



DARLINGTON

Borough Council

Communities and Local Services Scrutiny Committee Agenda

10.00 am

Thursday, 16 January 2025

Council Chamber, Town Hall, Darlington DL1 5QT

Members of the Public are welcome to attend this Meeting.

1. Introductions/Attendance at Meeting
2. Declarations of Interest
3. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of this Scrutiny held on 24 October 2024 (Pages 3 - 6)
4. Performance Indicators Quarter 2 2024/25 – Report of the Assistant Director of Community Services, Assistant Director of Economic Growth, Assistant Director of Highways and Capital Projects and Acting Head of Community Safety (Pages 7 - 50)
5. Public Sector Executives Group – Report of the Partnerships Director (Pages 51 - 54)
6. Work Programme – Report of the Assistant Director of Law and Governance (Pages 55 - 66)
7. 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.

8. Questions

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Luke Swinhoe', written in a cursive style.

Luke Swinhoe
Assistant Director Law and Governance

Wednesday, 8 January 2025

Town Hall
Darlington.

Membership

Councillors Cossins, Coe, Mrs Culley, Keir, Mahmud, McGill, M Nicholson, Snedker, Walters and Dr. Riley

If you need this information in a different language or format or you have any other queries on this agenda please contact Olivia Hugill, Democratic Officer, Operations 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:Olivia.hugill@darlington.gov.uk

COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Thursday, 24 October 2024

PRESENT – Councillors McGill (Chair), Cossins, Coe, Garner, Keir, Mahmud, M Nicholson, Snedker and Walters

APOLOGIES – Councillors Mrs Culley,

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE – Councillors McCollom and Dr. Riley

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE – Ian Thompson (Assistant Director Community Services), Brian Graham (Head of Environmental Services), Mike Crawshaw (Head of Heritage and Culture), Alex Nicholson (Town Centre Partnership & Events Manager), Mike Gardner (WRAP Representative) and Olivia Hugill (Democratic Officer)

CLS1 INTRODUCTIONS/ATTENDANCE AT MEETING

CLS2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Garner declared that he was a Member of the Public Affairs Committee of the CPI (Confederation of Paper Industries) and also a Member of the Steering Committee of the above, but he had no direct conflict of interest in the Waste Management Item.

CLS3 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THIS SCRUTINY HELD ON 29 AUGUST 2024

Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of this Scrutiny Committee held on 29 August 2024.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meeting of this Scrutiny Committee held on 29 August 2024 be approved as a correct record.

CLS4 TOWN CENTRE EVENTS PROGRAMME

The Assistant Director Community Services submitted a report (previously circulated) which provided an overview to Members of the Town Centre Events Programme. The report included a review of 2024 events which demonstrated the variety and quantity of animation delivered this year and the impacts events had on Darlington's businesses and visitors.

The report explained that the programme aimed to offer diverse, cultural and family friendly events. The Diwali event was programmed for the first time in November 2023 and had a fantastic response which thousands of visitors came and took part. It also included feedback from town centre businesses, the team developed town centre animation events which encouraged visitors to move around the Town Centre such as Dinosaur Day, Vintage Car Rally, Etc.

The report included how hard the team worked to attract sponsorship for the event programme 2023/24 which totalled too £40,160 so far, sponsors have included Cummins, HC One, Hays Travel, Darlington College, Etc. The budget was £196,000 which included the events direct costs, infrastructure and staffing.

The report also set out the proposed events in Darlington for 2025, as next year celebrates the 200th anniversary of the first journey on the Stockton and Darlington Railway (S&DR200) there will be a 9-month international festival taking place across County Durham and Tees Valley. The S&DR200 Festival will present a series of free large scale outdoor events and exhibitions.

Members wanted to establish whether it would be possible to host a niche event for villages surrounding Darlington, officers advised with the upcoming events for S&DR200 Festival it could incorporate smaller villages.

Members were pleased with the report details and will be looking forward to the events to come. Discussion ensued around advertisement, whether events have been promoted through different digital platforms such as adverts during Spotify etc.

Discussion ensued around sponsorship of events, had it got harder to receive funding from sponsors and whether there is enough funding behind the events for 2025.

RESOLVED – Members noted the contents of the report.

CLS5 ENVIRONMENT ACT 2021 - HOUSEHOLD WASTE MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The Assistant Director Environment, Highways and Community Services submitted a report (previously circulated) which outlined the requirements of the Environment Act 2021 and provided details on the development of the new statutory weekly food waste collection service.

The report included the main requirements of the act which are Food Waste Collection, Simpler Recycling, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and Deposit Return Scheme. The report outlined the current household waste management arrangements and what actions the council would need to consider when introducing the weekly food waste collections.

The report explained that from the end of March 2026, local authorities must collect food waste weekly from all residential properties unless transitional arrangements had been agreed.

The report stated that new 'Simpler Recycling' collections would be introduced, with the aim to produce standardisation with the same materials: plastic, metal, glass, paper, card, food waste and garden waste (charge to be applied for garden waste) collected from homes, workplaces and schools.

Under EPR it explained that this element of the Act placed responsibility onto packaging producers to cover the full net cost of the packaging they placed on the market, it was explained that Local Authorities would receive payments from 2025/26 however nothing had been confirmed.

The report described the Deposit Return Scheme and how it would be operational from October 2027, Individuals will be able to return polyethylene terephthalate (PET) bottles, steel and aluminium cans from 150ml to 3l and receive a refund on deposit paid.

The report outlined the current waste management services, data from the 2022/23 collection arrangements and The Waste and Resources Action Programme Charity's (WRAP) involvement with the Council.

The report enclosed the options which the Council proposed to Members to review and feedback to Cabinet but to consider the uncertainty of the financial forecast.

Members discussed the success rates of residents adhering to the new waste management arrangements, whether any communication/education would be given out for the public to follow.

Members discussed the options further, and how Option2 had concerns to waste management staff due to the manual handling style that would be required.

Discussion ensued around finance implications regarding the new waste management arrangements, the uncertainty of the amount of funds that would be obtained from the government.

Members discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the transition from a 240l to a 180l bin, Members wanted to know if Darlington used a medical waste collection service and the possibility for plans of recycling batteries.

RESOLVED - That members note the report and that the majority view of this Scrutiny Committee support Option 3 with the recommendation of a 1 year limit supply of bin liners and that the option for three weekly refuse collections be explored.

CLS6 TO RECEIVE THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TEES VALLEY COMBINED AUTHORITY TRANSPORT COMMITTEE - 28 MAY 2024

Submitted – The Draft Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of the Tees Valley Combined Authority Transport Committee held on 28 May 2024.

Members discussed the punctuality of the Arriva Buses in and around Darlington, and how there is now a QR Code available for which the public can report any issues during journeys.

RESOLVED – That the minutes be noted.

CLS7 WORK PROGRAMME

The Assistant Director Law and Governance submitted a report (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to this Scrutiny Committee's work programme and to consider any additional areas which Members would like to suggest be included in the work programme.

RESOLVED - That Members note the current Work Programme.

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COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 16 JANUARY 2025

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS QTR 2 2024/25

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide Members with performance data against key performance indicators for 2024/25, up to June 2024 (Quarter 2).

Background

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. 35 indicators are reported to the committee, 25 of them are updated on a six-monthly basis and ten annually.
5. Sixteen indicators are reported by Culture, nine by Community Services, one by Community Safety and nine by Highways & Capital Projects.

April to June 2023/24 comparison to 2024/25

Culture - Hippodrome

6. The number of shows taking place at the theatre increased (CUL 037 – 93 to 125). A strong period for the show programme with a selection of great quality West End musicals and drama including The Mousetrap, Sister Act The Musical, Ghost The Musical and family favourite Awful Auntie, written by David Walliams.
7. Visits to Darlington Hippodrome show's a strong improvement (CUL 038 – 43,541 to 54,340).
8. The number of shows held at the Hullabaloo has remained the same (CUL 078 - 30 to 30). The Hippadrome have presented 10 Hipp @ the Hullabaloo performances. Stand out performances included Edinburgh Fringe previews from Tom Stade and Gareth Mutch, comedian & magician Pete Firman and popular murder mystery Solve-along-a Murder She Wrote. Growth expected as we move into the second half of the year with a focus on increasing the average number of monthly performances from 2 to 3. The Hipp

@ the Hullabaloo performances, scheduled by Darlington Hippodrome, are on target: 27 performances scheduled against a target of 25.

9. Attendances at The Hullabaloo have increased (CUL 079 – 2,032 to 2,097). Average attendance is over 100 per performance at Hip @ The Hullabaloo shows. It is clear that the content of the programme is attracting good sized audiences. Comedians during this period have attracted the largest audiences supporting the venue to also meet the secondary spend targets. Broadening the Hipp @ the Hullabaloo programme over the next 6 months will attract new attendance and increase the average occupancy.

Culture - Hopetown

10. The number of visits to the Hopetown is reported for the first time (CUL 071a - 55,920). In the first twelve weeks since opening to the public there have been 55,920 visitors to the site. This is through a series of vibrant events and activities, school visits, private hires and visits to the museum, Wagon Woods and the Brick Journeys exhibition. This is an amazing achievement for a brand-new visitor attraction which has only been open since the summer after an 18-month redevelopment project.

Culture – Library Service

11. The number of library items borrowed, physical books, audio books and digital stock, increased (CUL 100 – 112,480 to 148,382), a 32% increase on the same period last year. These figures include physical books, audio books at both our libraries, our outward facing lending, and our digital stock comprising of eBooks, eAudio, digital magazines and newspapers. Books can be borrowed and returned to either of our libraries. Digital stock can be accessed on a customer's phone or device. In addition, we make home deliveries to those aged 60+, and we deliver books to nurseries and schools within Darlington.
12. The amount of physical stock borrowed from Darlington Library increased (CUL 101 – 43,114 to 72,255), a percentage increase of 68% when compared with the same period last year. This encapsulates the borrowing from visiting customers, plus our home deliveries to those aged 60+, and our deliveries to nurseries and schools.
13. The amount of physical stock borrowed from Cockerton Library decreased (CUL 102 – 47,808 to 32,292). The library has seen an expected decline in borrowing following the reopening of Darlington Library. However, levels remain good when compared with the same period pre-pandemic (30,955 in 2019/20), a 4% increase. Borrowing includes customers borrowing during opening hours, families borrowing books at the sessions we run out of hours, and the borrowing from school pupils during a class visit to Cockerton Library.
14. The number of physical visits to the Darlington Library increased (CUL 103 – 13,722 to 91,860). Visitor numbers are averaging 15,300 visitors each month this year. This is the same average as in 2019/20, before the library was closed due to pandemic and its restoration. After reopening, many people visited to view the new spaces and facilities. Visitors are now dwelling longer in the spaces, with The Study being frequently used by a variety of audiences for computer-use, reading, and working. More adults are taking part in activities within the library than before, with The Hive being a place for all ages to

learn and explore. The library has increased activity, including out-of-hours, using funding from the Arts Council England.

15. The number of physical visits to Cockerton Library decreased (CUL 104 – 30,222 to 20,971). Visitor numbers were predictably high whilst Darlington Library was closed for restoration, now both libraries are open there is a reduction in those visiting the branch. Cockerton Library remains busy with footfall increasing over the school summer holidays. So far this year, the average number of visitors each month was 3,495 people. This data includes customers visiting during the 29 hours per week it is open, school visits, families joining for out-of-hour events and activities, including regular Bookstart Rhymetimes and the holidays programming.
16. The total number of group engagements by the library service has increased (CUL 105 - 365 to 686). The service has transformed with all staff contributing to the engagement-led approach. Up to September 25,308 people have taken part in the 686 events that have been delivered at the libraries or at outward facing events. Highlights include the Library Takeover Day in the marketplace, our BookFest and Crossing the Tees Book Festivals, and our new 'Enriching Education' schools offer.
17. The number of group engagements by Darlington library has increased (CUL 106 - 54 to 458). The Hive works with schools offering classes from Reception to Year 11 the opportunity to develop STEM skills using our 3D printers, Laser and Cricut machines, and our class Virtual Reality. It also offers adult workshops in dress-making, fabric make-do and mend, 3D printing and more. Out of school time, children can learn to animate their own films, 3D design and print, and during the holidays can take part in a variety of crafty workshops utilising our innovative digital equipment. We also offer reading, watercolour, fabric, and craft groups for adults, and Bookstart Rhymetime, LEGO, reading, craft, and art groups for children.
18. The number of group engagements by Cockerton library has decreased (CUL 107 - 270 to 204). The branch library has increased its activity programme with regular after-school sessions offered for children on the evenings they are open. Activities include boredom busting games, photography, watercolours, and story, song and craft. We also offer watercolours for adults, and a monthly Musical Memories group for older people and those with dementia. Out-of-hours, Cockerton Library holds regular speech and language sessions for babies and preschool children to develop speaking and listening, and parent-child bonding.
19. The number of educational interactions by the libraries increased (CUL 108 - 106 to 109). The Hive provides learning in 3D design and print, Coding/Robotics, laser cutting, as well as a large and varied educational offer using our Class Virtual Reality (VR). These are linked to the National Curriculum. Both libraries offer class visits and Local Studies provides learning about the history of Darlington. Last year's school satisfaction survey identified that Hive sessions, supported learning and attainment, engaged those not ordinarily engaged, enhanced the curriculum, provided access to equipment not found within their school.
20. The number of enquiries directed to the Centre for Local Studies increased (CUL 109 – 1,384 to 2,868). The team provide customers with resources and support to research

their family history and to learn about the history of the town. They are continually adding to the collection, and plan and present regular displays to attract visitors. Recently they have developed their schools offer, with opportunities to visit and learn about how the centre works, and about the history of Darlington, with children given access to unique source materials. They have also produced a walking tour for school classes to do around the town centre.

Community Services

21. The number of Street Champions who are registered as being actively involved in litter picking has increased. (ENV 002 – 587 to 686). The age range of street champions is varied from young children going out litter picking with their parents to recently retired individuals. A number of teenagers have registered as part of the Duke of Edinburgh scheme. A group of care leavers and a resident association have register as street champions. New street champions have registered where new housing estates have been developed, increasing the total area covered by street champions.
22. The total number of large fly-tips reported has increased (ENV 006c – 386 to 467).
23. The total number of small fly-tips reported has increased (ENV 006d – 1,535 to 1,739).
24. The overall total number of fly-tips reported has increased (ENV 006e – 1,921 to 2,206). The increase is due to additional reporting of side waste (classed as fly-tipping) by both Enforcement Officers and Fire Service. Overall, 95.7% are being removed within the time scales irrespective of numbers.
25. The percentage of household waste that is collected that is either reused, recycled or composted has decreased at the end of Quarter 1 (ENV 009 31.2% to 30.7%). Darlington is slightly below the North East (34.7%) average, but below the England (44.2%) average. Work continues to be undertaken by Street Scene and communication teams to increase recycling and reduce contamination. Cabinet will consider a report in the new year with regard to options to introduce a food waste collection service which will increase overall recycling rates.
26. The percentage of small fly tips removed within target time has increased (ENV 021 – 83.3% to 97.2%). On average 96% of these tips were collected within target of 5 days.
27. The percentage of large fly tips removed within target time scales increased (ENV 022 – 79.6% to 94.6%). On average 94% of these tips were collected within target. A longer time can be required due to the complexity of the collection and requirement for special resources (e.g. asbestos).
28. The litter score average percentage increased (ENV 024 - 73% to 84.9%). This is a rolling average percentage score of the 40 transects inspected for litter every month. Two wards are covered each month in which twenty areas of the ward are inspected. Each ward is covered once within a twelve-month period. Street Scene continue to assist with the Civic Enforcement back lane project, which incorporates litter picking of the front street as well as the back lane.

Community Safety

29. The number of prosecutions for fly-tipping has increased (ENV 023 - 8 to 11). Civic Enforcement continue to conduct proactive and reactive investigations into fly tipping, and this has resulted in 11 successful prosecutions to date this year. The targeting of areas on an evidence led approach is taking place to monitor and patrol which will identify further opportunities to identify, pursue and prosecute fly tipping offences. New initiatives and methods are being investigated to help secure evidence for prosecutions.

Trading Standards and Animal Health

30. The percentage of high-risk inspections carried out by Trading Standards has decreased (REG 803 - 75% to 36%). Trading Standards plans a programme of intelligence-led business inspections to check on compliance with trading standards legislation, support them into compliance where necessary and investigate areas of non-compliance as required. A large proportion of these inspections are of premises licensed for the storage of explosives. As these are principally fireworks, they take place during late October and early November. By mid-year we are at 36% inspections complete which given the explosives inspections is on target for 100% by the end of the financial year. High risk inspections this year have also included visits to e-bike sellers and repairers due to the fire risks with lithium batteries. Animal Health visits have been increased this year due to the financial burdens on farmers which could have an effect on animal welfare.

April to March 2022/23 comparison to 2023/24

Culture – Libraries

31. The percentage of reserved stock or stock from another library supplied within 7 days increased (CUL 070 - 64% to 66%), by 3.1%. Reservations are marketed as "Select and Collect" and allow customers to "select" a book or resource from the library catalogue to collect from the branch of their choice, promoting both libraries.

Highways & Capital Projects

32. The percentage of non-frequent bus services running on time information (TCP 101 / 101a) is no longer available to report. With agreement from members, an indicator collected via the National Highways & Transport Network survey on whether buses arrive on time can be used as a replacement.
33. The percentage of principal roads where maintenance should be considered (A class) (TCP 200a) was 7.2%. The percentage of non-principal roads where maintenance should be considered (B and C class) (TCP 202a) was 4.7%. The percentage unclassified roads where maintenance should be considered (TCP 203a) was 4.1%.

The inspection method has changed from an automated survey using a SCANNER vehicle to a visual Annual Engineering Inspection (AEI). This provides more accurate treatment selection information to assist with the planning of five-year highways maintenance schemes. The 2023/24 inspection figure shows 7.2% of principal roads needing

consideration for maintenance. Due to the change in method, this data is not comparable with previous years and with some authorities remaining on SCANNER for now it is not possible to get an accurate comparison with the north east and nationally. We expect most authorities to transition to AEI over the coming years which would then allow meaningful comparison.

34. The number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents has decreased based on pre-pandemic traffic data and volumes. (TCP 600 – 47 to 37). Of the 37 there has been 3 fatalities.
35. The number of people slightly injured in road traffic accidents has decreased (TCP 601 – 89 to 81), despite traffic volumes recovering to similar levels to that recorded prior to Covid-19, showing a downward trend since the pandemic. The Council's Local Transport Plan outlines the investment in speed management and casualty reduction schemes.
36. The number of children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents has decreased (TCP 602 – 4 to 1). The Council invest in road safety education. There have been no child fatalities since 2013.
37. The number of children slightly injured in road traffic accidents has decreased (TCP 603 – 17 to 12). The long-term trend shows significant reductions from the 45 recorded in 2012.

