



Please ask for Charlotte Kearsey
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The Chair and Members of Cabinet

7 June 2021

Dear Councillor,

Please attend a meeting of the CABINET to be held on TUESDAY, 15 JUNE 2021 at 10.30 am in Council Chamber, Town Hall, Rose Hill, Chesterfield, the agenda for which is set out below.

Members of the public will be able to access the meeting online by following the link [here](#).

AGENDA

Part 1(Public Information)

1. Declarations of Members' and Officers' Interests relating to items on the Agenda
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes (Pages 3 - 6)

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 25 May, 2021.

4. Forward Plan

Please follow the link below to view the latest Forward Plan.

[Forward Plan](#)

Items Recommended to Cabinet via Cabinet Members

Deputy Leader

5. General Fund Budget Outturn 2020/21 (Pages 7 - 24)

Cabinet Member for Housing

6. Housing Revenue Account (HRA) - Final Accounts 2020/21 (Pages 25 - 34)
7. North Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Strategy 2021-23 (Pages 35 - 72)

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Randy', written in a cursive style.

Local Government and Regulatory Law Manager and Monitoring Officer

CABINET

Tuesday, 25th May, 2021

Present:-

Councillor Serjeant (Vice-Chair in the Chair)

Councillors	Blank	Councillors	J Innes
	D Collins		P Innes
	Holmes		Ludlow
	J Innes		Mannion-Brunt
			Serjeant
Non-voting Members	P Innes		

*Matters dealt with under the Delegation Scheme

1 **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' AND OFFICERS' INTERESTS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

No declarations of interest were received.

2 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Gilby and Sarvent.

3 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED –

That the minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on 13 April, 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4 **FORWARD PLAN**

The Forward Plan for the four month period 1 June to 30 September, 2021 was reported for information.

***RESOLVED –**

That the Forward Plan be noted.

5 DELEGATION REPORT

Decisions taken by Cabinet Members during April and May, 2021 were reported.

***RESOLVED –**

That the Delegation Report be noted.

6 ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK FOR STAVELEY TOWN DEAL

The Interim Director (Projects) presented a report seeking approval for the Assurance Framework for the Staveley Town Deal.

The Assurance Framework had been developed to provide clarity regarding the respective roles of bodies involved in the governance of the Town Deal and the policies and processes that would apply to how funding approvals would be made.

By adopting and adhering to the Assurance Framework, the council and its partners would be able to demonstrate:

- accountable decision making.
- responsible use of public money particularly value for money.
- effective monitoring and evaluation.

The Staveley Town Deal Assurance Framework and a full equality impact assessment were attached as appendices to the officer's report.

***RESOLVED –**

1. That the Assurance Framework be approved and the roles set out within it for members, officers and groups within the Council be noted.
2. That the Chair of the internal Town Deal Programme Board be granted delegated authority to make recommendations to the Staveley Town Deal Board on whether or not to approve full business cases for Town Deal projects.

3. That any recommendations for changes made by the Staveley Town Deal Board following its annual review of the Assurance Framework be submitted to Cabinet for approval.
4. That the Staveley Town Deal Programme Equalities Impact Assessment, undertaken to support delivery of the Town Deal in line with the council's commitment to equality and diversity, be noted.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

To ensure that sound governance is in place for the Staveley Town Deal and that the role for Chesterfield Borough Council as the Accountable Body is clearly set out.

7 REVIEW OF THE MEMBER DEVELOPMENT POLICY

The Senior Democratic and Scrutiny Officer submitted a report seeking approval for the revised Member Development Policy.

The Member Development Policy was first introduced in 2018 to bring together the full member learning and development offer in one place, ensure member development was delivered in a programmed way and provide clarity regarding the roles and responsibilities of the members and officers involved in coordinating member development.

Over the past year, member development has continued to be delivered through a virtual format. Attendance at briefing sessions and training events during this period has actually improved on previous years. A weekly member e-bulletin has also been introduced to provide members with key messages and up to date information about council services and spotlight learning and development opportunities.

The revised Member Development Policy and the terms of reference for the Member Development Working Group were attached as appendices to the officer's report.

***RESOLVED –**

1. That the revised member development policy be approved and implemented with immediate effect.

2. That a further review of the member development policy be carried out after two years.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

To further develop and enhance our member development offer and to ensure the policy meets the changing needs of our elected members.

For publication

General Fund Budget Outturn Report 2020/21

Meeting:	Cabinet Council
Date:	15 June 2021 21 July 2021
Cabinet portfolio:	Deputy Leader
Directorate:	Finance

1.0 Purpose of report

- 1.1 To report on the General Fund Revenue and Capital Outturns for 2020/21, provide details of significant variations from the revised estimates and consider carry forward requests.

2.0 Recommendations

Cabinet:

- 2.1 That the General Fund Revenue and Capital Outturn reports for 2020/21 be noted.
- 2.2 That the proposal to make a contribution from the General Fund Revenue surplus to the Business Rates Reserve to meet the 2020/21 deficit on business rates income be approved (para 4.2.5).
- 2.3 That the General Fund Revenue carry forward request be approved (para 4.2.6).
- 2.4 That the level of General Fund Revenue Reserves and Provisions (Section 4.4 and Appendix C) be approved.
- 2.5 That the General Fund Revenue surplus for the financial year 2020/21 be transferred to the Budget Risk Reserve (para 4.4.6).

- 2.6 That the General Fund Capital financing arrangements be approved (Appendix D).

Full Council:

- 2.7 Notes the report.

3.0 Reasons for recommendations

- 3.1 To consider the final position of previously approved budgets and the effectiveness of the Financial Strategy and budget monitoring.
- 3.2 To consider the reserves position given the issues facing the Council over the period of the Medium-term Financial Plan.

4.0 Report Details

4.1 Background

- 4.1.1 This report provides details of the General Fund Revenue and Capital outturn positions for 2020/21. There will be a separate report for the Housing Revenue Account covering both the revenue and capital elements. The information in these reports will then be incorporated into the published Statement of Accounts 2020/21.
- 4.1.2 Mazars's external audit of the accounts is expected to start in July. The formal published Statement of Accounts 2020/21 will be presented to the Standards and Audit Committee for approval in September on conclusion of the external audit. Once approved, a copy of the Statement of Accounts 2020/21 will be placed on the Council's website.
- 4.1.3 The Council's Financial Strategy sets out the Council's policies on the levels and nature of General Fund Revenue reserves and balances. The Strategy also defines how under or overspends should normally be treated at the end of each financial year:
- ◆ Any underspend on the General Fund Revenue account will be transferred to the Budget Risk Reserve;
 - ◆ Any overspend on the General Fund Revenue account will be met from the Budget Risk Reserve or the General Working Balance;
 - ◆ Any DSO surpluses arising in the financial year that are not required for operational purposes will be transferred to the General Fund

Revenue account.

4.2 General Fund – Revenue

4.2.1 The Summary Revenue Account, comparing the outturn with both the original and revised estimates for the financial year 2020/21, is shown at **Appendix A**. There was a net surplus of **£357k** in the financial year compared with:

- a) The **original** February 2020 budget forecast – £16k surplus.
- b) The **revised** February 2021 budget forecast – £8k deficit.

4.2.2 Details of the variances that contributed towards the overall £24k movement from the original surplus forecast to the revised deficit forecast were included in the budget report to Cabinet on 23 February 2021.

4.2.3 The outturn surplus is **£365k** above the revised February 2021 deficit forecast. A summary of the most significant variances is included in **Appendix B**.

4.2.4 The General Fund Revenue outturn includes £7.59m of government grant to compensate for loss of income from business rates. This grant is provided to meet the deficit in business rates income arising from the Covid-19 business rates reliefs awarded in 2020/21, the impact of which will not be reflected in the General Fund Revenue budget until 2021/22 and 2022/23 due to accounting regulations. The full value of this grant has therefore been transferred to the Business Rates Reserve to meet the council's obligations as they become due in future financial years.

4.2.5 Unfortunately, the value of the government grant transferred to the Business Rates Reserve is not sufficient to fully meet the deficit of £7.789m in business rates income achieved in 2020/21. It is therefore requested that the remaining shortfall of £199,124 is met from the 2020/21 General Fund Revenue surplus and transferred to the Business Rates Reserve to meet the liability as it falls in 2021/22.

4.2.6 There is one **carry forward request** to consider. Further details are provided at **Appendix E**. The table below provides a summary of the request.

Table 1 - Carry Forward Requests			
Portfolio	Service	Description	Amount
Town Centre & Visitor Economy	Tourism	Chesterfield Mini Guide printing & other tourism marketing	£5,000
Total			£5,000

4.3 DSO's

4.3.1 A summary of the DSO outturn positions for 2020/21 and the proposed distribution of surpluses to the General Fund Revenue account and Budget Risk Reserve is shown in the table below:

Table 2 - Surplus/(Deficits) Proposed Distributions				
	Surplus / (Deficit)	Retained in the service	To Gen Fund	To Budget Risk Reserve
	£	£	£	£
Spirepride	712,613	-	712,613	-
Building Cleaning	58,573	-	-	58,573
Security Services	(34,441)	-	(34,441)	-
Total	736,745	-	678,172	58,573

4.4 General Fund Balances & Reserves

4.4.1 Table 3 provides a summary of the General Fund Revenue Reserves and Provisions at year end; more detail is provided in **Appendix C**. Please note that the summary of available reserves and provisions excludes the **General Working Balance** of £1.5m.

Table 3 - General Fund Reserves & Provisions 2020/21			
Reserve	Opening Balance	Revised Forecast	Closing Balance
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Budget Risk Reserve	1,345	1,110	1,451
Service Improvement Reserve	300	300	300
Other Earmarked Reserves	8,379	7,193	8,330
Business Rates Reserve	-	-	7,789
Provisions	1,557	1,589	1,751

Total Reserves & Provisions	11,581	10,192	19,621
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4.4.2 Overall the level of General Fund Revenue Reserves and Provisions is £9.4m above the revised forecast estimate. However, this figure is skewed by the inclusion of £7.79m in the Business Rates Reserve to cover lost business rates income in 2020/21 (as outlined in paragraph 4.2.4 above). The true General Fund Revenue Reserves and Provisions outturn position is £11.8m, which is £1.6m higher than the revised forecast estimate. Further details are provided below.

4.4.2 Budget Risk Reserve

This reserve provides a supplement to the General Working Balance to cover any budget risks and to help finance any severance costs resulting from voluntary staffing reductions, for example, through implementing the ICT Improvement Programme.

4.4.4 **Other Earmarked Reserves** - these reserves are held for specific purposes. The total balance on these reserves increased by £1.1m at outturn over the revised forecast estimate for the financial year 2020/21. The most significant changes include:

- ◆ Vehicle & Plant - £326k underspend against the revised forecast estimate due to rephasing of spend into future years.
- ◆ Property Repairs - £193k below the revised forecast estimate due to lower levels of spend.
- ◆ ICT - £514k below the revised forecast estimate due to rephasing of spend into future years.
- ◆ Business rates – inclusion of £7,590k in government grant and £199k from the General Fund Revenue surplus to meet the deficit in business rates income arising from the Covid-19 Business Rates Reliefs awarded in 2020/21 , the impact of which will not be reflected in the General Fund Revenue budget until 2021/22 and 2022/23 due to accounting regulations.

4.4.5 Provisions

- a) Transport Company Pensions Provision – this provision has been established to cover the Council’s future liabilities for pension costs relating to employees of the former Transport Company.
- b) Insurance Provision – An independent review of the value and nature of the council’s insurance provision was undertaken in January 2020 and changes implemented as part of the annual budget setting process in February 2020.

4.4.6 Any General Fund Revenue surplus at year end is routinely transferred to the Budget Risk Reserve. For 2020/21, it is proposed to transfer the full surplus of £357k to the reserve.

