



DERBY CITY COUNCIL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2020 -2021

Democratic Services

Foreword



Councillor Martin Repton

Party: Labour

Ward: Darley

I am pleased to present the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for the work undertaken during the 2020-21 Municipal year.

The COVID-19 Pandemic has dominated all our lives this year. As a country we are going through a very difficult time and everyone has been affected in some way. Derby City Council, the NHS, Public Health, Voluntary Organisations, local Businesses have been doing all they can to support the most vulnerable in our society. Working practices have been changed, new ways of working adopted and new partnerships have been

established. I would like to thank all staff involved in the delivery of direct services, and those behind the scenes providing support for all their hard work.

One major change arising from the Pandemic was the new emergency legislation which was put in place by the Government to enable the Council's constituted meetings to be held remotely. Democratic Services and IT colleagues reacted quickly to the situation and our first remote Executive Scrutiny Board took place in July 2021. However, the legal requirement for local authorities to hold public meetings in person was recently re-instated in May 2021. Since then, public meetings have taken place in person again, albeit with social distancing and other COVID Restrictions in place. The Council has streamed all public meetings since the start of the pandemic live on YouTube to facilitate public access to the democratic process.

This report includes a summary of the roles and responsibilities of Overview and Scrutiny, the work undertaken over the past year and the various outcomes that have been achieved. It has been a busy year for the Councillors on Scrutiny Boards, examining a broad range of topics and services, as well as their impact on the city and its residents. Some of the topics scrutinised were looked at

in depth and the outcomes are highlighted in the report.

Meetings of Overview and Scrutiny Boards are open to the public and I would encourage as many partners and residents as possible to get involved in upcoming scrutiny reviews.

I would like to thank my fellow councillors for their involvement and the contribution they have made to meetings during a challenging period. During my time as Chair of the Executive Scrutiny Board, councillors and officers have enjoyed robust discussion about a variety of issues, and I hope this healthy debate will continue over the following year.

I would like to thank everyone who has been involved in supporting and assisting the overview and scrutiny process, members, officers, partner organisations, co-opted members.

Sincerely

Councillor Martin Repton

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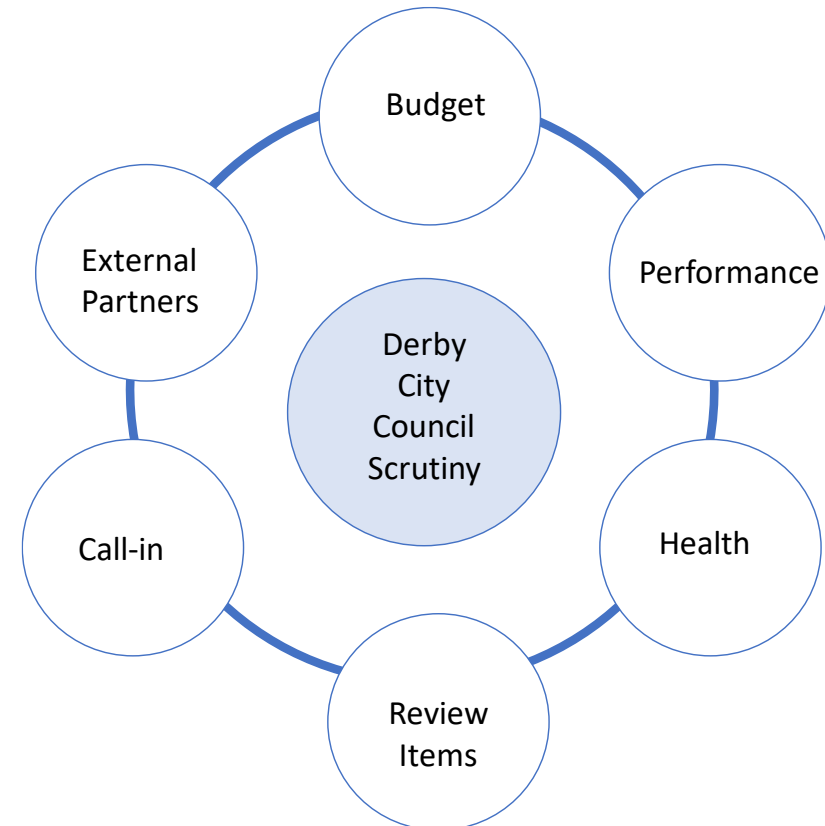
Introduction to Scrutiny

Key principles of scrutiny

- Provides a **challenge and feedback** to executive policy-makers and decision makers
- **Enables the voices and concerns of the public** to be heard
- Is carried out by **independent minded people** who take responsibility for their role
- It **drives improvement** in public services

Overview and Scrutiny Committees were introduced under the Local Government Act 2000 as part of new executive governance arrangements to ensure that members of an authority who were not part of the executive (Cabinet) could hold the executive to account for the decisions and actions that affect their communities.

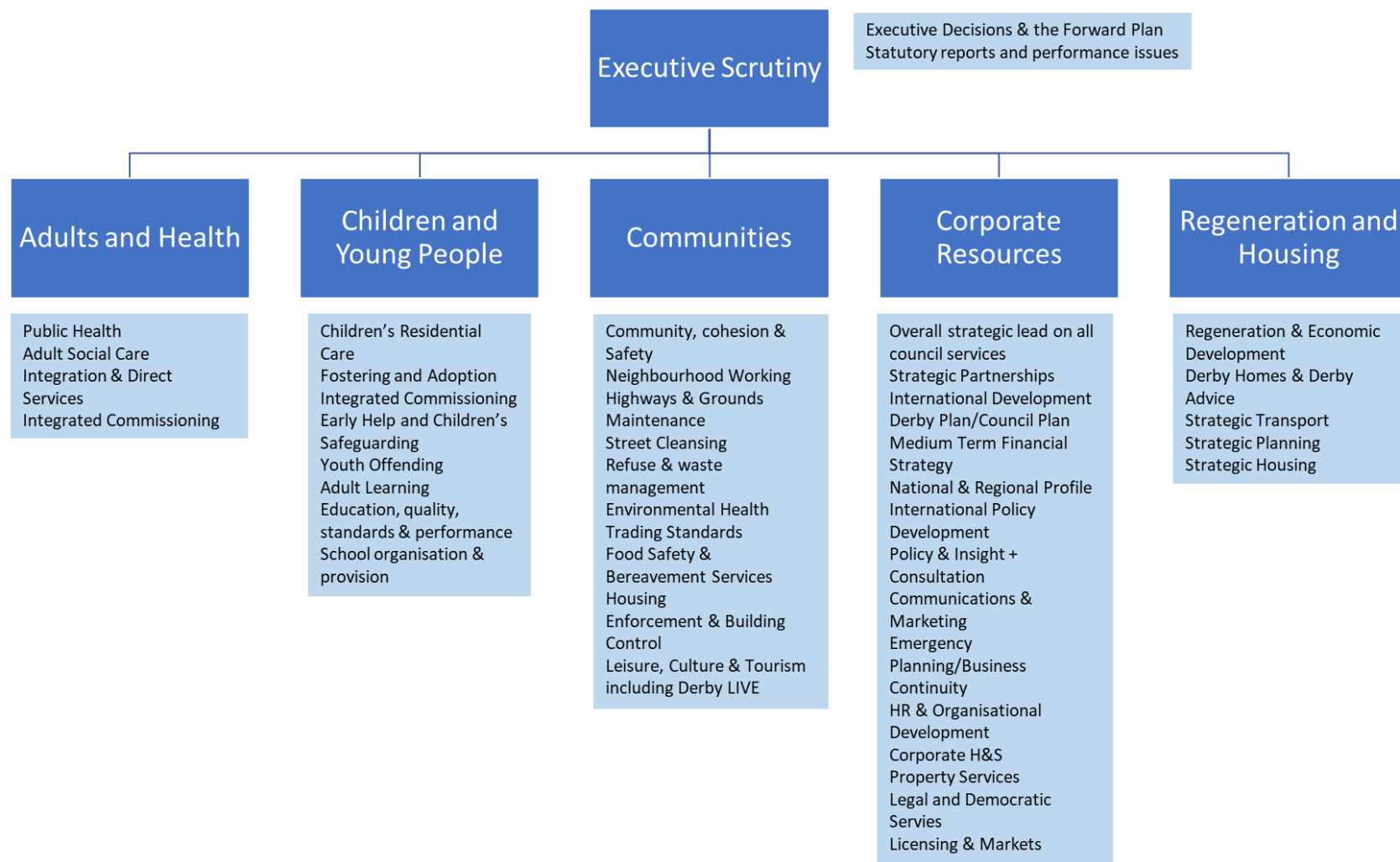
Overview and Scrutiny Committees have statutory powers to scrutinise decisions the executive is planning to take, those it plans to implement, and those that have already been taken or implemented. Recommendations following scrutiny enable improvements to be made to policies and how they are implemented. Overview and Scrutiny Committees can also play a valuable role in developing policies before they are agreed.



