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METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

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Sustainable Stockport

Portfolio Performance and Resources Mid-Year Report 2020/21



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ONESTOCKPORT

Date:	November 2020	Version	1.0	Approved by	SB
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SUSTAINABLE STOCKPORT - PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW



Portfolio Summary

This quarter's Portfolio Report is the first that includes a link to the Portfolio Dashboard, broken down into categories, providing in-depth information about issues reported in the PPPR. There are five sections relating to this Scrutiny Committee, two of which are shared with Economy and Regeneration Scrutiny and one new section relating to actions and progress regarding our climate change commitments.



As I said in my last report, the full impact of Covid-19 would be seen later in the year and clearly the pandemic has presented significant challenges across the portfolio, not least relating to house building. The lockdown held back progress in Quarter 1 and little work was able to be carried out. The annual target relating to market and intermediate housing delivered in neighbourhood management areas, therefore, looks unlikely to be achieved.

There is some good news in that the target relating to affordable housing is expected to be met and significant numbers of empty properties are being brought back into use. There has been some really good work by the Housing Standards Team, reducing the number of empty properties by 207 at the end of Quarter 2.

There was a moratorium on the issuing of Section 21 notices (where possession of a property is sought by its owner after a fixed-term tenancy ends) during lockdown and this reduced the number of people seeking help from the Council. Similarly, there was a reduction in levels of people being asked to leave by family and friends. Quarter 2 figures returned to more typical levels, with 427 cases being assessed over the quarter (129 of which were accepted as homeless). The two main causes of homelessness were being asked to leave by friends of family and losing a private rented sector tenancy.

Due to the pandemic, we have not been able to undertake surveys of the cleanliness of our streets and green spaces so far in 2020/21. Covid-19 has also a significant negative impact on fly-tipping, levels of residual waste, recycling rates and complaints about bin collections. Because of this, year-end targets are unlikely to be met. Performance across the range of measures applicable to our partners, TLC, are generally positive, though levels of absence continue to be above the desired level.

Finally, as mentioned above, a range of new activities and measures relating to climate change have been included for the first time. Covid-19 has had an impact on this, but work is now underway and achieving the year-end targets remains realistic. We really need to make significant progress with the aims and objectives of Stockport CAN, as the consequences of not doing so have already been seen in the floods in Stockport in 2016 and 2019.

My thanks, as always, to all Council staff for rising to the challenge over the last nine months and maintaining our public services in the most difficult and unprecedented of times.

Cllr Sheila Bailey, Cabinet Member for Sustainable Stockport

Revenue Budget (Forecast)

	£000
Cash Limit	21,390
Forecast	25,971
(Surplus)/Deficit	4,581

Housing Revenue Account	£000
Cash Limit	0
Forecast	(12)
(Surplus)/Deficit	(12)

Reserves

Approved use of reserves balance is £1.528m.
Planned draw down at Q2 is £0.388m

Capital Programme

	£000
2020/21 Capital Budget	48,258
2021/22 Capital Budget	79,620
2022/23 Capital Budget	50,485

SUSTAINABLE STOCKPORT

1. DELIVERING OUR PRIORITIES



This report is based on the **2020/21 Portfolio Agreement**, considered by the Communities and Housing Scrutiny Committee on 7th September and approved by Cabinet on 6th October 2020. The link to the Agreement can be [found here](#).

Updates on **key programmes of work and other activities** are referenced within the Portfolio Priorities within this section of the report, alongside the latest available **performance data**. The Portfolio Agreement included updates, where available, to the end of July, and this report reflects the picture as at the end of October where this is available.

Performance measures are categorised to reflect the council's influence and responsibility as Council, Partnership or Contextual. These categories are used to determine the type of target used as numerical, comparator, direction of travel or if no target is set. Definitions for these categories and target types are included within the Agreement.

Highlight and exception commentary is provided for performance measures. Where performance or progress in delivering priorities is impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic and resulting restrictions, this is reflected within the commentary. As highlighted in the Agreements, it has not been possible to set annual targets for some measures due to these impacts, but 'direction of travel' will continue to be shown for these.

For those measures reported quarterly, a full-year forecast is included where possible, based on actual performance to date as well as other factors expected to affect performance in future quarters.

The Portfolio Performance Dashboards are being launched alongside these reports, and the Sustainable Stockport Dashboard can be [found here](#). This contains further historical trend data in addition to comparative data (where available), the latest of which relates to 2019/20.

In response to feedback from Scrutiny Committees, the criteria for RAG rating and direction of travel status has been clarified and is included below. The rationale for any variations to this will be clearly highlighted within the commentary.

Key to symbols used in tables

	Red; Indicator is performing significantly (>5%) below target		Getting worse; The forecast year-end position for this indicator is less favourable than the previous year-end.
	Amber; Indicator is performing slightly (<5%) below target		Stable; The forecast year-end position for this indicator is within 1% either side of the previous year-end.
	Green; Indicator is on track or performing above target		Getting better; The forecast year-end position for this indicator is more favourable than the previous year-end.

Bold measures are included in the Greater Manchester Strategy outcomes framework and/or suite of 'headline' measures included in Corporate Report

Priority 1: Delivering new regeneration, jobs, homes and infrastructure (*shared with Economy and Regeneration Portfolio*).

Affordable housing

After a three-month halt to any new build development activity, Stockport Homes, through Viaduct Partnership, has resumed on-site work and is progressing well with the construction of almost 400 new homes across seven sites including 144 units at the former Battersby Hatworks site in Offerton, which would deliver homes for affordable rent, shared ownership and outright sale. Other notable schemes are 87 units at Melford Road in Hazel Grove (shared ownership, outright sale and social rent), 33 units at the former Tatton Cinema in Gatley (shared ownership and affordable rent) and 32 units at Booth St, Edgeley (social rent and shared ownership). The regeneration of Covent Garden by Your Housing is complete with 75 units for shared ownership, outright sale and private rent. Stockport Homes Group (SHG) and partner Registered Providers (RPs) are also in advanced planning stages on a number of other sites across the borough.

Delivery of new homes on brownfield sites



All 74 units at Covent Garden were completed by Your Housing in March 2020.

All development activity was halted in Quarter 1 due to the lockdown. In Quarter 2 Countryside Properties completed the remainder of the 275 units at Brinnington, a significant proportion of which were on brownfield sites.

In Hopes Carr Phase 3, 14 affordable units are being developed in partnership with Stockport Homes and Seddon Construction Ltd. The scheme is benefitting from a grant from Homes England for remediation works to enable the site to be developed. Planning consent has been granted and a start on site is scheduled for February 2021. Meanwhile, the council is working with a private sector partner to develop a masterplan for Phase 4 at Hopes Carr which has the potential to yield a further 160 units.

An £8.5m Housing Investment Fund (HIF) grant has been awarded to the council to develop Stockport's new interchange, the Weir Mill complex.

Measuring Performance and Reporting Progress

Partnership Measure								
PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS1.2	Number of affordable homes delivered (gross) - cumulative.	High	269	130	250	250		
<p>Though there were no completions in the first half of the year (largely due to Covid-19 restrictions), Viaduct Partnership is currently on site with nine schemes that are scheduled for completion by March 2021 yielding in excess of 200 units. Further schemes acquired through s106 by partner RPs are also planned for delivery by the 31st March 2021. The year-end target of 250 completions is therefore expected to be achieved.</p>								

Priority 2: Shaping the future (*shared with Economy and Regeneration Portfolio*).

