



**DARLINGTON**

Borough Council

# Communities and Local Services Scrutiny Committee Agenda

10.00 am

Thursday, 19 August 2021

Central Hall, Dolphin Centre, Darlington, DL1 5RP

**Members of the Public are welcome to attend and make representations at this Meeting.**

1. Introductions/Attendance at Meeting
2. Declarations of Interest
3. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of this Scrutiny held on :-
  - a. 17 June 2021 (Pages 3 - 4)
  - b. 25 June 2021 (Pages 5 - 6)
4. Tees Valley Combined Authority Transport Update (Pages 7 - 22)  
Presentation by Head of Transport, Tees Valley Combined Authority
5. Playing Pitch and Facilities Strategy (Pages 23 - 94)  
Report of Group Director of Services
6. Library Services  
Verbal Update by Head of Culture

7. The Northgate Initiative (Pages 95 - 138)  
Report of Chief Executive
8. Performance Indicators - Quarter 4 2020/2021 (Pages 139 - 148)  
Report of Group Director of Services
9. Work Programme (Pages 149 - 168)  
Report of Group Director of Operations
10. 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.
11. Questions



**Luke Swinhoe**  
**Assistant Director Law and Governance**

**Wednesday, 11 August 2021**

**Town Hall**  
**Darlington.**

**Membership**

Councillors Allen, Bartch, Cossins, Mrs Culley, Donoghue, Haszeldine, B Jones, McCollom, Tait, Wallis and Willis

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](mailto:hannah.fay@darlington.gov.uk) or telephone 01325 405801

## COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Thursday, 17 June 2021

**PRESENT** – Councillors Tait (Chair), Allen, Bartch, Cossins, Mrs Culley, Donoghue, Haszeldine, B Jones, McCollom and Willis

**APOLOGIES** – Councillor Wallis

**ABSENT** –

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE** – Councillors Dulston, Mrs H Scott (Leader of the Council) and K Nicholson

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE** – Ian Thompson (Assistant Director Community Services), Brian Graham (Head of Environmental Services) and Hannah Fay (Democratic Officer)

### **CLS1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021/22**

**RESOLVED** – That Councillor Tait be appointed Chair of this Committee for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

### **CLS2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021/22**

**RESOLVED** – That Councillor Donoghue be appointed Vice-Chair of this Committee for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

### **CLS3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

### **CLS4 TO CONSIDER THE TIMES OF MEETINGS OF THIS COMMITTEE FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021/22 ON THE DATES AGREED IN THE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS BY CABINET AT MINUTE C97/FEB/21**

**RESOLVED** – That the meetings of this Scrutiny Committee be held at 10.00am for the remainder of the 2021/2022 Municipal Year on the dates, as agreed on the calendar of meetings by Cabinet at Minute C97/Feb/21.

### **CLS5 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THIS SCRUTINY HELD ON 22 APRIL 2021**

Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of this Scrutiny Committee held on 22 April 2021.

In relation to Minute CLS39/Apr/21 Members made reference to the long term strategy; Members sought a completion date for the strategy and that the strategy be shared with Members when available. Members sought details of the occupancy levels of the market.

In relation to Minute CLS41/Apr/21 Members queried the inclusion of additional Key Performance Indicators for the Hippodrome.

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the meeting of this Scrutiny Committee held on 22 April 2021 be approved as a correct record.

#### **CLS6 WORK PROGRAMME**

The Group Director of Operations submitted a report (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to this Scrutiny Committee's work programme for the Municipal Year 2021/22 and to consider any additional areas to be included.

Discussion ensued on the current work programme and it was suggested that All Members briefings be arranged for Water Safety, CCTV and Community Safety; that relevant items from the forward plan be brought to this Committee and that Members receive an update on waste management.

It was agreed that six month reviews be provided to this Committee on the Public Sector Executive Group and Stronger Communities Fund. Reference was made to Eviction Notices with a suggestion for Scrutiny to review this.

**RESOLVED** – That the Work Programme be updated to reflect the decisions of this Scrutiny Committee.

## COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Friday, 25 June 2021

**PRESENT** – Councillors Tait (Chair), Bartch, Mrs Culley, B Jones, McCollom, Wallis and Willis

**APOLOGIES** – Councillors Allen, Cossins, Donoghue and Haszeldine

**ABSENT** –

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE** – Councillors Mrs H Scott (Leader of the Council) and Dulston

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE** – Ian Williams (Chief Executive), Seth Pearson (Partnership Director) and Hannah Fay (Democratic Officer)

### CLS7 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Culley declared an interest as the Director of Darlington Support.

### CLS8 PARTNERSHIP WORKING IN DARLINGTON

A report (previously circulated) was submitted following the receipt of a 'call-in' from Cabinet held on 1 June, 2021 (Minute C8/Jun/21) in relation to its decision in respect of Partnership Working in Darlington. The 'Call-in' was taken in accordance with the Council's Constitution and had been signed by three Members of this Council.

The Chair invited those Members who had signed the documentation and who had requested that the decision be 'called-in' to outline their reasons for that decision and, in doing so, raised questions and sought clarification to understand whether and how partnership working would function with sectors other than the public sector; to explore whether and how partnership working would function cross sector; to understand what analysis had been completed on Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) outcomes and where DBC outcomes did not overlap; and to explore how gaps would be taken forward within DBC policy.

Members enquired as to the purpose, strengths and weaknesses of the Darlington Partnership, and the basis of the decision to cease the Darlington Partnership and the SCS.

The Cabinet Member with Stronger Communities Portfolio in responding extended his thanks to Alasdair MacConachie for his service and role as Chair of Darlington Partnership Board; advised Members that the Darlington Partnership had seen a decline in membership; that the Darlington Partnership would be replaced by the Stronger Communities Board which was not yet live; and confirmed that a Public Sector Executive Group (PSEG) would be established which would report into the Stronger Communities Board. Members were advised of the work undertaken to develop a Council Plan that targeted key areas for residents of Darlington.

The background to the establishment of the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) was outlined to

Members; following the cessation of the statutory requirement to have an LSP in 2010, Darlington continued with this approach, however over time the partnership had lost its focus, direction and participation and was in need of a refresh; and that partners recognised the need for change.

Particular reference was made to the work that had been undertaken outside of the Board, delivered by the Director of the Partnership and partners; and that the Director had been the driving force in delivering the many projects.

Reference was also made to the work undertaken by the Darlington Partnership in linking the business community into the work of the Council; and details provided of the range of forums in place to capture the voice of businesses in Darlington.

Members sought further clarification in respect of the Stronger Communities Board and were advised that this Board would include key representatives from partner organisations, providing an opportunity to network and to build and nurture relationships; and it was anticipated that the Board would go live in January 2022.

The Members who had signed the call-in document raised particular concern in respect of the effectiveness of the Council Plan, highlighting that the plan lacked the level of detail provided by the SCS.

The Cabinet Member with Stronger Communities Portfolio reiterated that the Council Plan covered the key themes identified to be important to residents; captured the main interventions of the Council; and was fit for purpose. In addition, the Council Plan was an evolving document but broadly set out the Council's priorities for the next four years.

Reference was made to the development of a local dataset, following the abeyance of national indicator sets, of which the PSEG would have oversight; and that this would provide a mechanism to measure the effectiveness of the Council's interventions.

**RESOLVED** – That, having considered and heard all the information presented to and at this meeting, this Scrutiny Committee is satisfied with the decision of Cabinet at Minute C8/Jun/21 and that no further action in relation to the call-in is required.



TEES VALLEY  
COMBINED  
AUTHORITY

TEES VALLEY MAYOR

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# Darlington Borough Council Communities & Local Services Scrutiny Committee

## Transport Update



**19 August 2021**

Agenda Item 4

# Strategic Vision



## Strategic Transport Plan vision

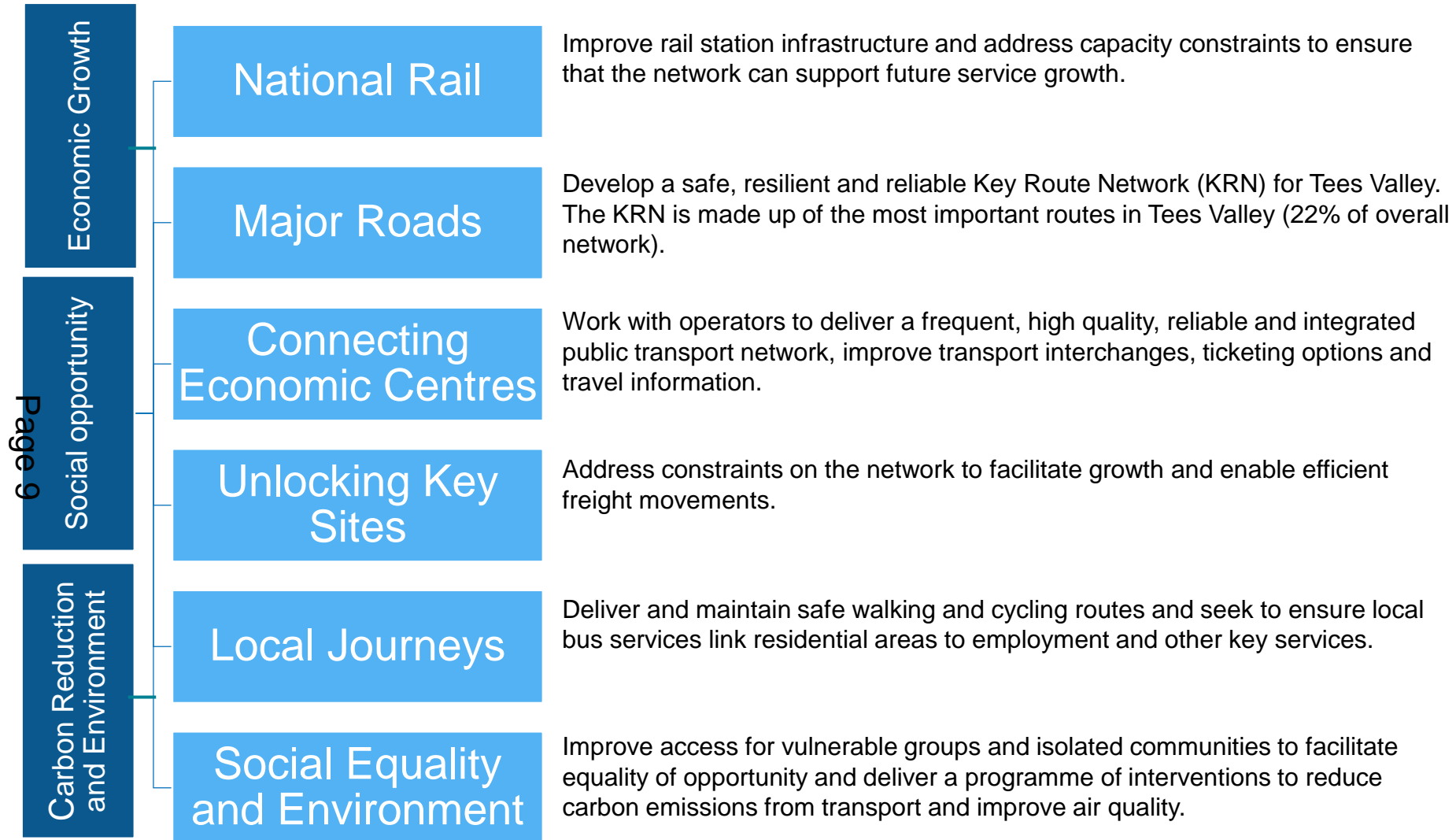
“To provide a high quality, quick, affordable, reliable, low carbon and safe transport network for people and freight to move within, to and from Tees Valley.”

To deliver three objectives:

- **Social Opportunity** – Helping people access employment, education, healthcare, culture, leisure and retail locations and improving public health and wellbeing.
- **Economic Growth** – Delivering the Strategic Economic Plan and the economic growth plans of Tees Valley local authorities, helping businesses to grow and flourish.
- **Carbon Reduction and Environment** – Reducing carbon emissions, minimising the impact of the transport network on the environment and supporting the legislative requirements to reduce air and noise pollution.



# Strategic Transport Plan Themes



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# Strategic Transport Plan - Actions

- 32 high-level actions and interventions identified in the Strategic Transport Plan
- Good progress being made – RAG ratings reflect that we are 1 ½ years into a 10-year plan

Number of Actions and STP Theme	RAG Rating
5 National Rail	A / G
2 Major Roads	A / G
5 Connecting Centres	A / G
5 Unlocking Key Sites	A
7 Local Journeys	A / G
8 Delivering Social Equity and Protecting the Environment	A / G

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# National Rail – Progress in 2020/21

- ***Darlington Station***

- Secured £8.7m of funding from the DfT for Network Rail project development costs
- Continued to develop the station gateway elements of the project with planning applications submitted June 21
- Land acquisition strategy on-going and good progress being made

- ***Middlesbrough Station***

- Secured funding for delivery of whole scheme
- Phase 1 delivery (platform extension work) began Dec 2020 & completed May 2021

- ***Improved national rail services***

- Worked with partners to support preparation of Norther Powerhouse Rail Strategic Outline Case
- Middlesbrough Station investment will enable London service to commence in Dec 2021
- Worked collaboratively on response to ECML May 2022 proposals

- ***Influence Rail franchises***

- Worked closely with Train Operating Companies to lobby for service improvements and changes during COVID-19 to meet need

- ***Freight Infrastructure***

- Supported NR with Northallerton-Eaglescliffe W12 gauge clearance project development

# Major Roads – Progress in 2020/21

- ***Darlington Northern Link Road***

- Scheme developed and public consultation undertaken
- Outline Business Case completed
- Need to consider any emerging funding opportunities

- ***A689 Major Road Network Scheme***

- Scheme developed and public consultation undertaken
- Outline Business Case completed and submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT) in March 2021

- ***A19 New Tees Crossing***

- Outline Business Case prepared and submitted to the DfT
- Funding decision awaited

# Connecting Centres – Progress in 2020/21

- ***Improvements to key bus corridors***

- Nine key corridors identified including Darlington to Durham, Darlington to Middlesbrough (via Stockton) and Branksome to Red Hall (via Darlington)
- Site Assessment Reports completed and Whole Route Implementation Plans in development to identify proposed interventions

- ***Improvements to local rail services***

- “Pacer” trains replaced with newer trains
- Development work progressing on Billingham, Hartlepool and Eaglescliffe station projects

- ***Ticketing offer and information improvements***

- Provision of information through CTV and LGTV
- Discussions around ticketing strategy through Tees Valley Bus Partnership
- Potential for future improvements through national bus strategy and Enhanced Partnership

- ***Road network improvements***

- Progress made on development of Portrack Relief Road
- Development work on future highway improvements pipeline is underway

- ***Improved network management and live information***

- Delivery proposals developed for the Urban Traffic Management & Control (UTMC) system to commence late 2021

# Unlocking Key Sites – Progress in 2020/21

- ***Teesside International Airport***
    - Proposal for redevelopment of Airport station being progressed
  - ***Teesworks Master Plan***
    - Transport requirements are being identified through studies & development work on-going
  - ***Additional and more frequent rail services***
    - Delivery is dependent upon investment in rail infrastructure capacity, including Darlington, Hartlepool and Middlesbrough station projects
- Infrastructure to unlock growth***
- Identifying a pipeline of highway investments to ensure transport infrastructure isn't a barrier to economic growth
  - ***Capacity and capability for freight movement***
    - Developing a holistic approach to rail programme to ensure passenger aspirations don't have detrimental impacts on rail-freight and requirements of Teesworks and Freeport fully considered
    - Developing major road schemes with full consideration of the needs of the freight and logistics sector to enable growth, e.g. A19 New Tees Crossing

# Local Journeys – Progress in 2020/21

- ***Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan***

- Five priority corridors identified including Woodland Road / Outram Street / Duke Street
- £1.7m funding secured from Active Travel Fund 2 for Darlington / Middlesbrough schemes
- Pipeline of schemes across Tees Valley being developed
- Submission of Active Travel Fund 3 to further expand the network

- ***Sustainable transport improvements***

- Development work to improve rail stations as transport hubs
- Place-based approach adopted e.g.
  - Eaglescliffe station project creates new access and walking route
  - Hartlepool station project potentially creates better link with marina and integrates with cycling investment

- ***Bus Partnership***

- Informal partnership established bringing together bus operators and the public sector
- Tees Valley Enhanced Partnership proposed in response to national bus strategy

- ***Expand Community Rail Partnership***

- Existing partnerships working well e.g. Bishop Line
- Limited opportunity to expand provision in the period



# Local Journeys – Progress in 2020/21

Continued.....

- ***Developing Leisure and Tourism***
  - Promoting new journeys, e.g. TPE to Saltburn
- ***Local Road Network Maintenance and Improvements***
  - Development of strategic highway improvement and maintenance pipeline
- ***Increase Road Safety***
  - Local Highway Authorities improving safety in scheme implementation e.g. LCWIP

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# Social Equality and Environment – Progress in 2020/21

- ***Access for vulnerable people***

- Tees Flex refocused to provide access to COVID vaccination centre/support out-patient discharge

- ***Let's Go Tees Valley***

- Delivery has continued with a focus on social distancing during the return to school / return to work between lockdowns
- Delivery of a comprehensive programme of behaviour change activity

- ***Integrated sustainable transport***

- Rail station audits undertaken and measures to improve transport integration being developed

- ***Tees Valley Wheels 2 Work***

- Continued delivery of pilot scheme through 2020/21
- Funding secured allowing scheme to expand over 2021/22 to 2023/24
- All-electric fleet of vehicles as part of new contract
- Providing access to opportunities for those for whom transport is a barrier

# Delivering Social Equity and Protecting the Environment – Progress in 2020/21

Continued .....

- **Tees Flex**

- Tees Flex service launched in February 2020 and has a very high customer satisfaction rating
- Operates across three zones including Darlington & Stockton.
- Increasing numbers of users despite COVID-19 – over 5,000 journeys in most recent 4-week period.

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- **Access for All**

- Improvements to accessibility at Eaglescliffe and Billingham stations with new footbridge / lifts
- Accessibility improvements incorporated into other station projects

- **Electric vehicles**

- Project underway to appoint an electric vehicle charging infrastructure supplier partner and roll out delivery across Tees Valley
- A number of public car parks in Darlington identified

- **Hydrogen**

- Tees Valley announced as UK's Hydrogen Hub and proposals being developed with the DfT



# COVID Response in 2020/21

- ***Reactive response to the situation***
- ***Delivery of actions not identified in STP***
  - Managing £225k Travel Demand Management funding supporting efforts to identify potential transport capacity constraints with social distancing on public transport
  - Managing £2.78m of Additional Home to School / College Transport Funding provided to Councils and Further Education establishments to provide additional transport capacity
  - Supporting bus operators and local authorities with £350k of Supported Bus Funding and Local Transport Authority COVID-19 Bus Service Support Grant
  - Managing £0.43m of Emergency Active Travel Fund Tranche 1 funding to support LAs to implement measures to promote walking and cycling at the end of the first lockdown
  - Working collaboratively with bus operators and train companies to understand changes and ensure local needs were met
- ***Continuing to develop and deliver pipeline of projects to meet STP Priorities***

# Future Funding

## ***Current Transport budget***

- Integrated Transport Programme (ITP) budget: £246m until 2028/29

## ***Future devolved budget***

- City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (was intra-city transport settlement) for 2022/23 to 2026/27 shared between 8 Mayoral Combined Authorities.
- £3.5m allocated to TVCA in 2021/22 to develop proposals

Page 20 ITP assumes £90.6m from 2023/24 – funding opportunity is significantly higher and allocations will be determined following our submission at the end of August 2021  
Funding pot includes Integrated Transport Block & highways maintenance

## ***Leveraging Additional funding***

- Over £27m of additional funding secured in 2020/21
- Seeking to leverage in c£500m of additional investment for major schemes such as Darlington Station / the A19 New Tees Crossing



TEES VALLEY  
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TeesValleyCA

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**COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
19 AUGUST 2021**

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**PLAYING PITCH AND FACILITIES STRATEGY**

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**SUMMARY REPORT**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To present to Members the updated Playing Pitch and Built Facilities Strategy for approval.

**Summary**

2. This updated strategy (attached at **Appendix 1**) gives consideration to both indoor and outdoor sports facilities (including playing pitches) and sets out the strategic direction and site-specific priorities for the future delivery of sports facilities across the Borough until 2031. It will remain a valid document for the period 2021–2025.

**Recommendation**

3. It is recommended that :-
  - (a) Members to provide feedback for Cabinet to consider on 7 September 2021.

**Dave Winstanley  
Group Director of Services**

**Background Papers**

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report

Ian Thompson : Extension 6628  
CD

S17 Crime and Disorder	By providing appropriate playing pitches and facilities can have a positively impact on reducing Crime and Disorder.
Health and Well Being	By providing appropriate playing pitches and facilities has a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of residents.
Carbon Impact and Climate Change	No impact
Diversity	There is no on the diversity agenda as a result of this report.
Wards Affected	All wards
Groups Affected	There is a positive impact on sporting groups and clubs.
Budget and Policy Framework	There is no impact on the Budget and Policy framework.
Key Decision	No
Urgent Decision	No
Council Plan	The Playing Pitch and Facilities Strategy supports the vision for Health and Housing Portfolio by putting in place the foundations for access to excellent leisure facilities.
Efficiency	There is no impact on Efficiency.
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

4. In May 2019, Darlington Borough Council appointed WYG to update the Sports Facilities Strategy that was previously published in 2014. This updated strategy gives consideration to both indoor and outdoor sports facilities (including playing pitches) and sets out the strategic direction and site-specific priorities for the future delivery of sports facilities across the borough until 2031. It will remain a valid document for the period 2021 – 2025.

### Review of Previous Five Years

5. Darlington’s existing Playing Pitch and Sports Facilities Strategy has successfully driven significant improvement and investment into the sporting infrastructure across Darlington Borough. Successes include:
  - (a) Provision of a new 3G AGP at Eastbourne Sports Complex in partnership with the Football Foundation
  - (b) Provision of new sand based AGP at Carmel College
  - (c) Provision of new football pitches at Staindrop Road



- (d) Implementation of new Community Use agreements at key school sites
  - (e) Relocation of Darlington FC to Blackwell Meadows and drainage works completed to ensure facility is fit for purpose
  - (f) Investment into the the improvement of bowling green quality following a successful Inspired Facilities Funding application
  - (g) Significant investment into the Dolphin Centre resulting in improving facilities and long-term sustainability.
6. This strategy seeks to build upon these successes and to deliver the sporting vision for the borough up to 2031. The vision for the strategy therefore remains the same, specifically:
- ‘to develop a comprehensive, robust, up to date and user friendly assessment of sports provision and need in Darlington to ensure that the right amount and type of sports facilities are protected, and where appropriate enhanced to provide a range of quality, accessible and safe facilities, in the right place at the right time to meet the needs of the community now and in 2031.
7. The key drivers for refreshing the Playing Pitch Strategy are to:
- (a) Inform the local plan and to deliver the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework
  - (b) Ensure ongoing sustainability of the facility stock - ensuring that facilities are effectively managed and maintained and that best uses are made of existing resources
  - (c) Drive participation in sport and leisure within Darlington Borough.
8. The review of the strategy also considers the impact of the projected population growth in the borough.
9. The strategy has been updated to ensure that the audit of supply and demand reflects the current situation and that actions remain reflective of current need and take into account the changing ways in which sports are played, as well as the impact of changes that have occurred between 2014 and 2020.
10. The final outcome is an updated project action plan (See Appendix 1). This action plan will be used to monitor the delivery of the required actions and will also be used to provide evidence on which to secure funding and helps support the investment and the infrastructure of the Sporting Facility provision in Darlington from 2021 onwards.

## **Structure**

11. This updated strategy considers the adequacy of existing provision to meet current projected future need and sets strategic and site-specific priorities for a range of facilities including:-

- (a) Playing pitches for football, cricket, rugby and hockey
  - (b) Outdoor sports facilities including tennis and bowls
  - (c) Indoor built facilities including swimming pools, sports halls and community halls
  - (d) Specialist provision including golf courses, skateparks, athletics tracks and climbing.
12. This is the strategy document, which briefly summaries the key issues across Darlington Borough Council and sets out the action plan for addressing the key issues. The accompanying assessment report summarises the data collated and sets out the evidence underpinning the recommendations and action plan.
13. The remainder of this strategy is therefore set out as follows:-
- (a) Section 2 – Methodology
  - (b) Section 3 – Context
  - (c) Section 4 – Action Plan, Implementation, Monitoring and Review

### Methodology

14. This update has been undertaken in line with guidance by Sport England (Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide for Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facilities; 2014) and 'Playing Pitch Guidance, An Approach to Developing and Delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy (Sport England 2013). The Playing Pitch Guidance note sets out the requirement for the delivery of a playing pitch strategy for football, cricket, rugby and hockey. It advocates a 10-step approach, as illustrated below.



