left until September. Discussions with HS2 have led to an agreed schedule for working around the New Canal Road viaduct, to allow both projects to deliver their scheme.
- East Birmingham to North Solihull Extension - TfWM is working with Government to gain further funding to develop a Full Business Case. A first request is included in the current CRSTS submission.
- Procurement contract for the new fleet from CAF was completed in October 2021 with a first phase of 21 trams, and options to extend the fleet for the East side extensions. The first 8 trams needed for Edge and WCCE extensions have been delivered and are being commissioned. They will enter service as soon as approved.

## **8. Metro Operations - Midland Metro Limited**

From the 13<sup>th</sup> November to the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021 metro services were temporarily suspended. This was to enable permanent repairs to be undertaken on the bogie boxes of the Urbos 3 trams. A programme of repairs is currently underway, and the number of trams now repaired, combined with the introduction of new trams to the fleet, has enabled a phased return to service.

Of the new trams mentioned in the last report, 8 have arrived at the Metro Centre with 5 of them having been fully tested and commissioned and accepted into service.

These trams form part of an order of 21 new Urbos 100 trams and once all received, will see the total fleet double in size to serve the planned extensions. The remaining Urbos 100 trams will start to be delivered in 2023.

As part of the phased return to service, trams are currently operating between Wolverhampton St George's and Bull St, with plans to resume services to the Library in February, dependent upon vehicle availability. A 'Back on Track' marketing campaign was launched to attract customers back to the network. Patronage is now at c75% against pre-Covid levels and before the suspension had recovered to c90%. However, the impact of the Omicron variant has led to a slower recovery following the suspension.

During the suspension the opportunity was taken to bring forward some asset renewal projects which included rail replacement at Hill Top tunnel, Priestfield Bradley Lane, Bilston Central and the Crescent and OLE enhancements in the Jewellery Quarter, alongside de-vegetation work.

In the spring, Metro will also be introducing Metro Ticket Zones. The easy-to-understand Metro Ticket Zones will see the network divided in to four, with customers only paying to travel in the areas of the network they actually need to use. The new ticket structure will also provide customers with unlimited travel within their chosen area, instead of having to pay for one-off journeys between specific stops.

This change comes ahead of opening new extensions to Edgbaston and Wolverhampton Rail Station of which Midland Metro Limited are making preparations including recruiting additional Tram Crew.

## **9. Active Travel**

### *Emergency Active Travel Fund (EATF)*

On 9th May 2020 the Government announced that an 'Emergency Active Travel Fund' will fund local authorities across the country to help make it easier for people to use bikes to get around. The West Midlands were successful in their application to Tranche 1, with an allocation of £3.85m being granted from DfT for our ambitious programme.

The EATF Tranche 1 programme in Sandwell delivered the following schemes:

- Scheme 1: Oldbury Town Centre to NCRN81 (Completed)
- Scheme 2: Smethwick Town Centre to Spon Lane (Completed)

The following schemes are being delivered as part of the Sandwell's Tranche 2 programme (indicative cost of £1.4m):

- Blackheath Town Centre Active Travel Interventions – Reallocation of road space and widening of footway to create a new permanent off-road segregated two-way cycleway along the Blackheath bypass from the Oldbury Rd/Henderson Way junction, along the bypass on A4100 Henderson Way to the High St/John St junction.
- Wednesbury Town Centre Active Travel Interventions - Reallocation of road space to provide a new segregated contraflow cycle lane within the town centre,

new permanent footway sections, temporary widening of footways using barriers, new TTRO's and new signage and road marking scheme and decluttering of footways along various roads within the town centre to ensure wider footway space. New cycle parking at selected locations will also be provided.

- Bearwood High Street Active Travel Interventions - adjoining Bearwood Road is Waterloo Road and on the northern side of the High Street is Hadley Stadium sports centre which hosts inclusive cycling projects. On this side of the High Street there will be a reallocation of road space (along Bearwood Rd/Waterloo Rd) to provide a new two-way segregated cycle route from Beaks Road to Hadley Stadium with a Tiger Crossing for cyclists.
- A4123 Corridor (Dudley/Sandwell section) – this is a jointly promoted scheme by Dudley (DMBC) and Sandwell (SMBC) Councils.

### *Local Authority Capability Fund*

Transport for West Midlands (TfWM), and the Seven Local Authorities have successfully secured DfT revenue funding from the Local Authority Capability Fund. £1.9m will deliver West Midlands wide regional behavioural change activities and Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan development. The fund will deliver Adult cycle training, cycle maintenance training, workplace, school and personalised travel planning plus led cycle rides in Sandwell.

### *Community Cycle Clubs*

In partnership with Cycling UK, Community Cycle Clubs have been set up in Sandwell. Community Cycle Clubs in Sandwell include Lightwoods Community Club, Smethwick Beat Streets Community Club, Hadley Stadium and Bangladeshi Women's Association.

### *Living Streets Walk to School Programme*

On Friday 21 May 2021, the Department for Transport announced the National allocation of £2.1m towards the continuation of Living Street's Walk to School Outreach Programme. This funding will help more pupils enjoy the fresh air, freedom and fun that walking to school brings in Walsall. Living Streets will continue to work with us in the West Midlands until 31 March 2022.

Sandwell has 26 schools currently involved in the Living Streets Walk Once a Week Programme.

### *West Midlands Cycle Hire (WMCH)*

West Midlands Cycle Hire consists of 1,500 bikes across the seven Local Authorities, with 10% of the fleet being e-Bikes. Pedal bikes were launched within Sandwell in June 2021, with e-Bikes added to the fleet in December 2021.

62 pedal bikes and 5 e-Bikes are available to hire across 10 docking stations in Sandwell, focused around West Bromwich. Sites include close to the West Bromwich Metro stop, College, High Street and Sandwell and Dudley Rail stations.

Some key statistics/observations from Sandwell have been detailed below for reference:

- Total rides within Sandwell to-date: Pedal bikes, 2,750 journeys; e-Bikes, 121 journeys
- Average ride time per journey – 36 minutes
- Average distance travelled per journey – 3.18km
- Journeys within Sandwell are roughly a 50/50 split between A-A journeys, whereby the user returns the bike to the same dock that they hired it from, and A-B journeys, whereby the bike is returned to a different location. This indicates a good scheme mix between leisure and utility journeys.
- 92% of bikes within Sandwell are returned to docking stations, representing positive customer behaviours. This compares favourably to other regions, where additional staff resourcing is required to return informally parked bikes to docking stations.

### *Walking and Cycling Programme*

£23.5m of Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) has been allocated to develop and deliver an improved Walking and Cycling programme. The programme is coordinated by TfWM.

As part of the TCF programme, funding has been allocated towards the development of the Year 1 priority routes within the LCWIP. The local authorities are currently working on developing business cases and preliminary designs as part of this project.

The A34 strategic feasibility study from Birmingham to Walsall was completed in February 2021 and it was determined that a segregated cycle route is not feasible and the alternatives to match the ambition for the region or the local authorities. A change request is currently pending for the remaining funding.

The Outline Business Case for the Wednesbury to Brierley Hill Metro Corridor Access Improvements was submitted by Sandwell and Dudley for review by WMCA Corporate Assurance which is still underway.

A bid was submitted in Summer 2021 for Active Travel Capital 2021-22 to DfT which included additional funding for Wednesbury to Brierley Hill Metro Corridor Access Improvements at stops for cycling and walking and A4123 corridor. TfWM are currently awaiting a funding decision from DfT.

### *Better Streets Community Fund*

TfWM launched the Better Streets Community Fund in May 2019. The scheme enabled anyone in the West Midlands to submit their ideas for projects to improve their local area for cycling and walking. TfWM and Sandwell Council assessed the applications and 5 projects were selected to receive funding, delivery of these are either complete or almost complete with final snagging needed.

<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Description of project</b>
Friar Park Public Realm Improvements	Two applications for the Better Streets Community Fund were submitted within proximity of each other asking for improvements near the Millennium Community Centre and Friar Park Primary School. This project will provide improvements at and between these two locations providing a safe and enjoyable space for local people to walk and cycle.
Friar Park Public Realm Improvements	

Smethwick Old Church and Dorothy Parkes Community Centre Community Centre Public Realm Improvements	This project will aim to improve the public space outside of Smethwick Old Church and Dorothy Parkes Community Centre by reducing traffic speed and making it easier for people to walk and cycle in their local community.
Access improvements to existing crossings	The Better Street Community Fund contributed to improving the accessibility of an existing crossing for cyclists and those with mobility issues by providing small amount of dropped kerb. The crossing in Blackheath forms a part of an existing cycle route between Blackheath and Rowley Regis Train Station and this small improvement will help improve this route.
YMCA Cycle Parking	This project will provide public cycle parking outside of the YMCA in West Bromwich Town Centre allowing people attending the YMCA and the wider town centre to be able to park their bikes securely.

### *Workwise*

TfWM's Employment Outreach Lead works with Job Centres to promote discounted travel to those gaining new employment. This approach has been successful and was extended to include libraries, local employers and training providers.

A popular discounted travel scheme is Workwise which offers discounted tickets in the first three months of employment.

TfWM has teamed up with local transport operators to extend the Workwise offer. It was launched on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at West Bromwich bus station and provides ground-breaking support for newly employed people.

The new offer includes the first two 4-week tickets FREE then a third 4-week ticket at a 50% discount from the standard price on selected bus, tram and nNetwork passes.

31 applicants in the Sandwell area were helped with travel to work through Workwise in the last quarter. <sup>1</sup>

In line with recent engagement opportunities related to Covid-19 restrictions, the Employment Outreach Lead continues to expand promotion to a portfolio of virtual advertising and engagement activity alongside non-virtual activity. This includes online recruitment events, online jobs fairs and social media engagement tools as well as digital newsletters and information packs.

## **10. Safety, Security and Emergency Planning including Regional Transport Co-ordination Centre**

The Safer Travel Partnership is a collaboration of organisations including TfWM, West Midlands and British Transport Police forces, Transport Operators and the 7 regional local authorities. They work together with the purpose of making the public transport network safer.

The Partnership is responsible for delivering the Safer Travel Partnership's 'Safer Travel Plan' the latest version is being agreed with West Midlands Police, the West

<sup>1</sup> Statistics are for full months therefore they are a month behind the current reporting month. These statistics are from October 2021 to December 2021 to be in line with quarterly reporting dates.

Midlands Police Crime Commissioner, British Transport Police and the Combined Authority. The key objectives of this plan for 2021/24 continue to be to reduce crime and improve passenger perception of personal safety.

Traffic Monitoring Developments – The Head of Network Resilience for TfWM has overall operational and developmental responsibility for the Regional Transport Control Centre (RTCC) based at Summer Lane. Through TCF and a contribution from Midlands Connect, around £220k has recently been invested in 24 new urban traffic cameras for Sandwell Borough at key junction locations. These key junctions are now being viewed in the RTCC by traffic managers to help mitigate against congestion and road disruptions.

In 2021 Safer Travel recruited 3 Transport Safety Officers (TSOs) whose primary role is to provide a visible presence on the Public Transport Network in the West Midlands, providing good Customer Service to Staff and Passengers to tackle low level Anti-Social Behaviour and improve the perception of safety for users of the transport network. The approach to be followed by the TSO's can be summarized as Engagement, Education, Encouragement and where necessary Enforcement.

Since June 2021 they have spent 2857 hours on patrol, had 34304 interactions with passengers and staff, engaged with 4801 passengers and staff and issued 609 verbal warnings, also 5 warning letters have been issued to passengers and users of the bus stations in that time.

The Transport Safety Officers have provided a highly visible presence around the transport interchanges in Sandwell, the bus station, Metro stations and bus shelters and they have travelled on all modes of public transport dealing with issues identified in the Safer Travel Tasking process or by partners. They have worked closely with West Bromwich Neighbourhood Policing Team to deal with the long-term issue of Street Drinkers at West Bromwich Bus Station with members of the group receiving ASB warning letters and criminal behaviour orders.

New Bus Byelaws were made under the seal of the WMCA on 14th January 2022 and were also be signed and dated.

- The byelaws come into force 30 days after the date they are made (13th February 2022) – We must publicise that new byelaws have been made at least 7 days before the day on which the byelaws come into force. Where practicable signage should be placed near the areas where the byelaws apply, and we must also publicise on our website. Some publicity has already gone out.
- Before any byelaws are to be enforced suitable guidance notes, supported by appropriate training will be given to all the officers authorised to enforce the byelaws. Current situation is the Transport Safety Officers are the only authorised officers with the training and equipment to enforce these byelaws.




RTCC continue to liaise with Sandwell for incidents on Highways England's Strategic Road Network, allowing them to set VMS where available/appropriate, and mitigate on signals to any local approaches, a recent example being the RTC causing 60+ minute delays on the M5 southbound at J4 (Friday 31st July), with VMS set on Hagley Road advising traffic heading towards M5 J3, which could use the traffic advice to use local routes down to J4, rather than sit in M5 delays.

## Appendix 1 – Network Monitoring

Monitoring ensures TfWM understands changes of the performance of the transport system arising from schemes, for example the reliability of public transport, modal usage and customer satisfaction. Covid-19 has had a major impact on the public transport network, but patronage is now starting to increase across all modes.

### - Headline Measures

The table below shows performance change in December 2021 compared to the previous 6-monthly reporting, unless otherwise stated.

Performance (December 2021 – unless otherwise stated)		
	Annualised Patronage	Punctuality
Bus	148.2m (123.2m – June 2021) +20.4% 	89.3% (April 2020 – March 2021)
Rail	28.3m (Approx 20m – June 2021) +3.3% 	
Metro	4.5m  +4.5% (4.1m – June 2021)	94.7% (91.6% - June 2021)

### *Bus*

Overall bus patronage in the West Midlands has been falling each month since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, with decreases during the 1<sup>st</sup> lockdown and increases seen in August, September and October 2020 as lockdown restrictions eased. A further decline in bus patronage was seen in the winter months of November, December and January as the 2<sup>nd</sup> lockdown was in place. Since January 2021 bus patronage has started to recover each month with current annualised bus patronage (January 2021 – December 2021) standing at 148.2 million an increase of +12.6% compared to the previous year (December 2020) of 131.7 million, but an increase of +20.4% since June 2021 (last Sandwell report). Monthly bus patronage is now at 57.6% of pre-COVID-19 levels.

Bus Punctuality stands at 89.3% of non-frequent bus services operated ‘on time’ (between 1 minute early and 05.59 minutes late).

### *Rail*

Rail patronage has also been impacted by Covid-19. Current rail patronage is approximately -51.5% of pre Covid-19 patronage and stands at approximately 28.3 million per year. Data collection has recommenced at seven ‘control stations’ every two months.

### *Metro*

Metro patronage also decreased from 8m passengers during the year period April 2019 to March 2020 and is now 4.5m annually (January 2021 – December 2021), an increase of +4.5% compared to June 2021.



Fleet availability (i.e. proportion of rolling stock available as a percentage of the target number needed to run to timetable) stood at 94.7% in December 2021 an increase from 91.6% in June 2021.

The most recent public transport satisfaction survey can be found here: <https://www.transportfocus.org.uk/publication/travel-during-covid-19-key-lessons-for-2021-and>

### Modal Share West Bromwich

The latest West Bromwich cordon survey was undertaken in March 2020 - 2 weeks ahead of the first national lockdown due to COVID-19.

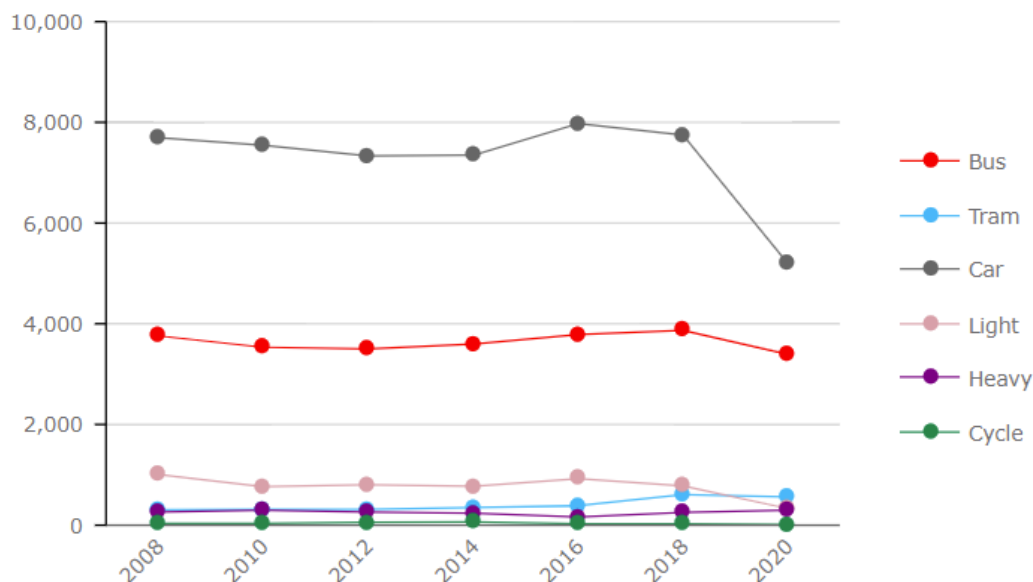
Despite this the AM Peak Public transport mode share has increased in 2020 to 40.4% (bus 34.6%, tram 5.8%) from 33.7% in 2018, where the decrease in trips using private vehicle modes was greater than trips undertaken using public transport.