All-age living

The Living Well at Home work has restarted following delays due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

- The mapping of current and future provisions in the borough has been reviewed considering the impact of Covid-19
- Development of Edinburgh Close/Woodford Extra Care.
- Working with RPs and other partners to address the barriers to older people moving home (e.g. financial issues), wraparound support and engaging in “the big conversation”.
- A planning application has been developed and submitted for St. Thomas’ Gardens, Stockport Town Centre. The application includes 68 affordable homes to be owned and managed by Stockport Homes and an Academy of Living Well to be owned and managed by the council. It is expected that a building contract will be let early 2021.

The right housing in the right places

Work on a review of the Housing Strategy 2016-21 and a new Housing Strategy for 2021-2024 is currently underway and due for political approval in January 2021. In January 2019, The Greater Manchester Housing Strategy (2019-2024) was launched. It is therefore envisaged that next Stockport Housing Strategy will be for the period 2021-2024, to be aligned with this GM strategy.

Empty Property Strategy

The Housing Standards Team continues to dedicate a significant proportion of its time to dealing with empty properties that are having a negative effect on the borough. In Quarter 2, the team dealt with 38 complaints relating to empty properties. A range of techniques are used to engage with owners of these properties to attempt to bring them back to use.

Properties that are problematic are those where an owner does not intend to bring the property back to use. Not all properties fall in to this category; some empties are for sale, undergoing probate or being renovated. The team are looking at how to break down the overall statistics in order to provide a more meaningful report on numbers of properties that require intervention.

By the end of Quarter 2 the total number of empty properties reduced by 207 (from 3,932 at the end of Quarter 1 to 3,647). Highlights in Quarter 2 included:

- A property in Hazel Grove empty for over 20 years has been brought back to use following considerable hard work and negotiation. A council officer had been working with the owner since 2015, dealing with solicitors and finally beneficiaries. Due to the lengthy period it had been empty, the property required a full refurbishment. The property is finally sold and will shortly be occupied for the first time in 20 years.
- A property in Reddish empty for over 8 years that had fallen into disrepair, and was causing damp to the neighbouring property, has been brought back to use. The team worked with the owner who was given the Investors List. The owner then sold the property to an investor from the list who plans to fully refurbish the property, with Stockport Homes agreeing to manage rental once works are completed.

A property in Heaton Moor that had been empty for 16 years has been brought back to use. The team

worked tirelessly trying to track the owner. The property sold very soon after it had been placed on the market and it is now occupied for the first time in over 16 years.

Initial approval is been sought to compulsory purchase five empty properties that are having a negative effect on the borough. Reports will go to CLT and Area Committee in Quarter 3.

Implement Flood report recommendations



Work has continued to address the issue of flood risk across the borough. The draft Section 19 report has been received and has been to Area Committees and Scrutiny for comment and an online consultation on the document involving several virtual meetings has taken place. A final version of the report will be presented to Cabinet for approval in December 2020, along with an action plan relating to the report’s recommendations.

A draft Highway Drainage and Flood Mitigation Improvement Plan has been written to help guide future improvements in the area. An updated policy for Highway Gully Cleansing is also being drafted to set new response times and a cleansing hierarchy for the borough. These are expected to be presented to Cabinet in December 2020.

Measuring Performance and Reporting Progress


Partnership Measures								
PI Code	Short Name	Good Perform-ance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS2.1	Net additional homes provided.	High	729	933	550	550	-	-

This figure is provided annually after year-end, so no quarterly outturns are available. The indicator has been included in this quarterly report however as the 2019/20 outturn was not available when the Portfolio Agreement was drawn up earlier this year (though a target of 550 for 2020/21 was suggested in the agreement). The 2019/20 outturn is available now however and is reported to committee for the first time. A total of 933 net additional homes were provided in 2019/20. This was a record number of annual additional homes in the borough and was primarily due to several large developments under permitted development rights e.g. Post Office and Sim-Chem House, coupled with large schemes at Brinnington and Woodford. With prior approvals being relatively low and the impact of Covid-19, it is unlikely that this number will be repeated in 2020/21.

PI Code	Short Name	Good Perform-ance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS2.2	Number of units of market and intermediate housing delivered in neighbourhood management areas (cumulative)	High	108	433	30	52		

In Quarter 2, Countryside Properties completed 30 units in Brinnington.



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PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS2.3 (NEW)	Number of privately-owned empty properties brought back into use due to council activity.	High	Not Available	Not available	1,100	1,100		-

This is a new measure, reported for the first time in 2020/21.

A total of 701 previously empty properties have been brought back into use so far this year (159 in Quarter 1 and 542 in Quarter 2). Note however that the Quarter 2 figure of 542 properties may not be 100% reliable – it may have been overstated due to sales of properties coming to a halt due to the pandemic. It appears there has been a surge in sales and properties brought back to use in Quarter 2.

The overall number of empty properties in Quarter 2 has reduced from 3,932 to 3,647, a reduction of 207.

PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS2.4	Number of households a) presenting as homeless (cumulative). b) accepted as homeless (cumulative).	Low	a) 1765 b) 390	a) 1695 b) 503	a) 1625 b) 483	Aim to minimise		

Covid-19 had a direct impact on homeless presentations and is reflected in fewer presentations in Quarter 1, when 344 cases were assessed (and 96 accepted as homeless) compared to 451 in the same quarter the previous year. This was related to the national lockdown which began in March and carried through to the next quarter. During lockdown, no Section 21 notices (which seek possession of a property after a fixed-term tenancy ends) were able to be enacted and this reduced the number of presentations that the council would otherwise have received. Similarly, there was a reduction in levels of people being asked to leave by family and friends. Quarter 2 figures returned to more typical levels, with 427 cases being assessed over the quarter (129 of which were accepted as homeless). The two main causes of homelessness were being asked to leave by friends of family and losing a private rented sector tenancy.

Priority 3: Living an active and healthy life.

Sport England Local Pilot

Despite the challenges of Covid-19, work has progressed in a modified way with specific focus on:

Marketing and Communications

- Distribution of various support materials utilising multi-channel communications.
- Establishment of new networks – including virtual.
- Announcement of new programmes (Stockport Moving Together) to help gain further traction.

Children and Young People/Families with SEND

- Developing a training resource targeting parents, carers and families whose children are inactive and have additional needs / disabilities.
- Incorporating through a three-phase test and learn process.
- Developing a 'place-based' approach to inclusive activity resulting in an increase of disabled people's participation in community activity.

Placed Based Approach (Brinnington)

Through a systems approach, there has been a continuation of 'street level' community engagement, with specific focus on:

- Further encouraging walking as a transport alternative and to encourage people to become more physically active.
- Creating improved links to the Stockport town centre.
- More attractive and consistent signage across the local community.
- "Showcasing" local assets in Brinnington and making people feel better connected across the community and engendering a sense of belonging.
- Encouraging greater use of the Trans Pennine Trail.