## **Financial Implications**

15. Any financial implications as a result of delivering the action plan would be taken to Cabinet as any scheme progresses. Officers will continue to work with governing bodies to identify any potential funding opportunities

## **Consultation**

16. A significant amount of consultation was carried out over a longer period than usual because of interruptions with the COVID-19 pandemic. The majority of the consultation took place between June 2019 and February 2020, with further work, mostly with Governing Bodies, from February 2021 to May 2021.
17. Partners and consultees involved in the consultation process and development of the updated strategy were as follows:
  - (a) Sport England
  - (b) England Cricket Board
  - (c) The Football Association
  - (d) Lawn Tennis Association
  - (e) England Hockey
  - (f) Rugby Football Union
  - (g) England Athletics
  - (h) Football Foundation
  - (i) Tees Valley Sport
  - (j) Darlington Borough Council Leisure Services
  - (k) Darlington Borough Council Planning Team
  - (l) WYG Associates
  - (m) Darlington Voluntary Sector Clubs and Community Groups (whole range)
  - (n) Darlington School Sport Partnership

## **Outcome of Consultation**

18. The outcome of the detailed consultation has been built into the Action Plan detailed in pages 51-60 of Appendix 1.

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## APPENDIX 1

# Darlington Borough Council

## Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) and Built Facility Strategy (BFS) Update



March 2021

Prepared on behalf of Darlington Borough Council

By WYG Environment Planning Transport Limited

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# Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

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## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

### 1.0 Introduction and Context

#### 1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 In May 2019, Darlington Borough Council appointed WYG to update the Sports Facilities Strategy that was previously published in 2014. This updated strategy gives consideration to both indoor and outdoor sports facilities (including playing pitches) and sets out the strategic direction and site-specific priorities for the future delivery of sports facilities across the borough until 2031. It will remain a valid document for the period 2020 – 2025.

#### Strategic Vision

1.1.2 The 2014 Playing Pitch Strategy and Sports Facility Strategy has successfully driven significant improvement and investment into the sporting infrastructure across Darlington Borough. Successes include:

- Provision of a new 3G AGP at Eastbourne Sports Complex in partnership with the Football Foundation
- Provision of new sand based AGP at Carmel College
- Provision of new football pitches at Staindrop Road
- Implementation of new Community Use agreements at key school sites
- Relocation of Darlington FC to Blackwell Meadows and drainage works completed to ensure facility is fit for purpose
- Investment into the improvement of bowling green quality following a successful Inspired Facilities Funding application
- Significant investment into the Dolphin Centre resulting in improving facilities and long-term sustainability.

1.1.3 This strategy seeks to build upon these successes and to deliver the sporting vision for the borough up to 2031. The vision for the strategy therefore remains the same, specifically:

*'to develop a comprehensive, robust, up to date and user friendly assessment of sports provision and need in Darlington to ensure that the right amount and type of sports facilities are protected, and where appropriate enhanced to provide a range of quality, accessible and*



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

*safe facilities, in the right place at the right time to meet the needs of the community now and in 2031.*

### 1.2 Key Drivers

1.2.1 The key drivers for refreshing the Playing Pitch Strategy are to:

- Inform the local plan (shortly to be examined) and to deliver the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (paragraphs 96 and 97)
- Ensure ongoing sustainability of the facility stock – ensuring that facilities are effectively managed and maintained and that best uses are made of existing resources
- Drive participation in sport and leisure within Darlington Borough.

1.2.2 The review of the strategy also considers the impact of the projected population growth in the borough.

1.2.3 The strategy has been updated to ensure that the audit of supply and demand reflects the current situation and that actions remain reflective of current need and take into account the changing ways in which sports are played, as well as the impact of changes that have occurred between 2014 and 2020. The final outcome is an updated project action plan. This action plan will be used to monitor the delivery of the required actions and will also be used to provide evidence on which to secure funding.

1.2.4 The above drivers continue to link to the planning objectives adopted by Sport England, which are illustrated in Figure 1.1. These objectives recognise the overarching benefits of providing sports facilities for a local community. Specifically, they seek to protect sports facilities from loss as a result of redevelopment, to enhance existing facilities through improving their quality, accessibility and management and to provide new facilities that are fit for purpose to meet current and future participation needs. Figure 1.1 illustrates how these components link together.





## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

**Figure 1.1 – Key drivers**





## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

### 1.3 Structure

1.3.1 This updated strategy considers the adequacy of existing provision to meet current and projected future need and sets strategic and site-specific priorities for a range of facilities including:

- Playing pitches for football, cricket, rugby and hockey
- Outdoor sports facilities including tennis and bowls
- Indoor built facilities including swimming pools, sports halls and community halls
- Specialist provision including golf courses, skateparks, athletics tracks and climbing.

1.3.2 This is the strategy document, which briefly summarises the key issues across Darlington BC and sets out the action plan for addressing the key issues. The accompanying assessment report summarises the data collated and sets out the evidence underpinning the recommendations and action plan.

1.3.3 The remainder of this strategy is therefore set out as follows;

- Section 2 – Methodology
- Section 3 – Context
- Section 4 – Action Plan, Implementation, Monitoring and Review



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

### 2.0 Methodology

#### 2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 This update has been undertaken in line with guidance by Sport England (Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide for Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facilities; 2014) and 'Playing Pitch Guidance, An Approach to Developing and Delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy (Sport England 2013).
- 2.1.2 The key principles of the methodology and the tasks that have been undertaken to update the 2015 strategy document are summarised in the remainder of this section. The methodology has been tailored based upon detailed discussions with the project steering group, building upon the work undertaken to deliver the previous action plan, as well as local knowledge and a clear understanding of the patterns of sports participation.
- 2.1.3 As in the original strategy document, reflecting the compact nature of Darlington, the adequacy of facilities is analysed throughout this assessment at a Borough wide level. The steering group determined that patterns of facility usage mean that it is not appropriate to subdivide the area further. Site specific analysis and the location of each site within the town are however taken into account when evaluating the adequacy of provision, as well as during the strategy development and action planning process.
- 2.1.4 Further detail on the methodology can be found in the assessment report.

#### 2.2 Methodology - Playing Pitch Guidance – An Approach to Delivering a Playing Pitch Strategy

- 2.2.1 The Playing Pitch Guidance note sets out the requirement for the delivery of a playing pitch strategy for football, cricket, rugby and hockey. It advocates a 10-step approach, as illustrated in Figure 2.1.



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**Figure 2.1 – Ten Step Approach**



2.2.2 The tasks undertaken as part of this playing pitch strategy update were as follows.

### **Step 1 - Tailoring the Approach**

2.2.3 The scope of the updates for each sport were defined with the Steering Group and Sport England and agreed individually with each National Governing Body. This ensures that resources are focused on updating information where it is most required.

### **Steps 2 and 3 - Gather Supply and Demand Information and Views**

#### **Supply and Demand**

2.2.4 The previous PPS included a full audit of pitches and assessment of demand for each sport across the Borough. This was updated to reflect the 2020 position using the following methodology:



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### a. Football

- Update of the existing supply audit using local knowledge and a small selection of site visits to ensure that pitch assessments are still relevant and to take account of known changes.
- Use of FA affiliation data (cross checked) to update demand data
- Review and integration of consultation undertaken as part of the recently completed Local Football Facilities Plan (LFFP). Large clubs were also contacted to offer an additional opportunity to input any further thoughts or issues
- Additional consultation was carried out with Darlington Sunday Football League

### b. Cricket

- Update of the existing supply audit using local knowledge and a full set of site visits carried out during the cricket season
- Consultation survey distributed to all clubs

### c. Rugby

- Update of the existing supply audit using local knowledge and site visits carried out during the rugby season
- Use of RFU affiliation data
- Consultation with Darlington RFC
- Engagement with Darlington Mowden Park RFC as part of the discussions relating to a potential sports village

### d. Hockey

- Use of England Hockey affiliation data to update demand figures
- Discussions at the quarterly hockey meeting that takes place between the club, Council and school used to inform the strategy update process.

### **Steps 4, 5 and 6 – Assessing the Supply and Demand Information and Views**

2.2.5 The supply and demand information collated has been used, in line with the Sport England methodology, to update calculations undertaken in 2015 to:



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- Understand the situation at individual sites;
- Develop the current and projected future pictures for each sport; and
- Identify the key findings and issues that need to be addressed.

### **Steps 6 - 10 Develop the Strategy and Deliver the Strategy and Keep it Up to Date and Robust**

2.2.6 The strategy and action plan use the updated issues identified to set out a strategic framework for the provision of pitches. Recommendations and priorities have been developed following extensive scenario testing and in conjunction with key stakeholders (both internal to the Council and external). The resulting action plan will be used to inform the delivery of the key priorities and to monitor the success of the strategy.

### **Non-Pitch Sports - Sport England (Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide for Indoor and Outdoor Sports Facilities; 2013)**

#### **Outdoor Sports**

2.2.7 For bowls and tennis, the assessment stages (Phase A) of the Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide (ANOG) approach are as follows:

- Stage 1 – Prepare and tailor your assessment
- Stage 2 – Gather information on supply and demand
- Stage 3 – Assessment, bring the information together.

2.2.8 For both of these sports, an updated audit of existing supply and demand was developed and updated drawing upon local knowledge, as well as discussion with NGBs and the Parks Bowls Association.

2.2.9 The key issues identified underpin the action plan.

#### **Indoor / Built Facilities**

2.2.10 For indoor / built facilities, the strategy has been updated as a desk-based exercise. This has drawn upon the recently completed Sports Facility Planning Model (fpm) review which was completed as part of an assessment to examine the direct impact of growth as well discussions with key council officers, Sport England and relevant National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBS).



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- 2.2.11 The remainder of this document therefore provides an overview of each sport across Darlington Borough, outlining the changes that have taken place since the previous sports facility was produced and identifying the issues that need to be addressed.
- 2.2.12 Section 3 provides a summary of all of the key issues identified while section 4 summarises the actions that will be undertaken to address these issues.

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### **3.0 Context**

- 3.1.1 This section provides a summary of the context for each sport considered within Darlington Borough and summarises the key issues that have been identified.
- 3.1.2 Full detail is found in the assessment report (under separate cover).
- 3.1.3 The recommendations and strategic priorities to address the identified issues are set out in Section 4.

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## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy



**Table 3.1 – Summary and Key Issues for Football**

Summary	Assessment Findings	Specific Facility Issues
<p><b>Supply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 88 pitches in total, the majority of which are secured for community use</li> <li>• Availability in education sector remains strong</li> <li>• Glebe Road, McMullen Road and Croft Working Mens Club have all previously contained football pitches but do not currently do so. There is also scope to mark out more pitches at other sites</li> <li>• There are three 3G AGPs, all of which are on the FA pitch register and can be used for both competitive fixtures and training. The pitch at Eastbourne Sports Complex has been developed since the last strategy document</li> <li>• With regards quality, While most pitches remain in the standard category, it is evident that many are now towards the lower end of this category (ie. achieving scores of around 50%) and very few pitches achieved scores of over 60%. Site visits also reveal that some pitches have now fallen into the poor category. The categorisation of many of the pitches as approaching poor indicates that there is a real risk to pitch capacity in Darlington – if quality issues are not addressed and pitches continue to decline, quality will reach a point where site capacity will be reduced.</li> <li>• While some of the sites visited were in good condition for the time of year, there was evidence of heavy usage (compaction etc) on some of the more popular sites, as well as some drainage issues (which will be exacerbated by the compaction that is evident). In contrast, it was clear that some sites were benefitting from lower levels of play and quality was retained as a result</li> <li>• Clubs also raise concerns about deteriorating maintenance, poor pitch surfaces and wear and tear on pitches. There are also several sites that do have appropriate changing / ancillary facilities</li> <li>• There are three teams based in Darlington playing in leagues that form part of the higher echelons of the football pyramid – these clubs must adhere to specific regulations in relation to the standard of facilities in order to ensure that they are able to continue to play</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Darlington RA = requires pitch and surface improvements as well as refurbishment of ancillary accommodation. Pyramid club so important site continues to meet league regulations</li> <li>• Poor condition of facilities at Darlington Education Village – undulating surfaces and suffering from waterlogging</li> <li>• Wyvern Academy – pitches poor and impacting upon capacity. Undulating, uneven, poor quality goals and wet pitches</li> <li>• Eastbourne Sports Complex – PQS identifies poor surface, weeds and thatching - inadequate pitches that require improvement</li> <li>• Heighington Playing Fields - Recent PIP completed (2018). Compaction and uneven, poor drainage, one pitch frequently out of use due to quality. Pavilion requires upgrade. Issues still remained at time of site visit.</li> <li>• Tommy Crooks Park, poor drainage and surface, poor grass cover, surface debris. Site considered inadequate</li> <li>• Heavy usage evident at Longfield / Hummersknott</li> <li>• Priors Hurworth – requires ancillary facilities / clubhouse</li> </ul>

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<p><b>Demand</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of teams requiring senior pitches remains static since 2015, but there has been a clear increase in the number of age group teams (U17 / U18 / U19 / U21) and a decline in the number of open age teams</li> <li>Participation has increased in the younger age groups. Large clubs have continued to grow in the five years since the previous PPS and there are very few single teams or small clubs now remaining.</li> <li>There is no clear evidence of displaced demand in the Borough</li> <li>As in 2015, many of the sites in Darlington Borough also function as public recreational areas. This impacts upon the quality of some pitches, particularly with regards dog fouling, which emerged as a key issue for many pitch users</li> <li>Competitive play takes place on both grass and AGPs and almost all training takes place on AGPs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LFP highlights driving growth in female football as priority</li> </ul>
<p><b>Adequacy of Provision</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Across the week, there is a degree of spare capacity on most pitches. Wyvern Academy is the only site where all pitches are overplayed, but at least one pitch at Darlington Education Village, Hummersknott Academy, St Aidans Church of England Academy and Heighington Playing Fields is overplayed. At both Wyvern Academy and Heighington Playing Fields this can be attributed to the poor quality of pitches (which means they have lower capacity) while at other sites, overplay is generally caused by the large number of teams using the pitches as the site is a base for larger clubs;</li> <li>The majority of sites are able to accommodate more play. 62 pitches (on 43 sites) are able to sustain additional play. There is spare capacity across all grass pitch types at Eastbourne Sports Complex (despite pitches also being poor) and Darlington RFC and good availability also at Priory Hurworth Albion. Pitches at Carmel College also receive no use, along with Tommy Crooks Park, Springfield, Red Hall Community Centre and Hurworth Grange Community Centre</li> <li>Much of the other spare capacity is at primary school sites that receive no use. There is however scope to mark out more pitches at some key Council sites.</li> <li>At peak time, spare capacity is more limited and the majority of sites accommodating large clubs have no spare capacity. There is space on pitches for match play on a Saturday afternoon (Longfield Academy) and later on a Sunday afternoon (Longfield Academy and Hummersknott Academy) to further increase the use of 3G facilities for match play, but limited room to create additional facilities</li> <li>If excluding pitches that are of poor quality from having spare capacity, there is a significant reduction in the amount of spare capacity recorded. Across the week, spare capacity would reduce to 11 MES (senior), 1MES (youth), 6 MES (9v9) and 40 MES (7v7 pitches). At peak time this would represent spare capacity equivalent to 8.5 MES (adults), 1.5 (youth), 4 (9v9) and 9 (7v7)</li> <li>FA data modelling suggests that assuming that there is a baseline total of 159 teams in Darlington Borough this would mean that there is a theoretical requirement for 4 full size AGPs. With only</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Darlington FC currently play at the Rugby Club, if they continue to progress major improvements would be required to meet with league regulations and a long term home ground would need to be identified</li> <li>Modelling and capacity analysis demonstrates a potential requirement for a further AGP to meet current demand. In the event of the high population growth scenario, further provision may be required. The LFFP identifies either Eastbourne Sports Complex or Wyvern Academy as key priorities</li> </ul>



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	<p>three pitches currently accessible in the Borough, this means that there is a deficit of one AGP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population growth in the baseline scenario will have no impact upon participation. In higher growth scenarios however there may be an additional 18 teams by 2036, focusing at the younger age groups. There is limited capacity in the existing infrastructure to accommodate growth in 9v9 and junior age groups.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Key Issues for Strategy to address</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whilst capacity has improved, there is an ongoing need to protect existing provision and ensure long term access to all key sites;</li> <li>The poor quality at some sites is impacting on capacity – this is particularly evident at Wyvern Academy and Heighington Playing Fields.</li> <li>The evidence of heavy usage on many sites is evident – there is a need to ensure that maintenance programmes are sufficient to keep up with usage. At some sites, poor quality pitches are taken temporarily out of circulation and matches take place on other better pitches – this is then causing degeneration and compaction of the better pitches. These pressures are particularly associated with larger clubs. In general, there are several pitches that are of declining quality and where investment is required to ensure existing capacity is maintained. Issues include compaction, drainage and poor pitch surface. Scenario testing demonstrates the importance of ensuring that pitch quality does not deteriorate further.</li> <li>Facilities at Darlington RA continue to require upgrade (although capacity has improved since the previous PPS due to the creation of pitches at Staindrop Road) and there are also concerns that the progression of Darlington FC may be impacted by the availability of appropriate facilities in the Borough</li> <li>While there is spare capacity across the borough as a whole, this is largely spread out and generally at small / single pitch sites (that are often poor). There are few sites with significant capacity and indeed, several large clubs are close to capacity on their own sites. There are however some key sites with spare capacity which represent an opportunity – Carmel College, Eastbourne Sports Complex and Tommy Crooks Park in particular could all be better utilised (although improvements are required if these are to be desirable to potential users).</li> <li>Many of the facilities that are unused however are of poor quality and there is a need to enhance these sites if they are to become more attractive to potential users. These include Red Hall Park, North Park, Tommy Crooks Park, Red Hall Community Centre.</li> <li>Modelling suggests that there is a need to further increase the number of AGPs in the Borough (by 1) in order to accommodate training and this is reflected in consultation carried out with clubs, where it was identified that there are perceived challenges in terms of accessing provision at desirable times.</li> <li>Future population growth will see demand exceed supply for youth / 9v9 pitches. Additional capacity will be required (either through grass pitch provision or AGP).</li> </ul>	

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**Table 3.2 Summary and Key Issues for Cricket**

Summary	Assessment Findings	Specific Facility Issues
<b>Supply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are six facilities for cricket, meaning that provision is static from 2015</li> <li>• All cricket grounds offer security of tenure except Haughton CC, which is leased annually from a local farmer</li> <li>• There were also two previously two cricket pitches at Hurworth House School and Land at Cumby Arms Playing Fields which has not been used for cricket since the club folded in 2007. The playing fields at Hurworth House School are now used by a football club.</li> <li>• There is evidence of significant investment in cricket since the 2015 strategy. Despite this, there remain some quality issues, with some improvements required at all clubs. Pitch quality is generally considered to be the key priority, particularly in relation to village clubs</li> <li>• There also concerns about the pressures on volunteers and the challenges associated with budgeting for maintenance. On-site training facilities also remain an issue for clubs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long term security required for Haughton CC – currently on short term agreement</li> <li>• Cockerton CC – flooding / drainage requires improvement as priority. Site also offers no facilities for officials</li> <li>• Darlington CC – square requires relaying, there are also issues with the adequacy of cricket facilities</li> <li>• Darlington RA – non turf practice nets and a mobile cage identified as priority. Site also requires levelling</li> <li>• Rockcliffe Park – practice facilities require improvement, outfield also requires levelling</li> <li>• Haughton CC – training facilities are poor</li> <li>• Middleton CC – non turf practice facilities are poor and the pavilion is also limited</li> </ul>
<b>Demand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There has been an increase in senior cricket participation at club level while junior cricket remains static</li> <li>• Cricket clubs continue to be used by informal / friendly teams although there are slightly fewer teams than there were in 2015 (8 compared to 9). Darlington CC also hosts some Durham County fixtures</li> <li>• Clubs highlight challenges in recruiting players at a younger age, in particular as a result of competition from other sports</li> <li>• Clubs primarily use indoor training nets during the winter months. The facility at Longfield Academy (4 indoor training lanes and specialist floor) is particularly popular with clubs and Darlington Education Village also offers cricket nets. a lack of good quality onsite training facilities was one of the key issues for clubs during the summer months.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There remains no female cricket in the borough, although this is identified as a key aspiration for several clubs – with a particular gap in female participation it is now critical that targetted programmes are delivered</li> </ul>



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<p><b>Adequacy of Provision</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All active grass pitches are used regularly during the cricket season</li> <li>There is slight overplay at both Rockcliffe Park and Haughton Cricket Club. The overplay at Rockcliffe Park can be attributed to high levels of demand, while the overplay at Haughton CC results from a small square (and usage of the facility by friendly teams as well as the cricket clubs own two teams)</li> <li>All other sites are able to sustain more play, although there is limited scope for extensive growth at any club. Darlington Cricket Club, Darlington RA and Middleton St George are both able to accommodate circa one further adult team, while Cockerton Cricket Club could host 1 – 2 teams. This assumes that the quality of pitches remains standard. If pitch quality at Darlington RA, Haughton CC, Middleton St George and Cockerton CC improves to good, spare capacity would be increased.</li> <li>Pressures for pitch access are also now starting to build on Sundays with youth fixtures competing with additional male teams playing due to lack of spare capacity on Saturdays</li> <li>While using ONS population projections, the anticipated population growth will have no impact upon the demand for cricket, in the higher level growth scenario, there will be an increase of almost 3 senior teams (1.5 MES) equating to circa 34 games over the course of the season. With 60% of games anticipated at peak time and demand equating to 1.5 MES, one additional facility is likely to be required at peak time. There is no capacity within the existing infrastructure to accommodate this demand as all cricket grounds are currently at capacity on a Saturday afternoon.</li> <li>Development initiatives seek to improve the number of participants in cricket across the Borough, focusing in particular on improvements at a junior level and amongst females. Not all clubs with aspirations to grow have sufficient capacity to do so. Development initiatives may not require space at peak time, but they place extra pressures on programming</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pitch quality is impacting capacity at Darlington RA, Haughton CC, Middleton St George and Cockerton CC</li> <li>There are also quality issues at other sites which impact upon player capacity and capacity to accommodate onsite training</li> <li>There is no remaining spare capacity at peak time in the Borough – this limits the growth of the male game</li> <li>Population growth forecasts suggest that unmet demand will be generated by 2036</li> <li>There are opportunities to increase the appeal of the cricket through the provision of non turf wickets on public sites The impact of new initiatives such All Stars is not yet known, but these schemes place greater pressures on programming of pitches currently and are likely to result in increased demand longer term.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Issues for Strategy to address</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is a need to support long term access to facilities – existing sites need protecting and access to Haughton CC will need to be secured on a long-term basis</li> <li>There is limited spare capacity in the existing pitch stock and no spare capacity at peak time - there may be a need to secure access to an additional pitch longer term</li> <li>The quality of pitches is impacting capacity on some sites and this needs to be addressed – these sites are Darlington RA, Haughton CC, Middleton St George and Cockerton CC</li> <li>There are also quality issues at other sites which impact upon player capacity and capacity to accommodate onsite training – qualitative improvements need to be prioritised - Darlington RA, Haughton CC, Middleton St George and Cockerton CC</li> <li>There are also quality issues at other sites which impact upon player capacity and capacity to accommodate onsite training</li> <li>Training facilities are also highlighted as an issue for almost every club. Key priorities include <i>Rockcliffe Park, Middleton St George, Haughton CC, non turf at Cockerton CC, Darlington CC</i></li> <li>The ECB are also seeking to develop cricket through the provision of non turf wickets on public sites in urban areas. Opportunities to provide this type of resource in Darlington Borough will need to be explored</li> <li>While ongoing efforts to improve participation are important, there is a particular need to increase levels of female participation</li> </ul>	

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**Table 3.3 – Rugby Union – Summary and Key Issues**

