

Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee Agenda



10.00 am Wednesday, 21
October 2020
Microsoft Teams

In accordance with Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, this meeting will be held on a virtual basis. Members of the Public can view a live stream of the meeting at:

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Members of the public wanting to raise issues/make representations at the meeting can do so by emailing hannah.fay@darlington.gov.uk 24 hours before the meeting begin

1. Introduction/Attendance at Meeting
2. Declarations of Interest
3. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of this Scrutiny held on :-
 - (a) 2 September 2020 (Pages 1 - 4)
 - (b) 9 September 2020 (Pages 5 - 6)
4. Local Outbreak Control Plan –
Verbal Update by Director of Public Health
5. Tenancy Policy 2020-2025 –
Report of the Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services
(Pages 7 - 30)
6. Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy Update –
Report of Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services
(Pages 31 - 40)

7. Crisis Service Changes Update –
Report of Director of Operations, Durham & Darlington Tees, Esk and Wear
Valley NHS Foundation Trust
(Pages 41 - 42)
8. Right Care Right Place Update –
Report of Director of Operations, Durham & Darlington Tees, Esk and Wear
Valley NHS Foundation Trust
(Pages 43 - 46)
9. Community Eye Care Service –
Report of Joint Head of Integrated Strategic Commissioning for County Durham
CCG and Durham County Council and Director of Commissioning and
Transformation, NHS Tees Valley CCG
(Pages 47 - 48)
10. Work Programme –
Report of the Managing Director
(Pages 49 - 68)
11. SUPPLEMENTARY ITEM(S) (if any) which in the opinion of the Chair of this
Committee are of an urgent nature and can be discussed at the meeting.
12. Questions



Luke Swinhoe
Assistant Director Law and Governance

Tuesday, 13 October 2020

Town Hall
Darlington.

Membership

Councillors Bell, Donoghue, Dr. Chou, Heslop, Layton, Lee, McEwan, Newall, Tostevin
and Wright

If you need this information in a different language or format or you have any other
queries on this agenda please contact Hannah Fay, Democratic Officer, Resources
Group, during normal office hours 8.30 a.m. to 4.45 p.m. Mondays to Thursdays and
8.30 a.m. to 4.15 p.m. Fridays email: hannah.fay@darlington.gov.uk or telephone
01325 405801

HEALTH AND HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 2 September 2020

PRESENT – Councillors Bell (Chair), Donoghue, Heslop, Layton, McEwan, Newall, Tostevin and Wright

APOLOGIES – Councillors Dr. Chou and Lee,

ABSENT – Councillors

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE – Councillors

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE – Miriam Davidson (Director of Public Health), Pauline Mitchell (Assistant Director Housing and Building Services), Lisa Soderman (Head of Leisure), Paul Neil (Programme Manager), Jill Foggin, Michael Houghton (Director of Commissioning Strategy and Delivery), Jennifer Illingworth (Director of Operations, Durham and Darlington), Michelle Thompson (Chief Executive Officer), Ken Ross (Public Health Principal) and Hannah Fay (Democratic Officer)

HH11 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Bell declared an interest as an employee of County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust; Councillor McEwan declared an interest as a Lay Member for Darlington Primary Care Network; and Councillor Tostevin declared an interest as a Member of the Board of Governors for County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust.

HH12 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THIS SCRUTINY HELD ON :-

HH13 2 JULY 2020

Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of this Scrutiny Committee held on 2 July 2020.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meeting of this Scrutiny Committee held on 2 July 2020 be approved as a correct record.

HH14 15 JULY 2020

Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of this Scrutiny Committee held on 15 July 2020.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meeting of this Scrutiny Committee held on 15 July 2020 be approved as a correct record.

HH15 DARLINGTON OUTBREAK CONTROL PLAN

The Director of Public Health provided Members with an update on the Darlington Outbreak Control Plan and in doing so advised Members that since testing began there had been 630 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Darlington; Darlington had not

seen any significant outbreaks since June 2020; and in the last seven to ten days there had been an increase in confirmed cases in Darlington from one to two cases per week up to eleven, with the majority in the 18 to 30 year age group.

It was reported that care homes in Darlington had not seen an increase in confirmed cases and there had been no significant outbreaks in work places in Darlington.

Details were provided of Darlington's response to the COVID-19 pandemic which was being closely monitored via a number of forums at a regional and local level. This included three regional Local Resilience Forums; Darlington Health Protection Board which met fortnightly and closely monitored Darlington's outbreak control plan; and the North East Directors of Public Health Network which met weekly to share cross border information about outbreaks and joint planning.

Discussion ensued on the potential increase in the number of confirmed cases following the commencement of the new school year; and timeliness of information received from the government. Members were assured that the Local Authority Public Health team were working closely with all education settings in Darlington; the Public Health Principal received and scrutinised the NHS Test and Trace data daily; and that whilst the test and trace data had improved, this was received a few days in arrears, hence the need for good information and local intelligence sharing between agencies.

Concern was made in respect of the leisure and hospital sector and the need for consistent messages was highlighted. The importance of Members' roles in sharing messages, providing local intelligence and views was reiterated and Members agreed that it would be beneficial for them to receive regular messages to be cascaded to residents within their wards.

The Communications Officer, County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust provided an update on the Trust's current situation; that whilst confirmed COVID-19 cases had been increasing across the county, this was not being seen in the number of admissions to hospitals. This may in part be due to the age of those testing positive for COVID-19, as younger people did not appear to be as badly affected by the virus; however it was reiterated that the virus was still very serious.

Discussion also ensued on testing for those that were asymptomatic.

RESOLVED – That the Director of Public Health be thanked for providing an update on the Darlington Outbreak Control Plan.

HH16 DARLINGTON BETTER CARE FUND

The Director of Children and Adult Services submitted a report (previously circulated) updating Members on the position of the Better Care Fund (BCF) for Darlington and the future structure of the programme.

It was reported that the Better Care Fund was a programme spanning the NHS and Local Government; and brought together ring-fenced budgets from the Clinical Commissioning Group allocations along with funding paid directly to Local Government.

Details were provided of the seven workstream in place to support the delivery of the BCF; four national conditions were in place against which all system areas must comply; and Darlington performance against the four metrics as at the end of quarter four 2019/20 was outlined.

It was stated that the current 2020/21 BCF was a one year continuation programme, with no changes to the national conditions or metrics. Planning guidance to inform the development of a Darlington Plan was outstanding due to Covid related delays.

Details were provided of the Darlington BCF funding package for 2019/20; spend breakdown for 2019/20; and funding for 2020/21.

Following questions by Members, the Programme Manager (BCF & Integration) confirmed that there was scope for communications and promotional activity to enable those residents that were not technologically adept to be aware of and access services; a full system integration had not been implemented however there would be a shift toward technology and digital enhancement in future programmes; and scenario planning had been undertaken, with social isolation identified as an emerging area of importance.

RESOLVED – That the position of the Better Care Fund and delays to revised planning guidance, be noted.

HH17 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS - QUARTER 4 2019/2020

The Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services and Director of Children and Adult Services submitted a report (previously circulated) providing Members with an update on performance against those key performance indicators within the remit of this Scrutiny Committee for the period 2019/20.

Details were provided of the 36 indicators reported to this Scrutiny Committee, nine indicators were reported by Housing and Leisure and 24 by Public Health.

At Quarter 4 data was available for all nine of the Housing and Leisure indicators and of those indicators four had targets to be compared against. It was noted that HBS 016 – Rent collected as a proportion of rents owed on HRA dwellings * including arrears b/fwd, was showing performance not as good as its target whilst three of the indicators with targets were showing performance better than their target; and that, of the nine indicators, four demonstrated an improved performance compared to the same point in the previous year whilst five indicators, which included the three Leisure indicators, showed a performance not as good as that recorded at the same time in the previous year.

Details were provided on the Public Health indicators which had updated information to report at quarter 4, of which there were five indicators. Those indicators were PBH 020 – Reception: Prevalence of overweight (including obesity); PBH 021 – Year 6: Prevalence of overweight (including obesity); PBH024 – Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries to children (0-4 years); PBH026 – Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries to children (0-14 years); and PBH027 – Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries to children (15-24 years).

Discussion ensued on PBH 041 – Waiting times – number of adult alcohol only clients waiting over 3 weeks to start first intervention and Members were assured that although there had been an increase in waiting times, this was as a result of an increase in service users accessing treatment due to work undertaken by partner agencies. Regarding PBH038, Waiting times – number of adult opiate clients waiting over three weeks to start first intervention, it was reported that the new drug and alcohol service provider was now in place.

RESOLVED – (a) That the submitted report be noted.

(b) That an update be provided on the new drug and alcohol service provider at a future meeting of this Scrutiny Committee.

HH18 ANNUAL REPORT OF HEALTHWATCH DARLINGTON 2019/2020

The Chief Executive Officer, Healthwatch submitted a report (previously circulated) sharing the Annual Report of Healthwatch Darlington 2019/20 'Guided by you' (also previously circulated).

The submitted report stated that it was a legal requirement for each local Healthwatch to create and publish an annual report; the annual report demonstrated how Healthwatch had met its statutory requirements; the national focus of the report was on impact; and a number of projects detailed within the Annual report were outlined.

RESOLVED – (a) That the thanks of this Scrutiny Committee be extended to the Chief Executive Officer of Healthwatch Darlington for her informative update;

(b) That the Annual Report of Healthwatch Darlington 2019/2020 be received;

(c) That the highlighted projects which demonstrated how Healthwatch Darlington met their statutory requirements, and evidenced how they have made a difference locally, regionally and nationally, be noted.

HH19 WORK PROGRAMME

The Managing Director submitted a report (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to this Scrutiny Committee's work programme for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2020/21 and to consider any additional areas which Members would like to suggest should be included in the previously approved work programme.