Bus trips have decreased by -12.2% and tram trips by -7.2%. Tram trips undertaken in 2018 increased by +57.9% and despite the threat of COVID-19 there was only a reduction of -44 trips in 2020.

Car trips have decreased by -32.9%. Light vehicle trips decreased by -57.6% and cycle trips by -62.5% (17 trips). Heavy vehicle trips increased by +17.6% but by a small number of +45 trips.

Overall trips into West Bromwich (March 2020) have decreased by -26.2%.

#### Total Trips into West Bromwich Town Centre AM Peak (7:30-09:30)



The next West Bromwich Cordon Survey will be undertaken in March 2022. Further details on modal share for all strategic centres can be found here: <https://community-engagement-tfwm.hub.arcgis.com/pages/modal-split>.

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Report to Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council

Date: February 2022

## **West Midlands Police and Crime Panel – Update February 2022**

### **1 Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 Bi-annual reports on the activities of the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel are presented to Sandwell MBC for consideration. This report reflects on the work of the Panel between October 2021 and February 2022.
- 1.2 Sandwell is represented on the Panel by Cllr Kerrie Carmichael. Cllr Farut Shaeen and Cllr Richard Jones are named substitute members.

### **2 It is recommended that:**

- a) The information contained in the report be noted; and
- b) Members consider whether there are any issues relating to policing and crime matters that could be championed by Sandwell's West Midlands Police and Crime Panel Members.

### **3 Role of the Police and Crime Panel**

- 3.1 The Panel is a joint scrutiny body of the West Midland authorities with a dual role to 'support and challenge' the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC).
- 3.2 The Panel acts as a critical friend to the PCC on behalf of West Midlands residents and must perform the following statutory functions:
  - Review and comment on the PCC's draft Police and Crime Plan.
  - Review the PCC's Annual Reports.
  - Scrutinise decisions and actions by the PCC.
  - Review (with the power to veto) the PCC's proposed Council Tax precept.
  - Hold confirmation hearings before the PCC makes certain senior appointments (Chief Constable, Deputy PCC, Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer), with the power to veto the Chief Constable appointment.
  - Handle non-criminal complaints about the conduct of the PCC and Deputy PCC, referring serious complaints to the Independent Office for Police Conduct (task delegated to the Birmingham Monitoring Officer).
  - Appoint an acting PCC if required.
  - Suspend the PCC if charged.
- 3.3 The Panel's work programme consists of statutory tasks (listed above) and wider exploratory work to build knowledge and insight into the strategic policing and the wider community safety and criminal justice landscape to fulfil its role to hold the PCC to account.

3.4 The PCC attends every Panel meeting to respond to questions and provides updates on recent activities. The Panel may also invite the Chief Constable to attend to answer any questions which appear to the Panel to be necessary to carry out its functions. The Panel may also invite other persons (residents, stakeholders, councillors, officers from other parts of the public sector) to discuss issues of local concern and/or answer questions.

#### **4 Panel Membership**

4.1 The Panel consists of 12 councillors representing the 7 West Midland districts. The membership reflects the political balance of the region. Named substitutes are appointed for each councillor member. Two independent members also serve on the Panel who were appointed following a regional advertisement and competitive interview process.

4.2 The Panel elected Councillor Suky Samra (Walsall MBC) as Chair and Kristina Murphy (Independent Co-opted Member) as Vice Chair for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

4.3 Sandwell MBC is represented on the Panel by Cllr Kerrie Carmichael. Cllr Farut Shaeen and Cllr Richard Jones are named substitute members.

4.4 Appointments to the Panel are made annually. Looking ahead to the 2022/23 appointments, the district authorities have been asked to consider consistency in membership as regular attendance by committed members aids an effective Panel. Members appointed to the Panel should be able to attend regularly.

#### **5 Meetings and agenda papers**

5.1 Meeting papers, meeting dates, published reports, together with more information about the Panel can be found on the Panel's website: [www.westmidlandspcp.co.uk](http://www.westmidlandspcp.co.uk).

5.2 Following the need to return to in-person meetings, the Panel holds a combination of in-person decision-making meetings and virtual informal sessions. Meetings are livestreamed for the public. The last meeting was held at Sandwell and the webcast can be viewed at <https://civico.net/sandwell/14538-West-Midlands-Police-and-Crime-Panel>

#### **6 Panel Resources and Officer Support**

6.1 The Panel continues to operate within the limits of the Home Office Grant. The Panel agreed in 2012 that members would not use this to draw special responsibility allowances, but travel and carer expenses can be claimed.

6.2 Dudley's Chief Executive supports the Panel and the Birmingham Scrutiny Office acts as the secretariat. Support is also provided by Birmingham legal officers and a Solihull finance officer.

#### **7 Highlights October 2021 – February 2022**

7.1 **18 October 2021:** The Panel reviewed the draft West Midlands Police and Crime Plan 2021-2025 and made several recommendations for the PCC to consider before publication. The Panel's report and the PCC's response are available on the Panel website [www.westmidlandspcp.co.uk](http://www.westmidlandspcp.co.uk).

- 7.2 **29 November 2021:** The Panel reviewed the PCC's Annual Report. It also discussed the PCC's performance framework associated with the implementation of his Police and Crime Plan and the PCC's new reporting responsibilities for the National Crime and Policing Measures. The PCC also provided an update on the West Midlands Police Estate Strategy.
- 7.3 **10 January 2022:** The Panel met Wassim Ali and Tom McNeil the Assistant Police and Crime Commissioners and learnt about their portfolio areas.
- 7.4 **31 January 2022:** The Panel examined the PCC budget proposals and formally reviewed the PCC's proposed policing precept for 2022-23. The Panel met Nicky Brennan West Midlands Victims' Commissioner and learnt about her portfolio and priorities.
- 7.5 **February 2022:** Panel members attended a briefing on the PCC's Performance Monitoring Framework in preparation for consideration of the first set of performance data in March. A group of Members also visited Lloyd House and received briefings on the Commissioning, Audit, Communications and Policy team functions of the Office for the Police and Crime Commissioner, toured the WMP Force Contact and had a demonstration of the mobile technology used by police officers.

## 8 **Scrutiny Inquiry into Public Confidence in the Police**

- 8.1 The Panel has recently completed its scrutiny inquiry into public confidence in the police. The inquiry sought to understand why reported public confidence in West Midlands Police had fallen and examine what the PCC could do to address the factors that had an impact. The report and recommendations will be published shortly on the Panel website.

## 9 **Forward Plan**

- 9.1 As Panel shapes its work programme for the 2022/2023 Municipal Year to assess the impact, actions and decisions of the PCC, there are opportunities for further dialogue and closer working with local scrutiny committees.
- 9.2 Elected members are encouraged to suggest issues that Sandwell Police and Crime Panel Members could seek to add to the Police and Crime Panel work programme.

## **Background Papers**

West Midlands Police and Crime Panel Minutes and Agenda: [www.westmidlandspcp.co.uk](http://www.westmidlandspcp.co.uk)

### **Contact officer:**

Sarah Fradgley, Panel Officer, Email: [wmpcp@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:wmpcp@birmingham.gov.uk)

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# Report to Council

**1 March 2022**

<b>Subject:</b>	West Midlands Combined Authority - Update
<b>Director:</b>	Director Regeneration & Growth Tony McGovern
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Senior Lead Officer, Jane Alexander Jane_Alexander@sandwell.gov.uk

## 1 Recommendations







- 1.1 Consider opportunities for the Borough arising from the West Midlands Combined Authority.

## 2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 Being a constituent member of the West Midlands Combined Authority offers Sandwell Council access to funding and initiatives that positively impact the borough and the people of Sandwell.



### 3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

		Participation as a constituent member of the West Midlands Combined Authority offers opportunity to contribute positively to all strategic outcomes contained in the Corporate Plan.
		
		

### 4 Context and Key Issues

#### New Economic Growth Board

- 4.1 Leaders of the seven constituent authorities and the Mayor agreed to a comprehensive review of the region's governance. This included a focus on streamlining economic governance and policymaking, and establishing clearer, more accountable decision-making body.
- 4.2 The outcome of the review was reported to the WMCA Board on 19 November 2021. The WMCA Board resolved to establish the Economic Growth Board (EGB) with decision-making powers, led by the Portfolio Lead for Economy and Innovation, which will put regional economic development at the heart of WMCA decision making.
- 4.3 The purpose of the new EGB is:
- To provide strong, democratically accountable leadership to the strategic oversight of the region's approach to driving green and inclusive economic growth.
  - To exercise the delegated authority provided to it by the Combined Authority Board on matters of inclusive economic growth.
  - The Board will have responsibility for overseeing the performance and evaluation of the region's economic strategy, monitoring and managing processes as required.





- 4.4 The Combined Authority Board has delegated the following powers to the Economic Growth Board:
- such well-being powers as are set out in sections 99 and 102A of the Local Transport Act 2008 in order to promote economic growth and such powers can be exercised in conjunction with general powers granted to the Combined Authority by virtue of Section 113A of the Local Democracy Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011).
- 4.5 As well as placing inclusive economic growth at the heart of WMCA decision making, the EGB will also influence other areas of delivery, such as transport and skills, which are direct enablers of inclusive economic growth. This will not affect the current governance arrangements for those topics (e.g. the Skills Advisory Board will continue to provide strategic oversight of regional skills needs, with a focus on the Adult Education Budget). Working alongside the WMGC Board, the EGB will also have oversight of the impact made by the West Midlands Growth Company.
- 4.6 The EGB will be accountable for the Innovation Board, Create Central, Cultural Leadership Board and the Energy Capital Board. It will be advised and supported by a cross regional officer group.
- 4.7 There are 18 EGB members. To demonstrate strong democratic accountability, should the Board be required to vote on matters, the eight voting members are The Mayor, the Portfolio Lead for Economy & Innovation, and the Leaders of the other Constituent Authorities. The inaugural meeting of the Board took place on 2 February.

### **City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement Programme**

- 4.8 The CRSTS is a five-year capital settlement to enable the region to deliver transport investment and achieve its ambitions. Following a draft prospectus being submitted to Government in September 2022, a WMCA allocation of £1.05bn for 2022-27 was confirmed in the October Budget.



- 4.9 Transport for West Midland and Local Authority officers have worked on developing a programme for the £1.05bn, recognising that there are significant cost pressures in existing transport schemes which may require further funding from this pot.
- 4.10 Within the programme £41.4m worth of projects are wholly located within Sandwell, whilst a further £79.2m worth of projects sit in the Black Country wide list which have a significant Sandwell element.
- 4.11 Following consideration at WMCA Board on 14 January, a full programme business case for CRSTS has been submitted to Government. It is important to note that the programme level business case will secure only indicative allocations to schemes and does not constitute the final approval of any individual scheme. A formal Grant letter is expected in February/March 2022 with funding available from April 2022.

## Employment and skills

- 4.12 Sandwell MBC plays an active role in the WMCA Employment and Skills officers group; the meeting includes representatives from all local authorities and local enterprise partnerships. This group also considers regional approaches and best practise sharing across the local area, with each local authority having their own Employment and Skills partnership to feed information to and from. The partnership has recently worked alongside WMCA to update the Sandwell Employment and Skills Framework which maps employment and skills activities from a range of organisations and funding streams, providing localised information to be included within the wider regional framework. The exercise will be used to identify gaps in provision and to develop new provision which meets local needs, including informing commissioning approaches for the Shared Prosperity fund due to be announced this year.



## NEET reduction

- 4.13 Connexions is working with WMCA and Colleges West Midlands to develop and oversee the roll out of a pan-regional strategy to reduce NEET in West Midlands. The purpose is to target a reduction in NEET of an average of 10% across the West Midlands between July 2021 and July 2022. Responsibilities of those in the NEET strategy group is to work collaboratively with key partners to drive the high-level strategy for NEET reduction and to gather knowledge and learn from impactful NEET strategies in other regions.
- 4.14 There is also a NEET Intervention Partnership aligned to the Black Country region to understand, evaluate and foster more effective collaborative working between colleges, Local Authorities, careers and schools and feed insights into a pan-regional model. The WMCA Careers lead also attends this group.

## Adult Education Budget 2022-2025 Strategy

- 4.15 WMCA has recently issued its Adult Education Budget 2022-2025 Strategy. It sets out their vision for a responsive and flexible adult skills offer which will support a people-centred approach to ensure that the skills needs of businesses are met and that everybody can benefit from economic growth.
- 4.16 WMCA key priorities are:
1. Getting residents into employment
  2. Upskilling and reskilling to respond to the regional economy and net zero
  3. Providing a good basic education up to Level 2 for those who need it and increasing higher-level provision in all local authority areas to ensure a good balanced offer is in place
  4. Supporting our communities to be stronger and benefit from inclusive growth
  5. Ensuring there is a strong Community Learning offer in place, which addresses digital inclusion, family learning, sustainability and health & wellbeing.



4.17 WMCA intends to continue to collaborate closely with local stakeholders, including DWP and Local Authorities to work towards a place-based approach for local communities. They will continue to collaborate with Colleges West Midlands, the West Midlands Provider Network and ACLA to deliver the Adult Education Budget. WMCA strengthen their employer and sector body collaboration to ensure provision will increasingly be aligned to economic and employer needs.

## Net Zero

4.18 WMCA are progressing several schemes to address retrofitting of homes and improving green spaces, that Sandwell will be able to benefit from.

4.19 The Net Zero Neighbourhood Programme is a £1.65 million scheme aimed predominantly at retrofitting properties. Sandwell's expression of interest has been accepted which could potentially see 300 properties benefiting later this year. The aim is to produce a mechanism for retrofitting at scale across the WMCA area. The deadline for full applications is 29 April 2022.

4.20 An application is also being submitted for another scheme aimed at the retrofitting of properties – the Sustainable Warmth Competition (£2.86 million), which again could see 300 properties in Sandwell benefiting. Delivery would be led by the WMCA and needs to be completed by March 2023.

4.21 A Community Green Grants scheme has also recently been launched to support small community groups with grants to develop existing green spaces and tree planting to improve the natural environment. The Council will be promoting this scheme locally with community groups.

## West Bromwich Town Centre Regeneration and Bull Street MSCP Demolition

4.22 Following completion of the MSCP demolition in 2021, the outline business case was finalised in January 2022. This outlined potential future delivery options across the site and will be used to attract investment and steer design. This business case has been supported by senior officers within both SMBC and WMCA.

4.23 Design work to improve the site hoardings has been agreed with the WMCA and will commence in coming months.



4.24 Future delivery options are being explored by officers independently but also as part of a wider development opportunity as part of the Retail Diversification Programme.

### **Friar Park Housing Development**

4.25 A viability report was prepared by the consultancy group in December 2021. This outlines the economic conditions across the site and is currently being reviewed by SMBC and WMCA, in addition to independent advisors.

4.26 Soft market testing has been done to establish developer interest, this is due to be presented to the joint venture (JV) forum in the coming weeks.

4.27 Site investigations are currently ongoing to understand the levels of land contamination and inform options across the site.

4.28 In February 2022, Thomas Lister provided disposal advice to the JV forum outlining a number of potential delivery options, this is being reviewed with a view to presenting a recommendation and revised programme to the project board in March 2022.

### **One Public Estate**

4.29 One Public Estate (OPE) is a national programme, started in 2013 delivered by the Cabinet office and the LGA, now administered by the West Midlands Combined Authority.

4.30 The OPE programme is to offer technical support to deliver property focused programmes across the public sector. OPE is looking to promote a strategic asset approach to get more from public assets.

4.31 SMBC has been successful with an OPE bid. The total Sandwell bid is £150,000 of which the Council contribution would be £30,000. This element is currently being appraised by capital finance.

4.32 The proposal centres around West Bromwich Town Hall and central library, as we can demonstrate strategic links to the recent West Bromwich Town Fund (town investment plan) application, our own transforming local services programme and the collaborative working plans with the NHS.



4.33 Joint working with the NHS is progressing well. The NHS will share space with the council at Sandwell council house as soon as the covid-related restrictions are removed.

## 5 Alternative Options

5.1 Become a non-constituent member of WMCA - Participation as a constituent member of the WMCA enables Sandwell to deliver improvements to the locality that would otherwise be more difficult to achieve. In addition, through WMCA activity, we can ensure that Sandwell residents have the skills to access new employment opportunities both here in Sandwell and across the region, with excellent public transport available connecting the whole of the West Midlands. These benefits would be lost if Sandwell became a non-constituent member.