Summary	Assessment Findings	Specific Facility Issues
<p><b>Supply</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16 rugby union pitches in total. Two of the sites are owned and managed by rugby clubs – Darlington Mowden Park and Darlington RFC and represent half the total stock of rugby pitches in the borough</li> <li>• There are no issues with security of tenure</li> <li>• While pitches at the club sites are standard to good, there remain opportunities for further improvement of pitch capacity at the rugby club sites, particularly in relation to the maintenance procedures that are followed and the installation of drainage systems on pitches that do not currently benefit from this</li> <li>• All pitches at Darlington Mowden Park are floodlit, while only 1.5 pitches at Darlington RFC are floodlit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Darlington Mowden Park - First team pitch good quality, others lower quality but standard. All pitches functional. Maintenance of pitches of a lower standard than previously</li> <li>• Darlington RFC - Maintenance focused on main pitch, pitches four and five have particularly limited maintenance. Second half pitch floodlit but portable floodlights are non-operational. Compaction evident on all pitches, particularly on the training pitch. Pitches 4 and 5 suffer from heavy waterlogging and there remain some drainage issues on pitches 2 and 3 despite installation of drainage systems. The first team pitch frequently suffers from wear and tear due to shared use with football. There are 10 changing rooms on site, 8 of which have communal shower and toilets. Ancillary building would benefit from refurbishment</li> <li>• Limited floodlighting at Darlington RFC</li> </ul>

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<p><b>Demand</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the period 2015 – 2020 there has been an overall increase in participation and there are now 34 rugby union teams. The number of adult and mini teams has increased but there has been a slight reduction in the number of junior teams.</li> <li>• Both amateur clubs have a spread of teams across the age groups and are strong and stable clubs. There are also opportunities to participate at a variety of standards of play.</li> <li>• As is common with rugby clubs nationwide, and reflecting the situation in 2015, training takes place at the club bases. Training at DMP (excluding Elizabethans) equates to 6.5 MES per week, while there is 5.5 MES at Darlington RFC</li> <li>• The strong club base is underpinned by comparatively high levels of participation in schools, with all schools with a rugby union pitch playing rugby union at least during term time. All secondary schools enter schools rugby competitions each year and tag rugby is also played at several primary schools</li> <li>• In addition to the capacity pressures currently experienced, higher projected population growth figures suggest that up to 4 additional teams may be generated</li> <li>• County Durham PPS identified some rugby league activity taking place at Darlington RUFC. No rugby league was identified at this site at the time of the preparation of this PPS. Should this recommence, there is very little impact on the ability of the site to sustain rugby union as rugby league is played during the summer months, but the use of the pitches during the summer may impact summer renovation works.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Adequacy of Provision</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The single first team pitch at Darlington Mowden Park / Darlington Arena is just able to accommodate the match play and training demand from the two teams at Darlington Elizabethans. The strong quality / maintenance rating on this pitch is essential in this being achieved</li> <li>• There is however insufficient capacity on the remainder of the site to accommodate the teams from DMP RFC. Even without taking into account training requirements, there is overplay (2.5 match equivalents) and when training is also considered, this increases to overplay equivalent to 9 match equivalent sessions</li> <li>• Supply and demand is also tightly balanced at Darlington RFC. Pitches are able to sustain the required level of match play (even taking into account the impact of football and American Football Usage) (spare capacity 2.75) but when including the demand from training, there is overplay of 2.75 match equivalents. In part, this can be attributed to the poor quality and maintenance ratings of two pitches (which reduces capacity significantly)</li> <li>• With overplay already evident, the impact of additional population growth (4 teams) could not be accommodated without action</li> <li>• Both clubs also have significant aspirations for ongoing development and this would lead to</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overplay at both sites (11.75 MES total)</li> <li>• Lack of access to appropriate training facilities for both clubs</li> <li>• Opportunities to improve maintenance regimes to enhance respective site capacities</li> </ul>



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	further deficiencies in provision.	
<b>Key Issues for Strategy to address</b>	<p>Improvements to capacity are key priority for both rugby clubs. This may be generated through a variety of means, including AGPs, enhanced maintenance, floodlighting and new pitches. The key issues are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• While Darlington RFC currently has capacity for match play, there is a need to increase capacity to accommodate training. A minimum of 3 floodlit pitches are needed for training activity. With up to 17 MES demand projected across both match play and training, demand can be accommodated within the existing infrastructure but improvements are needed to enhance capacity. Club facilities are also highlighted as in need of refurbishment as they are dated and not meeting RFU requirements. The club are however keen to improve the facilities that they have through the provision of an AGP</li> <li>• At Darlington MP, excluding the needs of Darlington Elizabethans, at least four floodlit pitches of high quality (M3 / D3) are required (meaning that additional pitches are needed) and when taking into account population growth, this need will increase further.</li> </ul>	

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**Table 3.4 – Summary and Key Issues – Hockey**

Summary	Assessment Findings	Specific Facility Issues
<b>Supply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Since the 2015 PPS, a new sand based AGP has been provided at Carmel College. This is now the only sand-based facility, and therefore the only pitch suitable for hockey in the Borough</li> <li>Reflecting the recent installation of the new pitch, the quality of the pitch is good and the clubs are happy with the facility. Added to this, there is a strong relationship between the college and the school meaning that there are good foundations for the further development of hockey.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key priority for clubs is ongoing investment into pitch maintenance to ensure longevity of pitch surface</li> </ul>
<b>Demand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are two clubs playing in Darlington Borough and demand has increased significantly since the creation of the new facility</li> <li>Darlington HC are the largest club and they accommodate 3 male and 2 female senior teams as well as a large and increasing junior section</li> <li>Bishop Auckland HC travel from Durham to use the pitch at Carmel College and are displaced</li> <li>The club are also running Hockey Heroes, with a view to increasing participation in the junior age groups</li> <li>The club use training sessions at 4 hours per week and access to the pitch is required for 3 MES at peak time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bishop Auckland HC are looking to relocate to Durham if a new facility is provided (linking with priorities in the Durham PPS)</li> </ul>
<b>Adequacy of Provision</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For training, the hockey clubs are given priority access to the facility on midweek evenings and there is therefore scope to increase the amount of hockey played at the site if demand increases</li> <li>At peak time, the facility is again dedicated to hockey and has capacity to accommodate 4 MES, and spare capacity therefore equates to 1 MES</li> <li>TGRs indicate that population growth alone is likely to generate very little additional participation. Instead, it is likely that club development activity will produce the biggest increases in demand.</li> <li>If England Hockey aspirations for growth are met, provision would be insufficient post 2029. These aspirations are however particularly high given the very recent significant increases that Darlington HC have experienced. The relocation of Bishop Auckland HC back to Durham would however generate additional capacity for Darlington HC to use at Carmel College</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing facility adequate to meet current demand with some spare capacity for the club to grow</li> <li>Extensive growth in club participation would see additional capacity needed. This is likely to be post 2029 at the earliest</li> </ul>
<b>Key Issues for Strategy to address</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The existing facility is valuable for hockey and is required to meet long term hockey need</li> <li>Ongoing investment into pitch maintenance is seen as the key priority as this will ensure longevity of the pitch surface</li> </ul>	

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**Table 3.5 – Summary and Key Issues for Tennis**

Summary	Assessment Findings	Specific Facility Issues
<b>Supply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision remains broadly consistent with 2015 – there are 29 tennis courts on 10 sites available for public use and 40 courts across Darlington Borough in total.</li> <li>• There remain 12 floodlit courts located at New Blackwell Tennis Club (4), Longfield Academy (5) and Darlington Education Village (3)</li> <li>• Quality of tennis facilities is relatively static, with public facilities generally of poor quality and school facilities standard. The courts at Wellfield Tennis Club also require resurfacing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Courts at Wellfield Tennis Club require resurfacing</li> <li>• Quality of public courts require improvement if drive to increase participation is to be led by these sites</li> </ul>
<b>Demand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LTA insight developed since 2015 highlights the importance of parks courts in providing a rounded offer for tennis, indicating that it is in parks where most people start their tennis journey. In response to this, The LTA is now prioritising facilities in parks and is working to implement solutions across the country. They have successfully developed technology that improves the customer journey to court, which involves the use of an access gate with keypad entry that is connected to the Clubspark venue management system.</li> <li>• Access to public facilities across Darlington Borough is currently free of charge and access is unmanaged and actual levels of participation are therefore unknown. Clubs believe that the limited public facilities negatively impacts on the number of tennis players in the Borough</li> <li>• Both Stanhope Park and Brinkburn Dene are identified as having potential to meet significant latent demand for tennis as both have greater potential penetration of 1000 people or more within their catchments. Stanhope Park is identified as a priority site, ranked the 506th priority nationwide</li> <li>• The same two tennis clubs evident in 2015 remain in 2020. LTA affiliation data suggests that New Blackwell Tennis Club has seen a slight increase in participation overall (although there has been a decline in the number of members between 2017/18 and 2018/19 seasons, while the number of members at Wellfield Tennis Club is static.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LTA see implementing new technological systems at public courts as a key way of increasing demand for tennis and ensuring that public facilities are sustainable and quality playing facilities can be provided for residents long term. Stanhope Park identified as particular priority</li> </ul>

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<p><b>Adequacy of Provision</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Based upon current levels of participation, there are sufficient facilities to accommodate demand overall at a baseline level but insufficient if theoretical modelling levels are achieved. Both of these scenarios represent a significant increase on current participation in the borough. This is supported by analysis of the usage of existing facilities, which suggests that there are opportunities to increase the amount of people using both public courts and school facilities</li> <li>the slight growth in participation since the previous strategy has resulted in club bases now reaching their capacity. Consultation with the clubs highlights that this represents the actual situation, with clubs now struggling to accommodate all activity within their existing infrastructure.</li> <li>New players generated through population growth can be accommodated if existing participation does not increase, however if maximum participation scenarios are achieved, new facilities will be needed</li> <li>There is therefore scope to maximise the use of existing facilities before new courts are required.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Darlington Education Village / Longfield Academy offer particular potential to increase usage as their courts are floodlit, which increases the playing season</li> <li>Both existing clubs are at capacity. Scope to increase floodlighting (New Blackwell) or add floodlighting (Wellfield) to ensure members can be better accommodated</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Issues for Strategy to address</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is a need to protect the existing stock of courts</li> <li>There is thought to be scope to increase the amount of usage of public facilities, with no proactive marketing or promotion and no monitoring of use. LTA insight also suggests that usage of public facilities increases when more structured access is provided (improving the customer journey through online resources, controlled access etc) and see improvement to facilities in Darlington as a key priority. This would require both qualitative improvements to the courts and the introduction of technological solutions to ensure that long term, residents have access to quality, sustainable provision</li> <li>While there is spare capacity at schoolsites, club bases are at capacity and there is little room for growth without compromising the player experience. There is a potential requirement for floodlighting at both club sites and courts at Wellfield TC also require resurfacing</li> <li>There is opportunity to tailor new programmes for tennis at school sites to increase usage of courts. The Education Village and Longfield Academy represent a particular opportunity as they have floodlit courts. Improvements may be required to school sites to improve desirability. Polam Hall School are also keen to grow the school facilities.</li> </ul>	

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**Table 3.6 – Summary and Key Issues for Bowls**

Summary	Assessment Findings	Specific Facility Issues
<b>Supply</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are 7 sites containing functional bowling greens and one derelict green at South Park</li> <li>• Further improvements to facilities required at North Lodge Park, South Park and North Park</li> <li>• Self-management model working effectively</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Derelict green at South Park</li> <li>• improvements to facilities required at North Lodge Park, South Park and North Park</li> </ul>
<b>Demand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All greens have at least one active bowls club</li> <li>• All clubs have capacity for new members and are actively recruiting</li> <li>• Sustainability remains key priority</li> </ul>	
<b>Adequacy of Provision</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no evidence of demand for additional facilities, as all responding clubs indicate that they have scope to accommodate existing members and participation remains static. This means that club membership remains only around average levels</li> <li>• existing infrastructure also sufficient to meet projected needs unless participation reaches highest target level in which more facilities may be required. Increases in number of players will improve sustainability of existing facility network</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No additional greens required to meet demand, but all existing infrastructure important to retain</li> </ul>
<b>Key Issues for Strategy to address</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All existing active greens are required to meet current and projected future demand</li> <li>• Qualitative improvements are necessary if facilities are to continue to meet local needs</li> <li>• Clubs require support to improve participation and recruit new members.</li> </ul>	

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**Table 3.7 – Summary and Key Issues for Indoor Sport**

Summary	2015 Recommendations	Specific Facility Issues	Issues and Options
<p><b>Swimming Pools</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sufficient quantity of waterspace to meet the needs of Darlington residents now and in the future</li> <li>• The Dolphin plays a key role in swimming provision and the size, quality and location means it is well placed to do so</li> <li>• Continue to invest in the Dolphin Centre</li> <li>• Protect all existing provision</li> <li>• Education based should be protected</li> <li>• Seek to invest in the school pool network to facilitate greater community use and access</li> <li>• Co-ordinate usage and programming across pools and develop a joint approach to programming across the available waterspace</li> <li>• Maximize effectiveness of waterspace for different aquatic disciplines; particularly clubs, Darlington Swimming Club</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2018 FPM analysis confirms there continues to be a positive balance of supply exceeding demand</li> <li>• Increased usage at the pools from residential development, will however impact on swimming pools in the Borough, and the usage will add significantly to the management and maintenance costs of the public swimming pool sites</li> <li>• Capacity at pools will be more stretched</li> <li>• This is exacerbated as Wyvern Pool requires significant repair and is currently not being used</li> <li>• Hummersknott, Longfield and Education Village remain open, with increased hours</li> <li>• The 2015 strategy saw £900k investment in the Dolphin Centre</li> <li>• There are greater aquatic activities taking place across the stock</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to maintain and Protect current swimming pool stock</li> <li>• Continued education access remains important; support Education Village, Humersknott and Longfield to maintain supply and demand balance and access</li> <li>• Increased pressure on the Dolphin centre means it will continue to be a priority for investment</li> <li>• Seek contributions from developments of 300 plus houses to enhance the swimming pool stock</li> <li>• Continue current strategy; programming will become increasingly important as pressure on capacity increases</li> <li>• Impact of Wyvern closure (200m2) will impact on the supply and demand in balance.</li> <li>• Growth will also impact on water space needs in the region of 73-186m2</li> <li>• These two issues will mean waterspace needs will start to move into deficit</li> <li>• It will therefore be important to keep swimming pool needs under review and monitor the impacts of closure and growth in the long-term.</li> </ul>



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<p><b>Sports Halls</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect existing levels of sports hall provision</li> <li>• future sports hall provision should set out a need based on sports development and NGB requirements as opposed to general community needs</li> <li>• Explore the potential to deliver more flexible activity spaces</li> <li>• Support the enhancement of the current network of sports hall facilities on an on-going basis</li> <li>• Explore the opportunities for enhanced community access at sports halls on school sites. Seek to enhance provision and access at key sites for community sport and club / NGB use e.g. Futsal at Longfield</li> <li>• Focus on Hurworth School and Darlington College. Sites where community use is currently limited</li> <li>• Carmel College sports hall is now over 40-years old and poor quality. Polam Hall School does not have a sports hall</li> <li>• Support upgrades to the community centre network to facilitate greater community use for sport and physical activity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2018 FPM analysis reflects the 2013 work</li> <li>• There remains a positive balance of supply exceeding demand across Darlington Borough by 13.2 badminton courts</li> <li>• Halls are also well located to meet current and future demand</li> <li>• New demand generated by residential development up to 2036, can be met by the existing Darlington supply of sports halls</li> <li>• However there will be increase in usage/throughput across the sports hall sites, which will have impacts, the capacity at sports halls will be more stretched. This will be further exacerbated if school sports hall access is reduced</li> <li>• There is capacity to cope but there will be impacts, particularly at Dolphin Centre; <i>need for on-going investment and modernisation</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to maintain and Protect current sports hall stock</li> <li>• Continued education access important Priorities (see next slide)</li> <li>• Continued priority on Carmel and Pollam</li> <li>• Priority to address community use issues at Hurworth</li> <li>• Increased pressure on the Dolphin centre; priority for investment</li> <li>• Seek contributions from developments of 300 plus houses to enhance the sports hall stock</li> <li>• Consider investment in community centre network and small studio spaces to deliver physical activity agenda, particularly as part of masterplanning for strategic growth sites</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Indoor Tennis</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are no indoor tennis courts in Darlington</li> <li>• Darlington is a priority for indoor tennis development for the LTA</li> <li>• LTA also wish to see improvement to outdoor provision on park and community sites</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are currently no indoor courts in Darlington</li> <li>• The LTA have run a demand analysis of the catchment area using a twenty-minute drive time around a focal point in Darlington</li> <li>• The analysis demonstrates that there is a total population of 346,255 which provides a potential tennis demand of 54,435</li> <li>• When developing a new community indoor tennis centre the LTA look for a minimum potential tennis demand of 12,500, therefore the potential demand in Darlington exceeds the threshold</li> <li>• Darlington has therefore now been identified as a strategic location to develop indoor courts as part of the new LTA 5 Year Strategy. One of 72 target locations</li> <li>• Local tennis clubs have an aspiration for indoor provision</li> <li>• Polam Hall School have also expressed an interest in developing an indoor tennis venue</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aspirations from both clubs and the LTA to develop indoor provision in Darlington</li> <li>• Early discussions were held in the context of the Darlington Sports Village project about potential indoor tennis but affordability and viability concerns meant this was not progressed</li> <li>• There is a need to evaluate the feasibility / viability of any potential indoor tennis centres</li> <li>• There is also a need to focus upon the improvement of tennis development pathways and the outdoor tennis offer.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Indoor Bowls</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and enhance the current Darlington Indoor Bowls Centre (DIBC). 8 rinks. On rink per 14-17,000 people.</li> <li>• The current centre requires some refurbishment, with a need to incorporate new disability provision and improvements to changing and toilet provision</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• England Indoor Bowls Association confirm that DIBC remains the only indoor centre in the borough</li> <li>• There are 4 other centres in 30-minute drive-time.</li> <li>• Membership is declining, there are only 178 members (well below the 54 members per rink average)</li> <li>• Centre meets current and future needs</li> <li>• Sustainability is a key issue, other sites</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to protect and enhance DIBC to support its long-term sustainability</li> </ul>



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		in the catchment could potentially meet needs in terms of capacity	
<b>Athletics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect and Enhance Eastbourne Athletics Track</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eastbourne Sports Complex offers an eight-lane, county standard, synthetic athletics track, with a full-range of track and field events, floodlighting and athletics equipment. Opened in 1999</li> <li>Track and club has continued to thrive. The track is home to Darlington Harriers and is also use Darlington Quakers and Tri Club. There is also strong usage from the school sports partnership</li> <li>The Darlington Harriers is the 6th largest athletics club in the in the North East with 349 affiliated members. Important club in England Athletics eyes.</li> <li>Darlington has a strong athletics infrastructure</li> <li>The Eastbourne track is however ageing and is reaching the end of its useful life. Given the deterioration its main purpose is as a training venue</li> <li>Operationally the Eastbourne site has a number of challenges, which do not help with the sustainability of the track</li> <li>Eastbourne track is an important provision in the regional picture, any loss would result in a strategic gap in</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council are keen to ensure any investment in athletics at Eastbourne maximises both the usage of the site and the long-term sustainability of the whole Eastbourne facility. The Council recognise that athletics in the town is strong and provision is required. The sport is well established in the town and there is no desire to see it stop, the Council are keen to find a solution.</li> <li>The sport can contribute to health and well-being outcomes, but there are questions whether a redeveloped 8-lane track at Eastbourne and the investment required would provide the best return to support Council Plan outcomes</li> <li>An options appraisal has been undertaken, which sets out a number of options</li> <li>Given the strength of athletics across Darlington a hybrid or compact option is not seen as a long-term solution. There is also questions about the compatibility of football and athletics provision at Eastbourne, in whatever form.</li> </ul>





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		provision	
<b>Golf</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Golf provision in line with national and local needs; prioritising practice facilities for beginners and learners to introduce people to the game</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Darlington Golf Club now have a fully operational 6 bay driving range following a successful Inspired Facilities application</li> <li>Dinsdale Spa have also developed their practice ground so more golfers can access it. A driving range would still be an ambition</li> <li>The quality of the courses has improved especially at Blackwell Grange but they are still to re-develop the clubhouse</li> <li>Clubs are struggling to retain members however and some are under threat</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Currently there is sufficient golf provision and all clubs are committed to growing participation and membership</li> <li>Maximising use at existing provision still remains a high priority, particularly amongst key target groups of juniors and women and also ensuring that the game can be played quicker</li> <li>Darlington Golf club to potentially be re-located as part of the Skerningham sites development (which is now designated as a Garden Community site). It is anticipated that the golf course would be relocated after around 5-7 years of development commencing. Needs to be assessed at the time.</li> </ul>



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

### 4.0 Strategic Direction, Action Plans, Implementation, Monitoring and Review

#### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This section builds upon the updated assessment and summarises the priority recommendations that will be undertaken to support the delivery of indoor and outdoor sports in the Borough. As in 2015, each recommendation will contribute to the achievement of the strategy vision, which is:

*'to develop a comprehensive, robust, up to date and user friendly assessment of sports provision and need in Darlington to ensure that the right amount and type of sports facilities are protected, and where appropriate enhanced to provide a range of quality, accessible and safe facilities, in the right place at the right time to meet the needs of the community now and in 2026.'*

4.1.2 The recommendations have been developed using those agreed in 2015 as a base, and taking into account the changes that have been made to the infrastructure and the new priorities that have arisen in the period 2015 – 2020. Together, these policies and recommendations guide decision making on the future delivery of indoor and outdoor sports facilities across the borough.

#### Strategic Direction

4.1.3 The strategy continues to be based upon the following principles:

- **Ensure any new or re-developed provision in the borough is developed in-line with the Sports Facility and PPS Strategy priorities and the needs and evidence set out** - Ensure planners adopt the evidence base as appropriate and the strategy and action plan directs funding
- **The strategy will focus on a hierarchy of facilities – prioritising strategic hub sites and supporting links between sports** – recognising the benefits and long term sustainability of larger sites and of those providing for multiple sports, the strategy will promote the use of larger facilities and the co-location of facilities
- **Focus will be placed on maximising resources** – the strategy will seek to maximise the capacity and function of facilities and to ensure that provision is adapted to meet



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with future requirements. This will include the continued use of school sites, which play a critical role in the provision of sports facilities in Darlington Borough

- **Sustainability is a key focus** – all recommendations seek to deliver new and improved facilities in a sustainable manner, focusing on large sites that are efficient and effective to maintain, maximising the capacity of sites, supporting well established clubs and promoting good practice
- **Quality of facilities is as important as the amount of provision** – the strategy seeks to ensure that the borough contains the right amount of facilities, of the right quality and in the right place. While it promotes protection of current provision, it recognises the need to improve the quality of existing facilities and the subsequent investment required
- **Investment will focus upon interventions that will have the greatest impact** – the strategy seeks to prioritise investment into sites where the highest impact will be felt and where high numbers of users will benefit. It will seek to increase participation in sport and activity in terms of both numbers and standards.

4.1.4 The strategy seeks to promote partnership working, not only between users and providers of facilities, but also between different sports. There are many benefits of joint working and knowledge sharing, and partnership working will be increasingly important if the needs of all sports are to be met.

### **Strategic Objectives**

4.1.5 The objectives for the strategy document remain the same. In recognition of the increasing role that more informal, recreational based activity has to play in sports participation, an additional objective has however been added, which is to facilitate opportunities for recreational activity.

4.1.6 Based on the needs and evidence set out, for all sports, Darlington Borough Council and its partners will seek to:

#### ***Protect***

- SO1: Safeguard all existing sports facilities in line with Paragraph 97 of the National Planning Policy Framework, irrespective of ownership and the degree of access and use.



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This strategy will clearly define any facilities that are not required to meet current or projected future needs

- SO2: Protect access to sports facilities by promoting long term agreements with schools and other landowners to facilitate ongoing investment and improvement
- SO3: Maximise community use of indoor and outdoor sports facilities where this will benefit the overall facility stock.

### **Enhance**

- SO4: Ensure that the quality of facilities provided is appropriate to the level and standard of play that is sustained and that it promotes participation in sport
- SO5: Ensure that sports facilities are accompanied by appropriate ancillary facilities (e.g. sports lighting and changing provision)
- SO6: Ensure that facilities are maintained appropriately for the activities that they are sustaining and to maximise long term capacity
- SO7: Work in partnership with key stakeholders and voluntary organisations to secure funding.