April to March 2023/24 comparison to 2024/25

38. The overall public satisfaction with Public Transport Theme has increased (TCP 900 – 44% to 48%), which is below the Highways and Transport Network average of 51%. Tees Valley Combined Authority are the Local Transport Authority responsible for public transport and the Council will continue to work in partnership to steer investment into public transport in Darlington to improve satisfaction levels.

Performance Summary

Comparison at half year

39. 23 of the 35 indicators reported have Quarter 2 (six month) data which can be compared with the same period for 2023/24.
40. When taking into consideration what is best performance for each indicator:
 - a) 15 of the 23 indicators have increased when compared to the same period as last year.
 - b) 7 of the 23 indicators have decreased when compared to the same period as last year.
 - c) 1 of the 23 indicators have remained the same.

Annual comparison

41. Five of the 35 indicators reported have 2023/24 (year-end) data which can be compared with the same period for 2022/23 and one has 2024/25 data which can be compared to 2023/24.
42. When taking into consideration what is best performance for each indicator:
- a) Five of the six indicators have increased when compared to the same period as last year.
 - b) One of the six indicators have decreased when compared to the same period as last year.
43. One of the 35 indicators information is only available up to June. 42. When taking into consideration what is best performance it had decreased.
44. Five of the 35 indicators have no comparative information.
45. A detailed performance scorecard is attached at Appendix 1.
46. Detailed performance and narratives for each indicator is attached at Appendix 2.

Recommendations

47. It is recommended that:
- a) Performance information provided in this report is reviewed and noted, and relevant queries raised with appropriate Assistant Director or Head of Service.
 - b) Agreement of the four alternative indicators.

Ian Thompson
Assistant Director – Community Services
Mark Ladyman
Assistant Director – Economic Growth
Anthony Hewitt
Assistant Director – Highways and Capital Projects
Darren Ellis
Acting Head of Community Safety

Background Papers

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

Council Plan	<p>This report contributes to the Council Plan by involving Members in the scrutiny of performance relating to the delivery of the key priorities</p> <p>COMMUNITIES – working together for safer, healthier and more engaged communities</p> <p>LOCAL ENVIRONMENT – a well-connected, clean and sustainable borough</p>
Addressing inequalities	<p>This report supports the promotion of diversity</p> <p>There are no specific indicators on inequalities contained within this report</p>
Tackling Climate Change	<p>There is no impact on carbon and climate change as a result of this report</p> <p>There are no specific indicators on climate change contained within this report</p>
Efficient and effective use of resources	<p>Scrutiny of performance is integral to optimising outcomes.</p> <p>This report has no impact on the Council’s Efficiency Programme.</p>
Health and Wellbeing	<p>This report supports performance improvement relating to improving the health and wellbeing of residents</p>
S17 Crime and Disorder	<p>This report supports the Councils Crime and Disorder responsibilities</p>
Wards Affected	<p>This report supports performance improvement across all Wards</p>
Groups Affected	<p>This report supports performance improvement which benefits all groups</p>
Budget and Policy Framework	<p>This report does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework</p>
Key Decision	<p>This is not a key decision</p>
Urgent Decision	<p>This is not an urgent decision</p>
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	<p>This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers</p>

Communities and Local Services Scrutiny Committee					2024 - 2025 QUARTER 2					APPENDIX 1				
					2024			2025		QUARTER		2		2024/2025
Indicator	Title	Return Format	Reported	What is best	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025 - Qtr 1	2024/2025 - Qtr 2	Qtr 2 compared to Qtr 1	2023/2024 - Qtr 2	Qtr 2 - 2024/2025 compared to 2023/2024	2022/2023 compared to 2021/2022	2023/2024 compared to 2022/2023
CUL 037	Number of shows held at the Hippodrome	Number	Monthly	Higher	173	251	225	60	125	NA	93	↑	↑	↓
CUL 038	Number of individual attendances at Hippodrome theatre shows	Number	Monthly	Higher	83,298	126,357	125,429	24,365	54,340	NA	43,541	↑	↑	↓
CUL 070	Reservations - where an item is reserved from stock or from another library and is supplied within 7 days, shown as a %	Percentage	Annually	Higher	60%	64%	66%	Annual indicator no data to report for these quarters		NA	No data available	NA	↑	↑
CUL 071a	Number of visits to Hopetown	Number	Monthly	Higher	No data available	No data available	No data available	0	55,920	NA	No data available	NA	NA	NA
CUL 078	Number of shows held at the Hullabaloo	Number	Monthly	Higher	107	122	156	19	30	NA	30	↔	↑	↑
CUL 079	Number of individual attendances at Hullabaloo shows	Number	Monthly	Higher	3,622	6,908	8,957	1,450	2,097	NA	2,032	↑	↑	↑
CUL 100	Number of library items borrowed	Number	Monthly	Higher	214,027	208,702	242,843	72,238	148,382	NA	112,480	↑	↓	↑
CUL 101	Physical Stock borrowed from Darlington Library	Number	Monthly	Higher	136,403	89,785	114,021	34,843	72,255	NA	43,114	↑	↓	↑
CUL 102	Physical Stock borrowed from Cockerton Library	Number	Monthly	Higher	36,748	76,931	80,824	16,351	32,292	NA	47,808	↓	↑	↑
CUL 103	Number of physical visits to Darlington Library	Number	Monthly	Higher	62,657	24,093	160,260	48,638	91,860	NA	13,722	↑	↓	↑
CUL 104	Number of physical visits to Cockerton Library	Number	Monthly	Higher	11,279	48,333	48,961	9,599	20,971	NA	30,222	↓	↑	↑
CUL 105	Number of group engagements	Number	Monthly	Higher	257	598	989	333	686	NA	365	↑	↑	↑
CUL 106	Number of group engagements at Darlington Library	Number	Monthly	Higher	158	83	415	230	458	NA	54	↑	↓	↑
CUL 107	Number of group engagements at Cockerton Library	Number	Monthly	Higher	80	415	474	100	204	NA	270	↓	↑	↑
CUL 108	Number of educational interactions	Number	Monthly	Higher	55	173	304	68	109	NA	106	↑	↑	↑
CUL 109	Number of enquires directed to the Centre for Local Studies	Number	Monthly	Higher	3,445	2,994	4,823	1,405	2,868	NA	1,384	↑	↓	↑
ENV 002	Number of Street Champions who are registered as being actively involved in litter picking a minimum of once per month	Number	Quarterly	Higher	416	522	617	644	686	NA	587	↑	↑	↑
ENV 006c	Total number of large fly-tips reported	Number	Quarterly	Lower	825	700	668	211	467	NA	386	↓	↑	↑
ENV 006d	Total number of small fly-tips reported	Number	Quarterly	Lower	2,138	2,491	3,048	871	1,739	NA	1,535	↓	↓	↓
ENV 006e	Total number of fly-tips reported	Number	Quarterly	Lower	2,963	3,191	3,716	1,082	2,206	NA	1,921	↓	↓	↓
ENV 009	% household waste that is collected that is either reused, recycled or composted	Percentage	Quarterly	Higher	32.4%	31.7%	30.8%	30.7%	No data available	NA	32.7%	NA	↓	↓
ENV 021	% of small fly tips removed within target time	Percentage	Monthly	Higher	93.6%	96.7%	99.3%	99.2%	97.2%	↓	83.3%	↑	↑	↑
ENV 022	% of large fly tips removed within target time	Percentage	Monthly	Higher	93.6%	93.7%	100.0%	95.5%	94.6%	↓	79.6%	↑	↑	↑
ENV 023	Number of prosecutions for fly-tipping	Number	Quarterly	Higher	No data available	7	23	2	11	NA	8	↑	NA	↑
ENV 024	Land Audit Management System - Litter Score	Percentage Value	Quarterly	Higher	No data available	71.0%	82.0%	85.0%	85.0%	NA	73%	↑	NA	↑
REG 803	Trading Standards : % of high risk inspections carried out	Percentage	Quarterly	Higher	100%	58%	100%	4%	36%	NA	75%	↓	↓	↑
TCP 101a	Bus punctuality - % of non-frequent bus services running on time	Percentage	Annually	Higher	No data available	No data available	No data available	No data available	No data available	NA	No data available	NA	NA	NA
TCP 200a	% of principal roads where maintenance should be considered (A class)	Percentage	Annually	Lower	No data available	No data available	7.24%			NA		NA	NA	NA

Communities and Local Services Scrutiny Committee 2024 - 2025 QUARTER 2										APPENDIX 1				
										2024/2025			Year End data direction of travel	
Indicator	Title	Return Format	Reported	What is best	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025 - Qtr 1	2024/2025 - Qtr 2	Qtr 2 compared to Qtr 1	2023/2024 - Qtr 2	Qtr 2 - 2024/2025 compared to 2023/2024	2022/2023 compared to 2021/2022	2023/2024 compared to 2022/2023
TCP 202a	% of non principal roads where maintenance should be considered (B and C class)	Percentage	Annually	Lower	No data available	No data available	4.68%	Annual indicator no data to report for these quarters		NA	Annual indicator no data to report for these quarters	NA	NA	NA
TCP 203a	% of unclassified roads where maintenance should be considered	Percentage	Annually	Lower	No data available	No data available	4.1%			NA		NA	NA	
TCP 600	Number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents	Number	Annually	Lower	41	47	37			NA		NA	↓	↑
TCP 601	Number of people slightly injured in road traffic accidents	Number	Annually	Lower	113	89	81			NA		NA	↑	↑
TCP 602	Number of children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents	Number	Annually	Lower	5	4	1			NA		NA	↑	↑
TCP 603	Number of children slightly injured in road traffic accidents	Number	Annually	Lower	8	17	12			NA		NA	↓	↑
TCP 900	Overall Public Satisfaction with Public Transport Theme (National Highways and Transport Survey)	Percentage	Annually	Higher	55%	48%	44%			NA		48%	NA	↓
									Better than =	0	15	16	24	
									Not as good as =	2	7	12	6	
									The same as =	0	1	0	0	
									No comparative data	33	12	7	5	



DBC Number

CUL 037

Indicator Name

Number of shows held at the Hippodrome

Theme or Portfolio

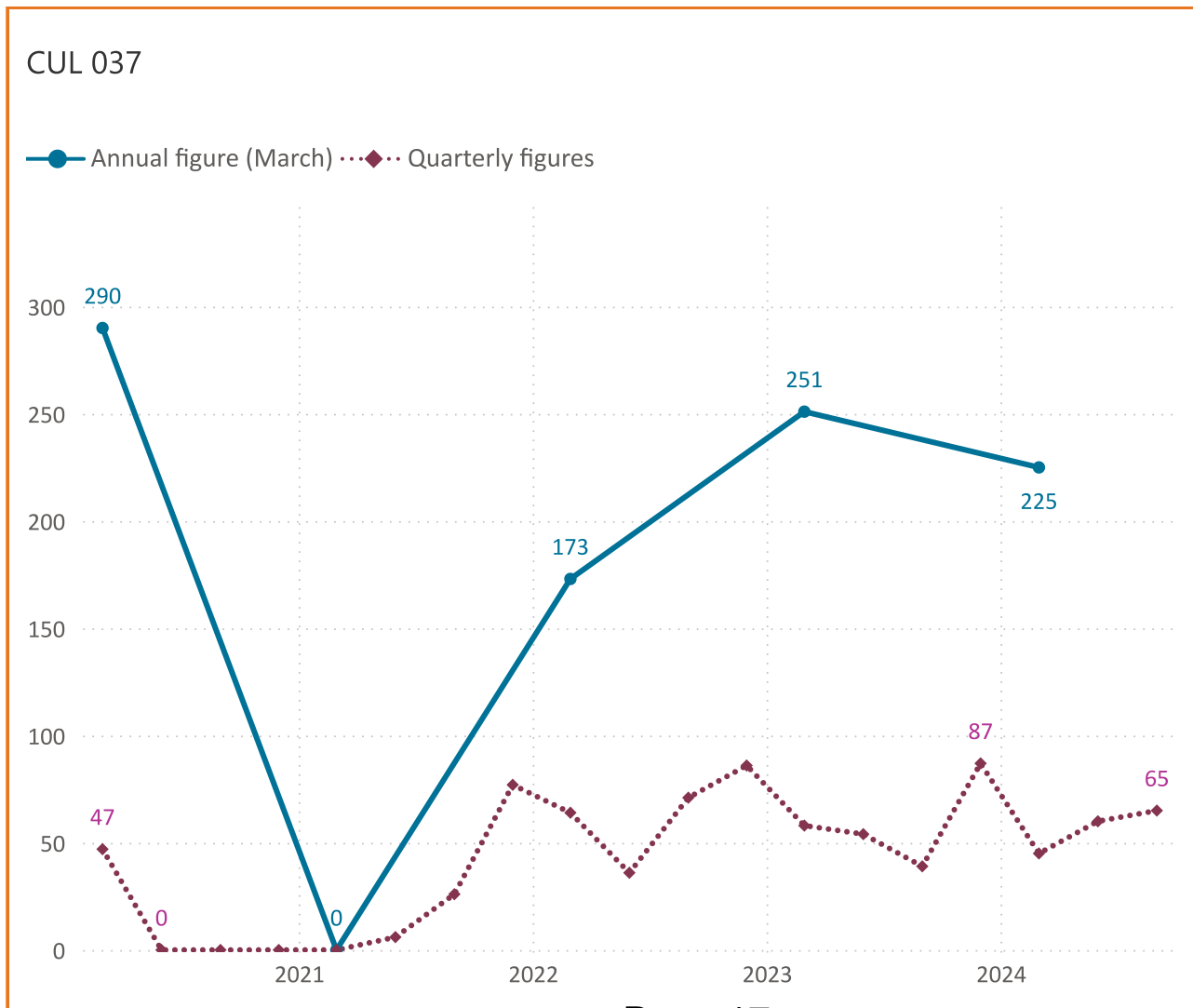
Priority or Key Action

Narrative

A strong period for the show programme with a selection of great quality West End musicals and drama including The Mousetrap, Sister Act The Musical, Ghost The Musical and family favourite Awful Auntie, written by David Walliams.

In Q1 there was 60 shows compared to 54 shows in the same period the previous year; and in Q2 there have been 65 shows compared to 39 in the same period the previous year; demonstrating an increase in performance on the number of shows held at the Hippodrome when compared to last year.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

CUL 038

Indicator Name

Number of individual attendances at theatre shows

Theme or Portfolio

Local Environment

Priority or Key Action

Work with local stakeholders and businesses to promote a diverse and accessible programme of events that maximises footfall in the town centre and has a positive impact on the local economy

Narrative

At the same time last year there had been a total of 43,541 attendances at theatre shows. This year there have been 54,340 attendances; performance to date shows a strong improvement when compared to the same time last year.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

CUL 070

Indicator Name

Library Reservations: % of reserved stock or stock from another library supplied within 7 days

Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

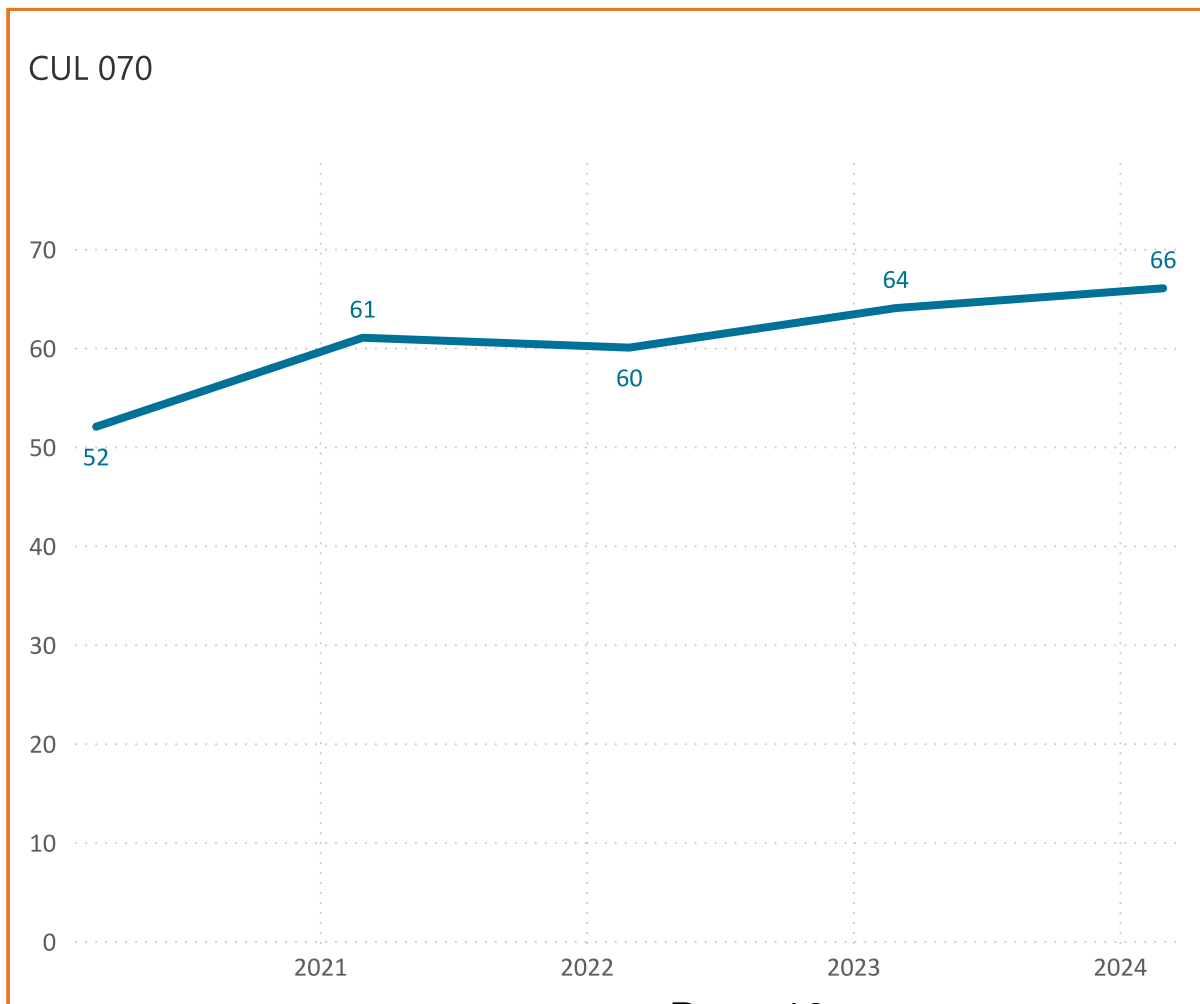
Narrative

Reservations are marketed as Select and Collect and allow customers to "select" a book or resource from the online library catalogue or app to collect from the branch of their choice.