## 6 Implications

<b>Resources:</b>	The contribution to the Combined Authority from Sandwell Council for 2021/22 is £0.611 million.
<b>Legal and Governance:</b>	Part 6 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (“the 2009 Act”) provides for the establishment of combined authorities for the areas of two or more local authorities in England. Combined authorities are bodies corporate which may be given power to exercise specified functions of a local authority under sections 104 and 105 of the 2009 Act, and power to exercise specified functions of any other public authority under section 105A of the 2009 Act.
<b>Risk:</b>	Section 21 of the West Midlands Combined Authority (Functions and Amendments) Order 2017 has the effect that where costs are incurred by the Combined Authority and are not met from other sources of income, then they fall to be met by the seven constituent councils, including Sandwell.
<b>Equality:</b>	The priorities of the West Midlands Combined Authority reflect the equality and diversity of the West Midlands, including striving to create prosperity through a strong and collective economic strategy and the policy aspiration to champion all that makes the



	West Midlands a Great Place to Live. The equality impact of any specific proposals will need to be addressed in reports to the WMCA Board or the appropriate decision-making body.
<b>Health and Wellbeing:</b>	All constituent members of the WMCA are be better placed to contribute and influence the Health and Social Care offer for local residents and create: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A more sustainable local health and care economy;</li> <li>• Improved quality and experience of care;</li> <li>• Improved population health.</li> </ul>
<b>Social Value</b>	There is potential in all schemes and initiatives, particularly those delivered directly in Sandwell, to have a positive impact on Social Value.

**7. Appendices**

None

**8. Background Papers**

None



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## Report to Council

1 March 2022

<b>Subject:</b>	The Air Quality (Domestic Solid Fuels Standards) (England) Regulations 2020
<b>Director:</b>	Lisa McNally – Director of Public Health
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Paul Fisher Paul_fisher@sandwell.gov.uk

### 1 Recommendations

- 1.1 That both Directors of Public Health and Borough Economy are granted delegated authority to exercise the statutory provisions of The Air Quality (Domestic Solid Fuels Standards) (England) Regulations 2020.
- 1.2 That the Director of Law and Governance be authorised to revise the Scheme of Delegation to Officers in the Council’s Constitution with the following:-

#### **The Air Quality (Domestic Solid Fuels Standards) (England) Regulations 2020**







To act and authorise other to act on his/her behalf under the Council’s functions under the provisions of the Air Quality (Domestic Solid Fuels Standards) (England) Regulations 2020.

### 2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 The Air Quality (Domestic Solid Fuels Standards) (England) Regulations 2020 are new regulations and authorisation will be needed for both Trading Standards and Pollution Control Officers to act.
- 2.2 The local authority can authorise officers to act in order that the Council can be compliant with any statutory provisions.



### 3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

		There are no direct implications arising from this report. The decision is required to enable enforcement of the new regulations.
		
		

### 4 Context and Key Issues

- 4.1 The Air Quality (Domestic Solid Fuels Standards) (England) Regulations 2020 came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2021.
- 4.2 These Regulations introduce restrictions on the sale of wet wood for domestic burning, limits on the emission of sulphur and smoke from manufactured solid fuels and phases out the sale of bituminous coal (traditional house coal). The restrictions have criminal sanctions if breached, which are to be enforced by local authorities. Such action is necessary since domestic burning through wood burning stoves and open fires is a major contributor to national emissions of fine particulate matter (PM2.5).
- 4.3 In order to exercise enforcement, the local authority may appoint an officer to discharge its enforcement functions under these Regulations. The powers of enforcement are set out in the Regulations <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2020/1095/regulation/17/made>

### 5 Implications

<b>Resources:</b>	There are no resource implications arising directly from this report.
<b>Legal and Governance:</b>	The report seeks authority for enforcement officers to act in connection with The Air Quality (Domestic Solid Fuels Standards) (England) Regulations 2020
<b>Risk:</b>	Authority is requested to authorise the officers to enforce the Regulations.
<b>Equality:</b>	There are no equality implications arising directly from this report.



<b>Health and Wellbeing:</b>	There are no implications arising directly from this report.
<b>Social Value</b>	There are no social value implications arising directly from this report.

**6 Appendices**

None

**7. Background Papers**

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2020/1095/regulation/17/made>



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## Report to Council

1 March 2022

<b>Subject:</b>	Constitution and Political Balance of Committees and Boards and Appointment to Vacancies on Committee, Boards and Other Bodies
<b>Director:</b>	Surjit Tour - Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Surjit Tour Surjit_tour@sandwell.gov.uk

### 1 Recommendations







- 1.1 To approve the political balance of the committees, boards and other fora for the remainder of 2021-22, as set out in Appendix A.
- 1.2 To consider revisions to appointments on committees, boards and other bodies.
- 1.3 That subject to 1.2 above, the nominations received be approved and appointed to those vacant bodies with immediate effect.

### 2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 An elected member has changed political party, it is therefore necessary for the Council to consider the constitution and political balance of committees and boards for the remainder of 2021-22 Municipal Year.
- 2.2 Council is also asked to consider any revisions to appointments to committees, boards and other bodies.



### 3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

		The Council's decision-making structures are designed to support the delivery of the Corporate Plan.
		
		

### 4 Context and Key Issues

4.1 Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 provides, amongst other things, that where a local authority is divided into different political groups, it will have regard to the allocation to the different political groups on the Council, of all of those seats on any ordinary committee, sub-committee and Joint Authorities established pursuant to Part IV of the Local Government Act 1985.

4.2 The regulations provide for a political group to comprise two or more elected members of a local authority.

4.3 Notification has been received of 3 groups –

Labour	60
Conservative	9
Sandwell Together	2
Vacant	1
	72

The seats on committees have been allocated according to proportionality rules (as set out in Appendix A).

Following the calculation, there is a reduction of two seats allocated to the Conservative Party.



- 4.4 A political group represented on the Council may choose to allocate a proportion of its allocation of seats to an elected member who is not in a political group on the Council, without affecting proportionality.
- 4.5 It is recommended that the membership of the Health and Wellbeing Board is increased by one voting member to enable Sandwell's faith community to be represented (see appendix). Faith groups were instrumental in providing invaluable support throughout the pandemic, from both a practical perspective and in delivering key messages to the community from trusted sources. There is an opportunity to build on the success and build the relationship with Sandwell's faith sector, by including it in all local decision-making processes and structures, starting with the Health and Wellbeing board. In accordance with S194 of the Health and Social Care Act, the Health and Wellbeing Board was consulted and expressed support for the proposed appointment at its meeting in December 2021.

## 5 Alternative Options

- 5.1 There is no alternative option, the Council has a duty to allocate seats according to political party, in accordance with the Act and appointment of elected members to committees and other/outside bodies can only be made by full Council.

## 6 Implications

<b>Resources:</b>	There are no direct resources arising from this report.
<b>Legal and Governance:</b>	There is a duty on the Council to allocate seats to political groups, as per the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. Council can determine the making of non-executive appointments to committees and other fora. Council is under a legal and constitutional obligation to make appointments to its committees, boards and other fora to ensure the effective operation of the Council's functions and other obligations, duties and responsibilities.
<b>Risk:</b>	There are no direct implications arising from this report.
<b>Equality:</b>	
<b>Health and Wellbeing:</b>	
<b>Social Value</b>	



## 7. Appendices

Appendix A – Political Balance of Committees and Boards

Appendix B – Revisions to appointments to committees/boards/other bodies

## 8. Background Papers

None





**Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council  
Constitution of Boards, Committees and  
Other Fora 2021/22**

	Labour	Conservative	Sandwell Together	Total
<b>Scrutiny Boards</b>				
Budget and Corporate	5	1	0	6
Health and Adult Social Care	9	1	1	11
Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment	10	1	0	11
Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities	10	1	0	11
Children's Services and Education	9	1	1	11
				50
<b>Constitutional and Quasi-Judicial Committees/Panels</b>				
Select Committee for Electoral Participation	4	1	0	5
Select Committee for Policy Review	5	1	1	7
Audit and Risk Assurance Committee	6	1	0	7
Planning Committee	14	2	0	16
Licensing Committee	12	2	1	15
General Purposes and Arbitration Committee	6	1	0	7
Governance and Constitution Review Committee	7	1	0	8
Land and Asset Management Committee	6	1	0	7
Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee	7	1	0	8
Chief Officer Terms and Conditions Committee	6	1	0	7
Emergency Committee	6	1	0	7
				94
	<b>122</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>144</b>

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**Changes to Appointments to Committees/Boards**

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Member</b>
Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee	Councillor W Gill to replace Councillor Chambers
Planning Committee	Councillor Gavan to replace Councillor K Singh
Licensing Committee	Councillor Gavan to replace Councillor K Singh
Governance and Constitution Review Committee	Replace previous committee membership with:- Leader Councillor Piper Councillor Hinchcliff Councillor C S Padda Councillor Rollins Councillor Akpoteni Councillor McVittie Councillor W Gill
Economy, Skills, Transport and the Environment Scrutiny Board	Councillor Chidley to replace Councillor Henlan
Children's Services and Education Scrutiny Board	Councillor Chambers to replace Councillor Henlan
General Purposes and Arbitration Committee	Councillor Gavan to replace Councillor K Singh
Chair of Joint Consultative Panel	Cabinet Member for Community Safety to replace Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources
Select Committee for Electoral Participation	Councillor Moore to replace Councillor K Singh
Cabinet Advisor - Digital Inclusion and 5G	Councillor Smith
Deputy Town Lead (Vice Chair) – Wednesbury	Councillor Chambers to replace Councillor K Singh

## Health and Wellbeing Board (2021/22)

(4 members)  
(Lab 4)

Deputy Leader of the Council  
Cabinet Member for Children and Education  
Cabinet Member for Adults, Social Care and Health  
Cabinet Member for Housing

Non voting members:

Chair – Health & Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board  
Chair – Children’s Services & Education Scrutiny Board

Other Board members as agreed by Council:-

Director – Adult Social Care (without voting rights)  
Director of Children’s Services (without voting rights)  
Director of Public Health (without voting rights)

NHS Commissioning Board:

One representative of the NHS England - Birmingham, Solihull and the Black Country Area Team (without voting rights)

Sandwell and West Birmingham Clinical Commissioning Group:

Four representatives (three votes)

Healthwatch Sandwell:

One representative (with voting rights)

**One representative of Sandwell’s faith sector (with voting rights)**

Black Country Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (without voting rights)

One representative of West Midlands Police (without voting rights)

One representative of West Midlands Fire and Rescue Service (without voting rights)

One representative of Sandwell Council of Voluntary Organisations (without voting rights)

Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust (without voting rights)

Sandwell Children’s Trust (without voting rights)

## Changes to Other Bodies

Organisation	Current Representative(s)	Nomination(s)
Regional Flood and Coastal Committee	Councillor Taylor	Councillor Melia
West Midlands Police & Crime Panel	Leader of the Council Councillor R Jones Councillor Shaeen (ABCA)	Cabinet Member for Community Safety Councillor R Jones Councillor Shaeen (ABCA)
Commonwealth Games Steering Group	Leader Ali Millard K Singh Crompton	Leader Ali Millard Owen Crompton

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## Report to Council

1 March 2022

<b>Subject:</b>	Extension to Six Month Attendance
<b>Director:</b>	Surjit Tour – Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Trisha Newton Senior Democratic Services Officer <a href="mailto:Trisha_Newton@sandwell.gov.uk">Trisha_Newton@sandwell.gov.uk</a>

### 1 Recommendations

- 1.1 Having regard to the circumstances of the absence of Councillor Tagger from Council meetings, consideration be given to the waiving of the requirements of Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 and to approve an extension of the six-month rule of Councillor Tagger for a further period, with effect from 3 March 2022 expiring at the Annual Meeting of Council 2022.

### 2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 An extension of the six-month attendance rule is sought to excuse the non-attendance of Councillor Tagger for a further period due to ill-health.

### 3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

- 3.1 This is a statutory matter for consideration by Council that is not directly linked to the delivery of the corporate plan.



## 4 Context and Key Issues

- 4.1 Further to Council Minute No. 75/21 (26 July 2021), due to Councillor Tagger suffering continued ill-health, a formal request has been received for a further extension to the six-month rule to be approved on the grounds that Councillor Tagger's non-attendance has been due to ill-health and ongoing recovery. Council can only consider such a request where approval is given in relation to the reasons for non-attendance before the end of the relevant six-month period, which will be on 3 March 2022.
- 4.2 Under the circumstances, it is requested that Council approve a further extension of the six-month rule for Councillor Tagger and that Council's best wishes be conveyed to Councillor Tagger for a speedy recovery. If approved, the extension of time would be effective until the 2022 Annual Meeting of Council. This does not, of course, prevent Councillor Tagger from returning to meetings at any time if his health improves sufficiently.

## 5 Alternative Options

- 5.1 There are no alternative options. A formal request has been received and the Council is required to consider it.

## 6 Implications

<b>Resources:</b>	There are no specific resource implications arising from the contents of this report.
<b>Legal and Governance:</b>	Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 states that 'if a member of a Local Authority fails, throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of their last attendance, to attend any meeting of the Authority they will, unless the failure was due to some good reason approved by the Authority before the expiry of that period, cease to be a member of the Authority'. Attendance can be at any committee or sub-committee, or any joint committee, joint board or other body where the functions of the Authority are discharged or who were appointed to advise the Authority on any matter relating to the discharge of their functions.





	<p>The requirement can be waived and the time limit extended if any failure to attend was due to a reason approved by the Authority, in advance of the six month period expiring.</p> <p>Should any councillor lose office through failure to attend for the six month period, the disqualification cannot be overcome by the councillor subsequently resuming attendance nor can retrospective approval of the Council be sought for an extension in time.</p>
<b>Risk:</b>	If the Council decided not to approve an extension a casual vacancy would arise.
<b>Equality:</b>	There are no equality implications arising from the contents of this report.
<b>Health and Wellbeing:</b>	There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from the contents of this report.

## Surjit Tour

Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer



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## Minutes of The Cabinet

**Wednesday 12 January 2022 at 3.30pm  
in the Council Chamber, Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

**Present:** Councillor Carmichael (Leader of the Council);  
Councillors Ahmed, Crompton Hartwell, I Padda, Piper and  
Simms.

**Officers:** Kim Bromley-Derry (Interim Chief Executive), Simone Hines  
(Director of Finance), Michael Jarrett (Director of Children  
and Education), Tony McGovern (Director of Regeneration  
and Growth), Surjit Tour (Director of Law and Governance  
and Monitoring Officer) and Suky Suthi-Nagra (Democratic  
Services Manager).

### 1/22 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bostan, L  
Giles, Millard, Moore and Shackleton.

### 2/22 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no interests declared at the meeting.

### 3/22 **Minutes**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 15  
December 2021 be confirmed as a correct record.



## Additional Items of Business

Two additional items of business were considered:-

5/22 (a)

### **Business Rates Covid Additional Relief Fund**

Approval was sought for Sandwell's policy to administer the Business Rates Covid Additional Relief Fund (CARF) arising from new regulations introduced through the Government's Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

#### **Reason for Decision**

The policy would ensure businesses received the financial support they were entitled to. The Council intended to make the CARF scheme as simple as possible and make the awards without the need for businesses to apply. Sandwell Council would therefore, based upon the guidance issued by the government, identify the businesses entitled to the CARF and then award relief directly to their business rates accounts. This would ensure the financial support would be paid to businesses a lot quicker than via an application process. Furthermore, in view of the tight deadlines to expend the grant funding, a decision was required urgently.

#### **Alternative Options Considered**

As an alternative to the direct award of CARF, an application process would be implemented which would enable those businesses who felt they might qualify for the relief to apply via an online form.

This would delay getting the financial support out to the businesses who required this financial support and the potential for businesses to miss out on the support by not applying.

As any awards given out were reimbursed to the Council in the form of a Section 31 grant, it was in Sandwell Council's own interests and local businesses interest to make these awards as quickly and efficiently as possible.



## Agreed:-

- (1) that Sandwell's policy for administering the Business Rates Covid Additional Relief Fund (CARF) arising from new regulations introduced through the Government's Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities be approved;
- (2) that details of the sum of £7,582,533 that Sandwell has received to support businesses that we identify as meeting the eligible criteria be noted;
- (3) that the Director of Finance be authorised to make any changes necessary to the Business Rates Covid Additional Relief Fund policy in order to ensure all the funding is expended within the time frame.

### 6/22 (b) **Additional Restrictions Grant 3**

Approval was sought for Sandwell's policy to administer the Additional Restrictions Grant 3 (ARG 3) arising from 21 December 2021 announcement from Government to the introduction of grant support for hospitality and leisure businesses in England.

#### **Reason for Decision**

On 21 December 2021, the Government announced that a further £102 million would be made available for local authorities, through a top-up to the Additional Restrictions Grant.

The ARG funding scheme aimed to support businesses severely impacted by coronavirus restrictions and the rise of the Omicron variant, when most needed.