4.4.7 It is important for Members to appreciate that many of the reserves and provisions are earmarked for specific purposes. The funds should not, therefore, be regarded as being available for general use. An additional consideration is the fact that the council receives interest from investing the reserves and provisions pending their allocation, income that is used to support the Council's General Fund Revenue budget.

4.5 Capital Expenditure & Financing

4.5.1 **Appendix D** provides details of the General Fund Capital Programme expenditure and financing arrangements at year end (2020/21).

4.5.2 Actual expenditure on schemes was £12.3m compared with the original budget estimate for the financial year of £20.3m (as at Feb 2020) and £19.3m at the revised budget stage (February 2021). The main reasons for the variances from the revised budget estimate (-£7.0m) include:

- Underspends on:
 - Northern Gateway Enterprise Centre (£640k) – re-profiling of spend into 2021/22 due to COVID-19 implications.
 - ICT Project (£698k) – re-phasing of the budget with more work now due in 2021/22 than originally expected.
 - Disabled Facilities Grants, Home Repairs Assistance Grants and Green Homes Grants (£1,160k) – the underspends are, however, committed and expected to be spent in 2021/22.
 - Revitalising the Heart of Chesterfield (£493k) – re-phasing of the budget with more works now due in 2021/22 than originally expected.
 - Hollis Lane Link Road Phase 1 (£2,574) – this is a joint scheme with Derbyshire County Council. Some projected elements of spend were met by DCC rather than CBC. The resulting underspend has, however, been offset by a decrease in grant received for the scheme.
 - Waterside Basin Square Development (£1,219k) – re-phasing of the budget with more works now due in 2021/22 than originally expected.

There were no significant overspends on any capital schemes during 2020/21.

The proposed acquisition of a significant leasehold interest is excluded from the General Fund Capital Programme commentary due to the commercially sensitive nature of the information.

4.5.3 On the financing side, the main variances were:

- Reduction in the use of capital grants (£4.8m) which directly correlates with the reduction in expenditure.
- Reduction in the amount of borrowing required (£1.0m); also reflecting the reduction in expenditure.

4.6 Capital Receipts

4.6.1 The movement on useable capital receipts in the financial year 2020/21 is summarised in the table below. £493k of General Fund capital receipts were used to finance General Fund revenue spend in 2020/21.

Table 4 - Useable Capital Receipts			
	Gen Fund £'000	Housing £'000	Total £'000
Balance b/forward 1 st April	500	3,593	4,093
Add: Receipts in the year	1,070	3,042	4,112
Less: Housing receipts 'Pooled'	-	(925)	(925)
Less: Applied to finance GF revenue (capital receipts flexibility)	(493)	-	(493)
Less: Applied to finance HRA cap ex	-	(3,393)	(3,393)
Balance c/forward 31st March	1,077	2,317*	3,394

* The Housing balance of £2,317k relates to the retained 'one-for-one' element of RTB receipts.

4.6.1 The table below shows that the actual amount achieved in General Fund Capital receipts was in line with the revised budget estimate:

Table 5 - General Fund Capital Receipts	
	Amount (£m)
Original Budget Forecast - start of year	2.3
Revised Budget Forecast - Feb 2021	1.1
Actual	1.1

4.7 Conclusions and Implications for the Medium Term

- 4.7.1 The impact of the Covid19 pandemic on the council's financial position in 2020/21 has been significant. However, a General Fund revenue surplus of £357k has been achieved through careful management and monitoring of budgets and taking advantage of all grants and compensation opportunities available to mitigate against additional costs and reduced income streams arising from the pandemic.
- 4.7.1 The impact of the pandemic continues to influence our financial position in 2021/22. Key revenue streams remain under pressure. Government compensation schemes are in place for the first quarter of the financial year but it is uncertain as to what will happen in the future in terms of the economy, the ability of people to pay commercial rents, business rates and council tax, and the speed with which the numbers of customers returning to our car parks, leisure centres and cultural venues will get back to pre Covid19 levels (if that proves to be the case).
- 4.7.2 A more detailed appraisal of our in-year General Fund Revenue financial position will be presented to Cabinet in July.
- 4.7.4 At Council in February 2021, the following General Fund Revenue deficit forecasts were shared for the period 2021/22 through 2025/26. These forecasts assumed that planned savings from the ICT digital innovation programme and savings action plan were achieved in full:
- £188k in 2021/22;
 - £12k in 2022/23;
 - £292k in 2023/24;
 - £77k in 2024/25; &
 - £181k in 2025/26
- 4.7.5 In the months since the General Fund Revenue medium-term financial plan was approved, a number of spending pressures and savings options have been identified. Both will inevitably have an impact on our medium-term budget forecasts going forward and a full assessment of the scale of the impacts will be reported to Cabinet, again in July.

5.0 Alternative options

- 5.1 There are no alternative options to present as the closure of accounts is governed by statute.

5.1 Implications for consideration – Council Plan

5.2 In preparing the General Fund Revenue and Capital outturn reports for 2020/21, detailed consideration has been given to the need for the Council's finances to be at levels that enable the Council to deliver in full on the priorities and objectives that it has set itself for the remaining term of the Council Plan through March 2023.

5.3 The maintenance of adequate General Fund Revenue reserves and provisions over the medium term is also essential in demonstrating delivery against the third Council Plan priority of 'delivering value for money services'.

6.0 Implications for consideration – Financial and value for money

6.1 The report in its entirety considers the financial and value for money implications of maintaining balanced General Fund Revenue and Capital budgets over the medium-term whilst ensuring sufficient resources are available to enable the Council to deliver on its agreed priorities and objectives.

7.0 Implications for consideration – Legal

7.1 The Accounts & Audit Regulations 2015 require the council to produce an annual Statement of Accounts prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices.

8.0 Implications for consideration – Human resources

8.1 There are no human resource implications arising from the matters considered in this report.

9.0 Implications for consideration – Risk management

9.1 In preparing the year end accounts, some elements are based on assumptions made about what the future holds and / or where uncertainty exists. Any assumptions made take account of historical experience, current trends, and other relevant factors.

9.2 The year end accounts are subject to an audit process carried out by independent external auditors.

10.0 Implications for consideration – community wellbeing

10.1 There are no direct community wellbeing implications arising from the matters considered in this report.

11.0 Implications for consideration – Economy and skills

11.1 There are no direct economy and skills implications arising from the matters considered in this report.

12.0 Implications for consideration – Climate Change

12.1 A climate change impact assessment is not required to be undertaken for the closure of accounts process. Such assessments are undertaken as part of the decision-making processes for specific spending plans.

13.0 Implications for consideration – Equality and diversity

13.1 A full equality and diversity impact assessment is not required to be undertaken for the closure of accounts process. Such assessments are undertaken as part of the decision-making processes for specific spending plans.

Decision information

Key decision number	1037
Wards affected	All

Document information

Report author	Contact number/email
Helen Fox	Helen.fox@chesterfield.gov.uk
Appendices to the report	
Appendix A	General Fund Outturn 2020/21
Appendix B	2020/21 Variance Analysis
Appendix C	General Fund Reserves & Provisions
Appendix D	General Fund Capital Programme
Appendix E	Carry Forward request

GENERAL FUND OUTTURN 2020/21

	Original	Revised	Outturn	Variance
	£	£	£	Rev'd- Out
	£	£	£	£
Per Lead Member reports:				
Leader of the Council	33,640	38,320	8,651	(29,669)
Deputy Leader of the Council	1,191,120	1,161,470	1,194,903	33,433
Cabinet Member for Economic Growth	(620,810)	(515,750)	(839,965)	(324,215)
Cabinet Member for Town Centre and Visitor Economy	453,890	2,513,580	2,694,223	180,643
Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing	7,753,690	10,225,290	10,388,287	162,997
Cabinet Member for Housing (GF)	1,054,190	945,920	144,340	(801,580)
Cabinet Member for Governance	2,748,330	2,723,270	2,477,729	(245,541)
Cabinet Member for Business Transformation	3,043,670	3,203,380	3,780,124	576,744
Other:				
Other Income	0	0	(6,793)	(6,793)
ICT Savings	(17,377)	(17,377)	(17,377)	0
Staff vacancies allowance	(200,000)	0	0	0
Share of Crematorium Surplus	(275,000)	(322,180)	(434,613)	(112,433)
Spirepride surplus	(640,050)	(459,844)	(712,613)	(252,769)
OSD Trading surplus	(331,000)	0	0	0
Pension Costs - 2020 Revaluation	145,000	0	0	0
MHCLG Covid19 Grant	0	(1,888,677)	(1,888,677)	0
MHCLG Covid19 Sales, Fees and Charges Compensation	0	(2,636,509)	(2,749,463)	(112,954)
CJRS Grant	0	(544,469)	(513,671)	30,798
Other incl bad debt provision	25,000	100,000	156,497	56,497
Total Service Expenditure	14,364,293	14,526,424	13,681,582	(844,842)
Interest & capital charges	(3,319,778)	(2,821,565)	(2,069,760)	751,805
Contributions from Digital Innovation Reserve	(294,317)	(294,317)	(294,317)	0
Contributions from Service Improvement Reserve	(8,500)	(8,500)	(62,360)	(53,860)
Contributions from Budget Risk Reserve	(42,710)	(162,260)	(62,939)	99,321
Contributions to Renewals Fund etc	106,000	106,000	106,000	0
To/from Reserves	(150,000)	(203,860)	(150,000)	53,860
New Burden Grants	(49,000)	(127,230)	(432,102)	(304,872)
Surplus/(Deficit) - to/(from) reserves	16,022	(8,201)	357,507	365,709
NET EXPENDITURE	10,622,010	11,006,491	11,073,611	
Financed By:				
RSG	441,530	441,530	441,530	
Business Rates Baseline	3,373,521	3,373,521	3,373,521	
Settlement Funding	3,815,051	3,815,051	3,815,051	
Retained Business Rates Growth	1,379,717	1,374,113	1,437,148	
Covid19 Business Rates s31 Grants	0	0	7,350,858	
Business rates pooling	300,000	250,000	418,411	
Council tax support grants to parishes	(19,841)	(19,841)	(19,841)	
Council Tax Fund Surplus/(Deficit)	94,470	94,470	94,470	
Tax Income Guarantee Scheme - Council Tax	0	0	34,798	
Business Rates Fund Surplus/(Deficit)	440,085	440,085	440,085	
Tax Income Guarantee Scheme - Business Rates	0	0	239,492	
Contribution (to)/ from Business Rate reserve	(440,085)	0	(7,789,474)	
New Homes Bonus	95,039	95,039	95,039	
Council Tax	4,957,574	4,957,574	4,957,574	
TOTAL FINANCING	10,622,010	11,006,491	11,073,611	

2020/21 VARIANCE ANALYSIS – REVISED BUDGET TO OUTTURN		
Deficit Revised Budget		(8)
Surplus Outturn		357
Variance		365
<u>Covid19 Related Grants: -</u>		
Sales Fees and Charges Compensation	113	
CJRS Furlough Grant	(31)	
Tax Income Guarantee – Business Rates	239	
Tax Income Guarantee – Council Tax	35	
New Burden Grants	305	
Transfer to Reserves (2021/22 Commitments)	(477)	184
<u>Outturn Increased Expenditure /</u>		
<u>Overspends: -</u>		
Recycling Contract	(204)	
Civil Parking Enforcement Subsidy	(50)	(254)
<u>Outturn Increased Income / Savings: -</u>		
Spirepride Surplus	253	
Business Rates Pooling (2019/20)	168	
Crematorium Surplus	112	533
<u>Outturn Reduced Income / Overspends: -</u>		
Vicar Lane	(91)	
Community Infrastructure Levy	(40)	(131)
Other Movements		33
Movement in Surplus		365