Staff source the books from the stores at Darlington Library which are inaccessible to the public, or from the branch where the book is located, and this is sent to the library the customer is using. It also allows customers to reserve a book which may be on loan to someone else.

This helps keep stock moving and customers happy.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

CUL 071a

Indicator Name

Number of visits to Hopetown

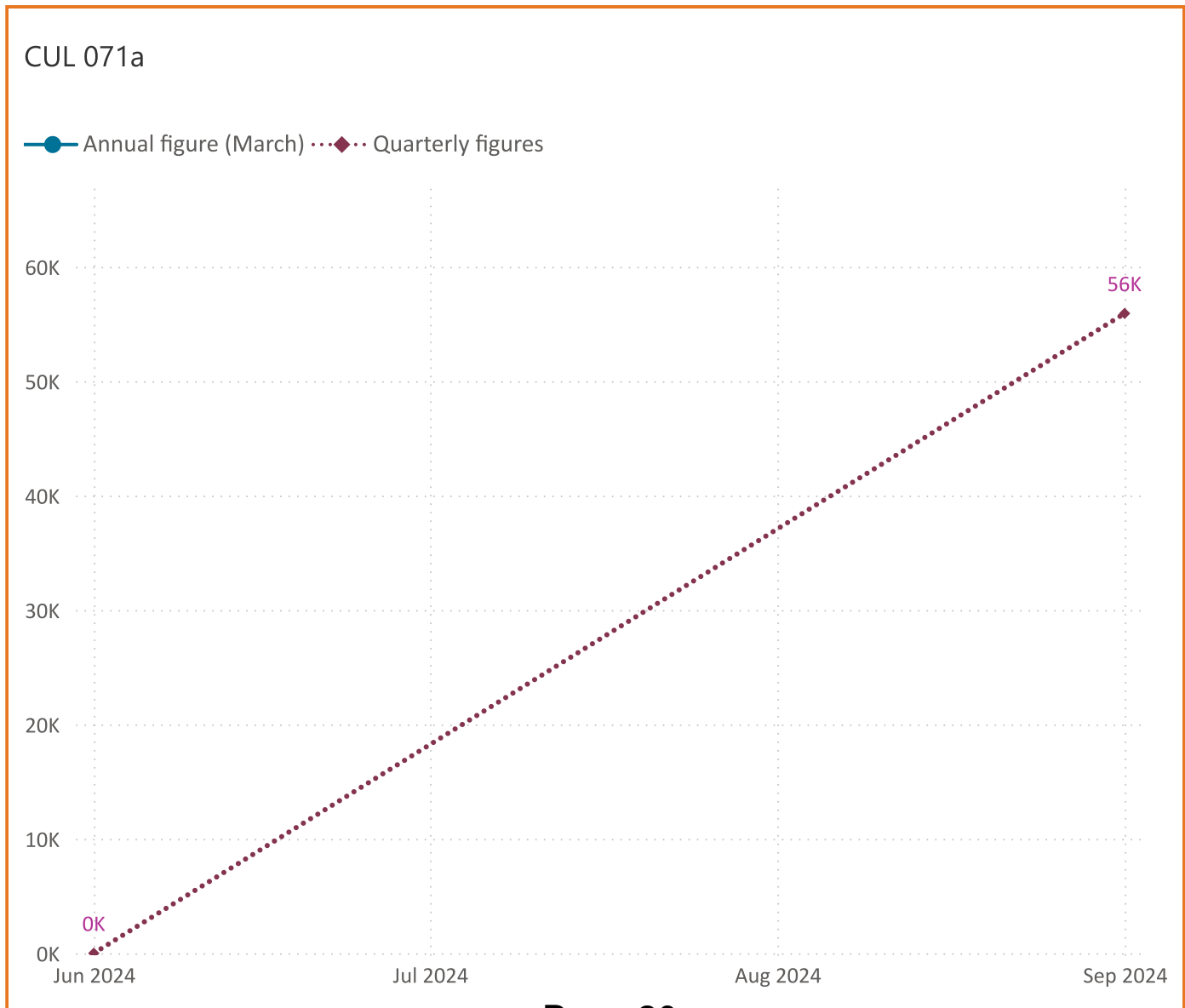
Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

Narrative

In the twelve weeks since Hopetown Darlington opened to the public we have welcomed 55,920 visitors to the site. This is through a series of vibrant events and activities, school visits, private hires and visits to the museum, Wagon Woods and the Brick Journeys exhibition. This is an amazing achievement for a brand new visitor attraction which has only been open since the summer after an 18 month redevelopment project.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

CUL 078

Indicator Name

Number of shows held at the Hullabaloo

Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

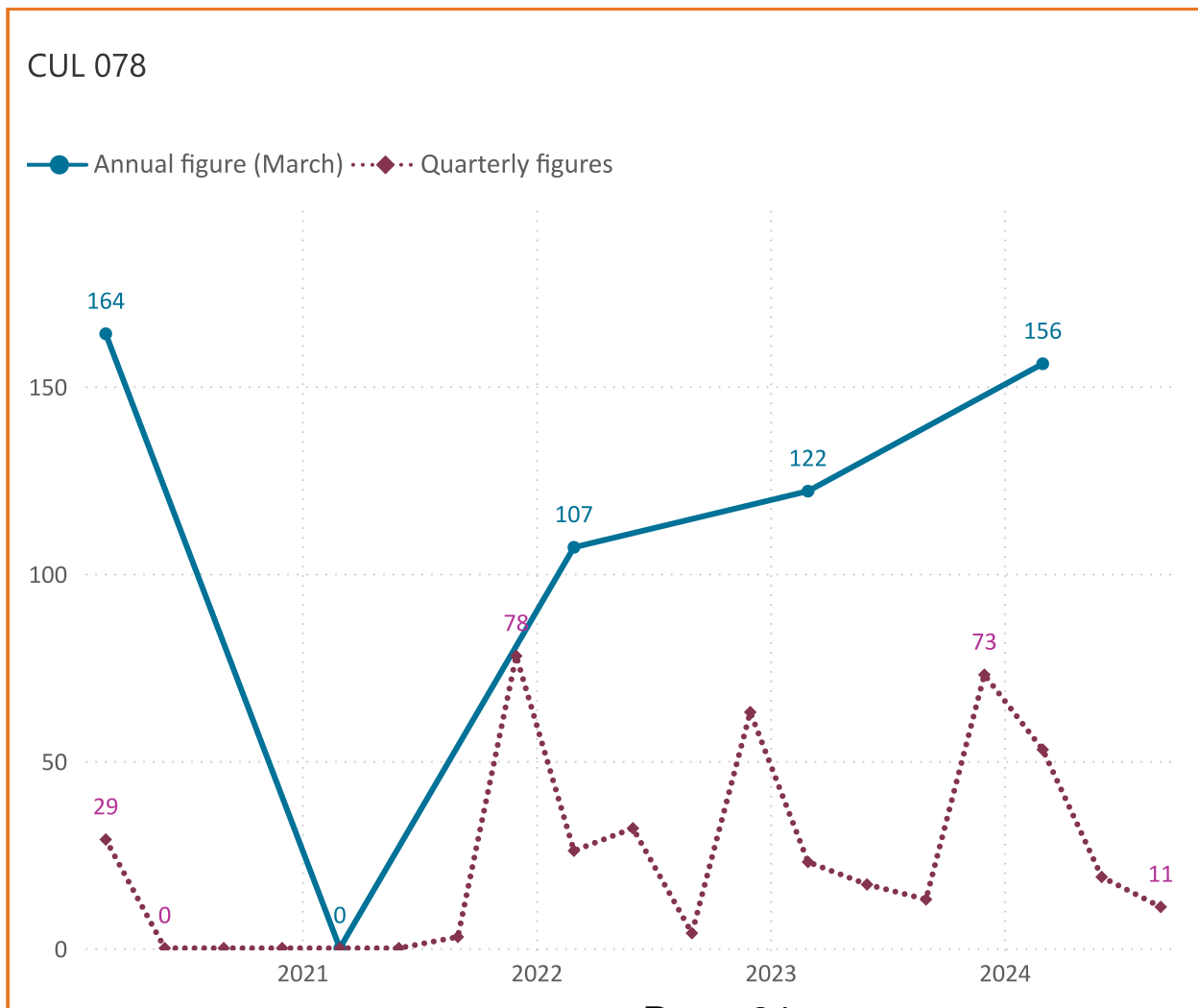
Narrative

The overall number of shows when compared to the same period as last year has remained the same at 30. There have been ten performances presented by The Hipp @ the Hullabaloo across April to September.

Darlington Hippodrome are increasing their average number of monthly performances from 2 to 3 in the second half of the year. There are 27 performances scheduled for the year which is above the target of 25.

Stand out performances to date include Edinburgh Fringe previews from Tom Stade and Gareth Mutch, comedian & magician Pete Firman and popular murder mystery Solve-along-a Murder She Wrote.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

CUL 079

Indicator Name

Number of individual attendances at Hullabaloo shows

Theme or Portfolio

Local Environment

Priority or Key Action

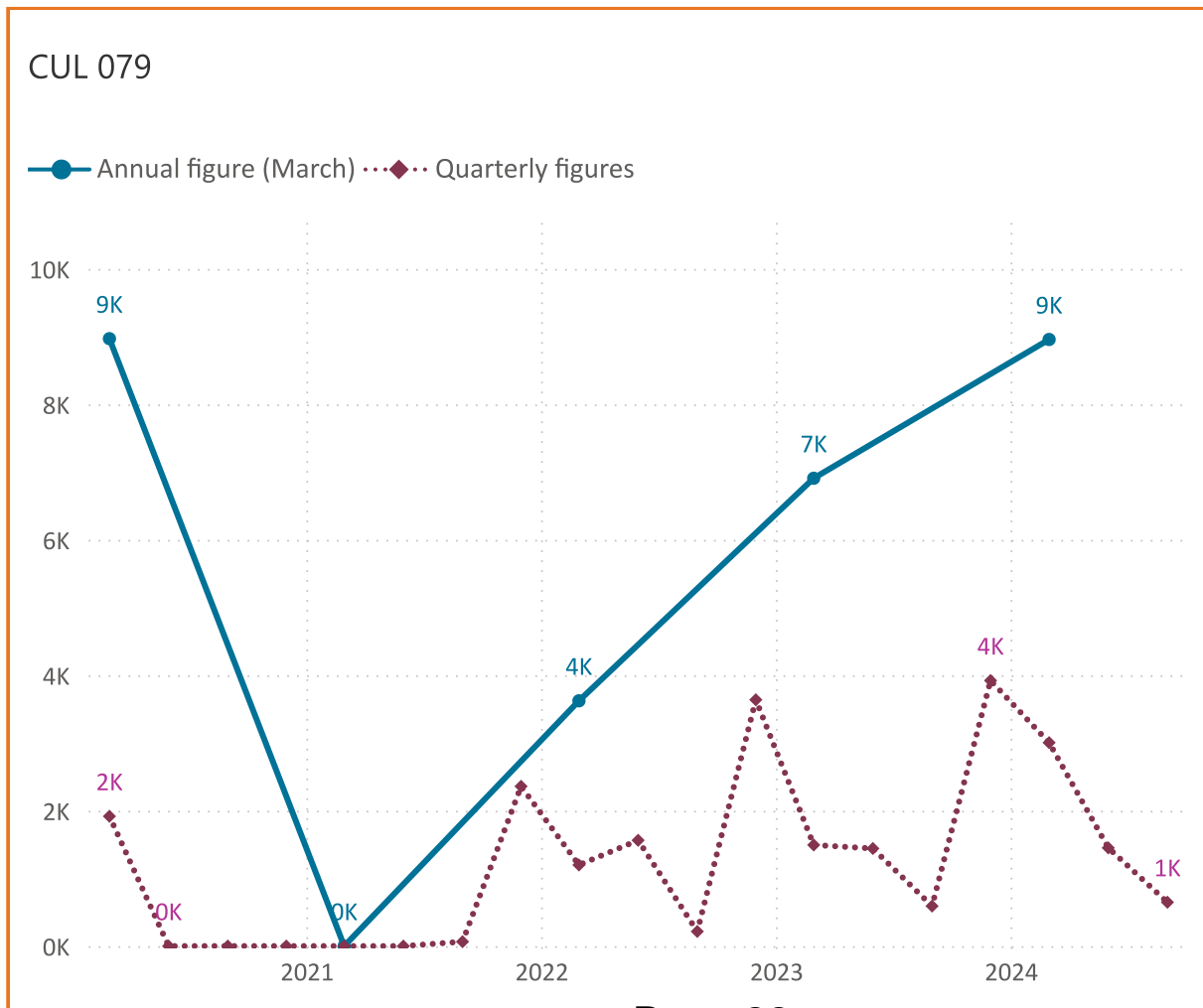
Work with local stakeholders and businesses to promote a diverse and accessible programme of events that maximises footfall in the town centre and has a positive impact on the local economy

Narrative

Total attendance for this period is at 2,097, with average attendance at over 100 per performance at Hip @ The Hullabaloo shows, it is clear that the content of the programme is attracting good sized audiences. Comedians during this period have attracted the largest audiences supporting the venue to also meet the secondary spend targets.

Broadening the Hipp @ the Hullabaloo programme over the next 6 months will attract new attendance and increase the average occupancy.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

CUL 100

Indicator Name

Library items borrowed (including physical and digital stock)

Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

Whilst - Valuing our heritage and culture

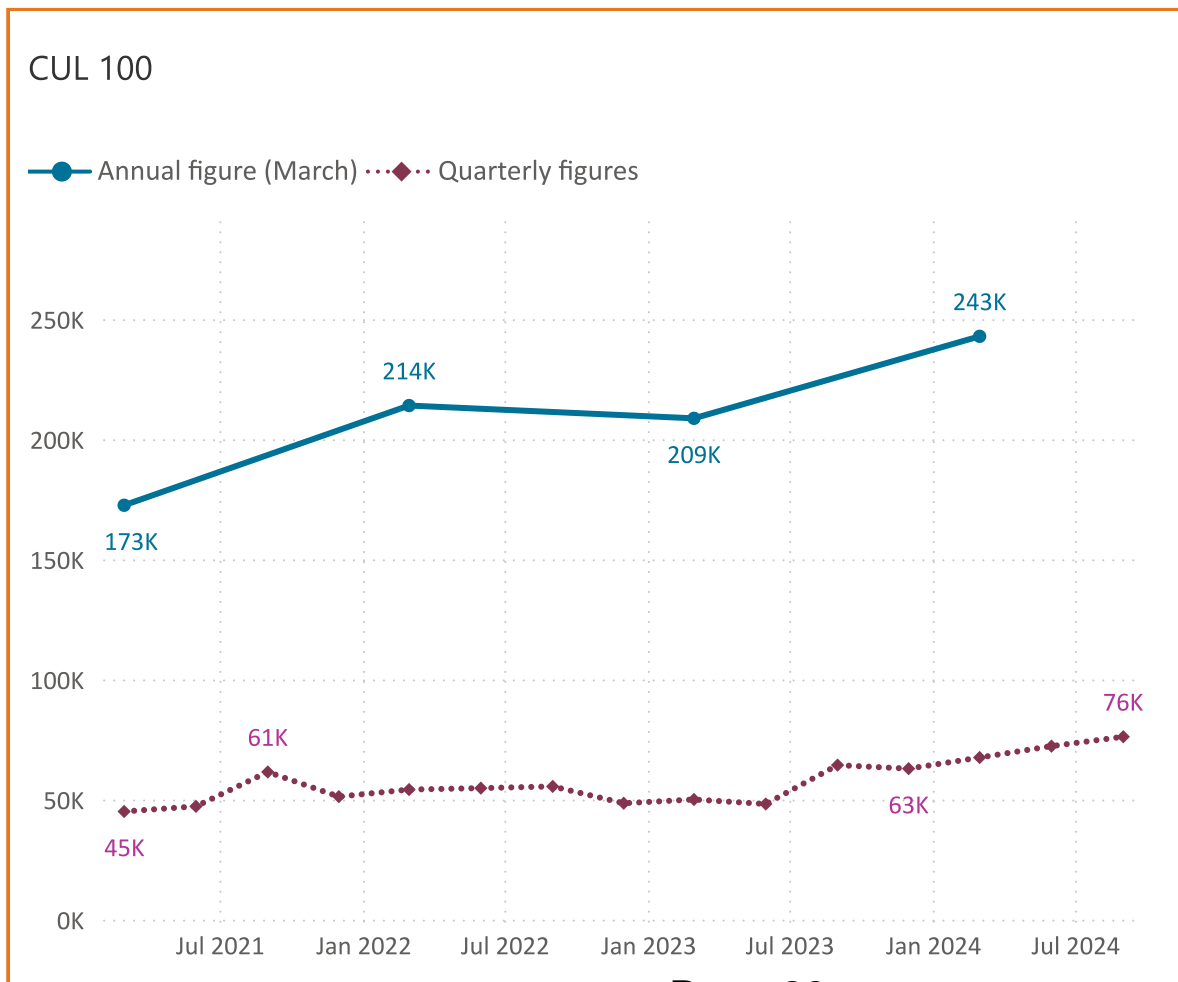
Narrative

These figures include physical books, audio books at both our libraries, our outward facing lending, and our digital stock comprising of eBooks, eAudio, digital magazines and newspapers.

Books can be borrowed and returned to either of our libraries. Digital stock can be accessed on a customer's phone or device. In addition, we make home deliveries to those aged 60+, and we deliver books to nurseries and schools within Darlington.