There was discussion on the current status of a number of topics on the work programme. Members requested an update on the Loneliness and Connected Communities review group; and proposed an item be added to the work programme on mental health and bereavement.

RESOLVED – That the current status of the work programme be noted.

HEALTH AND HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 9 September 2020

PRESENT – Councillors Donoghue, Heslop, Layton, Lee, Newall, Tostevin and Wright

APOLOGIES – Councillors Bell and McEwan

ABSENT – Councillors Dr. Chou

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE – Councillors K Nicholson

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE – Dr Chris Lanigan (Head of Planning and Business Development), Avril Lowery (Director of Quality Governance), Leanne McCrindle (Head of Quality Governance and Compliance) and Hannah Fay (Democratic Officer)

HH20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

HH21 QUALITY ACCOUNTS 2019/20

The Managing Director submitted a report (previously circulated) on the Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust Quality Accounts 2019/20, requesting that consideration be given to the Quality Accounts to enable this Committee's input into the draft commentary to be included in the Final Quality Accounts.

The submitted report stated that Members had previously agreed to be more involved with the local Foundation Trusts Quality Accounts to enable them to have a better understanding and knowledge of performance when submitting the commentaries on the Quality Accounts at the end of the Municipal Year 2019/20. As a result, Members had received regular performance reports from TEWV.

Reference was made to the revised deadlines for publishing Quality Accounts; the deadline had been extended to December in light of pressures caused by COVID-19; and Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust had agreed an internal deadline of October 2020.

The Head of Planning and Business Development, Director of Quality Governance and Head of Quality Governance and Compliance provided a PowerPoint presentation for Members who gave full consideration to the Quality Account and raised a number of questions and queries on various aspects of the Accounts.

The Trust welcomed Members comments and thanked them for their input.

RESOLVED – That a commentary for Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust Quality Accounts 2019/20 be drafted and submitted.

HEALTH AND HOUSING SCRUTINY 21 OCTOBER 2020

TENANCY POLICY 2020-2025

Purpose of the Report

1. For Members to consider the updated version of the Council's Tenancy Policy in respect of our housing stock, as attached at **Appendix 1**.

Summary

2. The current Tenancy Policy requires updating to meet the following requirements:
 - (a) To ensure that Housing Services make best use of the Council owned stock.
 - (b) To target Council housing for those in most need.
 - (c) To ensure that properties continue to meet resident's needs.
3. The Tenant's Board have been consulted and support the changes. An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and is attached at **Appendix 2**.

Recommendation

4. Members are asked to comment on the proposed amendments to the Tenancy Policy.

Ian Williams
Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services

Background Papers

Background papers were not used in the preparation of this report.

Claire Gardner-Queen – Ext 5934

S17 Crime and Disorder	There is no impact on the Council's Crime and Disorder responsibilities as a result of this report
Health and Well Being	There is no impact on Health and Well Being as a result of this report
Carbon Impact and Climate Change	There is no impact on Carbon Impact and Climate Change as a result of this report
Diversity	This report supports the promotion of diversity
Wards Affected	All wards with Council properties will be affected by this report
Groups Affected	Council tenants will be affected by this report
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework
Key Decision	This is not a key decision
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	The report has no particular implications for the Sustainable Community Strategy
Efficiency	This report supports Housing Services to make best use of Council owned stock
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

5. The Housing Act 1980 covers long term security of tenure. The level of security of tenure offered by these tenancies led to them being described as "life-time tenancies" because essentially unless the tenant breaches the conditions of the tenancy agreement they cannot be evicted.
6. The Localism Act 2011¹ introduced a power for local authorities to offer flexible tenancies to new tenants. It also placed a duty on local authorities to publish a Tenancy Policy. The original Tenancy Policy was agreed in 2012 which introduced flexible tenancies and was reviewed in 2017.
7. A flexible tenancy is a form of secure tenancy that is granted for a fixed term of a minimum of between two and ten years. We currently offer all flexible tenancies for a period of five years and at the end of the fixed period can decide to offer the tenant a further fixed term, offer them a secure tenancy or not renew the tenancy.

¹ Resulting in changes in April 2012 to the Regulatory Standards

8. After 8 years of flexible tenancies less than 3% of the total stock is let on a flexible tenancy, equating to 150 flexible tenancies in total. There has been limited take-up of flexible tenancies by local authorities and housing associations nationally and in Darlington we have not declined the extension of a flexible tenancy since they were introduced in 2012.
9. In 2012 we introduced flexible tenancies for:
 - (a) Rural properties
 - (b) 4-bedroom properties
 - (c) Properties that have been extensively adapted (over £7500)
 - (d) 2 bedroom extra care properties
 - (e) Properties in areas of major modernisation and regeneration
 - (f) Properties for foster families
 - (g) New properties
10. The updated policy proposes to amend flexible tenancies to apply to:
 - (a) Properties that have been extensively adapted; and
 - (b) To properties in areas of regeneration.
11. This will allow Housing Services to ensure the properties and adaptations continue to meet resident's needs and reduce homes that have been highlighted for regeneration standing empty for longer than necessary.

Outcome of consultation

12. The Tenant's Board were consulted in early September 2020 and support the amendments to the Policy.

Equality Impact Assessment

13. A desktop Initial Equality Impact Assessment screening form has been carried out and a full EIA is not considered as appropriate or proportionate as there is no significant adverse impact on any particular group.

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DARLINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

TENANCY POLICY 2020 – 2025



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Why a Tenancy Policy

1.0 Introduction

The Localism Act 2011¹ places a duty on local authorities to publish a Tenancy Policy. This Policy sets out:

- The types of tenancies we can grant
- The circumstances in which we will grant tenancies
- The length of tenancies we grant
- When a tenancy ends, the circumstances in which we will grant a further tenancy
- The circumstances where the right to the succession to a tenancy will apply

This policy will be used to ensure that we can provide the most appropriate type of accommodation to meet our tenants' needs and that we make the best use of the Council's housing stock.

1.1 Policy Aims

In setting out the detail of this policy the Council aims to:

- Help those in housing need access a home that meets their needs
- Help to build sustainable and healthy communities
- Help to make decisions about who lives where, in what type of tenancy and for how long

The types of tenancy we offer

2.0 Secure Tenancies

The vast majority of tenancies are let as secure tenancies. They have a range of rights and security of tenure which can only be challenged for specific reasons set out in law. The Council supplies all new tenants with a Tenant's Handbook, which includes a written tenancy agreement explaining the rights and responsibilities they have as a tenant.

The Localism Act 2011 introduced changes to the rights of tenants. Those who became tenants after 1st April 2012 have a limited right to succession and the right to retain their status as a secure tenant no longer applies if they transfer to a property that has been designated for a flexible tenancy.

3.0 Flexible Tenancies

3.1 Introduction

The Council has a stock of around 5,400 properties and in recent years has begun to build new Council housing. Demand for our properties has always been high with properties being let within 22 days on average. The development of new properties has provided an opportunity to challenge perceptions of Council housing and has opened up a new demand. The Council has therefore committed to build 1,000 new council homes over the next 10 years. The scale of the new development means that the Council needs to consider how new communities are formed as well as supporting existing communities. Accessibility to Council housing therefore forms an important element of achieving balanced sustainable communities. As a consequence, the Council has used its powers under the Localism Act 2011 to introduce flexible tenancies in certain circumstances.

¹ Resulting in changes in April 2012 to the Regulatory Standards

Table 1: Where flexible tenancies apply

Property type	Reason
Properties with adaptations over £7,500	There are a small number of properties where very expensive adaptations costing more than £7,500 have been completed that cannot easily be reversed, such as a “through floor” lift. In total there are approximately 20 within the housing stock, including properties with major extensions.
Properties within a regeneration area	When large scale regeneration is planned and properties become void which are identified for future demolition a short term flexible tenancy will prevent properties standing empty for longer than necessary.

3.2 Details of flexible tenancies

The regulatory guidance² indicates that generally, flexible tenancies should be a minimum of 5 years, although the Localism Act 2011 states that the minimum period that can be offered is 2 years. Anyone being offered a flexible tenancy will be first offered a one year introductory tenancy, followed by a 5 year flexible tenancy. There are exceptions to this (see below).

Flexible tenancies have similar rights to those of secure tenancies. These include:

- The right to undertake a mutual exchange
- The right for a partner to succeed to the tenancy following the death of the tenant
- The right to buy
- The right to repair
- A right to improve their property is at the discretion of the Council. A tenant with a flexible tenancy does not have a statutory right to be compensated for improvements

3.3 Flexible tenancies for shorter periods

The Localism Act 2011 states that the shortest length of time a flexible tenancy can be given is 2 years and then only in exceptional circumstances. The Council will only consider the use of shorter flexible tenancies where:

- There are major changes taking place to the housing stock. It is often difficult to make the best use of the stock that becomes vacant prior to works starting. There may be circumstances where the use of shorter flexible tenancies will help address those particular and exceptional circumstances. The decision will be based on the project delivery plan and will be specific to that particular project.

² Regulatory Standards Framework: Homes and Communities Agency 2012

- If there is a significant change in circumstances, such as the impact of the Welfare Reforms that may increase the risk of certain affected groups not being able to maintain their tenancy.

3.4 Starting a flexible tenancy

All properties offered as a flexible tenancy will be clearly identified as such when the property is advertised and it will be explained in the offer letter. All those being offered a flexible tenancy will be first offered a one year introductory tenancy followed by a 5 year flexible tenancy. The exception to this is those who became a secure tenant after 1st January 2013 as they will not have to enter an introductory tenancy first.

3.5 Reviewing a flexible tenancy

It is a legal requirement that we notify the tenant that the fixed term will be coming to an end at least 6 months prior to the termination of tenancy. However, we will write to the tenant between 9 and 12 months before the end of a tenancy to inform them that we are beginning a review of their tenancy. Our aim will be to give the tenant as much notice as possible about our intentions for their tenancy.