All funding must be spent by the 31 March 2022 and as such, the way in which the council utilised this funding must be aligned to available resources; the council's decision-making processes; and procurement regulations. Flexibility would also be required to enable the council to respond to any changing circumstances over the grant period and therefore this was the reason for the urgent decision.



## Alternative Options Considered

As the government had expressed their preferences on this funding, there was minimal scope for alternative options. Whilst there was one alternative to increase both grant sizes by £500; to £2500 and £5500 respectively, this would result in less grants being available overall and fewer local businesses would also benefit as a result.

### Agreed:-

- (1) that approval be given to Sandwell's policy for administering the Additional Restrictions Grant 3 (ARG 3) arising from 21 December 2021 announcement from Government to the introduction of grant support for hospitality and leisure businesses in England;
- (2) that the Director for Regeneration and Growth in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Growth and the Director of Finance, be authorised to allocate and administer £406,000 of Additional Restriction Grants 3;
- (3) that the Director of Regeneration and Growth be authorised to make any changes necessary to the Additional Restriction Grants policy in order to ensure all the funding is expended within the time frame.

7/22

## Determination of Admission Arrangements for Sandwell's Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools for 2023/24

Approval was sought for the publication of the Council's Admission Arrangements for 2023/24 academic year for places in all community and voluntary controlled schools.

Questions were asked by Chair of the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board regarding the process and criteria of admissions of children to Sandwell schools.



In response, the Cabinet for Children and Education confirmed that whilst a school may indicate a place available at its school at a particular point in time, when a formal application to the Admissions Team was required, in accordance with the national School Admissions Code, the Authority must then consider all current applications received from parents/carers for that school. Applications were then prioritised against the school's published admission criteria. A child may not secure a place if there was an alternative child who met a higher admission criteria or lived closer to the school.

### **Reasons for Decision**

The Council must abide by the requirements of the School Admissions Code and associated regulations and determine admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools each year. The proposed arrangements were in line with the requirements of the Admissions Code.

The Admissions Code also required the Council to consult governing bodies of community and voluntary controlled schools where it proposed either to increase or keep the same Published Admission Number (PAN).

### **Alternative Options**

There was no alternative option open to the Council in relation to its responsibilities for agreeing and publishing oversubscription criteria for community and voluntary controlled schools.

**Agreed** that the Director of Children and Education, in accordance with the School Admissions Code 2021, be authorised to publish the Local Authority's Admission Arrangements for 2023/24 academic year for places in all community and voluntary controlled schools as now submitted.

8/22

### **Request to procure for the Holiday Activity and Food Programme 2022-2023**

Approval was sought to undertake a procurement exercise for holiday activity provision via the Holiday Activity and Food programme 2022-2023 to a maximum value of £360,000.



Additionally, approval was sought to authorise the Director of Children and Education to request an exemption to the Council's Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules to contract an existing schools catering provider for the Holiday Activity and Food programme 2022-2023 to the maximum value of £144,000.

### **Reasons for Decision**

The Department for Education had recently informed all local authorities in England that the Holiday Activity and Food programme would now be funded for an additional three years, from 2022 – 2025.

Approval was therefore requested to undertake a procurement process for holiday activity provision for centralised activity providers at a maximum value of £360,000 and to undertake an exemption to procurement procedures to contract an existing centralised meal provider at a cost of £144,000. Both decisions would require Cabinet approval in order to meet the procurement and contracting regulations in order to meet the timescales to enable live delivery for Easter 2022.

### **Alternative Options**

There were no viable alternative options as the Holiday Activity and Food programme 2022 would continue investing through a grant making scheme to support the voluntary and community sector to deliver holiday activity in communities. Local voluntary and community sector capacity was limited and would not meet the sufficiency of places that were required to offer that exceeded 17,500 children currently in receipt of benefit related free school meals.

A procurement process was undertaken for our current schools catering provider. It identified value for money, local jobs for local people and the provider had the skills, knowledge and experience to deliver against the School Food Standards which was a requirement of the grant.





## Agreed:-

- (1) that the Director of Children and Education be authorised, in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer, to undertake a procurement exercise for holiday activity provision via the Holiday Activity and Food programme 2022-2023 to a maximum value of £360,000;
- (2) that the Director of Children and Education be authorised to request an exemption to the Council's Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules to contract an existing schools catering provider for the Holiday Activity and Food programme 2022-2023 to the maximum value of £144,000.

9/22

### **Mobysoft Limited- RentSense Software Contract**

Approval was sought to award a contract for Mobysoft's RentSense product to deliver an efficient and effective arrears recovery process.

Whilst the Chair of the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board agreed that the software was multi-purpose, he questioned whether the contract had been put out to tender and how many companies had submitted bids.

In response, the Cabinet Member for Housing stated that the contract had not been put out to tender and had been done as an exemption to procurement rules as there were no other suppliers in the market who could offer the Council this product and service. The return on investment for the contract had been proven in the initial two-year contract procured from Mobysoft which was now coming to an end.



Furthermore, officers had benchmarked what was being paid for the software and service with other Mobysoft Customers and were satisfied that Sandwell Council were getting value for money. The efficiency gains included an increased capacity within our existing team resources which had freed them from the manual checking of rent accounts ensuring their time and expertise was focused on interventions to collect rent and providing advice and assistance to tenants in financial hardship, so they could maintain their tenancies.

## Reasons for Decision

Mobysoft's RentSense product would enable the service to deliver an efficient and effective arrears recovery process that maximised cash collection, prevented tenants from getting into debt, supported tenancy sustainment and reduced homelessness.

The value and return on investment had clearly been demonstrated during the existing contract term in delivering greater caseload accuracy, a more manageable caseload enabling officers to focus on tenants most in need, reduced arrears, fewer tenants in debt, fewer evictions and in supporting tenant wellbeing and tenancy sustainment.

## Alternative Options Considered

Option 1 – Use Capita's Open Housing Management System: there was no guarantee moving forward that any future version upgrade would deliver on the functionality required to reduce arrears, increase cash collection and manage the escalating demands of universal credit.

Option 2 - Procure a new Housing Management System: The current contract with Capita expired March 2023 and approval was being sought to commence a system review. The end to end process to review, procure and implement a new housing management system would not be completed until approximately 2025.



Option 3 - Enter into a new contract with Mobysoft Limited:  
This would not require any additional resources and Mobysoft had delivered on the projected outcomes which included a reduced arrears caseload, capacity gain enabling officers to focus on complex arrears cases and mitigate the impact of universal credit, increased cash collection and a reduction in arrears.

**Agreed:-**

- (1) that the Director of Housing be authorised to enter into a direct award contract via Crown Commercial Services G-Cloud Framework Agreement with Mobysoft Limited for RentSense software for a period of two years with the option to extend for a further two years when the existing contract expires on 23 February 2022 given no further extension provision exists within the current contract, at a total cost of £905,356, should the two year option to extend be exercised;
- (2) that in connection with Resolution (1) above, the Director of Housing be authorised to enter into a new two-year contract with the option to extend for a further two years with Mobysoft Limited from 24 February 2022 to 23 February 2026;
- (3) that the Director – Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer be authorised to execute any documentation necessary to enable the course of action referred to in Resolution (1) above;
- (4) that any necessary exemptions be made to the Council’s Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules to enable the course of action referred to in Resolutions (1) and (2) above to proceed.



Consideration was given to proposals in relation to travel arrangements for children with special educational needs and disabilities to facilitate their attendance at an appropriate education provision.

It was now proposed to:-

- (i) abandon the mini-competition undertaken under the new Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS)
- (ii) extend the existing arrangements to ensure the continued delivery of this essential service, with the appropriate additional safeguards
- (iii) embark on the procurement of a framework agreement with measures and provisions in place to ensure the needs and priorities of the Council and the service users are most appropriately and fully met, with support (if required) by using the new DPS for additional ad-hoc service.

The Chair of Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board, on behalf of the Chair of Children's Services and Education Scrutiny Board, asked the relevant Cabinet Member several questions regarding procurement rules.

In response, the Cabinet Member for Children and Education stated that the original bidders for the DPS contract would be informed following the decision made by Cabinet. Furthermore, the new procurement exercise would begin almost immediately to ensure operators would be invited to tender for the new framework early February with the aim of it being agreed by late April. The successful operators would then be invited to bid for the new contracts, with a view to seeking Cabinet approval to award new contracts in early June ensuring sufficient lead in time for new arrangements for families, schools and operators.

The Cabinet Member for Children and Education also stated the new procurement rules included provision to address the concerns and issues identified, and to deliver the best solution for service users and their families, provide sufficient assurances for the Council around quality of provision and deliver the most economical and sustainable solution.



## Reasons for Decision

The Council had a duty and had powers to make particular travel arrangements for children with special educational needs and disabilities to facilitate their attendance at an appropriate education provision.

## Alternative Options

Option 1 – Running a new mini-competition under the New DPS: A new mini-competition could not be split into smaller lots, for shorter periods, so would not remedy all the issues arising and raised during the review process, particularly in relation to the mini-competition again producing only two successful bidders.

Option 2 - Continue to use the existing arrangements, under the previous DPS: it was possible for the Council to extend the previous DPS (completed in 2018), however this would not address the concerns and issues raised recently and would not positively contribute to the Council's current priorities.

Option 3 – Procure a new Fixed Term Service Contract This would be the least flexible option and high risk in terms of service delivery due to the rigid nature of a fixed term contract. Once a fixed term contract had been let, no further suppliers could be added to the contract, therefore should any suppliers wish to leave the contract, there would be no mechanism available to replace them with an alternative supplier.

## Agreed:-

- (1) that the Director of Children and Education, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer and Cabinet Member for Children and Education, be authorised to:
  - (a) abandon the mini-competition undertaken under the Dynamic Purchasing System (the new DPS), pursuant to which the contract award decision was deferred by Cabinet at its meeting on 16 June 2021 and inform all operators who are on the new DPS of the decision to abandon this process;



- (b) extend the existing contracts with providers for the continued provision of SEND transport beyond the current expiry date of 23 February 2022 until 21 July 2022, in accordance with the terms of those contracts, to ensure/enable continuity of service pending the award of new contracts, with any extension to be subject to the additional checks and balances on providers as approved by Cabinet on the 21 July 2021;
  - (c) tender any new SEND Transport work or any SEND Transport work that is not undertaken by operators using the current DPS Framework to cover the period 23 February to 21 July 2022;
  - (d) agree any necessary exemptions pursuant to the Council's Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules to enable the course of action referred to in Resolutions 1(b) and 1(c) above to proceed;
- (2) that in connection with Resolution 1 (a-d) above, the Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer be authorised to agree, enter into and/or execute under seal (if necessary) all requisite contracts and ancillary documentation in relation to the extension of the contracts for the continued provision of Sandwell's SEND transport;
- (3) that the Director of Children and Education, in consultation with the Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer, be authorised to (i) undertake a new procurement exercise to establish a new Framework Agreement to award new contracts for SEND Transport from 1 September 2022 to July 2024 (inclusive), and (ii) undertake, if necessary, the procurement of any new additional ad-hoc SEND Transport work arising during this period, not covered by the new contracts awarded under (i) using a new Dynamic Purchasing System;



- (4) that the Director of Children and Education and the Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer be authorised to agree, enter into and execute all requisite contracts and documentation (including under seal) in relation to the provision of SEND Transport work pursuant to the procurement exercises referred to at Resolution (3) above, and award contracts to all successful bidders as appropriate/required.

## 11/22 **Schools Funding 2022/2023**

Approval was sought for the Schools Funding 2022/23 proposals.

On behalf of the Chair of Children’s Services and Education Scrutiny Board, the Chair of Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board asked whether extra monies had been made available to school budgets to help bridge the gap/for levelling up etc to reduce the long-term effects on children’s development and education and whether extra money was likely to come from the government.

In response, the Cabinet Member for Children and Education stated that additional funding had been received and had been passed onto maintained schools such as Covid -19 Catch up premium, Covid-19 Summer school programme, school led tutoring programme, Senior mental Health Leads training (this funding would be paid in January 2022 to specific schools). The government had stated they would be increasing schools funding in 2023/24; however, no announcements had yet been made as to the actual funding to be received.

### **Reason for Decision**

The Schools Revenue Funding 2022/2023 – Operational Guide required the Council to engage in open and transparent consultation with maintained schools and academies in their area, as well as with their respective schools’ forum about any changes to the local funding formula, including the principles adopted and any movement of funds between blocks.



The Council was responsible for making the final decisions on the formula and for ensuring there was sufficient time to gain political approval before the schools funding model (Authority Proforma Tool – APT) deadline in January 2022.

## Alternative Options

Local Authority Funding Formula

Option 1 - Stepped increase to the 2022/23 Local authority model - Increase of the Primary: Secondary Ratio to 1:1.29 (3rd Year)

Option 2 - Secondary Schools receive 1% more above the overall increase in funding

Option 3: National Funding Formula Factor Values

Pupil Number Growth Fund

### Agreed:-

- (1) that in respect of the 2022/2023 schools funding formula for Sandwell schools, the outcome of the consultation proposals following review by the Schools Forum, as shown in Appendix 1 be considered and approved as follows:
  - (a) the funding formula option 1; a primary: secondary ratio of 1:1.29 be adopted;
  - (b) a minimum funding guarantee of at least 0.5% and up to 2.0% be set;
  - (c) the pupil number growth fund be set at £1.3m as recommended by Schools Forum;





- (2) that In respect of the proposal to top slice the dedicated schools grant (DSG) to create a growth fund for 2022/23 of £1.300m, this be ring fenced for the purposes of supporting growth in pre-16 pupil numbers to meet basic need, additional classes need to meet infant class size regulation and to meet the costs necessary for new schools, including the lead-in costs, post start-up costs and any diseconomy of scale costs;
- (3) that in respect of the de-delegated budgets for Sandwell maintained schools, the outcome of the consultation proposals as agreed by the Schools Forum for 2022/23 be noted;
- (4) that in respect of the education functions budgets for Sandwell maintained schools, the outcome of the consultation proposals as agreed by the Schools Forum for 2022/23 be noted;
- (5) that in respect of the central schools' services block and the line by line expenditure as agreed by the Schools Forum for 2022/23 as now submitted be approved.
- (6) that the provisional 2022/2023 schools funding formula values as outlined below are approved:

Item	Primary	Secondary
Primary: Secondary Ratio	1	1.29
Basic Entitlement	£3,512	£4,977
<b>Free School Meals</b>	<b>To be checked by the DfE and confirmed with DCS and S151 Officer</b>	
<b>Free School Meals – Ever 6</b>		
<b>IDACI Band E</b>	£77	£350



<b>IDACI Band D</b>	£485	£676
IDACI Band C	£551	£771
IDACI Band B	£602	£855
IDACI Band A	£630	£900
Prior Attainment	£1,225	£1,776
English as an Additional Language (EAL) (2 years)	£846	£1,227
Lump Sum	£129,057	£129,057
Split Site	£129,057	£129,057
Rates	Actual	Actual
Private Finance Initiative (PFI)	Actual	Actual
Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG)	<b>To be checked by the DfE and confirmed with DCS and S151 Officer</b>	

- (5) that the Director of Children and Education, in conjunction with the Section 151 Officer, be authorised to approve the 2022/2023 schools funding formula following confirmation of the funding allocation from the Department for Education.

12/22

## Recommendations of the Scrutiny Review of Elective Home Education

The Cabinet considered the recommendations from the Children's Services and Education Scrutiny Board in respect of the Elective Home Education Working Group.



The Cabinet Member for Children and Education, on behalf of the Cabinet, submitted her thanks to the Children and Education Scrutiny Board for considering this matter.

### **Reasons for Decision**

The findings reflected wider national concerns that the Association Directors of Children's Services (ADCS) and Association of Elective Home Education Professionals (AEHEP) had made to the Government relating to the need to strengthen the legislation, to provide further safeguards for children who were Elective Home Educated (EHE) and the need to provide funding to local authorities work with EHE children through Designated School Grant (DSG).

The Cabinet was requested to consider the recommendations and determine what action it wished to take. In accordance with the Localism Act 2011, the Cabinet was requested to respond to the recommendations of the scrutiny board within two months, setting out any approved recommendations and how they would be implemented. Progress against these recommendations would be monitored by the Children and Education Scrutiny Board.

### **Alternative Options**

The purpose of the review was to consider current support for Elective Home Education and if it met the needs of young people and parents, findings would inform if the Council should consider alternative options.