What Scrutiny does not deal with

Scrutiny is not able to deal with legal proceedings, individual complaints, or regulatory decisions such as planning or licensing applications. It also does not consider any issues where there are recognised complaints/other procedures such as The Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman or The Information Commissioner

General Remit of each Scrutiny Board



There are six Overview and Scrutiny Boards at Derby City Council. The Executive Scrutiny Board reviews decisions made by Council Cabinet. The membership of Executive Scrutiny consists of some of the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the other Scrutiny Review Boards.

Each Overview and Scrutiny Board is made up of councillors from different political groups. The number of councillors from each party reflects the political balance of the Council.



The five Scrutiny Boards come under the Executive Scrutiny Board and each focus on a different area of the Council, and broadly relate to individual Cabinet portfolios. Their remit includes:

- reviewing services and putting forward recommendations for their improvement or development
- participating in the early stages of consultation for any changes to services and any new proposals
- contributing to policy development
- monitoring the performance and progress of specific projects

The Aim of Scrutiny

Scrutiny Boards aim to make sure that decision makers are held accountable and local services are fit for purpose. Scrutiny of decisions is carried out in public in an impartial manner through scheduled meetings throughout the municipal year. The meetings can involve questioning of Cabinet Members, Council Officers, and representatives of partner organisations about their decisions and policies. Board members can also speak to local people who could be affected by the decisions being taken. Scrutiny Boards also have legal powers to ask representatives from some other public organisations to attend. These are called “responsible authorities” and include:

- Derbyshire Constabulary
- Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service
- East Midlands Ambulance Service
- National Probation Service
- NHS
- Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire



Co-optees

We continue to bring external voices into scrutiny to enhance our work and offer different perspectives and challenge. The co-opted members ensure a strong external representation and help scrutiny to engage with the public.

Co-optees:

Act as an independent voice for those who live or work in Derby.

Bring specialist knowledge, skills and an element of external challenge to the overview and scrutiny process.

Take an interest in, attend and contribute to the committees and working groups to which appointed.

Establish good relations with other members, officers and co-optees.

Executive Scrutiny Board

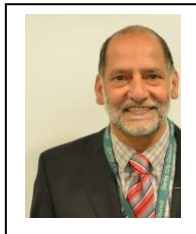


Councillor Repton

Chair

Councillors Evans, Hussain and P Pegg

Vice Chairs



The Board comprises 12 elected members who reflect the Council's overall political balance. They meet monthly to examine every Cabinet decision and in particular "Key Decisions" that the Council takes, the Board makes recommendations on these prior to the Cabinet meeting the following evening

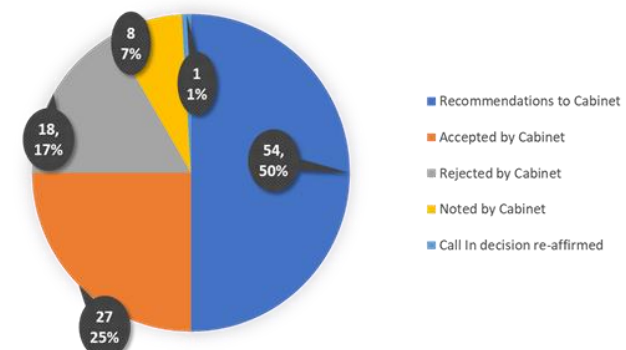
Key Decisions

- Key Decision are those which result in a financial cost or saving of £250,000 or more.
- A decision would also be key if it is likely to have a significant environmental, physical or social or economic impact on people living or working in two or more communities in Derby

Recommendations

During the Municipal Year 2020/2021, from 82 reports considered, the Executive Scrutiny Board made 53 Recommendations to Council Cabinet of which 27 were accepted, 18 rejected and 8 were noted. There was one "call in" where the Board challenged a decision of Cabinet relating to the holidays, activities and food programme.

Recommendations to Cabinet by Exec Scrutiny 2020/21



			Recommendations from Executive Scrutiny to Cabinet	Executive Scrutiny	Executive Scrutiny	Cabinet Response			
Month	Column1	Item	Title	Noted/Endorse	No. of Recs	Accepted	Rejected	Noted	Re-affirm
July	1	2A	New Performance Venue	0	3	2	1	0	
	1	2B	Museums Trust - Request for Loan & Capital Contribution for the Museum of Making Silk Mill Project	1	1	0	0	1	
	1	7	Recommendations from Executive Scrutiny Board	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	8	Property Improvement Capital Works Programme 2020-21	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	9	Final Accounts 2019-20 Out-turn report for General Fund, Capital Programme etc	0	2	0	2	0	
	1	10	Compliance with Contract and Financial Procedure Rules	1	1	0	0	1	
	1	11	Council Delivery Plan Monitoring Q4	1	0	0	0	0	
August	1	12	Annual Report and Review of Performance 2019-20	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	14	New Performance Venue (Confidential)	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	8	Overnight Short Breaks - Respite for Adults	0	1	1	0	0	
	1	9	Appointment of Academy Sponsor for new primary school at Castleward	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	11	Appointment of Academy Sponsor for new primary school at Castleward (Confidential)	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	8	Adult Social Care "Your Life Your Choice" Strategy	0	2	2	0	0	
	1	9	Allocations Policy	0	3	3	0	0	
September	1	10	Compulsory Acquisitions of Empty Homes	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	11	2020/21 Financial Monitoring for General Fund, Capital Budgets, Dedicated Schools	0	1	1	0	0	
	1	13	Compulsory Acquisitions of Empty Homes (Confidential)	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	8	Parent Carers needs Assessment referral from CYP Scrutiny to Cabinet	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	9	Devolution and Local Government Review	0	2	0	0	2	
	1	10	Contract and Financial Procedure Matters	0	1	0	0	1	
	1	12	Contract and Financial Procedure Matters (Confidential)	1	0	0	0	0	
October	1	2	Late Item Green Homes Grant - Authority to bid for funding	0	1	1	0	0	
	1	8	Draft Air Quality Plan	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	9	Extension of the Private Sector Housing Renewal Policy 2015-20	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	10	Purchase of a Residential Development to provide 3 new affordable homes	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	11	Derby City Local Area SEND Strategy	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	12	Market Hall Transformation	0	1	1	0	0	
	1	13	Creation of the Manufacturing Research Centre (MRC) Midlands at Infinity Park Derby	0	1	1	0	0	
November	1	14	Treasury Management mid-year Progress 2020-21 recommendation from Audit and Accounts to Cabinet	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	15	2020/21 Financial Monitoring for General Fund, Capital Budgets, Dedicated Schools	0	2	0	2	0	
	1	16	Contract & Financial Procedures Matters	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	17	Council Plan Monitoring Quarter 2	0	1	1	0	0	
	1	19	Purchase of a Residential Development to provide 3 new affordable homes (Confidential)	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	20	Market Hall Transformation (Confidential)	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	21	Creation of the Manufacturing Research Centre (MRC) Midlands at Infinity Park Derby (Confidential)	1	0	0	0	0	
December	1	8	Education Inclusion (SEND) Parent Carer Consultation Recommendation from CYP Scrutiny to Cabinet	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	9	Updating the Adult Social Care Charging Policy	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	10	Derby Adult Learning Strategic Plan - updating	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	11	Approval of Council Tax Support Scheme (CTS) for 2021/2022	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	12	Approval of Single Discretionary Award Policy	0	1	0	1	0	
	1	13	Changes to Derby's Household Waste Recycling Centre at Raynesway	0	5	2	3	0	
	1	14	Contract and Financial Procedure Matters	0	2	1	1	0	
Dec Budget	1	7	Draft Derby Recovery Plan 2021-22 (Recommendation) and MTFP 2021/22 - 2023/24 (noted)	1	1	1	0	0	
	1	8	Ravensdale Infant and Nursery School - New School Project	0	1	0	0	1	
	1	9	Council Tax Base 2021/22	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	10	Financial Support for Families during School Holidays	0	3	1	1	1	
	1	11	Housing Revenue Account Business Plan 2021-2051	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	8	Determined School Admission Arrangements for DCC Maintained and Voluntary Controlled Schools 2022	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	9	The Granting of an Easement to permit surface water discharge onto land owned by DCC	1	0	0	0	0	
January	1	10	Adult Social Care Fees and Charges 2021/22	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	11	Future High Streets Fund Revised Programme	0	2	0	1	1	
	1	12	Draft Medium Term Financial Plan 2021/22 - 2023-24 (Revenue Budget, Capital Budget, DSG Grant, Reser	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	13	Treasury Management and Investment Strategy 2021/22	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	14	2020/21 Q3 Monitoring for General Fund, Capital Budgets, DSG, Collection Fund and HRA	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	15	Derby Recovery Plan	0	1	1	0	0	
	1	16	Our City Our River (OCOR) Environment Agency Flood Defence Grant in Aid - Acceptance of Funding	1	0	0	0	0	
February	1	18	Future High Streets Fund Revised Programme Confidential	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	1	Call In of Council Cabinet decision 105/20 - Financial Support to Families During School Holidays	0	1	0	0	0	1
	1	8	Community Managed Library Reviews	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	9	Infrastructure Programme Board Capital Programme 2021/22	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	10	Private Sector Housing Renewal Policy	0	1	1	0	0	
	1	11	Derby Homes: Renewal of Partnership Agreement	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	12	Update on Property Disposals Programme and Transfer of Assets to the HRA	0	1	1	0	0	
March	1	13	Provision of Accommodation for use by Children's Services	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	14	Padley Centre Relocation	0	1	1	0	0	
	1	15	Compulsory Acquisition of Empty Homes	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	16	Purchase of a Residential Development to provide 10 new Affordable Homes	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	17	Supporting the Delivery of SmartParc an innovative Food Production Park	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	18	Compliance with Contract and Financial Procedure Rules	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	19	Becketwell Performance Venue Update	0	3	2	1	0	
April	1	20	Council Plan Monitoring Quarter 3	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	22	Provision of Accommodation for use by Children's Services Confidential	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	23	Padley Centre Relocation Confidential	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	24	Compulsory Acquisition of Empty Homes Confidential	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	25	Purchase of a Residential Development to provide 10 new Affordable Homes Confidential	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	26	Supporting the Delivery of SmartParc an innovative Food Production Park Confidential	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	27	Becketwell Performance Venue Project Update	1	0	0	0	0	
May	1	8	Education Otherwise than at School (EOTAS) Recommendation from CYP Scrutiny to Cabinet	1	0	0	0	0	
	1	9	Schools Capital Programme 2021/22 Phase 1 Schemes	0	1	1	0	0	
	1	10	Ravensdale Infant and Nursery School - New School Project	0	1	1	0	0	
	1	11	Compliance with Contract and Financial Procedure Rules	0	5	0	5	0	
	1	13	Ravensdale Infant and Nursery School - New School Project (Confidential item)	0	1	1	0	0	
Total	82			53	54	27	18	8	1