In addition to confirming the start of a review in writing, a home visit will also be arranged to ensure the tenant is aware that their tenancy is due to end and to take the opportunity to discuss their housing needs and future housing options. In the review we will consider:

- Any change in circumstances, such as the size of the family that may be leading to under or over occupation or changes in health
- Any social issues, including children's education
- Any tenancy breaches such as rent arrears, Anti-Social Behaviour complaints and any concerns around property conditions
- Where appropriate, the continuing need for major adaptations
- Where appropriate, if the family are continuing to foster
- The number of applicants on the waiting list in need of that type of accommodation
- The availability of similar properties in that area
- The tenant's views on continuing the tenancy.

Once the review has been completed, we will again write to the tenant as soon as possible but at least 6 months before the end of the tenancy. The letter will explain our decision and set out what will happen next. This will be followed by either a telephone call or a visit depending on the outcome of the review.

Unless there has been a change in circumstances and provided there is no current breach of tenancy, then a further 5 year flexible tenancy will generally be offered, but each case will be looked at on its own individual circumstances.

3.6 Ending a flexible tenancy

Where there has been a significant change in circumstances based on the review criteria set out above, the Council may decide to not offer a further flexible tenancy and terminate the tenancy.

The Council will confirm this with the tenant with at least 6 month's notice in writing, followed by a visit as soon as possible after the decision.

The notice will set out:

- Why we have made this decision
- What the appeals process is (see below)
- What advice and support we will provide should alternative accommodation be required.

Where a tenancy is being terminated we will provide advice on alternative housing options including:

- Access to the Housing Options Team
- Support to apply for alternative social housing, including other Council housing
- Advice on privately rented accommodation
- Advice on shared ownership and owner occupation
- Advice on moving house
- Information on other advice and support agencies

A formal notice seeking possession will be served two months before the end of the tenancy.

3.7 Other circumstances where a flexible tenancy may end

The Council may apply for a Court Order at any time during the tenancy to end the tenancy if any of the grounds for possession can be proved. The grounds for possession remain the same as for Secure Tenancies.

If the tenant wishes to bring the tenancy to an end before the end of the fixed term they may do so by issuing a notice of termination that provides 4 weeks notice. For the surrender to take effect it must be accepted in writing by the Council.

3.8 Appeals

The Flexible Tenancies (Review Procedures) Regulations 2012 sets out the procedure for a review of decisions relating to flexible tenancies. There are only two circumstances in which a review can take place:

- A tenant can seek a review of the length of tenancy on offer if it does not comply with the Tenancy Policy.
- They can also apply for a review if, at the end of the flexible tenancy they are refused a further tenancy.

Other concerns to do with the tenancy, such as repairs will be dealt with through the Council's Complaints procedure.

4.0 Introductory Tenancies

All new tenants of the Council, apart from those who are existing tenants of another council or a registered provider, will be given an introductory tenancy.

An introductory tenancy is a trial period lasting 12 months. Introductory tenancies provide an opportunity for new tenants to ensure they understand their rights and obligations under the terms of the tenancy agreement and are able to maintain their tenancy satisfactorily. If there are no

problems during the trial period, then the tenancy automatically becomes either a secure or flexible tenancy.

Introductory tenancies do not have all the rights of a secure tenant. They do not have the right to:

- Exchange with another tenant
- Improve the property
- Sublet the property
- Succession
- Buy the property, but the introductory tenancy period will count towards the entitlement period if they choose to buy later.

In some circumstances, the introductory tenancy may be extended by a further 6 months, up to 18 months. This will occur if there are concerns about how the tenancy is being conducted and notice of the intention to increase the introductory period will be given by the 10th month of the tenancy.

Where a tenant has not satisfactorily completed an introductory tenancy, a Notice of Possession Proceedings will be served. The tenant will have a right to review this decision, as set out within the Tenancy Agreement.

The Council may apply for a Court Order at any time during the tenancy to end the tenancy if any of the grounds for possession can be proved.

5.0 Affordable Rents

Affordable rents were introduced as part of the Government’s Affordable Rent programme for 2015-2018. Most new build properties developed through the programme were required to be offered on an affordable rent. An affordable rent is calculated on 80% of rents in the private rental market.

Housing providers who had made successful bids for funding through the affordable rents programme also agreed to transfer a proportion of re-lets of existing properties from social rents to higher affordable rents. The intention was to generate extra income that could be used to support new developments.

All new build properties will be offered as affordable rents and therefore are also offered as flexible tenancies.

6.0 The conditions for each type of Council tenancy

Table 2: Types of tenancy

Tenancy Type	Who can be offered	Property Type	Length of Tenancy
Introductory tenancy	Those who are not already a secure tenant with the Council or other registered provider. Will apply to flexible and secure tenancies.	All properties	12 months, with the option to extend to 18 months in certain circumstances
Secure tenancy started before 1st April 2012	Those who were either Council or Registered	All properties	There is no limit on the length of tenancy

	Providers' secure tenants before 1 st April 2012		
Secure tenancy started after 1st April 2012	Those who have successfully completed an introductory tenancy	All properties except where a flexible tenancy applies (see below)	There is no limit on the length of tenancy
Flexible tenancy	Those who have successfully completed an introductory tenancy	Properties with adaptations over £7,500 Properties within regeneration areas	5 years for most properties 2 years in exceptional circumstances

Mutual Exchanges and Transfers

7.0 Mutual Exchanges

The rights of tenants who have flexible tenancies are in most respects the same as those tenants with secure tenancies, including the right to a mutual exchange. However, the process is different. There are also some differences between those who were secure tenants before 1st January 2013 and those who became tenants after that date.

Where a mutual exchange takes place with someone who was:

- **A secure tenant with a tenancy that started before 1st April 2012:** If a mutual exchange is entered into with someone with a flexible tenancy then both the tenancies have to be terminated and new ones set up. The secure tenant will retain their right to a secure tenancy regardless of the type of property involved. However, as a new tenancy has been started they will have the rights of a secure tenant with a tenancy started after 1st April 2012.
- **A secure tenant with a tenancy that started after 1st April 2012:** If a mutual exchange is entered into with someone with a flexible tenancy then both tenants will simply swap places and both parties will take over each other's property and tenancy. The existing secure tenant must bear this in mind as the tenancy terms will be different under a flexible tenancy.
- **A tenant with a flexible tenancy exchanges to a property that falls into the category of a flexible tenancy:** In these cases, the tenant will be offered a new flexible tenancy. However, the tenancy length will be the remaining period of the exchanged flexible tenancy.
- **A tenant with a flexible tenancy exchanges to a property that does not fall into the category of a flexible tenancy:** In these cases, the tenant will be offered a secure tenancy and they will have the rights of a secure tenant with a tenancy started after 1st April 2012.

An exchange may be refused if:

- The tenant has a Court Order.

- The tenant has legal action pending which may end their tenancy because of rent arrears, breach of tenancy conditions, neighbour nuisance, or damage to the property, or because they have obtained the tenancy by deception or by paying someone to exchange with them.
- The property is unsuitable for the tenant(s) wanting to move to it, or significantly larger than they need.
- The property has been adapted or has conditions attached to the property that the tenant does not meet (such as sheltered housing).

If there are rent arrears which have not yet led to a Court Order or Notice of Seeking Possession then we will usually give conditional approval for the exchange to take place after the arrears have been cleared. In exceptional circumstances we will consider allowing someone with rent arrears to exchange, for example where the arrears are as a direct result of restrictions to Housing Benefit or Universal Credit because of under occupation and the exchange will result in a move to smaller, more affordable accommodation.

If the property conditions are poor we may give approval for the exchange to take place but only after the property conditions have been brought to an acceptable standard as agreed by us.

We may also consider allowing a tenant to exchange in other special circumstances and these will be considered on the facts of each individual case.

7.1 Transfers

Tenants holding a flexible or secure tenancy can apply for a transfer. They will have their priority assessed in the same way as other applicants.

Succession rights and assignment

8.0 Succession

The right to succession is the right to remain in the property as a tenant when the tenant dies. There can legally only be one succession per tenancy.

8.1 Types of succession

The Localism Act 2011 introduced changes to the right to succession. The rights of succession for tenants with tenancies that started before 1st January 2013 will not be affected³.

Table 3: Right of Succession

Tenancies started before 1 st April 2012	Tenancies started after 1 st April 2012
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Married couples and registered civil partners automatically succeed providing they are living in the property at the time of the bereavement and there has not been a previous succession. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Succession⁴ to a secure or flexible Tenancy entered into after 1st November 2012 only applies to the spouse or civil partner, but also includes a person who was living with the tenant as if they were

³ Sections 87 and 88 of the 1985 Housing Act

⁴ Section 160 of the Localism Act 2011

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If there is no spouse or registered civil partner, another family member who has been living with the tenant for at least 12 months may qualify to succeed. However, they may be asked to move if the property is not suitable for their needs. In these circumstances, alternative accommodation will be offered, and they need not move until 6 months after the bereavement.• If a couple are not married or civil partners, then legally the surviving partner has to be treated as a family member, not as a spouse.	<p>married or civil partners of the deceased tenant, and there has not been a previous succession.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Another family member who has been living with the tenant cannot succeed to the tenancy on the death of the tenant.
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8.2 Assignment

In some circumstances a tenant may assign their tenancy to another person who complies with certain criteria as laid out in their tenancy agreement. Generally, the right to assign is limited to the same people who can succeed a tenancy.

There are also a limited number of other forms of assignment permitted by statute:

- Mutual exchange (except where a Flexible Tenancy is involved)
- Where a Court has made an order to transfer the tenancy under:
 - Matrimonial Causes Act 1973, Section 24
 - Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act 1984, Section 17(1)
 - Paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to the Children Act 1989
 - Part 2 of Schedule 5 or Paragraph 9(2) or (3) of Schedule 7 to the Civil Partnership Act 2004

Commitment to Equalities

This policy has been developed to ensure that we continue to meet the diverse needs and preferences of our tenants.