### **Provide**

- SO8: Address existing deficiencies in provision
- SO9: Ensure that new developments contribute towards the provision of new sports facilities and the enhancement of existing facilities
- SO10: Support clubs in the management and development of facilities
- SO11: Support the creation of appropriate facilities in order to provide informal recreational opportunities.

### **Recommendations**

- 4.1.7 The sport specific recommendations are set out in the Sections that follow. They link to the above strategic objectives and outline the key priorities for each sport.
- 4.1.8 For ease of reference, recommendations are summarised by sport and justifications for each recommendation, drawing upon the evidence presented in the assessment are provided.
- 4.1.9 An action plan setting out how the recommendations will be delivered and measured is provided later in this document.

## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy



### 4.2 Recommendations

#### Football

Link to Strategic Objectives	Recommendation	Justification	Relevant Sites
<b>S01 (Protect)</b>	1 Protect active stock of football pitches in Darlington through the inclusion of appropriate policy in the Darlington Local Plan. Any pitches which are not required to be retained will be documented in the site by site table at the end of this strategy.	There are existing and projected deficiencies in football provision and a consequential need to ensure that all facilities are available for future need.	n/a
<b>S02 (Protect)</b>	2 Protect existing security of access with timely negotiation of community use agreements with schools and with landowners where appropriate. Ensure that existing community use agreements are delivered and renewed.  Secure community use at other key venues that currently offer community use without any long term guarantees	Existing school sites are central to the provision for football in Darlington. Loss of these facilities would generate significant issues	Maintaining relationships - Longfield Academy, Hummersknott Academy, Carmel College, Wyvern College, The Education Village  Securing community use – Hurworth School, Gurney Pease Academy, St Aidans RC High School



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<p><b>SO8 (Provide)</b></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Provide additional capacity in the Borough for training and match play through;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring that all 3G pitches remain on the FA pitch register</li> <li>Maximising the use of existing AGPs for match play as well as training</li> <li>the provision of one additional AGP. The new facility should meet with FA specification and constructed to appropriate standard for inclusion on the FA 3G pitch register</li> <li>pitch quality and maintenance improvements (see R4)</li> <li>additional grass pitch provision linking with existing clubs and / or new housing developments where explicit need is identified and where housing development is of sufficient size to provide on site facility (with appropriate ancillary provision)</li> </ul>	<p>FA demand modelling indicates that one additional AGP is required to meet current demand and this is reflected in the analysis of existing AGP usage, which demonstrates that facilities are at capacity.</p> <p>In addition, there is scope to accommodate further play on the existing AGPs. Longer term, population growth may generate further demand for an additional AGP and this should be monitored.</p> <p>While there are pressures on existing grass pitches, there are several unused sites and some scope to increase usage of other large sites.</p> <p>This should be considered prior to new provision being required elsewhere. The location of housing developments however may mean that new grass pitch provision to enable the set up of a new club is required to service the larger strategic growth areas</p>	<p>All pitches require regular testing to ensure that they remain on the FA pitch register. The pitch at Hummersknott Academy has recently been resurface to ensure that its registration is retained</p> <p>New AGP - LFFP suggests opportunity for second pitch at Eastbourne Sports Complex or Wyvern Academy. Viability assessment required to determine most appropriate location. Hurworth School have also expressed an interest, however community use at the school site is currently limited.</p> <p>Work with sports clubs to maximise use of key sites – Carmel College has recently received investment to improve pitch quality and currently has no community use (although the site is available).</p> <p>Opportunity to provide small multi pitch site on strategic growth area in order to facilitate the creation of new local club from new population (and to mitigate the capacity pressures that the new population will generate).</p>
<p><b>SO4, SO5, SO6, SO7 - Enhance</b></p>	<p>4</p>	<p>Address current and potential longer term issues with the quality of football provision by initially improving the existing pitch stock as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improving existing poor quality pitches (focusing on sites where quality</li> </ul>	<p>Capacity is limited by poor quality pitches and there is a real danger that more pitches will fall into the poor category, which will exacerbate existing capacity issues.</p> <p>Higher quality pitches have greater capacity to sustain play without deterioration. Scenario testing demonstrates that a reduction in quality (leading to a reduction in capacity) would exacerbate the existing pressures on pitches.</p>	<p><b>Key Sites;</b> Impacting quality;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wyvern Academy (currently poor).</li> <li>Heighington Playing Fields (currently poor and one pitch frequently out of use), pavilion also requires upgrade</li> </ul> <p>Sites where play is high / close to capacity;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Darlington RA – Pitch Improvements</li> </ul>

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	<p>impacts capacity, pitches sustaining higher levels of use and multi pitch sites). This should focus upon;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investment into pitch maintenance, including engagement with FA Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP)</li> <li>• Capital investment to address pitch issues identified through engagement with PIP</li> <li>• Improvement of ancillary facilities where there is an identified need</li> <li>• Supporting improvement to facilities required to meet pyramid clubs</li> <li>• Fencing pitches in public parks where quality becomes an issue due to public use</li> <li>• Resurfacing AGPs where required to maintain inclusion on 3G pitch register</li> </ul> <p>Focus activity for competitive football on key hub sites and improve the quality of these facilities. This maximises the opportunities for large clubs. There is potential that this may mean that single pitch sites receive</p>	<p>Focusing upon larger, multi pitch sites ensures both a cost effective approach to provision, but also ensures that the needs of the larger clubs are more effectively met.</p>	<p>(surface is poor, compacted), ancillary facilities also require improvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Longfield Academy – Pitch improvements (showing signs of compaction, heavy usage,</li> <li>• Hummersknott Academy – pitch surface adequate but would benefit from maintenance improvements to ensure usage can be sustained</li> </ul> <p>Multi pitch sites / sites that are valuable to football and / or offer potential to increase usage if quality was improved;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Education Village (limited quality, uneven and undulating, deteriorated since previous PPS)</li> <li>• Eastbourne Sports Complex</li> <li>• HACSA Sports Field (grass cover / ancillary provision), no ancillary provision</li> </ul> <p>Other opportunities – Tommy Crooks Park (currently limited use and large site). Pitch requires improvement alongside provision of new changing facilities.</p> <p>AGPs –All AGPs currently meet quality standards, but require ongoing maintenance and timely resurfacing to ensure that this is retained</p>
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		<p>less formal use longer term – these should instead be promoted for informal football opportunities.</p> <p>Opportunities for clubs to lease sites should be considered where this could bring overall improvements to quality.</p>		
<b>SO9 (Provide)</b>	5	<p>Identify a solution for the future of Darlington FC in order to secure the clubs’ long term future and ensure that participation and progression is not inhibited by facilities</p>	<p>While the club currently ground shares with the rugby club, significant works may be required if the team continues to progress through the football pyramid in order to bring the facility to the level required.</p>	<p>Darlington FC</p>
<b>SO11 (provide)</b>	6	<p>Proactively appropriate facilities to support recreational football. To maximise the sustainability and use these spaces, as well as the benefits to the local community, this action should be delivered as part of a joined up approach with other sports. This should include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proactive identification of sites</li> <li>• Exploration of opportunities to effectively introduce football activity – for example gate technology on MUGAs, organised informal activity in partnership with other governing bodies. There is</li> </ul>	<p>Recreational football is becoming increasingly important and is now a key priority of the FF and FA. Football, linked with other sports, provides an opportunity to get increasing numbers of people active as well as to maximise the usage of some existing facilities that are under utilised.</p> <p>The governing bodies of each sport are all seeking to achieve the same goals – increasing activity and knowledge sharing would maximise the benefits of a partnership approach.</p>	<p>LFFP prioritise several grass pitch sites as offering opportunities for informal football. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Lodge Park</li> <li>• North Park</li> <li>• South Park</li> <li>• Coleridge Centre</li> </ul> <p>There are also several floodlit MUGAs located across Darlington that would benefit from better utilisation, specifically;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Firth Moor Community Centre</li> <li>• Middleton St George Community Centre</li> <li>• West Park Academy</li> <li>• Wyvern Academy</li> <li>• Carmel College</li> </ul>





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		potential for MUGAs to support a partnership between football and tennis		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Park</li> <li>• Longfield School</li> <li>• Whinfield Primary</li> <li>• Red Hall</li> <li>• Darlington College</li> <li>• Skerne Park Primary</li> </ul> <p>Opportunities at local MUGAs, as well as above sites should be explored for the promotion of recreational football. There are particular opportunities to explore a partnership with tennis.</p>
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### *Rugby Union*

Link to Strategic Objectives	Recommendation	Justification	Relevant Sites and Key Actions
<b>SO1 (Protect)</b>	1 Ensure that both rugby clubs have access to sufficient facilities in the first instance by protecting existing sites and ensuring that any loss of pitches is only supported where an equivalent or better in terms of capacity is provided.	Both rugby clubs are thriving clubs and require effective facilities in order to continue their activity. Existing facilities are insufficient in capacity terms and the loss of further rugby pitches would be detrimental to rugby in the Borough.	Darlington RFC Darlington Mowden Park RFC
<b>SO8, SO10 (Provide) SO4, SO6 (Protect)</b>	2 Create additional capacity for both rugby clubs as follows;  <b>Darlington Mowden Park (DMP and Elizabethans)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve maintenance and invest in drainage to enhance existing pitches.</li> </ul>	Both rugby clubs are currently overplaying pitches. Pitch capacity can however be improved by enhancing maintenance and investing in drainage.  Scenario modelling reveals that these improvements improve the current picture, but for Darlington Mowden Park, continue to result in insufficient capacity. For Darlington RFC, pitch improvements will enhance capacity and pitches will be able to meet current and projected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DMP / DMP Elizabethans</li> <li>• Darlington RFC</li> </ul>



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide additional pitch capacity to meet increased needs and accommodate all matches and training. This can be delivered in several ways;             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Minimum of 5 grass pitches of high quality (D3 / M3) and all with floodlights</li> <li>- 1 3G AGP, 2 grass pitches and 2 mini pitches – allows small amount of spare capacity on grass pitches but assumes that all rugby training takes place on the AGP. Any use of the grass pitches for rugby training would mean additional pitches are required. Four senior grass pitches (3 floodlit) and 2 mini pitches as a minimum are required in addition to an AGP if training takes place on grass</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>future demand.</p> <p>Any AGPs that are to be used for rugby union activity should be WR Reg 22 compliant, with retesting every 2 years to sustain certification.</p>	
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## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

		<p><b>Darlington RFC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve maintenance to a minimum of D2 on all pitches</li> <li>• Support improvements to drainage to a minimum of D2 on all pitches</li> <li>• Provide additional floodlights – 3 floodlit pitches are required to effectively meet training needs</li> </ul> <p>There is potential that an AGP available to both clubs could be created. While located at the home base for one club, this could be used for training by the second club, therefore reducing the demand for additional facilities. This should be explored further but should be considered separate to the proposed new AGP for football (ie. the new AGP for football is not able to cater for rugby need).</p>		
<b>S05 (Enhance)</b>	3	Support rugby clubs in the provision of appropriate ancillary facilities.	<p>Social facilities and appropriate changing provision are a key component of a successful rugby club.</p> <p>The RFU provides guidelines as to the facilities that should be expected and the specifications that should be met. Darlington RFC indicate that their existing facilities do not meet current needs and require upgrade.</p>	Darlington RFC



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

### ***Rugby League***

Link to Strategic Objectives	Recommendation	Justification	Relevant Sites and Key Actions
<b>SO1 (Protect)</b>	1 There is no existing club activity for rugby league. The Durham PPS identified use of Darlington RFC but this was not evident at the time of the preparation of this PPS. New developmental activity has however started at Eastbourne Sports Complex in the last few weeks.	Rugby league activity only just started within Borough.	Monitor demand for rugby league and ensure access to adequate pitch provision if the need arises

### ***Cricket***

Link to Strategic Objectives	Recommendation	Justification	Relevant Sites and Key Actions
<b>SO1 (Protect)</b>	1 Safeguard all existing cricket facilities. All active sites should be protected. All former cricket grounds should be evaluated as to whether they provide an opportunity to provide additional facilities (See Recommendation 2)	Existing provision only just adequate to meet demand  Former pitch sites	All sites



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

<p><b>S02 (Protect)</b></p> <p><b>S08</b></p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Ensure clubs have access to facilities required to sustain current activities by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting Haughton CC to secure long term access to their ground</li> <li>Working with clubs at capacity to deliver additional facilities to meet current / projected future need</li> </ul>	<p>Haughton CC have only rolling annual lease on their ground. Loss of this pitch would see provision become insufficient. Lack of long term security also limits access to funding for the club.</p> <p>Cricket in the borough is becoming constrained by facilities. Darlington RA are close to capacity at the current time and their aspirations for growth cannot be met within the confines of existing provision.</p>	<p>New Lease – Haughton CC</p> <p>New provision (anticipated 1 pitch) to be delivered through;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New pitch on urban extension</li> <li>Provision of facilities at a school site</li> <li>Reinstatement of facilities at former cricket ground.</li> </ul> <p>Any new site, however delivered, should link with an existing club and function as a satellite facility. The club should be involved in the development of the site.</p>
<p><b>S04 (Enhance)</b></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Work with clubs to prioritise improvements to the quality of existing cricket club bases. Key areas for improvement relate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance procedures                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wicket and outfield condition (including drainage)</li> <li>surface levelling</li> <li>changing pavilions.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>All pitches should be fit for the purposes they are intended and club bases should meet with NGB specifications.</p> <p>All sites for cricket should include</p>	<p>The need for pitches to sustain high levels of use means that quality is essential if resources are to be maximised. This will be particularly important if aspirations to increase participation are achieved. The capacity of wickets that are not good quality is reduced and this therefore directly impacts upon the number of games that can be sustained. There is a particular need to improve provision at Cockerton CC, Middleton St George CC, Haughton CC and Darlington RA.</p> <p>ECB Research demonstrates that ancillary facilities are as important as the actual pitch in attracting new players and retaining existing facilities.</p> <p>The quality of cricket facilities is essential in the enjoyment and delivery of the game.</p>	<p><b>Facility Quality</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cockerton Cricket Club – flooding / drainage</li> <li>Darlington CC – root growth / poor bounce. Square requires relaying</li> <li>Darlington RA – levelling of outfield/ wear and tear</li> <li>Rockcliffe Park – outfield requires levelling</li> <li>Haughton CC – outfield is uneven</li> </ul> <p><b>Ancillary Provision</b></p> <p>Haughton CC – pavilion in poor condition                  Middleton St George – pavilion in poor condition, windows and doors leak and no showers or heating provided                  Rockcliffe Pak – seeking standalone</p>



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

		full changing accommodation and shelter as well as appropriate parking.		clubhouse
<b>S04 S05 S06 (Enhance)</b>	4	<p>Support cricket clubs in the improvement of training facilities to enhance club sustainability and improve overall performance. This should include improvements (or provision of) both appropriate training nets and artificial wickets for all clubs. The aspiration is for all clubs to have;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least one artificial wicket</li> <li>• Access to appropriate training nets</li> </ul>	Lack of training facilities negatively impacts upon the overall capacity of a club, the attractiveness of a club and the quality of cricket that can be played. Artificial wickets can be used for both training and junior match play, meaning that they improve match capacity as well as training opportunities. Artificial wickets provide an effective way of more easily and cost effectively managing junior fixtures.	<p>Cockerton CC – Non turf                  Darlington RA – Non turf. Review required to practice area                  Darlington RA Non turf practice nets and mobile net cage                  Rockcliffe Park –practice training facility                  Haughton CC – renovations to non turf wicket                  Middleton St George – non turf wicket</p>
<b>S04 (Enhance)</b>	5	Support clubs to obtain appropriate maintenance equipment to enable the improvement of quality issues and ensure the ongoing sustainability of cricket in the Borough.	Maintenance of pitches is a key component of quality. Without effective maintenance, capital investment is futile and pitches are unsustainable long term. Cricket in particular requires dedicated maintenance and technical competence. Technical reports have been prepared to support this assessment.	
<b>S03 (protect) S07 (enhance), S08, S011 (provide)</b>	6	Investigate opportunities to create a new informal cricket venue for public use in Darlington Borough.	<p>Current ECB priorities include the development of non turf wickets in order to generate interest in informal cricket. This may have a knock on benefit on demand for midweek and / or formal club cricket.</p> <p>Consideration should be given as to whether there is potential for joint working with other NGBs in the development of informal sport.</p>	Parks site required



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

<b>S04, S07 (enhance)</b>	7	Support cricket clubs in the implementation of ECB participation schemes in order to enhance sustainability, as well as to address the existing gaps in participation.	The ongoing development of youth and female cricket is essential if cricket is to remain stable in the Borough. The importance of growing female cricket has now taken upon such importance given the existing gap in participation that clubs should be prioritised for facility improvements where they are able to demonstrate commitment to new participation initiatives.	All cricket clubs
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### *Hockey*

Link to Strategic Objectives	Recommendation	Justification	Relevant Sites	
<b>S01 (Protect)</b>	1	Ensure that existing sand based AGP at Carmel College is protected for use by hockey club	Site is important in meeting demand for hockey in the Borough	Carmel College
<b>S04 / S06 (Enhance)</b>	2	Ensure ongoing investment into appropriate maintenance procedures across the lifespan of the pitch to ensure that facility quality is maximised and to maintain the longevity of the new surface	Adequate maintenance will ensure the facility remains fit for purpose to meet the needs of the hockey club for years to come	Carmel College
<b>S08 / S09 (Provide) S03</b>	3	Continue to work in partnership to ensure that the club are able to access a high quality facility and that any issues with the facility are addressed swiftly. It should be ensured that hockey continues to be prioritised on this facility.	This is an important site for hockey. Existing working relationships are positive and should be continued.	Carmel College



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

### Tennis

Link to Strategic Objectives	Recommendation	Justification	Relevant Sites and Key Actions
<b>SO1 (Protect)</b>	1 Retain existing club based tennis courts and seek to improve capacity at these facilities through the addition of floodlighting	Both club bases are now at capacity with no remaining spare for further club members. Floodlighting adds capacity to the existing courts. These clubs deliver at least 50% of tennis in the borough and are therefore valuable in meeting current and future demand	Wellfield Tennis Club New Blackwell Tennis Club
<b>SO4 (enhance)</b>	2 Support clubs in the improvement of facilities where issues have been identified. Both clubs should include access to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• courts of an appropriate standard; and</li> <li>• adequate pavilion (including toilets) and shelter</li> </ul>	Quality of facilities is essential if tennis activity is to be sustained	Courts at Wellfield Tennis Club require resurfacing
<b>SO1, SO2 (protect), SO4, SO5 (enhance), SO8 (Provide)</b>	3 Seek to enhance the value of public tennis courts in the Borough by working alongside the LTA to implement new technological systems to improve the customer journey.  In order to maximise the chances of success, the quality of courts will need to be improved - improvements to the court surface are particularly required.  Following investment into the facilities, it is likely that targeted marketing and organised activities will be necessary to drive interest in	LTA insight demonstrates that public tennis courts are key to improving participation in an area and that new technological advances will help to improve the customer journey and enhance participation significantly. These systems are also able to manage the floodlighting of courts.  Court quality is however essential if these initiatives are to be successful and existing parks sites will require upgrade.  Demand modelling indicates that both public venues have a strong catchment area and therefore demonstrate significant potential penetration for tennis.	Stanhope Park (LTA modelling indicates that this should be priority)  Brinkburn Dene





## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

		<p>the new facilities.</p> <p>Public courts would also benefit from the installation of floodlighting to extend availability.</p>		
<p><b>S01, S02 (protect), S04, S05 (enhance), S08 (Provide)</b></p>	4	<p>Protect school courts and ensure that they offer a clear prospect for community use through qualitative improvements. These should include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• improvements (i.e. floodlighting) to increase the hours of community use, including those on school sites;</li> <li>• quality improvements to tennis courts to enhance the quality of play and skill development (e.g. resurfacing, deep cleaning); and</li> <li>• provision of improved changing and ancillary facilities.</li> </ul> <p>There will also be a need to increase promotional activity (see Recommendation 5 below).</p>	<p>Longer term, facilities on school sites will be an essential part of the tennis infrastructure if supply is to meet demand.</p> <p>The Education Village and Longfield Academy both have floodlights and therefore offer significant opportunity to meet community as well as curricular need. The Education Village is located on the other side of town to the majority of courts and therefore offers potential to provide tennis to a different group of residents than is currently effectively served.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Education Village</li> <li>• Longfield Academy</li> <li>• All other school sites with tennis courts. Polam Hall School have recently expressed interest in working with the LTA</li> </ul>
<p><b>S03 (Protect)</b></p>	5	<p>Increase promotional activity for tennis across the borough linking with school sites and promoting the availability of the public venues that are accessible free of charge. There are also opportunities to improve the opportunities for youth players to join clubs. This should include joint working between the Borough Council and LTA.</p>	<p>Opportunities to increase participation in Darlington Borough and existing sites have capacity to accommodate this additional play.</p> <p>The existing transition into clubs for younger players is poor and there are opportunities for the LTA to work with clubs to improve the offer.</p> <p>There is also a need to improve the visibility, awareness and offer at public venues.</p>	n/a



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

<p><b>SO11 (provide)</b></p>	<p>6</p>	<p>Deliver informal recreational opportunities to participate in sport, including tennis. To maximise the sustainability and use these spaces, as well as the benefits to the local community, this action should be delivered as part of a joined up approach with other sports. This should include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proactive identification of sites</li> <li>• Exploration of opportunities to develop hub sites for informal activity ofr example informal activity in partnership on MUGAs with other governing bodies</li> <li>• Sharing of learning, particularly around technology, with other NGBs</li> </ul>	<p>Recreational football is becoming increasingly important and is now a key priority of the FF and FA. Football, linked with other sports, provides an opportunity to get increasing numbers of people active as well as to maximise the usage of some existing facilities that are under utilised.</p> <p>The governing bodies of each sport are all seeking to achieve the same goals – increasing activity and knowledge sharing would maximise the benefits of a partnership approach.</p>	<p>Opportunities at local MUGAs should be explored, potentially alongside football. The Football Foundation / FA / DBC have identified Firthmoor Community Centre and Middleton St George Community Centre as key potential projects for investment.</p>
<p><b>SO8</b></p>	<p>6</p>	<p>Work alongside the LTA to explore the LTA’s desire to provide an indoor tennis facility in Darlington. This is identified as a strategic target for the LTA.</p> <p>This should include detailed viability and feasibility work, demand modelling and consultation with local clubs and the tennis community.</p>	<p>Darlington Borough has been identified as a key priority for a new indoor tennis centre in LTA insight and is a strategic priority for the LTA. Further research is required to determine whether this facility is required and the opportunities to deliver such a facility sustainability and in a manner that positively impacts tennis in Darlington.</p> <p>Polam Hall School has recently expressed an interest in this opportunity. Polam Hall have identified the requirement for new sports hall provision to meet the needs of the curriculum going forward. Existing indoor sports provision on site is inadequate.</p>	<p>n/a</p>



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

### ***Bowls***

Link to Strategic Objectives	Recommendation	Justification	Relevant Sites and Key Actions
<b>SO1 (Protect)</b>	1 Resist the loss of any club based facilities unless replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location. Former bowling greens that are now redundant are not required to meet current or projected future need.	All existing clubs have capacity to accommodate additional members. All current sites are however well used and the ageing population is likely to positively impact on demand for bowls. There is therefore a need to retain existing facilities and to promote access to these sites.	All clubs
<b>SO4 SO5 SO6 SO7 (Enhance)</b>	2 Support enhancements/upgrades to existing greens where there is evidence that the playing experience is currently impacted and where improvements would lead to increased community use and help to achieve financial sustainability by increasing membership. All bowling greens should include access to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A green of appropriate standard</li> <li>• Adequate pavilion (including toilets) and shelter</li> </ul>	The quality of bowling greens continues to represent the key priority for clubs.	North Lodge – key priorities include reroofing / internal refurbishment, enhancements to bowling green surface, ongoing maintenance  North Park, refers to footpaths, ongoing maintenance of playing surface  South Park – improvement to playing surface to address defective areas,
<b>SO8 (Provide)</b>	3 Support clubs to proactively increase participation and membership. To maximise the sustainability of bowls as a sport, efforts should focus on recruitment of junior players as well as adult and veterans. This is important for the sustainability of	Existing clubs have capacity for additional bowling greens and would benefit from higher memberships.	•