Peer Mentor Programme

This is currently in the early stages of development but with a focus on supporting the most inactive people, with either a long-term health condition or who are workless, to build some physical activity into their daily routines with the support and guidance of a trained peer mentor.

Active Ageing Programme.

The Sport England funding has now ended for this specific programme, but the learning from it is being incorporated into the peer mentor work stream being developed within the Local Pilot work and integrated more widely into the systems methodology within the broader Active Communities work programmes. An evaluation report will be published in November 2020.

SHAPES Alliance.

With the onset of the present circumstances, we had to think of ways to adapt our usual programme of support. We are still linking with all our community, but some specific activity is summarised below.

- During lockdown we created a series of festivals for schools to deliver to the children still attending school, whilst also setting personal and family challenges for schools to send home and view on Twitter. We also sent weekly newsletters and provided online professional development training for staff.

- Since schools have returned, we have created a menu of opportunity that schools have opted into and we have still been able to address our priorities of high-quality Physical Education (PE), participation, competition, leadership and school to club links.
- Our PE specialists are in their schools upskilling primary staff and we continue delivering professional development training online and creating PE resources to help staff. We have adapted our competition programme to become virtual and are hopeful that this method will enable more children than usual to have healthy competitive experiences in school.
- Our school challenge to address participation levels continues and this year's family challenge to engage families to exercise together will be launched in January 2020.
- The family challenge had more families that ever before engaging during lockdown. We are also drawing up a programme of personal challenges for children to access if their bubble need to self-isolate. We are back in schools delivering leadership programmes to children to deliver activities to their bubbles.
- We have also reinstated our intervention programmes – our physical activity and mental wellbeing project is expanding and is needed more than ever. Our Girls and Boys Active programmes will go straight to schools rather than the normal active days.
- Whilst intergenerational work within schools is currently paused, we are trying ways to engage with families outside schools to be physically active together. Our programmes are fully inclusive of all pupils and we are working on an additional SEND project for the November SEND week.

Early Years Physical Development Champions Programme

Supporting early years settings to promote learning through physical activity in achieving the early learning goals for physical development as set out within the Early Years Foundation Stage.

The impact of the maintained nursery school 'whole setting physical development champion training' was evidenced in two the nursery school Ofsted inspections, with both nurseries being graded outstanding and the curriculum for physical development being highlighted as exemplary. In January 2020, four nursery school Headteachers presented at the Stockport Primary Headteachers' conference to support system leadership on Physical Development (PD) in the early years. They shared the improvements they had made to the PD curriculum as a result of the PD champion whole nursery training and approach. This led to school-to-school support in this area where primary school leaders identified improvements that they could make in their own early years provision and teaching. Improvements were made to the training and PD audit materials following feedback from the nursery school HT and teachers. A whole setting approach to PD is now being promoted through the training offer and resources.

The Greater Manchester PD Task and Finish Group met at the beginning of March 2020. Work has continued remotely on the PD actions within in the School Readiness programme of work. Ten top tips to support young children's physical development were incorporated into published guidance by Greater Sport for families and three leaflets to support babies, toddlers and pre-school physical development at home were produced. These resources have been shared with early years settings and schools. The resources were also featured in the National Centre for Sport and Exercise Medicine (NCSEM) newsletter recently. <https://www.greatersport.co.uk/news/new-at-home-guidance-created-to-support-parents-and-carers-to-get-their-little-ones-moving>. This work will continue with a virtual meeting of the group planned in November with a focus on progressing the PD pathway and specification.

The impact of the PD Champion work was recognised in the publication of the outcomes of the Early Years Foundation Stage consultation in June. The suggested descriptor for Physical Development 0-5 was revised and incorporated a significant part of the suggested descriptor submitted by the PD Champion group members, locally and through regional and national representatives. This represents a significant achievement and as a result of work in Stockport and Greater Manchester we have influenced the changing of national guidance. The revised PD descriptor is now being used by the early adopter schools and will become statutory for all Early Years settings and schools from September 2021.

Following the cancellation of national primary assessments, there was no EYFS Profile data collection and reporting in June 2020. Work across Stockport Family is focussed on improving children's outcomes and the early identification of children at risk in terms of their early development. Mandated child development reviews have been completed remotely for two-year olds and reinstated face-to-face for all children at nine months. Support has continued virtually with childminders, leaders in Early Years settings and teachers in schools. There has been a strong focus on supporting children's physical development and a greater focus on outdoor physical activity during the pandemic.

Implementing new delivery arrangements for leisure and active communities

Work has been progressing to identify a financially sustainable future model for delivery of Active Communities programmes and leisure facilities in Stockport. A preferred option will be taken to Cabinet in December 2020 after which steps will be taken towards implementation.

Indoor Leisure Investment Strategy

The Indoor Leisure Investment Strategy has been drafted and a final version is expected to be brought forward to Cabinet in early 2021, subject to a timescale being agreed for longer term investments. In the meantime, investment programmes previously agreed will see improvements to changing facilities at Avondale and Romiley pools in early 2021. Work continues with the development of options for a replacement leisure and community hub in Marple. Stakeholder engagement has taken place in October 2020 and this will be followed by wider public and community engagement on options.

Active Communities

Addressing inactivity through a whole systems methodology within the Active Communities Strategy has focused on:

- Reviewing physical activity assets to ensure that they provide sustainable settings to promote physical activity.
- Delivering the priorities of the Stockport SHAPES Alliance and increasing children and young people's participation in high quality physical activity.
- Advocating physical activity within all NHS and primary care lifestyle intervention and support programmes.
- Designing and implementing the Stockport Moving Together (Covid physical activity recovery programme) with clinicians in both primary and secondary care. This programme will support patients recovering from Covid-19, as well as supporting older people in care homes, building resilience to possible future infection. The support programme has recently been expanded to support both the council and NHS Foundation Trust staff as individuals recover from infection.

- Seeking funding to support with VCSE groups to develop the Early Years Physical Development Champions programme.
- Providing support for voluntary sector sports club infrastructure development in priority areas
- Encouraging, supporting and developing positive physical activity role models in key priority groups.
- Using Local Pilot funding and other GM Moving funding opportunities to promote innovative activity sessions to meet the needs of priority groups (including building resilience to Covid-19).
- Through the 'R Time' project, encouraging community organisations and delivery partners to apply for special projects funding to engage young people throughout our communities.
- Designing and delivering interventions led by young people that increase their participation in physical activity.
- Encouraging active travel for families as a means of getting to school and work and as part of everyday life.
- Continuing the insights work with key cohort groups to understand any barriers to access and ensure programmes are delivered to local need and promoting the wide range of facilities that are available in Stockport.
- Developing programmes to ensure that children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities have improved access to physical activity.
- Using targeted social media and other local media channels to promote the benefits of physical activity and the risks of being sedentary.
- Developing and maintaining easily accessible resources about what is available within Stockport, accounting for a wide range of interests and preferences.

Walking and Cycling Plan

The council continues to deliver a range of projects to achieve the vision set out in the Walking and Cycling Plan. Current progress includes:

Delivery of the Mayoral Challenge Funding projects

Work has begun on constructing the first scheme this month, in Gillbent Road, Cheadle Hulme and further schemes in the Heatons and Bramhall Park to A6 are due to begin delivery this autumn. Programme entry has also been secured for Lower Bredbury to Brinnington; Hazel Grove links; Ladybrook Valley; Cheadle Hulme Crossings Package; A555 links; Stockport Interchange; Offerton to Stockport; Heaton Norris Park M60 Bridge; and Thomson Street Footbridge. The development of the business case for the schemes continues.