It is pleasing to report our figures show a 32% increase on the same period last year. (112,480 in 2023/24 and 148,382 in 2024/25)

Graph/Table





DBC Number

CUL 101

Indicator Name

Physical Stock borrowed from Darlington Library

Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

Narrative

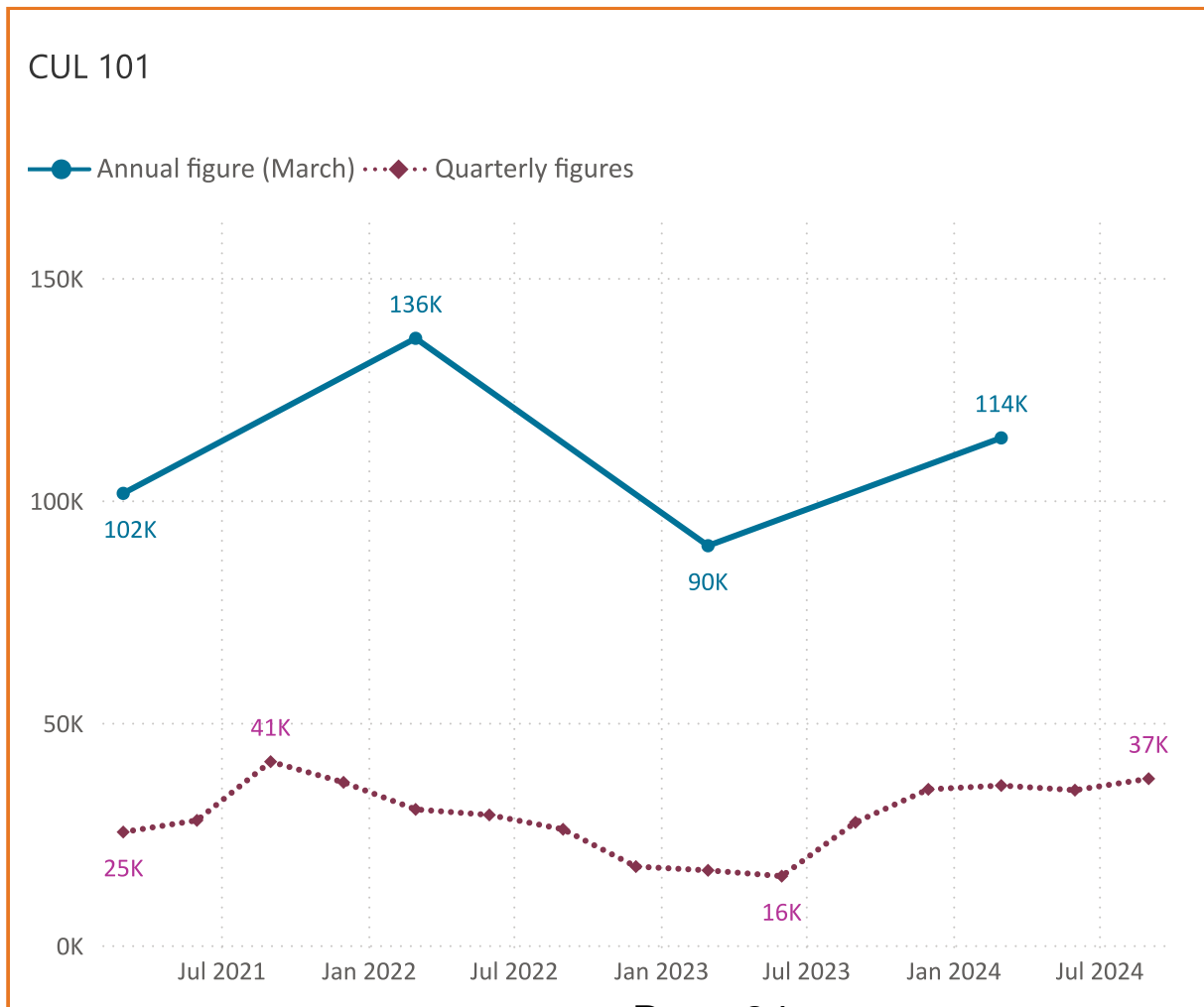
This refers to all stock borrowed from, or via our central library on Crown Street.

This encapsulates the borrowing from visiting customers, plus our home deliveries to those aged 60+, and our deliveries to nurseries and schools.

There is a percentage increase of 68% when compared with the same period last year. (43,114 in 2023/24 compared with 72,255 in 2024/25)

To note: the central library reopened in September 2023.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

CUL 102

Indicator Name

Physical Stock borrowed from Cockerton Library

Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

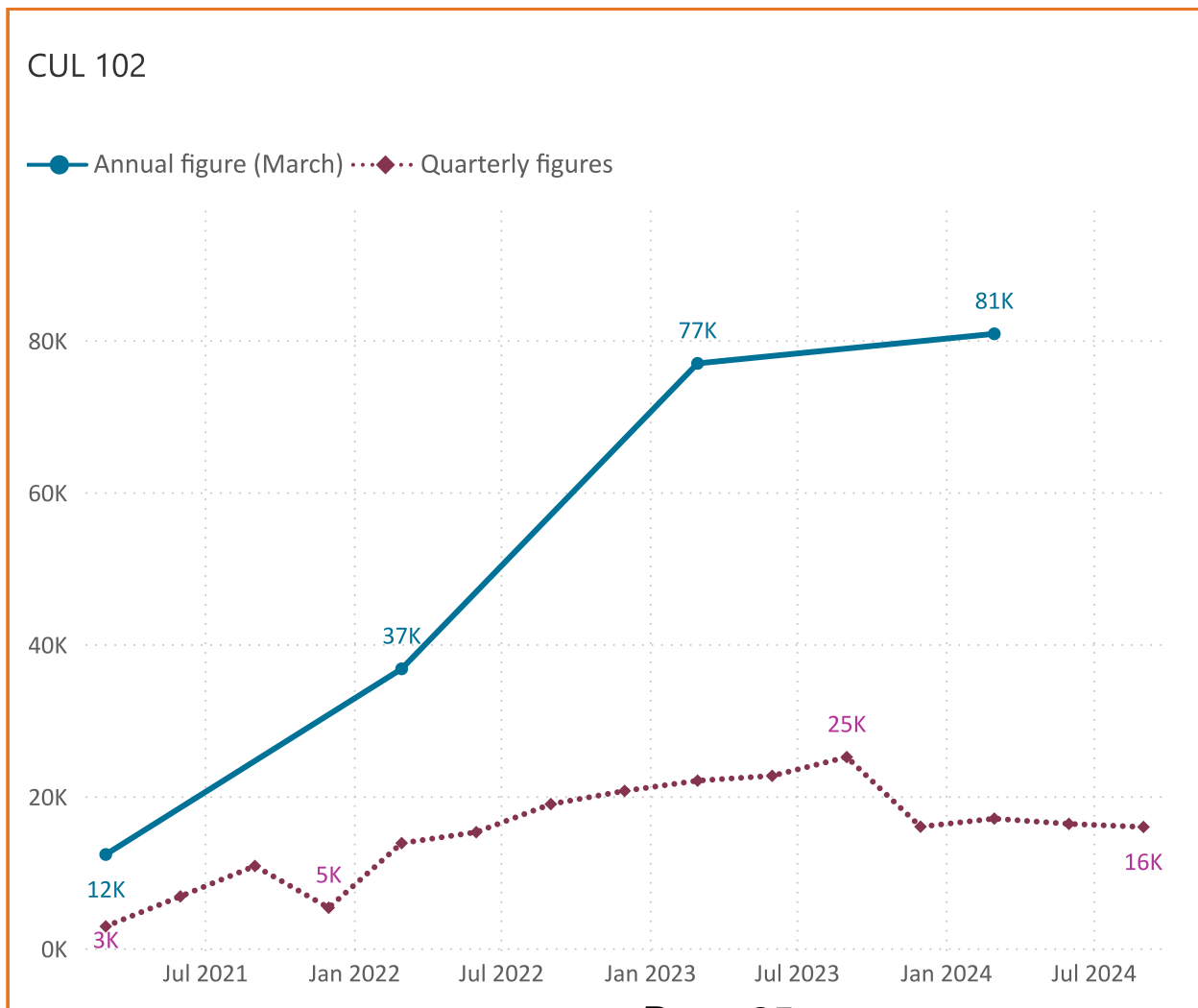
Narrative

This refers to all book stock borrowed from the branch library in Cockerton.

This includes customers borrowing during opening hours, families borrowing books at the sessions we run out of hours, and the borrowing from school pupils during a class visit to Cockerton Library.

We have seen an expected decline in borrowing at Cockerton Library following the reopening of Darlington Library, however borrowing levels remain good when compared with the same months figures pre-pandemic. (30,955 in 2019/20 compared with 32,292 in 2024/25- a 4% increase)

Graph/Table





DBC Number

CUL 103

Indicator Name

Number of physical visits to Darlington Library (door count)

Theme or Portfolio

Local Environment

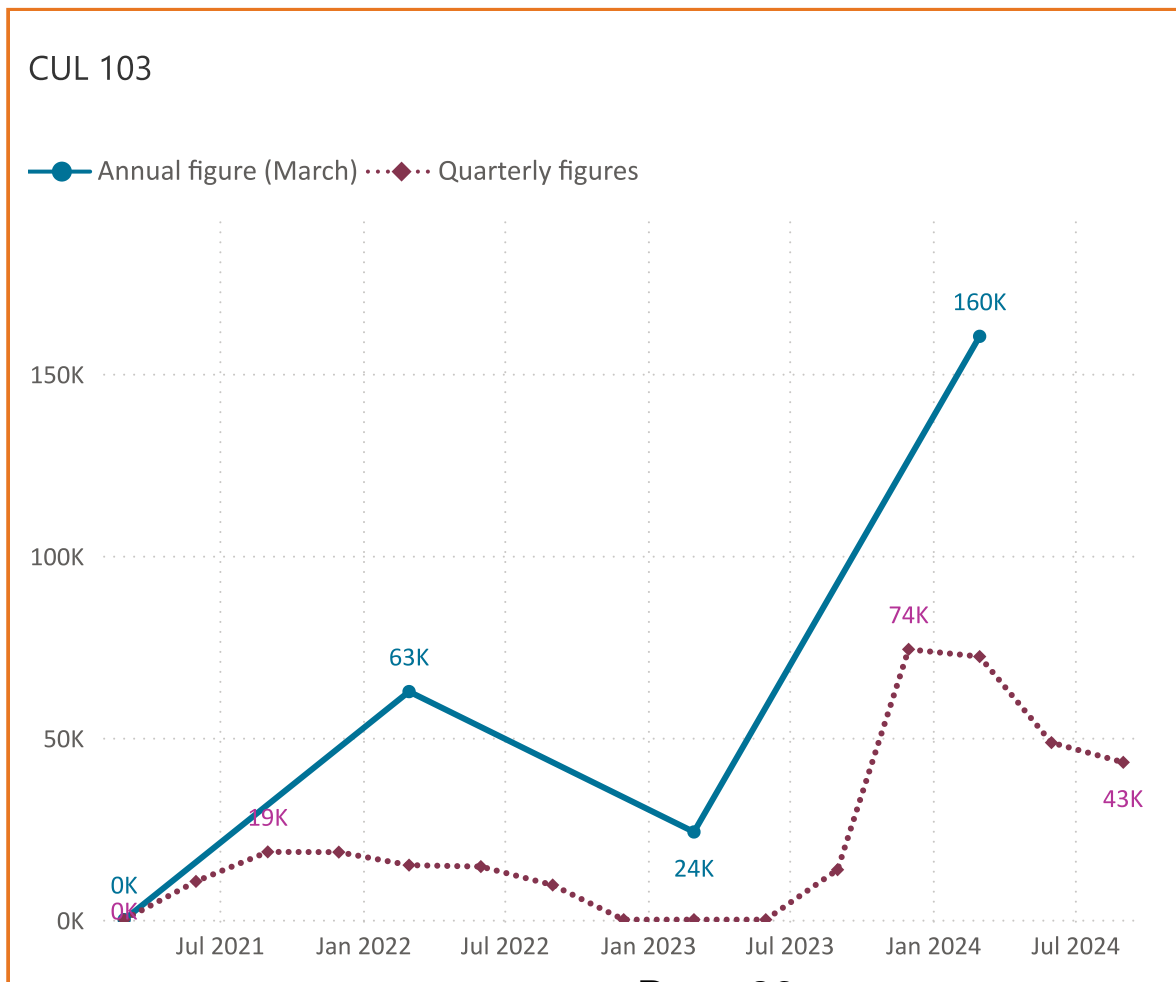
Priority or Key Action

Work with local stakeholders and businesses to promote a diverse and accessible programme of events that maximises footfall in the town centre and has a positive impact on the local economy

Narrative

After our reopening, many people visited to view the new spaces and facilities, without dwelling as they do now. We also had increased activity (including out-of-hours) funded by Arts Council England. Visitor numbers remain above those we saw pre-closures, averaging 15,300 visitors each month this year. Due to closures for the pandemic/restoration, it is unsurprising to see footfall is higher than previous years. There is a slight reduction in visitor numbers this quarter, however we now notice visitors dwelling longer in the spaces, with The Study being frequently used by a variety of audiences for computer-use, reading, and working. More adults are taking part in activities within the library than before, with The Hive being a place for all ages to learn and explore.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

CUL 104

Indicator Name

Number of physical visits to Cockerton Library (door count)

Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

Whilst - Valuing our heritage and culture

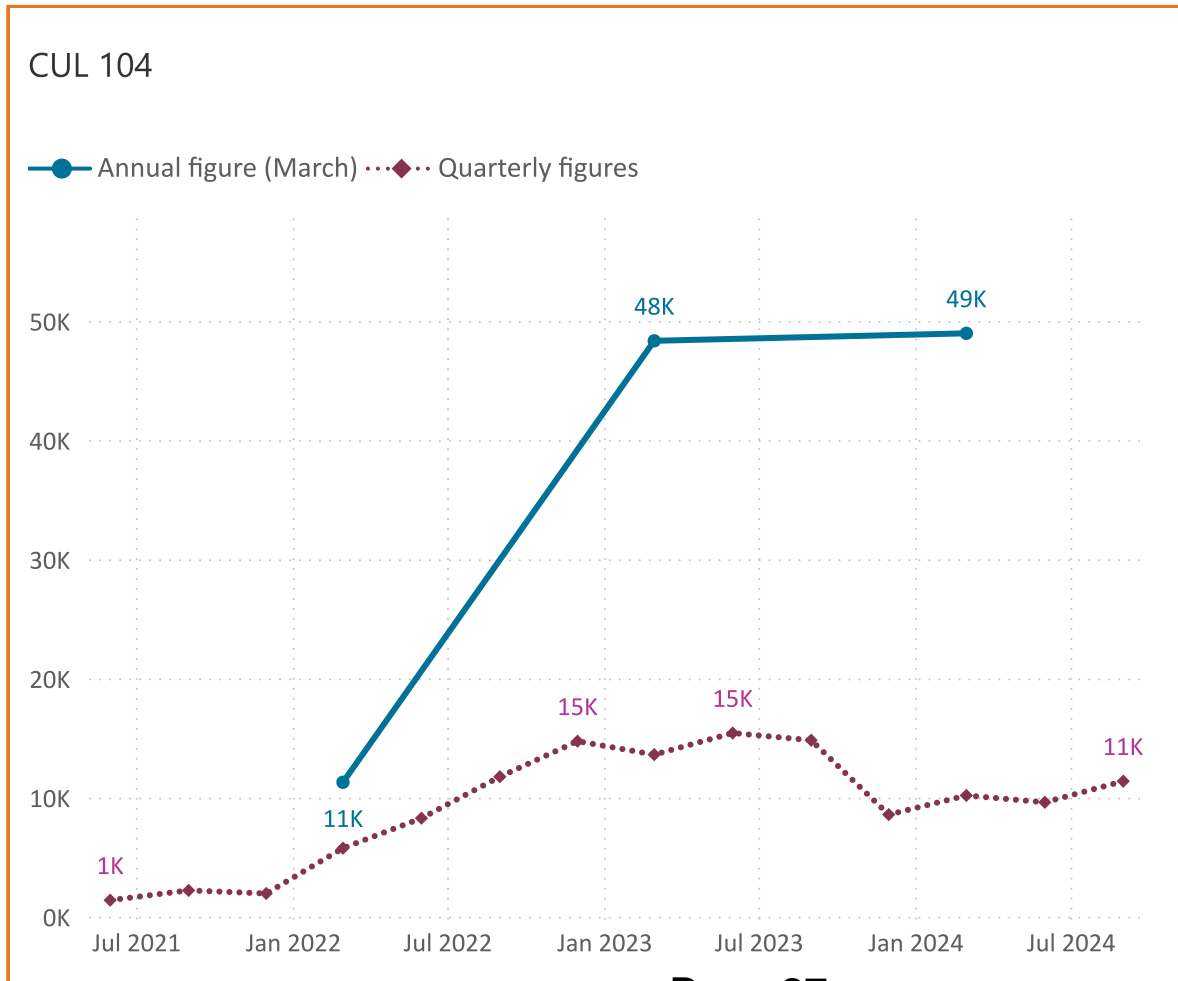
Narrative

Visitor numbers were predictably high whilst Darlington Library was closed for restoration, now both libraries are open there is a reduction in those visiting the branch.

However, Cockerton Library remains busy with footfall increasing over the school summer holidays. So far this year, the average number of visitors each month was 3,495 people.