We will have regard to the needs of all of our tenants to ensure that anyone at risk of disadvantage and discrimination is able to access and benefit from services and facilities fairly.

Initial equality impact assessment screening form

This form is an equality screening process to determine the relevance of equality to an activity, and a decision whether or not a full EIA would be appropriate or proportionate.

Directorate:	Economic Growth & Neighbourhood Services
Service Area:	Housing & Building Services
Activity being screened:	Tenancy Policy amendment
Officer(s) carrying out the screening:	Claire Gardner-Queen
What are you proposing to do?	Review the Tenancy Policy and change the type of properties that Flexible Tenancies apply to.
Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes?	<p>Following the introduction of Flexible Tenancies by Housing Services in 2012 the expectation was that it would improve the allocation of properties and movement of tenants and ensure that properties met tenants' current needs.</p> <p>As of August 2020, there are 150 properties which the current tenant has a flexible tenancy which equates to less than 3% of total housing stock. Flexible tenancies have not given the expected movement within properties and to date no property has not met the current tenants needs at the point of the 5-year review. The 5-year review is an intensive piece of work which has a significant impact on Housing staff resources.</p> <p>Continuing to offer flexible tenancies on extensively adapted properties will create an opportunity for Housing Services and the tenant to consider if the property and adaptations continue to meet their current needs and whether they want to continue with the tenancy or make alternative arrangements.</p> <p>By continuing to offer flexible tenancies in properties in areas of regeneration it will allow Housing Services to reduce the time properties remain empty.</p>

Does the activity involve a significant commitment or removal of resources? Please give details	No
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Is there likely to be an adverse impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or any other socially excluded groups?

As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions:

- To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics?
- Does the activity relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important?
- Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the activity relates to?

If for any characteristic it is considered that there is likely to be a significant adverse impact or you have ticked 'Don't know/no info available', then a full EIA should be carried out where this is proportionate.

Protected characteristic	Yes	No	Don't know/ Info not available
Age		✓	
Disability		✓	
Sex (gender)		✓	
Race		✓	
Sexual Orientation		✓	
Religion or belief		✓	
Gender reassignment		✓	
Pregnancy or maternity		✓	
Marriage or civil partnership		✓	
Other			
Carer (unpaid family or friend)		✓	
Low Income		✓	
Rural Location		✓	
Does the activity relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable impacts (e.g. disabled people's access to public transport)? Please give details.		No - should adaptations still meet the current tenants needs at point of review a further 5-year flexible tenancy will be offered	
Will the activity have a significant effect on how other organisations operate? (e.g. partners, funding		No	

criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics? Please explain why you have reached this conclusion.			
Decision (Please tick one option)	EIA not relevant or proportionate:	✓	Continue to full EIA:
Reason for Decision		Flexible tenancies are currently in place and this is a review and reduction in the type of properties that these apply to. This will continue to ensure that properties with major adaptations meet the current tenants needs and help to improve access to adapted properties.	
Signed (Assistant Director)			
Date			



Equality Impact Assessment Record Form

This form is to be used for recording the Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) of Council activities. It should be used in conjunction with the guidance on carrying out EIA in **Annex 2** of the Equality Scheme. The activities that may be subject to EIA are set out in the guidance.

EIA is particularly important in supporting the Council to make fair decisions. The Public Sector Equality Duty requires the Council to have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.

Using this form will help Council officers to carry out EIA in an effective and transparent way and provide decision-makers with full information on the potential impact of their decisions. EIAs are public documents, accompany reports going to Councillors for decisions and are published with committee papers on our website and are available in hard copy at the relevant meeting.

Title of activity:	
Name of Directorate and Service Area:	
Lead Officer and contact details	
Assistant Director accountable for this EIA	
Who else will be involved in carrying out the EIA:	

When did the EIA process start?		
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Section 2 – The Activity and Supporting Information

Details of the activity (describe briefly - including the main purpose and aims) (e.g. are you starting a new service, changing how you do something, stopping doing something?)
Why is this being proposed? What are the aims? What does the Council hope to achieve by it? (e.g. to save money, meet increased demand, do things more efficiently)
What will change? What will be different for service users/ customers and/ or staff?
What data, research and other evidence or information is available which is relevant to the EIA?
Engagement and consultation (What engagement and consultation has been done regarding the proposal and what are the results? What consultation will be needed and how will it be done?)
What impact will this activity have on the Council's budget? (e.g. cost neutral, increased costs or reduced costs? If so, by how much? Explain briefly why this is the case)

Section 3: Assessment

How will the activity affect people with protected characteristics?	No Impact	Positive impact	Negative impact	Why will it have this effect? (refer to evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information, etc)
Age				
Disability (Mobility Impairment, Visual impairment, Hearing impairment, Learning Disability, Mental Health, Long Term Limiting Illness, Multiple Impairments, Other – Specify)				
Sex (Gender)				
Race				
Gender Reassignment				
Sexual Orientation				
Religion or belief				

Pregnancy or maternity				
Marriage or civil partnership				
How will the activity affect people who:	No impact	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Why will it have this effect? (Refer to evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information, etc)
Live in a rural location?				
Are carers?				
Are on a low income?				

Section 4: Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative Impacts – will the activity affect anyone more because of a combination of protected characteristics? (e.g. older women or young gay men – state what you think the effect might be and why, providing evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information, etc)

Are there any other activities of which you are aware which might also impact on the same protected characteristics?

Section 5: Analysis

a) How will the activity help to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation?

b) How will the activity help to advance equality of opportunity?

c) How will the activity help to foster good relations?

During the engagement/ consultation process were there any suggestions on how to avoid, minimise or mitigate any negative impacts? If so, please give details.

Section 6 - Sign-off when assessment is completed

Officer Completing the Form:		
Signed	Name:	
	Date:	
	Job Title:	
Assistant Director:		
Signed	Name:	
	Date:	
	Service:	

Section 7 – Reporting of Findings and Recommendations to Decision Makers

Next Steps to address the anticipated impact (Select one of the following options and explain why this has been chosen – remember we have a duty to make reasonable adjustments so that disabled people can access services and work for us)
a) No negative impact on people because of their Protected Characteristics and therefore no major change is needed to the activity (There is no potential for discrimination or adverse impact identified)
b) Negative impact identified – recommend continuing with the activity (Clearly specify the people affected and the impacts, and providing reasons and supporting evidence for the decision to continue. The EIA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. Officers will advise to change the proposal to reduce or remove these adverse impacts, or the Council will achieve its aim in another way which will not make things worse for people. There must be compelling reasons for continuing with the proposal which will have the most adverse impacts.)
c) Negative impact identified - adjust the activity in light of the identified impact to avoid, minimise or mitigate the impact (The EIA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. The Council will change the proposal to reduce or remove these adverse impacts, or it will achieve the aim in another way which will not make things worse for people)
d) Actual or potential unlawful discrimination – stop and remove the activity (The EIA identifies actual or potential unlawful discrimination. It should be stopped.)
Explanation of why the option above has been chosen (Including any advice given by legal services)
If the activity is to be implemented how will you find out how it is affecting people once it is in place? (How will you monitor and review the changes?)

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Section 8 – Action Plan and Performance Management

List any actions you need to take which have been identified in this EIA, including post implementation reviews to find out how the outcomes have been achieved in practice and what impacts there have actually been on people with protected characteristics

What is the negative impact?	Actions required to reduce/eliminate the negative impact (if applicable)	Who will lead on action	Target completion date

Performance Management	
Date of the next review of the EIA	
How often will the EIA action plan be reviewed?	
Who will carry out this review?	

HEALTH AND HOUSING SCRUTINY 21 OCTOBER 2020

PREVENTING HOMELESSNESS AND ROUGH SLEEPING STRATEGY UPDATE

Purpose of the Report

1. For Members to consider progress against the Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy and receive an update on homeless services provision during the Covid-19 lockdown period.

Summary

2. The Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy was approved by Cabinet in July 2019. **Appendix 1** of this report provides an update on the Strategy's action plan.
3. The Covid-19 lockdown period has placed significant demands on the Council's Housing Options service with occupation of bed and breakfast and emergency accommodation in the first quarter of 2020-21 over five times the amount for the same period last year.

Recommendation

4. It is recommended that Members note the contents of this report.

Ian Williams
Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services

Background Papers

Background papers were not used in the preparation of this report.

Janette McMain: Extension 6945

S17 Crime and Disorder	There is no impact on the Council's Crime and Disorder responsibilities as a result of this report
Health and Well Being	Protecting the health and well-being of homeless people and rough sleepers is a key focus for the Council's strategy
Carbon Impact and Climate Change	There is no impact on Carbon Impact and Climate Change as a result of this report
Diversity	This report supports the promotion of diversity
Wards Affected	All wards will be affected by this report
Groups Affected	Homeless people, rough sleepers and those at risk of homelessness
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework
Key Decision	This is not a key decision
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	The report has no implications for the Sustainable Community Strategy
Efficiency	Increased demands on the Council's homeless services will have budget implications
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

Covid-19 Pandemic

5. In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Council has had to cope with a significant increase in demand for Homeless and Housing Options services. Whilst these services would normally work in a proactive way with clients to prevent homelessness, the increase in presentations and demand for accommodation has meant that services had to be more reactive to ensure that no-one was left homeless or having to rough sleep as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. The risk of infection and the risk of not being able to self-isolate or shield are high for people in this situation.
6. As part of the Council's "Everybody In' agreement, anyone who presented to the Council as homeless, regardless of their need, was placed in emergency temporary accommodation. Our existing temporary accommodation provision includes temporary Council housing, emergency supported accommodation and out of area placements. For the early period of lockdown, we procured additional hotel and bed and breakfast accommodation, however this resource has now come to an end with effect from 31 July 2020.
7. As a result of our commitment to ensure everyone who was homeless was offered accommodation, for the first quarter of 2020-21 we placed 147 households in emergency bed and breakfast accommodation compared to 131

for the same period last year, as well as increasing our self-contained temporary accommodation from 11 to 15 units.