GENERAL FUND RESERVES AND PROVISIONS 2020/21

9001 code	Purpose	Bal at start of year £'000	Revised Bud Est £'000	Bal at end of year £'000
3240	Vehicles and Plant	585	318	644
	Wheelie Bin Replacements	77	72	87
3241	Property Repairs	471	495	688
3395	DSO/DLO	538	538	560
3263	Museum Exhibits	25	25	25
3264	Planning LDF Review	157	57	66
3265	Flooding Restoration Fund	53	37	51
3378	MMI Clawback Reserve	153	153	153
3380	ICT	403	-	514
3390	Insurance - claims not yet reported	1,070	920	920
3418	Theatre Restoration	103	113	105
3372	Repaid Improvement Grants	167	127	153
3399	Retained Business Rates	1,597	1,597	9,386
3243	Northern Gateway	149	149	149
3353	Community Infrastructure Levy	1,258	1,378	1,390
3354	S106 Contributions	528	507	522
3429	ICT Digital Innovation	316	32	31
3430	Service Redesign	729	675	675
	Earmarked Reserves	8,379	7,193	16,119
3388	Budget Risk	1,345	1,110	1,451
3412	Service Improvement	300	300	300
	Reserves Total	10,024	8,603	17,870
3237/8	Insurance - reported claims	510	510	666
3247	MMI Claw-back	6	-	6
3239	Transport Co. Pensions	1,041	1,079	1,079
	Provisions Total	1,557	1,589	1,751
	Reserves & Provisions Total	11,581	10,192	19,621

GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2020/21

	Original £'000	Revised £'000	Actual £'000	Variance Rev to Act £'000
<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE:</u>				
Home Repairs Assistance	275	150	21	(129)
Disabled Facilities Grants	2,000	1,160	629	(531)
Green Homes Grants	0	500	0	(500)
Town Hall Alterations (Phase 2 Preliminary Works)	0	22	22	0
Waterside Basin Square Development	7,761	2,872	1,653	(1,219)
Northern Gateway – Saltergate MSCP	0	135	139	4
Northern Gateway – Public Realm	709	601	597	(4)
Northern Gateway – Enterprise Centre	3,956	3,400	2,760	(640)
Chester Street Play Area	0	47	47	0
Stand Road Bowls Pavilion	0	70	3	(67)
Princess Street Play Area	0	50	50	0
Whitebank Close Relocation of Car Park	0	40	40	0
Beetwell Street Car Park	0	25	28	3
IT Transformation Project	1,124	1,354	656	(698)
Tapton Terrace Flood Resilience Work	0	35	2	(33)
Revitalising the Heart of Chesterfield – Public Realm	650	300	29	(271)
Revitalising the Heart of Chesterfield – Town Centre	650	350	128	(222)
Staveley Town Deal	0	500	500	0
Hollis Lane Link Road – Phase 1	0	3,800	1,226	(2,574)
Calow Lane Industrial Units	367	0	5	5
Underpinning Tapton House	50	0	0	0
Waste Contract Vehicles	1,635	1,635	1,625	(10)
HS2 Station Masterplan	1,100	1,818	1,788	(30)
Electric Charging Points	0	169	72	(97)
Car Parking Machines	0	240	171	(69)
Vehicles (from vehicles reserve)	0	0	85	85
Grand Total	20,277	19,273	12,276	(6,997)

	Original £'000	Revised £'000	Actual £'000	Variance Rev to Act £'000
<u>CAPITAL FINANCING</u>				
Borrowing: General	13,600	7,564	6,550	(1,014)
Grants & Contributions - see below	4,325	10,485	5,639	(4,846)
Capital Receipts	2,332	1,141	1,070	(71)
Vehicle & Plant Reserve	0	47	85	38
Flood Reserve	0	16	2	(14)
Use of Capital Receipts to Fund Revenue (Capital Receipts Flexibility)	(480)	(480)	(493)	(13)
Total resources available in year	19,777	18,773	12,853	(5,920)
Less total expenditure in year	20,277	19,273	12,276	
Net in-year surplus / (deficit)	(500)	(500)	577	
Surplus / (deficit) b/f from prev yr	500	500	500	
Cum surplus / (deficit) c/f	0	0	1,077	

	Original £'000	Revised £'000	Actual £'000	Variance Rev to Act £'000
<u>CAPITAL GRANTS etc:</u>				
Flood Risk Management Grant – EA	0	21	0	(21)
Disabled Facilities Grants (CLG/PCT)	2,265	1,310	650	(660)
Home Repairs Assistance (FILT / SSE)	10	0	0	0
Green Homes Grants	0	500	0	(500)
Revitalising the Heart of Chesterfield – Business Rate Growth	950	1,050	104	(946)
Revitalising the Heart of Chesterfield – D2N2	0	650	650	0
HS2 Station Masterplan – D2N2	1,100	2,318	2,318	0
Hollis Lane Link Road – D2N2	0	3,800	1,226	(2,574)
Stand Road Bowls Pavilion – DCC/Sport England	0	70	3	(67)
Princess Street Play Area – Viridor/DCC	0	50	50	0
Chester Street Play Area – Viridor/Friends Group	0	47	47	0
Cyber Security Grant	0	0	19	19
Electric Charging Points – Office for Zero Emission Vehicles/BP Pulse	0	169	72	(97)
Staveley Town Deal	0	500	500	0
Grants Total	4,325	10,485	5,639	(4,846)

2020/21 BUDGET CARRY FORWARD REQUEST

Description	Tourism Statutory Publicity 4419 0520 £5,000
Reported to Members	N/A
Corporate, cross-cutting (community safety, equality, etc) and service priorities	Printing of Chesterfield Mini Guide and promoting Chesterfield as a tourist destination – Covid-19, priority reorganisation.
Mandatory / discretionary	Discretionary
Revenue Implications One-off or on-going	One-off
Savings identified elsewhere	N/A
Partnership opportunities	The attraction map produced by Marketing the Peak District and Derbyshire represents working with the Destination Management Organisation for the area. Reduced advertising rates for the council.
Grants and joint financing opportunities	N/A
Charging policy	N/A
Consultation undertaken	N/A
Effect on other services	N/A
Implications if not approved	The Mini Guide is usually printed and distributed in time for Easter (£3,000) but, given the current restrictions on holiday accommodation providers in particular, the printing will be delayed until later in calendar year 2021. An additional carry forward of £5,000 covers the inclusion of Chesterfield attractions in the ‘Days Out in the Peak District and Derbyshire’ attraction map and additional promotion of Chesterfield as a tourist destination as the tourism businesses reopen and we move towards the lifting of restrictions.
Other Comments	This is Chesterfield’s most important piece of literature for visitors in the town. The attraction map is also the most important brochure produced by Marketing the Peak District and it is distributed widely across the UK. The visitor economy will need support from a strong marketing campaign as it reopens, and the town needs to be promoted as a tourist destination to take full advantage of the staycation market.

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For publication

Housing Revenue Account (HRA) – Final Accounts 2020/21

Meeting:	Cabinet
Date:	15 June 2021
Cabinet portfolio:	Cabinet Member for Housing
Directorate:	Finance

1.0 Purpose of report

- 1.1 To report on the Revenue Outturn for 2020/21 and to provide explanations for significant variations from the Revised Estimates approved by Cabinet on 23 February 2021.
- 1.2 To report the Capital Outturn for the year.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the report be noted.
- 2.2 That the revenue carry forward request per paragraph 4.1.7 and the capital carry forward requests per paragraph 4.2.2 in respect of schemes which were not finalised during 2020/21 be approved.

3.0 Reasons for recommendations

- 3.1 To keep Members informed about the council's current financial standing for the Housing Revenue Account.

4.0 Report Details

- 4.1 Revenue Outturn
 - 4.1.1 The revenue budgets and outturn were as follows:

	Original Budget £'000	Revised Budget £'000	Actual Outturn £'000
HRA Services (Surplus)/Deficit	(4,800)	(3,811)	(4,219)
Direct Revenue Financing (DRF)	10,962	15,009	4,151
Other Appropriations	4,181	4,250	4,267
(Increase)/Decrease in HRA balance	10,344	15,448	4,198
Change on previous column	-	(5,104)	(11,250)

- 4.1.2 The surplus on HRA services shown in the table above refers to the net position of revenue income (e.g. rents) less revenue expenditure (e.g. management costs and housing repairs expenditure). This surplus is more than forecast due mainly to a reduction in the provision for bad debts. The reduction in bad debts is due to fewer right offs and lower than anticipated levels of rent arrears at year end.
- 4.1.3 Direct revenue funding relates to revenue balances (i.e. tenants rents) being used to fund capital expenditure. The table shows that the requirement for direct revenue funding has reduced from £15,009k in the revised budget to actual expenditure of £4,151k for the outturn. The reduced actual figure reflects ongoing issues and delayed starts due to Covid-19.
- 4.1.4 Other appropriations relate to the provision for debt repayment and transfers to the major repairs reserve (to fund capital expenditure).
- 4.1.5 A reduction in the deficit of £11,250k against the Revised Budget (a change from a revised estimate of a deficit of £15,448k to an actual outturn of a deficit of £4,198k. This is mainly due to a reduction in direct revenue support for capital (£10,858k) and a reduction in the provision for bad debts (£1,380k).
- 4.1.6 The significant variances from the revised budget to the outturn are summarised in the following table:

Significant Variances Revised to Outturn 2020/21	
Description	Overspend/ (Underspend) £'000
Decreased rental income	142
Overall decrease in other income	75

Overspend on Housing Supervision & Management expenses	97
Overspend on Rents, Rates, Taxes & Other Charges	(16)
Overspend on Repairs & Maintenance of Council dwellings	546
Reduction in DRF due to underspend on Capital Programme	(10,858)
Reduced Bad Debts Provision	(1,380)
Increased Depreciation & Interest Costs	127
Net of all other variances	17
Overall Reduction in budget requirement	(11,250)

4.1.7 There is just one carry forward request for £12,575 which relates to the Interface and associated professional costs in relation to the Northgate System, details of which are provided in Annexe 2.

4.1.8 The following information is attached:

Annexe 1 – Housing Revenue Account Summary

Annexe 2 – Carry Forward Requests

Annexe 3 – HRA Capital Expenditure 2020/21

4.2 Capital Outturn

4.2.1 Annexe 3 provides a summary of expenditure on capital schemes in the year. This is funded by right to buy sales and other asset sales with the balance from revenue. Total expenditure was £19,135,303 against the budget of £28,787,000 giving an underspend of £9,651,697 (34% of budget).

4.2.2 However, several schemes were not finalised at the year-end and approval is sought to carry forward £9,651,697 from 2020/21 into 2021/22 to enable the schemes to be completed. These schemes include the new build work at Brockwell Court, the Neighbourhood action plan at Barrow Hill, the sheltered refurbishments on the Lowgates schemes plus Property Acquisitions and others delayed due to the impact of the coronavirus.

4.3 Capital Receipts

4.3.1 The movement on useable capital receipts in the year is summarised in the following table. The receipts received during the year (£3,042k) were from 57 right to buy sales.

	Useable Capital receipts
	£'000
Balance b/fwd 1 st April	3,593
Add: receipts in the year	3,042
Less: Housing receipts "Pooled"	(925)
Less: Applied to finance HRA Capital Expenditure	(3,393)
Balance c/fwd 31st March	2,317 *

* The balance of £2,317k is all retained "one-for-one" receipts. These "one-for-one" retained receipts need to be spent as soon as possible to avoid repayment to the Government.

4.4 Balances

4.4.1 The effect of the reduced deficit on HRA balances is outlined in the following table:

	Revised Estimate £'000	Actual Expenditure £'000
Balance at 1 st April 2020	(24,734)	(24,734)
Direct Revenue Financing	15,009	4,151
Other Appropriations	4,250	4,267
(Surplus)/Deficit in year on HRA Services	(3,811)	(4,219)
Balance at 31st March 2021	(9,286)	(20,535)

The higher than estimated balance at 31st March (£20,535)k actual compared to (£9,286)k revised budget results mainly from a reduction in direct revenue support for capital (£10,585k) and a reduction in the provision for bad debts (£1,380k).