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

		existing clubs as well as the growth of bowls as a sport.		
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### *Indoor Sport*

Link to Strategic Objectives	Recommendation	Justification	Relevant Sites and Key Actions
<b>SO1 (Protect)</b>	1 Resist the loss of any swimming pool or sports hall sites unless replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location. Resist the loss of any other specialist provision unless replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location. Protect West Park Cycling Facility Protect Squash provision in the town Protect Gymnastics at Faverdale; improve facilities internally and support further phase developments Protect Boxing club provision.	All Swimming pool sites are well used and well located to meet current and future demands. The impact of any closures alongside growth would impact on the supply and demand balance.  All sports hall sites are well used and well located to meet current and future demands. The impact of any closures alongside growth would impact on the supply and demand balance.  Specialist sites are well used.	All Swimming Pools  All Sports Halls  All specialist indoor / built facility sites
<b>SO2 (Protect)</b>	2 Protect existing access to swimming pools and sports halls on education sites Ensure timely negotiation of community use agreements with	Existing school sites are central to the provision for swimming in Darlington. Loss of these facilities would impact on overall supply and demand balance Existing school sites are central to the provision for sports halls in Darlington. Loss of these facilities would impact on	Hummersknott Academy, Longfield and Education Village  All School sports hall sites



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

		<p>schools and with landowners where appropriate. Ensure that existing community use agreements are delivered and renewed</p> <p>Secure community use at other key venues that currently offer community use without any long-term guarantees.</p>	overall supply and demand balance	Securing community use at Hurworth School
<b>S04 S05 S06 (Enhance)</b>	3	<p>Support enhancements /upgrades to the existing built facility infrastructure.</p> <p>Enhance West Park Cycling Facility Enhance Squash provision in the town Enhance Gymnastics at Faverdale; improve facilities internally and support further phase developments Enhance Boxing club provision</p>	The quality of facility provision is a key priority.	All sites
<b>S08 and S09 (Provide)</b>	4	<p>Work alongside the LTA to explore the LTA's desire to provide an indoor tennis facility in Darlington. This is identified as a strategic target for the LTA.</p> <p>This should include detailed viability and feasibility work, demand modelling and consultation with local clubs and the tennis community.</p>	<p>LTA modelling demonstrates that Darlington is a key priority for indoor tennis – this is a strategic priority for the LTA.</p> <p>Polam Hall School has recently expressed an interest in this opportunity. Polam Hall have identified the requirement for new sports hall provision to meet the needs of the curriculum going forward. Existing indoor sports provision on site is inadequate.</p>	<p>Polam Hall School Any other potential sites</p>

## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy



<p><b>S08 and S09 (Provide)</b></p>	<p>5</p>	<p>Seek investment to the swimming pool and sports hall infra-structure from major developments of over 300 houses</p> <p>Provide new provision to meet identified gaps</p>	<p>Supply and demand clearly illustrates that there will be impacts of the projected growth that will require financial contributions. This will be exacerbated if the supply changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Polam School Sports Hall</li> <li>• Carmel School Sports Hall</li> <li>• Small flexible activity spaces</li> <li>• New athletics track at Eastbourne or elsewhere if track cannot be delivered at Eastbourne Sports Complex.</li> </ul>	<p>Dolphin Centre</p> <p>All other swimming pool and sports hall sites</p>
<p><b>S08 and S09 (Provide)</b></p>	<p>6</p>	<p>Support the improvement of the facilities for athletics to ensure long term sustainability of the sport within the Borough.</p> <p>Investment into the upgrade of facilities at Eastbourne Sports Complex is currently the preferred option</p>	<p>New facility required to ensure that athletics in the town remains sustainable. Existing facility no longer meets needs of athletics club</p>	<p>Eastbourne Sports Complex</p>



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

4.2.1 In relation to both playing fields and built facilities, it is necessary to ensure that the process relating to S106 agreements is as streamlined as possible and maximises the effectiveness of contributions towards community sport. The below general recommendations therefore relate to the implementation of this process.

### General Recommendations

	Recommendation	Justification	Key Sites
General 1	Adopt use of Sport England Playing Pitch and Facility Calculator in the approach to determining S106 contributions	Sport England Playing Pitch and Facility Calculator provide a robust and transparent approach	N/a
General 2	Review existing S106 process to maximise effectiveness for developing contributions to community sport		N/a

### 4.1 Implementation

- 4.1.1 As in the 2015 strategy document, an action plan has been developed to demonstrate how the action will be achieved, by when and by whom.
- 4.1.2 The plan is set out in the following pages. For the purposes of this action plan, short term is equal to 0-1 year, medium is 1-3 years and long term is 3-5 years.
- 4.1.3 Further information relating to the action plan can be obtained from Mike Crawshaw at Darlington Borough Council (01325 405703).

## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy



### Action Plan

Link to Strategic Objectives	Recommendation	Lead Partner Agencies	Timeframe	Measure of Success
<b>S01</b>	Protect active stock playing fields through the inclusion of appropriate policy in the Darlington Local Plan. Any pitches which are not required to be retained will be documented in the site by site table at the end of this strategy.	DBC Planning / Leisure  NGBs, Sport England	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sites should be protected, enhanced and any sites that are no longer required to meet current or projected future need. The loss of any site not required should result in replacement provision and the list should be regularly updated in line with strategy monitoring processes.</li> <li>S02</li> </ul>
<b>S09</b>	Adopt use of Sport England Playing Pitch and Facility Calculator in the approach to determining S106 contributions	DBC Planning / Leisure / Sport England	Short	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting with Sport England to discuss use of calculators</li> <li>Ongoing use of tool</li> </ul>
<b>S09</b>	Review existing S106 process to maximise effectiveness for developing contributions to community sport	DBC Planning / Leisure	Short	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting to discuss and agree revised S106 process</li> <li>Integration of proposed approach in policy and practice</li> </ul>
<b>S02, S08,</b>	<p>Protect existing security of access with timely negotiation of community use agreements with schools and with landowners where appropriate.</p> <p>Ensure that existing community use agreements are delivered and renewed.</p> <p>Secure community use at other key venues (Hurworth School/ St Aidans RC school) that currently offer community use without any long term guarantees</p>	DBC Leisure / Children's Services	Short	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting with Hurworth School / St Aidans RC High School</li> <li>CUAs are in place, kept up to date and are enforced through planning conditions</li> </ul>



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy



<b>S03</b>	Work with schools and key sports clubs to maximise the use of school venues	DBC Leisure / Children's Services /	Short	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploration of potential partner clubs for Carmel College</li> <li>• Strong usage of all large school sites</li> </ul>
<b>S04</b>	Continue to operate the strategic hierarchy of pitch provision across the authority	DBC Leisure / Children's Services / NGBS	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All subsequent recommendations are undertaken with this strategic hierarchy in mind</li> </ul>
<b>S07, S04, S06</b>	Work with providers to ensure that all 3G pitches remain on FA pitch register and that 3g Pitches continue to be promoted for competitive fixtures.	DBC Leisure, DFA / FF	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All pitches retained on FA pitch register</li> <li>• Meeting with The FA / Clubs / Schools to promote use of AGPs</li> <li>• Meeting with clubs to maximise use of all accessible venues in the Borough</li> </ul>
<b>S08</b>	Provide one new 3G AGP. The new facility should meet with FA specification and constructed to appropriate standard for inclusion on the FA 3G pitch register			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New AGP in Borough following viability assessment</li> <li>• Ongoing work with Teeside Youth Alliance to consider potential for new 3G pitch to be used as league central venue</li> </ul>
<b>S08</b>	Support the provision of additional grass pitch provision, linking with existing or new clubs, where explicit need is identified and where housing development is of sufficient size to provide on site facility (with appropriate ancillary provision)	DBC Leisure / The FA	Medium - Long	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential new multi pitch venue located in strategic growth area</li> </ul>
<b>S04, S05, S06, S07 -</b>	<p>Address current and potential longer term issues with the quality of football provision by initially improving the existing pitch stock as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving existing poor quality pitches (focusing on sites where quality impacts capacity, pitches sustaining higher levels of use and multi pitch</li> </ul>	DBC Leisure / FA / Grounds Management Association	Short	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commission of Pitch Improvement assessments (PIP) for priority sites that have not been assessed</li> <li>• Tailored maintenance schedules for key sites through work alongside providers</li> <li>• Improved pitch quality – to include no poor pitches</li> </ul>



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

	<p>sites). This should focus upon;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investment into pitch maintenance, including engagement with FA Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP)</li> <li>• Capital investment to address pitch issues identified through engagement with PIP</li> <li>• Improvement of ancillary facilities where there is an identified need</li> <li>• Supporting improvement to facilities required to meet pyramid clubs</li> <li>• Fencing pitches in public parks where quality becomes an issue due to public use</li> <li>• Resurfacing AGPs where required to maintain inclusion on 3G pitch register</li> </ul> <p>Key priorities include Poor quality sites - Wyvern Academy / Heighington Playing Fields</p> <p>Sites close to capacity – Darlington RA / Longfield Academy / Hummersknott Academy</p> <p>Valuable Multi Pitch Sites – The Education Village / Eastbourne Sports Complex/ HACSA Sports Field</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in usage of poor pitches</li> <li>• Successful funding applications</li> <li>• Creation of leasing policy</li> </ul>
<b>SO10</b>	Identify a solution for the future of Darlington FC in order to secure the clubs' long term future and ensure that participation and progression is not inhibited by facilities	FA / Club	Short	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreement of long term solution with club</li> </ul>
<b>SO11</b>	Proactively identify appropriate facilities (for example MUGAs) to support recreational sport. To maximise the sustainability and use these spaces, as well as the benefits to the local community, this action should be delivered as part of a joined up approach with other sports. This should include; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proactive identification of sites</li> </ul>	FA / FF / LTA / DBC Leisure / other NGBS	Short – Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of engagement plans alongside community based operators</li> <li>• Established partnerships between NGBs</li> <li>• Exploration of potential opportunities to use S106 funding to support key projects</li> <li>• Increasing informal participation</li> <li>• Introduction of relevant technology where appropriate.</li> </ul>



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploration of opportunities to introduce activity, including potential partnerships between sports</li> <li>• Consideration of use of technology – for example gate technology.</li> </ul> <p>The Football Foundation / FA / DBC has identified Firthmoor Community Centre and Middleton St George Community Centre as potential projects for investment.</p>			
<b>Rugby Union</b>				
<b>S08, S010 S04, S06</b>	<p>Create additional capacity for both rugby clubs as follows;</p> <p><b>Darlington Mowden Park (DMP and Elizabethans)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve maintenance and invest in drainage to enhance existing pitches.</li> <li>• Provide additional pitch capacity through either;</li> <li>• Minimum of 5 floodlit grass pitches of high quality (D3 / M3)</li> <li>• 1 3G AGP (to be used for training), 2 grass pitches and 2 mini pitches</li> <li>• Four senior grass pitches (3 floodlit) and 2 mini pitches as a minimum are required in addition to an AGP if training takes place on grass</li> </ul> <p><b>Darlington RFC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve maintenance to a minimum of D2 on all pitches</li> <li>• Support improvements to drainage to a minimum of D2 on all pitches</li> <li>• Provide additional floodlights – 3 floodlit pitches are required to effectively meet training needs</li> </ul>	RFU / Clubs	Medium Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved maintenance regimes</li> <li>• Investment into pitch quality</li> <li>• Provision of additional floodlights</li> <li>• Additional capacity created (DMP)</li> <li>• Meeting to discuss joint working between two clubs.</li> </ul>
<b>S05</b>	Support rugby clubs in the provision of appropriate ancillary facilities. Darlington RFC facilities require further investigation currently	Club / RFU	Long Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgraded ancillary provision at Darlington RFC</li> <li>• Successful funding application</li> </ul>



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

<b>Rugby League</b>				
<b>S010</b>	Monitor demand for rugby league and ensure access to appropriate facilities if required.	DBC Leisure RFL	Short – Medium Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participation in rugby league evident within the borough</li> </ul>
<b>Cricket</b>				
<b>S01 / S02 / S08</b>	<p>Ensure clubs have access to facilities required to sustain current activities by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting Haughton CC to secure long term access to their ground</li> </ul> <p>Working with clubs at capacity to deliver additional facilities to meet current / projected future need. This may include new provision (anticipated 1 pitch), linked with existing club, to be delivered through;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New pitch on urban extension</li> <li>Provision of facilities at a school site</li> <li>Reinstatement of facilities at former cricket ground.</li> </ul>	DBC Leisure / DBC Planning Durham Cricket Board	Medium – Long Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long term security for Haughton CC</li> <li>New cricket provision</li> <li>Increase in participation</li> </ul>
<b>S04</b>	<p>Work with clubs to prioritise improvements to the quality of existing cricket club bases. Key areas for improvement relate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance procedures</li> <li>Wicket and outfield condition (including drainage)</li> <li>surface levelling</li> <li>changing pavilions.</li> </ul> <p>All clubs require qualitative improvements.</p>	DBC Leisure / DBC Planning Durham Cricket Board	Short – Medium Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commission of Pitch Improvement assessments (PIP) for priority sites that have not been assessed</li> <li>Improved pitch quality – to include no poor pitches</li> <li>Successful funding applications</li> </ul>
<b>S04 / S05 / S06</b>	Support cricket clubs in the improvement of training facilities to enhance club sustainability and improve	DBC Leisure / DBC Planning	Short – Medium Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each club benefitting from non turf wicket</li> <li>Each club having access to on site training</li> </ul>



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

	<p>overall performance. This should include improvements (or provision of) both appropriate training nets and artificial wickets for all clubs. The aspiration is for all clubs to have;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least one artificial wicket</li> <li>• Access to appropriate training nets</li> </ul> <p>Key priorities include – non turf (Cockerton, Darlington RA, Haughton CC and Middleton St George) and practice nets for Rockcliffe Park / Darlington RA.</p>	Durham Cricket Board		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provision</li> <li>• Successful funding applications</li> </ul>
<b>S04</b>	Support clubs to obtain appropriate maintenance equipment to enable the improvement of quality issues and ensure the ongoing sustainability of cricket in the Borough.	Club DCB.DBC Leisure	Short Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tailored maintenance schedules for key sites</li> <li>• Improved pitch quality – to include no poor pitches</li> <li>• Successful funding applications</li> </ul>
<b>S03 S07 S08, S011</b>	Investigate opportunities to create a new informal cricket venue for public use in Darlington Borough.	DBC Leisure / ECB	Long Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New site introduced</li> <li>• Successful participation initiatives launched</li> <li>• Increase in participation</li> </ul>
<b>S04, S07</b>	Support cricket clubs in the implementation of ECB participation schemes in order to enhance sustainability, as well as to address the existing gaps in participation.	DBC Leisure / ECB	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful participation initiatives launched</li> <li>• Increase in participation, particularly amongst youth and female groups</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hockey</li> </ul>				
<b>S01</b>	Ensure that sand based AGP at Carmel College is protected for use by hockey club and that hockey usage is prioritised.	DBC Leisure / School / EH	Short Term and Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retention of sand based surface</li> <li>• Prioritisation of hockey</li> <li>• Increasing participation</li> </ul>
<b>S04 / S06</b>	Ensure ongoing investment into appropriate maintenance procedures across the lifespan of sand based AGP at Carmel College, and continue partnership approach to facility management.	DBC Leisure / School / EH	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tailored maintenance plan that is adhered to</li> </ul>

## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy



<b>Tennis</b>				
<b>S01</b>	Retain existing club based tennis courts and seek to improve capacity at these facilities through the addition of floodlighting	Club / DBC / LTA	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of floodlights</li> </ul>
<b>S04</b>	Support clubs in the improvement of facilities where issues have been identified. Both clubs should include access to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>courts of an appropriate standard; and</li> <li>adequate pavilion (including toilets) and shelter</li> </ul> Wellfield LTC is currently a key priority	Club / DBC / LTA	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resurfaced courts at Wellfield TC</li> <li>Retention of quality at New Blackwell</li> <li>Successful funding applications</li> </ul>
<b>S01, S04, S08</b>	Seek to enhance the value of public tennis courts at Stanhope Park and Brinkburn Dene by; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>working alongside the LTA to investigate new technological systems to improve the customer journey.</li> <li>Improving court quality</li> <li>Investing in marketing and organised activities</li> <li>Floodlighting courts.</li> </ul>	DBC Leisure / LTA	Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investment into court quality</li> <li>Installation of new systems</li> <li>Successful launch of new participation initiatives</li> <li>Increased participation</li> <li>Identification of S106 funding to support upgrade of park tennis provision</li> <li>Installation of floodlights, linked with new technological systems.</li> </ul>
<b>S01, S04, S08</b>	Protect school courts and ensure that they offer a clear prospect for community use through qualitative improvements. These should include; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>improvements (i.e. floodlighting) to increase the hours of community use, including those on school sites;</li> <li>quality improvements to tennis courts to enhance the quality of play and skill development (e.g. resurfacing, deep cleaning); and</li> <li>provision of improved changing and ancillary facilities.</li> </ul> The Education Village / Longfield Academy in particular should be prioritised	LTA/DBC Leisure / Schools	Medium – Long term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase in community usage of school tennis courts</li> <li>Introduction of tennis development schemes at key sites.</li> </ul>



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

<b>S03</b>	Increase promotional activity for tennis across the borough linking with schoolsites and promoting the availability of the public venues that are accessible free of charge. There are also opportunities to improve the opportunities for youth players to join clubs. This should include joint working between the Borough Council and LTA.	DBC Leisure / LTA	Medium Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased participation</li> </ul>
<b>S08</b>	Work alongside the LTA to explore the LTA's desire to provide an indoor tennis facility in Darlington. This is identified as a strategic target for the LTA.	LTA / DBC Leisure	Short Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agreed outcome on potential viability and feasibility of new facility</li> <li>Progress towards new provision if deemed viable and required</li> </ul>
<b>Bowls</b>				
<b>S01</b>	Resist the loss of any club based facilities unless replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location. Former bowling greens that are now redundant are not required to meet current or projected future need.	DBC Planning / DBC Leisure	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retention of existing greens and sustainable bowls provision</li> </ul>
<b>S04 S05 S06 S07</b>	Support enhancements/upgrades to existing greens where there is evidence that the playing experience is currently impacted and where improvements would lead to increased community use and help to achieve financial sustainability by increasing membership. All bowling greens should include access to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A green of appropriate standard</li> <li>Adequate pavilion (including toilets) and shelter</li> </ul> Key priorities are; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>North Lodge Park,</li> <li>North Park, South Park,</li> </ul>	Clubs / DBC Leisure	Medium Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved facility quality</li> <li>Successful funding applications</li> </ul>
<b>S08</b>	Support clubs to proactively increase participation and membership. Efforts should focus on recruitment of junior players as well as adult and veterans.	Clubs / DBC Leisure	Short Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased participation</li> </ul>



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

<b>Indoor</b>				
<b>S01</b>	<p>Resist the loss of any swimming pool or sports hall sites unless replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location.</p> <p>Resist the loss of any other specialist provision unless replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location.</p> <p>Protect West Park Cycling Facility</p> <p>Protect Squash Club provision in the town</p> <p>Protect Gymnastics at Faverdale; improve facilities internally and support further phase developments</p> <p>Protect Boxing club provision.</p>	DBC Planning / DBC Leisure	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retention of existing pool sites</li> <li>Retention of existing sports hall sites</li> <li>Retention of specialist sport sites</li> </ul>
<b>S02</b>	<p>Protect existing access to swimming pools and sports halls on education sites</p> <p>Ensure timely negotiation of community use agreements with schools and with landowners where appropriate.</p> <p>Ensure that existing community use agreements are delivered and renewed</p> <p>Secure community use at other key venues (Hurworth School) that currently offer community use without any long-term guarantees.</p>	DBC Leisure / Children's Services	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access to swimming pools and sports halls on school sites is protected and supported</li> <li>CUAs are in place, kept up to date and are enforced through planning conditions</li> </ul>
<b>S04/S05 S06</b>	<p>Support enhancements /upgrades to the existing built facility infra-structure.</p> <p>Enhance West Park Cycling Facility</p> <p>Enhance Squash provision in the town</p> <p>Enhance Gymnastics at Faverdale; improve facilities internally and support further phase developments</p> <p>Enhance Boxing club provision</p>	Clubs / DBC Leisure	Medium – Long Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved facility quality</li> <li>Successful funding applications</li> </ul>





## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

<b>S08 / S09</b>	<p>Work alongside the LTA to explore the LTA’s desire to provide an indoor tennis facility in Darlington. This is identified as a strategic target for the LTA.</p> <p>This should include detailed viability and feasibility work, demand modelling and consultation with local clubs and the tennis community.</p>	LTA / DBC Leisure	Short – Medium Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completion of feasibility / viability work</li> <li>• Provision of facility if appropriate</li> </ul>
<b>S08 / S09</b>	<p>Seek investment to the swimming pool and sports hall infrastructure from major developments of over 300 houses</p> <p>Provide new provision to meet identified gaps</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contributions secured towards built facility infra-structure</li> <li>• Development of new sports halls at Pollam School and Carmel</li> </ul>
<b>S08/S09</b>	<p>Support the improvement of the facilities for athletics to ensure long term sustainability of the sport within the Borough.</p> <p>Investment into the upgrade of facilities at Eastbourne Sports Complex is currently the preferred option</p>	EA / DBC Leisure	Short – Medium Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgrade to the existing track at Eastbourne Sports Complex (or replacement facility elsewhere if this is not deliverable)</li> <li>• Creation of revised management / maintenance plan to ensure long term sustainability of facility</li> </ul>



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

- 4.1.4 Given the potential level of funding required, as in 2015, it is likely that investment will only be achieved through a combination of opportunities and funding sources as well as partnership opportunities.
- 4.1.5 Local authority finances remain under pressure and previous major national funding programmes are no longer available. Some funding opportunities, however, still remain. While the education capital funding programmes will continue to change over time, there will still be a need for investment to take place on school sites during the strategy period and opportunities for joint projects may arise.
- 4.1.6 The impact of the Covid 19 pandemic is also unknown, and with little activity during 2020 and early 2021, there are significant implications on finances at both national and local level and as yet, the recovery process and the opportunities that will become available are unknown.
- 4.1.7 As a result, the Council will seek to use assets innovatively and work on a multi-agency approach to address the facility requirements in the strategy.
- 4.1.8 The main funding delivery mechanisms for Darlington Borough Council and others in delivering this strategy are:
- Planning obligations– new development and population growth will generate demand for additional indoor and outdoor sports facilities. All new developments should contribute towards the provision of outdoor and indoor sports, whether through the provision of new facilities or the improvement of existing (see later in this section – this



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

strategy now proposes the use of the Sport England Facility Calculator and Playing Fields Calculator)

- Capital Grant funding: From schools and national agencies such as Sport England
- National Governing Body (NGB) support
- Council funding: capital funding allocated to deliver facilities within the council's ownership, and potentially the use of capital receipts from the sale of existing assets
- Education and Further Education sector: while the previous sources of funding have changed and the scale of the education capital programmes have been reduced, the education sector is still likely to be a key funding stream.

### **New Facilities**

- 4.1.9 In addition to the overarching strategy principles outlined earlier in this section, the following should be considered when providing any new facilities (or new sites to facilitate club relocation).



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

- Location - When planning new facilities, the existing sporting infrastructure should be taken into account. In particular, club bases for cricket and rugby should be retained and the provision of single pitch sites with limited facilities should be avoided
- Quality - Any new pitch provision should meet with the design and quality standards guidance provided by Sport England and/or the relevant NGB (detailed below). The following general criteria must also be met:
  - A high standard of design, construction and maintenance appropriate to the standard of play
  - Adequate changing facilities that:
    - are flexible, fit for a variety of purposes;
    - fully comply with the provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act;
    - provide for a number of different groups to use the facility at the same time, in safety and comfort; and
    - meet current standards - Sport England & NGB guidelines
  - Managed community access
  - Accessible by public transport and by car
  - Sufficient car parking
  - Size of pitches and run offs complies with NGB specification
  - Security of tenure (at least 20 years) if a club is to be based at the site.

4.1.10 All new and enhanced sports facilities must be designed in accordance with the relevant Sport England and (where applicable) National Governing Body (NGB) design guidance in order to ensure that the facilities are fit for purpose and of a suitable quality.