#### **Agreed:-**

- (1) that, the Cabinet consider the following recommendations from the Children's Services and Education Scrutiny Board in respect of the Elective Home Education Working Group:
  - (a) The Elective Home Education (EHE) resource pack be reviewed and edited to make it more accessible to parents;
  - (b) The EHE website be refreshed to provide information, guides and links to other information and links to EHE forums for advice and support;



- (c) To identify resource and support within the Council to facilitate the refresh;
  - (d) That additional spaces and facilities be identified for EHE groups to meet and carry out activities, and that competitive rates for use of those facilities be negotiated for EHE group use;
  - (e) That the Council develop a mechanism for resources to be shared for EHE, such as a hub for books or other educational material to be kept;
  - (f) That youth social networks, such as 'Just Youth', be promoted on the EHE website for users to find out what's on in Sandwell for young people and to encourage engagement;
  - (g) To raise awareness of the Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Education and Health Care Plans (EHCP) support available and access for children;
  - (h) That the Cabinet Member for Children and Education and the Director of Children's Services, on behalf of the Council, be requested to write to the Secretary of State for Education, Nadhim Zahawi and to the Parliamentary Select Committee Inquiry of Home Education, to register this Council's findings from the EHE review which highlights the need for regulation and resources for Elective Home Education; and to endorse a letter from the Association of EHE Professionals which asks whether consideration is being given to strengthening the legislation to provide further safeguards for children who are EHE.
- (2) that, in connection with Resolution (1) above, a further report be submitted to the Children's Services and Education Scrutiny Board, on the decision of Cabinet.



13/22

## Exclusion of the Public and Press

**Resolved** that the public and press be excluded from the rest of the meeting to avoid the possible disclosure of exempt information under paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, relating to the financial and business affairs of any person, including the authority holding that information.

14/22

## Procurement of a new Asset Management Database

Consideration was given to proposals for a new IT system (asset database) to enable all of the Council's property and finance information to be managed effectively.

The Council owned and managed circa 4000 property assets. In a typical year, it collected and processed in excess of a thousand rental receipts and made thousands of payments to contractors and suppliers. It undertook approximately 100 rent reviews each year, granted 25 to 30 new leases and would see around 60 leases expire in a typical year. In order to manage all of this effectively and efficiently, it was crucial that accurate and up-to-date information was held on the entire estate which provided links to other Council software, including Building Services payment systems and building records, terrier / land ownership records, etc.

When assets were being valued, the valuers needed access to all the above information and the auditors needed to be satisfied that the information was accurate, up-to-date and easily available in order to be satisfied that the valuations were robust.

### Reasons for Decision

Grant Thornton's March 2021 Audit Findings Report highlighted an urgent need to improve the Council's systems and practices particularly with regard to the maintenance of property information.



The Council's current system (Atrium) would cease to be operational from December 2022 and a replacement was therefore sought.

It was agreed to approve the acquisition of a new IT system (asset database) to enable all the Council's property and finance information to be managed effectively.

### **Alternative Options**

An options appraisal was considered in order to determine the best course of action for the Council.

- Staying with the current provider was considered, as data migration would be easier. However, given the fundamental change to their offer and their charges, a direct award would not comply with procurement rules.
- Manage without a system. The council could not effectively manage the property estate without a system to replace.
- Full OJEU procurement had been considered, but the timescales were prohibitive.

### **Agreed:-**

- (1) that approval be given to the acquisition of a new IT system (asset database) to enable all the Council's property and finance information to be managed effectively;
- (2) that in connection with Resolution (1) above, the Director of Regeneration and Growth and the Director of Finance be authorised to commence a procurement process using the Crown Commercial Services G-Cloud 12 Framework or such other process as the Director of Regeneration and Growth and the Director of Finance Section 151 Officer considers appropriate;



- (3) that the Director of Regeneration and Growth and the Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer be authorised to oversee the procurement process for the acquisition of a new IT system (asset database) to enable all the Council's property and finance information and to approve the selection of a system provider, to approve the terms of the contract and to award and enter into contract with the selected provider;
- (4) that an exemption, in accordance with the Council's Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules (Rule 15), be made in the absence of a minimum of 3 tenders being obtained;
- (5) that the Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer be authorised to execute any documentation necessary to enable the course of action referred to in Resolution (3) above to proceed.

15/22

## Agreement with JKA

Consideration was given to proposals in relation to the option agreement with the developer for the Lion Farm site, Oldbury.

### Reasons for Decision

The Council entered into an Agreement with JKA (Developer) in 2013 to explore the establishment of a Retail Outlet Village on the Lion Farm site in Oldbury. Consideration was now given to resolve the long-term impasse with the developer in relation to the Option Agreement for the Lion Farm site and as part of the Action Plan to implement the recommendations of the recently published Grant Thornton report which identified this issue for resolution.

Having considered the options agreement, the Cabinet was of the view that the Council should trigger the Arbitration Clause of the existing Agreement to refer the matter for Expert Determination in order to resolve the current impasse.



## Alternative Options

An options appraisal was considered in order to determine the best course of action for the Council. It was agreed to trigger the Arbitration Clause of the existing Agreement to refer the matter for Expert Determination.

### Agreed:-

- (1) that in order to resolve the long-term impasse with the developer in relation to the Option Agreement for the Lion Farm site, approval be given to Option 2: Trigger the Arbitration Clause of the existing Agreement;
- (2) that in connection with Resolution (1), the Director of Regeneration and Growth and the Director – Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer be authorised to take the necessary actions in relation to legal processes and documentation to implement the preferred option;
- (3) that the Director of Regeneration and Growth a be authorised to submit a further detailed report on the implementation of the preferred option including the approval of any specific financial implications.

Meeting ended at 4.12pm.

Contact: [democratic\\_services@sandwell.gov.uk](mailto:democratic_services@sandwell.gov.uk)





# Minutes of The Cabinet

**9 February 2022 at 3.30pm  
at Council Chamber, Sandwell Council House**

**Present:** Councillor Carmichael (Leader of the Council)  
Councillors Ahmed, Hartwell, Millard, I Padda, Piper and  
Simms.

**Also present:** Councillors E M Giles, Moore and Shackleton.

**Officers:** Kim Bromley-Derry (Interim Chief Executive), Rashpal  
Bishop (Director of Adult Social Care), Neil Cox (Director of  
Business Change and Strategy), Alice Davey (Director of  
Borough Economy), Gillian Douglas (Director of Housing),  
Simone Hines (Director of Finance), Michael Jarrett (Director  
of Children and Education), Tony McGovern (Director of  
Regeneration and Growth), Lisa McNally (Director of Public  
Health), Surjit Tour (Director of Law and Governance and  
Monitoring Officer), Sue Stanhope (Interim Director of  
Human Resources), Elaine Newsome (Service Manager –  
Democracy) and Suky Suthi-Nagra (Democratic Services  
Manager).

## 16/22 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bostan and  
Crompton, L Giles and Mabena.



## 17/22 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Piper declared a personal interest in Minute No. 33/22 (Sandwell Community Dementia Support Service) on the basis that he was a trustee of a dementia charity.

Councillor Carmichael declared a pecuniary interest in Minute No. 32/22 (Sandwell Leisure Trust Business Plan 2021-24) on the basis that her son was an employee of Sandwell Leisure Trust.

## 18/22 **Minutes**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

## 19/22 **Additional Item of Business**

There were no additional items of business to consider.

## 20/22 **West Bromwich Interim Planning Statement (IPS) and West Bromwich Masterplan (Masterplan)**

Consideration was given to the outcome of the public consultation on the West Bromwich Interim Planning Statement (IPS) and West Bromwich Masterplan (Masterplan) and the response to the representations received.

Approval was sought for the West Bromwich Interim Planning Statement (IPS) and West Bromwich Masterplan (Masterplan) documents.

The Chair of the Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board asked questions regarding plans in place to secure sufficient funding to deliver the masterplan, timescales for completion of a new market/hub area and where existing indoor market stall holders would be relocated whilst works on new market area were carried out.



In response, the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Growth stated that regarding the funding the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) had expressed a willingness in principle to provide support, but the nature and timing of their involvement was dependent on further detailed and site-specific viability work which needed to take place. Officers were considering options to procure a development partner to work with the council on the delivery of the masterplan. A proposal on this would be brought to Cabinet during 2022. It was envisaged that once the development partner was in place it would be possible to be more specific about precise requirements, which would enable discussions with WMCA to progress.

Regarding the timescales for completion of the new market area, the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Growth confirmed that the Council had acquired the former Argos units and a business plan was being prepared for the conversion of that space into a new indoor market. It was intended that the indoor market would continue to operate in its current location until the new space was ready. Specific timings for the delivery of the wider community hub area had not been determined as this would need to be considered as part of the wider masterplan delivery strategy.

The Chair of the Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board asked further questions regarding whether there were plans in place to replace the current paving on the main high street with better material as the existing paving was of poor quality and very difficult to keep clean, requiring BID levy to cover the extra costs of jet washing.

In response, the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Growth stated that currently, the Council was at the masterplan stage, meaning no details around specific material choices had been agreed. Material choices would form an important part of the schemes at future stages and the Council was willing to learn from other local authorities' public realm schemes, including materials used in those schemes, to help inform its public realm material choices in the future.



The Chair of the Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board enquired whether a separate masterplan was envisaged for each of the other town centres in the borough. The Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Growth responded that there was currently no intention to develop this type of masterplan in all other town centres in the Borough, although it was possible that some towns would require masterplans in the future. Smethwick and Rowley Regis already had Town Investments Plans that were produced to support the Towns Fund submissions, and whilst these documents were not masterplans, they did set out areas for future investment. Also, there was a clear need to ensure regeneration opportunities in our other towns were maximised and a borough wide regeneration strategy and pipeline was therefore to be considered by Cabinet in March. This would set out some of the actions needed to ensure our town centres did not experience further decline.

### **Reason for Decision**

Following public consultation, approval of the West Bromwich Interim Planning Statement (IPS) and associated West Bromwich Masterplan (the Masterplan) would provide the Council with an updated framework to guide the further regeneration of West Bromwich, the Borough's Strategic Centre. The documents were to bridge the gap between the current statutory Local Plan document, the 2012 West Bromwich Area Action Plan, and its replacement expected to be adopted in 2024.

### **Alternative Options Considered**

To not proceed with endorsing the West Bromwich Interim Planning Statement (IPS) and West Bromwich Masterplan was not the preferred option as the existing development planning framework, as set out in the West Bromwich Area Action Plan, was becoming increasingly out of date. This would diminish the prospects of securing investment and development for the continued regeneration of West Bromwich.

It was considered that not providing an IPS and Masterplan would mean this gap between the existing Local Plan and the WBAAP, and its revised version, after 2024 at the earliest, would be too great. The IPS and Masterplan would form a material planning consideration that could fill this gap.



## Agreed:-

- (1) that the outcome of the public consultation and the response to the representations received in relation to West Bromwich Interim Planning Statement (IPS) and West Bromwich Masterplan (Masterplan) be noted;
- (2) that the West Bromwich Interim Planning Statement and West Bromwich Masterplan be approved.

21/22

## Re-commissioning Sandwell Adult Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services

Approval was sought for the Director of Public Health to be authorised to procure Adult Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services, with the contract commencing from 1 February 2023 for a period of three years to 31 January 2026 with the option to extend up to a further 2 years (until 31 January 2028).

Approval was also sought for the Director of Public Health to be authorised, in relation to the above contract, to include any future Drug Strategy monies awarded from National Government into the contract value, to enable the delivery of the 2021 Drug Strategy ambitions towards a delivering a world class treatment system.

It was reported that Sandwell was among the 10 local authorities with the lowest drug related deaths in the country and had won multiple awards for its drug and alcohol treatment services. It was deemed important that this positive trend was continued and re-commissioning of the contract for these services was important in this respect.

### Reason for Decision

Procurement of Adult Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services would ensure that support for Sandwell residents continued to be available beyond the currently commissioned service which was due to end on 31 January 2023.



Whilst work to address the harms from substance misuse had resulted in some real successes for the local population, including one of the lowest drug related deaths in the country, the provision of well-delivered evidence-based community treatment provision remained integral to continuing such efforts. Furthermore, conditions attached to use of the Public Health Grant required that local areas must: “have regard to the need to improve the take up of, and outcomes from, its drug and alcohol misuse treatment services”.

### **Alternative Options Considered**

To not approve the procurement of Adult Drug and Alcohol Service provision beyond 31 January 2023 would impact health outcomes (not just of substance misusers themselves but the health of others through secondary harms) and further exacerbate health inequalities for the most disadvantaged groups within the borough. This would be inadvisable given the impact across the wider health and criminal justice system due to substance misuse.

#### **Agreed:-**

- (1) that approval be given to re-commission Adult Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services ensuring future delivery of support for Sandwell residents;
- (2) that the Director of Public Health be authorised to commence a procurement process for the provision of Adult Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services to commence 1 February 2023 for a period of 3 years with the option to extend for up to a further 2 years;
- (3) that in connection with Resolution (2) above, the Director of Public Health be authorised to include any future Drug Strategy monies awarded from National Government into the contract value to enable delivery of the 2021 Drug Strategy ambitions towards a delivering a world class treatment system;
- (4) that the Director of Public Health be authorised to award a contract and enter into a contract with the successful bidder, on terms to be agreed by the Director of Public Health, for the provision of Adult



Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services to commence on 1 February 2023 for a period of 3 years to 31 January 2026 with the option to extend up to a further 2 years (until 31st January 2028);

- (5) that an exemption to rule 8.7 of the Council's Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules be made to allow a contract to be awarded to a successful tenderer in the event that the required minimum number of tenders are not received;
- (6) that the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adults, Social Care and Health, be authorised to make variations to the Contract up to a maximum of 10% of the Contract value, should they be necessitated;
- (7) that the Director of Law and Governance be authorised to execute any documentation necessary to give effect to the proposals set out in (1) – (6) above for the provision of Adult Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services.

22/22

### **Appointment of an Executive Director to Sandwell Children's Trust Ltd**

Approval was sought to appoint Teodora Bot as an executive director of Sandwell Children's Trust Ltd following her appointment as Director of Practice, Quality and Partnerships for the Trust.

#### **Reason for Decision**

There were currently only two executive directors in place, one of which was the Chief Executive of the Trust. The appointment of Teodora Bot as the third executive director would bring the composition of Sandwell Children's Trust board into alignment with the Governance Side Agreement between the Council and Department for Education (DfE).



The Council had written to the Secretary of State to consult with them prior to confirming its decision. The Department for Education (DfE) officials had confirmed by email that the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families had approved the recommendation.

### **Alternative Options Considered**

The alternative option would be for the Director of Practice, Quality and Partnerships to not be appointed as a company director. However, this would mean the composition of the board of directors was other than that as set out in the Governance Side Agreement and Articles of Association.

### **Agreed:-**

- (1) that the Cabinet, as the decision maker for the Council in its capacity as sole owner of Sandwell Children's Trust (SCT):
  - (a) the completed sequence of events that were contractually required to appoint an executive director of Sandwell Children's Trust Ltd be noted;
  - (b) the response from the Secretary of State be noted and taken into account in its decision-making;
  - (c) Teodora Bot, Director of Practice, Quality and Partnerships, be appointed as an executive director of Sandwell Children's Trust Ltd.

23/22

### **Award a Contract for Highway Surfacing and Associated Works**

Approval was sought for Sandwell MBC to work in collaboration with Dudley MBC and Wolverhampton City Council, with Dudley acting as the lead Authority, to procure a contract for the provision of highway surfacing and associated works.





In response to a question by the Chair of Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board regarding slabbed footways and steps taken to planned footway maintenance priorities with ward members, the Cabinet Member for Community Safety stated, on behalf of Cabinet Member for Environment, that the contract recommended for approval in the report provided only for construction work to be undertaken, which would allow for work to be undertaken on all types of footway including locations with existing slabbed footways. Priorities were established separately in an equitable way based on regular borough wide condition surveys that provided the evidence for an impartial comparison across 1,400 km of footways in all wards. Ward members were advised of the work programme for the priority locations within their area in advance of construction and provided with information releases before they were made public.

Routine safety inspections were carried out on all streets around Sandwell at least annually. Where defects had been identified, these were classified according to degree of hazard. Prior to work taking place, where there were plans to remove slabbed footways, ward members would be advised that the work would see slabbed footways replaced with tarmac.

The Chair of Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment also enquired whether the Council considered purchasing JCB PotholePro machines to improve its efficiency in dealing with potholes.

In response, Cabinet Member for Community Safety stated, on behalf of Cabinet Member for Environment, that Sandwell Highway Officers had always been horizon scanning for innovative new products or tools to help increase efficiency and effectiveness. The Highway Service was aware of the use of the JCB PotholePro by Stoke City and other Councils, including Coventry and were monitoring the outcome these trials. Sandwell had also seen similar technology at various industry demonstrations.

These were, however, expensive machines costing in the region of £150k to £200k each. They could be cost effective in improving the speed of maintenance and/or productivity of pothole repairs in the right situation. In Sandwell, the Highway Service already repaired 96% of defects on time (Highways Services Performance



Summary Report- Quarter 3 2021/22), meaning little scope to improve the speed of defect repairs. There was no significant backlog of potholes to repair either. Equipment like the JCB PotholePro was most effective at delivering significant productivity benefits where authorities had substantial programmes of potholes to address. Typically, these machines could complete 3 years of pothole repairs in 4 months. Sandwell did not have the number of potholes to repair that would make deployment of this type of machine beneficial. Highway Service would continue to monitor trials at other local authorities, although currently there were no plans to purchase a JCB PotholePro device.

### **Reason for Decision**

The Council had a statutory duty under section 41 of The Highways Act 1980 to maintain highways that were maintainable at the public expense.