4.4.2 If the carry forward requests outlined at paragraphs 4.1.7 and 4.2.2 are approved, this would give a final position at 31st March 2021 of £10,883k. Of this balance a significant proportion has been earmarked to support the Housing Capital Programme in future years (as highlighted in the HRA Capital Programme which was reported to Council on 23rd February 2021).

5.0 Alternative options

5.1 There are no alternative options to consider.

6.0 Implications for consideration – Council Plan

6.1 Effective management of the resources available to the HRA enables the Council to deliver its objectives of providing quality housing and improving housing conditions across the borough.

7.0 Implications for consideration – Financial and value for money

7.1 The report in its entirety deals with financial and value for money implications.

8.0 Implications for consideration – Legal

8.1 The Accounts & Audit Regulations 2015 require the authority to produce an annual Statement of Accounts prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices. The Housing Revenue Account outturn forms part of that Statement.

9.0 Implications for consideration – Human resources

9.1 There are no human resource implications to consider in this report.

10.0 Implications for consideration – Risk management

10.1 In preparing the year end accounts, some elements are based on assumptions made about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Any assumptions made take account of historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors.

10.2 The year end accounts are subject to an audit process carried out by independent external auditors, including those elements relating to the Housing Revenue Account.

11.0 Implications for consideration – community wellbeing

11.1 The efficient, effective and economic management of council housing and the delivery of responsive repairs and planned and programmed works ensures good quality affordable homes are available in the Borough. The focus of the capital programme is to ensure homes are warm, dry, and well maintained which has a positive impact on an individuals' and community health and well-being. The programme also

includes delivery of adaptations to ensure people can remain living in their own homes promoting community cohesion and continuity.

12.0 Implications for consideration – Economy and skills

12.1 There are no economy and skills implications to consider in this report.

13.0 Implications for consideration – Climate Change

13.1 The operational delivery of responsive repairs will continue to include the ongoing review of components to minimise climate change impacts and ensure energy efficiency standards are improved.

13.2 The investment proposed in the Housing Capital Programme will make a significant contribution towards ensuring the Council's Housing stock is improved to increase its SAP ratings and ensure all homes are efficient and provide affordable warmth for our tenants. In delivering programmes of work for example the block refurbishment programmes specific consideration will be given to energy efficiency and the components used in window replacements and heating replacement systems.

14.0 Implications for consideration – Equality and diversity

14.1 Individual equality and diversity impact assessments are not required for the closure of accounts process. These are included as part of the decision-making processes for specific spending options.

Decision information

Key decision number	1040
Wards affected	All

Document information

Report author	Contact number/email
Rachael Ayre	01246 936275 Rachael.Ayre@chesterfield.gov.uk
Annexes to the report	
Appendix 1	Housing Revenue Account Summary
Appendix 2	Carry Forward Requests
Appendix 3	HRA Capital Expenditure 2020/21

**HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT 2020/21
STATUTORY HRA OPERATING ACCOUNT
SUMMARY**

2019/20 Actual £		2020/21 Original £	2020/21 Revised £	2020/21 Actual £
	INCOME			
(35,457,233)	Rent of Dwellings	(35,503,390)	(35,532,970)	(35,390,687)
(436,202)	Charges for Services & Facilities	(446,090)	(448,930)	(380,195)
(863,169)	Non-Dwelling Rents	(923,310)	(844,710)	(829,625)
(523,671)	Contributions towards Expenditure	(550,840)	(640,520)	(649,347)
(37,280,275)	Total Income	(37,423,630)	(37,467,130)	(37,249,854)
	EXPENDITURE			
5,986,038	Supervision and Management -General	6,816,810	6,561,170	6,473,749
2,067,276	Supervision and Management -Special	2,145,040	2,221,120	2,405,666
400,636	Rent, rates, taxes and other charges	238,880	283,680	267,934
8,397,053	Repairs and Maintenance	8,497,000	9,057,970	9,603,824
9,129,847	Depreciation, Impairment & Revaluation of Fixed Asset	9,204,030	9,134,780	9,261,938
37,466	Debt Management Expenses	42,540	36,930	37,006
226,656	Increase in Bad Debts Provision	1,092,000	1,697,000	316,603
26,244,972	Total Expenditure	28,036,300	28,992,650	28,366,720
(11,035,303)	NET COST OF SERVICES per Authority income & Expenditure Account	(9,387,330)	(8,474,480)	(8,883,134)
40,750	HRA share of Corporate & Democratic Core	45,570	41,850	43,200
(10,994,553)	NET COST OF HRA SERVICES	(9,341,760)	(8,432,630)	(8,839,934)
4,789,905	HRA share of interest payable, premiums & discounts	4,643,260	4,621,340	4,620,689
(145,234)	Interest and Investment Income	(101,250)	0	0
(6,349,882)	(SURPLUS)/DEFICIT IN YEAR on HRA Income & Expenditure	(4,799,750)	(3,811,290)	(4,219,245)
	STATEMENT of MOVEMENT on the HRA BALANCE			
	Increase/(decrease) in HRA balance comprising:			
(6,349,882)	Surplus or deficit on HRA Income & Expenditure Account	(4,799,750)	(3,811,290)	(4,219,245)
6,798,068	Capital Expenditure funded from HRA	10,962,300	15,009,160	4,150,860
(4,570)	Transfer to/(from) Reserves	0	0	0
1,955,371	Provision for Debt Repayment	1,926,040	1,926,040	1,926,040
2,104,347	Transfer to/(from) Major Repairs Reserve	2,255,000	2,324,000	2,340,752
4,503,334	(Increase)/decrease in HRA balance for the Year	10,343,590	15,447,910	4,198,407
(29,236,873)	HRA Balance Bfwd 1st April	(18,534,353)	(24,733,539)	(24,733,539)
(24,733,539)	HRA Balance Cfwd at 31st March	(8,190,763)	(9,285,629)	(20,535,132)

**HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT 2020/21
CARRY FORWARD REQUESTS**

Programme Area/Service	Budget Head	Reason	Amount (£)		C-fwd Request (£)
Northgate Upgrade	Supplies & Services	Housing application interface & associated professional costs	Revised	97,000	12,575
			Actual Balance	16,701	
				80,299	
		TOTAL CARRY FORWARD REQUESTS FOR APPROVAL.			12,575

Description	Out-turn 2020/21	Revised 2020/21 Budget	Underspend Against 2020/21 Bud	Overspend Against 2020/21 Budget	Carry Over to 2021/22	Comments/Reasons for Major Over/Underspends
Kitchens & Bathroom WC Fits	691,820.94	885,000.00	(193,179.06)		193,179.00	Underspend due to Covid-19
Central Heating	149,103.32	290,400.00	(141,296.68)		141,297.00	Underspend due to Covid-19
Rewiring, Smoke Detectors & CO detectors	55,168.20	162,500.00	(107,331.80)		107,332.00	Underspend due to Covid-19
Blocks Refurbishment Scheme	15,657.05	1,662,020.00	(1,646,362.95)		1,446,363.00	Existing work delayed due to Covid-19.
Communal Lighting Replacement To Blocks	9,096.69	25,000.00	(15,903.31)			
Internal Soil Stacks	-	100,000.00	(100,000.00)			Budget carry forward to be allocated towards roof renewals
Stairlift Replacement	5,805.00	10,000.00	(4,195.00)			
Door Entry Cameras/systems	10,092.99	25,000.00	(14,907.01)			
Sheltered refurbishments (Mallard, Leander & Pullman Close) (Lowgates)	3,284,174.56	5,121,880.00	(1,837,705.44)		1,837,705.00	Work delayed due to Covid-19
Sheltered Scheme Decants	56,985.00			56,985.00	50,000.00	New Budget required for Tennant oncosts 21/22 utilised from underspend elsewhere
Signs to Blocks	4,548.16			4,548.16		
Roof renewals, Loft insulation, S & F's Hanging Tiles and Metal Ro	1,577,444.12	1,059,000.00		518,444.12	(301,678.00)	Overspend due to extra costs due to Covid-19
Loft Insulation Top ups	624.40	49,000.00	(48,375.60)			
DPC Damp Works and Pointing	262,477.15	400,000.00	(137,522.85)		137,523.00	Underspend due to Covid-19
Fences & Gates, Footpaths & Drives inc new off street parking	627,457.23	750,000.00	(122,542.77)		22,543.00	Underspend due to Covid-19
Soffits & Facias	296.52	50,000.00	(49,703.48)			
Windows & Doors	41,901.36	250,000.00	(208,098.64)			
Asbestos Removal	3,249.46	25,000.00	(21,750.54)			
Fire Risk Works/Bin Stores	1,870,231.17	1,100,000.00		770,231.17	39,183.00	
Fire Doors - Blocks	-	250,000.00	(250,000.00)		250,000.00	Budget carry forward to be allocated towards Fire risk works
Fire Risk Assessments	27,805.09	20,000.00		7,805.09		
Asbestos Management/ R & D surveys	67,645.00	100,000.00	(32,355.00)			
Footpath Proactive Maintenance	78,545.54	100,000.00	(21,454.46)		21,454.00	
Structural Works	245,271.40	150,000.00		95,271.40		
Grange Wood Estate Improvements	1,096,018.69	790,360.00		305,658.69		
Newlandale Estate Improvement	527,361.61	1,600,000.00	(1,072,638.39)			
Estate Environmental	60,365.05	-		60,365.05		
External wall Insulation & Unity works	534,385.14	500,000.00		34,385.14	50,000.00	Budget required for 21/22 - utilised from underspend elsewhere
Disabled Adaptions	229,157.26	500,000.00	(270,842.74)		270,843.00	Underspend due to Covid-19
Neighbourhood Action plan Barrow Hill	1,736,211.74	3,666,130.00	(1,929,918.26)		1,929,918.00	Underspend due to Covid-19
Common Room Refurbishments	407.37	50,000.00	(49,592.63)		50,000.00	Underspend due to Covid-19
Manor Drive	635,106.96	424,460.00		210,646.96		
Heaton Court	197,254.47	75,810.00		121,444.47		
Brockwell Court	3,417,485.13	4,636,940.00	(1,219,454.87)		1,219,455.00	Underspend due to Covid-19
Middlecroft Schemes	135,084.09	680,000.00	(544,915.91)		544,916.00	Underspend due to Covid-19
Feasibility Fees	61,331.33	50,000.00		11,331.33		
Property Acquisitions	1,392,898.49	3,000,000.00	(1,607,101.51)		1,440,000.00	Underspend due to Covid-19
Stock Condition survey	14,085.00	100,000.00	(85,915.00)		85,915.00	Underspend due to Covid-19
Northgate Upgrade	12,750.00	128,500.00	(115,750.00)		115,749.00	Underspend due to Covid-19
Total	19,135,302.68	28,787,000.00	- 11,848,813.90	2,197,116.58	9,651,697.00	
Total to carry forward to 2021/22					9,651,697.00	

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For publication

North Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Strategy 2021-23

Meeting:	Cabinet
Date:	15 June 2021
Cabinet portfolio:	Housing
Directorate:	Housing
For publication	

1.0 Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To update members on the delivery of the North Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Strategy 2020 – 2021.
- 1.2 To advise Members of the production of a revised draft North Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Strategy 2021 – 2023.
- 1.3 To seek adoption of the Council’s North Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Strategy 2021 – 2023.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That Cabinet approves the North Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Strategy 2021 – 2023.

3.0 Reason for recommendations

- 3.1 Approval of the North Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Strategy 2021 will ensure that the Council continues to deliver prevention, intervention, and recovery to ensure people at risk of, or experiencing homelessness and rough sleeping can access effective services and support.
- 3.2 It is a legal requirement to have an agreed and published Rough Sleeper Strategy.