This data includes customers visiting during opening hours (29pw) and school classes visiting, as well as families joining us for out-of-hour events and activities including regular Bookstart Rhymetimes and our holidays programming.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

CUL 105

Indicator Name

Number of group engagements provided within libraries, at external venues and online

Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

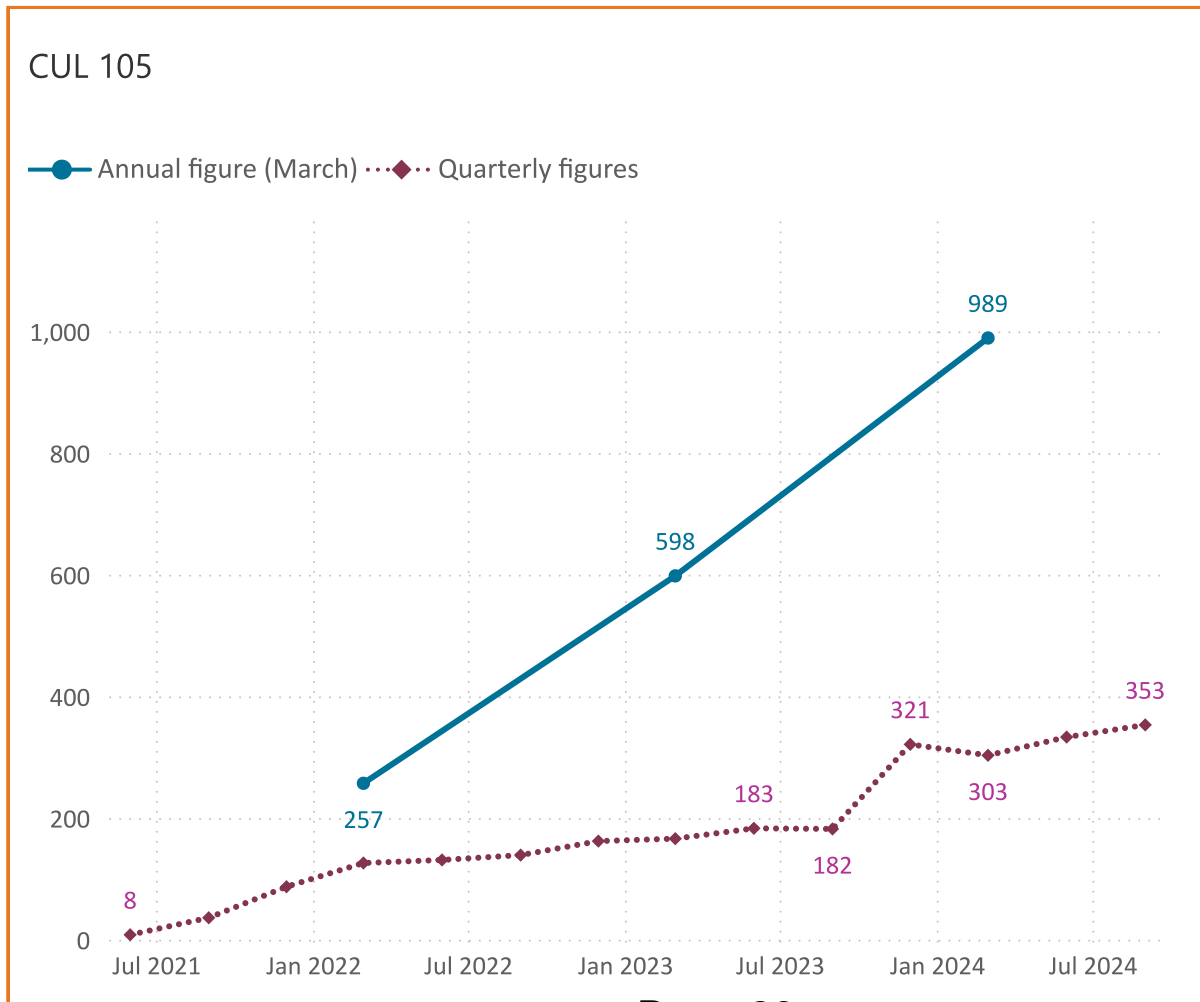
Narrative

The number of activities, workshops and events offered by Darlington Libraries is considerable. Our service has transformed, and all staff contribute to our engagement-led approach.

We have seen 25,308 people take part in the 686 events we have delivered at our libraries or at outward facing events.

Highlights include the Library Takeover Day in the marketplace, our BookFest and Crossing the Tees Book Festivals, and our new 'Enriching Education' schools offer.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

CUL 106

Indicator Name

Number of group engagements at Darlington Library

Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

Narrative

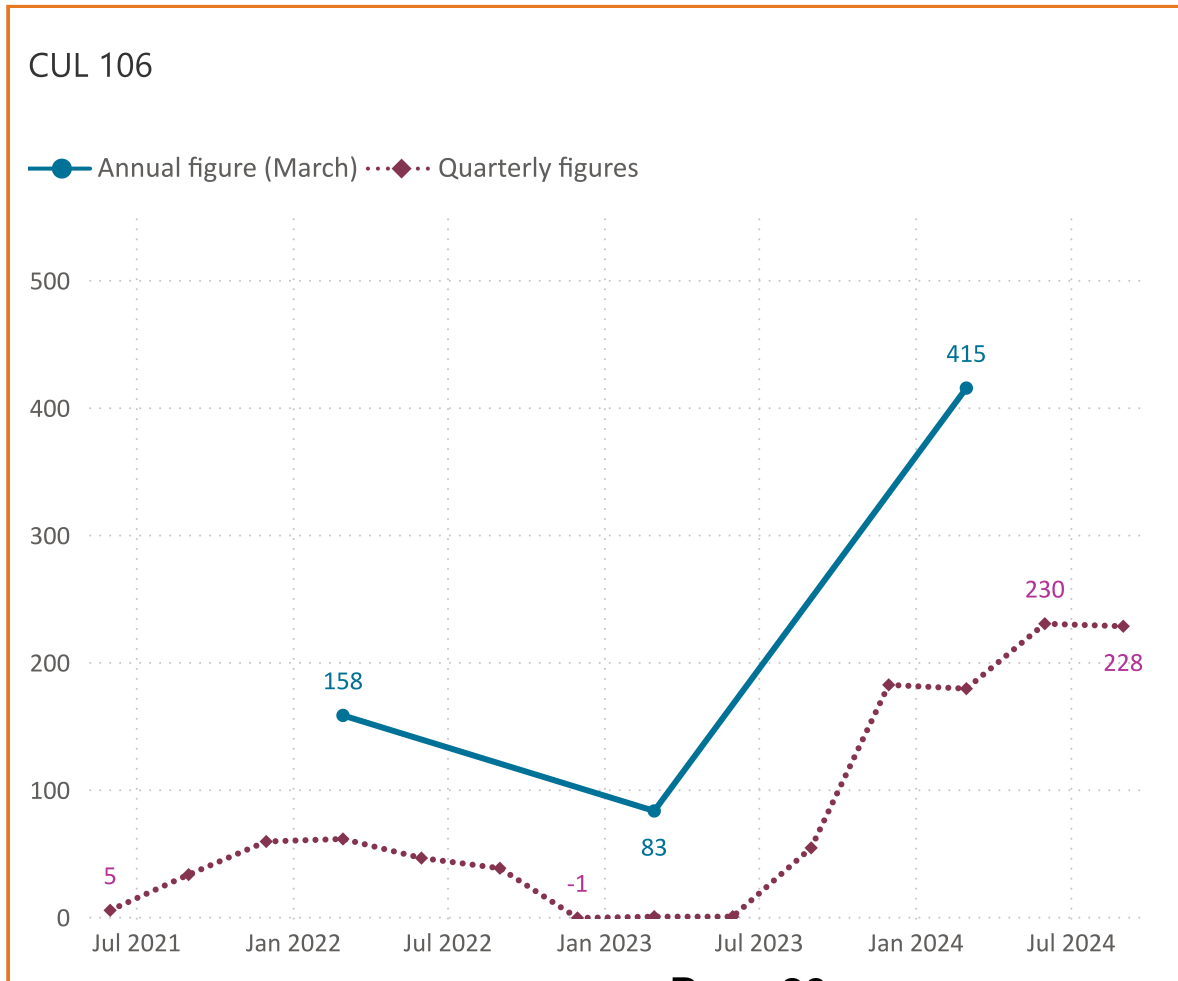
The Hive works with schools offering classes from Reception to Year 11 the opportunity to develop STEM skills using our 3D printers, Laser and Cricut machines, and our class Virtual Reality.

The Hive also offers adult workshops in dress-making, fabric make-do and mend, 3D printing and more.

Out of school time, children can learn to animate their own films, 3D design and print, and during the holidays can take part in a variety of crafty workshops utilising our innovative digital equipment.

We also offer reading, watercolour, fabric, and craft groups for adults, and Bookstart Rhymetime, LEGO, reading, craft, and art groups for children.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

CUL 107

Indicator Name

Number of group engagements at Cockerton Library

Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

Narrative

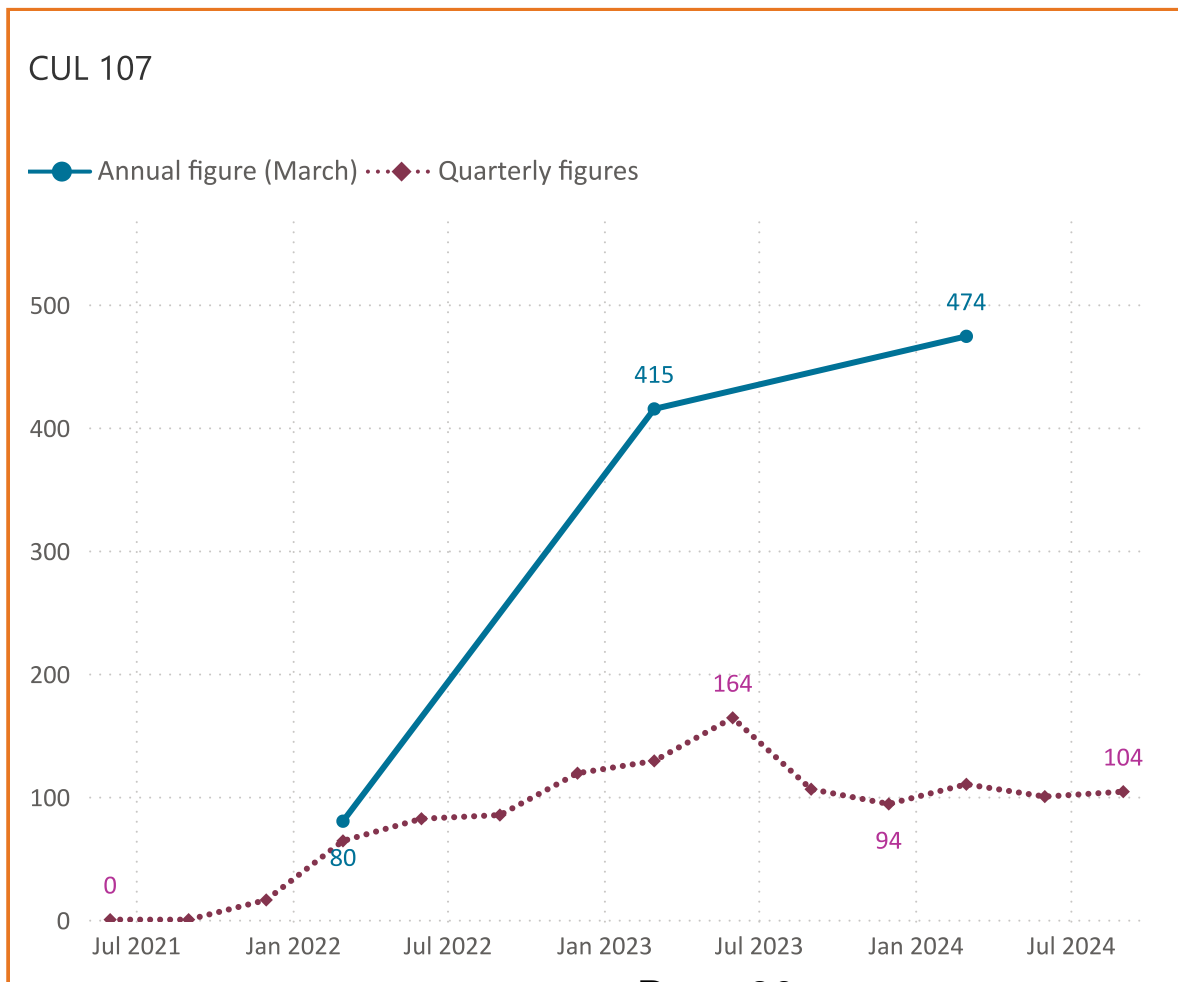
The branch library has increased its activity programme with regular after-school sessions offered for children on the evenings they are open.

Activities include boredom busting games, photography, watercolours, and story, song and craft.

We also offer watercolours for adults, and a monthly Musical Memories group for older people and those with dementia.

Out-of-hours, Cockerton Library holds regular speech and language sessions for babies and preschool children to develop speaking and listening, and parent-child bonding.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

CUL 108

Indicator Name

Number of educational interactions

Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

Narrative

The decrease in July/August is due to the school holidays.

From September 2024 we offered primary and secondary schools a variety of educational opportunities from our libraries.

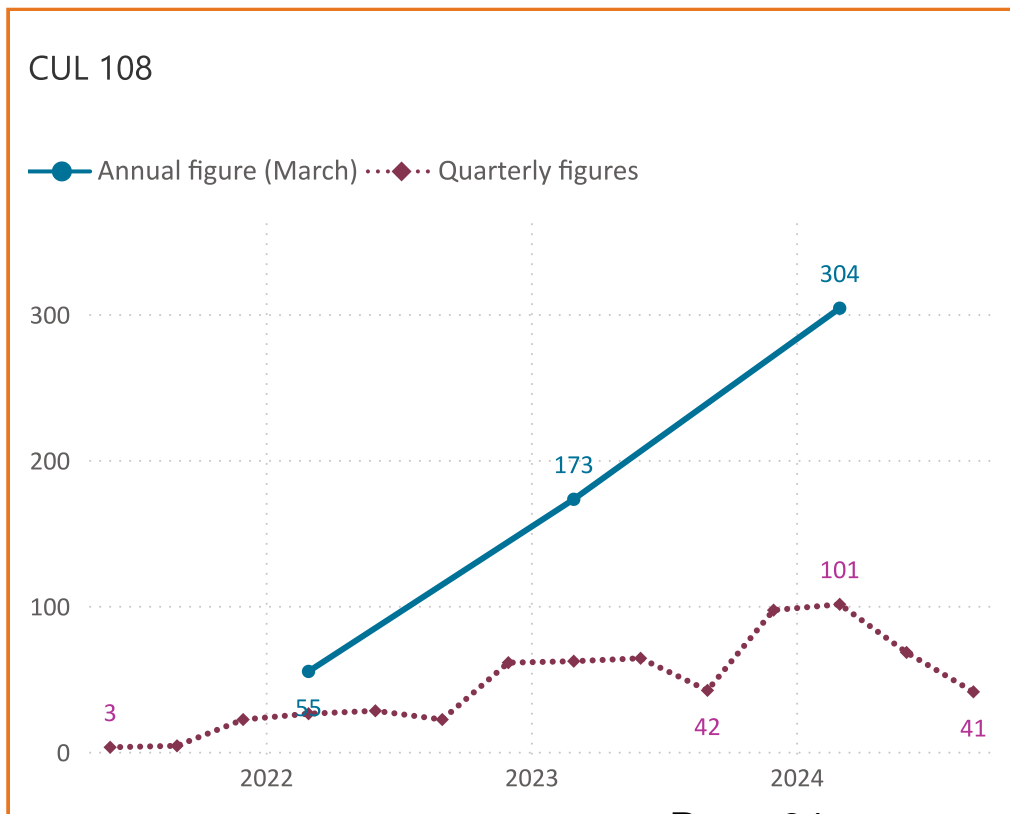
The Hive provides learning in 3D design and print, Coding/Robotics, laser cutting, as well as a large and varied educational offer using our Class VR. (Linked to the National Curriculum)

Both libraries offer class visits and Local Studies provides learning about the history of Darlington.

Last years school satisfaction survey told us that Hive sessions:

- *Supported learning and attainment
- *Engaged those not ordinary engaged
- *Enhanced the curriculum
- *Provided access to equipment not found within their school

Graph/Table





DBC Number

CUL 109

Indicator Name

Number of enquires directed to the Centre for Local Studies

Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

Narrative

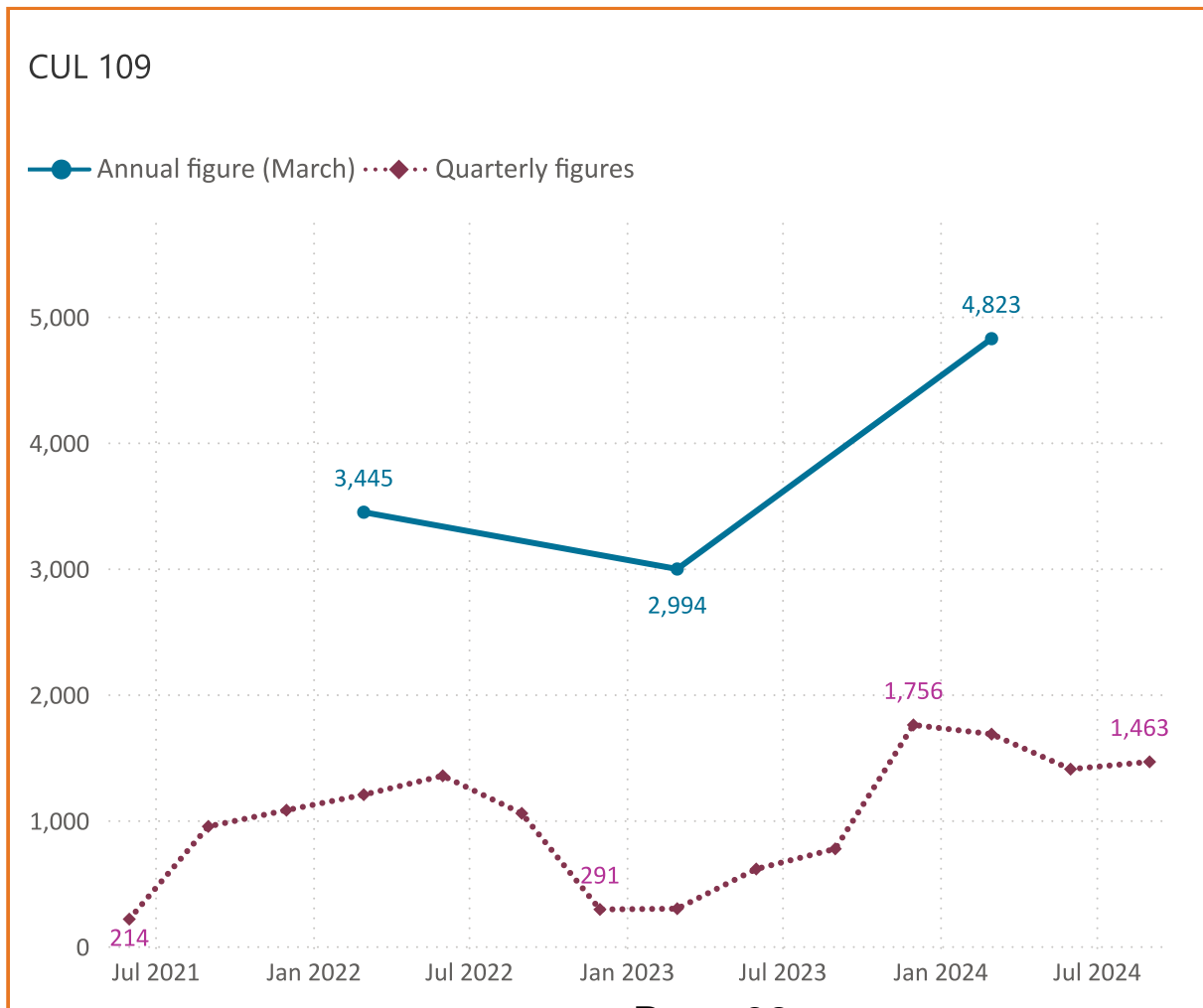
The team provide customers with resources and support to research their family history and to learn about the history of the town.

They are continually adding to the collection, and plan and present regular displays to attract visitors.

Recently they have developed their schools offer, with opportunities to visit and learn about how the center works, and about the history of Darlington, with children given access to unique source materials.