8. Whilst the overall numbers requiring emergency accommodation has only increased by 12% compared to last year, the pandemic has presented different challenges to the Council. Ordinarily, a person placed in emergency accommodation would only stay a few nights, before moving to more permanent accommodation. This then frees up that emergency accommodation for someone else. However, more recently people placed in emergency accommodation have had to stay there for several weeks at a time to ensure they remain safe. Sourcing permanent move on accommodation during the pandemic for these people has also been very challenging. As a result, for the first quarter of 2020-21 there were 1,451 nights in emergency accommodation recorded, compared to 232 for the same period in 2019-20 (a 525% increase). This has meant that our existing emergency accommodation provision was rapidly used up, meaning that we have had to find several alternatives (such as more expensive hotel and bed and breakfast accommodation).
9. Between April and June 2020, there has been a 153% rise in the number of people being placed in out of area accommodation compared to the same period last year. In general, these placements are less suitable for most homeless clients as they do not meet the support needs of the individual. We have also seen 65 repeat presentations of those individuals who are entrenched rough sleepers and tend to have higher and more complex risks, making them more difficult to place.
10. Our approach is shaped by the belief that every person matters and can, with the appropriate intervention, move from rough sleeping into long-term, sustainable accommodation. During the pandemic, we have found the options available to rehousing people from temporary accommodation has decreased. With the extra precautions needed, it is taking longer to find and secure properties and ensure the provision is available to support individuals with complex needs.
11. Despite the significant challenges of the pandemic everyone in need of emergency accommodation has been provided with somewhere to stay. In addition, most of the people placed in emergency accommodation have now moved on to more permanent housing. Housing Officers have proved typically resilient in dealing with these issues and ensuring that people who find themselves homeless or at the risk of homelessness continue to receive an excellent service.

12. **Table 1 - Emergency presentations for April to July 2020 compared to the same period in 2019**

	2020-21					2019-20
	April	May	June	July	Total	Total
Placed in emergency accommodation	40	39	44	24	147	131
Advice and assistance provided	15	11	47	57	130	122
Not homeless tonight so a full Housing Options appointment made	12	8	30	14	64	59
Did not attend accommodation or refused accommodation	3	9	14	10	36	32
Open to another local authority	4	5	9	6	24	3
Total emergency presentations	74	72	144	111	401	347

13. **Table 2 – Outcomes for the people placed in emergency accommodation for April to July 2020 (as at July 2020)**

	2020-21				
	April	May	June	July	Total
Planned move on to permanent accommodation	27	15	21	2	65
Planned return home	4	9	8	3	24
Planned move on to supported accommodation	9	6	7	2	24
Still in emergency accommodation	0	9	8	17	34
Total placed in emergency accommodation	40	39	44	24	147

14. Table 3 – Top 5 reasons for presenting to the Housing Options service for April to July 2020 compared to the same period in 2019

	2020-21					2019-20
	April	May	June	July	Total	Total
Put out by family and friends	30	31	28	25	114	117
Loss of current accommodation (other reason)	10	10	14	9	43	59
Relationship breakdown (not domestic abuse)	9	8	13	6	36	26
Domestic abuse	7	3	11	8	29	27
Left hospital or prison	5	4	4	5	18	18

Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy

15. Section 1(1) of the Homelessness Act 2002 requires housing authorities to carry out a homelessness review for their area and formulate and publish a homelessness strategy based on the results of the review every five years. Darlington’s Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy for 2019-2024 was approved by Cabinet on 9 July 2019.
16. The strategy consists of four main sections to satisfy the requirements of the regulations: A review, strategy, action plan and a new requirement to have a specific statement on rough sleeping. In recent years the Government has become increasingly concerned about the growth of rough sleeping. In 2018 the Government published its Rough Sleeping Strategy and later in December its supporting guidance required homelessness strategies to be rebadged as Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategies.
17. There are five key supporting objectives to the Strategy:
- (a) Those at risk of homelessness will be made aware of and have access to the services they may need to prevent it.
 - (b) Suitable accommodation and support options will be provided for people who are, or who may become homeless.
 - (c) Rates of repeat homelessness will be reduced.
 - (d) The right support and services will be provided so that no person needs to sleep rough.
 - (e) Strong partnerships will be built to deliver our aims.

18. The emphasis on prevention is not new but the Homeless Reduction Act 2017 introduced new challenges and a requirement for much greater co-operation across agencies.
19. The Strategy also sets out a “holistic” approach to assessing needs, recognising that a solution may not be directly related to housing and again requiring greater co-operation with other agencies. Consequently, an important element of the Strategy is to establish a new monitoring group to help provide a focus for co-ordination.
20. Progress on the Strategy’s action plan is monitored through the multi-agency Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Forum and reported to Members through this Scrutiny Committee.
21. **Appendix 1** of this report provides an update on the Strategy’s action plan. Of the 28 actions in the Strategy:
 - (a) 9 have been completed.
 - (b) 12 are progressing and are on track to meet the timescales for delivery.
 - (c) 7 are progressing but are not on track to meet the timescales for delivery.
22. Overall, progress against the Strategy’s action plan is satisfactory. The main reason for the actions that are progressing but not on track to meet the timescales for delivery is due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Appendix 1

Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy action plan update**1. Those at risk of homelessness will be made aware of and have access to the services they may need to prevent it**

Action	Comments	Status
1.1 Establish an effective Duty to Refer	All information on the website and awareness raised with other partners	Complete
1.2 Improve Needs assessment to address individual issues	Gateway in place with holistic needs assessment	Complete
1.3 Improve information on the website	All information is on the website and regularly updated	Complete
1.4 Increase use of social media	Regular updates and information now available through social media	Complete
1.5 Address issues around discharges from hospital that lead to homeless applications	This work started prior to the Covid-19 and attendance at regular meetings with Health services is taking place	Ongoing and on track
1.6 Reduce risk of young people becoming homeless	Practice Support Programme and joint working protocol in place with Children's Services. The recommendations from the MHCLG needs to be fed back into the joint protocol and updated	Ongoing and on track
1.7 Improve Support to people with mental health issues	This was to identify any gaps in provision and will be part of the commissioning thematic review which has been delayed by Covid-19	Ongoing and on track

2. Provide suitable accommodation and support options for people who are, or who may become homeless

Action	Comments	Status
2.1 Develop the allocations process to meet the needs of the Homelessness Reduction Act	This will be delivered with the new Allocations IT system, due to go live in November 2020	Ongoing and on track
2.2 Maintain and if possible, improve access to private sector housing	Work is ongoing with the Private Sector Housing team around bringing empty properties back into use and improving property conditions	Ongoing and on track

2.3 Improve access to private sector housing for those who have difficulties funding a bond	Bond scheme in place and DWP to attend forum when required	complete
2.4 Address the housing and support implications of the Homelessness Reduction Act	This will be part of the commissioning thematic review which has been delayed by Covid-19	Ongoing and on track
2.5 Review existing support contracts	This will be part of the commissioning thematic review which has been delayed by Covid-19	Ongoing and on track
2.6 Support the development of appropriate supported housing	This will be part of the commissioning thematic review which has been delayed by Covid-19	Ongoing and on track
2.7 Address the challenges of Universal Credit	Effective links with DWP maintained and good quality information is available to those who need it	Complete

3. Reduce rates of repeat homelessness

Action	Comments	Status
3.1 Improve the chances of people avoiding repeat homelessness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information on the website. No First Night Out initiative delivered. Joint working with other services. Regular begging meetings. Good pathways from prison with Project Beta and Through the Gate 	Complete
3.2 Address the issues of those who have the most challenging behaviour	This will be part of the commissioning thematic review which has been delayed by Covid-19	Ongoing and on track
3.3 Identify and address the needs of those who are vulnerable but not eligible for additional support	Issues being addressed through regular meetings with Adult Social Care and Housing	Ongoing and on track
3.4 Analyse case management for occurrence of repeat homelessness	Ongoing monitoring taking place and highlighted an increase of repeat homelessness during the Covid-19 pandemic	Ongoing and on track

3.5 Analyse overall approach to repeat homelessness	Using the Gateway system to track “customer journey” and developing new responses to improve the process	Ongoing and on track
3.6 Recognise the specific needs of those with dual diagnosis	Currently working with Health services to address this issue	Ongoing and track

4. Provide the right support and services so that no person needs to sleep rough

Action	Comments	Status
4.1 Reduce the number of people sleeping rough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular begging meetings Street link service Information on the website No First Night Out Have a heart campaign Outreach service Bi-monthly rough sleeper counts 	Complete
4.2 Reduce the number of people sofa surfing	Covid-19 has given us an opportunity to look at this cohort and try to work with them. All the services listed above are in place, including the Duty to Refer. Awaiting the new Allocations IT system, due to go live in November 2020	Ongoing and on track
4.3 develop a new preventative approach to those rough sleeping	All the services listed above are in place, including the Duty to Refer. Awaiting the new Allocations IT system, due to go live in November 2020	Ongoing and on track
4.4 Improve response to those who rough sleep	All the services listed above are in place. Housing First project in development	Ongoing and on track
4.5 Review pathways to independence	This will be part of the commissioning thematic review which has been delayed by Covid-19	Ongoing and on track

5. Build a strong partnership to deliver our aims

Action	Comments	Status
5.1 Support and improve partnership development planning and information exchange	Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Forum established	Complete

5.2 Improve partnership working	As above. Further partnership working between third sector organisations and commissioning to be developed	Ongoing and on track
5.3 Improve internal Council joint working	Regular meetings taking place between Adult Social Care and Housing	Complete

Darlington Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee

21st October 2020

Crisis Service Changes – Update

1. INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To update the Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee on progress with the Crisis Service changes.