4.0 Report details

- 4.1 On the 17th March 2020 a report was presented to Cabinet seeking the approval of the North Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Strategy 2020-21.
- 4.2 Cabinet approved the strategy and the commitments for the financial year 2020/21.
- 4.3 Shortly after the approval of the strategy the national Covid-19 Pandemic took effect having a considerable impact on the activity around homelessness and rough sleepers.
- 4.4 Alongside the national lockdown, MHCLG launched the “Everyone In” initiative requiring local authorities to accommodate all rough sleepers. This recognised that rough sleepers were considerably high risk of contracting and spreading the virus should they remain sleeping rough.
- 4.5 This accelerated partnership working across the County to enable the delivery of a multitude of services to protect rough sleepers from harm; and enabled the delivery of many of the commitments and outcomes contained in the Rough Sleeper Strategy 2020-21.
- 4.6 Key services include:
- **Commissioning of largescale emergency accommodation** – to enable instant access to accommodation.
 - **Derbyshire Outreach Team (DOT)** – street outreach team to make initial contact with rough sleepers.
 - **Supported Lettings Workers** – Support Officers to assist rough sleepers into accommodation.
 - **Keeping Everyone In Service (KEIS)** – Link workers to support to maintain accommodation and engage with wider support services.
 - **Probation Link Worker** – based within Probation to link Offender Management and Housing services together
 - **Housing First** – 14 Units of specialist accommodation for people with high level and multiple complex needs.
- 4.7 The table below shows the specific commitments/outcomes and demonstrates how each have been delivered:

1.	Improve data intelligence base/profile of people sleeping rough in North Derbyshire. Through the various support services, a range of individual and thematic data has been gathered to enable the development and direction of future
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	<p>services. Ethnographic Research is underway in partnership with Derbyshire County Council's Thriving Families Team which will provide extensive data by gathering life experiences from rough sleepers.</p>
4.	<p>Request that the Clinical Commissioning Group and Health & Wellbeing Boards make the health needs of rough sleepers a strategic priority.</p> <p>Homelessness and rough sleeping has been identified as a key priority theme by Derbyshire Health and Housing Systems Group which includes CCG's, Public Health Commissioners and Place Alliance Group members. Local Resilience Forum Vulnerable People group formed as a response to the pandemic had specific focus on rough sleepers.</p> <p>Links to Derbyshire Place Board have been made ensuring that homelessness and rough sleeping remains a focus.</p>
5.	<p>Strategic co-ordination of funding applications to include Rough Sleeper Initiative, Cold Weather Fund and other available funding under national Rough Sleeper Strategy</p> <p>The Council has led, or been involved, on successful funding applications to MHCLG of @ £0.5M over the past 12 months and has a further bid in progress for £2M (outcome expected 21st June 2021)</p> <p>This will deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension and expansion of outreach services • Continuation of Supported Lettings workers • 2 x Rough Sleeper Co-ordinators • 3 x Rough Sleeper Navigators • Prisoner Resettlement worker • 12 Units of supported accommodation across North Derbyshire (6 in Chesterfield) • Housing First
6.	<p>Better understanding of how to help people with no recourse to public funds coming out of hospital/prisons.</p> <p>The Probation Link worker has enabled a planned approach to prisoners being released resulting in a reduction of release to N.F.A (No fixed abode) and without appropriate benefits being in place.</p>
7.	<p>Develop a range of Move on options including PRS accommodation.</p> <p>Options for Move On accommodation have been accessed and developed including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 Units at Newbold Court • 14 Units of Housing First • 14 Units of supported accommodation for low level needs • 15 Units of Temporary Accommodation • Private Rented Access – funding available for removal of barriers to enable access to private rented accommodation.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 units proposed and in development for medium to high level vulnerabilities (subject to a successful funding application)
8.	<p>Strategic co-ordination and increase in provision of appropriate supported accommodation options.</p> <p>Through Derbyshire Homelessness Officers Group (DHOG) the number of additional supported accommodation options has increased as shown in section 7.</p>
9.	<p>Develop provision of 24/7 supported accommodation.</p> <p>The Council has recently submitted an application to MHCLG's Rough Sleeper Accommodation Project (RSAP) to enable the purchase and repair of 12 empty properties on the open market for use as additional units of supported accommodation in partnership with a Housing Association.</p>
10.	<p>Look at positive ways of engaging and communicating with the general public about helping rough sleepers</p> <p>An Alternative Giving Scheme is in development to assist in educating and engaging members of the public in supporting rough sleepers through focussed and centralised donation systems. This will contribute towards addressing the issue of begging activity in the town centre.</p>
11.	<p>Build in-reach services with hospitals/prisons to ensure no one is discharged to the street.</p> <p>The Council funds Healthy Futures, a hospital discharge service to prevent people from being discharged to rough sleeping.</p> <p>The Probation Link Worker ensures early engagement with housing and homelessness services to minimise the risk of offenders being released into rough sleeping.</p>
12.	<p>Review and update hospital discharge policies.</p> <p>To be developed through the Health & Housing Systems Group</p>
13.	<p>Ensure provision of services for priority groups including Veterans, LGBT+, BAME, same sex couples and families, DV, MH and physical disabilities, care leavers, ex-offenders, Gypsy and Travellers</p> <p>The ethnographic research in partnership with Derbyshire County Council will provide invaluable information to enable all services to be fully inclusive and address specific needs.</p>
14.	<p>Build working relationships with the DWP including 'Homeless Champions' in every Job Centre Plus</p> <p>To be developed</p>
15.	<p>Ensure we offer the right services to people who have been victims of trafficking or modern slavery</p> <p>To be developed</p>
Intervention:	
16.	<p>Increase and expand the provision of local outreach work to include quick intervention to prevent people from becoming entrenched</p>

	See section 5 above.
17.	<p>Develop a 'Street Medicine' model including community prescription</p> <p>Derbyshire Health & Housing Systems Group has homelessness and rough sleeping as one of 3 key priorities. The provision of primary health care is included.</p> <p>Links with NHS/CCG services enabled the effective delivery of the Covid-19 vaccination programme to rough sleepers during the winter months.</p>
18.	<p>Improve access to emergency accommodation including crash pads</p> <p>The provision of instant access accommodation has been developed on 2 separate occasions during the pandemic to deliver the Everyone In initiative and as part of the winter provision delivered as a safe alternative to the winter nightshelter.</p>
19.	<p>Future commitment to the provision of a winter night shelter including integration of health services into the services offered.</p> <p>This was not possible during the pandemic resulting in an alternative provision being identified a 35 unit self-contained facility.</p>
20.	<p>Explore provision of storage facilities for rough sleeper's possessions.</p> <p>To be developed</p>
Recovery:	
21.	<p>Work with partners to build a programme of recovery options to help people stay off the street</p> <p>The range of support and accommodation services outlined in the above sections have assisted in the delivery of this commitment.</p>
22.	<p>Work with partners to develop a needle exchange</p> <p>To be developed</p>
23.	<p>Explore provision of specialist mental health support from within housing options services.</p> <p>A specialist Mental Health Housing Options worker has been funded, forming an essential part of the Council's Homelessness Prevention service.</p>
24.	<p>Develop provision of intense support for individuals with high level and multiple needs</p> <p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KEIS (Keeping Everyone In Service) • Supported Lettings • Housing First
25.	<p>Implement a panel cross sector panel of experts for individuals with high level and multiple needs.</p> <p>We have developed Rough Sleeper Action Groups (RSAGs) which are multi-agency meetings to discuss and develop specific action plans for each rough sleeper.</p>
26.	Engage with Chesterfield Royal Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Conversations were held in early 2020 prior to the pandemic. This will re-commence in the coming financial year.

- 4.8 The activity undertaken, knowledge and experiences gained through the delivery of the existing strategy has been incorporated into the development of the new proposed strategy
- 4.9 **North Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Strategy 2021-23:** The proposed updated Strategy continues to be rooted in a partnership approach between the Council, other statutory services, the third sector and homeless people.
- 4.10 The Strategy continues to be based on the three 'pillars' of prevention, intervention and recovery that are identified in the National Rough Sleeper Strategy. These are:
- Prevention - To prevent new people from starting to sleep rough.
 - Intervention - To intervene rapidly when people start to sleep rough to help them off the street.
 - Recovery - To promote a person's recovery once they are off the street to build positive lives and not to return to rough sleeping.
- 4.11 Many of the commitments from the existing strategy remain in place as they are continuous commitments. However, new, and ambitious commitments have been added at **Appendix 1**.
- 4.12 These commitments will maximum outcomes and will act as a cornerstone for the delivery of additional activity.
- 4.13 A copy of the proposed strategy is attached as Appendix 2.

5.0 Alternative Options

- 5.1 Not to approve the recommendation to implement the proposed strategy. It should be noted that the Council would be in breach of its legal requirement to have a published Rough Sleeper Strategy in place.
- 5.2 Not to approve the implementation of the proposed strategy would have a negative impact on the health and wellbeing of considerably vulnerable individuals. The strategy provides a co-ordinated framework for the delivery of essential services to protect the wellbeing of rough sleepers.

6.0 Implications for consideration – Council Plan

- 6.1 The Rough Sleeper Strategy is a refreshed document that outlines why it is essential to provide a package of measures to enable vulnerable members of our community, without accommodation and suffering a range of multiple complex needs, to access services and to live safely and independently. The measures will have a positive effect on communities within the borough including the town centre environment.
- 6.2 The policy will be instrumental in delivering the following Council Plan objectives:
- Vibrant town centres
 - Help our communities to improve their health and wellbeing
 - Reduce inequality and provide support to vulnerable people

7.0 Implications for consideration – Financial and value for money

- 7.1 The preparation of the North Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Strategy will have no direct financial implications for the Council.
- 7.2 Most of the outcomes achieved together with the future commitments have been achieved in partnership with a range of stakeholders each adding considerable value in terms of, existing staff resources, knowledge and experiences.
- 7.3 The recent strengthening of these partnerships has resulted in effective decision making and enabled services to become established and respond effectively to the pandemic. The new strategy aims to maintain this partnership structure and momentum.
- 7.4 The North Derbyshire area, along with the rest of the County, has benefitted from accessing external funding under the Rough Sleeper Initiative totalling, to date, approximately £500,000. Additional funding applications, recently submitted by the Council will, if successful bring a further investment into rough sleeping services across Derbyshire of £2.5million. Notification of the outcome of these applications is due In June 2021.

8.0 Implications for consideration – Legal

- 8.1 The North Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Strategy complies with the Council's legal requirement to have a published strategy detailing its activities to resolve rough sleeping.

8.2 The strategy is consistent with the aims and objectives of the National Rough Sleeper Strategy.

8.3 The strategy will also enable the Council to deliver its statutory functions under Homelessness legislation.

9.0 Implications for consideration – Human resources

9.1 The forecast demand for the Homelessness Team is considerable due to the pandemic. It is expected that there will be an increase in requests for assistance due to:

- Removal in suspension of evictions on 31st May
- Domestic Violence
- Mental Health

9.2 The effective implementation of the preventative services contained within the strategy will assist in alleviating the pressures facing the Council's Homelessness Prevention team by addressing this complex customer group and meeting their needs through cross sector partnership work.

10.0 Implications for consideration – Risk management

Description of the Risk	Impact	Likelihood	Mitigating Action	Impact	Likelihood
The Council failing its legal duties to have a published Rough Sleeper Strategy	M	H	Development of an effective strategy provides effective risk management and delivery of statutory and good practice performance requirements.	L	L
The Council fails to comply with legal duties to protect and support Rough sleepers and homeless applicants	H	M	The strategy provides a framework for effective co-ordination and delivery of services and provision of accommodation	M	L

			options. The provides compliance with statutory duties but also protects the lives of some of the most vulnerable individuals in our communities.		
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11.0 Implications for consideration - community wellbeing

11.1 Approval of the recommendations can only have a positive impact on community wellbeing, as it aims to provide support to the most vulnerable people in our community.