Executive Scrutiny Work Programme

The Work Programme for 2020/21 included an in-depth scrutiny of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and revenue and capital budget proposals for 2020/21, to make sure that the council's resources are used effectively and efficiently.

Comments from the Executive Scrutiny Board when scrutinising the proposed financial plans were fed back to Council Cabinet as part of the consultation process in setting the budget.

Performance Monitoring

A Performance Work Programme is normally set at the start of each Municipal Year to ensure that robust performance monitoring and challenge takes place. During the year 2020 – 2021 the Executive Scrutiny Board deferred agreement of a Performance Plan for 2020-21 until the Council Recovery Plan had been agreed by Council Cabinet. This was to ensure that topics for Overview and Scrutiny reflect revised corporate priorities, in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Call In

It is one of the Executive Scrutiny Board's responsibilities to meet to consider key decisions that have been "called in". During 2020-2021 there was a Call in of Council Cabinet decision 105/20 – Financial Support to Families During School Holidays; in response to the call-in, Cabinet re-affirmed its earlier decision.

Call in of Cabinet Key Decisions

This is a process used by three or more councillors to question if a Cabinet decision has been made in line with the Council's Decision-Making principles.

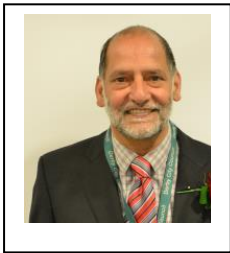
Councillors who ask for a "call in" have to prove that the decision is wrong on one of the following grounds:

- Proportionality – the action must be proportionate to the declared outcome
- Due consideration – professional advice must have been taken from officers
- A presumption in favour of openness – all relevant information in the public interest must have been disclosed
- Clarity of aims and desired outcomes
- Respect for human rights

Call in also applies

- if a record has not been provided of what other options were considered
- if the reasons for the decision are not available
- if any relevant issues do not appear to have been taken into consideration.

Adults and Health Scrutiny Review Board



Councillor Hussain
Chair



Councillor Froggatt
Vice Chair

The Adults and Health Scrutiny Review Board has a statutory role under the Health and Social Care Act 2001, as amended, to scrutinise local health services. Given the wide remit of the Board, members chose not to carry out a single topic review and instead focused on a number of relevant issues over the course of the municipal year.

In the past twelve months the Board's work focused mainly on the COVID pandemic and the effect it had on the people of Derby. A regular update item from NHS Derby and Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group was brought to each of the three meetings of the Board during 2020/21. The Director of Public Health also brought two reports on COVID 19 and how it has affected the

community in Derby. The Board had also planned to undertake a Topic Review on the impact of COVID on Care Homes and the arrangements in place when patients were discharged from hospitals to care homes in Derby. There is a separate item about the Adults Topic Review at the end of this section.

Third phase response to COVID 19 JUCD Plan and NHS 111 First -

The Board requested an update report for the meeting of the Board on 20 April 2021, on waiting times and the general impact of delays together with an outline of any new initiatives.

COVID 19 and how it has affected the community - The Board also received a report which highlighted issues that arose during the first wave of COVID 19, these included: national coordination; lack of testing within the community; early ending of contact tracing; lack of data sharing with local areas; the significant impact on city communities; and, national lockdown measures.

The Board heard about the response from Derby City Council which included working with Derby Hospital to share and understand data and working closely with partners. The direct health impacts of COVID on the community were described and included mental health problems due to bereavement. There was evidence of an emerging condition called Long COVID which has a difficult and prolonged recovery period affecting both young and older people.

The challenges with winter on its way were then highlighted and discussed. These included: rising cases of COVID; winter pressures such as other respiratory viruses and cold weather; mental health impacts of reduced social contacts and festivals such as Diwali and

Christmas; pressures on services including Public Health expectations; and, changes to national structures such as Public Health England being disbanded. The Board asked for an update report to be brought back the meeting in April 2021 or an earlier meeting if there were any significant changes.

Improving mental health inpatient facilities in Derby – The Board heard that there were currently two acute inpatient services for adults of working age: the Radbourne Unit in Derby and the Hartington Unit in Chesterfield. At both sites the facilities and buildings from which acute mental health services are provided, do not comply with current regulatory and legislative requirements. As a large level of investment was needed, changes could not be funded by the local health care system, so a substantial national investment was needed to ensure national requirements were met across services in Derbyshire. The Board heard that the Trust had received a small level of investment to develop business cases to meet the national requirements.

The CCG had brought a report to the Adults Scrutiny meeting as part of the engagement process. The Board heard that the proposed development would enhance the Mental Health facilities in the City, and local people would benefit from the improved offer. It was aimed to have buildings in place and operational by 2024.

The Board were supportive of what was planned and thought it would be a major improvement to mental health services in the city. They agreed that the Trust should proceed with the public engagement and creation of a business case and they asked for regular updates on progress.

Adult Social Care Precept - The Board received a report which set out the context and gave a summary of the different elements of Social Care Funding in the City. The Board heard about the pressures outside of council control which drive demand across adults and children's services and cause yearly increases on demand for statutory services. The Board noted the additional funding allocations made in Adult Social Care over recent years and the risks to the Council's Medium-Term Financial Plan because no sustainable model for the future funding of Adult Social Care had been confirmed.

Healthwatch Derbyshire Care Home Report – The Board received a report and presentation which highlighted the results of the project. The Board heard that the project was initiated because of comments received by Healthwatch Derbyshire (HWD) from relatives concerned that the lockdown and measures introduced around visiting were having a detrimental effect upon the mental and physical wellbeing of their loved ones. HWD decided to gather information to try to understand how the Covid-19 pandemic had affected the wellbeing of care home residents and their relatives and to examine what measures have been introduced to combat these issues.