To meet this duty, routine highway maintenance works had been programmed such as patching for minor defects or wider resurfacing and reconstruction works where required.

### **Alternative Options Considered**

There were no other viable and affordable alternatives to enable effective and efficient highway surfacing and associated works.

#### **Agreed:-**

- (1) that approval be given to Sandwell MBC working in collaboration with Dudley MBC and Wolverhampton City Council, with Dudley acting as the lead Authority, to procure a contract for the provision of highway surfacing and associated works;
- (2) that the Director of Borough Economy be authorised to accept tenders and award the recommended collaborative contract for the provision of highway surfacing and associated works in support of Sandwell's annual planned highway maintenance programme, following a compliant competitive tender process;



- (3) that the Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer be authorised to execute any documentation necessary to enable the recommended course of action;
- (4) that any necessary exemptions be made to the Council's Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules to enable the recommended course of action referred to proceed.

24/22

### **Revocation of Highway Improvement Lines - A41 Birmingham Road, West Bromwich**

Approval was sought to revoke the highway improvement lines at A41 Birmingham Road/Park Lane, West Bromwich.

#### **Reason for Decision**

Following a review by both Sandwell and Birmingham councils, the road widening scheme on the A41 between Park Lane and Island Road was no longer intended to be delivered. Therefore, the improvement lines which protected the land required for the scheme were no longer required.

#### **Alternative Options Considered**

The alternative would be to retain the improvement line. However, as Birmingham City Council no longer wished to pursue road widening in this location, and Sandwell had no proposals of its own for the land affected, there was no justification to do so.

**Agreed** that the highway improvement lines at A41 Birmingham Road/Park Lane, West Bromwich, more particularly identified on Drawing No. SP0290SE/J be revoked.

25/22

### **Smethwick to Birmingham Area Framework and Grove Lane Masterplan**

Consideration was given to the results of the consultation undertaken on the Smethwick to Birmingham Area Framework and Grove Lane Masterplan during October to December 2021.



Approval was sought for the Smethwick to Birmingham Area Framework and Grove Lane Masterplan documents, as amended, and for both documents to be treated as a material consideration in the determination of future planning applications.

The Chair of Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board sought further clarification on the plan with regards to the industrial buildings either side of the road on Cranford Street and Heath Street, as these spaces were unsightly for visitors driving into Sandwell or into Birmingham.

In response, the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Growth explained the vision for the wider Grove Lane area was to bring sites forward for residential development. As part of that process, buildings within the area would be assessed for their heritage value and consideration given to their reuse where physically and viably possible, and where it would contribute to the wider regeneration principles set out in the Masterplan. The buildings on Heath Street/ Cranford Street would be looked at once more detailed proposals come forward and in conjunction with other proposals set out in the plan such as improving walking and cycling connectivity. However, as part of the redevelopment of the sites north and south of Cranford Street, it was not envisaged to retain the bridge spanning the road.

### **Reason for Decision**

The Draft Smethwick to Birmingham Area Framework and Grove Lane Masterplan were presented to Cabinet in June 2021 for consultation. However, prior to consultation being undertaken, amendments were requested from Birmingham City Council in the capacity of our joint partner for this project. Following this revision, both documents were presented to Cabinet again on 29 September 2021 for authority to consult.

It was also recommended that a further report be presented to Cabinet with the results of the consultation in due course. Consultation is now complete and both documents had been amended to take into account relevant amendments. This report requested that both documents be approved to assist with guiding decisions on future development proposals in the area.



## Alternative Options Considered

Not progressing with the Masterplan for the Grove Lane area was discounted as the masterplan provided insight to developers and landowners in what type of development could positively contribute to the wider area regeneration. Lack of a masterplan might also lead to unconnected, piecemeal development that would lack cohesiveness and not provide for connectivity to the wider area and the creation of new, related communities.

Not progressing with the Corridor Area Framework was also discounted as an option. This was because the Corridor Framework ensured consistency between the two local authorities within this important regeneration corridor in achieving the provision of good quality housing that was well connected to sustainable transport links, open space and the canal network. The guiding principles also assisted in contributing to the vision for this area in creating a healthy place to live, work and visit and contributing to net zero and inclusive growth. Without the Area Framework to direct appropriate development for the opportunity sites and the related transport strategy to focus on sustainable transport, development within the corridor might fail to achieve the vision set out by the respective local authorities and partner agencies for the regeneration transformation of this area.

### Agreed:-

- (1) that the results of the consultation undertaken on the Smethwick to Birmingham Area Framework and Grove Lane Masterplan during October to December 2021 as set out in the Consultation Report, be noted;
- (2) that the Area Framework and Grove Lane Masterplan as amended, be approved, and for both documents to be treated as a material consideration in the determination of future planning applications.



## Sandwell Valley Urban Bike Park Project

Approval was sought to create a series of cycle trails within Sandwell Valley, close to the Swan Pool area and on neighbouring land within Birmingham (The former Hill Top Golf Course) with the Council to accept Grant funding from both Sport England (£400,000) and Birmingham City Council (£100,000), and to commit match funding of £100,000 towards the project.

The project was planned to start in September 2022 and to be completed by March 2023. It would form one of the legacy projects from the 2022 Commonwealth Games.

In response to a question by the Chair of Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board regarding how the Council's £100,000 commitment to the project would be funded, the Cabinet Member for Culture and Tourism explained the commitment was expected to be funded from the 2021/22 underspend within the revenue budget for Borough Economy Directorate. A request for this reserve would be made at year end to set aside these funds for use in 2022/23.

The Cabinet Member for Culture and Tourism commented it was very positive to see Sandwell Council to be involved in a project with Sport England again.

### Reason for Decision

The creation of new cycle trails would help increase visitor numbers to Sandwell Valley and would increase popularity of the destination for cyclists within the region. The facility would be a 'Legacy' from the 2022 Commonwealth Games and encourage people to visit the area. Cycling for sport and recreation provided many health benefits and could help individuals to meet their recommended levels of physical activity, help reduce social isolation and encourage community cohesion.

The recommendations would allow the project to be delivered in line with the project plan which was submitted to, and agreed, by both Sport England and Birmingham City Council. Authorising the Director of Borough Economy to oversee the implementation of recommendations would remove the need for further reports to be presented before Cabinet.



## Alternative Options Considered

No alternative options had been considered for this project, however, as the scheme would be delivered on a 'design and build' basis, the final designs could be altered to fit with on-site factors such as environmental / ecological matters.

### Agreed:-

- (1) that approval be given to create a series of cycle trails within Sandwell Valley, close to the Swan Pool area and on neighbouring land within Birmingham (The former Hill Top Golf Course);
- (2) that the Director of Borough Economy in consultation with the Section 151 Officer be authorised to:
  - prepare the necessary Tendering documentation;
  - procure, in accordance with the public procurement rules, the Council's procurement and financial regulations a contractor(s) to develop, on behalf of the Council, the proposed scheme;
  - enter into or execute under seal any financial agreement(s) as may be deemed necessary in relation to the scheme;
  - accept Grant funding from both Sport England (£400,000) and Birmingham City Council (£100,000) on terms and conditions to be agreed by the Director of Borough Economy in consultation with Legal services;
  - commit match funding of £100,000 towards the project.

27/22

## Council new build homes on land at Beaver Road, Tipton

Approval was sought to make an application to the Secretary of State to appropriate the site for housing purposes and to develop approximately 0.783 hectares of land at Beaver Road, Tipton with new affordable rent council housing.



## Reason for Decision

This project would deliver 18 new Council-owned affordable rented properties on a council-owned site including 10 bungalows and 8 apartments are 2 flats and 2 bungalows that were being built to M(4)3 full wheelchair compliant standard for people with specific needs.

The development of this council site with new homes would result in additional benefits for the Council such as reducing the amount of vacant, under-utilised land within its ownership which is incurring maintenance costs; increasing the numbers of authority owned stock which would ease pressure on existing housing; replacing housing stock lost through Right to Buy; increasing income to the Housing Revenue Account; and contributing positively to the financial position of the Council by generating New Homes Bonus and new Council Tax receipts.

Benefits to residents would include developing fit for purpose accommodation, increasing good quality, energy efficient housing provision in the Borough; linking to the work of Think Local and Find-it-in-Sandwell approaches that would offer significant employment and training opportunities as well as additional community benefits to the local economy, including working with local supply chains and use of local labour; and producing positive outputs for community safety through the redevelopment of a vacant site.

## Alternative Options Considered

The following options were considered as part of the appraisal process:

Option A – Dispose of the Site on the Open Market

Option B – Work in partnership with a Registered Provider Partner with the assistance of Homes England to build new affordable homes for rent

Option C – Leave the site undeveloped.





## Agreed:-

- (1) that approval be given to make an application to the Secretary of State to appropriate the site for housing purposes and develop approximately 0.783 hectares of land at Beaver Road, Tipton with new affordable rent council housing, as shown for identification purposes in the report now submitted and subject to the Secretary of State's consent;
- (2) that the Director of Finance be authorised to allocate adequate resources from the Council's Housing Revenue Account to deliver the scheme and to utilise grant funding offered by Homes England, under the extended Homes England Strategic Partnership 1 Programme 2016 to 2021, to assist with the delivery of the project;
- (3) that the Director of Regeneration and Growth in consultation with the Director of Finance and subject to confirmation of the funding rules applicable, be authorised to submit an application for funding to the West Midlands Combined Authority and in the event funding is successful, the Director of Regeneration and Growth in consultation with the Director of Finance and the Director of Housing be authorised to accept the funding and execute under seal any financial agreement in relation to the West Midlands Combined Authority grant on terms and conditions to be agreed by the Director of Finance;
- (4) that approval be given to authorise the steps necessary for the delivery of the proposed project, including:
  - (a) subject to (2) above, the Director of Regeneration and Growth, in consultation with the Director of Finance and the Director of Housing, be authorised to prepare tendering documentation and subsequently procure, in accordance with any statutory regulations and the Council's Procurement and Financial Regulations and if so chosen as a procurement route any appropriate



requirements of the Homes England Delivery Partner Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) framework, a contractor/contractors as described in g) below to develop, on behalf of the Council, the proposed housing scheme; to enter into or execute under seal any financial agreement in relation to the Homes England grant on terms and conditions to be agreed by the Director of Finance;

- (b) subject to (a) above, the Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer be authorised to enter into or execute under seal any documentation in relation to award of the contract and/or development/partnership agreement, Homes England developer status, licence, undertaking, framework joining agreement, any consents or applications required for Planning or Highways appertaining to the delivery of the scheme and any other agreements with the procured contractor(s) and with the Homes England, as may be deemed necessary to facilitate development of the site with a housing scheme as described in below on terms and conditions to be agreed by the Director of Regeneration and Growth;
- (c) subject to a) and b) above and following practical completion of each property the Director of Housing be authorised to manage and let the properties built in accordance with the Council's housing allocation policy.
- (d) that the following action points identified within the financial appraisal of the funding application by Strategic Finance, be implemented to reduce the risk to the Council:
- That Cabinet consider the alternatives and be satisfied that the proposal to construct the new build homes will meet the Council's objectives in the most appropriate manner;



- That a process be developed to prioritise the development of sites against pre-determined criteria and alternative options for achieving the Council’s housing objectives within each locality;
- That prior to submission of the external funding bid, review the planned use of Right to Buy receipts to ensure that HCA funding for the project would offer the most financially advantageous source of funding;
- That the Risk Register be reviewed to ensure all risks relating to grant funding and the use of Right to Buy receipts are identified and adequately mitigated;
- That approval be sought from the Secretary of State to reclassify the site for housing development;
- That the site be appropriated, where necessary, from the Council’s General Fund to the Housing Revenue Account.

28/22

## **Award of Contracts for Horticultural Products and Tools**

Approval was sought to award contracts for the provision of Horticultural Products and Tools in lots to the highest scoring tender organisations, at a total cost of £475,000 for the period from April 2022 to March 2026.

### **Reason for Decision**

Sandwell MBC was responsible for maintaining a broad range of green spaces and communal areas across the Borough, including Parks and Sandwell Valley, Cemeteries/Crematoria, Housing Estates, Industrial Estates, Corporate and Highways Land, etc.

Maintenance of these areas necessitated the use of products, materials, tools and equipment – some of which are of a specialist nature. A specification for a range of ‘Horticultural Products and Tools’ had been developed, generated from the needs identified by a number of council service areas. Suppliers were then asked to identify and tender for one or more of the available ‘lots’.



## Alternative Options Considered

Do nothing. The current contracts for Horticultural Products and Tools had lapsed, therefore, in order to meet the Procurement Rules, the Council would need to go out for quotation/tender for individual items as and when they were required. This would result in numerous mini-procurement exercises being carried out, which would be inefficient, likely to lead to breaches of the procurement procedures and unlikely to be financially beneficial to the Council.

### Agreed:-

- (1) that the Director of Borough Economy be authorised to award contracts for the provision of Horticultural Products and Tools to the following organisations, at a cost of £475,000 from the period April 2022 to March 2026:

Lot No.	Description	Organisation
Lot 1	Aggregates & Turf	Green-Tech
Lot 2	Feeds, Seeds and Chemicals	Pitchmark
Lot 3a	Herbicides	Nomix
Lot 3b	Herbicides - Premixed	Nomix
Lot 4	Spraying Equipment	Tudor Environmental
Lot 5	Tools & Equipment	Corroy

- (2) that in connection with (1) above, the Director – Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer be authorised to enter into appropriate contracts with these organisations.

29/22

## High Needs Block Funding Allocation

Approval was sought to distribute High Needs Block (HNB) grant funding allocated by central government to meet the needs of children and young people with additional needs, including special educational needs for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.



## Reason for Decision

Every year the Council agreed with the Schools' Forum the local formulae through which the money would then be distributed to schools and early years settings. The Council was also responsible for distributing the high needs funding to meet the needs of children and young people with additional needs, including special educational needs. This was also done in consultation with the Schools' Forum.

## Alternative Options Considered

A range of alternative proposals was considered during the stakeholder engagement and consultation process, before the final proposals were submitted to the Schools' Forum for approval on 8 November and 3 December 2021.

**Agreed** that the Director of Children and Education be authorised to distribute High Needs Block (HNB) grant funding allocated by central government to meet the needs of children and young people with additional needs, including special educational needs for the period 1 April 2022 to 21 March 2023.

30/22

## Action Taken on a Matter of Urgency - Uplift of Hourly Rate - Domiciliary Care Costing Model

Cabinet noted details of the urgent action taken by the Leader of the Council, in relation to giving approval to an addition to the costing model used to calculate the domiciliary care hourly rate to include the increase to National Insurance Contributions from April 2022 and to uplift the hourly rate of the updated costing model for existing domiciliary care framework contracts and for the new domiciliary care agreements that are to be procured for service delivery from 1 September 2022.

The matter was urgent and could not be delayed until the next Cabinet meeting as procurement timescales were prohibitive to enable a report to Cabinet and legislative change requiring an increase to National Insurance Contributions was required from 6 April 2022.



The rate paid would be calculated using an agreed methodology, including the increase to National Insurance contributions for employers and an uplift in the hourly rate would be made to £16 an hour, from £15.16, from 1 April 2022.

### **Reason for Decision**

The Council had a statutory duty under the Care Act 2014 to carry out an assessment of anyone who appears to require care and support. Local Authorities had the duty, under section 5 of the Care Act 2014, to shape and maintain an efficient and effective market of services for meeting care and support needs in the local area is firmly placed with them.

### **Alternative Options Considered**

There was an option to do nothing and leave the model as it is, however it is likely that if it is not agreed, there is a risk to the ability of the Council to discharge its statutory obligations.

**Agreed** the details of the urgent action taken by the Leader of the Council, in relation to giving approval to an addition to the costing model used to calculate the domiciliary care hourly rate to include the increase to National Insurance Contributions from April 2022 and to uplift the hourly rate of the updated costing model for existing domiciliary care framework contracts and for the new domiciliary care agreements that are to be procured for service delivery from 1 September 2022 be noted.

31/22

### **Exclusion of the Public and Press**

**Resolved** that the public and press be excluded from the rest of the meeting to avoid the possible disclosure of exempt information under paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended, by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, relating to the financial and business affairs of any person, including the authority holding that information.



## 32/22 **Nomination of Chair**

**Resolved** that Councillor Hartwell chair the remainder of the meeting.

## 33/22 **Sandwell Leisure Trust Business Plan 2021-24**

Consideration was given to the business plan presented by Sandwell Leisure Trust (SLT) for 2021-2024.

### **Reason for Decision**

Under the terms of the Management and Funding Agreement (MFA), the 'contract', there was a requirement for a three-year Business Plan to be in place and agreed with Sandwell Leisure Trust.

Negotiations relating to the business plan had been ongoing since August 2020. In early December 2021 a revised deadline for the resolution of all outstanding matters relating to the Business Plan 2021-2024 was agreed with Sandwell Leisure Trust. All matters were to be resolved by 24 January 2022.