Support for Active Neighbourhood schemes

The Council is currently working with communities in Romiley and the Heatons to develop active neighbourhood schemes for their local areas. These schemes are currently out to public consultation. The council is also working with TfGM and communities in Cheadle to begin developing a potential scheme in the Cheadle area. Early discussions have also begun with communities in Marple, Marple Bridge and Compstall, and High Lane.

Support for the Stockport Cycling and Walking Forum

The Stockport Cycling and Walking Forum has continued to meet in recent months with all meetings currently virtual given Covid-19 restrictions. The membership of the group continues to grow.

Support for the Walkaday and Walking for Health programmes

The Walkaday and Walking for Health programmes are currently on pause due to Covid-19. However, the council is working with volunteer leaders to try to restart walks as soon as possible. In the meantime, additional information has been added to the council website to direct interested parties to suggested walking routes and resources available via GM Walking.

Delivery of cycle and road safety training in schools

Demand from schools to undertake cycle and road safety training continues given an increase in the number of pupils choosing to walk or cycle to school. The council continues to deliver this training.

Engagement in delivery of a GM-wide bike hire solution



Officers continue to attend the board, overseeing the delivery of a GM-wide bike hire solution. An initial procurement to appoint a delivery partner is underway, led by TfGM.

Ongoing maintenance and management of the rights of way network and delivery of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan

The council continues to undertake a programme of reactive maintenance works across the Rights of Way network. A programme of capital improvement schemes is also in development, including:

- Footpath 20 Bredbury and Romiley.
- Footpath 41 Hazel Grove and Bramhall.
- Footpath 62 Marple.
- Footpath 64 Bredbury and Romiley.
- Alan Newton way to Chadkirk.
- Trans Pennine Trail Northumberland Road to Brinnington Tunnel.

Measuring Performance and Reporting Progress

Partnership Measures								
PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS3.1	Percentage of adults reporting that they do more than 30 minutes of sport or physical activity per week (three-year rolling average).	High	78.0%	76.1%	75.3%	74.0%		
Results from Sport England's latest Active Lives Survey were published in October 2020. It covers the twelve-month period up to the end of May 2020, during which Covid-19 restrictions were in place for only the last two months. The three-year rolling average is now 75.7%, which is a very slight decrease since the last survey. Results of the next survey will be published in April 2021. It will cover the twelve months to November 2020, eight months of which were during the pandemic. As the survey is likely to find that activity levels decreased during the pandemic, a year-end target below the 2019/20 outturn was set.								

Priority 4: Creating pride in our borough ensuring it is safe, clean and well maintained.

Ensuring good standards of cleanliness, efficiency on bin collections and maintenance of green space

The Totally Local Company (TLC) has been diligently maintaining standards whilst coping with the extra strain Covid-19 has placed on its workforce.

Promoting behaviour change

Investigation work relating to fly-tipping was limited during the lockdown period due to Covid-19 restrictions. Officers have since adopted Covid-safe working practices, although these do present some limitations (e.g. officers cannot search through fly-tipped material to look for evidence).

Indicators rose sharply following lockdown, both for fly-tipping and tonnages of waste collected. Reports of fly-tipping peaked in June and tonnages collected peaked in July and September. Since then, those indicators have moved to more typical levels.

Several staff were recently seconded to other duties which has led to further restrictions on the amount of investigative work possible. The whole Neighbourhoods Team has had to become more reactive in response to environmental issues. Although this has led to a reduction in formal enforcement activity, the team has continued to engage with residents and local business to offer advice and support where possible, seeking to resolve issues without recourse to enforcement wherever possible.

Promoting community enjoyment and ownership of public spaces.

Renovation work and essential maintenance has taken place across all of our bowling greens during the summer months and all the greens have been restored to a good, playable condition.

Extensive renovation work took place during the summer on our football pitches, building on the previous investment in these facilities. The pitches are in good condition. Public toilets in our parks have now been reopened and toilets and hand-washing facilities in sports pavilions are now open during football matches.

All existing event applications have been kept under review to ensure compliance with legislation, guidance and local restrictions. The default position is that no event will be approved within the borough unless the local Public Health team are satisfied that it can take place safely.

All of our volunteer and friends' groups were contacted at the end of the summer with advice about restarting activities and guidance regarding Covid-19 mitigation measures. The groups have been regularly updated following changes to Government guidance and local restrictions. The activities which groups can safely undertake are now more limited and we continue to support them with necessary advice and guidance to ensure that any activities and task days that do take place are undertaken safely.

Keeping our highways safe and well maintained

LED lighting programme

Covid-19 has had a significant impact on the LED programme this year. Supplies and contracting resources have been limited resulting in delays to this year's planned delivery. Schemes will be pushed forward into future work programmes as resources allow. Condition surveys and column installations are progressing well, in line with a reduced programme due to Covid-19.

Highways Investment Programme (HIP)

We are now in Year 7 of the (nine-year) HIP. There has been a significant delay to the preventative programme due to the timing and impact of Covid-19 working restrictions. Schemes will be pushed forward into future work programmes as resources allow. The work to respond to any defects in the highway outside of the capital programme is also being done in line with the council's policies for response.

Measuring Performance and Reporting Progress

Council Measures



PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS4.1	Percentage of parks and open spaces assessed as satisfactory.	High	97.0%	95.6%	-	97.0%	-	-

The pandemic has affected the capacity to deliver business as usual. The routine monitoring of TLC's green space management activities has not been given a high priority and subsequently there are no Quarter 1 or Quarter 2 figures to report.

PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS4.2 (NEW)	Percentage of relevant land and highways cleaned to an acceptable standard (Grade A & B)	High	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	90.0%	-	-

This is a new composite measure, replacing three measures that separately considered litter, detritus and dog-fouling. The first survey has not yet taken place so a target will be confirmed when that has been undertaken. A provisional target of 90% is suggested however.

As with SS4.1, the pandemic has affected the capacity to deliver business as usual. The routine monitoring of TLC's Highway Cleaning activities has not been given a high priority and subsequently there are no Quarter 1 or Quarter 2 figures to report

PI Code	Short Name	Good Perform-ance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS4.3	Number of incidents of fly-tipping recorded (cumulative).	Low	2,438	2,662	3,620	2,700		



There were 2,364 fly-tipping incidents reported to the council in the first six months of 2020/21 (1,348 in Quarter 1 and 1,016 in Quarter 2).

Analysis of reports of fly-tipping over the last five years suggests that residents' willingness to report waste in the wrong place increased significantly during the Covid-19 lockdown period, with reports approximately doubling during Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 compared to five-year averaged data.

Anecdotally, it was apparent during lockdown that residents became more aware of their immediate surroundings and the behaviour of their neighbours, which may have led to more incidents being reported.

Indications from September however are that reports are now beginning to return to more typical levels - this is mirrored by the amount of fly-tipping waste tonnage being collected from our streets, which is also now at more typical levels.