4.1.11 To ensure sustainability, new sites should include a minimum of two pitches. New single pitch sites will not be supported and new provision associated with any development of insufficient size to warrant more than one pitch should be located off site as part of a multi pitch development.

4.1.12 Sport England's web site [www.sportengland.org](http://www.sportengland.org) contains a range of current guidance documents which provide detailed specifications and information regarding the design of sporting and ancillary facilities.



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

### 4.2 Evaluating the Impact of New Development

4.2.1 Sport England has developed tools for determining the impact of new development on demand for indoor sports facilities and playing fields and they should be used to guide the investment required in facilities from new development. These are:

- Sport England Playing pitch Calculator
- Sport England Facility Calculator.

4.2.2 The Council should work with Sport England in order to adopt a consistent process that is transparent and fair but maximises the opportunities for sport.

#### **Monitoring and Review**

4.2.3 The evolving context of participation in sport and active recreation means that monitoring and review of the strategy is as important as the initial preparation of the document to ensure it remains sufficiently robust.

4.2.4 Reflecting the importance of this phase of work, monitoring of the strategy is a key component of both the Assessing Needs and Opportunities guidance (ANOG) and the Playing Pitch Strategy Guidance (Sport England).

4.2.5 The 2015 Strategy was successfully monitored by Darlington Borough Council and it is intended that this next strategy will be monitored similarly. The steering group are therefore committed to keeping the strategy alive through:



## Playing Pitch and Built Facility Strategy

- Monitoring the delivery of the recommendations and actions and identifying any changes that are required to the priority afforded to each action;
- Recording changes to the facility stock and evaluating the impact of this on the supply and demand information;
- Assessing the impact of changes to participation and changing trends on the amount and type of facilities required;
- Assessing the impact of demographic changes and any changes to forecasted plans for housing growth;
- Ongoing consultation to understand the evolving needs of clubs and governing bodies, and any requirements for new or improved facilities in the area;
- Analysis of funding sources and new funding opportunities for the provision/improvement of sports facilities;
- Reviewing growth of emerging sports, their participation rates, facilities available for them and likely facilities necessary for their support and development; and
- Ensuring that the strategy continues to provide an up to date and robust evidence base to underpin CIL / S106 obligations.

4.2.6 The working group will continue to meet to review progress by all key partners on the strategy delivery and to discuss any issues arising.

4.2.7 Monitoring will be particularly important in this strategy, as the completion of the strategy mid way through the Covid 19 pandemic means that sport and recreation are facing unprecedented challenges, and the exact impact, both in terms of facility provision but also participation is unclear. The steering group are therefore committed to consulting with clubs at the end of the pandemic and sharing outcomes in order to build a full picture of the challenges that Darlington is facing. This work will then be fed into the regular update process that will be taking place.

**COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
19 AUGUST 2021**

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**THE NORTHGATE INITIATIVE**

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**SUMMARY REPORT**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. This report summarises the current position and developments of the Northgate Initiative.

**Summary**

2. The Northgate Initiative was established in 2019, comprising of a multi-agency programme which seeks to pilot a range of interventions in order to improve outcomes for local residents in all areas of wellbeing including economy, education and childhood, health, environment and social relationships.
3. The workstreams align with the Local Framework for Wellbeing indicator set, which was developed by the ONS, Public Health England, What Works Centre for Wellbeing and Happy City, to identify a consistent means of monitoring residents' wellbeing at a local level.
4. There have been some measurable improvements over the past 18 months, working towards the targets set for 2024. Momentum is building as the restrictions of the pandemic are lifted allowing community engagement to develop as face to face work is able to take place.
5. Strong management of the programme ensures accountability for progression against defined aims. (see appendix 1. 'Actions to Vision' attached)

**Recommendation**

6. It is recommended that this report is received for information and comment.

**Ian Williams  
Chief Executive**

**Background Papers**

Northgate Initiative: Actions to Vision

author : Sarah Small Ext 5757

S17 Crime and Disorder	The initiative aims to improve community safety in the Northgate ward
Health and Well Being	The initiative aims to improve the health of the residents of Northgate ward
Carbon Impact and Climate Change	Home energy efficiency is a focus of the initiative
Diversity	No impact
Wards Affected	Northgate ward
Groups Affected	All
Budget and Policy Framework	Neighbourhood Renewal
Key Decision	none
Urgent Decision	none
Council Plan	This report details the work of the Northgate Initiative which is key element of the Council's plan to 'Work with communities to maximise their potential.
Efficiency	N/A
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers

### MAIN REPORT

7. Northgate is a place where residents are empowered to take control of and improve their wellbeing and life outcomes, by helping deliver the following conditions:
- (a) Fairly paid, quality employment opportunities
  - (b) Access to continuous learning
  - (c) Enough information and support to get and stay healthy
  - (d) A clean and green local environment that people can take pride in
  - (e) A safe place to live
  - (f) A community that cares for each other

### Workstream Achievements to date

#### Environment

8. Community Safety has provided services and support to the community through:
- (a) targeted patrols (Civic Enforcement)
  - (b) proactive investigation and support concerning environmental crime and anti-social behaviour (Civic Enforcement)
  - (c) community engagement activities (Community Resilience Officer)



9. A range of key developments have been delivered since 2019 including:
  - (a) The introduction and delivery of an Environmental Crime Plan
  - (b) The introduction and delivery of a Responsible Dog Ownership Plan
  
10. Deliverables:
  - (a) Rapid removal of graffiti
  - (b) Design of community murals (in development)
  - (c) Provision of skips
  - (d) Defensive planting
  - (e) Installations of decorative trellis (replacing wire or glass)
  - (f) Deployment of 4 dedicated CCTV mobile cameras

### **Crime & Security**

11. Policing within the Northgate area is part of the police daily activity. It is classed as an area of the locality which has a higher demand and the level of engagement is proportionate to that. There have been opportunities to adapt police approaches to try and tackle longer term issues in a more strategic, problem solving manner.
  
12. Delivery across the locality of the Home Office Safer Streets funding (£298,918) secured to introduce target-hardening of area.
  - (a) 416 properties visited by police regarding crime prevention advice / guidance
  
  - (b) 86 properties received target-hardening measures / 24 pending
  
  - (c) Delivery of crime prevention packs (locks, timers, cameras, marking kits, alarms, tv simulators & personal attack alarms
  
13. Initial delivery of Eyes and Ears event to local councilors. Programme designed to promote awareness / reporting of community issues / concerns. This will in time be delivered to the residents of Northgate.
  
14. Evident reduction in calls relating to 'concern for safety' in JD3 beat code area (Northgate). Between April-June 2020 there were 157 calls compared to 86 calls for the same period in 2021, 41 of which relate to Darlington Memorial Hospital indicating only 50% were actually community based calls.
  
15. There has been a clear increase in proactive patrols and engagement, these locations will be reviewed as Covid restrictions are lifted with Northgate remaining high on daily neighbourhood team briefings.

### **Housing**

16. An operational focus has developed in Northgate, which has included supporting Housing in the delivery of the Next Steps project to reduce the number of empty homes and promote independent living.

In December 2019 there were 177 empty domestic properties in the Northgate area, out of a total of 2,290 (7.7%). This compared with an empty property rate of 3.7% across the whole of Darlington. 108 of these (4.7%) had been empty for more than 6 months. In addition, 36 of these (1.6%) had been empty for more than 2 years.

17. Currently there are 159 empty domestic properties in the Northgate area, out of a total of 2,298 (6.9%). Of these 159 properties, 88 of these (or 3.8%) have been empty for more than 6 months and 34 (or 1.5%) have been empty for more than 2 years.

18. In August 2020, as part of the Government's Rough Sleeper Next Steps initiative, Darlington Borough Council successfully bid for funding to purchase 4 long-term empty properties in the Northgate area, providing up to 8 separate units of accommodation for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. The purchase and refurbishment of all 4 properties was completed in June 2021 and tenants have started to move in.

19. The Council are currently looking at options to possibly purchase and refurbish further empty properties in the Northgate area (finances permitting), or partner with other Social Housing Providers.

20. The government has committed to upgrade as many private rented sector homes as possible to Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) Band C by 2030, where practical, cost-effective and affordable.

21. In December 2019 there were 148 properties in Northgate with either an F or G rating, with 69 of these being listed as rented properties. There has been an improvement in these figures as of September 2020, (the last set of issued figures) this has improved to 122 properties (17.3%) in Northgate being registered as being either F or G, with 52 (24.6%) of these being listed as rented properties.

22. In addition specialist training has been undertaken by Private Sector Housing Officers to support enforcement of problematic landlords.

### **Economy**

23. A presentation was made to the Northgate Steering Group, focusing on the potential housing redevelopments which will take place under the Towns Fund Initiative. Providing housing in the Northgate House / Gladstone Street area.

24. Economic Development have part funded the Shaping Places for Healthier Lives Peer Research recruitment and training. The peer researchers will assist in gathering the views and opinions of the residents living in the Northgate area.

### **Childhood & Education**

25. Children's Services previously provided traditional statutory provision for the residents of Northgate. The Children's Centre based within the area provided additional family groups with an international focus with the diversity of the Northgate community in mind. Other than this there were no additional services or provision available.
26. A scoping exercise carried out identified the services available to residents of Northgate, this produced a pleasing and diverse selection of provision. But provoked questions around the use of services and were residents aware of what was readily available to them.
27. In response a working group was set up with representation from Children's Services, Health Visitors, Safeguarding, the local schools and young people's engagement and justice service.

The idea of creating a community Family Hub was developed, which will provide a means of alternative approaches to service delivery, underpinned by the principles of community involvement in the heart of the community based initially at Corporation Road Primary.

28. Visual representation of Northgate will be produced to help overcome any language barriers, this will depict all of the community assets within the ward and surrounding area including the town centre assets, bus tops, cycle routes. Pictures of local people and local features.

### **Transition from Primary to Secondary Education**

29. It became apparent from gathering statistical analysis in the early stages of the initiative that there were challenges with the transition of pupils from Primary to Secondary education. This was found to be a town wide issue where more work needed to be done to help children build relationships with secondary teaching staff and for them to gain an understanding of the new pupils to include personal circumstances, which would potentially impact upon their education.
30. This has resulted in schools working much more closely together. The transition process begins much earlier and will last longer, as the primary and secondary schools work in partnership beyond the actual transition period. Secondary staff and children will maintain contact with the primary teachers to assist with overcoming any challenges, using their experience and knowledge from the child's primary school journey.

### **Health**

31. Initially the Primary Care Network (PCN) aimed to focus on GP registration as it was evident there was a lack of residents from the Northgate area registering with their local GP.
32. As a result of Covid the PCN resources were redirected into the vaccination programme. Councillor Ali worked closely with the PCN to encourage residents of Northgate to have the vaccine.
33. The PCN are now working on a Well Being service which will have a significant focus on Northgate residents, they will also play an active role in the Community Hub in the longer term.

### **Shaping Places for Healthier Lives**

34. Darlington was successful in securing £20,000 for the discovery phase of the Health Foundation and Local Government Association, Shaping Places for Healthier Lives Fund. Which aims to create the conditions for better health by funding local partnerships to take system-wide action on the wider determinants of health.
35. This phase involved delivering a diverse community engagement initiative based around fuel poverty, and the opportunity to train Peer Researchers. Individuals who are embedded into the community of Northgate, to work directly with residents to address the challenges and issue which matter the most to them and their families.
36. Three main assumptions on fuel poverty were predicted and founded following the engagement work. Stage 3 of the bid has been submitted which if successful will aim to alleviate the issues and their impact on the residents of Northgate (decision expected August 2021).

### **Assumptions**

- (a) Most residents living in fuel poverty are private renters
- (b) Most residents living in fuel poverty are either unemployed or in poor quality employment
- (c) Knowledge of relevant support services in the area is low

## Actions to Vision: Northgate Initiative

### Vision & Targets

- people take pride in their area.
- people live in decent homes
- people have sustainable, quality jobs and are paid a fair wage
- people feel safe
- people are healthy
- children grow up happy and well educated
- there is a strong community spirit, where differences are celebrated and people look out for each other

#### By 2024:

- X% of the homes identified as empty in 2019 have been brought back into use
- X number of homes converted to Council Houses
- X residents and landlords have been made aware of what constitutes a decent and safe home and are aware of the what remedies are available to them should their home not meet these standards
- X people unemployed or in poor quality employment have been helped into quality jobs
- The gap between reported crime in Northgate and the average for Darlington has reduced
- all children leaving Corporation Road Primary School have been engaged in at least one enrichment activity over and above their expected education
- X people in Northgate have been made better aware of healthy lifestyles



### Workstream Objectives

- How will achieving the objective help realise the vision and targets
- Quantify: Visible change in the area or community



### Actions

- How will this new or different action help achieve the objective
- Quantify: How Many, How Much, By when



## Workstream – Environment.

<b>Objective 1</b>	<b>Environmental Crime - A clean and safe environment.</b>
<b>How will achieving the objective help realise the visions &amp; targets</b>	
The combination of actions contained within the action plan will secure a cleaner, healthier and safer environment and promote civic pride in the area.	
<b>Quantify: Visible change in the area or community</b>	
Visible improvements in community with reduced levels of complaint and increased social capital.	

<b>Action</b>	<b>How will this new or different action help achieve the objective</b>	<b>Quantify: How Many, How Much, By when</b>
See action plan.		48 actions - 35 completed.

## Workstream – Environment.

<b>Objective 2</b>	<b>Responsible Dog Ownership - A clean and safe environment.</b>
<b>How will achieving the objective help realise the visions &amp; targets</b>	
The combination of actions contained within the action plan will provide a cleaner, healthier and safer environment and promote civic pride in the area.	
<b>Quantify: Visible change in the area or community</b>	
Visible improvements in community with reduced levels of complaint and improved supervision and control of dogs.	

<b>Action</b>	<b>How will this new or different action help achieve the objective</b>	<b>Quantify: How Many, How Much, By when</b>
See action plan.		40 actions - 31 completed.



## Workstream – Housing (Private Sector).

<b>Objective 1</b>	<b>Empty Homes - To provide safe and decent living accommodation in Northgate.</b>
<b>How will achieving the objective help realise the visions &amp; targets</b>	
The combination of actions contained within the action plan will reduce the number of empty homes, increase suitable accommodation in the area, provide improved and healthier living conditions and provide a risk-based approach to targeting problematic empty homes.	
<b>Quantify: Visible change in the area or community</b>	
Homes identified as empty brought back into use.  Improved appearance of housing and area as a whole.	

<b>Action</b>	<b>How will this new or different action help achieve the objective</b>	<b>Quantify: How Many, How Much, By when</b>
See action plan.	As above.	Milestones and outcomes detailed in action plan.  12.7% reduction in all empty properties January 2020 - January 2021.

		<p><b><u>Empty Properties:</u></b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th><b><u>Jan 2020</u></b></th> <th><b><u>Jan 2021</u></b></th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>173</td> <td>151</td> <td>-22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over 6 months</td> <td>111</td> <td>89</td> <td>-22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over 2 years</td> <td>33</td> <td>34</td> <td>+1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<b><u>Jan 2020</u></b>	<b><u>Jan 2021</u></b>			173	151	-22	Over 6 months	111	89	-22	Over 2 years	33	34	+1
	<b><u>Jan 2020</u></b>	<b><u>Jan 2021</u></b>																
	173	151	-22															
Over 6 months	111	89	-22															
Over 2 years	33	34	+1															
<p>To provide sustainable accommodation to protect vulnerable people through the Next Steps Grant.</p>	<p>As above.</p>	<p>Bid submitted to Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) "Next Steps Accommodation Programme" in August 2020. Bid successful.</p> <p>25 long-term properties engaged. Four empty properties have been identified as being suitable as of 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Four have had sale prices agreed and are in the process of being purchased.</li> </ul> <p>This work is being jointly carried out by Private Sector Housing, Council Tax, Housing Options, Estates and Legal.</p> <p>25.01.21: 4 properties currently being renovated to be used for accommodation by March 2021.</p>																

## Workstream – Housing (Private Sector).

<b>Objective 2</b>	<b>Energy Efficiency - To provide safe and decent living accommodation in Northgate.</b>
<b>How will achieving the objective help realise the visions &amp; targets</b>	
The combination of actions contained within the action plan will improve housing conditions, provide safe and healthy living and ensure that those who present as vulnerable are appropriately supported.	
<b>Quantify: Visible change in the area or community</b>	
Improved housing and living conditions.	
Improved appearance of housing and area as a whole.	

<b>Action</b>	<b>How will this new or different action help achieve the objective</b>	<b>Quantify: How Many, How Much, By when</b>
See action plan.	As above.	<p>Milestones included in action plan. 8 out of 17 actions completed.</p> <p>As at December 2019 there were 148 properties in Northgate with either an F or G rating, with 69 of these being listed as rented properties.</p> <p>There has been an improvement in these figures as of September 2020, (the last set of issued figures) this has improved to 143 properties in Northgate being registered as</p>

		<p>being either F or G, with 30 of these being listed as rented properties.</p> <p>Work is now progressing on contacting the remaining properties where the EPC remains lower than the legal required minimum. 20 properties are going to be contacted with advice of funding available to bring the properties up to the correct standard. To advice owners an information leaflet is currently being produced.</p>
Green Homes Grant – Voucher Scheme.	As above.	Programme launched 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2020. Access to £5k funding.
Green Homes Grant – The Local Authority Delivery Scheme.	As above.	<p>£500 million funding will be delivered through local authorities by the Government between September 2020 and March 2022, to improve the energy efficiency of low-income households. This will help reduce fuel poverty and support the installation of low carbon heating.</p> <p>The Local Authority Delivery Scheme (LAD) phase 1b, this part of the scheme will run from 28-Sep-20 to 31-Mar-21 (6.0 months delivery) and overlaps the Green Homes Grant voucher scheme. The deadline for 1b is 6<sup>th</sup> December 2020 (bid submitted). A joint application is being prepared by</p>

		<p>Private Sector Housing and Housing in relation to the Councils' own housing stock for the provision of window, doors and loft insulation.</p> <p>LAD Phase 2 a further £300m is planned to be allocated through Local Energy Hubs in 2020/21 for regional delivery. This part of the scheme will run from 21-Jun-21 to 31-Mar-22 (9.5 months delivery). Bids will need to be submitted to the Energy Hub to secure funding locally.</p> <p>The primary purpose of the LAD scheme is to raise the energy efficiency rating of low income and low EPC rated homes (those with E, F or G). Across Northgate this could mean up to 576 households could be eligible based in low EPC ratings.</p> <p>It is intended that a bid will be submitted for this funding as a consortium with either the Tees Valley or across a wider geographical area covering six energy hubs. This phase will operate until March 2022. The draft Sourcing Strategy was submitted to BEIS on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020 outlining how the Energy Hub plan to procure the regional frameworks to delivery energy efficiency improvements to low income households. Ringfenced potential funding for Darlington under this scheme is in the region of</p>
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		£526,000. Additional funding will be provided to manage this scheme locally.
Eyes and Ears Project – Fuel Poverty.	As above.	Briefings to staff and members to promote increased awareness of fuel poverty in the target area. Commencing November 2020.

## Workstream – Housing (Private Sector).

<b>Objective 3</b>	<b>Targeted Intervention - To provide safe and decent living accommodation in Northgate.</b>
<b>How will achieving the objective help realise the visions &amp; targets</b>	
Targeted intervention of problematic premises will secure improved living conditions, promote safe and healthy living and ensure that those who present as vulnerable are appropriately supported.	
<b>Quantify: Visible change in the area or community</b>	
<p>Improved housing and living conditions.</p> <p>Improved appearance of housing and area as a whole.</p> <p>People feeling safer and healthier.</p>	

<b>Action</b>	<b>How will this new or different action help achieve the objective</b>	<b>Quantify: How Many, How Much, By when</b>
To complete a stock condition survey which will support targeted inspections, tackle unsafe and poor living conditions and provide robust enforcement.	As above.	<p>Following implementation, Private Sector Housing have dealt with 216 cases in the Northgate area (See below).</p> <p><b>Empty properties</b></p> <p>26 property owners were contacted as part of the Next Steps programme this resulted in four properties being bought. Five</p>

		<p>properties were boarded due to being open for access.</p> <p><b>Housing Disrepair</b></p> <p>32 households reported disrepair in their properties.</p> <p><b>Energy Efficiency</b></p> <p>We have used our property databases to identify sub-standard properties.</p> <p>18 property owners have been informed of the need to improve their property in order to continue renting them.</p> <p>Should this approach be successful we will continue to advise property owners in this way.</p> <p><b>Planning consultation</b></p> <p>Consultee information was given to development control regarding five properties all of which were requests for the subdivision of properties to self-contained flats.</p>
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		<b>Heating failure</b>  Four properties reported heating failure three were resolved by informal action one by the service of a notice on the owner.
To complete specialist (advanced) training which will support professional investigation.		Four members of the Private Sector Housing Team commenced their online training in September 2020 towards the Advanced Professional Certificate in Investigative Practice (APCIP) - BTEC Level 7. This course has been successfully completed by all four participants.

**Reactive and Proactive investigations**

Between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 and 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021, the Private Sector Housing team have deal with 216 service requests in the Northgate ward, as shown on the map on page 14.

	<b><i>Service request type</i></b>	<b>Number of Service request type</b>
<i>HOUEMP</i>	Empty properties	37
<i>HOUADV</i>	Housing advice	34
<i>HOUDIS</i>	Housing Disrepair	32
<i>HOUENE</i>	Energy Efficiency advice	18
<i>HOUDAM</i>	Housing Damp	16
<i>HOUREQ</i>	Request for information	16
<i>HMOADV</i>	HMO advice	18
<i>HMOCOM</i>	HMO complaint	6
<i>HMOLIC</i>	HMO licensing	11
<i>HOUPLA</i>	Planning consultation	8
<i>HMOROU</i>	HMO routine inspection	5
<i>HOUHEA</i>	Heating failure	4
<i>HOUDRA</i>	Drainage	3
<i>HOUECO</i>	Energy efficiency grant assistance	2
<i>HOUIMM</i>	Immigration inspection	2
<i>HOUASY</i>	Asylum property inspection	1
<i>HOUCOM</i>	Housing above a commercial property	1
<i>HOUOVC</i>	Overcrowding	1
<i>Total</i>		216

## Workstream – Housing (Private Sector).

<b>Objective 4</b>	<b>Warmer Homes - To provide safe and decent living accommodation in Northgate.</b>
<b>How will achieving the objective help realise the visions &amp; targets</b>	
The Warmer Homes initiative will provide energy improvements for households which will improve living conditions and promote healthy lifestyle.	
Quantify: Visible change in the area or community	
Improved housing and living conditions. Improved appearance of housing and area as a whole.	

<b>Action</b>	<b>How will this new or different action help achieve the objective</b>	<b>Quantify: How Many, How Much, By when</b>
Project managed by Stockton Borough Council (lead agency).		Approval was sought from Cabinet in early December 2019, to participate in a Tees Valley Partnership to deliver the Warm Homes Fund Project. Participation in the project will deliver energy efficiency improvements for qualifying residents in the Borough which will include the Northgate Ward.  The programme was re-launched in August 2020 after being on hold since March 2020 due to the pandemic.