Resolving matters related to the Sandwell Leisure Trust Business Plan 2021-2024 would ensure the sustainable delivery of leisure services in Sandwell, providing local people with local opportunities to be active, contributing to health and well-being.

The Cabinet Member for Culture and Tourism confirmed that the proposal would not have an impact on the delivery of the Aquatic Centre and the Commonwealth Games.

The Cabinet Member for Culture and Tourism also undertook to consider recommendations made by the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board in relation to the creation of a comprehensive wellbeing service due to the close connection between health and leisure.



## Alternative Options Considered

- To extend the negotiation period;
- Accepting the Business Plan was not a recommended option.

In the event of termination, future alternative delivery arrangements would be progressed and a full Options Appraisal Report presented to Cabinet.

### Agreed:-

- (1) that the business plan presented by Sandwell Leisure Trust (SLT) for 2021-2024 in accordance with the Management and Funding Agreement dated 31<sup>st</sup> March 2004 (“hereinafter “the Agreement”) be refused;
- (2) that the Director of Borough Economy be given authority to:
  - (a) Formally notify SLT that the Council resolved not to approve SLT’s Business Plan for 2021-2024 (as set out at appendix 1 of the report as now submitted) and does not agree the unitary payments requested by SLT for the years 2022/23 and 2023/24 (as set out at appendix 2 of the report as now submitted).
  - (b) Serve reasonable notice of termination of the Agreement upon SLT due to the Council and SLT being unable to agree a business plan and unitary payment for the years 2021-2024 pursuant to clause 41.18.
  - (c) Bring a further report to Cabinet detailing a full Options Appraisal of future leisure service provision/delivery options.
  - (d) Negotiate and agree with SLT such arrangements as are deemed appropriate and/or necessary, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Culture and Tourism, to enable





effective leisure service provision during the notice period under paragraph (2)(b) above.

- (e) Procure and appoint of an interim leisure provider, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Culture and Tourism, in the event that SLT disputes the and walks away from the Agreement.

- (3) that the Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer and Director of Borough Economy be authorised to negotiate, agree and execute any agreements, notices and/or documents necessary to give effect to paragraph (2) (a) – (e) above.

[Councillor Carmichael left the meeting for duration of this item]

34/22

### **Sandwell Community Dementia Support Service**

Consideration was given to directly award a contract for the community dementia support service to a provider nominated by a group consisting of the delivery partners of the current service for twelve months duration with the flexibility to extend this by three months in the event of unplanned and unforeseeable delays to the procurement process running in parallel to the period of the directly awarded contract.

#### **Reason for Decision**

The direct award to a nominated lead provider for a period of twelve months (with the flexibility to extend for a further three months) would enable a comprehensive procurement process to be undertaken whilst ensuring continuity of this service during this period. This would also protect against unplanned delays in the procurement process.



## Alternative Options Considered

A number of options were considered by members including seeking to direct award a contract to an existing delivery partner for up to 12 months whilst a formal procurement process was undertaken, to work with the current lead provider for a maximum of up to six months to maintain the service while a tender process was undertaken to secure a new lead provider or to work with the current lead provider for the duration of the contract.

### Agreed:-

- (1) that approval be given to authorise the Director for Adult Social Care to directly award a contract for the community dementia support service to a provider nominated by a group consisting of the delivery partners of the current service;
- (2) that in connection with Resolution (1) above, the Director for Adult Social Care be authorised to award the contract for twelve months duration with the flexibility to extend this by three months in the event of unplanned and unforeseeable delays to the procurement process running in parallel to the period of the directly awarded contract;
- (3) that the Director of Adult Social Care be authorised to award the contract to a yet to be determined organisation for a Community Dementia Support Service;
- (4) that the Director - Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer, or their designated representative, be authorised to execute any documents necessary to give effect to (1) – (3) above for the provision of a Community Dementia Support Service;



- (5) that a further report be submitted to Cabinet on approval for another procurement process to be undertaken following the confirmation of funding from the Joint Partnership Board in June 2022.

[Councillor Piper left the meeting for duration of this item]

Meeting ended at 4.16pm.

Contact: [democratic\\_services@sandwell.gov.uk](mailto:democratic_services@sandwell.gov.uk)



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## Minutes of Audit and Risk Assurance Committee

**Tuesday, 11 January 2022 at 5.00 pm  
at Council Chamber - Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

**Present:** Councillor M Gill (Chair);  
Mr M Ager (Vice Chair and Independent Member);  
Councillors Akpoteni, Allen, Anandou, Z Hussain, O Jones  
and Webb.

**Also present:** Councillors Kalari and Melia (observing).  
Surjit Tour – Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring  
Officer  
Tony McGovern - Director of Regeneration and Growth  
Peter Farrow – Audit Services and Risk Management  
Manager,  
Narinder Phagura - Business Partner- Audit Services  
Zoe Thomas – Grant Thornton

### 1/22 **Apologies for Absence**

No apologies were received.

### 2/22 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made.

### 3/22 **Minutes**

The Committee received the minutes of the meetings held on 18  
November and 21 December 2021.



### **Resolved:-**

- (1) that the minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2021 are approved as a correct record, subject to the addition of the following resolution to Minute No. 66/21:

***Resolved** that the actions set out in the resolutions of the Committee made on 18 March 2021 are completed before the next scheduled meeting of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee.*

- (2) that the minutes of the meeting held on 21 December 2021 are approved as a correct record.

4/22

### **Urgent Additional Item of Business**

The Chair agreed that the matter referred to at Minute No. 7/22 (Update on the Implementation of Resolutions of 18 March 2021 (Audit and Governance Assessment Panel Update)) be considered as an urgent additional item of business.

The Chair felt that the matter was urgent because at its meeting on 18 November 2021 the Committee had resolved that the actions be completed by its next meeting.

5/22

### **Internal Audit Progress Report**

The Committee noted an update on the progress made against the delivery of the 2021/22 Internal Audit Plan.

It was reported that a follow-up review on Riverside Housing Association, which managed a proportion of the council's housing stock, had identified four further areas for improvement:-

- rent collection and reconciliation
- property extract reconciliation (housing stock) records
- increasing rent areas
- internal audit's inability to access Riverside's computer systems.

Consequently, limited assurance had been given, however the Director of Housing would be working with Riverside to ensure that actions identified were implemented.

The Committee also noted some amendments to the Plan:-

- Working with the Voluntary and Community Sector – Further to Minute No. 62/21 (of 18 November 2021) this audit would now take place in 2022/23 to allow sufficient time for the new process for the administration and monitoring of these grants to embed.
- Oracle Fusion Programme – This had been one of the key lines of enquiry in the external auditor Grant Thornton’s wider auditors Value for Money Governance Review. Internal Audit would be monitoring the implementation of the recommendations Grant Thornton had made as part of its 2022/23 internal audit work.
- Council Transformation and Recovery from the Covid-19 Pandemic – This would now form part of the 2022/23 internal audit plan, following the completion of the recent senior management restructure, alongside the recommendations made in the external auditors Value for Money Governance Review referred to above

Members expressed concern in relation to the ongoing recommendations for Riverside Housing and requested that representatives be asked to attend the Committee.

**Resolved** that representatives from Riverside Housing are requested to attend a future meeting of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee.

3/22

### **Internal Audit Charter**

The Committee received the Internal Audit Charter for review. The Charter was based on the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy’s (CIPFA) model charter and reflected the requirements of the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.

There were no changes proposed to the Charter.

**Resolved** that the Internal Audit Charter 2022/23 is approved.

4/22

## **Appointment of the External Auditor**

The Committee was consulted on proposals for the appointment of the Council's external auditors from April 2023 onwards.

The Council had previously opted into the national scheme for the appointment of its current external auditors, along with 98% of the sector. The Council had received an invitation to opt into the national scheme again.

Public Sector Audit Appointments was a not for profit, independent company incorporated by the Local Government Association. It offered value for money through collective efficiency savings for the sector as a result of undertaking one major procurement exercise. Surplus funds were distributed to scheme members and Sandwell had benefited from this in the past.

The Council could procure its own external auditor; however, this would be a lengthy and complex process. It was therefore recommended that the Council take up the offer to opt into the national scheme again. Under Regulation 19 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Local Audit (Appointing Person) Regulations 2015 (the Regulations) the decision rested with the Council.

The Committee was assured that if the same external auditors were appointed again, a different audit partner would be assigned to the Council to provide a further level of independence.

**Resolved** that the Council is recommended to take up the invitation from Public Sector Audit Appointments to opt into the national scheme for external auditor appointments from April 2023.

5/22a

## **Strategic Risks Deep Dive: Risk 056 - Towns Fund Programme**

Further to Minute No. 64/21 (of 18 November 2021) the Director of Regeneration and Growth was present to discuss Strategic Risk 056 - Towns Fund Programme.



The Committee was assured that, as a result of the measures put in place to address delays, the risk had now reduced to Amber, with a target date to reduce to Green by March 2022, which reflected the key milestone for the programme.

It was reported that one of the key delays in the preparation of the 16 business cases, was human resources. Long term staff sickness had had an impact, as had competing demands as officers had been working on the development of business cases on top of their full-time day to day roles. An officer had now been seconded to a permanent post to oversee the preparation of business cases and would also be in post throughout the delivery phase. In addition, the support of an external consultant had been engaged to support the process. The Council had been allocated funding to support the development of business cases, which would be used to pay for the consultants. Therefore the council's contribution to the process was in terms of officer time only.

Further delays had occurred due to the lengthy approval process for each business case. The Cabinet had therefore approved an alternative process at its meeting on 24 November 2021 (Minute No. 218/21 refers), which would reduce the length of time taken to approve each business case, whilst continuing to provide high level assurance through an Assurance Panel involving relevant cabinet members and directors. All business cases would also be presented to the Economy, Skills Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board for comment prior to them being submitted to government.

Most of the 13 remaining business cases were now rated Green on the risk register. Those rated Amber were due to the increased costs of construction and construction materials, which meant that some of the business cases were around 30% above budget and this was currently being worked through. One of the business cases was rated as a Red risk, and this was a complex transport scheme that required significant additional design work and involved a number of different partners.

Members raised concerns about the lack of representation from the Cradley Heath and Old Hill ward on Town Deal Boards. It was reported that this had now been addressed.

5/22b

### **Strategic Risks Deep Dive: Risk 061 - Partnerships and Contractors Service Delivery**

Further to Minute No. 64/21 (of 18 November 2021) the Committee discussed Strategic Risk 061 - Partnerships and Contractors Service Delivery.

This had been a new addition to the Strategic Risk Register to recognise the Council's dependency on an array of contracts in one stand-alone risk, which was in addition to the entries on the Risk Register in relation to the individual contracts. The Risk would pick up any issues the council's key partnerships and contracts including Serco, Sandwell Leisure Trust, and Sandwell Children's Trust.

The recent Value for Money Governance Review, carried out by the council's external auditors had also included these contracts as key lines of enquiry. The inclusion of this as a new risk on the Strategic Risk register would also ensure that Committee had the opportunity to monitor the implementation of the associated recommendations made by external auditors and the delivery of an accompanying action plan.

6/22

### **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Passenger Transport Contract Update**

The Committee was informed of the findings and recommendations from the June 2021 internal audit review of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Passenger Transport Contract; the Grant Thornton Value for Money Governance Review (Key Line of Enquiry 04 relating to SEND transport); and the observations of the Chair, following his factfinding exercise into the matter.

A redacted version of the confidential internal audit report was circulated to the Committee to inform a discussion in public. Members expressed disappointment and concern however that the contents of the confidential report had already appeared on social media.

The Cabinet was due to consider a report on 12 January 2022, proposing new arrangements for the procurement of the contract, which included the abandoning of the Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) model and undertaking a new procurement exercise. The Cabinet would also be considering the findings of the Children's Services and Education Scrutiny Board's review into the various models available for the contract. An extension would be sought to the current contract to provide service continuity whilst the new procurement process took place.

The internal audit report contained 16 recommendations for chief officers to implement. Whilst the report had not found that there had been a direct breach of Contract Procedure Rules, a number of areas for improvement in internal and administrative processes had been identified. The Committee would be able to seek assurances in the future on the implementation of those recommendations.

The Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer advised that Contract Procedure Rules allowed the Council the right not to award a contract in circumstances where there were justifiable reasons, so it was unlikely that the council would be subjected to a legal challenge from the unsuccessful bidders.

As the Committee wished to discuss confidential information, the Chair moved that the public and press be excluded from the rest of the meeting to avoid the possible disclosure of exempt information under Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 relating to information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**Resolved** that the public and press be excluded from the rest of the meeting to avoid the possible disclosure of exempt information under Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 relating to information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

Members felt that not enough attention had been paid to the level of risk involved the procurement of such a contract. The Committee was minded to look at other high value contracts at regular intervals to seek assurances that Contract Procedure Rules were being adhered to consistently.

Members expressed concern that an independent external review of the process had still not been carried out and felt that such was still necessary. The Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer advised members that the Committee did not have the authority to commission an independent external review, and that authority was reserved to the Cabinet. He further advised that it was this Committee's role to focus on compliance.

It was proposed that the Chair and Independent Vice Chair develop a scope for an independent review. The Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer advised the Committee to consider what a further review would achieve and what it could add to work already undertaken by both internal and external auditors. Members responded that they felt that the previous reviews did not provide a sufficient level of detail, due to the speed at which they had been undertaken and felt that an independent viewpoint was still required to ensure a complete understanding of the matter and prevent mistakes from happening again. The Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer further advised to consider what value a further review could add.

Notwithstanding the advice from the Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer, members were minded to pursue the development of a scope for an independent review.

**Resolved:-**

- (1) that the recommendations set out in the internal audit report on its review of the procurement of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Passenger Transport Contract are endorsed;
- (2) that the Committee carries out regular reviews of high value contracts to seek assurances that Financial Regulations or Contract Procedure Rules are being adhered to consistently;

- (3) that the Chair and Independent Vice Chair develop a scope for and independent review into the procurement of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Passenger Transport Contract.

7/22

### **Update on the Implementation of Resolutions of 18 March 2021 (Audit and Governance Assessment Panel Update)**

In reference to Minutes Nos 21/21 (of 18 March 2021) and 66/21 (of 18 November 2021), the Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer reported that he was working with the Interim Director of Human Resources regarding the issuing of apologies, where appropriate, to those staff that had been the victim of racist behaviour. A further referral had not yet been made to the relevant regulatory body as focus had been on the human resource matter. The Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer would update members, in writing, on progress with both matters within the next week, following discussions with the Chief Executive.

In reference to Minute No. 25/21(3) (of 24 June 2021) members requested that the extraordinary meeting be arranged to further consider the matter. The Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer cautioned members about re-opening the matter, and the perceivable benefits of doing such, given that both the former Audit and Governance Assessment Panel and the Committee had already spent a considerable amount of time on the matter in March 2021. Also, as one of the key themes raised by the external auditors, Grant Thornton, in its recent Value for Money Governance review was that the Council was unable to move forward as it was spending a significant amount of time on historic issues. Members felt however that the matter should be re-visited by the members currently appointed to the Committee.

The Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer confirmed that the former Audit and Governance Assessment Panel would not be reconvened, as that the external auditors Value for Money Governance Review had now superseded the need for that.

**Resolved** that resolution (3) of Minute No. 25/21 of the meeting held on 24 June 2021 is progressed and an extraordinary meeting of the Committee is held in February 2022.

Meeting ended 7.20pm

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## Minutes of Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee

**Tuesday 9 November 2021 at 2.00pm**  
**in the Council Chamber, Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

- Present:** Councillor Allcock (Chair)  
Councillors Kausar (Vice Chair), Akhter, Dhallu, Z Hussain  
and C Padda.
- Observers:** Mr John Tew and Mr Richard Phillips (Independent Persons).
- Also present:** Surjit Tour (Director of Law and Governance – Monitoring  
Officer), Elaine Newsome (Service Manager - Democracy),  
Maria Price (Service Manager – Legal), Terry Hassall (Health  
& Safety Manager), Dora Elkington (Health & Safety Lead  
Officer), Trisha Newton (Senior Democratic Services Officer)  
and Connor Robinson (Democratic Services Officer).

20/21 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Chambers.

21/21 **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were made.

22/21 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2021 were agreed as  
a correct record and signed by the Chair.



## 23/21 **Urgent Items of Business**

There were no urgent items of business to consider.

## 24/21 **Personal Safety of Elected Members**

The Committee formally paid tribute to Sir David Amess MP.

The Committee had considered personal safety of elected members at its meeting on 4 October 2019 (minute no. 30/19 refers) with a further review to be undertaken in 12 months' time. The review had, however, been delayed due to the pandemic.

In view of the recent murder of Sir David Amess MP at a constituency surgery it was considered necessary to bring the review back to Committee without further delay.

The Health and Safety Manager provided an update to the Committee with regard the current process around personal safety. There was an ongoing programme of personal safety training for elected members.

Councillors had received revised guidance notes on general personal safety in the wake of the murder (i.e. lone-working, undertaking surgeries and walking to their vehicles).