COVID 19 Vaccinations Update - The Board were informed that the Vaccination Programme in Derbyshire and nationally had been running for over 100 days and Derbyshire had reached 763,400 vaccinations from 19th April: 595,000 plus were first doses and 168,000 were second doses. From Friday 16th to Monday 19th April 2021 36,000 vaccinations had been delivered.

Restoration and Recovery Update - The Board heard about key priorities for Derby and Derbyshire CCG which included: The Health and Wellbeing of staff and the impact on their recruitment and retention; delivering the COVID Vaccination Programme; building on what had been learned during the pandemic to transform the delivery of services; expanding Primary Care recovery to improve access, local health outcomes and address health inequalities; and, transforming community and urgent care pathways to prevent inappropriate attendance at Emergency Departments, and improve timely admission to hospital for emergency patients

Update on COVID 19 How it has affected the community -

Following on from the report to the October meeting, the Board heard about the current COVID case situation up to 10th April 2021. There were 57 cases of COVID 19 in Derby, a rate of 22 cases per 100,000 of the population which was at a similar level to that of September 2020. The Kent Variant was the dominant variant in the City and across the country at this point in time. However, as the pandemic has progressed there has been an increased understanding of COVID as a condition, and that correct treatment for it had improved.

Childhood Vaccination Programme an update on data - The key purpose of the presentation was for the Board to consider progress and to provide reassurance on childhood immunisation since the meeting held on the 4th February 2020, and to update the Board on planned changes to the Public Health system.

Topic Review – The Impact of COVID on Care Homes

At the October 2020 meeting the Board agreed to undertake a Topic Review on “The impact of COVID on Care Homes”. There had been a major upsurge of deaths in Care Homes during the pandemic, with the Board recognising that this was a national issue. It was suggested that the Board take an in depth look at what was happening at the Derby hospitals and what arrangements were being put in place before discharging patients from the hospitals to Derby Care Homes. The Board agreed to undertake a Topic Review on Care Homes and the arrangements in place when patients were discharged from the hospital to care homes in Derby.

At the February meeting the Chair updated the Board on the progress of the topic review. It had been hoped that by the end of this financial year the COVID pandemic would have ended, and the Board would be able to look back and reflect on what had happened in the pandemic. However, the pandemic was still ongoing, so it was felt best to put off that reflection and leave staff to deal with their immediate responsibilities of the vaccination programme and its demanding targets. The Topic Review was postponed into the next municipal year.

The Board asked that a briefing be brought to the first meeting of the next municipal year covering the initial period when the first COVID cases were identified in Derby and comment on Derby’s readiness for the pandemic.

Children and Young People Scrutiny Review Board



Councillor Lind
Chair



Councillor Kus
Vice Chair

The work of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Review Board contributes to the Council's ambitions to give people in Derby an inspiring start in life, particularly by improving educational attainment.

The Children and Young People Board met five times during the last 12 months. Three Recommendations to Cabinet were made by the Board: "Parent Carers Need Assessment", Education Inclusion (SEND) Report and Education Otherwise than at School (EOTAS)". All three recommendations were accepted by Cabinet. A Topic Review was undertaken on Early Intervention and Youth Outreach Support Engagement. There was also a regular focus at meetings

on the Children and Adolescents Mental Health Services (CAMHs). The standard reports on Monitoring Safeguarding Practice and Annual Report from the Derby Safeguarding Children Board – Children at Risk of Exploitation (CRE) were also received.

Monitoring Safeguarding Practice – in September the Board considered a report and presentation which provided an overview of Derby's safeguarding services' response to COVID 19 and outlined the performance, quality and predicted future demand. Four key areas were covered in the report: the initial response to COVID 19; overall performance and quality; future demand; and, delivery model and recovery plans. The Board thanked both the Strategic Director of Peoples Services and the Director for Early Help & Children's Social Care for all the considerable work they had done to retain and keep Children's Services running effectively during the pandemic.

An update report and presentation were considered by the Board in December which provided an overview of Derby's continuing response to COVID 19 and implications for safeguarding practice. The report covered three key areas; the response to the second lockdown, how the service monitors and assures itself of quality, the overall pressures, and its current performance.

At the March meeting the Board were informed of the results of a recent Social Work Survey and learnt of the pressures on social work teams and their performance. It was explained that overall performance remained good between September 2020 to February 2021. There was only one area of slippage; 59% of Initial Child Protection Conferences were held within 15 working days, a drop

from 95%. It was highlighted that no child was left unsafe as Social Workers would put measures/interventions in place as soon as a need was identified and would not wait for a Child Protection Conference to take place and a Plan to be put in place.

CAMHS and Mental Health for Young People - The Board considered reports, update reports and presentations of the NHS Derby and Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) on CAMHS and Mental Health for Young People at the October, December, and March meetings. The Board heard that children and young people in Derby have a greater level of vulnerability to mental illness than seen nationally. Contributing risk factors seen particularly in Derby include poverty, obesity, and migration. The strategic approach being taken in Derby was to improve the mental health of children and young people using the Futures in Mind (FIM) programme 2015 -20. The initial focus was to increase the targeted early intervention offer, upskill its workforce and raise awareness of the issues. The Board requested that regular updates be brought to the Board commencing at the next meeting on 14th December

At the meeting in December the NHS Derby and Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) provided further detail on how services ensure that children and young people excluded from schools, or those who are non-school educated access mental health support, the average and longest waits for services and how the face to face offer was working during COVID.

The Board recommended that DDCCG and Health should work together in partnership with LAC in relation to bridging the gap

between those children and young people that are school refusal (anxiety based absenteeism) to go to school and suffer from mental health issues; and those that are home schooled who possibly also have mental health problems, and also young carers.

In addition, the Chair of Children and Young People's Board wrote to the Government on behalf of the Board stating their concerns in relation to the lack of funding for Children's Adolescents Mental Health service (CAMHS) in Derby particularly, and the impact that lack of funding was having on children and young people in Derby. The letter also highlighted that every effort should be made to increase the recruitment rate and the career path for CAMHS and make it attractive to people, so that a workforce can be established that was equipped and competent to deal with issues.

At the March meeting the Board were informed that, over the course of the year, a strategy had been in place to increase the access to CAMHS from 25% to 36%, It was intended to increase that access still further over the next few years, in line with the national strategy.

The Board had previously learnt about targeted intervention services, which had been put in place for children and young people (CYP) to access at an earlier stage before specialist CAMHS services, to enable schools and families to access those services where therapies were needed; these services had begun to take some of the pressure of the CAMHS Team so the team were able to deliver more complex support.

The Board had previously asked for information about waiting times for the new services and it was explained that the CCG had hoped to talk about the Futures in Mind (FIM) refresh strategy for children and young people with mental health at this meeting, but this had been put back until September 2021. The Board asked that an update report on the demand and response for CAMHs and Mental Health Services for Young People and also the draft Plan be brought back in the next Municipal Year in August.

Parent Carer Needs Assessments - at the September meeting the Board considered a report which had been requested by the Chair of the Children and Young Peoples Scrutiny Board to review Derby's current practice in light of the statutory requirements of Parent Carer Needs Assessments.

The Board heard that a local authority must, where certain conditions are satisfied, assess whether a parent carer of a disabled child, living in their area, has need for support, and the extent of those needs. There are two conditions to meet for undertaking a parent carer needs assessment. The Board noted that the local authority can legally combine the parent carer's need assessments with other assessments and the Council does so within its single assessment to meet its legal duties. When a stand-alone assessment has been requested, these are commissioned from Adult Social Care.

The Board recommended that the Council should ensure the pathway for parents accessing information on how and when Derby City Council undertakes parent carer needs assessments is explicit and clear within the Local Offer, on the Council website and within

the policy, and that it is accessible for parents who have English as an additional language, including deaf parents and visually impaired parents.

They also recommended that any parent carer needs assessments which are either stand-alone assessments or combined with another assessment, are headed in a way to show that needs in section 17 of the Children's Act 1989 are specifically addressed. Parent carer needs assessments may form part of a single assessment but will be clearly identified as a "parent carers needs assessment".

The Board recommended that to take forward the two recommendations above, a project group of parents and relevant stakeholders should co-produce and publish the process by January 2021.