2. KEY ISSUES:

- 2.1 We have seen particularly high demand on Crisis services in recent months, with referrals exceeding monthly averages pre-Covid.
- 2.2 The service received some non-recurring investment to develop urgent care services and provide support to the wider system. This included increased capacity for Home based treatment to provide greater flexibility for patients and the ability to offer home based treatment to a greater number of patients which will hopefully reduce the likelihood of the need for an admission. We are in the process of recruiting to these posts.
- 2.3 The funding also allowed us to offer dedicated Mental Health support to NEAS to provide further options for people in distress. This was following a short term pilot with NEAS. We are in the process of recruiting to these posts.
- 2.4 In addition, from September the Mental Health Support Team now provides 24/7 telephone response via 111. The service provides a listening function and is able to signpost people to the appropriate service to meet their needs.

3. CONCLUSION:

- 3.1 The pandemic has given us some unique opportunities to improve system working. The learning from this will be integral as we move forward.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 The Darlington Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee are asked to note this update and ongoing work.

Jennifer Illingworth

Director of Operations, Durham and Darlington

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Darlington Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee 21st October 2020

Right Care Right Place Update

1. INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE:

1.1 To update the Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee on progress with the Right Care Right Place programme

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND CONTEXT:

2.1 In the summer of 2019, TEWV launched a new programme of work which aims to deliver improve experience and outcomes for services users, our staff and our partners by focusing on how all of our services, and those of our partners, can work more seamlessly and better together.

2.2 A lot of system engagement took place in Darlington over the summer of 2019, culminating in a vision development event in autumn 2020. The output of that event is shown below.



2.3 From the vision event, work progressed to identify initial priorities for the local programme. These were beginning to be tested and implemented in early 2020, however COVID-19 and lockdown has essentially paused these formal plans.

3. KEY ISSUES:

3.1 Although the formal priorities and actions were paused due to COVID-19, work has been continuing as a result of the pandemic to progress different ways of working and this will be really helpful in influencing next steps in our

transformation. For example, creative approaches to supporting care homes, embedding low level mental health pathways and access to appropriate support through community hubs and using new technology within specialist services to complete appointments in different ways.

3.2 An updated position against the key priorities in the original action plan is summarised below:

Priority Area	Current Position/Progress
<p>PRIORITY 1 - Review and improve access models and reduce waiting times for CYP and AMH (Talking Changes and Access) with an aim to achieve access through multiple routes, easy access 24/7 for everyone, referrals based on need not diagnosis. Roll out Easington dementia work</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single points of access in place for AMH and CYP. Practice Based Mental Health workers in place • CYP – improvement event for assessment to treatment held June 2020 • Ongoing work in Talking Changes – currently performing well and have embraced use of technology to continue to see people through lockdown. Additional, rapid CCBT offer in place throughout lockdown for TEWV and wider system staff • Significant change in use of technology and phone for self help, monitoring, appointments etc and significant increase in usage of Recovery College online and Kooth. • Positive work at pace with local partners to support community hubs and put in place needs led access to a range of mental health services
<p>PRIORITY 2 - Continue improvements to services available for people in crisis or who need more urgent support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New crisis model in place and working well, with single Freephone number for accessing it • Mental health support line operational 7 days, 8.30am – 8.30pm for lower level, non crisis needs. Moving to 24/7 service shortly • During COVID an OP specialist was based with the crisis team on a 24/7 basis to provide specific OP support. Discussions ongoing to provide this substantively • Very successful through lockdown at supporting people with home based treatment as an alternative to admission.
<p>PRIORITY 3 - Easy access to timely advice and support for referrers/partners without the need to refer into services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E-referral process in place via GP Strategic Lead • Further focused work continues in current COVID context, especially to support anticipated increases in demand across the system. • Practice Based MH workers now in place who will support availability of access to advice and guidance
<p>PRIORITY 4 - Continue improvements to Talking Changes to address feedback being received and enable greater collaborative working with primary care and others</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waiting times for all steps monitored via weekly tracker with significantly improved performance • Keeping in touch strategy fully implemented • Some challenges predicted in accessing practices for face to face work due to social distancing restrictions and the impact on available space • Service have responded flexibly through COVID, developing cCBT offers for social care and care home staff, and working in different ways which has led to a reduction in waiting times for some modalities. Positive

	<p>feedback being received from primary care about speed of access to services</p>
<p>PRIORITY 5 - Agree and deliver new service models in line with the new Community Framework (ie services increasingly “wrapped around” primary care)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delayed significantly due to COVID, however new re-launch meeting held at the end of September and rapid conversations to be held through October to develop our model and plans
<p>PRIORITY 6 - Co-ordination, collaboration and improved links across the system to improve communication and reduce/eliminate barriers to care</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical Directors now aligned to PCNs to improve engagement and relationships • Effective GP Forum in Darlington to help manage any issues and take forward shared developments • HIU work becoming more embedded and well received • Joint work to develop plans for people with a personality disorder continues to be rolled out, including significant developments around structured clinical management which have received commissioning support
<p>PRIORITY 7 - Improve arrangements for transfers and transitions between services to ensure delays are eliminated, individuals are well supported and there is greater continuity of care. In particular this relates to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transitions between TEWV services • CYP to AMH transitions • Transitions from TEWV to other organisations <p>Additionally, continue work with schools to support Mental Wellbeing being embedded in the curriculum. When families are in services, use interventions to help bring down barriers between parent and child</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CQUIN already in place for CYP-AMH • Whole CYP pathway work to include elements of RCRP vision • Existing CYP Transformation Plans (multi agency) in place • Work re LTP implementation has restarted. Significant increase in demand noted, especially as schools re-start, but the nature of this demand is not yet known. • Transitions remain a priority area across pathways
<p>PRIORITY 8 - Improve services for people with dual diagnosis</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work complete with Darlington Healthwatch to develop improved user information and links between TEWV and NECA • Refreshed Dual Diagnosis referral pathway in place
<p>PRIORITY 9 - Continue to improve staff wellbeing and training across the system</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff wellbeing facilitator in post • Recovery College were supporting local training offers pre-locokdown, especially for admin staff and other practice based clinical staff. COVID-specific activity has rapidly increased the courses and support available to staff online • Existing Recovery College offer promoted across system Recovery College online has seen significantly increased levels of hits and activity through lockdown, and has flexibly and rapidly developed bespoke and creative offers to meet changing needs which has been very well received.
<p>PRIORITY 10 - Review and continue to improve support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work started at Trust level, work ongoing local re Triangle of Care

<p>available within TEWV and across the system for families and carers, ensuring greater co-ordination of the offer and easier, more consistent access</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MHSOP have some new investment to create a dedicated Carers post • Durham County Carers engaged with ongoing work across locality and Trust • Will need to be revisited post-COVID to reassess approach and consider how best to meet needs moving forward, linking to VCS who have been providing increased levels of support to carers throughout lockdown and COVID period
<p>PRIORITY 11 - Build on and further develop community based support and community assets across the County, flexing the offer to meet specific local need as required. This should include greater use of peer workers/those with lived experience (including carers)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Range of initiatives were in place/being developed locally pre COVID supported via DOT and SIG, will need to be re-started as COVID pressures ease • Work during lockdown with the CVS with some innovative schemes and mutual aid groups developed. • Will need to consider resources available to support this to continue to develop via the MHLDP Partnership Board, Tees Valley CCG and Public Health (mental health promotion)
<p>PRIORITY 12 - Develop and introduce a simple way of understanding what services are available across the system at borough, locality and community level (“not a directory of service”)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directory in place via IAPT, practice based CPNs also have local directories. • Work being considered to co-ordinate via SPLW developments • Existing resources often signposted via Healthwatch. Living Well Darlington in place. Further review and work required with partners • Pathways and information refined through COVID. Multi agency work expected post COVID to review learning and adapt systems. Exploring “quick wins” around use of IT/digital solutions to support this,

6. CONCLUSIONS:

RCRP activity was progressing at pace pre-lockdown. As a result of the pandemic, activity has understandably shifted in focus and some of the more formal actions have been paused. However, the pandemic period has enabled us to continue to progress work in line with the principles of Right Care Right Place and has given us some unique opportunities to improve system working. The learning from this will be integral to moving the formal programme forward in the coming months.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Darlington Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee are asked to note this update and ongoing work, which will change as the COVID-specific context evolves.

Jennifer Illingworth
Director of Operations
Durham and Darlington

Objective

This briefing paper has been prepared for Darlington Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee on behalf of Sarah Burns, Joint Head of Integrated Strategic Commissioning for County Durham CCG and Durham County Council and Michael Houghton, Director of Commissioning and Transformation, NHS Tees Valley CCG.

Aim

The briefing paper aims to inform of NHS County Durham CCG and NHS Tees Valley CCG (Darlington locality) contract award to Primary Eye Care Services Ltd to provide a high quality Community Eye Care Service to deliver post-op cataract care in the community from autumn 2020.

Background and introduction

County Durham CCG and the former Darlington CCG have been working collaboratively with County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (CDDFT) for a number of years to reduce activity to their overstretched ophthalmology department, which attracts high numbers of review out-patient appointments.

Nationally, ophthalmology is recognised as a high volume specialty; hospital eye services are overstretched, due to a combination of an ageing population, new treatment availability and guidelines, and a shortage of sub-specialty Consultants.

Pathway change

The community eye service will improve the patient pathway for those patients receiving cataract surgery. Patients attending CDDFT for second eye cataract surgery will be assessed for suitability to have their post-op care delivered in the community during outpatient attendance, prior to surgery. Overtime, we expect this service to expand and include other regional hospital eye services.