They have also produced a walking tour for school classes to do around the town center.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

ENV 002

Indicator Name

Number of registered Street Champions

Theme or Portfolio

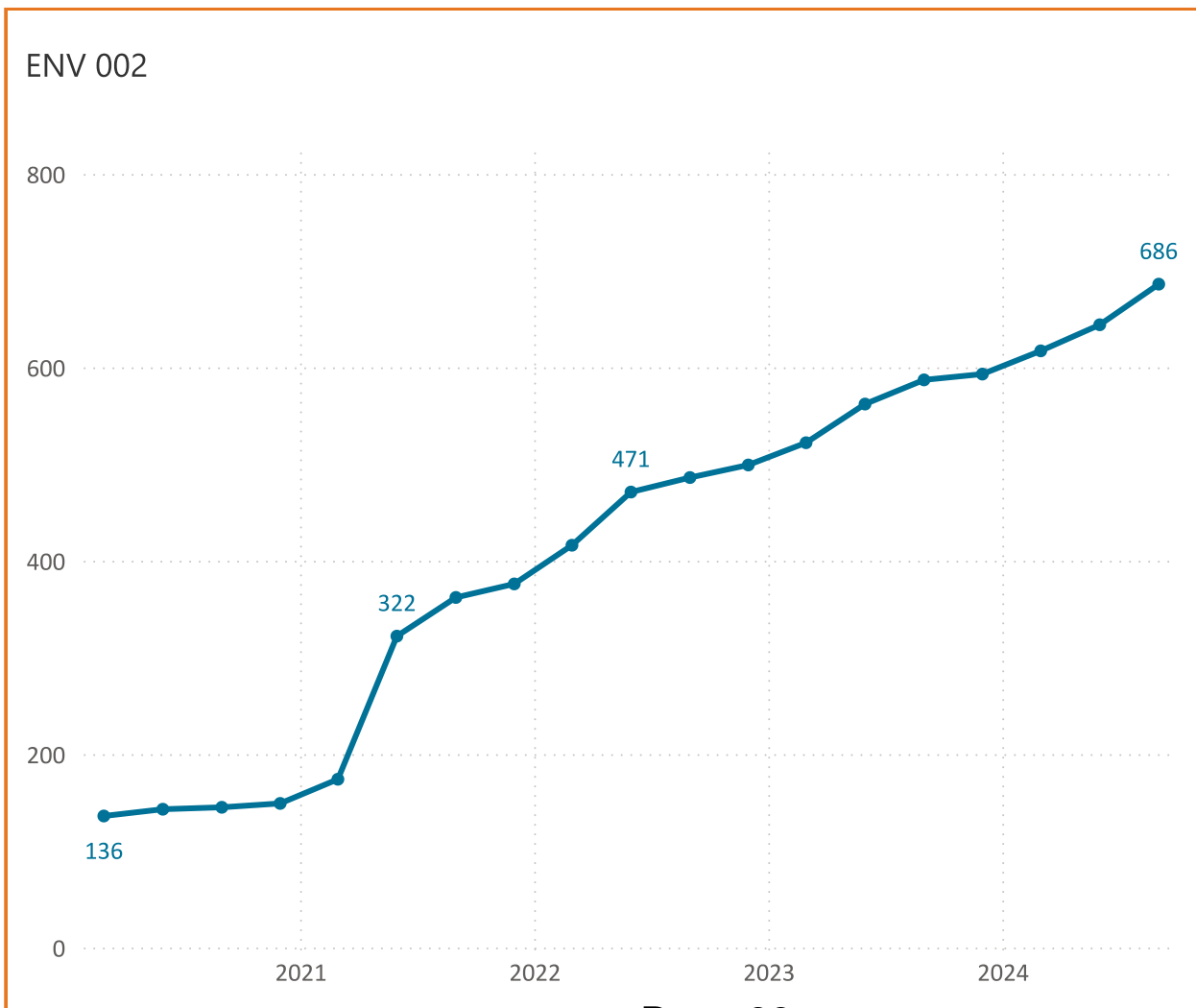
Priority or Key Action

Working with communities

Narrative

The number of street champions has increased by 69 from 617 in March 2024 to 686 in September 2024. We have seen street champions register where new housing estates have been developed. So the area which is looked after by street champions has increased. The age range of street champions is still varied from young children going out litter picking with their parents to recently retired individuals. We've had a number of teenagers become street champions, this is due to them undertaking Duke of Edinburgh. We have also had a group of care leavers and a resident association register as street champions. Autumn clean 2024 is about to start and will potentially see more people register.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

ENV 006e

Indicator Name

Total number of fly-tips reported

Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

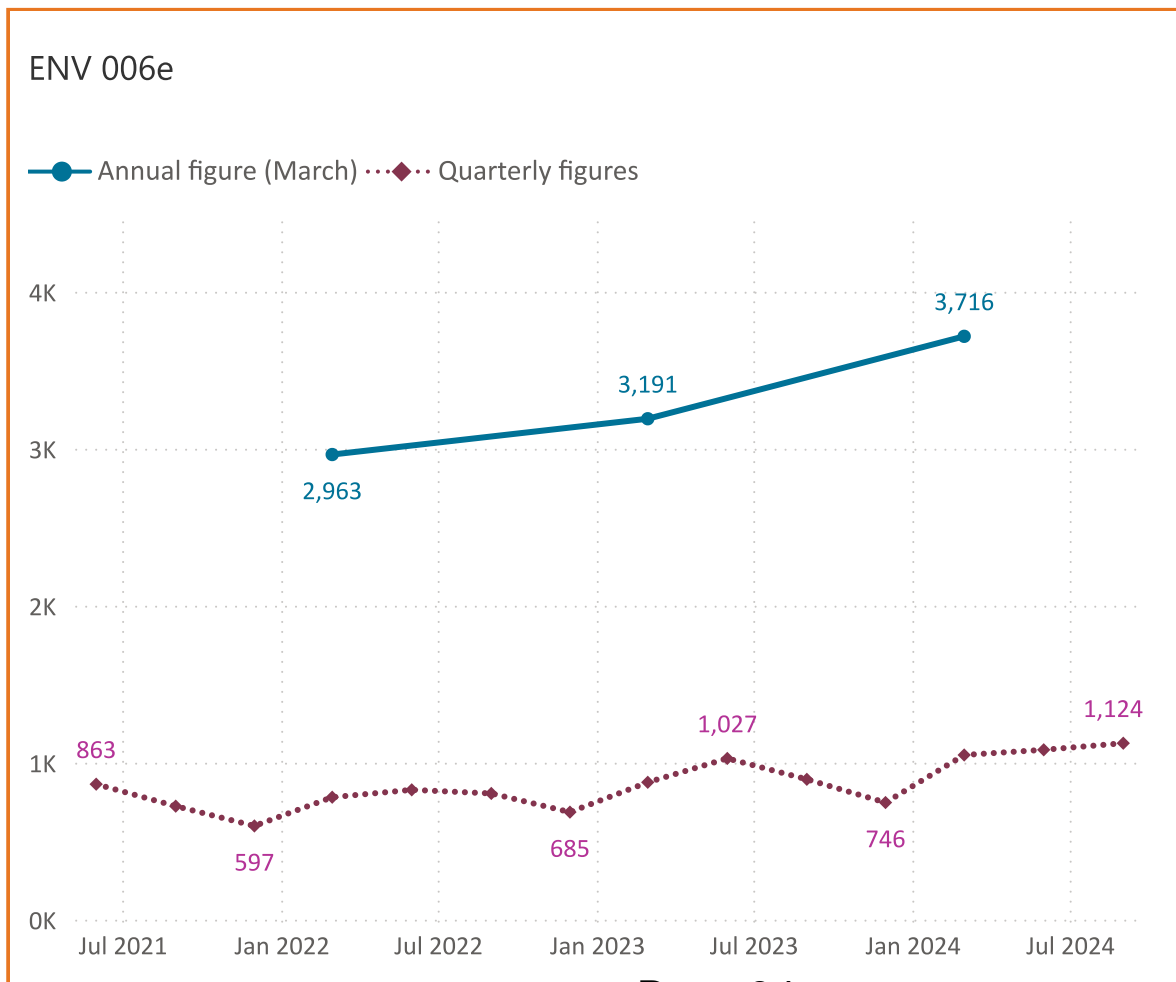
Narrative

The total number of fly tips have increased by 14.8% (285), When comparing the total from April to September for 2024/25 (2,206) to 2023/24 (1,921). Small fly tips have increased by 13.3% (204), 2024/25 (1,739) and 2023/24 (1,535). Large fly tips have increased by 21.0% (81), 2024/25 (467) and 2023/24 (386).

A large proportion of small fly tips is side waste, put out particularly in back lanes at the same time as refuse collection. A significant proportion of these are being identified as part of the back lanes project, which is achieving success within the areas it is operating.

On average for the financial year up to September 95.7% (2024/25) of fly tips are collected within the target time of being reported.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

ENV 006f

Indicator Name

Number of fly-tips reported in quarter (large and small)

Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

And we will support economic growth by keeping the borough - Clean

Narrative

The number of large fly tips rose in both quarters of 2024/25 when compared to 2023/24. Quarter 1 rose to 211 from 186 (25), quarter 2 rose to 256 from 200 (56). On average 94.3% of small fly tips were collected within the target of 5 days.

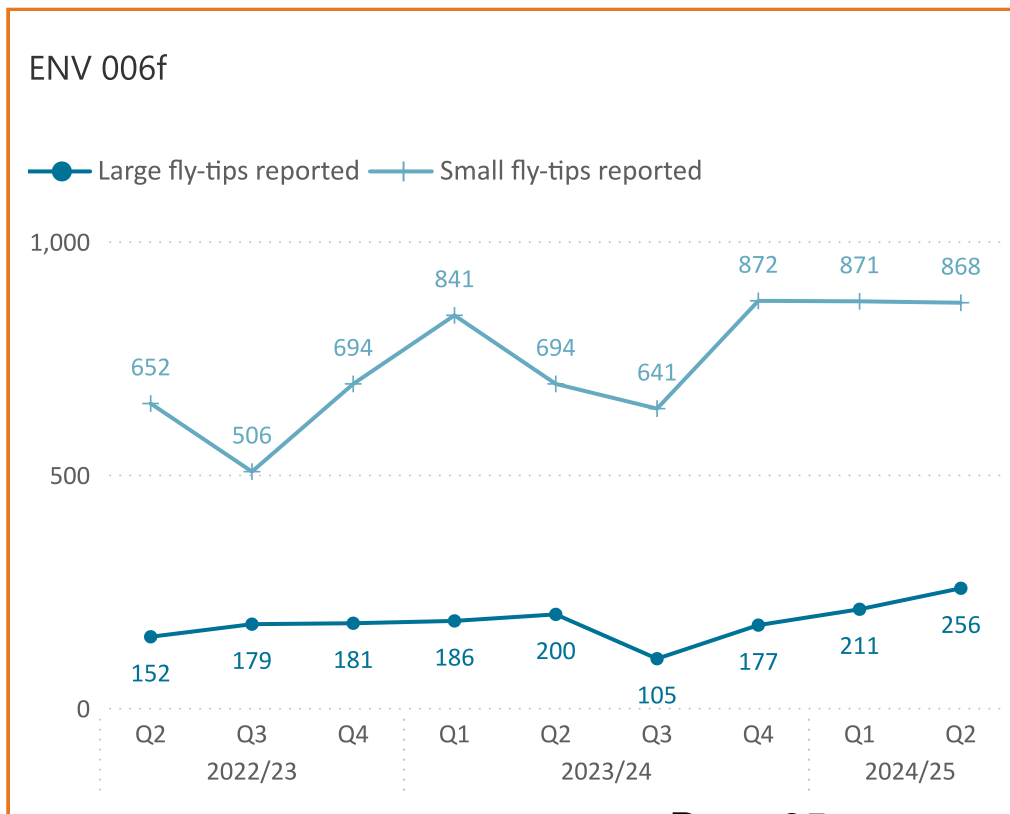
The number of small fly tips rose in both quarters of 2024/25 when compared to 2023/24. Quarter 1 rose to 871 from 841 (30), quarter 2 rose to 868 from 694 (174). On average 97.1% of small fly tips were collected within the target of 5 days.

Increased fly-tipping is due to additional reporting of side waste (classed as fly-tipping) by both Enforcement Officers and Fire Service. Overall, 95.7% are being removed within the time scales irrespective of numbers.

A longer time can be required due to the complexity of the collection and requirement for special resources (e.g. asbestos).

The additional crew afforded to clearing rear lanes is working to keep them clean & tidy.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

ENV 009

Indicator Name

Percentage of household waste that is collected that is either reused, recycled or composted

Theme or Portfolio

Local Environment

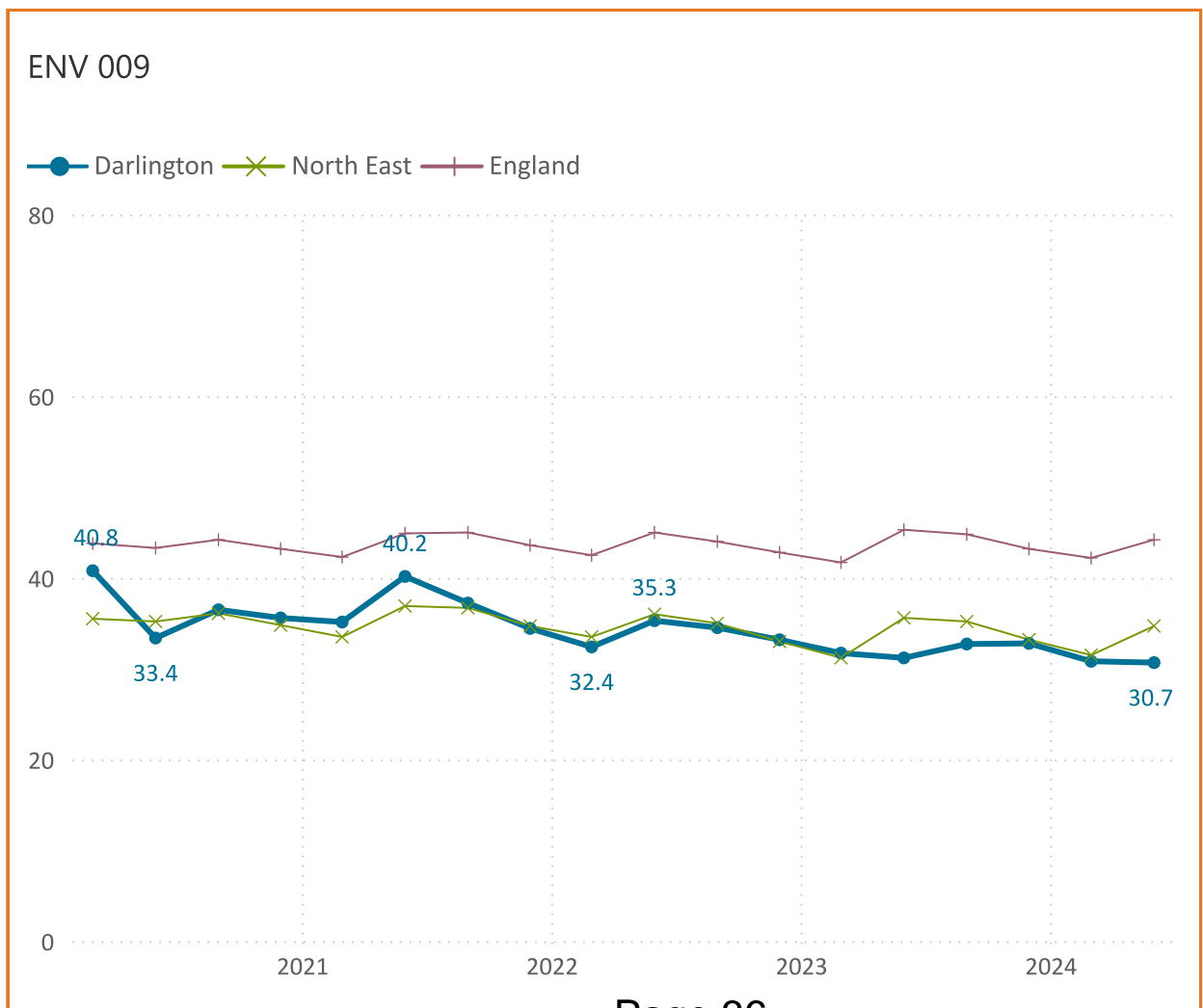
Priority or Key Action

Introduce food waste collections and support residents to increase overall recycling rates to move towards the national average

Narrative

The amount of waste that is recycled, composted or reused has fallen in recent years, the Council's performance up to the end of June (30.7%) and is currently slightly below with the North East (34.7%) average, but below the England (44.2%) average. Work continues to be undertaken by Street Scene and communication teams to increase recycling and reduce contamination. Cabinet will consider a report in the new year with regard to options to introduce a food waste collection services which will increase overall recycling rates

Graph/Table





DBC Number

ENV 021

Indicator Name

Percentage of small fly tips removed within target time (reported monthly)

Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

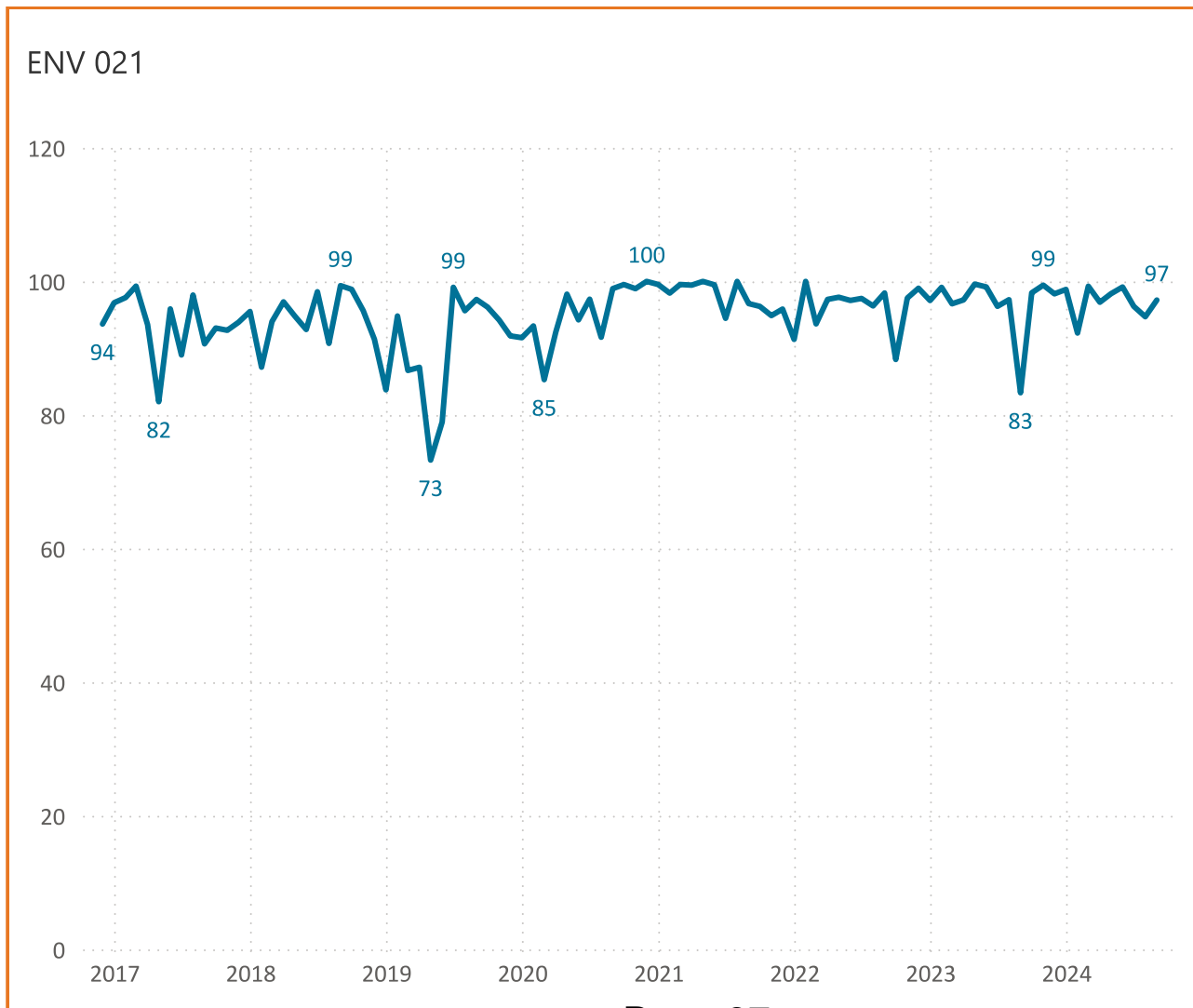
And we will support economic growth by keeping the borough - Clean

Narrative

The total number of small fly tips have increased by 13.3% (204), when comparing the total from April to September, 2024/25 (1,739) and 2023/24 (1,535).