Finally, the Board recommended that Council Cabinet agree and support all the above proposals. Cabinet accepted the proposals at their October meeting.

Priority Families Programme - the Board considered a report at their October meeting which gave an update on the Priority Families Programme, which is administered by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). The programme conducts targeted interventions for families experiencing multiple problems. The Board were informed that up to the end of March 2020 Payment by Results (PbR) funding of around £1.2m has been received and approximately £2.2m

attachment funding has been brought into Derby during the programme.

Education Inclusion (SEND) - The Board considered a report and presentation which provided information of greater depth about attainment and achievement in SEND. This was the first time a report had been prepared that was specific to the attainment and other outcomes for children and young people with special educational needs and / or disabilities.

The Board heard that the local authority has a statutory responsibility to ensure appropriate provision for pupils who have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP). But there is no such statutory responsibility for pupils categorised as SEN Support and who did not have an EHCP. These children also need to be supported and challenged to improve outcomes. If their needs are met, they will flourish in their mainstream school and there may be no need to put in place an EHCP.

The Board recommended that Cabinet undertake a consultation with Parent Carers across the City regarding absence, SEND, elective home education, attendance and, mental health and wellbeing, to ensure that needs are better met. Cabinet agreed to undertake a targeted and meaningful consultation as appropriate to ensure the best outcomes for children at their meeting on 9th December 2020.

Young Carers - the Board considered a report and presentation at their December meeting regarding Young Carers. The report gave an update on the numbers of young carers and the work carried

out with them. The Board heard that it was a statutory responsibility of the local authority to provide services for young carers. The responsibility was taken on by the Council and moved to Early Help services in 2015, before that it had been a commissioned service. The Board recognised the need to reinforce that the Early Help Service was available to support and keen to help young carers. It was important that schools recognise these young carers, as it was a safeguarding issue. The children are at risk of their education deteriorating because of caring for a family member.

Partnership Approach to Tackling Childhood Obesity - the Board considered a report which gave an update on a Partnership Approach to Tackling Childhood Obesity. The Board heard that the Strategy was developed to last from 2020 to 2030 as a long-term approach was needed. The final draft strategy was approved in 2020. The Board asked to be kept informed in terms of relevant data that comes out over the next year, to see whether there was an increasing problem of obesity for children or if it was being resolved. Also, the Board requested to see what strategies or responses would be put in place resulting from the data.

Derby Safeguarding Children's Board Annual Report – Children at Risk of Exploitation (CRE). The Board considered a report and presentation which provided an update on the work of the multi-agency partnership. The Board were informed that CSE which has morphed into CRE, encompasses sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation. There are three planks to success within the city, there was strong governance, excellent partnership working

because tackling CRE cannot be done in isolation: robust systems in place to support and identify children and young people who are danger of CRE.

Report on the work of the Virtual School for LAC. The Board considered a report at their February meeting where they heard that the exams and assessments in 2019/20 were cancelled as there were no outcomes to report on due to the pandemic. This report gave an overview of the areas of work undertaken by the Virtual School to help support looked after children (LAC). The Chair thanked the Virtual School Headteacher and the team for all their hard work and dedication supporting LAC during the pandemic. The Board resolved to recognise and understand the role and range of activities which are undertaken by the Virtual School in supporting improved outcomes.

Social Impact Bond Programme Update - the Board heard that the Local Authority worked in partnership with Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Councils to deliver an evidence-based service to support children on the edge of care, and in care. The service was called Supporting Children and Young People to Achieve Resilience (STARS). The Board heard that the STARS funding model was a Social Impact Bond (SIB); these are a form of social investment often used now to fund service improvements involving Local Authorities, investors, and providers. Payments are based on outcomes being met. A SIB was part of a strategy to fund placement interventions which improve outcomes for children and young people and are better value for money. Investors fund the costs to deliver an improvement to the service and the Local

Authority makes a payment when a successful outcome is delivered, rather than paying for service delivery. The Board noted the performance of the STARS Social Impact Bond programme to date and the forecasted savings in the MTFP

COVID Remote Learning - delivery of IT Support for Children and Young People. The Board considered a report and presentation which gave an update on the delivery of IT Support for Children and Young during the pandemic. The Board were informed that Derby City had received 2642 laptops or tablets from the DfE for disadvantaged children. The Board requested an update be brought back to the first meeting of the next Municipal year on the progress of the roll out of equipment to schools.

SEND Focus – Progress on Written Statement of Action – At the March meeting the Board heard that that as a result of a SEND Inspection in June 2019 the local area was asked to complete a written statement of action (WSOA). This was a plan to show how the Local Authority (LA) would remedy the significant failings in the local area at that point. The WSOA was approved on 17th December 2019, however, there was a gap between the actual Inspection, a report being issued and putting together the plan. Since December 2019 the LA have been working on this WSOA. The Board were informed that Ofsted have re-opened their inspection window and are hoping to start inspections from summer 2021. Derby is due an inspection from June 2021.

Education Otherwise than at School (EOTAS) - The Board considered a presentation which had been requested by the Chair. The Board heard that this was an introductory presentation to give

the Board an opportunity to provide a steer to a possible direction of travel. The Board heard that EOTAS are for when a child, or young person is unable to attend a mainstream or special school, for when a child has to attend a hospital medical school, or for when a child or young person was being educated at home through tuition. It was not the same as elective home education where parents take their child out of the education system. The Board recommended to Cabinet that the Council should co-produce an Education Otherwise than at School (EOTAS) offer for Derby with parent carers and children and young people to ensure that Derby City Council are meeting their statutory duties to produce an offer that Derby can be proud of. Cabinet agreed to accept the recommendation at their meeting on 14 April 2021.

Topic Review – Early Intervention and Youth Outreach Support Engagement

The Topic Review was discussed at the September meeting. The Board agreed to undertake a review of Early Intervention Youth Outreach Support to review and map what youth support provision is currently available within communities in Derby City.

At the October meeting the Board received a presentation about the Youth Offer (Early Help) which was just one part of the Council which delivered a Youth Support Programme. The Board agreed a scoping document for the Review and a Working Group was established to gather information for the Review.

At the December meeting the Board considered a report and presentation which gave an overview of Derby Youth Alliance. The Board heard that there are several youth provision organisations all

doing different things to support young people and to provide activities, engagement, and interventions. The Board agreed a timescale for the collation of evidence and preparation of recommendations in relation to the Topic Review. There would be two working groups, one in late January and the other in early February, at which the organisations listed in the scoping document would be asked to attend to present evidence. All Board members were invited to attend.

Three Working Group meetings took place in February, March and April. The Board heard evidence from representatives of local organisations including Community Action, Community Safety Partnership, Derbyshire Constabulary and Derbyshire Fire Services. It was agreed to undertake a poll of young people to ask where children and young people would prefer to receive information on different activities happening across Derby. The Poll took place during April, it was circulated through the Youth Alliance, Schools and Voices in Action Youth Council and was open for two weeks. In total 1210 votes were cast: the highest result was through a School Website, followed by Instagram; Facebook was the least favourite option.

The draft Topic Review Recommendations were agreed in June and Council Cabinet considered the Topic Review on 14 July 2021. They agreed not to adopt the recommendations of the topic review currently, but to review them in a year's time once the Youth Alliance has had a chance to have an impact.

Communities Scrutiny Review Board



Councillor P Pegg
Chair



Councillor Nawaz
Vice Chair

The Communities Scrutiny Review Board scrutinises Streetpride and Neighbourhood working, Leisure Culture and Tourism. The Board is also the Council's statutory Crime and Disorder Committee.

Public Protection Officers (PPOs) - the Board received an update report where it heard that the Council had originally seconded PPOs from Nottingham City Council and that these PPOs had focused on environmental crime in the Normanton and Arboretum wards. A further group of PPOs had been seconded to focus on tackling anti-social behaviour in the city centre; in total, eight PPOs had been seconded from Nottingham City Council.

The national lockdown due to COVID-19 had changed the focus of the PPO service. During the lockdown period PPOs had continued working on the frontline and engaging with the public, but their responsibilities had moved from parking fines. They had concentrated on dealing with anti-social behaviour and environmental crime.

The Board were interested in what powers the Council's PPOs had and if they were being enforced. They were informed that PPOs had powers to deal with: anti-social behaviour, environmental crime, community protection and issuing fixed penalty notices. The Board heard that the Council had a limited number of PPOs so it was important for this service to take a flexible approach to working and for its resources to be targeted. The Board asked for an update on the Council's Public Protection Officers for the next meeting.