The year-end forecast has been based on last year's Quarters 3 and Quarter 4 returns. It is difficult to predict however, as it may be influenced by further pandemic-related restrictions and the possible effects these may have on resident behaviour.



PI Code	Short Name	Good Perform-ance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS4.4	Kg of residual household waste collected per household (cumulative)	Low	313	305	400	302		

The volume of waste produced by residents has increased as more residents remained at home during the lockdown in Quarter 1, when the household average was 98.6kg. Though working from home remained advisable throughout Quarter 2, household average reduced to 86.7kg.

The pandemic also has an impact on refuse collection services. Food & Garden and the Paper & Card collection services had to be reduced for a period. This may have encouraged residents to use the black bin for materials that they would normally put into the recycle bins. The temporary closure and subsequent restricted service provide by GM Waste at the borough's recycling centres will also have encouraged greater use of the black bins for recyclable material.



One effect of the pandemic was that people spent more time in their homes. This was evidenced by the tonnages of the brown (glass and plastic bottles, tins and cans) bin collection. There was a weight increase of collected material of around 32% year on year.

Further evidence of how having to stay at home affected resident behaviour is demonstrated through the overall increase in recycling rates. There was an increase from 55.1% in Quarter 1 to 61.0% in Quarter 2.

PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS4.5 GMS	Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting.	High	58.6%	60.1%	55.0%	60.0%		

The pandemic also affected the collection services. Food & Garden and Paper & Card collection services were reduced leading to a fall in the amount of material collected from residents' homes. Brown bin collection (glass and plastic bottles, tins and cans) tonnages increased around 32% year on year, and the collection frequency remained at every four weeks.

Though overall recycling rates increased from 55.1% in Quarter 1 to 61.0% in Quarter 2, the impact of the reintroduction of tighter restrictions relating to Covid-19 may have an adverse effect on recycling rates.



PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS4.6	Service failures per 100,000 bin collections (cumulative)	Low	58.8	52.2	60.0	55.5		

Due to the pandemic, some collection schedules were changed (see SS4.5 above). In Quarter 1 the recorded rate of service failures was 93.4 per 100,000. A number of these reports however related to collections that were not due within the revised schedule. Complaints had fallen by Quarter 2 as the collection services consistency improved (and the rate had reduced to 63.5). Erroneous reports were still a factor however in Quarter 2.

Performance has been rated amber this quarter – though the projected rate of complaints is outside the 5% tolerance range, a significant proportion of these will have been erroneous.



Due to these inaccuracies therefore, it is suggested that Quarter 1 and 2 are omitted from 2020/21 calculations.

Totally Local Company Measures



PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS4.9	Number of employees completing development under the Apprentice Levy (inclusive of Apprentices)	High	31	29	30	30		

The impact of Covid-19 in the first part of the year delayed some recruitment and training actions, which subsequently caught up in the second quarter, by which time TLC had 29 such employees and is now on course to achieve the target of 30 such employees by the year-end.



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PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS4.10 (NEW)	% of available contracted hours actually worked	High	Not Available	95.0%	90.0%	95.0%		

This metric was impacted by Covid-19 in Quarter 1 (outturn 86.8%), when the company had many employees self-isolating and shielding. In Quarter 2, the rate has improved to 87.5% as many staff returned from shielding in July and August. However, self-isolation, shielding and sickness absence remain a drag on the metric and are being reviewed by TLC's HR team. The forecast is lower as this is a new metric estimated without comparator data and may be too optimistic, especially in the current environment.



PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS4.11 (NEW)	Accident Frequency Rate	Low	Not Available	0.8	0.61	0.8		

The rate reduced in the Quarter 1 (to 0.69) due to the impact of Covid-19 lockdown (when many services were reduced or suspended). In Quarter 2 however, the rate reduced even further (to 0.62), even though services had largely resumed. The current rate is expected to be maintained through to the year-end and is significantly lower than the national average for this type of business, published by the HSE (1.24).


PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS4.12	Totally Local Company: Cost savings and productivity improvements (cumulative).	High	£431,000	£347,000	£975,000	£975,000		

TLC's financial results for the first half of 2020-21 have been negatively impacted by Covid-19 and, at the end of Quarter 2, show a negative variance to budget. However, there remains a reasonable chance that TLC will be able to recover this and deliver the target savings by the year-end. This will be conditional on several factors, including any impacts from further lockdowns and/or bad weather (hence the amber RAG rating). TLC remains optimistic however that the year-end target saving can be achieved.

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PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
S4.13	Totally Local Company: Percentage of income from all sources other than from SMBC or Robertson (cumulative)	High	9.7%	8.9%	10.0%	8.5%		


The impact of Covid-19 has resulted in reduced ad hoc revenue from the council in the first half of the year (8.4% in Quarter 1 and 11.2% in Quarter 2). Although revenue from third parties is also lower than last year, the main impact has been council revenue. Income levels are expected to improve in the second half, hence the forecast figure. Increased revenue from the council however (particularly on Highways Capital) will be critical to TLC's ability to recover from the pandemic.

PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS4.14 (NEW)	Fuel usage rate (litres of fuel used per 100 work hours).	Low	Not Available	Not Available	88.0	Aim to minimise		-

In previous years, the number of litres of fuel used was reported. This did not attempt to gauge economy (e.g. measured against miles driven) or efficiency of work delivered (e.g. measured against hours of work delivered). A higher figure was viewed as undesirable but if, for example, the council commissions more work from TLC (e.g. higher levels of capital work) the number of litres used will inevitably rise. It is believed to be an environmental measure, but it may be imperfect in concept. Instead therefore, a measure of efficiency is suggested, which considers fuel usage and TLC's available production hours, i.e. litres of fuel used compared to available production hours – rate of litres used per hundred work hours available.

As this is an entirely new indicator, no numerical target has been set for 2020/21. Year-end performance can however be used as a benchmark against which to a target in 2021/22.

The Quarter 1 outturn (72.8 litres of fuel used per 100 work hours) was distorted by the Covid-19 crisis, when many services were suspended or reduced. The Quarter 2 outturn (83.5) represents a more "normal" result, as the services that use the most fuel were operating at least at 90% of pre-Covid levels during Quarter 2. The forecast for the year-end is slightly higher to reflect the hope that productivity will improve further, even with social distancing and higher levels of sanitising etc. This optimism however may be impacted by further Covid-19 local lockdowns or bad weather, and the amber RAG rating reflects these potential risks.

PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS4.15 (NEW)	% of employees living in the Stockport local authority area.	High	Not collected	Not collected	67.0%	65.0%		-

By the end of Quarter 2, 69.5% of the Company's employees lived within the borough of Stockport (slightly down on the Quarter 1 figure of 70.2%, due to retirements and leavers in the first half of the year. TLC remains on track to achieve the year-end target however. The lower forecast figure takes account of other retirements and lower recruitment during the ongoing crisis.

Priority 5: Positively contributing to the Climate Change Emergency.

Incorporating climate change assessment into all we do

We have included an Environmental Impact Assessment on the front cover of all Corporate Leadership Team reports. Training at SMG is planned.

Sustainable Financial Appraisal

The council now has a draft financial appraisal model that it is testing. It is anticipated that the model will be refined and working in the Quarter 4.