The performance of street cleansing teams remains consistently high with the average percentage for the removal of small tips within target being at 97.1% for the first six months of this financial year. Five of the six months had performance above 96%. The majority is being collected in under 5 days and a significant number in under 2 days.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

ENV 022

Indicator Name

Percentage of large fly tips removed within target time (reported monthly)

Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

And we will support economic growth by keeping the borough - Clean

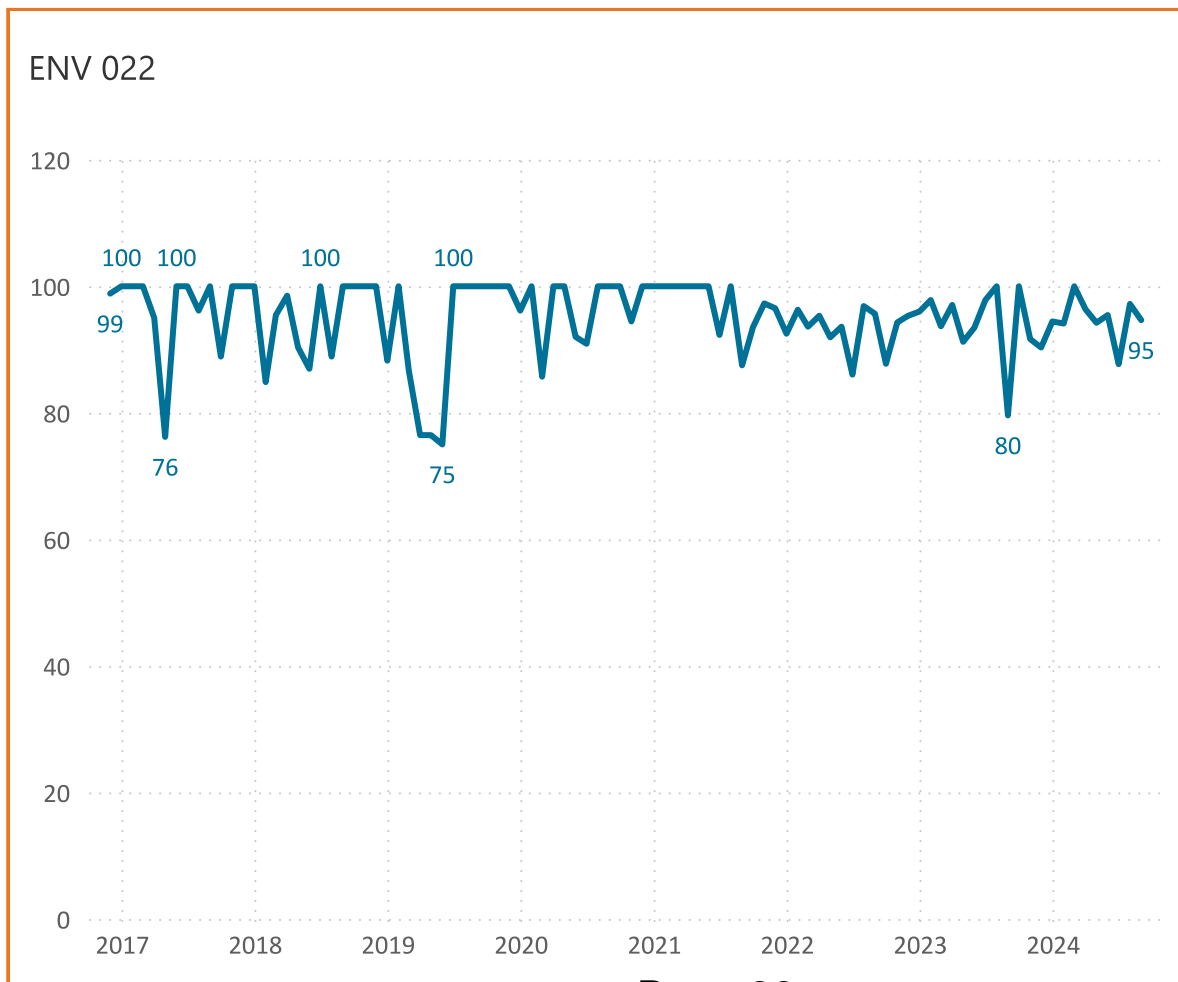
Narrative

The performance of street cleansing teams remains consistently high with the average percentage for the removal of large fly tips within target being at 94.3% for the first six months of this financial year. Five of the six months had performance above 94%.

The total number of large fly tips have increased by 21.0% (81), when comparing the total from April to September, 2024/25 (467) and 2023/24 (386).

The larger incidents take longer due to the complexity of the items (e.g. asbestos) that require significant resources.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

ENV 023

Indicator Name

Number of prosecutions for fly-tipping

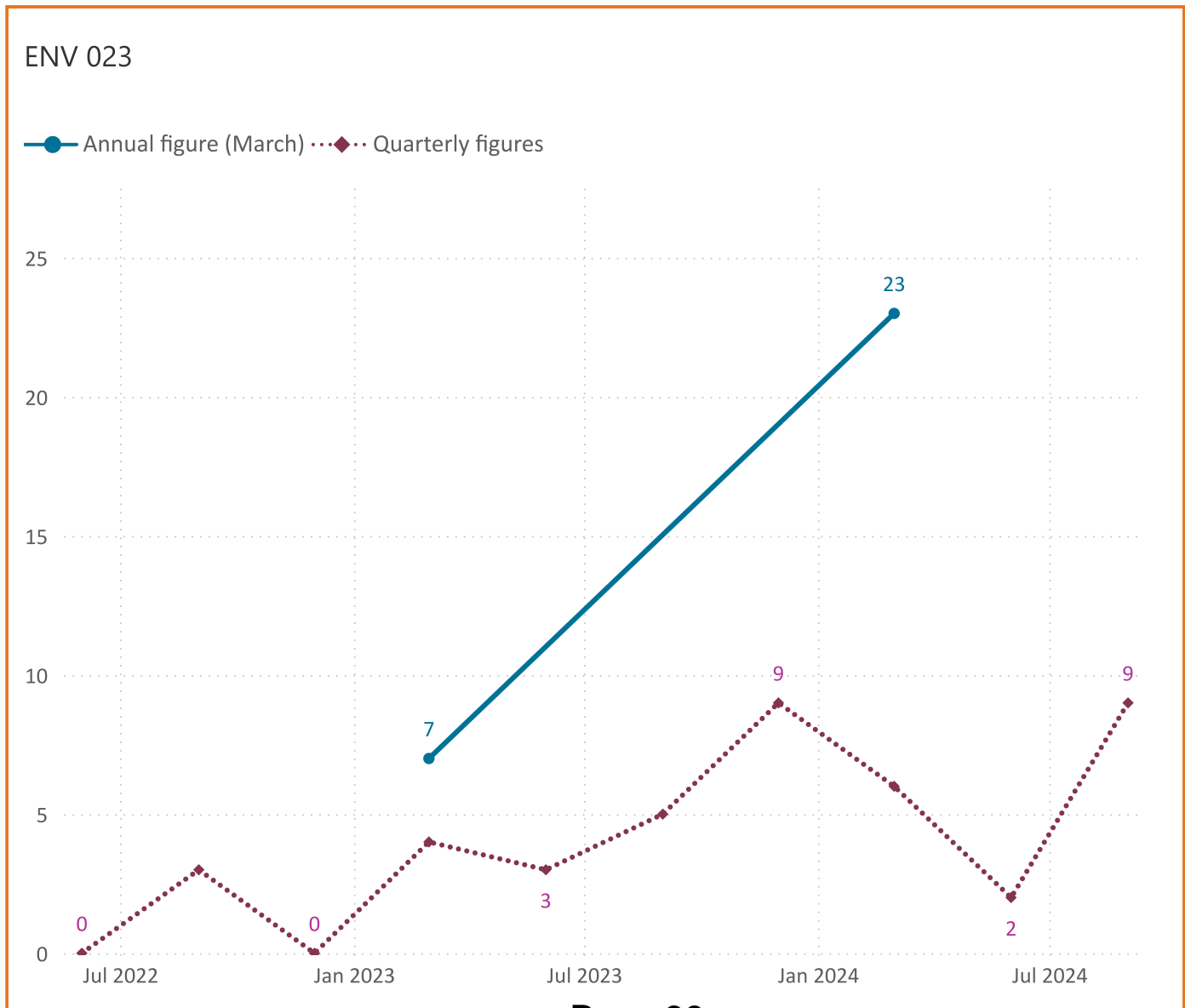
Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

Narrative

Civic Enforcement continue to conduct proactive and reactive investigations into fly tipping and this has resulted in 11 successful prosecutions to date this year. The targeting of areas on an evidence led approach is taking place to monitor and patrol which will identify further opportunities to identify, pursue and prosecute fly tipping offences. New initiatives and methods are being investigated to help secure evidence for prosecutions.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

ENV 024

Indicator Name

Land Audit Management System - Litter Score (Environmental Quality Survey)

Theme or Portfolio

Economy

Priority or Key Action

Ensure that the borough is safe, clean and maintained to levels that support the economy and encourage inward investment

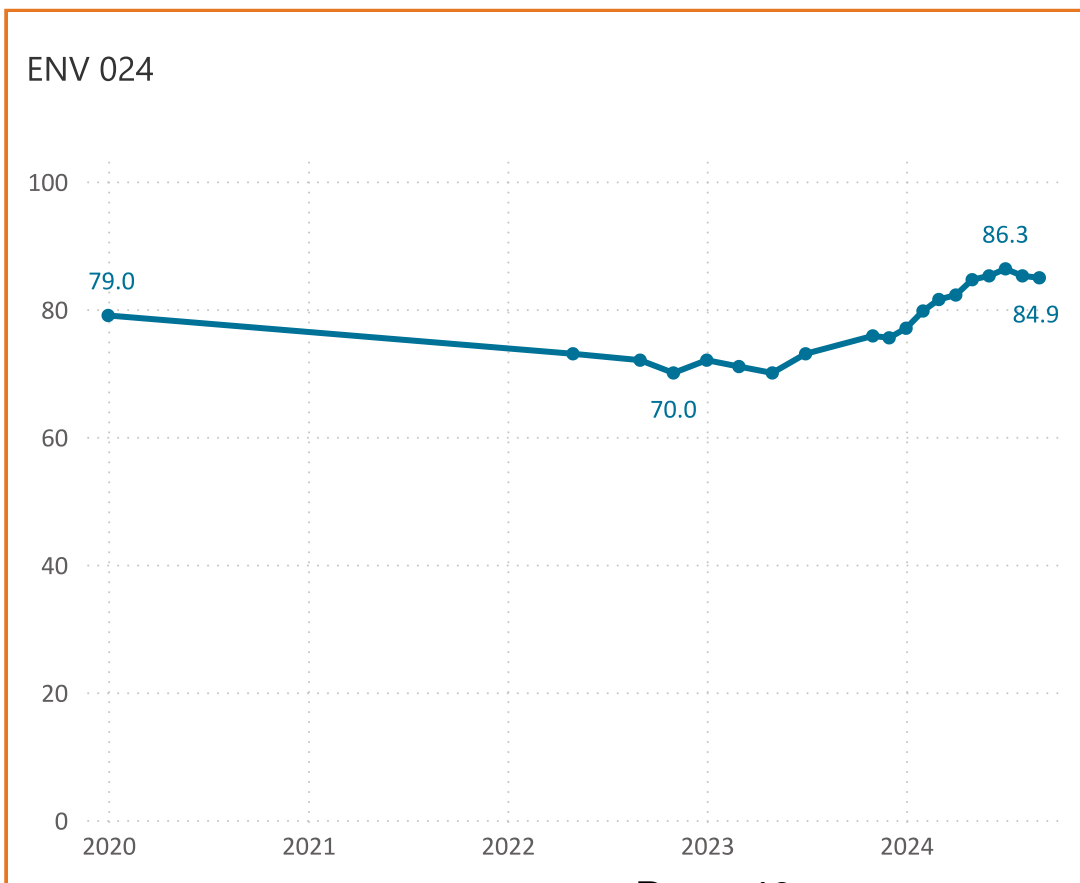
Narrative

This is a rolling average percentage score of the 40 transects inspected for litter every month. Two wards are covered each month in which twenty areas of the ward are inspected. Each ward is covered once within a twelve month period. The system of inspection, based on the grading system of the Association For Public Service Excellence Land Audit Management System, scores cleanliness of an area. The average pass rate over the last 12 months for litter is 84.9%.

As well as litter the inspections include detritus, weeds, dog fouling, grass, shrubs & hedges, flowerbeds and overflowing public bins. The 12 month average pass rate for all is 82.2%.

Street Scene continues to assist with the Civic Enforcement back lane project which incorporates litter picking of the front street as well as the back lane.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

REG 803

Indicator Name

Trading Standards: Percentage of high risk inspections carried out

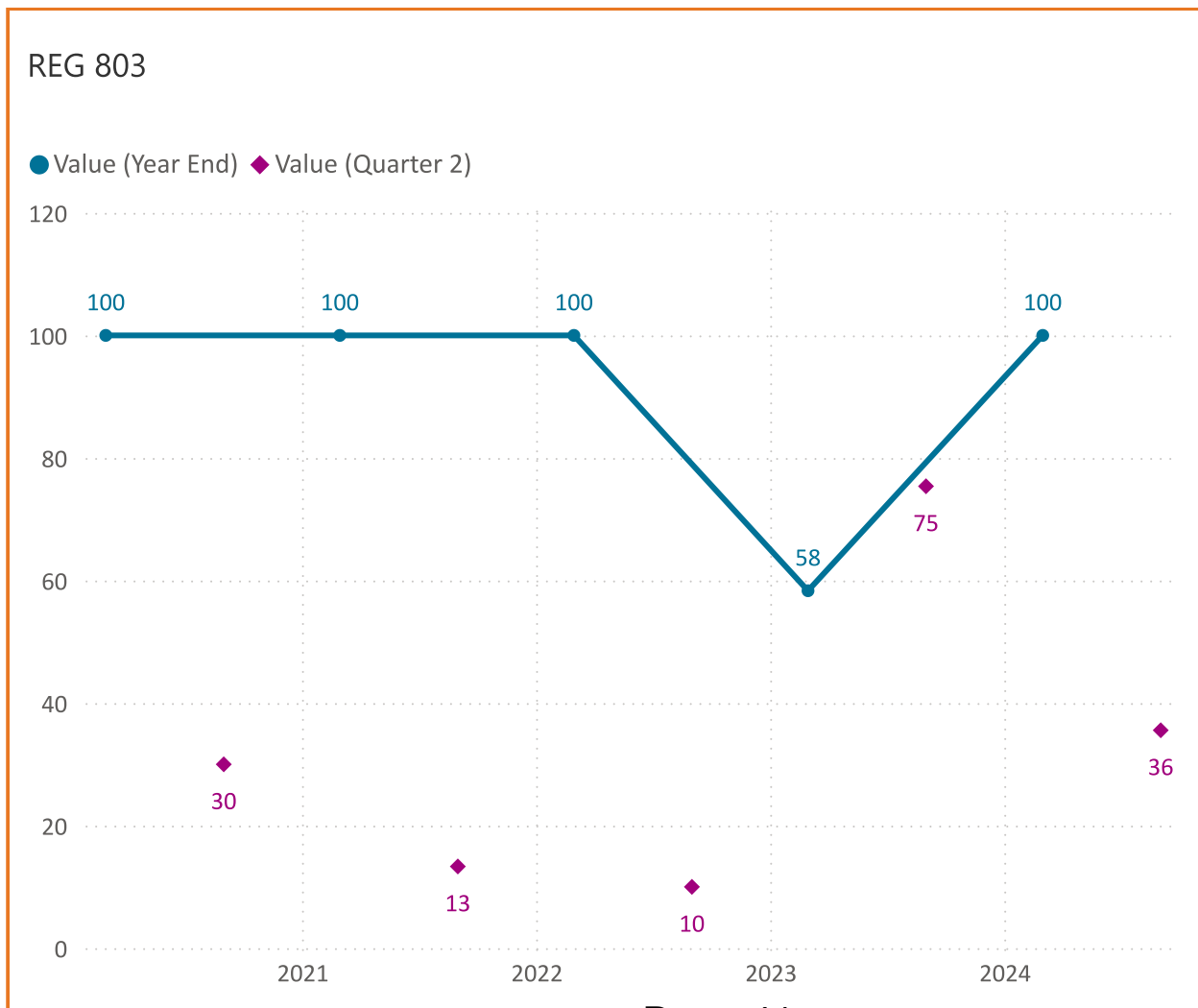
Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