12.0 Implications for consideration - Economy and skills

12.1 Rough Sleeping and associated activity commonly has a detrimental impact on town centre environments. This strategy aims to reduce the numbers of rough sleepers in the community but also to address the needs of rough sleepers and reduce the risk of them returning to the streets. This will, in turn, promote the Town centre as a safe and attractive place to visit.

13.0 Implications for consideration - Climate Change

13.1 There are no direct connection between this strategy and the Council's Climate Change objective.

14.0 Implications for consideration - Equality and diversity

13.1 A full equalities impact assessment has been carried out on the proposed Rough Sleeper Strategy and is attached in **Appendix 3**.

Decision information

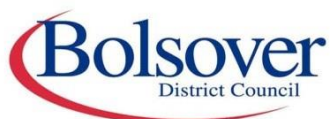
Key decision number	1036
Wards affected	All Wards

Document information

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Appendices to the report	
Appendix 1	Table of Commitments
Appendix 2	North Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Strategy 2021-23
Appendix 3	Equalities Impact Assessment

North Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Strategy 2021-22	
Commitments (New Highlighted in Red)	
Prevention:	
1.	Improve data intelligence base/profile of people sleeping rough in North Derbyshire.
2.	Conduct ethnographic research into local views and needs of rough sleepers.
3.	Explore early interventions such as education in schools
4.	Develop links with Universities to conduct local research into sector and consider work placements with front line services. Research into Hidden Homelessness.
5.	Provide a programme of training to ensure all public bodies understand the 'duty to refer' in respect of rough sleeping.
6.	Request that the Clinical Commissioning Group and Health & Wellbeing Boards make the health needs of rough sleepers a strategic priority.
7.	Strategic co-ordination of funding applications to include Rough Sleeper Initiative, Cold Weather Fund and any other available funding under national Rough Sleeper Strategy
8.	Better understanding of how to help people with no recourse to public funds coming out of hospital/prisons.
9.	Develop a range of Move on options including PRS accommodation.
10.	Strategic co-ordination and increase in provision of appropriate supported accommodation options.
11.	Develop provision of 24/7 supported accommodation including a Specialist Residential Care unit
12.	Look at positive ways of engaging and communicating with the general public about helping rough sleepers
13.	Develop an Alternative Giving Scheme
14.	Build in-reach services with hospitals/prisons to ensure no one is discharged to the street.
15.	Build stronger links with Probation and Offender Management services
16.	Review and update hospital discharge policies.
17.	Ensure provision of services for priority groups including Veterans, LGBT+, BAME, same sex couples and families, DV, MH and physical disabilities, care leavers, ex-offenders, Gypsy and Travellers

18.	Build working relationships with the DWP including 'Homeless Champions' in every Job Centre Plus
19.	Develop routes in employment/support.
20.	Develop access to debt and benefits advice
21.	Ensure we offer the right services to people who have been victims of trafficking or modern slavery
22.	Develop a range of accommodation and support that meet the varying needs of Rough Sleepers with Multiple Complex Needs
23.	Review and commission an Out of hours service that is fit for purpose
Intervention:	
24.	Increase and expand the provision of local outreach work to include quick intervention to prevent people from becoming entrenched
25.	Develop a 'Street Medicine' model including community prescription
26.	Improve access to emergency accommodation including crash pads
27.	Future commitment to the provision of a winter nightshelter, or suitable alternative, including integration of health services into the services offered.
28.	Explore provision of storage facilities for rough sleeper's possessions.
Recovery:	
29.	Work with partners to build a programme of recovery options to help people stay off the street
30.	Recruit or commission a Rough Sleeper Navigator Service
31.	Work with partners to develop a needle exchange
32.	Establish a mobile hub of professional support
33.	Explore provision of specialist mental health support from within housing options services.
34.	Develop provision of intense support for individuals with high level and multiple needs
35.	Implement a panel cross sector panel of experts for individuals with high level and multiple needs.
36.	Consider the need for day centres or local hubs
37.	Engage with Chesterfield Royal Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
38.	Engage with local Place Alliance Groups/Boards



North Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Strategy 2021- 2023

Introduction.

Bolsover District Council, Chesterfield Borough Council and North East Derbyshire District Council (the Councils) already have a joint North Derbyshire Homelessness Strategy. This is due to be reviewed and updated in 2021/22.

Due to the ever increasing importance of tackling rough sleeping it was agreed that the Councils would develop a standalone Rough Sleeping Strategy with the intention being to merge both strategies into one comprehensive Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeping Strategy following the review in 2021. This work has been delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the resulting impacts upon services.

A county wide Homelessness and Rough Sleeper strategy is currently being scoped for implementation in 2022 which will supersede the requirement to have an individual strategy for each local authority. Each council will have its own local action plan detailing specific commitments for their areas that sitb under the umbrella of a wider county strategy

Rough sleeping is the most visible and acute form of homelessness. The life expectancy of long-term rough sleeper is 47 compared to 77 for the general population. Two people who were known to have slept rough in North Derbyshire have passed away in the last 12 months with their deaths, whilst not all on the street, being linked to them rough sleeping.

Definition of Rough Sleeping

The government defines rough sleeping as being a person who is 'bedded down' (sleeping/trying to sleep) or 'about to bed down' in the open air or another place not designed for habitation. This will include being on the street, in a doorway, park, car, derelict building, bus/train station, tent or car. A person's housing status is not relevant; the key criteria is that they have been found 'bedded

down'/'about to bed down' in a place that someone ordinarily wouldn't try to sleep in.

The government expects each local authority to carry out a formal count/make a robust estimate of rough sleeping numbers in the authority area every November. A count should be carried out between 2a.m. and 5a.m. (when people are likely to be bedded down) and try to cover every place that rough sleepers are likely to be found.

Number of Rough Sleepers in North Derbyshire

The number of people sleeping rough in North Derbyshire has risen substantially in recent years based upon the November headcounts:

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
BDC	2	1	2	4	2	4	7	5	2	3	4
CBC	6	4	3	9	8	0	10	12	18	13	9
NED DC	0	1	5	0	2	3	2	3	3	0	0
Total	8	6	10	13	12	7	19	20	23	16	13

There had been a 65% increase in rough sleeper numbers in the period 2010 to 2017. The number reported represents the number of people found sleeping rough on a single night; rather than the number of people who will sleep rough at some point over a three or six month time period. It's believed that there are three to four times more people who might sleep rough over a three or six month period than who are found sleeping rough on a single night.

Data collected from the Winter Nightshelter in Chesterfield recorded 117 different people using the shelter across a 4 month period between 1st December 2018 and 31st March 2019.

For the same period between 1st December 2019 and 31st March 2020 there were 128 rough sleepers that accessed the winter

Nightshelter provision.

During the winter months of the pandemic in 2020 into 2021 the safe delivery of a Nightshelter was not possible. An alternative service was developed in partnership with most councils in Derbyshire consisting of 35 units of self-contained accommodation. This provided safe accommodation for 91 rough sleepers. 49 of these were from the North Derbyshire area (30 CBC, 13 NEDDC, 6 BDC).

In total throughout the pandemic there were 219 rough sleepers accommodated in the North Derbyshire area.

Chesterfield has historically had a higher level of rough sleeping than Bolsover and North East Derbyshire Districts.

Our belief is that unless the councils take a different approach to tackling rough sleeping that the numbers of people sleeping rough, and the adverse effects of doing so on them, will continue to rise.

A key priority will be to improve our intelligence on the profile of people who are sleeping rough over a period of time including numbers, frequency of rough sleeping, gender, ethnicity, nationality, support needs and contact with other services including the criminal justice system and health.

Core Existing Services

There are a whole host of services working with rough sleepers in the North Derbyshire area and the following is not designed to be exhaustive but to give readers an idea of the current available services in the sub-regional area:

Street Outreach Service: The service is managed by Pathways of Chesterfield, a specialist homelessness support charity. This service is commissioned by the three Councils but also forms part of the County wide Outreach service commissioned as part of a wider Staffordshire Moorlands and Derbyshire Partnership. Pathways provides an outreach service to find rough sleepers and to help them come off the street thereafter. The service attempts to engage with rough sleepers and support them into engaging with other statutory and non-statutory services as appropriate.

The North Derbyshire Single Persons Homeless Pathway: The pathway comprises of a **Homelessness HUB**, a single point of contact where all referrals for single homeless people are sent from key agencies such as Probation, Hospitals & Prisons. The service is commissioned by the Councils and provided by Pathways of Chesterfield who, upon receipt of a referral, tailor a bespoke package of support and interventions for clients in partnership with the council's homelessness prevention teams. Clients benefit from the in-house health and support workers there are a number of activities people can access as well as training and education opportunities. In cases where there are more serious blockages to housing a **Rough Sleeper Action Group (RSAG)** can be called to develop a person centered action plan around the individual aimed at securing accommodation.

Derby City Mission Winter Nightshelter: Provides an emergency accommodation service for rough sleepers in the area. The Nightshelter operates on a rolling bases utilizing 7 different Church buildings that have volunteered one night per week. This provides a bed for up to 15 guests and includes a hot evening meal and breakfast in the morning. This service operates between 1st December and 31st March. This was not possible in 2020/21 but remains part of our ongoing commitment for winter accommodation provision in the future.

Newbold Court: This is supported accommodation for medium to high level vulnerable adults including rough sleepers and single homeless people. It is a 17 bed unit managed by **Action** and is commissioned by the Council. The increased capacity of Newbold Court provides much needed accommodation supply in the area and other services including **Action's Sustainable Tenancies Project** will serve as move on option for clients needing reduced support towards independent living.

Platform for Life: Provides 8 units of supported accommodation for young people aged 18 to 25. This is provided by **Action**.

Sustainable Tenancies Project: Provided by **Action** and provides floating support to vulnerable adults who have a history of failed tenancies for a variety of reasons. The project involves the Council leasing properties to **Action** who offer tenancies with support to enable people to become "tenancy ready". The property with tenant

in situ is handed back to the council as a secure tenant. The STP project has also been rolled out in North East Derbyshire where properties have been procured from the private rented sector. There are currently

County Wide Rough Sleeper Outreach: A team of 6 rough sleeper outreach workers covering the Derbyshire County area. Funding was secured from MHCLG through the Rough Sleeping Initiative to establish the service which targets hot spot areas to reduce rough sleeping. P3 provide this much needed service in partnership with Pathways in the Chesterfield area. P3 are experts in the field. The outreach team provides a high level of intervention and engagement to the rough sleeping population that will lead to more people being taken off the street.

Supported Lettings Service: This service is managed by P3 Housing in conjunction with the outreach service and aims to provide tailored support to rough sleepers to assist them to access and maintain accommodation.

Rough Sleeper Co-ordinators: Consists of a team of 2 specialist strategic co-ordinators covering Derbyshire County as a whole. They are funded via the Rapid Rehousing Pathway Fund and aim to carry out a review and gap analysis of service across the County. One of the co-ordinators is based within the Homeless Prevention team at Chesterfield Borough Council.

Call B4 You Serve: A unique and innovative service designed with landlords in mind to prevent homelessness and increase housing supply in the private rented sector. Delivered by DASH Services, Call B4 You Serve provides a support, problem solving and advice service for landlords who are considering giving notice to their tenants. The philosophy of the service is to solve issues including debt and rent arrears without a notice being served. The service currently spans 20 local authority areas and is set to expand even further. The service also acts as an informal PRS lettings service and procurement vehicle. Strong links and partnerships have been forged with landlords and letting agencies across Derbyshire and this has increased the supply of accommodation for people that need it. For those who are considering giving up being a landlord or looking to sell properties the service can connect landlords with supported housing providers who will lease properties to rent as supported accommodation. This in turn increases housing supply in the homeless sector. Significantly, this service has a role in

preventing rough sleeping. The project has established a strong partnership with the Chesterfield Job Centre Plus team. Here, work coaches who identify clients at risk of homelessness from private rented accommodation contact CB4YS for intervention. Likewise, landlords who make contact with the Job Centre with Universal Credit housing element queries are directed to CB4YS.