Climate-Friendly Borough – Working with businesses and local people

The GM bid, in conjunction with EON, the GM (and Stockport) procured partner, for Local Authority Delivery Scheme 1 (LADS) was approved by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. This will provide £4.7m to improve energy efficiency and provide zero carbon heating in the most energy inefficient properties occupied by low income households. A full marketing campaign has been prepared and will be launched in Quarter 3 to promote both LADs and the Green Homes Vouchers.

Low Carbon Buildings

The council has been awarded a grant of £71,430 from the SALIX Low Carbon Skills Fund. This funding is to develop feasibility studies the decarbonisation of heat at property assets, including the Civic Complex, one Leisure Centre and four schools. A roadmap for evaluation and implementation of further low carbon technologies is in development.

Ensuring that the future energy needs of the borough can all be met in a sustainable way

As part of a long-term plan to install three Solar Photovoltaic (PV) roof-mounted arrays with electric vehicle charging within the borough, a work programme is in place to have the first PV installed by the end of March 2021.


Moving to carbon-free transport options

Ten electric vehicle chargers have been provided for employee use at Stopford House to encourage take-up of electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles. The charging points have been part-funded by the Office for Low Emission Vehicles grant scheme. Two rapid chargers have also been installed by TfGM as part of the BE.E Network at Massie Street car park in Cheadle and at Newbridge Lane car park in the town centre.

Protecting the natural environment


See commentary relating to the performance measures in the tables below.

Measuring Performance and Reporting Progress


Council Measures								
PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS5.1 (NEW)	Plant at least 11,500 standard trees in parks and along the highway by 2030 (1,150 per year on average).	High	Not collected	Not collected	550	1,150		-

Tree planting is largely a seasonal activity that is normally delivered from autumn through to winter. The forecast for trees to be planted this season has been lowered as a precautionary measure given the potential for staff shortages and the possible need for remaining staff to support services that have a higher priority.


The longer-term outlook for numbers of trees planted remains positive. There will be opportunities to acquire external funding that will support and accelerate tree planting initiatives across the borough.

PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS5.2 (NEW)	Create one new woodland each year, for the next ten years, using up to 80,000 whips (young trees) in total.	High	Not collected	Not collected	One woodland 8,000 whips	One woodland 8,000 whips		-

A 'long list' of potential sites have been identified and these are currently subject to further investigation. Once desktop assessments have been completed members, Friends Groups and other stakeholders will be consulted. Funding opportunities are being investigated. The delivery of woodlands is likely to be compressed into a smaller number of very active years as funding becomes available.

PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS5.3 (NEW)	Create grassland meadows in all wards across the borough by 2025	High	Not collected	Not collected	New meadows in 4 wards	New meadows in 4 wards		-

There are currently twenty-five meadows managed for the benefit of wildlife. The most recent site being at Meadows Road, Heaton Chapel. There are several sites that may also be suitable and these currently subject to further investigation. Members, Friends Groups and stakeholders will be consulted with once desktop assessments have been completed.

PI Code	Short Name	Good Performance	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
			Actual	Actual	Forecast	Target	Status	Trend
SS5.4 (NEW)	Create an orchard in every ward across the borough by 2025/26, planting over 3,500 fruit trees by 2030	High	Not collected	Not collected	2 wards 350 trees	2 wards 350 trees		-

Though this work has yet to begin, it is expected that orchards will be created in two wards during 2020/21. As sites are confirmed members, Friends Groups and stakeholders will be engaged.

2. SUSTAINABLE STOCKPORT FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MONITORING



2.1 Revenue – Cash limit

	Previously Reported (Q1.5 / PPRA) £000	Increase (Reduction) £000	Budget at Q2 £000
Sustainable Stockport Cash Limit Budget	21,180	210	21,390

Budget changes since previously reported at Quarter 1.5

Description	Movement(s) £000
Pay Award	198
Price Inflation Parking NNDR	10
Fly Tipping budget from Estates to Place	2
Total	210

Outturn Forecast

Net Cash Limit £000	Forecast Net Expenditure £000	Forecast Appropriations £000	Forecast Outturn £000
21,390	26,285	(315)	4,581

The financial resources in this portfolio total £21.390m. The forecast position is a £4.581m deficit based on updated Quarter 2 (Period 6-7) information. This equates to 21.42% of the Portfolio Budget. This estimated deficit relates to Covid-19 associated costs and lost income, most significantly in the areas of Leisure and Parking.

2.2 Earmarked Reserves

Most earmarked reserves are held at a corporate level and services produce a business case to drawdown funds, which is approved through Corporate Leadership Team and Members. This strategic approach is designed to provide financial resilience for the Council and to ensure that Council reserves are used on an invest-to-save basis and to support Council priorities. The exceptions to this are ringfenced reserves and the Directorate Flexibility Reserve.

The table below reflects any approved revised balances in reserves, aligned to the 20/21 Reserves Policy report taken to Cabinet on the 6th October.

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Reserve Category	Reserve Narration	To be used for	Balance of Reserve / "Approved Use" £000	Planned use of Reserves / "Approved Use" 2020/21 £000	Balance of Reserve / "Approved Use" £000
Directorate Reserves					
Directorate Reserve	Directorate Flexibility Reserve - Place	Development of a housing prospectus for ageing well	50	50	0
Directorate Reserve	Directorate Flexibility Reserve - Place	Marple Leisure Project	12	12	0
Corporate Reserves					
Corporate Reserves	Third Party Monies Reserve	Parks Bequest	44	0	44
Corporate Reserves	Third Party Monies Reserve	CE Allen Bequest	79	24	55
Corporate Reserves	Area Committee Reserves	Delegated Budgets	403		403
Strategic Priority Reserve	Infrastructure Investment Reserve	Tree Programme	170	55	115
Strategic Priority Reserve	Capital Programme Investment Reserve	Pothole Repair Scheme Funding	487	23	464
Corporate Property Reserves	Corporate Property Reserves	Marple/Cheadle Pool Closure Loss of Income	49	49	0
Reserve Linked to Budget	Transformation - Invest to Save Reserve	Specialist support from leisure experts for the Leisure review	110	110	0
Reserve Linked to Budget	Transformation - Invest to Save Reserve	Climate Change	124	65	59
		Total	1,528	388	1,140

The table above forecasts the £0.388m of reserve will be used in 2020/21, including £0.315m to fund revenue expenditure and £0.023m to fund capital expenditure and £0.050m to fund the development of a housing prospectus for ageing well spent in another portfolio.

2.3 Portfolio Savings Programme

Proposal	Risk Rating	Value £000	Value Achieved	Additional Information
Public Realm Offer (2019/20 and 2020/21 savings)	Green	975	975	The forecast suggests this will be achieved.
Life Leisure Offer	Green	150	150	The management fee was reduced by £0.150m. The closure of leisure centres has overtaken this, but as things go back to normal the management fee should remain at the right level to achieve this saving.
Various increases on Fees & Charges	Red	155	TBC	Although demand may be down due to Covid-19, adjustment to fees and charges designed to achieve the saving have been or are taking place. There are some areas which have decided to delay increasing fees due to Covid-19 which may impact slightly on the savings.
Total		1,280	TBC	

Risk rating

Green – good confidence (90% plus) the saving is/will be delivered or minor variances (<£0.050m) that will be contained within the portfolio.