The change to the pathway means

The services will be delivered from high street opticians, close to patients' homes and will reduce the reliance upon ambulance transport to travel to regional hospitals. Patients will receive their care and monitoring by qualified practitioners with necessary training, competence and experience as specified by NICE Guidelines.

The proposed change will support the NHS Long Term Plan (2019)¹ and relieve pressures on local hospital eye services, enabling the Ophthalmologist and the team to manage those patients with more complex conditions, efficiently and effectively.

Jackie Storey
NECS Commissioning Support Officer
September 2020

¹ NHS Long Term Plan
www.england.nhs.uk

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HEALTH AND HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 21 OCTOBER 2020

WORK PROGRAMME

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the work programme items scheduled to be considered by this Scrutiny Committee during the 2020/21 Municipal Year and to consider any additional areas which Members would like to suggest should be added to the previously approved work programme.

Summary

2. Members are requested to consider the attached draft work programme (**Appendix 1**) for the remainder of the 2020/21 Municipal Year which has been prepared based on Officers recommendations and recommendations previously agreed by this Scrutiny Committee.
3. Any additional areas of work which Members wish to add to the agreed work programme will require the completion of a quad of aims in accordance with the previously approved procedure (**Appendix 2**).

Recommendations

4. It is recommended that Members note the current status of the Work Programme and consider any additional areas of work they would like to include.
5. Members' views are requested.

Paul Wildsmith
Managing Director

Background Papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Author: Hannah Fay

S17 Crime and Disorder	This report has no implications for Crime and Disorder
Health and Well Being	This report has no direct implications to the Health and Well Being of residents of Darlington.
Carbon Impact and Climate Change	There are no issues which this report needs to address.
Diversity	There are no issues relating to diversity which this report needs to address
Wards Affected	The impact of the report on any individual Ward is considered to be minimal.
Groups Affected	The impact of the report on any individual Group is considered to be minimal.
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	This is not a key decision.
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	The report contributes to the Sustainable Community Strategy in a number of ways through the involvement of Members in contributing to the delivery of the eight outcomes.
Efficiency	The Work Programmes are integral to scrutinising and monitoring services efficiently (and effectively), however this report does not identify specific efficiency savings.
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

6. The format of the proposed work programme, attached at **Appendix 1** has been reviewed to enable Members of this Scrutiny Committee to provide a rigorous and informed challenge to the areas for discussion.
7. Each topic links to the outcomes and the conditions in the Sustainable Community Strategy – One Darlington Perfectly Placed:-

SCS Outcomes:

- a) Children with the best start in life
- b) More businesses more jobs
- c) A safe and caring community
- d) More people caring for our environment
- e) More people active and involved
- f) Enough support for people when needed
- g) More people healthy and independent
- h) A place designed to thrive

Three Conditions:

- a) Build strong communities
- b) Grow the economy
- c) Spend every pound wisely

8. In addition, each topic links to performance indicators from the Performance Management Framework (PMF) to provide robust and accurate data for Members to use when considering topics and the work they wish to undertake. There are some topics where appropriate PMF indicators have not yet been identified however; these can be added as the work programme for each topic is developed.

Forward Plan and Additional Items

9. Once the Work Programme has been agreed by this Scrutiny Committee, any Member seeking to add a new item to the work programme will need to complete a quad of aims, attached at **Appendix 2**.
10. A copy of the Forward Plan has been attached at **Appendix 3** for information.

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HEALTH AND HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer/ Organisation Involved	SCS Outcome	Darlington Conditions	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
Local Outbreak Control Plan	21 October 2020	Public Health	A safe and caring community More people healthy and independent Enough support for people when needed	Build strong communities		To receive regular updates and undertake any further detailed work if necessary.
Homelessness Strategy and the Homelessness Reduction Act	21 October 2020	Pauline Mitchell	A safe and caring community Enough support for people when needed	Build strong communities		To look at the impact following the introduction of the Act. Update on current position within Darlington
Crisis Service Changes	21 October 2020	Jennifer Illingworth, TEWV	Enough support for people when needed	Spend every pound wisely		To receive a briefing and undertake any further detailed work if necessary.
Right Care, Right Place	21 October 2020	Jennifer Illingworth, TEWV	Enough support for people when needed	Build strong communities. Spend every pound wisely		To receive a briefing and undertake any further detailed work if necessary.

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer/ Organisation Involved	SCS Outcome	Darlington Conditions	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
Tenancy Policy	21 October 2020	Pauline Mitchell	Enough support for people when needed	Build strong communities		To consider the updated Tenancy Policy.
Performance Management and Regulation/ Management of Change Regular Performance Reports to be Programmed	Quarter 2 16 December 2020	Relevant AD	A safe and caring community Children with the best start in life More people healthy and independent	Build strong communities. Spend every pound wisely	Full PMF suite of indicators	To receive biannual monitoring reports and undertake any further detailed work into particular outcomes if necessary
Medium Term Financial Plan	16 December 2020	Elizabeth Davison	A place designed to thrive A safe and caring community More people healthy and independent Enough support for people when needed	Build strong communities Spend every pound wisely. Grow the Economy		To enable the Committee to give consideration to those areas of the MTFP within the Committee's remit

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer/ Organisation Involved	SCS Outcome	Darlington Conditions	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
Housing Revenue Account	16 December 2020	Pauline Mitchell	A place designed to thrive	Build strong communities Spend every pound wisely. Grow the Economy		To consider Cabinet's proposals in relation to the revenue budget, rent level and service charges for the Council's Housing Revenue Account.
Director of Public Health Annual Report and Health Profile	16 December 2020	Miriam Davidson	More people healthy and independent			Annual report
Customer Engagement in Housing Services	16 December 2020	Pauline Mitchell	More people active and involved	Build strong communities		To look at work being done within communities and how the Customer Panel engage with new communities.
Integrated Care System (ICS) (Formerly Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) including the Better Health Programme (BHP))	Engagement and Communication Strategy 3 March 2021	Simon Clayton, NECS	More people healthy and independent	Spend every pound wisely Build Strong Communities		To scrutinise and challenge progress of the principles underpinning the ICS and BHP and timelines for progress

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer/ Organisation Involved	SCS Outcome	Darlington Conditions	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
Review of the Housing Allocations Plan	3 March 2021	Pauline Mitchell/ Janette McMain	Enough support for people when needed	Spend every pound wisely Build strong communities		To update Members on the implementation of the Housing Allocation Policy
Drug and Alcohol Service Contract (Joint with Communities and Local Services Scrutiny Committee)	3 March 2021	TBC	A safe and caring community More people healthy and independent	Build Strong Communities Spend every pound wisely		To update Scrutiny Members undertake any further work if necessary.
NHS Clinical Commissioning Group Financial Challenges and Impact on Services	14 April 2021	Mark Pickering, NHS Darlington CCG	More people healthy and independent	Build Strong Communities Spend Every Pound Wisely		To scrutinise and monitor the CCG to ensure delivery of the necessary QIPP required in order to achieve its financial duties and service delivery
CCG Stroke Services/Review of Stroke Rehabilitation Services	14 April 2021	Katie McLeod CCG	More people healthy and independent	Spend Every Pound Wisely	To be determined	To scrutinise and challenge the CCG's and review of Stroke Rehabilitation Services in the community following discharge from Bishop Auckland Hospital
Monitoring Outcomes from the Medium Term Financial Plan 2016-20			A safe and caring community	Build strong communities.	Full PMF suite of indicators	

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer/ Organisation Involved	SCS Outcome	Darlington Conditions	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
<p>Impact of ceasing/ reducing the following and has there been any cost shunting to other areas within the Council as a result of:-</p> <p>Voluntary Sector Funding</p>	<p>Joint briefings 14 October 2020 and 10 March 2021</p>	<p>Christine Shields</p>	<p>Children with the best start in life</p> <p>More people healthy and independent</p>	<p>Spend every pound wisely</p>		<p>To update Members following the monitoring and evaluation of this funded projects</p>
<p>Primary Care (to include GP Access to appointments)</p> <p>To include:-</p> <p>Digital Health (formerly Telehealth)</p>	<p>Last considered 31 October 2019</p> <p>Last considered 19 December 2018 ; and by Review Group 16 Nov 2016</p>	<p>Rebecca Thomas CCG/ Amanda Riley PCN</p> <p>Ian Dove CDDFT</p>	<p>More people healthy and independent</p> <p>More people active and involved</p>	<p>Build Strong Communities</p> <p>Spend Every Pound Wisely</p>		<p>To scrutinise development around Primary Care Network and GP work, including digital health and its application, including signposting to services.</p>

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer/ Organisation Involved	SCS Outcome	Darlington Conditions	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
<p>Monitoring Outcomes from the Medium Term Financial Plan 2016-20</p> <p>Impact of ceasing/reducing the following and has there been any cost shunting to other areas within the Council as a result of:-</p> <p>Healthwatch Darlington - Streamlined Service offered by HWD since April 2017 - The Annual Report of Healthwatch Darlington</p>	<p>Last received 2 September 2020</p>	<p>Michelle Thompson, HWD</p>	<p>A safe and caring community</p> <p>Children with the best start in life</p> <p>More people healthy and independent</p>	<p>Build strong communities.</p> <p>Spend every pound wisely</p>		<p>To scrutinise and monitor the service provided by Healthwatch – Annual</p>
<p>Better Care Fund</p>	<p>Last received 2 September 2020</p>	<p>Paul Neil</p>				<p>To receive an update on the position of the Better Care Fund for Darlington</p>

JOINT COMMITTEE WORKING – ADULTS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer/ Organisation Involved	SCS Outcome	Darlington Conditions	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
Loneliness and Connected Communities Adults and Housing to Lead	Scoping meeting 28 January 2020 Meeting on 5 October 2020					
CQC Ratings in the Borough of Darlington Health and Housing to Lead	Scoping Meeting held 18 November 2019					To monitor and evaluate CQC scoring across the Borough for health and care settings.