Derbyshire Law Centre PRS Prevention Service: Funded via a successful bid to the PRS Access Fund the service compliments Call B4 You Serve by offering support for tenants renting privately who are experiencing difficulties with the tenancy. A team of three prevention workers based across Derbyshire & Chesterfield providing support and practical solutions to reduce homelessness from the private rented sector.

Housing First (Chesterfield Only): 14 Units of specialist accommodation provided by South Yorkshire Housing Association and delivered under the Housing First principles.

National Rough Sleeping Strategy

The government published its national rough sleeper strategy in August 2018. The Councils decided to produce a Rough Sleeping Strategy as a supplemental document alongside the existing joint Homelessness Strategy 2016-2021. This was in response to the national strategy being published and to ensure that this strategy reflected and responded to the national approach. The national strategy includes the targets to halve rough sleeper numbers (from the 2017 baseline) by 2022 and to end rough sleeping by 2027. The national strategy is rooted in three 'pillars':

- To **prevent** new people from starting to sleep rough
- To **intervene** rapidly when people start to sleep rough to help them off the street
- To promote a person's **recovery** once they are off the street to build positive lives and don't return to rough sleeping

This North Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Strategy will therefore be based upon the same **three 'pillars' of prevention, intervention and recovery**.

The national strategy emphasises the importance of local

authorities forging strong partnerships with other public services, the third sector, the business sector, community groups, the general public, people with lived experience of rough sleeping and current rough sleepers to tackle rough sleeping. Strong partnerships will be the basis of everything we do in North Derbyshire.

The national strategy highlights the importance of the role of health services in tackling rough sleeping because of the high proportion of rough sleepers who suffer from mental ill-health, physical ill-health and addiction issues, the challenges rough sleepers face in accessing mainstream health services and the adverse health outcomes of sleeping rough including reduced life expectancy. This strategy will set out our plans to promote the importance of health interventions in tackling rough sleeping and demonstrate the importance of developing recovery pathways rather than solely housing pathways.

The Covid-19 Pandemic

The Covid-19 pandemic has placed considerable pressures upon all services since its implementation on March 2020. These unprecedented times have resulted in an acceleration in the activities aimed upon ending rough sleeping nationally. Partnership working became more prevalent than ever before and has achieved considerable successes and outcomes as a result.

Everyone In Initiative: Alongside the national lockdown, MHCLG launched the “Everyone In” initiative requiring local authorities to accommodate all rough sleepers. This recognised that rough sleepers were considerably high risk of contracting and spreading the virus should they remain sleeping rough. In order to achieve this objective, we commissioned a local hotel which provided 36 units of self-contained accommodation. This facility alongside our existing B&B provision and housing accessed from within our own stock profiles enabled us to achieve this object and accommodate over 219 rough sleepers during the pandemic. Chesterfield had the higher numbers of rough sleepers, accommodating over 130 rough sleepers alone.

Change to Legislation: In order to protect the safety of rough sleepers beyond the Everyone In Initiative Government approved a change to the legislation concerning Priority Need assessments

to include those at risk of Covid-19 and rough sleeping. This ensured that almost all rough sleepers were owed a duty to provide temporary accommodation.

Protect Plus Initiative: This initiative was intended to focus upon those accommodated under Everyone In with the intention upon developing tailored housing plans and recovery pathways for each rough sleeper to enable them to remain in accommodation.

Suspension on Evictions: A suspension on all evictions was implemented in March 2020 and largely remains in place until 31st May 2021 save for a few exceptions.

Keeping Everyone In Service (KEIS): As a result of the Everyone In initiative we quickly identified a number of rough sleepers who had been placed into accommodation that may not be suitable for their longer term needs. In order to address this, we developed and commissioned, on behalf of the Staffs Moorlands & Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Partnership the Keeping Everyone In Service (KEIS) delivered by P3. The service consists of 6 support workers aimed at working with rough sleepers with high level and multiple needs to ensure the risk of eviction and returning to the streets is minimised.

This service is funded through contributions from all Derbyshire housing authorities, Derbyshire County Council, Public Health and Probation.

Included within the KEIS is a specialist Probation Link worker who provides an essential link between Housing Options/Homelessness Prevention teams and the Probation Service. This is proving to be an extremely successful role enabling the better sharing of information and improved outcomes for offenders.

Although **KEIS** was developed and implemented before the announcement of **Protect Plus** it very much worked to same principles and was focused upon the same client group and activities.

Government Funding

Rough Sleeper Initiative

The government announced the Rapid Rehousing Pathway and Rough Sleeper Initiative Funds in 2018/19. Joint applications were submitted on behalf of all housing authorities in Derbyshire and we were successful in acquiring funding totaling just over £408,000.

The government combined these sources of funding in 2019/20 under the sole banner of Rough Sleeper Initiative fund. There was extreme competition for this money and that preference was given to the authorities with the highest number of rough sleepers and those who have made a commitment to deliver the most significant reduction in numbers.

The national rough sleeping strategy refers to a number of funding pots that could be available to tackle rough sleeping and we will make sure that we submit bids, as appropriate, for available funds.

Chesterfield Borough Council have led, on behalf of all Derbyshire authorities on a bid to the Rough Sleeper Initiative fund and are currently awaiting the outcome, expected in June 2021. The bid aims to progress and bolster the existing provision and implement learning gained through the existing services and support with additional resources in key areas. These include:

3 x Rough Sleeper Navigators: Specialist and intense support to engage and support rough sleepers into accommodation and to maintain access to wider support services. This includes a personal budget to assist in the removal of barriers into accommodation.

1 x Additional Rough Sleeper Outreach Worker: taking the total number for the County to 6.

1 x Prison Resettlement Worker: to effectively link with prisons and plan for the release of offenders into accommodation rather than released to rough sleeping.

The above additions to the services available for rough sleepers will further enhance the provision across the North Derbyshire area and the County as a whole.

Rough Sleeper Accommodation Project (RSAP)

This additional fund, formerly known as Next Steps Accommodation Project, is aimed at providing a range of Move on options for rough sleepers. In October 2020, North East Derbyshire District Council led on a successful funding bid resulting in £152,000 being available for this purpose.

The second round of this funding process, now called RSAP, has been released in April 2021. Chesterfield Borough Council have submitted a bid, which, if successful, will enable access to 12 units of new supported accommodation for rough sleepers in the North Derbyshire area.

If successful, the funding applications recently submitted will result in a total investment into rough sleeper services in North Derbyshire and across the rest of the County in excess of £2.5 million in the past 12 month period.

Partnerships:

This strategy covers the North Derbyshire Partnership area consisting of Chesterfield Borough and Bolsover and North East District Councils.

The authorities also form part of a range of different partnership groups and structures. This is an area that has really been enhanced and strengthened as a result of the pandemic.

Derbyshire & Staffordshire Moorlands Rough Sleeper Partnership: This is a group of authorities responsible for rough sleeping activity, submission of funding applications and the resulting commissioning of services. This partnership includes:

Amber Valley
Bolsover
Chesterfield
Derbyshire Dales
Erewash
High Peak
North East Derbyshire
South Derbyshire
Staffs. Moorlands (Due to joint management structure with High Peak)

The partnership reports the Derbyshire Homeless Officer Group.

Derbyshire Homeless Officers Group (DHOG): This group consists of strategic leads and homelessness managers for all Districts and Borough councils across the Derbyshire. It acts as the governance structure and decision-making body for the majority of Derbyshire wide activity on homelessness and rough sleeping.

They are also responsible for the strategic oversight of finding applications and resulting commissioning of services including the monitoring and performance management of those services.

This group is supported by the MHCLG Specialist Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Advisors.

Derbyshire Housing Health & Systems Group: This group consist of Housing Strategy, Public Health, Social Care lead officers, Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS and key commissioners for the Derbyshire area. The group aims to identify key strategic priorities for joint working between housing and health structures to effect whole systems change for the benefit of vulnerable client groups. Homelessness and Rough Sleeping has been identified as one of three priorities for 2021/22.

North Derbyshire Homelessness Forum: Re-established in 2017 the homeless forum now plays a pivotal role in bringing together services and organisations from across multiple sectors to network, share information, learn about new legislation and form partnerships to reduce and prevent homelessness. From 2020 we will be holding forum on a quarterly basis to serve demand. Over the last few years we have used the forum as a primary vehicle for consultation. The single persons' pathway took shape via the forum from the feedback and advice given by attendees and over the course of 2020 and 2021 it will help us to deliver the rough sleeper action plan and the next homelessness & rough sleeping strategy.

Community Groups: There are a number of community-based groups that are active in trying to help rough sleepers in the area. Some of the groups provide outreach services and others focus on trying to keep people as safe as possible on the street (provision of food/clothes/bedding/tents). Some groups pro-actively engage with the Council whilst others do not. The strategy recognises the

positive role that community groups can play and statutory services want to positively engage with all the community groups. We recognise that some rough sleepers, who have had negative experience of statutory services, might prefer to engage with the community groups more than the council. Engagement with these important services will be driven the homelessness forum and through our continued commitment to reach out to as many services as possible. One of the areas for engagement we want to take forward with community groups is the role they can play in supporting people in their tenancies and tackling community isolation/loneliness under the banner of promoting recovery.

Health and Rough Sleeping

The national strategy on rough sleeping emphasises the importance of health services in tackling rough sleeping. This principle very much applies in North Derbyshire given the number of rough sleepers who suffer from acute mental ill-health, physical ill-health and addiction issues. These support needs lead to people starting, staying and returning to rough sleeping. All of these challenges have been exacerbated by the rise in the use of substances such as psychoactive substances.

There are some key structural actions and ambitions, which are recommendations in the national strategy, to promote joint working:

- The Derbyshire Health and Housing Systems Group leading on the development of a county wide Rough Sleeping strategy to make the health needs of rough sleepers a strategic priority.
- A review of every death of a person known to sleep rough to be carried out, ideally by the Adult Safeguarding Board, to look at opportunities for improved working including between health and housing services.

We would like to bring health services directly to rough sleepers on the street: '**Street Medicine**'. Having mental health professionals and addiction support workers, attached to the Street Outreach Service/wider Street Support Service, is one of our commitments to explore and develop where possible. The aim being for mental health/addiction support workers delivering support on the street and helping people access mainstream health services thereafter.

Primary Health Care is another commitment of this strategy to explore the commissioning of specialist rough sleeper General Practitioners. Whilst we acknowledge that this is an extremely ambitious commitment, we firmly believe that this would be an essential service for rough sleepers.

‘Street Medicine’ and Primary Health Care should include community or street based prescribing including detox from substances such as Spice. We are looking at how this successfully works in other areas such as Worksop and Stoke. It will rely on the Street Outreach Service and Clinical Commissioning Groups working in partnership.

We need to look at how health services can promote recovery and help keep people off the street. A key service will be the Community Mental Health services that will provide people with support to come off/stay off the street and also help people access wider health services.

Specialised Residential Accommodation: This has been identified as a key priority for this Strategy and also the wider County strategy currently in development.

The activity undertaken during the pandemic has clearly highlighted a gap in provision for people with severe and multiple disadvantage (SMD) due to their multiple complex needs, this cohort cannot access more mainstream housing solutions, and this also includes Housing First projects.

Our work undertaken at the Mount Cook winter provision gave us a glimpse of what could be provided to meet the needs of people with SMD. 65% of all referrals into the project had 3 or more complex needs. Having a solutions based, holistic approach where multiple services worked together all under one roof showed us what could be achieved in only a short period of 3 months.

In order to address this, we need to explore the possibility of having a residential facility that is accessible by a range of people, addressing a range of needs and providing support at all levels including step down drugs and alcohol rehabilitation and palliative, end of life care.