At the September meeting, the Board received a further update on PPOs, they heard that the PPOs had been introduced in 2017 to tackle inner city environmental crime and that the service had been extended into the city centre with further investment in 2019. The focus of the PPO service was safer, stronger, and cleaner neighbourhoods.

The PPO service had several key priorities, including: anti-social behaviour; environmental crime; problem parking issues; visibility and re-assurance; eyes and ears for council and partners; the new mantra for the service was Engage-Educate-Enforce.

The Board learnt that the PPOs had played a significant role in the Council's response to COVID-19 including being a crucial element of the city's response to COVID during lockdown with work in the following areas: ASB in city centre and business liaison; safe and well checks; food distribution and prescription collection for those shielding; protecting vulnerable people and working within community hub; managing open spaces and social distancing. Covid-19 related work was still ongoing and was likely to increase with any second spike. In the future it was planned to undertake a review of management structures within Neighbourhoods and PPOs to enhance front-line delivery and that there would be more integration with DCC services and partners. The Board thanked the Council's PPOs for carrying out the work they did and resolved that they would review the financial side of the Public Protection Officers Team at a meeting in 2021.

“Our City Our River” Derby Flood Risk and Regeneration Scheme - the Board heard that this was a project developed from the Environment Agency's Lower Derwent Flood Risk Management Strategy and Derby City Council's (DCC) 2012 adopted Masterplan for the redevelopment of Derby City. The Lead Authority for the delivery of the scheme was Derby City Council.

The Board asked whether Derby was now prepared for future extreme events in relation to flooding and were informed that Derby was much better prepared than it had been in 2019 when flooding had hit during the construction of flood defences.

The Board heard that 'Derby Riverside' was the next significant piece of work, but there was a £10-16m shortfall in funding for this

project. The estimate included the cost of compulsory purchases. The Board heard that the flooding event in Derby in 2019 was considered a 1 in 20-year event. The Board asked to be kept informed of the progress of the scheme.

Contributions of Leisure Culture and Tourism to Economic Recovery - the Board heard that culture, leisure and tourism needed to be a key part of the infrastructure and future vision of Derby. It was reported that culture, leisure, and tourism could contribute to delivering against cross cutting themes and enabling economic recovery and growth to be achieved.

They heard that it was essential that Derby considered the long-term purpose of the city centre and how it could contribute to quality of life and project a positive city identity. The current and developing initiatives that supported this ambition included public realm enhancements to increase vibrancy.

Football Facilities - the Board received an update report on developments. They learnt that Move More Derby (MMD) aimed to provide an active Derby for everyone, improving the city's health, wellbeing, and quality of life by supporting people to move more in Derby. The benefits of the MMD programme highlighted: improved physical & mental health and wellbeing; cohesive communities, with support for maintaining independence; and, improving aspirations and strengthening communities

The Board heard that the **Derby Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS)** ensured that all valuable facilities were protected for the long-term benefit of sport and that the PPS promoted a sustainable approach

to the provision of playing pitches and management of sports clubs. The PPS ensured that there were enough facilities in the right place to meet current and projected future demand and the PPS ensured that all clubs had access to facilities of appropriate quality to meet current/future need.

New Waste Recycling Centre - at the January meeting a report on the potential new waste recycling centre in Derby was received by the Board. The Board were informed that a new waste centre had been a manifesto pledge in 2018 but had not yet been fulfilled. The new waste centre was still one of the administration's priorities and the future of waste in Derby was dependent upon the Sinfin Incinerator's future; a future business case would be put forward for the Sinfin incinerator.

The Board heard that there wasn't currently a timeframe in place for the Sinfin Incinerator and that Covid-19 had delayed progress on this issue, but that once the Estimated Fair Value had been dealt with, a case could be brought forward for the future of this site. The Council was still in a contractual dispute over the Sinfin incinerator but was on track with surveys that were taking place on this site.

The Board asked if a date had been set by which time the contractual dispute would be resolved and were informed that the Council was currently in a pre-formal adjudication process, so a timescale was not available at the time of the meeting.

The Shot Tower - the Board received a report on the use of the Shot Tower. It was reported that the Council had worked alongside

Community Action to secure a permanent venue for the central location for the Community Hub Model. The Shot Tower had been identified as an alternative venue and that the Community Hub had moved into the Shot Tower during the week commencing 11 January 2021. Only essential key workers were working at the Shot Tower during the lockdown and that Community Action and social prescribers were also working out of the Shot Tower.

The Board were given a list of partnerships who would be working out of the Shot Tower Building: these included Derby Homes, Social Prescribers, Local Area Co-ordinators, Community Development Team, Food 4 Thought, and partners on the Stronger Communities Board.

Better Together Initiative - The Board received a presentation on the initiative which gave background information on the response to the global pandemic and the work undertaken by Derby's community response hub. They heard that Derby City's response to the pandemic, signposting, support, advice and related activities was successfully delivered by multifaceted teams working with local community groups and volunteers through the creation of Derby's Community Response Hub. The pandemic had shown how a multifaceted response had worked with hundreds of volunteers coming forward from the community.

The Board heard that the role of the local authority needed to change to meet the needs of the city and its residents. The Council needed to work with citizens, have an agile workforce and be empowered to throw away the old rulebook.

Derby's recovery plan was based on three work streams: economic, organisational and community recovery. This was in the context of better together, building stronger communities, facilitating better problem solving and reducing demand for services and social care.

Members asked how city-wide issues could be tackled within the new way of working. They were informed that local work would feed into the decision making at a city-wide level and that local intelligence would be coordinated and used in a smarter way so that the Council could respond more effectively to city-wide issues.

Food Laws Plan - the Board received an update on the Food Laws Plan in Derby. They heard that a Food Law Enforcement Plan had not been produced in 2020/21 due to COVID-19, however the Council had continued to follow the Food Standards Agency's guidance. There were approximately 2,600 food businesses in the city and that all food businesses were risk rated and were required to register with the Local Authority.

The Board noted that COVID-19 had resulted in a significant impact on food safety in Derby including:

- Food and Safety and Trading Standards Teams heavily involved in the council's response to COVID-19
- Food work and business as usual activities severely disrupted
- COVID Secure Business advice on COVID requirements
- Checking Personal Protective Equipment - Trading Standards
- Avian Flu confirmed case north of the city in December

- Further impact as restrictions eased and businesses re-opened

The Council were following guidance issued by Food Standards Agency to Local Authorities. It was noted that delivery of Food Controls had been relaxed until June 2021 and appropriate interventions were being undertaken where concerns had been identified including urgent reactive work, food incidents, foodborne disease outbreaks, allergens and complaints. The Board asked for any updates from the Food Standards Agency to be passed on to Board members.

Waste Policies - the Board received an update on various waste policies in Derby. The Board noted that a deposit return scheme was due to be rolled out in 2023. It was noted that legislation for mandatory food waste collections was also due to be implemented in 2023.

The Board heard that the Waste Service had been affected by the pandemic and that black and blue bin kerbside collections and protected access to the waste transfer station had been prioritised. At Raynesway HWRC the Council had implemented a new booking system and had redesigned the HWRC to safeguard staff and visitors, improve road safety and protect the waste transfer station.

The Board heard that the waste team were in the process of reviewing and updating the policies which are followed when providing this service. The Waste Team would like to bring these back to scrutiny when they were finalised.

The Waste Teams biggest challenges were:

- Kerbside Contamination – minimising the wrong material in the bins collected at the kerbside
- Protecting the environment – reducing waste arising and increasing what our residents and businesses reuse, reduce and recycle
- Costs – reducing costs for waste collection and disposal services and contributing to the Council's financial challenges (MTFP)



Corporate Services Scrutiny Review Board



Councillor Naitta
Chair



Councillor Stanton
Vice Chair

The Corporate Scrutiny Board considered the following overview reports and presentations:

Supporting Licence Holders during COVID-19 - the Board considered the report and noted that during the Pandemic the Council had taken the following actions to support Licence Holders:

Business as usual; keeping license holders updated on new legislation; providing guidance; supporting license holders in meeting guidance from central government; working with Hackney Carriages and Private Hire Cars to facilitate the use of protective screens for drivers and passengers; and, providing advice & support.