JOINT COMMITTEE WORKING – CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

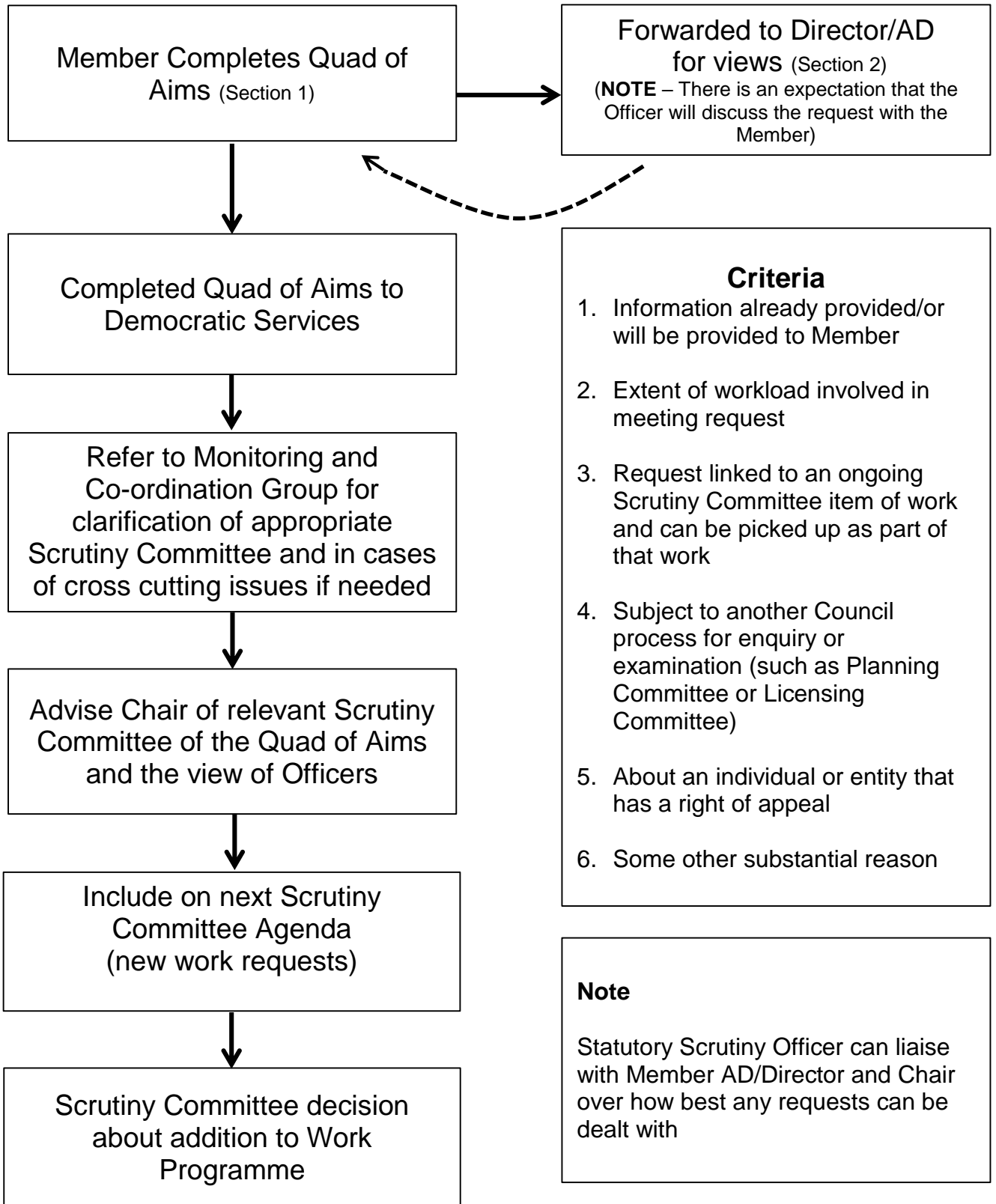
Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer/ Organisation Involved	SCS Outcome	Darlington Conditions	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
<p>Childhood Healthy Weight Plan (Childhood Obesity Strategy)</p> <p>Children and Young People to lead</p>	<p>Last considered 30 January 2020</p> <p>27 November 2017. Interim report to Cabinet 11 September 2018.</p> <p>Review suspended –to examine childhood obesity and mental health links by monitoring the effectiveness of the Childhood Healthy Weight Plan.</p>	<p>Ken Ross</p>	<p>Children with the best start in life</p>	<p>Spending Every Pound Wisely</p> <p>Build Strong Communities</p>	<p>To be determined</p>	<p>To review the effectiveness of the Childhood Healthy Weight Plan on childhood obesity and mental health links in children and young people.</p>

JOINT COMMITTEE WORKING – CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND ADULTS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer/ Organisation Involved	SCS Outcome	Darlington Conditions	Link to PMF (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
Autism Provision Review Group	Scoping meeting held 2 March 2020 Review on hold		Enough support for people when needed			To review the provisions and services and contractual arrangements between this Council and our providers who provide the Autism provisions, diagnoses and support services for Darlington.

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PROCESS FOR ADDING AN ITEM TO SCRUTINY COMMITTEE'S PREVIOUSLY APPROVED WORK PROGRAMME



PLEASE RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

QUAD OF AIMS (MEMBERS' REQUEST FOR ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED BY SCRUTINY)

SECTION 1 TO BE COMPLETED BY MEMBERS

NOTE – This document should only be completed if there is a clearly defined and significant outcome from any potential further work. This document should **not** be completed as a request for or understanding of information.

REASON FOR REQUEST?	RESOURCE (WHAT OFFICER SUPPORT WOULD YOU REQUIRE?)
PROCESS (HOW CAN SCRUTINY ACHIEVE THE ANTICIPATED OUTCOME?)	HOW WILL THE OUTCOME MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

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Signed Councillor

Date

SECTION 2 TO BE COMPLETED BY DIRECTORS/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS

(NOTE – There is an expectation that Officers will discuss the request with the Member)

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<p>1. (a) Is the information available elsewhere? Yes No</p> <p>If yes, please indicate where the information can be found (attach if possible and return with this document to Democratic Services)</p> <p>.....</p> <p>(b) Have you already provided the information to the Member or will you shortly be doing so?</p> <p>.....</p> <p>2. If the request is included in the Scrutiny Committee work programme what are the likely workload implications for you/your staff?</p> <p>.....</p> <p>3. Can the request be included in an ongoing Scrutiny Committee item of work and picked up as part of that?</p> <p>.....</p> <p>4. Is there another Council process for enquiry or examination about the matter currently underway?</p> <p>.....</p> <p>5. Has the individual or entity some other right of appeal?</p> <p>.....</p> <p>6. Is there any substantial reason (other than the above) why you feel it should not be included on the work programme?</p> <p>.....</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Criteria</p> <p>1. Information already provided/or will be provided to Member</p> <p>2. Extent of workload involved in meeting request</p> <p>3. Request linked to an ongoing Scrutiny Committee item of work and can be picked up as part of that work</p> <p>4. Subject to another Council process for enquiry or examination (such as Planning Committee or Licensing Committee)</p> <p>5. About an individual or entity that has a right of appeal</p> <p>6. Some other substantial reason</p>
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Signed **Position** **Date**

PLEASE RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

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**FORWARD PLAN
FOR THE PERIOD: 7 OCTOBER 2020 - 28 FEBRUARY 2021**



Title	Decision Maker and Date
Regulatory Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA)	Cabinet 13 Oct 2020
Treasury Management Annual and Outturn Prudential Indicators 2019/20	Council 26 Nov 2020 Cabinet 13 Oct 2020
Land to the Rear of Tandridge Court, Woodland Road - Proposed Self Build Plots	Cabinet 13 Oct 2020
Schedule of Transactions	Cabinet 13 Oct 2020
Repair to the Victorian Indoor Market	Cabinet 13 Oct 2020
Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)	Cabinet 10 Nov 2020
Council Plan 2020/23	Cabinet 10 Nov 2020
Construction of Hybrid Business Innovation Centre - Central Park	Cabinet 10 Nov 2020
Revenue Budget Monitoring - Quarter 2	Cabinet 10 Nov 2020
Project Position Statement and Capital Programme Monitoring - Quarter 2	Cabinet 10 Nov 2020
Council Tax Support - Scheme Approval 2021/22	Cabinet 10 Nov 2020
Rail Heritage Quarter Tenant Leases and Stockton and Darlington Railway Walking and Cycling Route	Cabinet 10 Nov 2020
Annual Procurement Plan 2020/21 - Update	Cabinet 10 Nov 2020
Tenancy Policy 2020/25	Cabinet 10 Nov 2020
School Term Dates 2022/2023	Cabinet 8 Dec 2020
Climate Change Cross Party Working Group - Update	Cabinet 8 Dec 2020

Mid-Year Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management 2020/21	Cabinet 8 Dec 2020
Annual Audit Letter	Cabinet 8 Dec 2020
Tree & Woodland Strategy 2021-31	Cabinet 8 Dec 2020
Medium Term Financial Plan	Cabinet 8 Dec 2020
Complaints Made to Local Government Ombudsman	Cabinet 8 Dec 2020
Housing Revenue Account	Cabinet 8 Dec 2020
Greater Faverdale (Burtree Garden Village) - Design Code	Cabinet 8 Dec 2020
Schools Admissions 2021/22	Cabinet 9 Feb 2021
Revenue Budget Monitoring - Quarter 3	Cabinet 9 Feb 2021
Project Position Statement and Capital Programme Monitoring - Quarter 3	Cabinet 9 Feb 2021
Calendar of Council and Committee Meetings 2021/22	Cabinet 9 Feb 2021
Skerningham Masterplan Report	Cabinet