Following comments and questions from members of the Committee, it was noted:-

- best practice would be to avoid lone working whenever possible - the dynamic risk assessment would allow members to consider their working practices;
- premises risk assessments would need to be undertaken by the premises manager of any internal and external venue - advice and guidance would be issued to premises managers to ensure risk assessments would be completed when Councillors used the venues;
- councillors would need to be more pro-active in considering risk assessments prior to engagements. The most prominent concern for lone working remained health issues and not receiving prompt care as a response.





The Committee noted that the Ethical Standards Working Group would commence a further review of personal safety for elected members.

25/21

### Appointment to Ethical Standards Sub Committees

The Localism Act 2011 required authorities to adopt arrangements for dealing with complaints about breaches of the Member Code of Conduct. The Council’s arrangements for dealing with complaints provided for a Sub-Committee of the Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee to consider investigation reports referred to it by the Monitoring Officer and to conduct hearings (including the imposition of sanctions).

Following a change in appointments to the Committee, consideration was given to the revised appointment to the two Ethical Standards Sub-Committees for the remainder of the 2021/22 municipal year.

**Resolved** that the revised appointments to the two Ethical Standards Sub-Committees for the remainder of the 2021/22 municipal year be approved, with flexibility between membership to cater for availability and workload, as follows:

SUB-COMMITTEE 1		SUB-COMMITTEE 2	
Member	Substitute	Member	Substitute
Allcock	Substitute members taken from remainder of committee	Allcock	Substitute members taken from remainder of committee
Dhallu		Kausar	
Akhter		O Jones	
Z Hussain		C S Padda	
Chambers		Chambers	
+ Independent Person		+ Independent Person	

26/21

### Member Development Programme Update

The Committee received an update on the member portal and member development activity.



With respect to the MyCouncillor portal, members had continued to engage and use the portal. Participation had been good with 67 members activity engaging with the 35 group guidance sessions. Member use of the portal had increased throughout the roll-out.

With regard to member development, the Council had set-up a programme of learning and development interventions, targeted toward supporting members across their various roles.

A review was recommended that would be undertaken to engage with elected members, providing an assessment of the effectiveness of existing arrangements and develop proposals for consideration in line with best practice, which would be delivered before the end of the municipal year.

The review would be led by the Ethical Standards Working Group and the Committee was also requested to appoint a member of the Committee to the vacancy which currently existed on the Group.

**Resolved:-**

- (1) that a review of the member development programme be undertaken by the Ethical Standards Working Group;
- (2) that Councillor Dhallu be added to the membership of the Ethical Standards Working Group.

27/21

**Review of Independent Persons – Recruitment Process and Remuneration**

Mr Tew, Independent Person, left the meeting during consideration of this item.

The Ethical Standards Working Group met on 5 October 2021 to consider the recruitment process for a third Independent Person for dealing with standards matters.



The Committee considered the proposed timeline for recruitment process would involve a targeted approach across multiple stakeholders, with a particular focus would be on encouraging applications from a wide variety of backgrounds across communities.

The Committee also noted that the term of office for Mr John Tew was due to expire in January 2022. The Committee recommended that a report be submitted to Full Council seeking a four year extension to Mr Tew's term of office.

**Resolved:-**

(1) that the recruitment process for a third Independent Person for dealing with standards matters be approved.

(2) that Council be recommended to extend the term of office for Mr John Tew for a further four year period.

**28/21 Committee on Standards in Public Life Annual Report 2020-21**

The Annual Report of the Committee on Standards in Public Life was considered and noted by the Committee.

**29/21 Gifts and Hospitality**

The Committee considered the Gifts and Hospitality Register and declaration of interests made by Members.

Following the Best Practice recommendations made by the Committee on Standards in Public Life, the Gifts and Hospitality Register was a standing agenda item for meetings of the Committee.

One new entry to the Gifts and Hospitality Register had been made since the last meeting of the Committee.



30/21 **National Cases**

The Committee received and discussed details of national cases, as part of its learning and development.

31/21 **Complaints Update**

The Committee received details of complaints received in relation to member conduct and the progress on the complaints.

32/21 **Work Programme**

The Committee noted the Ethical Standards and Member Development Work Programme for the remaining 2021/22 municipal year.

Meeting ended at 2.49pm

Contact: [democratic\\_services@sandwell.gov.uk](mailto:democratic_services@sandwell.gov.uk)



## Minutes of Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board

**Tuesday 8 February 2022 at 6.05 pm  
at Council Chamber - Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

**Present:** Councillor L Giles (Chair);  
Councillors Anandou, E M Giles and Moore.

**In attendance:** Rashpal Bishop (Director of Adult Social Care), Neil Cox (Director of Business Strategy and Change), Charlie Davey (Adults Business Partner), Gillian Douglas (Director of Housing), Simone Hines (Director of Finance), Rebecca Maher (Head of Finance), Elaine Newsome (Service Manager – Democracy), Michael Jarrett (Director of Children & Education), Sue Stanhope (Interim Director of Human Resources), Surjit Tour (Director of Law & Governance), Suky Suthi-Nagra (Democratic Services Manager) and Matt Powis (Senior Democratic Services Officer).

Emma Taylor (Chief Executive - Sandwell Children's Trust);  
Paul Chambers (Director of Finance - Sandwell Children's Trust);  
Tara Malik (Director of Resources - Sandwell Children's Trust).

### 1/22 Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence were received.



## **2/22**      **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made.

## **3/22**      **Minutes**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on December 2021 are approved as a correct record.

## **4/22**      **Additional Items of Business**

There were no additional items of business to consider.

## **5/22**      **Draft Budget Proposals 2022/23**

The Cabinet, at its meeting on 15 December 2021, had referred the draft budget 2022/23 for consideration by the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board.

The Board was informed that approximately £16m in savings was required for 2022/23 to ensure a balanced and sustainable budget could be set whilst maintaining a prudent level of reserves. Savings proposals in principle had been identified in the sum of £14.6m which left a budget gap of approximately £1.4m.

The recent provisional Local Government Provisional Settlement set out the funding allocations for each local authority for 2022/23. Whilst the Council has benefited from extra funding through the settlement, particularly from the new Services Grant 22/23 and increased Social Care grants, much of this was ring-fenced for specific purposes or to cover increased costs, such as the increase in the employers National Insurance Contribution rate from April 2022 which was estimated to cost the Council £0.8m. The extremely high inflation rates in the UK had also meant that forecast costs for gas and electric had increased since the draft budget was prepared and there were also further inflationary increases on Adult Social Care and other large contracts.

The additional funding in the settlement would result in closing the £1.4m gap remaining in the draft budget, subject to the £14.6m of proposals that had already been identified being deliverable. However, as some of the funding streams for next year were one-off or time-limited, it was envisaged that there was a need for additional savings to be found in 2023/24.

In relation to Council Tax, the draft budget included a 3.99% increase based on a 2% 'core' increase and 1.99% Adult Social Care (ASC) precept carried forward from 2021/22 as the Council chose not to take the full ASC precept allowable this year. The provisional settlement confirmed that a further 1% Adult Social Care precept was permitted under the referendum limits. If approved, this would generate additional ongoing income of £1.1m for the Council. If the Council opted not to approve the additional 1%, the council tax income would be foregone on a permanent basis i.e. council tax income in future years would be £1.1m lower. If approved, the additional 1% Council Tax income would be targeted towards Adult Social Care and would assist the Council in meeting the increased costs of placements and ensure the social care market locally remains sustainable. This may be particularly important in future years if the one-off funding from 2022/23 was not continued in future settlements.

A final decision on Council Tax would be made by Cabinet at its meeting on 23 February for approval by Council on 1 March 2022.

In relation to the Sandwell Children's Trust, due to a number of pressures in the service, Cabinet would be recommended to consider allocating a sum of £70.47m which represented a 4% increase from 2021/22.

Following comments and questions from members of the Board, the following responses were made and issues highlighted:-

- in response to the proposal to develop an alternative approach to double handed care calls, it was reported that a training programme would be developed of all staff using the equipment within adult social care so as to have a single care approach for care home and residential settings;
- the Section 151 Officer assured the Board that the savings proposed were realistic and deliverable;
- whilst the Meals on Wheels service had declined in use during the peak of Covid-19, the data had not shown a

- continual decline in usage and therefore the service would continue to be provided;
- it was felt that further efficiency savings, above the £100k being proposed, could be identified within the fleet management service and felt that greater focus on this area was required, for e.g. the introduction of a booking system for employees to book fleet to get the best use of resources. The Director of Borough Economy was requested to look into the matter and respond;
  - in relation to the proposal to reduce respite support from 56 days to 28 days, it was clarified that there were very few residents who required respite after 28 days but cases would be reviewed on an individual basis;
  - it was still feasible to charge on council car parks as it continued to generate a surplus saving which was reinvested into highways;
  - due to the significant rise in the cost of living, there would be additional pressures on the council's income streams and on the collection of tax, etc. However, there were a number of support mechanisms in place for residents and business' to access, for e.g. the 100% council tax reduction scheme;
  - further consultation would be undertaken during the year on the council's residential charging policy which currently only collected 47% of what the Council could charge;
  - the council's tax collection had improved from the year before and there had been a noticeable difference in people's pattern with more and more transactions being conducted online or by phone as opposed to face to face;
  - a strategic savings plan for the council was required beyond the one year, however it was acknowledged that it was difficult to do at this point due to only having a 1 year financial settlement agreement and not knowing the full impact of covid on spending, for e.g. the future of markets and the high street with the increase in online shopping;
  - the budget 22/23 proposals included an increase in reserves to ensure the council could address the inflation risks or in year fluctuations;
  - a review was currently being undertaken on grants to the entire voluntary sector to understand value for money and impact of funding. A further update on the work would be reported to the Board;
  - it was clarified that training to the council's workforce was not being reduced but options on how to deliver it were being considered to ensure cost efficiency, for e.g. e-learning as oppose to attending a conference;



- it was proposed that the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities consider the issue of garage rents, looking at the occupancy rates and whether the advertising of garage space to generate rental income for the council was done well;
- it was proposed that the Board undertake a review of the Property Maintenance Account in order to consider a preventative rather than reactive approach;
- assurance from the Children's Trust was sought, following recommendations from the Grant Thornton governance review, on whether they would be in a position to meet their savings targets. In response, it was noted that the Trust were delivering over their medium term financial plan with a robust programme of improvements in place to deliver the proposed savings;
- the Director of Regeneration and Growth was requested to provide clarity on the proposed pre-application charges on planning.

The Chair, on behalf of the Board, thanked Directors and representatives of the Children's Trust for attending the meeting.

**Resolved:-**

- (1) that Cabinet be requested to consider the comments and observations of the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board in relation to the Draft Budget 2022/23 as follows:-
  - (a) further efficiencies within the Fleet Management Services, for e.g the introduction of a booking system for employees to book fleet to get the best use of resources;
- (2) that the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board be requested to consider the cost effectiveness of garage rents, including the occupancy levels and whether advertising of space is done well;
- (3) that a review of the Property Maintenance Account is added to the work programme of the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board.

**6/22**

### **Cabinet Forward Plan**

The Scrutiny Management Board noted the Cabinet Forward Plan as at the time of the meeting.

The Board requested that further clarification be given in relation to the item on the acquisition of the Kings Square, West Bromwich proposal.

**Resolved** that the Director of Regeneration and Growth provide further information to the Board on the proposal for the acquisition of the Kings Square, West Bromwich proposal.

**7/22**

### **Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board Work Programme 2021-22**

The Scrutiny Management Board noted its work programme for the remainder of the 2021-22 municipal year.

In relation to Minute No. 5/22 above, a further item would be added to the work programme on Property Maintenance Account.

Meeting ended at 7.09 pm following an adjournment between 6.59pm and 7.01 pm

Contact: [democratic\\_services@sandwell.gov.uk](mailto:democratic_services@sandwell.gov.uk)

## Report to Cabinet

**Tuesday 1 March 2022**

<b>Subject:</b>	Notice of Motion - Response
<b>Director:</b>	Director Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer - Surjit Tour
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Trisha Newton <a href="mailto:Trisha_Newton@sandwell.gov.uk">Trisha_Newton@sandwell.gov.uk</a>

### 1 Recommendations

- 1.1 Council receive the response to the motion in relation to Fireworks.


### 2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 Council at its meeting on 7 December 2021 agreed the following motion:-

“This Council resolves to require all public firework displays within the local authority’s boundaries to be advertised in advance of the event, allowing residents to take precautions for their animals and vulnerable people; to actively promote a public awareness campaign about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people – including the precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks; and requests that the Leader of the Council writes to the UK Government urging them to introduce legislation to limit the maximum noise level of fireworks to 90dB for those sold to the public for private displays; to encourage local suppliers of fireworks to stock ‘quieter’ fireworks for public display; and that this Council resolves to explore tighter controls of Sandwell businesses selling fireworks and undertakes to work with West Midlands Fire Services to help advise the control and sale of fireworks for private use”.



### 3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

	<p>Councillors submitting motions are demonstrating their local leadership role, acting as a voice for their local community and expressing local concerns.</p>
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### 4 Context and Key Issues

- 4.1 The Council regularly considers notices of motion submitted by members under Standing Order No 7.
- 4.2 In December 2021, the Council supported a motion calling upon the Leader of the Council to write to the UK Government urging them to introduce legislation to limit the maximum noise level of fireworks to 90dB for those sold to the public for private displays.
- 4.3 A response has been received in respect of the motion and is appended to this report.

### 5 Alternative Options

- 5.1 There are no alternative options.



## 6 Implications

<b>Resources:</b>	There are no strategic resources arising from this report.
<b>Legal and Governance:</b>	Standing Order No 7 provides that any member of the Council may give notice of not more than one motion for consideration at any ordinary meeting of the Council and sets out the process for dealing with the motion. The motion can only be accepted if it relates to matters for which the Council has powers, duties and responsibility, or which affect the Borough or a part of it, or some or all of its citizens.
<b>Risk:</b>	There are no risk implications arising from this report.
<b>Equality:</b>	There are no implications for equality arising from this report.
<b>Health and Wellbeing:</b>	There are no implications of the proposals on health and wellbeing of our communities arising from this report.
<b>Social Value</b>	There are no implications for social value arising from this report.

## 7. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Response received from Paul Scully MP

## 8. Background Papers

None



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Department for  
Business, Energy  
& Industrial Strategy

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Our ref: MCSL2022/01159  
Your ref: KC/JLP

20 January 2022

Dear Kerrie,

Thank you for your letter dated 14 January, to the Secretary of State, Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng MP, regarding the use of fireworks. I am replying as this matter falls within my Ministerial portfolio.

I would like to reassure you that the Government takes the issues associated with the sale and use of fireworks seriously. There is a comprehensive regulatory framework already in place for fireworks that strikes the right balance for people to enjoy fireworks, whilst aiming to reduce risks and disturbances to people and animals.

Existing legislation controls the sale, availability and use of fireworks. For example, there is an 11pm curfew in place for the use of fireworks, with later exceptions only for the traditional firework periods of November 5, Diwali, New Year's Eve and the Chinese New Year. Using fireworks outside the curfew hours is a criminal offence enforced by the Police and can lead to imprisonment and a substantial fine. There is also a 120-decibel noise limit on the fireworks available to consumers.

Current legislation restricts retailers to only selling consumer fireworks during seasonal celebrations as set out above. Retailers may only supply fireworks outside these traditional periods if they obtain a license from their local licensing authority. Local Authority Trading Standards work with retailers to ensure fireworks sold are safe, and they have powers to enforce against those who place non-compliant fireworks on the market. Trading Standards (and local fire and rescue authorities in metropolitan counties) can also enforce against those selling fireworks without an appropriate licence, for example, outside the normal selling period.

The Government has no current plans to place further restrictions on the sale of fireworks to the public, but we continue to monitor the situation. We have, however, been carrying out an ongoing programme of work on fireworks, in response to concerns raised by the public. This has included:

- Commissioning research by Ipsos Mori that provided evidence on consumer attitudes towards and behaviours around using fireworks in the UK. The key findings have informed our public awareness campaigns and support the need to educate consumers on fireworks use;
- Commissioning noise research to test the decibel level of commonly used fireworks, in response to issues raised around noise and disturbance. The objective of the testing work is to help us understand the decibel level associated with a range of fireworks and

whether they are compliant with the regulations. The results of the testing will be available in due course;

- Engaging with Local Authorities and animal welfare organisations to better understand what specific issues they face; and
- Engaging with the fireworks industry to consider what action they can take to promote consumer safety.

The Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) also runs an annual public awareness campaign on fireworks, working in partnership with animal welfare organisations, the industry and charities supporting vulnerable groups, to promote the safe and considerate use to the public. The campaign for the 2021 fireworks season had almost double the reach of previous campaigns promoting safe and considerate use.

Thank you for taking the time to write. I hope you finds this response helpful.

Yours sincerely,

**PAUL SCULLY MP**

Minister for Small Business, Consumers & Labour Markets  
Minister for London