Revenue and Benefits - the Board considered an update from Revenue and Benefits on what support the Council was providing to individuals and businesses who could not access public funds or business grants offered by central Government during the Covid-19 pandemic. The Board heard how the Council had supported residents in fulfilling their Council Tax obligations by introducing measures such as : reducing 20/21 Council Tax accounts by nearly £30m through the award of reliefs and discounts – including around £13m in Council Tax Support; suspending all recovery action until 30 June 2020 – current year and arrears; allowing taxpayers to defer their first 20/21 instalments from April to June – 2,159 households took up that offer; reducing 20/21 Council Tax accounts by nearly £30m through the award of reliefs and discounts – including around £13m in Council Tax Support; suspending all recovery action until 30 June 2020 – current year and arrears; allowing taxpayers to defer their first 20/21 instalments from April to June – 2,159 households took up that offer.

Strategic Lead on all Council Services Update Report - the Board heard that the Council was responding to the pandemic by: ensuring vulnerable people get the health and care that they need; supporting local communities; helping business and workforces to stay resilient; maintaining essential services and keeping people informed.

The Board heard that the Local Resilience Forum was conducting an inquiry into how the Council had responded to the pandemic. They were also informed that the Council's hotel provision for homeless people had now ended and that appropriate exit

arrangements had been put in place for individuals supported through this provision.

Financial Impact of COVID-19 on Derby City Council - the Board considered an update, they heard that the Covid-19 pandemic meant Councils had to respond quickly to community, business and individual needs both locally and in response to Government guidance. Derby City Council's response was agile and cost effective. It was noted that the amount of need meant that every Council in the country had to spend money ahead of Government funding and that this was done in good faith with initial announcements by the Secretary of State at the time.

Local Authority Prosecutions - The Board considered a report on Local Authority Prosecutions. They heard that as a public authority, the council was the enforcing regulatory body for many statutory functions. The Board noted that the duty or power to enforce did not automatically translate into an obligation to prosecute in every case.

The Board requested a breakdown of the volume of work dealt with by the Legal team. They heard that on average the Legal team opened around 1000 prosecution files each year and there was a good success rate for prosecutions.

Democratic Services - the Board received an update on Democratic Services, where the functions of the Council's Democracy Service and its constituent teams were detailed. They heard that remote meetings had substantially changed the way the team operated as new Remote Meeting Procedure Rules had been introduced, and

that remote meetings were much more resource intensive than face to face meetings.

The Board asked if Covid-19 would have a lasting impact on Democratic Services and were informed that the legislation allowing remote meetings was due to expire in May 2021, but organisations such as ADSO were lobbying for it to be extended. They heard that remote meetings provided flexibility and that, in future, hybrid meetings may become the norm.

The Operation of "Core Buildings" throughout the Pandemic and the Asset Disposal Program - the Board considered an update report, where they heard that the unlocking of the first national lockdown, which included the closing of schools, all non-essential facilities, shops and operations was managed in a phased way. It was reported that the government issued guidance as to what was required to re-open facilities in a "covid secure" way.

The Board noted the operational use of the Council's core assets throughout the pandemic and the Council's property asset disposal program.

Strategic Partnership and Vision Commission - the Board considered the report. They heard that since the Board's last update in March 2020, work on the Vision Commission had been paused as the Council focused on recovering from the pandemic. However, since the Board's last update the City Partnership Board had been re-launched. The six principles of partnership working were highlighted: Collaboration; Creativity; Outcome focused; Pace; Community First; With the City. The Board heard that the City

partnership Board focused on economic recovery, including city centre reinvention and youth unemployment, community recovery, including the Better Together Initiative and the Poverty Commission.

The Board heard that the next steps were to continue to develop and implement recovery priorities; undertake a review of partnership boards and working groups to support delivery; undertake an engagement exercise to find out how people are feeling about the City and its future; finalise Vision Commissioners and agree timescales in view of COVID; to commission research based on agreed priority themes.

The Board heard that Partnership Working included engagement with smaller partners and that the Medium-Term Financial Plan supported these projects. They were informed that smaller partners were engaged with through the Active Stronger Board and the Community Recovery Board.

The Chair questioned whether the Recovery Plan would help those in the city suffering from poverty and heard that through the Poverty Commission a commitment had been made in Autumn 2020 to investigate the underlying causes of poverty in Derby and to look at what interventions the Council could make.

Update on the Impact of COVID-19 on Registrar Income Levels - the Board considered the update and they heard that when the national lockdown was introduced in March 2020, the Government issued instructions to each Registration Service in England and Wales via the General Register Office. The following restrictions

were introduced: birth registrations were stopped; legislation was introduced to allow death registrations to be completed remotely, primarily over the telephone; and, marriage and civil partnership ceremonies were stopped.

The Board noted the lost income for the Registration Service because of implementing COVID-19 legislation and measures, and also the Cabinet decision to fund the lost income from the COVID Emergency fund.

Impact of COVID-19 on Car Parking in Derby - The Board considered an update and heard that the management of parking was essential to support the social and economic systems that help Derby function and was critical to smooth traffic flows, as it provided places to park as well as managing appropriate restrictions. The Board heard that the restrictions of the pandemic meant there had been a significant impact on the demand for on and off-street parking, season tickets and contracts. Parking demand had been affected by more people staying at home, a reduction of visitors to the city centre; restrictions, closure of shops, theatres and restaurants, less people using public transport and redundancies in local businesses. The Board heard that MiPermit had adapted their technology to meet the Council's request and that they had won an international award. The Board were concerned that other options were available for residents who didn't use technology and were informed that processes were in place to support those residents who needed a paper permit.

Gender Representation Task Group Report

The Board considered a report of the Gender Representation Task Group. The Board noted that this was a cross-party task group which aimed to highlight how gender representation in Derby could be improved. They noted that the recommendations contained within the report were the recommendations of the Gender Representation Task Group and were not officer recommendations.

Corporate Scrutiny Review Board had been asked to receive reports from a task group to consider gender representation because of a motion to Council on 20 September 2017. The motion had asked that a group be formed to look at the representation of females in elected roles, the motion had been agreed, and two meetings of the group had taken place. The Board discussed the recommendations made in the report and decided that some of the report's recommendations significantly overlapped with the work being undertaken by the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP).

The Board recommended to Council:

1. that Derby City Council should aspire to achieve equal gender representation when filling Chair/Vice-chair positions; and that all reasonable steps must be taken to achieve this.
2. that a programme be introduced to encourage more women to stand for all Political Parties.
3. that Council should write to the Government and the Local Government Association to recommend that pensions for councillors be reintroduced.
4. that Council should consider the following recommendations, subject to receipt and consideration of the forthcoming report and separate recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel:
 - that the Basic Allowance be increased to £11,336 per annum, to match the annual salary of people earning minimum wage and working 25 hours a week (as referenced in the Fawcett Society report).
 - that the Dependent Carers' Allowance be raised, and that Derby City Council recognise the importance of a Dependant Carers' Allowance to support councillors with caring responsibilities and encourages members to use this.
 - that a Parental and Carers Leave Policy for councillors is implemented.

At Council on 21 July 2021, it was moved that recommendations one to three contained within minute extract 33/20 of the Corporate Services Scrutiny Board be approved. It was noted that following the earlier agreement of the recommendations of the IRP, the fourth recommendation of the Board had been superseded. The recommendations were put to the vote and carried.

The overall objective of gender equality is **a society in which women and men enjoy the same opportunities, rights and obligations in all spheres of life.**

Regeneration and Housing Scrutiny Review Board



Councillor Evans
Chair



Councillor Russell
Vice Chair

The Regeneration and Housing Scrutiny Board considered the following overview reports and presentations:

Reducing Carbon Emissions in Derby – DE-Carbonise and D2EE Impact of Brexit and Support to Business - in September 2020 the Board considered a report which summarised the achievements of the Derby and Derbyshire Energy Efficiency (D2EE) project.

The Board heard about the DE-Carbonise project, which was a three-year project working with small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) to help reduce carbon emissions and save money. Members of the Board were impressed with the performance of the project and its contribution towards the

climate emergency. However, they felt this project was a small contribution to the climate emergency as it only related to businesses and noted that 20% of carbon emissions came from many older houses which leak emissions. Derby Homes were looking at retro fitting houses to reduce energy consumption. The Board heard that there was a green grant scheme available to help reduce energy bills and reduce emissions. Consideration was being given to how this could be promoted in Derby.

The Board thanked the team for the work undertaken on the project. They resolved to acknowledge the achievements made during the D2EE project and to support the DE-Carbonise project by promoting it to businesses and partners across Derby, to maximise benefit to Derby businesses and reduce carbon emissions. They acknowledged the role that the D2EE and DE-Carbonise projects' have played, and will continue to play, in supporting the Council's response to the declared Climate Emergency.