This requires a different mix of partners and funding sources to

develop and commission. The location of such a venue will be key. We believe the impact of such a service would be maximized by working collaboratively with colleagues at Derby City Council as well as the Derbyshire County partnerships.

Horizon Scanning and Planning for the Future

We have seen a considerable increase in demand for services to support rough sleepers in the past 12 months due to the current pandemic and the subsequent Government initiatives and legislative changes.

Funding: We have successfully responded to this increased demand by developing new and enhancing existing services largely due to the increased availability of funding to do this.

The majority of this funding is short term meaning the risk of services and support not being available in the future.

Suspension on Evictions: This ends on 31st May 2021 which is expected to result in considerable additional demand upon a range of services including Homelessness Prevention teams,

We are aware that the Court's system is already holding a substantial backlog of existing cases but it is also expected that new cases, where rent/mortgage arrears have accrued during the pandemic, will be instigated resulting in even more pressures on the system.

Domestic Abuse: National evidence has shown that abuse has significantly increased with a large number of victims choosing to remain in the relationship during the pandemic. We anticipate, following the relaxation of the pandemic restrictions, that there will be an increase in victims of domestic abuse seeking to leave the relationship and secure independent living arrangements.

Mental Health: The number of cases of people suffering with their mental health has dramatically increased during the pandemic. This often presents as an underlying issue alongside a range of other conditions including physical conditions, substance misuse or a history of offending.

These people presenting with complex multiple needs or sever

multiple disadvantage are often the more difficult cohort to identify suitable options.

We feel that the existing core and newly implemented services detailed earlier in this strategy together with the extensive list of ongoing and future commitments contained in the table below will give us the best possible opportunity of meeting this suppressed demand and continuing to support rough sleepers into safe and suitable accommodation that meets their individual needs.

Engagement with the General Public

Most local authorities have developed communication plans around rough sleeping, begging and street based living that have been somewhat negative in the messages conveyed. For example, discouraging people from giving to people on the street because it sustains rough sleeping and substance misuse that could lead to more harm. Overwhelmingly such communication approaches have been negatively received by the public.

The strategy recognises that telling people not to do something, when they meet a person who is in need, is the wrong approach to take. Rather we need to do more about highlighting the positive things that services do and the positive ways that people can help. One of the best ways we can do this is to give an increased voice to people with lived experience who have come off the street so that they can tell their story on what worked for them.

To help achieve this level of understanding we have, in conjunction with Derbyshire County Council, committed to undertaking an ethnographic research project. This will give us the understanding and insight into the world of rough sleepers and enable us to identify suitable and impactful services for the future.

'Pillars' of Rough Sleeping

Prevention – One of the key actions is to better understand the trigger points (such as leaving prison/falling into rent arrears) that lead to rough sleeping and to put in place timely interventions to prevent rough sleeping thereafter. A key part of this work will be the **'duty to refer'** on all public bodies, that came into force on 1

October 2018, to refer people who are homeless/threatened with homelessness to the housing authority for assistance. We need to develop comparable information sharing arrangements with housing associations and third sector partners.

Intervention – The intervention pillar is about rapid action to help people get off the street as quickly as possible. We believe that the need is more complex than this with services often having to engage with people on multiple occasions before they decide they are ready to accept help. Therefore we need to ensure that, when this window of opportunity arises, we are ready to put in place housing and support options on an immediate basis. It may well be that people need to receive health related services before they are willing to engage on housing options. The offer of health care/other support may well build up trust with the person so that they are more willing to engage on the offer of housing. It may also be that the person is willing to engage with a specific service, including community groups, and therefore this service should take the lead on offering help.

Recovery – the conventional model of tenancy sustainment (housing related support/help with property furnishing) is, whilst important, not going to be enough to promote recovery and keep people from returning to the street. Discussions with people with lived experience of rough sleeping has highlighted that isolation, loneliness, boredom and inactivity are reasons why people leave their tenancies and gravitate back to the street. We need, under the banner of recovery, to put in place a package of measures to help build their lives in their new homes.

We need to come up with a package of measures that the Council can cover the cost of that help former rough sleepers stay in their new homes.

Targets

Our main target is in keeping with the National objective which is:

Halve the number of people sleeping rough by 2022

To have no people sleeping rough by 2027.

Our Table of Commitments:

North Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Strategy 2021-22	
Commitments	
Prevention:	
1.	Improve data intelligence base/profile of people sleeping rough in North Derbyshire.
2.	Conduct ethnographic research into local views and needs of rough sleepers.
3.	Explore early interventions such as education in schools
4.	Develop links with Universities to conduct local research into sector and consider work placements with front line services. Research into Hidden Homelessness.
5.	Provide a programme of training to ensure all public bodies understand the 'duty to refer' in respect of rough sleeping.
6.	Request that the Clinical Commissioning Group and Health & Wellbeing Boards make the health needs of rough sleepers a strategic priority.
7.	Strategic co-ordination of funding applications to include Rough Sleeper Initiative, Cold Weather Fund and any other available funding under national Rough Sleeper Strategy
8.	Better understanding of how to help people with no recourse to public funds coming out of hospital/prisons.
9.	Develop a range of Move on options including PRS accommodation.
10.	Strategic co-ordination and increase in provision of appropriate supported accommodation options.
11.	Develop provision of 24/7 supported accommodation including a Specialist Residential Care unit
12.	Look at positive ways of engaging and communicating with the general public about helping rough sleepers
13.	Develop an Alternative Giving Scheme
14.	Build in-reach services with hospitals/prisons to ensure no one is discharged to the street.
15.	Build stronger links with Probation and Offender Management services
16.	Review and update hospital discharge policies.
17.	Ensure provision of services for priority groups including Veterans, LGBT+, BAME, same sex couples and families, DV, MH and physical disabilities, care leavers, ex-offenders, Gypsy and Travellers

18.	Build working relationships with the DWP including 'Homeless Champions' in every Job Centre Plus
19.	Develop routes in employment/support.
20.	Develop access to debt and benefits advice
21.	Ensure we offer the right services to people who have been victims of trafficking or modern slavery
22.	Develop a range of accommodation and support that meet the varying needs of Rough Sleepers with Multiple Complex Needs
23.	Review and commission an Out of hours service that is fit for purpose
Intervention:	
24.	Increase and expand the provision of local outreach work to include quick intervention to prevent people from becoming entrenched
25.	Develop a 'Street Medicine' model including community prescription
26.	Improve access to emergency accommodation including crash pads
27.	Future commitment to the provision of a winter nightshelter, or suitable alternative, including integration of health services into the services offered.
28.	Explore provision of storage facilities for rough sleeper's possessions.
Recovery:	
29.	Work with partners to build a programme of recovery options to help people stay off the street
30.	Recruit or commission a Rough Sleeper Navigator Service
31.	Work with partners to develop a needle exchange
32.	Establish a mobile hub of professional support
33.	Explore provision of specialist mental health support from within housing options services.
34.	Develop provision of intense support for individuals with high level and multiple needs
35.	Implement a panel cross sector panel of experts for individuals with high level and multiple needs.
36.	Consider the need for day centres or local hubs
37.	Engage with Chesterfield Royal Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
38.	Engage with local Place Alliance Groups/Boards

Chesterfield Borough Council Equality Impact Assessment - Full Assessment Form

<i>Title of the policy, project, service, function or strategy:</i>	North Derbyshire Rough Sleeper Strategy	
<i>Service Area:</i>	Housing	
<i>Section:</i>	Housing Options/Homelessness	
<i>Lead Officer:</i>	Carl Griffiths	
<i>Date of assessment:</i>	12/05	
<i>Is the policy, project, service, function or strategy:</i>		
<i>Existing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Changed</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	yes
<i>New / Proposed</i>		

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Section 1 – Clear aims and objectives

1. What is the aim of the policy, project, service, function or strategy?

The Strategy provides a framework and direction for the Council, with partners and stakeholders to ensure that it meets its statutory duties in relation to homelessness people and people sleeping rough, and that appropriate support and accommodation services are delivered in Chesterfield.

2. Who is intended to benefit from the policy and how?

People facing homelessness or sleeping rough are the main beneficiaries of the activity contained within the strategy. It will achieve this by co-ordinating partnership working to tackle the issues encountered by this client group whilst also providing a corporate priority and targets.

3. What outcomes do you want to achieve?

1. Halve the number of people sleeping rough in the area by 2022. Aim = 9
2. To have no people sleeping rough by 2027.

4. What barriers exist for both the Council and the groups/people with protected characteristics to enable these outcomes to be achieved?

Limited funding available to meet the needs of this complex client group.
 Limited housing solutions i.e. supported accommodation/mental health support
 Provision of healthcare and recovery solutions is difficult to access at times.
 Willingness of the target client group to engage with services and support.

5. Any other relevant background information

This strategy meets with Government requirement to have a local rough sleeper strategy.

Section 2 – Collecting your information

6. What existing data sources do you have to assess the impact of the policy, project, service, function or strategy?

Homelessness data
 Health England Data
 North Derbyshire Homelessness forum

Section 3 – Additional engagement activities

7. Please list any additional engagement activities undertaken when developing the proposal and completing this EIA. Have those who are anticipated to be affected by the policy been consulted with?

Date	Activity	Main findings
23/01/20	Derbyshire Homelessness Officer	The groups are attended by a range of specialist services and

	Group Derbyshire Health & Housing System Group Email Circulation with third sector partners.	agencies that provide assistance to rough sleepers. This has ensured that all relevant information has been considered alongside national data and best practice.

Section 4 – What is the impact?

8. Summary of anticipated impacts. *Please tick at least one option per protected characteristic. Think about barriers people may experience in accessing services, how the policy is likely to affect the promotion of equality, knowledge of customer experiences to date. You may need to think about sub-groups within categories eg. older people, younger people, people with hearing impairment etc.*

	Positive impact	Negative impact	No disproportionate impact
Age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability and long term conditions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender and gender reassignment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marriage and civil partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnant women and people on parental leave	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual orientation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ethnicity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion and belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

9. Details of anticipated positive impacts.

a)	The table of commitments has identified a range of minority groups to ensure that ALL members of society that are in need of assistance set out in the strategy can access the same. Specific mention has been made to the LGBT+, BAME and mental health but the strategy ensures services are accessible to everybody in need.
----	---

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Marriage	<input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sexual orientation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ethnicity	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion
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10. Details of anticipated negative impacts.

a)	<i>Negative impact:</i>	None.						
	<i>Mitigating action:</i>							
	<input type="checkbox"/> Age	<input type="checkbox"/> Disability	<input type="checkbox"/> Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Marriage	<input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy	<input type="checkbox"/> Sexual orientation	<input type="checkbox"/> Ethnicity	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion

11. Have all negative impacts identified in the table above been mitigated against with appropriate action?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<i>If no, please explain why:</i>
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Section 5 – Recommendations and monitoring

12. How has the EIA helped to shape the policy, project, service, function or strategy or affected the recommendation or decision?

The table of commitments has identified a range of minority groups to ensure that ALL members of society that are in need of assistance set out in the strategy can access the same. Specific mention has been made to the LGBT+, BAME and mental health but the strategy ensures services are accessible to everybody in need,

13. How are you going to monitor the policy, project, service, function or strategy, how often and who will be responsible?

The North Derbyshire Homelessness forum is the strategy steering group for monitoring the strategy and associated activity. Individual partners/stakeholders are responsible for the delivery of some specific actions but

this will continue to be monitored via the forum.

Section 6 – Knowledge management and publication

Please note the draft EIA should be reviewed by the appropriate Service Manager and the Policy Service **before** WBR, Lead Member, Cabinet, Council reports are produced.

Reviewed by Head of Service/Service Manager	Name:	Carl Griffiths
	Date:	12/05/21
Reviewed by Policy Service	Name:	Katy Marshall
	Date:	25/05/21
Final version of the EIA sent to Policy Service	y <input type="checkbox"/>	
Decision information sent to Policy Service	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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