		<p>The funding (£5,500,000 across the partnership area) will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Install 1000 boilers and provide gas connections across the area.</li><li>▪ Install 200 Air source heat pumps - renewable heating provision in rural areas.</li><li>▪ Assist 10,000 households with fuel poverty issues.</li></ul> <p>A total of 24 referrals have been received from Darlington residents, one of which is in the Northgate ward pending a gas connection prior to a gas boiler being installed replacing Electrical storage heaters and an Electrical immersion heater.</p> <p>A social media campaign is currently being completed to increase figures / take-up across Darlington.</p> <p>The Northgate initiative is known to have one of the highest rates of having no central heating within Darlington with as many as 1 in 20 not having central heating in their homes.</p>
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## Workstream – Housing (Public Sector)

<b>Objective 1</b>	<b>Acquire, improve and re-let long term empty properties where, despite significant and sustained interventions by the Private Sector Housing Team, progress has not been possible to bring the property back into use.</b>
<b>How will achieving the objective help realise the visions &amp; targets</b>	
<p>More homes brought back into use</p> <p>More homes brought up to good quality standards</p>	
<b>Quantify: Visible change in the area or community</b>	
<p>Poor quality housing can blight the area where they are located so by improving these and bringing them back into use the local area is uplifted and owners/potential owners are more willing to invest in the surrounding properties.</p> <p>Good quality housing improves the health of household members.</p> <p>More energy efficient housing produces savings for residents providing them with more disposable income</p>	

<b>Action</b>	<b>How will this new or different action help achieve the objective</b>	<b>Quantify: How Many, How Much, By when</b>
Acquire, improve and re-let empty properties.	Reduce number of long term empty properties	<p>4 in 2020/21</p> <p>3 Properties purchased &amp; refurbished, possible occupancy of 8 units, one occupied. (1 small family, 2 single occupant sharing or one single occupant)</p> <p>Each unit unique in that they will have their own Management Officer &amp; Support Worker (700 Club)</p> <p>Tenants will be placed in properties by Housing Options, they are likely to have a</p>

		<p>history of a tenancy of rough sleeping, so will be supported into independent living.</p> <p>One further property purchased and refurbishment will be completed by the end of June 2021.</p> <p>Numbers for 2021/22 and beyond will depend on outcome of PRS Housing Team work</p>
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## Workstream – Housing (Public Sector)

<b>Objective 2</b>	<b>Explore grants available to improve energy efficiency of Council's housing stock in this area</b>
<b>How will achieving the objective help realise the visions &amp; targets</b>	
Visible change and help residents in the locality have a greater pride in their area	
Quantify: Visible change in the area or community	
Improve visual appearance of the properties which would positively impact on local community Reduce energy bills for households and provide more disposable income	

<b>Action</b>	<b>How will this new or different action help achieve the objective</b>	<b>Quantify: How Many, How Much, By when</b>
Various energy grants are currently being announced and working with PRS Housing Team to determine how we may access these as the criteria tends to be quite restrictive	As above	Small numbers of Council owned homes in this area

## Workstream – Economy

<b>Objective 1</b>	Provide support to unemployed residents to move into sustained employment through the Youth Employment Initiative -YEI (16-29), Routes to Work - RTW (30+), Employability Support Programmes and other schemes and initiatives such as Kickstart.
<b>How will achieving the objective help realise the visions &amp; targets</b>	
Offering support through these schemes will help people to move into sustainable, quality jobs.	
<b>Quantify: Visible change in the area or community</b>	
Increased employment should lead to less reliance on benefits and increased contributions to the local economy	

<b>Action</b>	<b>How will this new or different action help achieve the objective</b>	<b>Quantify: How Many, How Much, By when</b>
Raise awareness of these employability schemes through a range of media	Using a range of media such as free newsletters, social media and a presence in the Job Centre will help promote these schemes to Northgate residents.	In September 2020 there were 400 Northgate residents on the benefit claimant count. So far the DBC YEI and RTW schemes have supported 85 unemployed people in the Northgate ward.
Raise awareness of these employability schemes through a range of media	Using a range of media such as free newsletters, social media and a presence in the Job Centre will help promote these schemes to Northgate residents.	In May 2021 there were 425 Northgate residents on the benefit claimant count. So far the DBC YEI and RTW schemes have supported 116 unemployed people in the Northgate ward.
Move YEI delivery to Pathfinder House, Northgate	This will provide a new Youth Hub within the Northgate ward which will make it more accessible for those aged 16-29. A Job	It is hoped that the new Youth Hub can be launched by the end of June / early July subject to Covid restrictions.



	Centre Plus Youth Adviser will be co-located with the YEI Team.	
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## Workstream – Crime & Security.

<b>Objective 1</b>	<b>Safer Streets - Keeping People Safe.</b>
<b>How will achieving the objective help realise the visions &amp; targets</b>	
The provision of target-hardening of vulnerable premises will promote a safer community.	
<b>Quantify: Visible change in the area or community</b>	
Increased awareness of scheme and preventative measures in area will promote improved levels of confidence and positive engagement in the community.	

<b>Action</b>	<b>How will this new or different action help achieve the objective</b>	<b>Quantify: How Many, How Much, By when</b>
Implement the Home Office Safer Streets initiative in selected areas of Northgate.	Reduce level of dwelling burglaries.	<p>£298,918 awarded by Home Office.</p> <p>Safer Streets implemented in target areas Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020.</p> <p>Following implementation 330 properties have been visited by Police Community Support Officers, 189 properties have accepted the offer of safer streets interventions, 27 properties have been completed, 38 properties are currently having work undertaken and all other properties are in the process of being contacted.</p> <p>In anticipation of surplus funds, a meeting has been held involving local councillors,</p>

		<p>police and local authority officers to determine future target-hardening measures that can be introduced in the targeted area during the short-term i.e. funding allocated prior to 01.04.21.</p> <p>Measures discussed and agreed include removal of graffiti, provision of skips, defensive toppings, trellis and defensive planting, CCTV, crime prevention packs (locks, lights etc.), doorbell surveillance and replacement gates (See action plan for further detail).</p>
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<b>Objective 2</b>	Tackle concerns linked to Public Safety Incidents
<b>How will achieving the objective help realise the visions &amp; targets</b>	
Reduce Public Safety Incidents – specifically linked to ‘PUBLIC CONCERN’ as reported to the Police, will reduce harm and engender feeling that Northgate is a safe place to live, work and / or visit.	
<b>Quantify: Visible change in the area or community</b>	
Reduced calls predominantly describing person’s in public affected by substance / perceived mental health and / or behaviour of concern.	

<b>Action</b>	<b>How will this new or different action help achieve the objective</b>	<b>Quantify: How Many, How Much, By when</b>
Implement a problem solving approach to understand the causes behind and reduce Public Safety Calls to the police – specifically ‘Concern’	Reduce level of calls and associated demand across agencies with a greater appreciation of what factors lead to such a volume of calls around this area of public safety.	<p>Bench mark: JD3 – 157 calls (April 20 to June – 20)                      33 calls per 1000 population - Northgate                      9.1 calls per 1000 population – Darlington</p> <p>12/02/2021                      Following concerns regarding the above data firstly in that it only covered a short period of time and also that Darlington Memorial Hospital data was also included. As a result the new benchmark.                      JD3 April 2108 to April 2020                      151.6 calls per 1000 population- Northgate (Without DMH)                      72.7 calls per 100 population- Darlington.</p>

		<p>These figures present better than the original.</p> <p>Analysis identified 3 High Volume areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An area around Beaconsfield St/Salisbury Terrace &amp; Barningham Street. This had already been identified by the NPT who are running a profile on our Red Sigma System. This involves a female with MH issues and we are working with partners to ensure all measures are in place and dealing with any reported offences appropriately.</li><li>• A Small Terrace on Northgate. Again an adult male is causing these issues. The male has multiple needs and we are working with partners to address these and there has been a recent familiar faces meeting. This male has recently moved to St Georges hall which is still in the vicinity and is still causing issues.</li><li>• The BP Garage on Northgate. During lockdown there has been few incidents at this location however this may change as lockdown eases.</li></ul> <p>All police incidents tagged As Concern For safety are discussed in the Police Daily Leadership meeting since early December 2020. The NPT Insp reviews each incident and we look at further measures actions to reduce such calls and ensure other</p>
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		<p>services where appropriate are brought into any actions.</p> <p>12/04/2021 The above information still stands. In 3 to 4 months I will ask for a refresh re concerns for safety in the area of JD3 to ascertain if the action and daily updates from the police daily leadership meeting have had any effect on the figures. A positive result with one of the volume areas Barningham Street female with Mental health issues we have had a target profile and worked with partners to reduce the concern for safety calls. In July 2020 alone we received 84 999 calls from the address and since 1<sup>st</sup> February we have only received no 999 calls.</p> <p>10/05/2021 No particular update since the last meeting. JD3 locality is still an action on the police daily leadership meeting to discuss calls made and actions taken.</p>
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<b>Objective 3</b>	Tackle the volume of demand on the WEST (JD3) side of the Northgate Corridor
<b>How will achieving the objective help realise the visions &amp; targets</b>	
Analysis strongly indicates that the concentration of business premises in the WEST side of the A167 Road (Northgate Corridor) is generating a potent mix of demand specifically around anti-social behaviour, suspicious and criminal activity. Tackling these issues will reduce harm at / linked to those that work / visit and use the services of those premises.	
<b>Quantify: Visible change in the area or community</b>	
Improved management of specific business locations. Reduction in anti-social behaviour, suspicious and criminal activity;	

<b>Action</b>	<b>How will this new or different action help achieve the objective</b>	<b>Quantify: How Many, How Much, By when</b>
Implement a problem solving approach to understand the causes behind this potent mix of issues. To take the form of organised Systematic Hot Spot Policing activity targeting specific locations on the A167 corridor. Consider the variety and sustainability of premises on the A167 corridor and the viability of town planning approaches such as 'secured by design' to support this objective.	Reduce levels of calls to the police and other agencies linked to business premises (on the A167 Corridor) and work with such premises to ensure sustained reductions.	Hot spot activity measured by:  Combined agency responses relevant to identified issues at the Hot Spot Location in question. TLP's POP plans Profiles  12/02/2021 Awaiting analysis to be completed where the A167 Corridor of Northgate will be broken down into small chunks/cubes and this analysis will demonstrate which cubes have the greatest police demand. On receipt of this analysis police profiles will be

		<p>formulated to focus on up to 50 cubes and identify those with the greatest demand. Officers/PCSO's will then be tasked with patrolling a number of these HOTSPOT areas and engaging with businesses giving advice and taking enforcement action where needed.</p> <p>12/04/2021 From the 12/03/2021 we have had the NPT profile on the police system for the A167 Corridor which has been broken down into problem Nodes to police. The data we are using for these Nodes has been used during the pandemic and will no doubt change as we ease out of lockdown so again, we will refresh this in the coming months.</p> <p>Nodes areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stephenson Street-Diamond Court</li><li>• Northgate- Arthur Street</li><li>• Northgate-Darlington Club/Bus Stops</li><li>• High Northgate- Darlington Club/Bus Stops</li><li>• Northgate- North Lodge Park bandstand</li><li>• Northgate- Melville St-Station Rd Junction</li><li>• Northgate- Oxford Street Mews</li><li>• Northgate- Area surrounding Salvation Army</li></ul>
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		<p>Since 12/03/2021 there have been 18 patrols across the node areas to date.</p> <p>10/05/2021 Above Node patrols still active. Since the 12/03/2021 there are 24 updates on the patrol profile with some meaningful engagements/updates.</p>
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<b>Objective 4</b>	National Indicator 21 (NI21) – Inspire Confidence in the Northgate Area.
<b>How will achieving the objective help realise the visions &amp; targets</b>	
Increase in public confidence within the Northgate Initiative Area, specifically, are the Local Authority and police addressing issues in the area that matter to the local community.	
<b>Quantify: Visible change in the area or community</b>	
Reduced calls for service to the LA and police on matters relating to crime and disorder due to improved social capital, with stakeholders prepared to resolve local – low level issues; affect positive change to their environment; hold local forum’s to which public sector officials are held to account and prioritising activity within the Northgate area.	

<b>Action</b>	<b>How will this new or different action help achieve the objective</b>	<b>Quantify: How Many, How Much, By when</b>
Deliver a ‘Confidence Academy ‘ for Northgate, Informed by the Durham & Darlington Talking Survey application and PACT.	Efficient and rapid surveying tool application of local households, streets – scalable to the wider Northgate area to establish what concerns residents and deploying the approach – ‘you said, we did’.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Baseline NI21 Survey data.</li> <li>- Registered take up of Durham &amp; Darlington Talking Application by quarter.</li> <li>- Ongoing Survey data results from Durham &amp; Darlington Talking</li> <li>- NI21 data intervals to be agreed.</li> </ul> <p>12/02/2021                      During January - February 2021 in the region of 25 Councillors have attended virtual training for Confidence Academy/Eyes and Ears.                      At this time we now have 477 residents in the North Road area signed up to “In the Know”.</p>

		<p>This is a platform where positive messages can be sent to these residents of good work in the community by partners and warning messages around say internet scams/crime trends etc.</p> <p>Many of the Northgate residents have completed a community survey to identify what they perceive as issues in the area and these surveys will be analysed to conduct Focus Groups to explore their concerns and build social capital as lockdown eases.</p> <p>The next edition of One Darlington will also have a feature on “In The Know” encouraging residents to sign up. The NPT are also engaging with their respective Councillors to encourage them to sign up to the system.</p> <p>Darlington College are working with the Police to design a Marketing Campaign for this initiative.</p> <p>12/04/2021 The numbers of residents in the area remain at 477 signed up to “In the Know”. As lockdown eases the North Road Sergeant will disseminate the survey information with a view to conducting some Focus Groups and build on Social Capitol.</p> <p>10/05/2021 Below results from In the Know Survey.</p>
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		<p>Question 1 : What do you really like about the area? Top Answers; Quiet, Close to Town, neighbours, Friendly, Park</p> <p>Question 2; What do you not like about the area? Top Answers: Parking, drugs, litter, traffic, noise</p> <p>Question 3: What issues affecting you would benefit from partnership work between Police and other agencies? Top Answers: Dog fouling, ASB, Road safety issues, Noise disturbance.</p> <p>I have requested the Sergeant to now look at contacting all those who took part in the survey to ascertain how many would take part in focus groups. We now need to pick the 3 most prevalent issues to discuss in focus groups.</p>
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## Workstream – Childhood & Education

<b>Objective 1</b>	<b>Develop a Community Family Hub</b>
<b>How will achieving the objective help realise the visions &amp; targets</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Family Hub will provide a means of alternative approaches to service delivery, underpinned by the principles of community involvement</li> <li>• Provide a place where different local partners in Northgate come together and address the issues that matter most to them, for improve outcomes for children</li> <li>• Support a neighbourhood focussed community led approach</li> </ul>	
<b>Quantify: Visible change in the area or community</b>	
<p>Bring together communities in the Northgate area to offer activities. People can be provided with the necessary support required to improve their emotional, social and physical wellbeing. This will be delivered by local authority and partners. McNay Children’s Centre already hosts an international group, offering advice and signposting to parents of children 0-5. Our vision is to enhance the current offer by bringing change to the local community, offering drop-ins, coffee morning, training and workshops, signposting, employment and skills advice to the general public of all ages.</p> <p>In the longer term, an appropriate resource would be sourced to house the Family Hub</p>	

<b>Action</b>	<b>How will this new or different action help achieve the objective</b>	<b>Quantify: How Many, How Much, By when</b>
Scoping of current provision	Create a profile of the current provision in NG to identify gaps and needs for the community	Sub group set up for scoping Jan 21 – Complete
Visual representation of the services available in Northgate	Demonstration of the offer available to NG residents.	Working with Design & Print to look at visual map of NG to include community assets, bus stops, walking routes, nearby town centre based amenities.

		This will also provide signposting to additional information.
Development of Community Information Hub – promoting information, advice & guidance available to NG residents	Information about the hub and service delivery would be available to a range of groups within the area, potential wider audience than current provision.	Base – Corporation Road School Pop up style hub delivered by a co-ordinator (salary included in SPHL bid) Opportunity for other services to provide a drop in for residents – housing, health, CAB, etc.

**Workstream – Childhood & Education**

<b>Objective 2</b>	<b>Support school readiness (primary &amp; secondary) in line with existing initiatives within Corporation Road School</b>
<b>How will achieving the objective help realise the visions &amp; targets</b>	
Ensuring that families receive the correct support to take this next big step in preparing their child for school / secondary school	
Quantify: Visible change in the area or community	
Children will have strong social skills, can cope emotionally being separated from their care givers, have a desire to learn, can make effective transitions to secondary provision	

<b>Action</b>	<b>How will this new or different action help achieve the objective</b>	<b>Quantify: How Many, How Much, By when</b>
Promote bread and butter thing and the School Uniform Exchange	Children are equipped to attend school	Information to be promoted by children’s services –Sept 2020 Ongoing promotion to residents via social media & the school.
More effective transition from primary to secondary education	Create a smooth transition to secondary education where children feel they are ready, settled and able to learn effectively.	Group established to deal with transition as a town wide issue. Work underway to support Corporation Roads involvement in this programme.
Team Around Family meetings to be continued beyond Year 6 and effective information sharing	Support child/family through transition promoting readiness for secondary education.	March 2021 sharing of information by designated leads to enable positive pathways for the children making transition. Update requested from Ann Pringleton on progression.

## Workstream – Health

<b>Objective 1</b>	Reduce the impact of fuel poverty on resident’s wellbeing
<b>How will achieving the objective help realise the visions &amp; targets</b>	
Fuel poverty, through living in a cold and damp home, is a clear contributory factor in health issues such as respiratory diseases, heart diseases, circulatory diseases, and mental health problems. It also contributes towards increased winter deaths, repeat visits to GPs and admissions to hospitals.	
Quantify: Visible change in the area or community	
Fewer homes in Northgate are poorly heated	

<b>Action</b>	<b>How will this new or different action help achieve the objective</b>	<b>Quantify: How Many, How Much, By when</b>
Submit a bid for  Shaping Places for Healthier Lives Programme	The initial phase will be used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure all relevant stakeholders are included in the design approach</li> <li>• To ensure the intervention(s) we ultimately develop address the actual key drivers of fuel poverty in Northgate and</li> <li>• Focus on the part(s) of the system which will have the most impact. be research to:</li> </ul>	Phase 1 - £19,000 secured  To: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify and develop a sustainable and effective stakeholder engagement strategy</li> <li>2. Test the assumptions we have made so far regarding the causes of fuel poverty and, if incorrect, rectify</li> <li>3. Identify the key parts of the system for intervention</li> </ol>



## Workstream – Health

<b>Objective 2</b>	Increase the access to health services for residents of Northgate
<b>How will achieving the objective help realise the visions &amp; targets</b>	
The consequences of not accessing health care are significant and include use of fewer preventive services, poorer health outcomes, higher mortality and disability rates, lower annual earnings because of sickness and disease, and the advanced stage of illness (i.e., many are “sicker” when diagnosed).	
<b>Quantify: Visible change in the area or community</b>	
Reduction in health inequalities between Northgate and the rest of Darlington	

<b>Action</b>	<b>How will this new or different action help achieve the objective</b>	<b>Quantify: How Many, How Much, By when</b>
Increase numbers of Northgate residents registered with a GP. This will involve a range of actions including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>working with Health Watch Darlington on a joint funded project to reduce digital exclusion which acts as a barrier to the newly developed streamline digital GP registration system</li> <li>Supporting Blackett’s surgery engaging with the BAME community to take up flu vaccinations and address other health needs as a route into GP registrations</li> </ul>	Improved health outcomes among the vulnerable population groups in Northgate, which currently contributes considerably to health inequalities. This will also lead to a reduction inappropriate and ineffective use of services including A&E	X additional residents of Northgate registered with a GP

## Workstream – Community

<b>Objective 1</b>	<b>Eyes and Ears - A Safer and Cohesive Community.</b>
<b>How will achieving the objective help realise the visions &amp; targets</b>	
The Eyes and Ears initiative will support stronger communities, promote public safety and civic pride.	
<b>Quantify: Visible change in the area or community</b>	
Increased levels of public engagement and civic pride in the community.	

<b>Action</b>	<b>How will this new or different action help achieve the objective</b>	<b>Quantify: How Many, How Much, By when</b>
Implement the Eyes & Ears project in Northgate.	Engage all sections of the community to: a) secure improved awareness of local issues b) understand the role and responsibilities of service providers and c) identify potential solutions to local problems.	Scheduled for delivery January 2021.  A joint brief with Police on ‘Confidence Academy’ and Eyes and Ears has now been scheduled for Members between 27th January and 10th February 2021. COVID restrictions continue to delay the delivery of the project.

**COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
19 AUGUST 2021**

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**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS QTR 4 2020/21**

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**Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide Members with performance data against key performance indicators for 2020/21 at Quarter 4.

**Report**

**Performance Summary**

2. This report provides performance information in line with an indicator set and Scrutiny Committee distribution agreed by Monitoring and Coordination Group on 4 June 2018, and subsequently by scrutiny Committee Chairs. Following agreement at Council on 5 December 2019 to align Scrutiny Committees to the updated Cabinet Portfolios, the indicator set has been aligned accordingly.
3. The indicators included in this report are aligned with key priorities. Other indicators may be referenced when appropriate in narrative provided by the relevant Assistant Directors, when providing the committee with performance updates.
4. 27 indicators are reported to the committee, 18 of them on a six-monthly basis and nine annually.
5. Three indicators have data that can be compared against the previous quarter.
  - a) Two indicators are showing performance not as good the last quarter:

ENV 009	% household waste that is collected that is either reused, recycled or composted
ENV 021	% of small fly tips removed within target time

- b) One indicator is showing performance the same as the last quarter:

ENV 022	% of large fly tips removed within target time
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6. Performance of the 27 indicators reported:

- a) Seven indicators are showing performance better than at the same period as last year or from when last reported:

ENV 002	Number of Street Champions who are actively involved in litter picking a minimum of once per month
ENV 021	% of small fly tips removed within target time
ENV 022	% of large fly tips removed within target time
TCP 200	% of principal roads where maintenance should be considered (A class)
TCP 600	Number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents
TCP 601	Number of people slightly injured in road traffic accidents
TCP 602	Number of children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents

- b) Four indicators are showing performance the same period as last year or from when last reported:

ENV 023	Number of prosecutions for fly-tipping
REG 803	Trading Standards: Percentage of high-risk inspections carried out
TCP 202	% of non principal roads where maintenance should be considered (B and C class)
TCP 900	Overall Public Satisfaction with Public Transport Theme (National Highways and Transport Survey)

- c) Ten indicators are showing performance not as good than at the same period as last year or from when last reported:

CUL 065	Number of physical visits to the Library
CUL 066	Number of book loans
CUL 067	Number of ICT sessions at the library
CUL 071	Number of visits to the Head of Steam
ENV 006	Total number of fly-tips reported

ENV 006a	Total number of large fly-tips reported
ENV 006b	Total number of small fly-tips reported
ENV 009	% household waste that is collected that is either reused, recycled or composted
TCP 203	% of unclassified roads where maintenance should be considered
TCP 603	Number of children slightly injured in road traffic accidents

d) Six indicators have not been reported due to coronavirus restrictions.

CUL 037	Number of shows held at the Hippodrome
CUL 038	Number of individual attendances at theatre shows
CUL 078	Number of shows held at the Hullabaloo
CUL 079	Number of individual attendances at Hullabaloo shows
ENV 024	Land Audit Management System - Litter Score
TCP 101	Bus punctuality - % of non-frequent bus services running on time

7. A detailed performance scorecard is attached at **Appendix 1**.

**Recommendation**

8. It is recommended that :-

- a) Performance information provided in this report is reviewed and noted, and relevant queries raised with appropriate Assistant Directors.

**Dave Winstanley**  
**Group Director of Services**

## Background Papers

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

S17 Crime and Disorder	This report supports the Council's Crime and Disorder responsibilities
Health and Well Being	This report supports performance improvement relating to improving the health and wellbeing of residents
Sustainability	This report supports the Council's sustainability responsibilities
Diversity	This report supports the promotion of diversity
Wards Affected	This report supports performance improvement across all Wards
Groups Affected	This report supports performance improvement which benefits all groups
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
Council Plan	This report contributes to the Council Plan by involving Members in the scrutiny of performance relating to the delivery of key outcomes
Efficiency	Scrutiny of performance is integral to optimising outcomes.

## MAIN REPORT

### Culture

9. CUL 037 / CUL 038 – The Hippodrome, CUL 078 / CUL 079 – The Hullabaloo: The Hippodrome and Hullabaloo have been closed for the majority of the year due to the pandemic and when allowed to be open there has been a limited programme at the Hippodrome due to ongoing restrictions.
10. CUL 071 – The Head of Steam:  
The Head of Steam has also been closed for significant periods throughout the last year and when open there were restrictions on the number of visitors and the type of events that could be delivered safely.
11. CUL 065 / CUL 066 / CUL 067 – The Library:  
Whilst the Library was closed for significant periods, the same as other facilities, through 'click and collect' arrangements residents were still able to collect books. The new suite

of Library measures agreed at the meeting on 22 April will be reported for the first time with 2021/22 Quarter 2 data.

## **Environmental Services**

### **12. ENV 002 – Street Champions:**

The number of active Street Champions who collect litter in their areas continues to grow. The work carried out by Street Champions is critical in helping to maintain a clean Borough for residents and visitors and supports the work of Street Scene.