Amber – progressing at a reasonable pace, action plan being pursued may be some slippage across years and/or the final position may also be a little unclear.

Red – Significant issues arising, or further detailed consultation required which may be complex/contentious.

2.4 Housing Revenue Account

<u>HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT – 2020/21 QUARTER 2</u>	Budget 2020/21	Forecast Outturn 2020/21	Variance
	£000	£000	£000
<u>Expenditure</u>			
<u>Maintenance & Management</u>			
Management Fee	28,641	28,641	0
Strategic HRA Management	1,362	1,362	0
Rents, rates, taxes & other charges	180	180	0
Delivery Plan Initiatives	0	0	0
Total Management and maintenance	30,183	30,183	0
<u>Other Expenditure</u>			
HRA share of interest charges	5,376	5,325	(51)
Depreciation of fixed assets	12,533	12,376	(157)
Debt Management Costs (Treasury Management)	65	65	0
Bad debts provision	524	524	0
Solar PV Interest	123	98	(25)
Solar PV Voluntary MRP	0	0	0
New Build MRP	0	0	0
New Build Interest	449	449	0
New Build Management and Maintenance	152	144	(8)
Earmarked Development Provision	255	262	7
Water Charges	4,851	4,530	(321)
Sub-total	24,328	23,773	(555)
Total Expenditure	54,511	53,956	(555)
<u>Income</u>			
Rents - Dwellings	(41,634)	(41,738)	(104)
Rents from Affordable Rents for New Build	(768)	(768)	0
Rents from New Build units	(1,057)	(1,005)	52
Rents (non-dwellings) shops/garages/office rents	(300)	(300)	0
Charges for Services & Facilities	(4,125)	(4,125)	0
Solar PV Fit income	(1,250)	(1,350)	(100)
RHI Income	(376)	(320)	56
Water Income	(4,851)	(4,530)	321
Contribution from Welfare Reform Fund for Delivery Plan Initiatives	0	0	0
Retained Income from RTBs	(91)	(52)	39
Total Income	(54,452)	54,188	264
Net Cost of Services	59	(232)	(291)
Net cost of premia less discounts	0	0	0
Investment Income	(30)	(30)	0
Sub-total	(30)	(30)	0

Net Operating Expenditure	29	(262)	(291)
Voluntary MRP	0	0	0
RCCO	0	0	0
Contribution from Reserves	250	250	0
Future Investment Reserve	0	0	0
Sub-total	250	250	0
(Surplus)/Deficit for year	279	(12)	(291)
(Surplus)/Deficit brought forward	(1,591)	(2,123)	(531)
Future Investment Reserve	313	1,135	822
Accumulated (Surplus)/Deficit	(1,000)	(1,000)	0

The forecast HRA outturn position for 2020/21 as at Quarter 2 is for a surplus of £0.012m for the year.

There are some gains noted within the forecast including lower interest and depreciation costs, along with higher rental income being forecasted due to better than budgeted voids and lower RTBs expected.

The favourable variances are offsetting some of the adverse areas of expenditure being realised as a result of Covid-19 such as a lower rental income from new build due to the later than budgeted completion of the Hexham Close site and lower income from RHI due to some sites temporarily closing.

A higher than budgeted brought forward balance from 2019-20 which is being ring-fenced for Project Phoenix, the establishment of a Head of Building Safety and associated support costs.

2.5 Capital Finance Update and Outlook

Programme

*Expenditure as at 31 Oct 2020 £000	Scheme	2020/21 Programme £000	2021/22 Programme £000	2022/23 Programme £000
	Housing			
10,259	HRA - general capital schemes	19,024	17,093	13,076
1,113	HRA - new builds	3,933	41,314	31,656
3,872	Affordable Homes (SHL)	19,536	10,852	0
419	Disabled Facilities Grant	1,550	4,137	0
0	Strategic Housing - Renewal	100	434	0
24	Strategic Housing - Affordable Housing	24	200	0
15,687	Housing sub-total	44,167	74,030	44,732
	Other schemes			
350	Schemes in Parks	877	40	40
1,250	Street Lighting Investment Programme	3,200	5,400	5,713
0	Brinnington Regeneration: Mitigation Measures	14	0	0
0	Bellway Homes - Commuted Sum	0	150	0
1,600	Other schemes sub-total	4,091	5,590	5,753
17,287	TOTAL	48,258	79,620	50,485

Resources

Resources	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2022/23 £000
Capital Grants	5,483	20,837	10,563
Directly Funded Borrowing	29,384	43,717	22,494
Unsupported Borrowing	44	40	40
Capital Receipts	24	1,500	4,312
External Contributions	90	100	0
Committed Sums	605	350	0
Revenue Contributions (RCCO)	95	42	0
HRA funding from MRR	12,533	13,034	13,076
TOTAL	48,258	79,620	50,485

Programme Amendments – Rephasing

Scheme	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2022/23 £000	Funding Source	Reason
HRA - general capital schemes	127	0	0	DFB/RCCO	Scheme Additions
HRA - new build scheme	50	2,438	7,079	Cap Grant	Scheme Additions
Affordable Homes (SHL)	1,673	2,161	0	DFB	Scheme Additions
Renewal	(100)	100	0	Capital Receipts	Rephasing
Affordable Housing - Commuted Sums	24	200	0	DFB	New Scheme
Schemes in Parks	(112)	0	0	Comm. Sums	Scheme Reduction
TOTAL	1,662	4,899	7,079		

Progress against individual schemes

- **HRA General Capital Schemes:** Delivering capital improvements to the council’s housing stock in line with the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan.

The capital investment programme budget for 2020/21 is £19.024m. Spend to the end of October is £10.259m. A review of the 2020/21 programme has been carried out to optimise the works to be carried out in the year. This involves bringing some works forward from future year programmes such as fencing and environmental works. The forecast position to March 2021 is in line with the £19.024m budget.

- **HRA New Builds:** Updated New Build programmes are detailed below:

The forecasted spend for 2020/21 is £3.933m and is made up of the below schemes. This is an increase of £0.050m from quarter 1 which is due to the addition of the Dorset Avenue scheme to the pipeline programme.

Scheme	2020/21 Forecasted Expenditure	Type of Scheme
Hexham Close	£1.481m	24 affordable rent units
Edinburgh Close	£0.780m	35 social rent units and 18 shared ownership units
2 x Acquisitions	£0.061m	2 social rent units
Gordon Street	£0.726m	16 shared ownership units
Holly Avenue	£0.056m	2 social rent units
Truro Avenue	£0.156m	8 social rent units
St Thomas Phase 2	£0.423m	13 social rent units and 55 shared ownership units
Leicester Street	£0.200m	8 social rent units
Dorset Avenue	£0.050m	2 social rent units
Total	£3.933m	

- **Affordable Homes:** Delivering new build housing in line with the development pipeline programme.