COVID in Derby - the Board received a presentation on the impact of Covid on Derby which would help to shape the work programme of the Board. The presentation included information in relation to public health, the economy, employment, the city centre, and housing. It also included the strategic approach to recovery, particularly the economic recovery plan (restart/ revive/ renew).

Planning included, immediate events and activities, continuing major regeneration projects, urgent property and business-related issues, wicked issues, master planning and governance issues. The Board felt that consideration needed to be given to how to take this forward collectively.

The Board heard that communities in Derby pulled together well, and noted how the Council and Derby Homes had worked together in response to the pandemic. There were three work streams which highlighted working together: they were to make sure the jobs created go to the people of Derby, investing in Derby and the nature of the relationship with neighbourhoods, planning, and mobility.

The Board were asked for information available by ward on the health outcomes and a breakdown of the numbers of people made redundant or at risk of being made redundant. They thought that consideration should also be given to what will attract people to the city.

Moorways – project update - in October 2020 the Board considered a presentation on progress with the Moorways Sports Village. The facility would create an exciting leisure destination for the city. The project received planning consent in 2018 and the approved capital budget for the project was £42m.

The Board noted the report and thanked officers for the comprehensive presentation. They requested details of where the newsletters were circulated and asked for information on the overall budget headlines for the project and what had been spent to date to be sent to Board Members.

Update on next steps accommodation provision for homeless people and rough sleepers - the Board heard that the next steps accommodation programme followed the Government's 'Everyone in' initiative and sought to provide continued emergency

accommodation and sustainable move-on accommodation for individuals brought in from rough sleeping in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Derby was one of a few areas that had managed to move clients from the hotel into a range of settled and supported housing.

A bid for £1.2m capital funding matched by a further £1.2m of retained HRA funds had been agreed to purchase twenty new properties for rough sleepers. The funding consisted of:

- £455k revenue funding for 3.25 years to support for the new properties
- £61,800 for emergency accommodation
- £19,382 for Private Rented Sector (PRS) accommodation and support
- £40k for winter provision.

Twenty properties had been identified and were progressing to purchase. This had been achieved by joint working from a range of departments across the Council and Derby Homes. The Board felt that this was an exceptional delivery of this project and thanked everyone involved for the work undertaken.

Residential Permit Parking in Derby – in January 2021 the Board considered a report on residential permit parking in Derby. The report provided information on permit parking schemes and an update on the implementation of 'virtual' electronic residents permits.

The Board were informed that the MiPermit scheme was operated by a third party. The Council had worked with the contractor to expand the scheme which included the waste site on Raynesway. The Board supported the continued use of residents parking schemes and the greater flexibility delivered through personal management of electronic permits.

A52 Wyvern Transport Improvements Scheme – Update on Delivery and Lessons Learned - the Board considered a presentation which gave an update on the delivery of the A52 Wyvern Transport Scheme and lessons learned and gave an outline of the key dates of the project. The Board heard that it was anticipated the workforce would be off site by February 2021. Details were given of difficulties with the project that became apparent in April 2018 and resulted in an audit report in May 2018. Work was undertaken to complete the design work and establish the costs of the project. Council Cabinet agreed the revised design and budget in April 2019.

A second presentation outlined lessons learned. An audit report was issued which included 53 recommendations. The key areas of learning were, internal governance, resources, finances, design maturity / change co-ordination and the need for a one team approach. The presentation also detailed the implementation of system weakness recommendations.

The Board thanked officers for the report and indicated that they felt reassured the project would be completed on the revised timescales and budget. They noted that a detailed report was being prepared and this would be presented to councillors. The

Board asked that the Lessons Learnt Report be presented to all elected members when it was available and asked that the report could also be brought to the March 2021 meeting of the Board.

Localities Working - the Board considered a presentation on working in localities. The presentation gave background information on the response to the global pandemic and the work undertaken by Derby's community response hub. The Board heard that it showed teamwork across the local authority sector along with the community and voluntary sector and residents.

The pandemic had highlighted how a multifaceted response had worked with hundreds of volunteers coming forward from the community. It was a shared problem, addressed by bringing communities and agencies together. The role of elected Councillors was essential as they were the experts on the issues in their wards.

The Board heard that the role of the local authority had to change to meet the needs of the city and its residents. The Council had traditionally taken on a paternal role but could not do everything for everyone. The Council now needs to work with citizens and have an agile workforce.

Derby's recovery plan was based on three work streams: economic, organisational and community recovery. This was in the context of better together, building stronger communities, facilitating better problem solving and reducing demand for services and social care. The Board asked that the presentation be circulated to all councillors and that a Communications Plan be drawn up for all councillors.

Provision of Additional Affordable Housing in Derby - the Board received a presentation on the provision of additional affordable housing in Derby. The Board heard that the threshold for affordable housing was set in the local plan so that all developments of 15 units or more were required to provide an element of affordable housing.

The Government had consulted on a paper entitled 'Changes to the Current Planning System' alongside the Planning White Paper in 2020. The paper had recommendations which made it impossible to lower the threshold. The Government was proposing to increase the threshold to 40 or 50, for an 18-month period, but potentially for the long term, depending on the impact over the initial period.

The Board were given the Homes England definition of affordable housing: 'Affordable housing is social rented, affordable rented and intermediate housing, provided to eligible households whose needs are not met by the market'.

The Council, Derby Homes and Housing Associations were the main providers of affordable housing. Those funded through S106 contributions tended to be provided by Housing Associations and the remainder was provided by Derby Homes and the Council. The Council dealt with the more difficult sites and they also bought houses on the open market at short notice.

Properties were provided by the Housing Revenue Account and relied on collaboration with Derby Homes (examples of such purchases included the War Memorial Village Trust homes). Any sites of surplus Council owned land were also assessed to see if

they were suitable for affordable housing. The Board were informed that the War Memorial Village Trust homes were environmentally friendly properties. Some 100 homes had been provided over 16 sites across the city.

The Board thanked the officers for the work undertaken to provide this information which was very positive and forward thinking and noted that it was not just about the cost of the rent but also the costs of utility bills that was being addressed. They requested information by ward on the various projects be sent to ward councillors.

A38 Presentation by Highways England - the Board considered a presentation on the proposed works on the Kingsway, Markeaton and Little Eaton junctions on the A38. The presentation gave an overview of the project and showed the junctions as they currently were and how they would look after the project was completed. It was reported that there had been a judicial review challenge of the proposed works. It was anticipated that a decision on the judicial review would be available shortly. Once the decision was known it would be fed back to the Board. Work had been paused until the outcome of the judicial review was known. The plan was to start works in September 2021 and any delays would be incorporated into works at that stage.

The Board asked if the felling of the unprotected trees had been paused. It was reported that it had been paused until formal agreement was reached. The tree and vegetation removal would be programmed into the scheme in September. Pedestrian access to Markeaton Park was queried by the Board and assurance was

given that this had been included in the scheme and identified on the drawings.

A50/500 Presentation on the Work of Midland Connect - the Board considered a presentation which set out the work of Midland Connect on the A46, A5 and A50/500. These were classed as economic corridors. In respect of the A50/500 corridor, there were many businesses along the corridor including advanced manufacturing; business, professional and financial; construction; energy and low carbon technology; transport technology and logistics and visitor and retail. All of these businesses relied on connectivity east/west as well as north/south.

There had been historic underinvestment in connectivity and there was an ambition that by 2030 the A50/500 corridor would be one of the primary locations for sustainable growth and investment in the UK, driven by innovation and new technologies and supporting the move towards carbon neutrality.

The Board heard about next steps. Due to the importance of this corridor, Midlands Engine had taken the lead for developing the vision for the growth strategy. The key economic aims that were important from a Derby perspective were South Derby Growth Zone and the proposed new junction on the A50, supporting the SmartParc development on the former Celanese site, and retaining our large employers and their supply chains.

Empty Homes Strategy Consultation - the Board considered a presentation on the Empty Homes Strategy Consultation. The consultation was due to close on 27 April 2021. The aim of the

strategy was to bring empty homes into use either through voluntary assistance or enforcement action, increase affordable housing supply by purchasing empty homes or leasing via a housing provider and tackling climate change by improving thermal efficiency.

It was reported that 67% of owners purposely acquire empty homes. Compulsory purchase was a last resort after owners were given every opportunity to bring the property back into use. The Council had to compete in a free market to purchase properties. The Board asked that the results of the consultation be reported to a future meeting.