### **13. ENV 006 / ENV 006a / ENV 006b / ENV 021 / ENV 022 / ENV 023 – Fly Tipping:**

The total number of fly tips has increased by 20% on the last year with large fly tips increasing by 14% and small by 54%. However, despite this increase all but a very small percentage have been removed in the target time. This has been helped significantly by the introduction of an additional response crew. The increase needs to be set in the context of the overall increase in household waste through the pandemic, which increased by 18% on last year. This was the same nationally as people were staying home. A small fly tip is classed as anything under a car boot load with a large fly tip being anything over that.

### **14. ENV 009 – Household Waste:**

The amount of waste that was reused, recycled or composted fell from 40.8% in 2019/20 to 35.1% in 2020/21. Whilst this is disappointing, it again needs to be set in the context of the pandemic and the significant increase in overall household waste of 18%. The percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted is based on the overall household waste produced. In addition, the Household Waste Recycling Centre was closed for a period of time and reopened with reduced capacity.

## **Trading Standards**

### **15. REG 803 – High Risk Inspections:**

Each year, Trading Standards plans a programme of intelligence-led business inspections to check that businesses are complying with trading standards and consumer laws, support them into compliance where necessary and investigate areas of non-compliance as required. In 2020-21, Trading Standards completed 100% (60 in total) inspections, which were comprised of on-premises and online (where the business does not have a physical location) inspections. During the pandemic, Trading Standards maintained service delivery by adapting its inspection programme to undertake on-premises inspections within a time period when the businesses were open and trading and in line with Covid-19 guidance.

## **Transport**

### **16. TCP 001 – Bus Punctuality:**

The survey was not run in 2020 to reduce the burden on local authorities dealing with the new restrictions and ways of working. We have included an optional set of fields for 2019/20. While this is not mandatory, and the data may not be available, where it is

possible this will provide valuable insight and context for the data from 2020/21. As we look ahead to travel as restrictions are reduced recent data will provide a useful measure of the return to more normal activity.

17. TCP 200 / TCP 202 / TCP 203 – Road Maintenance:

Works carried out last year on our A road network has slightly improved the overall condition. Works carried out last year on our B and C road network has enabled us to remain at the same level as the previous year with more investment required to make any further improvement. A lot of work has been carried out over the last few years to improve this network which has shown positive results. The unclassified network has shown improvement year on year and the reason for the backward step last year we think is down to the way the inspection was completed and we expect it to right itself this year.

18. TCP 600 / TCP 601 / TCP 602 / TCP 603 – Road Traffic Accidents:

Road traffic patterns changed throughout the year as a result of the pandemic with significantly less traffic during certain lock down periods. This resulted in a significant reduction in people killed or seriously injured on the road network and this also translated into a reduction in people slightly injured in road traffic accidents. There have been corresponding reductions in the of accidents involving children.

19. TCP 900 – Public Satisfaction with Transport:

The overall public satisfaction with public transport has remained the same and work will be undertaken over the coming year to try and reinstate confidence in public transport use and improvements to the bus network through a bus service improvement plan and a partnership approach. There are ongoing challenges for bus operators in terms of driver availability due to Covid 19 and other issues that are impacting the industry with operators working on solutions to protect services and the network.

**Hippodrome digital engagement, education and outreach.**

20. This section provides performance information in line with the minute extract from the meeting held on the 22nd of April 2021.

21. As a result of Covid-19 and the forced closure of Darlington Hippodrome, the theatre needed to find new ways to engage with our audience as well as attracting new audiences. We were quick to assess existing activities that could be moved online (Youth Dance/ Youth Theatre/heritage engagement) and worked strategically to produce new online engagement activities to enhance our digital offer (Weekly quiz, adult dance classes, online streamed shows, careers advice). Digital and online interaction formed the basis of our audience interaction throughout 2020 / 2021 with some in person engagement when restrictions allowed. Whilst open, we have also had success with Classic film screenings which has enabled us to fill the show programme gaps as live theatre is phased back in.

22. A detailed performance scorecard is attached at **Appendix 2**.



# SCRUTINY - COMMUNITIES & LOCAL SERVICES 2020/21 QUARTER 4

Indicator	Title	Reported	What is best	2017 / 2018	2018 / 2019	2019 / 2020	2020/21 - Q1	2020/21 - Q2	2020/21 - Q3	2020/21 - Q4	Qtr 4 compared to Qtr 3	2020/21 compared to 2019/20
CUL 037	Number of shows held at the Hippodrome	Monthly	Higher	171	338	290	No data available				NA	NA
CUL 038	Number of individual attendances at Hippodrome theatre shows	Monthly	Higher	81,512	152,584	131,183					NA	NA
CUL 065	Number of physical visits to the Library	Monthly	Higher	236,334	231,219	214,360	0	14,363	23,342	39,045	NA	↓
CUL 066	Number of book loans	Monthly	Higher	281,173	265,076	250,074	8,005	47,722	81,367	108,030	NA	↓
CUL 067	Number of ICT sessions at the library	Monthly	Higher	44,908	39,799	36,658	0	15	15	15	NA	↓
CUL 071	Number of visits to the Head of Steam	Monthly	Higher	38,182	42,037	42,146	0	3,332	4,216	4,216	NA	↓
CUL 078	Number of shows held at the Hullabaloo	Monthly	Higher	No data available	210	164	No data available				NA	NA
CUL 079	Number of individual attendances at Hullabaloo shows	Monthly	Higher	No data available	10,513	8,969					NA	NA
ENV 002	Number of Street Champions who are actively involved in litter picking a minimum of once per month	Quarterly	Higher	66	115	136	143	145	149	174	NA	↑
ENV 006	Total number of fly-tips reported	Quarterly	Lower	2,562	3,006	2,838	1,003	1,890	2,612	3,411	NA	↓
ENV 006a	Total number of large fly-tips reported	Quarterly	Lower	2,334	2,599	2,420	836	1,557	2,146	2,766	NA	↓
ENV 006b	Total number of small fly-tips reported	Quarterly	Lower	228	407	418	167	333	466	645	NA	↓
ENV 009	% household waste that is collected that is either reused, recycled or composted	Quarterly	Higher	42.9%	37.4%	40.8%	33.4%	36.5%	35.6%	35.1%	↓	↓
ENV 021	% of small fly tips removed within target time	Monthly	Higher	94.0%	86.7%	85.3%	94.2%	98.9%	100.0%	99.5%	↓	↑
ENV 022	% of large fly tips removed within target time	Monthly	Higher	95.5%	86.7%	85.7%	92%	100%	100%	100%	↔	↑
ENV 023	Number of prosecutions for fly-tipping	Quarterly	Higher	No data available	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	↔
ENV 024	Land Audit Management System - Litter Score	Monthly	Higher	No data available	72%	79%	No data available				NA	NA
REG 803	Trading Standards : % of high risk inspections carried out	Quarterly	Higher	100%	100%	100%	0%	30%	87%	100%	NA	↔
TCP 101	Bus punctuality - % of non-frequent bus services running on time	Annually	Higher	86.4%	85.7%	No data available	Annual indicators no data to report for these quarters			No data available	NA	NA
TCP 200	% of principal roads where maintenance should be considered (A class)	Annually	Lower	1.1%	2.2%	3.0%				2.0%	NA	↑
TCP 202	% of non principal roads where maintenance should be considered (B and C class)	Annually	Lower	5.9%	6.9%	6.0%				6.0%	NA	↔
TCP 203	% of unclassified roads where maintenance should be considered	Annually	Lower	22.3%	15.5%	7.9%				13.0%	NA	↓
TCP 600	Number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents	Annually	Lower	45	52	49				29	NA	↑

# SCRUTINY - COMMUNITIES & LOCAL SERVICES 2020/21 QUARTER 4

Indicator	Title	Reported	What is best	2017 / 2018	2018 / 2019	2019 / 2020	2020/21 - Q1	2020/21 - Q2	2020/21 - Q3	2020/21 - Q4	Qtr 4 compared to Qtr 3	2020/21 compared to 2019/20
TCP 601	Number of people slightly injured in road traffic accidents	Annually	Lower	224	206	161				111	NA	↑
TCP 602	Number of children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents	Annually	Lower	5	5	7				2	NA	↑
TCP 603	Number of children slightly injured in road traffic accidents	Annually	Lower	24	28	13				14	NA	↓
TCP 900	Overall Public Satisfaction with Public Transport Theme (National Highways and Transport Survey)	Annually	Higher	60%	62%	58%				58%	NA	↔
											Better than =	↑
											Not as good as =	↓

**SCRUTINY - COMMUNITIES & LOCAL SERVICES - HIPPODROME PERFORMANCE INDICATORS – DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT, EDUCATION & OUTREACH**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Reported</b>	<b>What is best</b>	<b>2020/21 - Q1</b>	<b>2020/21 - Q2</b>	<b>2020/21 - Q3</b>	<b>2020/21 - Q4</b>
<b>Total number attended in person - Adult dance</b>	Quarterly	Bigger	0	101	180	180
<b>Total number attended online - Adult dance</b>	Quarterly	Bigger	273	273	360	505
<b>Total number attended in person - Youth dance</b>	Quarterly	Bigger	0	184	328	328
<b>Total number attended online - Youth dance</b>	Quarterly	Bigger	51	51	51	396
<b>Total number attended in person - Volunteer archiving group</b>	Quarterly	Bigger	0	0	36	36
<b>Total number attended in person - Heritage engagement</b>	Quarterly	Bigger	0	0	0	0
<b>Total number attended in person - Hippodrome Tours</b>	Quarterly	Bigger	0	37	111	111
<b>Total number online engagement - Hippodrome Tours (Ghost &amp; Backstage)</b>	Annual	Bigger				4,973
<b>Total number attended in person - Youth Theatre</b>	Quarterly	Bigger	0	158	338	518
<b>Total number attended online - Youth Theatre</b>	Quarterly	Bigger	0	0	40	201
<b>Total number of - Weekly quizzes</b>	Annual	Bigger				74
<b>Total number attended in person - Weekly quiz at the theatre</b>	Annual	Bigger				43
<b>Total number on-line engagement / views - Weekly quiz</b>	Annual	Bigger				135,479
<b>Total number attended in person - Cinema</b>	Quarterly	Bigger	0	238	618	856
<b>Total engagement numbers online - FANE events</b>	Quarterly	Bigger	0	0	17	34
<b>Total number attended in person - Art masterclasses</b>	Quarterly	Bigger	0	31	63	63

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**COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
19 AUGUST 2021**

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**WORK PROGRAMME**

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**SUMMARY REPORT**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To consider the work programme items scheduled to be considered by this Scrutiny Committee during the 2021/22 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 work programme (**Appendix 1**) for the remainder of the 2021/22 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**).

**Recommendation**

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.

**Elizabeth Davison  
Group Director of Operations**

**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
Council Plan	The report contributes to the Council Plan in a number of ways through the involvement of Members in contributing to the delivery of the Plan.
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

5. The format of the proposed work programme has been reviewed to enable Members of this Scrutiny Committee to provide a rigorous and informed challenge to the areas for discussion.
6. The Council Plan sets the vision and strategic direction for the Council through to May 2023, with its overarching focus being 'Delivering success for Darlington'.
7. In approving the Council Plan, Members have agreed to a vision for Darlington which is a place where people want to live and businesses want to locate, where the economy continues to grow, where people are happy and proud of the borough and where everyone has the opportunity to maximise their potential.
8. The visions for the Stronger Communities and Local Services portfolios are:-  
  
'to build Stronger Communities that are resilient, sustainable and safe to ensure everyone has the best opportunities to succeed' and 'a borough that is attractive, green and clean, with a wide variety of activities to be enjoyed, and a transport offer that facilitates efficient movement and reduced carbon emissions in the borough'.

### 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.
10. A copy of the Forward Plan has been attached at **Appendix 3** for information.

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**COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Lead Officer/ Organisation Involved</b>	<b>Link to Performance Management Framework (metrics)</b>	<b>Scrutiny's Role</b>
<b>Playing Pitch and Facilities Strategy</b>	19 August 2021	Ian Thompson		To give Scrutiny Members the opportunity to consider prior to Cabinet.
<b>Performance Management and Regulation/ Management of Change</b> Regular Performance Reports to be Programmed  End of Year Performance (including Compliments Comments and Complaints)	Year End/Quarter 4 – 19 August 2021  Q2 9 December 2021	Relevant AD  Relevant AD	Full Performance Management Framework suite of indicators.	To receive quarterly monitoring reports and undertake any further detailed work into particular outcomes if necessary.
<b>Tees Valley Combined Authority Transport Strategy</b> (to include Bus Services in the Tees Valley)	19 August 2021	Dave Winstanley/ Tom Bryant TVCA		To contribute to and influence the Strategy to ensure the best outcomes for residents.
<b>Northgate Initiative</b>	19 August 2021  Last considered 10 December 2020	Seth Pearson		To update Scrutiny Members and undertake any further work if necessary.

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer/ Organisation Involved	Link to Performance Management Framework (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
<b>Library Services</b> To include digital offer	19 August 2021 (verbal update)  7 April 2022  Last considered 22 April 2021	Ian Thompson	CUL 065 CUL 066 CUL 067	To scrutinise and undertake any further work if necessary.
<b>Restoration of Locomotion No 1            Replica</b>	21 October 2021	Ian Thompson		To give Scrutiny Members the opportunity to consider prior to Cabinet.
<b>Waste Management (to include Tees            Valley Energy Recovery Facility)</b>	21 October 2021	Ian Thompson		To give Scrutiny Members the opportunity to consider prior to Cabinet.
<b>Rail Heritage Quarter–</b> To include Head of Steam and 2025  Review group also established	21 October 2021	Ian Thompson		To contribute to the development of 'Experience Darlington' Strategy.
<b>Bank Top Masterplan</b>	9 December 2021  Last considered 22 October 2020	Dave Winstanley		To influence the Bank Top Masterplan and ensure the best outcomes for Darlington's residents and its economy.

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer/ Organisation Involved	Link to Performance Management Framework (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
<b>Back Lanes</b> To include dog fouling and fly tipping	9 December 2021  Last considered 10 December 2020	Ian Thompson		To update Scrutiny Members and undertake any further work if necessary
<b>Indoor /Outdoor Market</b>	9 December 2021  Last considered 22 April 2021	MAM/Mark Ladyman		To update Scrutiny on the development of the Indoor/Outdoor Market.
<b>Local Transport Plan</b>	17 February 2022  Last considered 25 February 2021	Sue Dobson		To scrutinise and undertake any further work if necessary.
<b>Public Sector Executive Group 6 Month Review</b>	17 February 2022	Seth Pearson		To scrutinise and undertake any further work if necessary.
<b>Stronger Communities Fund 6 Month Review</b>	17 February 2022	TBC		To scrutinise and undertake any further work if necessary.
<b>Hippodrome</b>	7 April 2022  Last considered 22 April 2021	Ian Thompson		To scrutinise and undertake any further work if necessary.

**REVIEW GROUP**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Lead Officer/ Organisation Involved</b>	<b>Link to PMF (metrics)</b>	<b>Scrutiny's Role</b>
<b>School Streets Initiative</b>	Group met on 16 December 2020 and 14 January 2021  Report to Scrutiny on 25 February 2021  Meeting to be arranged			To enable Scrutiny members to understand the work to date, input their experience and their perspectives to inform the work going forward.
<b>Management of Grass Verges</b>	Group met on 9 April 2021  Meeting to be arranged			To assist development of a new operational policy in relation to the management of grass verges.

**JOINT COMMITTEE WORKING – HEALTH AND HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Lead Officer/ Organisation Involved</b>	<b>Link to PMF (metrics)</b>	<b>Scrutiny's Role</b>
<b>Drug and Alcohol Service Contract</b>	Briefing on 13 July 2021  (Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee)	Ken Ross		To update Scrutiny Members undertake any further work if necessary.

**ALL MEMBER BRIEFINGS**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Lead Officer/ Organisation Involved</b>	<b>Link to PMF (metrics)</b>	<b>Scrutiny's Role</b>
<b>Water Safety</b>	All Members briefing  9 July 2021	Andrew Allison/Steve Owers, Teesdale and Weardale Search and Mountain Rescue		To update Members and undertake any further work if necessary.
<b>CCTV</b>	All Members briefing To be arranged	Ian Thompson/ Graham Hall		To update Members and undertake any further work if necessary.
<b>Community Safety</b>	All Members Briefing To be arranged  Last considered 25 February 2021	Ian Thompson		To update Members on Community Safety.

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<b>Environmental Health</b>	All Members Briefing To be arranged  Members briefing – 19 November 2020	Carol Whelan/ Stephen Todd	ENV 002 ENV 006 ENV 009 ENV 021 ENV 022 ENV 023 REG 803	To gain an understanding of Environmental Health and current and future challenges.
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**Performance Indicators**

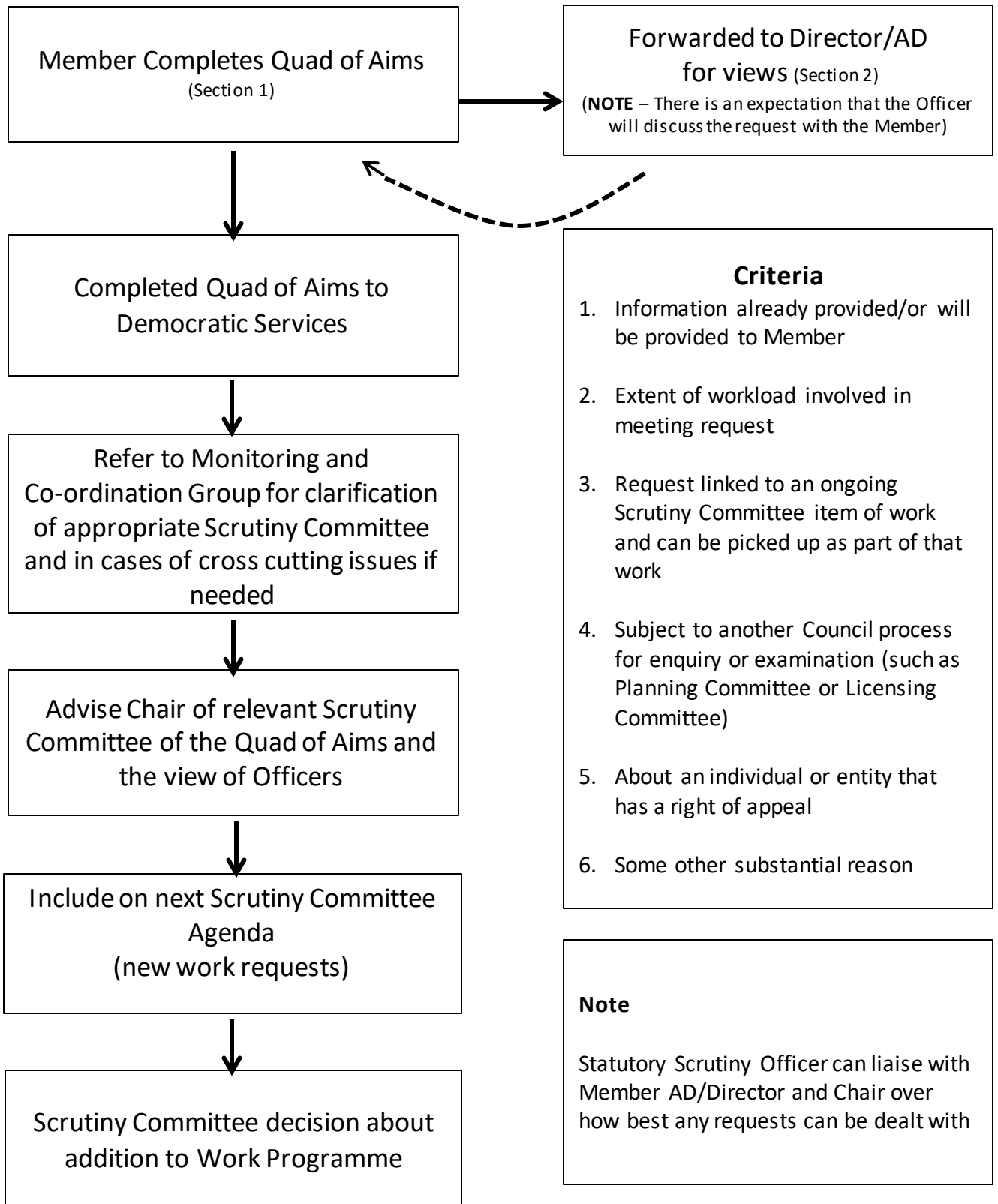
<b>DBC Number:</b>	<b>Definition:</b>
CUL 037	Number of shows held at the Hippodrome
CUL 038	Number of individual attendances at theatre shows
CUL 065	Number of physical visits to the Library
CUL 066	Number of book loans
CUL 067	Number of ICT sessions at the library
CUL 071	Number of visits to the Head of Steam
CUL 078	% of ticket sales for the Hippodrome
CUL 079	% of ticket sales for the Hullabaloo
ENV 002	Number of Street Champions who are actively involved in litter picking a minimum of once per month
ENV 006	Total number of fly-tips reported
ENV 006a	Total number of large fly-tips reported
ENV006b	Total number of small fly-tips reported
ENV 009	% household waste that is collected that is either reused, recycled or composted
ENV 021	% of small fly tips removed within target time
ENV 022	% of large fly tips removed within target time
ENV 023	Number of prosecutions for fly-tipping
ENV 024	Land Audit Management System - Litter Score
REG 803	Trading Standards : Percentage of high risk inspections carried out
TCP 101	Bus punctuality - percentage of non-frequent bus services running on time
TCP 200	Percentage of principal roads where maintenance should be considered (A class)



TCP 202	Percentage of non principal roads where maintenance should be considered (B and C class)
TCP 203	Percentage of unclassified roads where maintenance should be considered
TCP 600	Number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents
TCP 601	Number of people slightly injured in road traffic accidents
TCP 602	Number of children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents
TCP 603	Number of children slightly injured in road traffic accidents
TCP 900	Overall Public Satisfaction with Public Transport Theme (National Highways and Transport Survey)

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



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**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)**

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

**Signed** ..... **Position** ..... **Date** .....

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**DARLINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL  
FORWARD PLAN**



DARLINGTON

Borough Council

**FORWARD PLAN  
FOR THE PERIOD: 4 AUGUST 2021 - 31 DECEMBER 2021**

Title	Decision Maker and Date
Annual Review of the Investment Fund	Cabinet 7 Sep 2021
Climate Change Action Plan	Cabinet 7 Sep 2021
Complaints Made to Local Government Ombudsman	Cabinet 7 Sep 2021
Complaints, Compliments and Comments Annual Reports 2019/20	Cabinet 7 Sep 2021
Introduction of a Civil (Financial) Penalty Policy and Enforcement Protocol – Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards	Cabinet 7 Sep 2021
Land at Faverdale / Burtree Garden Village Feasibility Work	Cabinet 7 Sep 2021
Playing Pitch and Facilities Strategy	Cabinet 7 Sep 2021
Project Position Statement and Capital Programme Monitoring - Quarter One	Cabinet 7 Sep 2021
Proposed Waiting Restrictions on Woodland Road, Outram Street and Duke Street	Cabinet 7 Sep 2021
Regulatory Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA)	Cabinet 7 Sep 2021
Schedule of Transactions	Cabinet 7 Sep 2021
School Term Dates 2022/23	Cabinet 7 Sep 2021
Annual Procurement Plan 2021/22 - Update	Cabinet 5 Oct 2021
Land at Faverdale – Former St Modwen Land Development Strategy	Cabinet 5 Oct 2021
Treasury Management Annual and Outturn Prudential Indicators 2020/2021	Council 25 Nov 2021 Cabinet 5 Oct 2021
Council Tax Support - Scheme	Cabinet 9 Nov 2021

**DARLINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL  
FORWARD PLAN**

Approval 2022/23	
Project Position Statement and Capital Programme Monitoring - Quarter Two	Cabinet 9 Nov 2021
Rail Heritage Quarter Update	Cabinet 9 Nov 2021
Restoration of Locomotion No 1 Replica	Cabinet 9 Nov 2021
Revenue Budget Monitoring - Quarter 2	Cabinet 9 Nov 2021
Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Capital Projects	Cabinet 9 Nov 2021
Tees Valley Energy Recovery Facility	Cabinet 9 Nov 2021
Mid-Year Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management 2020/21	Council 27 Jan 2022 Cabinet 7 Dec 2021
Council Fleet	