2020/21 Programme

The borrowing requirement for 2020/21 is £19.536m, which covers the below schemes:

- Hempshaw Lane (*Offerton*) – the borrowing for 144 units which are a mix of shared ownership, affordable rent and outright sale, with an anticipated completion date of November 2021.
- Booth Street (*Edgeley*) – the borrowing for a mix of 16 social rented units and 12 units for shared ownership, with an anticipated completion date of May 2021.
- Melford Road (*Hazel Grove*) – 12 units for social rent, 68 units for shared ownership and 7 units for outright sale, with an anticipated completion date of October 2021.
- Hopes Carr Retail & Phase 3 (*Town Centre*) – converting retail units into 4 accessible affordable rented units. Phase 3 includes 12 units for shared ownership and 2 affordable rented units.
- Move on Fund (*Various across the borough*) - 12 self-contained one bed properties for social rent. Its focus is to support homeless people and those who have suffered domestic abuse who are either sleeping rough or living in hostels and refuges.
- 96 & 98 Shaw Heath (*Shaw Heath*) – for the purchase of two terraced properties for let for the exclusive use by Children's Services.
- Davenport Park (*Davenport*) – for the purchase of an off the shelf development of 39 shared ownership apartments in Davenport.

2021/22 onwards programme

The borrowing requirements for 2021/22 onwards for schemes which have received approval to start on site is forecast at £10.852m. The forecasted borrowing requirement for 2021/22 covers the remainder of the above schemes.

In addition to the above there is also £22.994m (this assumes the two- year loan provision is required) of borrowing which may be required for schemes that have been identified but are yet to receive approval.

- **Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)** - Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) are provided to facilitate the provision of major adaptations to non-council owned housing (i.e. owner occupied, private rented and housing association) to meet the assessed and eligible needs of disabled people. Typical examples would include stairlifts, bathroom adaptations, door widening and ramps.

The impact of the national and local lockdown in response to the Covid-19 outbreak has been, and continues to be, significant for the delivery of the DFG programme. This is a demand led service, involving assessments of personal need and then the provision of large pieces of specialist equipment or building works in the homes of our most vulnerable residents. Provision of the grant is mandatory, subject to a service user meeting the eligibility criteria.

At the assessment stage, many residents continue to shield/are extremely nervous of allowing people into their homes despite risk assessments and other relevant measures being put in place.

As a result, there has been an overall reduction in the number of requests for assessments and the ability to progress these is sometimes hindered, particularly where access cannot be agreed. There is an expectation that requests for assessments may well increase as a result of pent-up demand when the pandemic finally subsides.

The progression of cases through the grant application process and to completion of the

adaptations has also been affected by the Covid-19 outbreak. Contractors were furloughed during Quarter 1 though they have now returned to work (with risk assessments and relevant measures in place) and have caught up with any backlog. Delays at this stage are now minimal though the timing of installations/ building work continues to be responsive to service users wishes.

Based on present information available for all stages of the assessment and delivery processes, and assuming that no further out-breaks of Covid-19 occur, it is currently anticipated that the year-end out-turn for DFGs will be £1.000m.

Additionally, there will be a further £0.550m spend on Children's/Care Act eligible disabled residents who do not meet/works exceed the mandatory DFG criteria.

- **Strategic Housing Renewal** – This funding is utilised under the Private Housing Investment and Assistance Policy on Home Repairs Assistance (to address serious assessed housing hazards for vulnerable owner occupiers with an emphasis on enabling them to remain in their own homes) and Priority Neighbourhood Assistance to support external block improvement work on former right to buy properties within council housing investment programmes – the current PNA works relate to external energy efficiency upgrade works to blocks of houses on the Offerton estate.

Both programmes have been affected by the pandemic, and whilst works are now back on site, this has particularly impacted on timescales on the PNA programme. Year-end spend, again subject to further Covid outbreaks, is estimated to be £0.100m.

- **Affordable Housing – Commuted Sums** - Through the planning process, commuted sums are available to assist in the delivery of affordable housing schemes across the borough. In terms of this financial year, a scheme at 96/98 Shaw Heath of 11 units designed specifically for young people leaving the care system has received £0.024m assistance and has now been delivered. A further £0.200m has been allocated to enable the delivery of 24 affordable apartments on Higher Hillgate. This scheme is still in the development stage and is expected to be on site early 2021/22.
- **Schemes in Parks** - Schemes to support Greenspace initiatives including greenspace infrastructure.

The total Capital Scheme in Parks spend for 2020/21 is expected to total £0.877m.

The total spend at October 31st is £0.350m.

Health and Safety in Greenspace Sites

£0.044m - capital funding is used to address health and safety issues in greenspace sites and support capital projects with community partners.

To date £0.042m has been invested or is committed.

Car park resurfacing works has completed at Woodbank Memorial Park at a cost of £0.015m, following on from the £0.006m invested in the last financial year.

£0.006 is committed as match funding to a project with the Friends of Hesketh Park to resurface the footpaths through the greenspace and is due to complete in Quarter 3.

£0.015m is currently ring fenced to health and safety works at the Lime Kilns.

A further £0.006m has been invested as match funding to support friends of park investment and projects.

Formal Sport Projects

£0.086m - Marple Memorial Skate Park carried through as a commitment from 2019/20.

The works to the skate area are fully completed and the works to the sports area have partially completed. To date the spend on this project is £0.070m. The project is expected to fully complete in Quarter 3.

£0.099m – Cheadle Heath Sports Area works were tendered in Quarter 2 with anticipated completion in Quarter 4.

£0.010m – Will be invested at Ladybridge Sports Club in Quarter 4.

£0.025m – Will be invested in improved fencing at St Thomas Speedway in Quarter 4.

£0.006m – has been invested in a new transponder and track improvement works at Bruntwood BMX.

All investment will be fully funded with secured formal sport commuted sums.

Childrens Play Area Improvements

£0.127m – Play area improvements at Bruntwood, Adder Park, Bridgehall and High Lane. To date the spend is £0.005m with the remainder to be invested in Quarters 3 and 4.

£0.063m – Works on the new play area at Peel Moat have now completed. The total cost of the project was £0.111m of which £0.048m was invested in the last financial year. The works came in slightly above the planned budget due to additional costs associated with site drainage.

£0.068m – Works on the new play area at Carrs Road completed in Quarter 2.

£0.041m – New play area at Covent Garden have now completed (£0.030m) however the scope of the works has increased by £0.008m to cover the remediation of the soft landscaping within the wider park and the tree works remains to be completed (£0.003m)

£0.047m – Play Area sport improvements at Crescent Park completed in Quarter 2. External funds have already been received.

£0.009m – Play area improvement works at Heaton Moor is ongoing from the investment from the last financial year.

All works will be fully funded with Investment Fund, commuted sums for play and external sources.

Greenspace Infrastructures

£0.252m of which £0.096m is carried through for committed ongoing works from 2019/20. At October 31st, £0.038m had been spent.

- **Street Lighting Investment Programme** - An upgrade of illuminated equipment using LED technology which includes:
 - LED lantern retrofit work borough-wide and associated column adjustments / new installations to achieve the required lighting levels;
 - The upgrade of decorative lighting in Shopping Centres and the Town Centre Market area;
 - The upgrade of illuminated signs and bollards.

Covid-19 has had a significant impact on the programme this year. Supplies and contracting resources have been limited, resulting in delays to this year's planned delivery. Schemes will be pushed forward into future work programmes as resources allow.

- **Bellway Homes Commuted Sum** - The balance of £0.150m is currently under review.