Narrative

Trading Standards plans a programme of intelligence-led business inspections to check on compliance with trading standards legislation, support them into compliance where necessary and investigate areas of non-compliance as required. A large proportion of these inspections are of premises licensed for the storage of explosives. As these are principally fireworks they take place during late Oct and early Nov. By mid-year we are at 36% inspections complete which given the explosives inspections is on target for 100% by the end of the financial year. High risk inspections this year have also included visits to e-bike sellers and repairers due to the fire risks with lithium batteries. Animal Health visits have been increased this year due to the financial burdens on farmers which could effect on animal welfare.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

TCP 200a

Indicator Name

Percentage of principal roads where maintenance should be considered (A class)

Theme or Portfolio

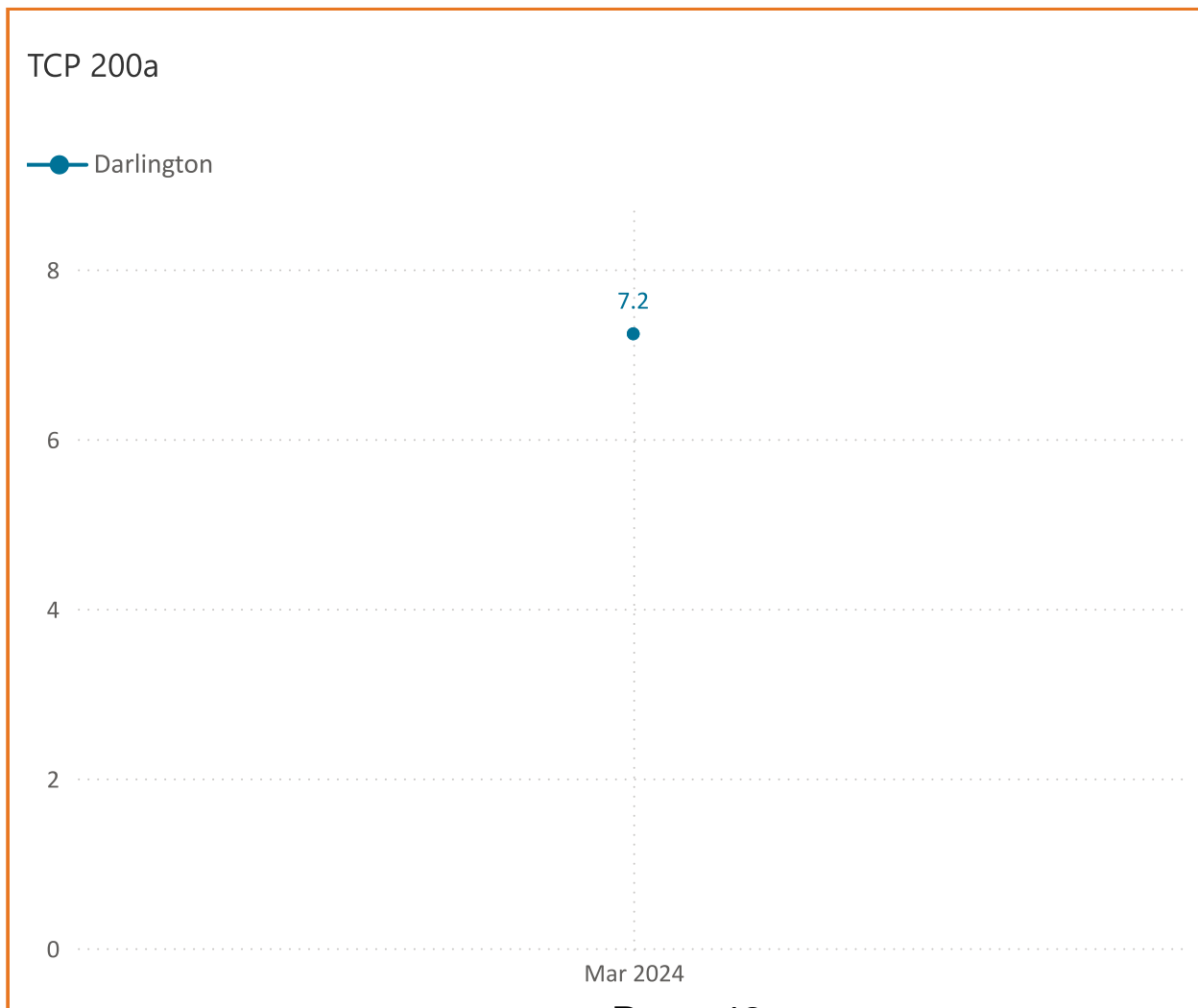
Priority or Key Action

And we will support economic growth by keeping the borough - On the move

Narrative

The inspection method has changed from an automated survey using a SCANNER vehicle to a visual Annual Engineering Inspection (AEI). This provides more accurate treatment selection information to assist with the planning of five-year highways maintenance schemes. The 2023/24 inspection figure shows 7.2% of principal roads needing consideration for maintenance. Due to the change in method, this data is not comparable with previous years and with some authorities remaining on SCANNER for now it is not possible to get an accurate comparison with the north east and nationally. We expect most authorities to transition to AEI over the coming years which would then allow meaningful comparison.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

TCP 202a

Indicator Name

Percentage of non-principal roads where maintenance should be considered (B and C class)

Theme or Portfolio

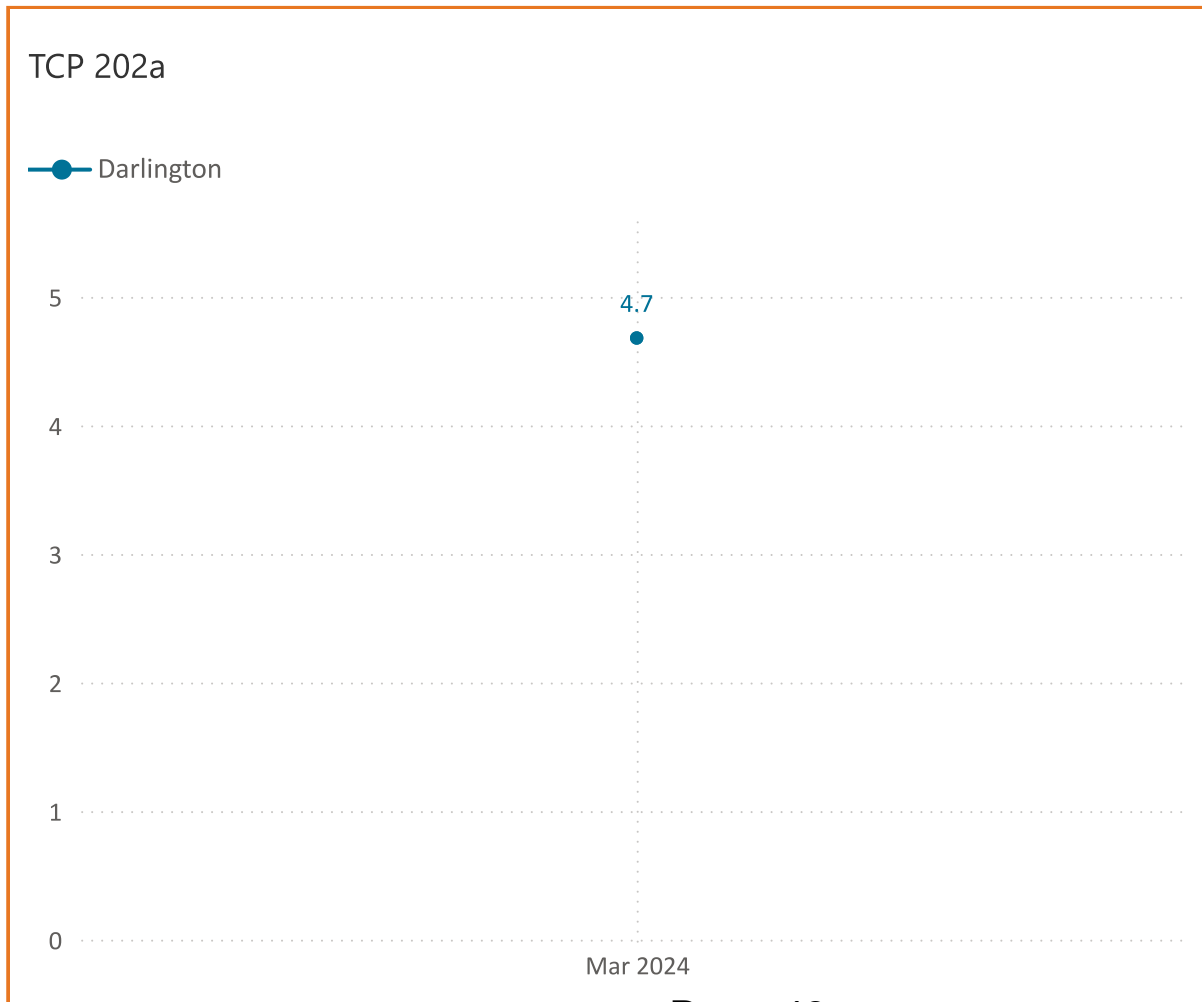
Priority or Key Action

And we will support economic growth by keeping the borough - On the move

Narrative

The inspection method has changed from an automated survey using a SCANNER vehicle to a visual Annual Engineering Inspection (AEI). The survey provides the Highway Asset Management team with more accurate treatment selection information to assist with the planning of five-year highway maintenance schemes. The 2023/24 inspection figure shows 4.7% of non-principal roads needing consideration for maintenance. With some authorities remaining on SCANNER for now it is not possible to get an accurate comparison with the north east and nationally. We expect most authorities to transition to AEI over the coming years which would then allow meaningful comparison.

Graph/Table



DBC Number

TCP 203a

Indicator Name

Percentage of unclassified roads where maintenance should be considered

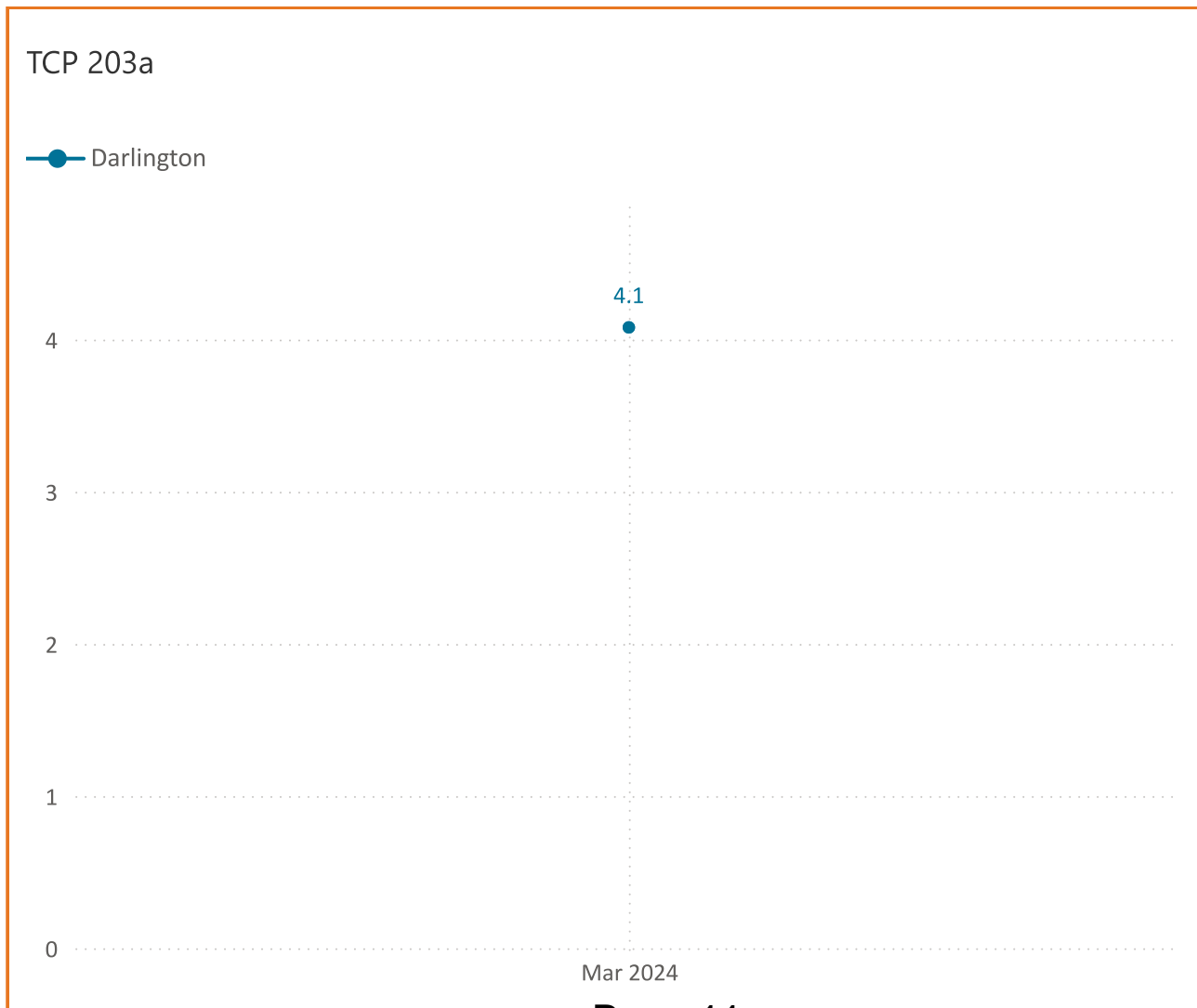
Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

Narrative

The inspection method has changed from an automated survey using a SCANNER vehicle to a visual Annual Engineering Inspection (AEI). The survey provides the Highway Asset Management team with more accurate treatment selection information to assist with the planning of five-year highway maintenance schemes. The 2023/24 inspection figure shows 4.1% of unclassified roads needing consideration for maintenance. With some authorities remaining on scanner for now it is not possible to get an accurate comparison with the north east and nationally. We expect most authorities to transition to AEI over the coming years which would then allow meaningful comparison.

Graph/Table



DBC Number

TCP 600

Indicator Name

Number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents (annual)

Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

And we will support economic growth by keeping the borough - Safe

Narrative

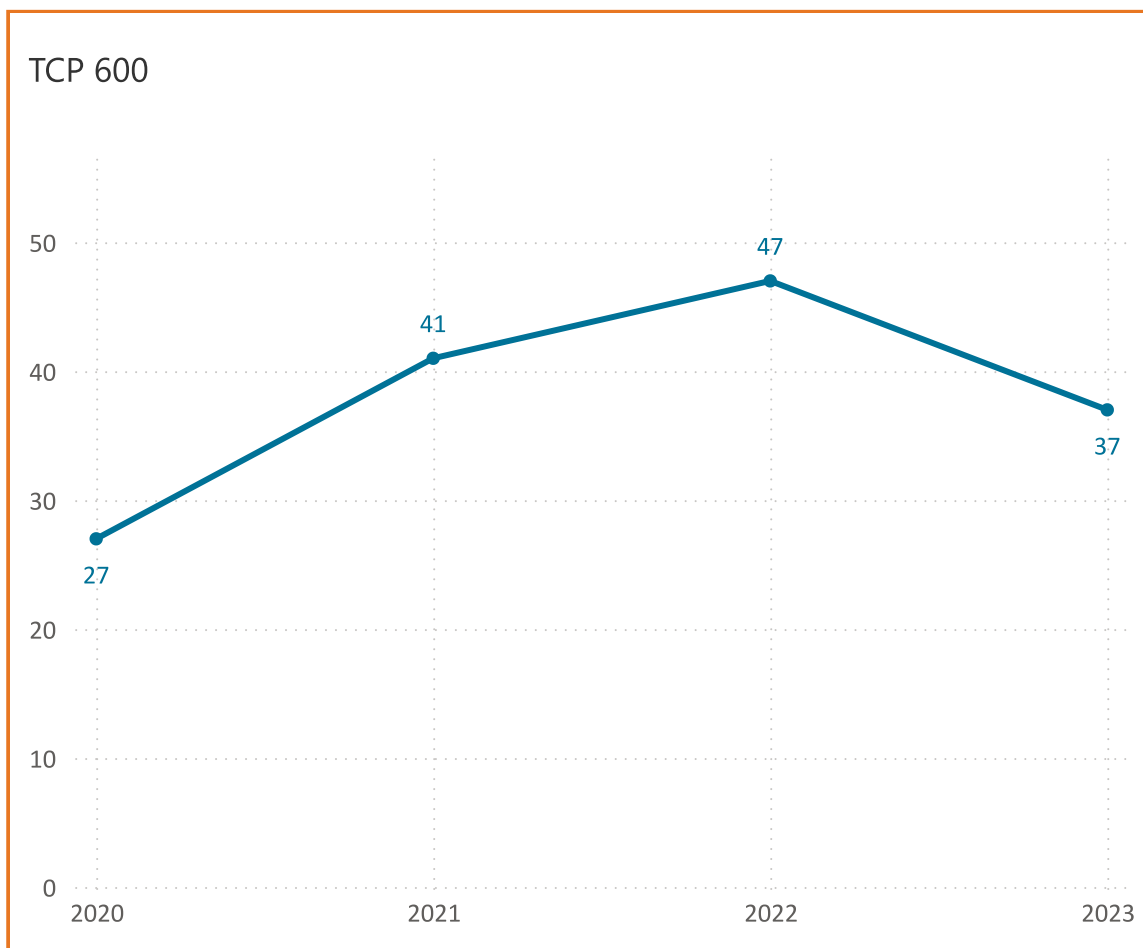
This is an annual indicator based on the 2023-24 calendar year. The data is collected through Durham Police via the Stats 19 reporting system.

Figures for 2023 show a decrease over 2022 although an increase over 2020-21. However, 2020-21 is a statistical outlier due to the impact of Covid-19 on traffic levels (15% of normal traffic levels at its lowest). Since 2020 traffic levels have recovered to similar volumes to that recorded in 2019 prior to Covid-19.

Figures for 2023 show a decrease based on pre-pandemic traffic data and volumes.

Of the 37 Killed or seriously injured on our roads in 2023, there were 3 fatalities.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

TCP 601

Indicator Name

Number of people slightly injured in road traffic accidents (annual)

Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

And we will support economic growth by keeping the borough - Safe

Narrative

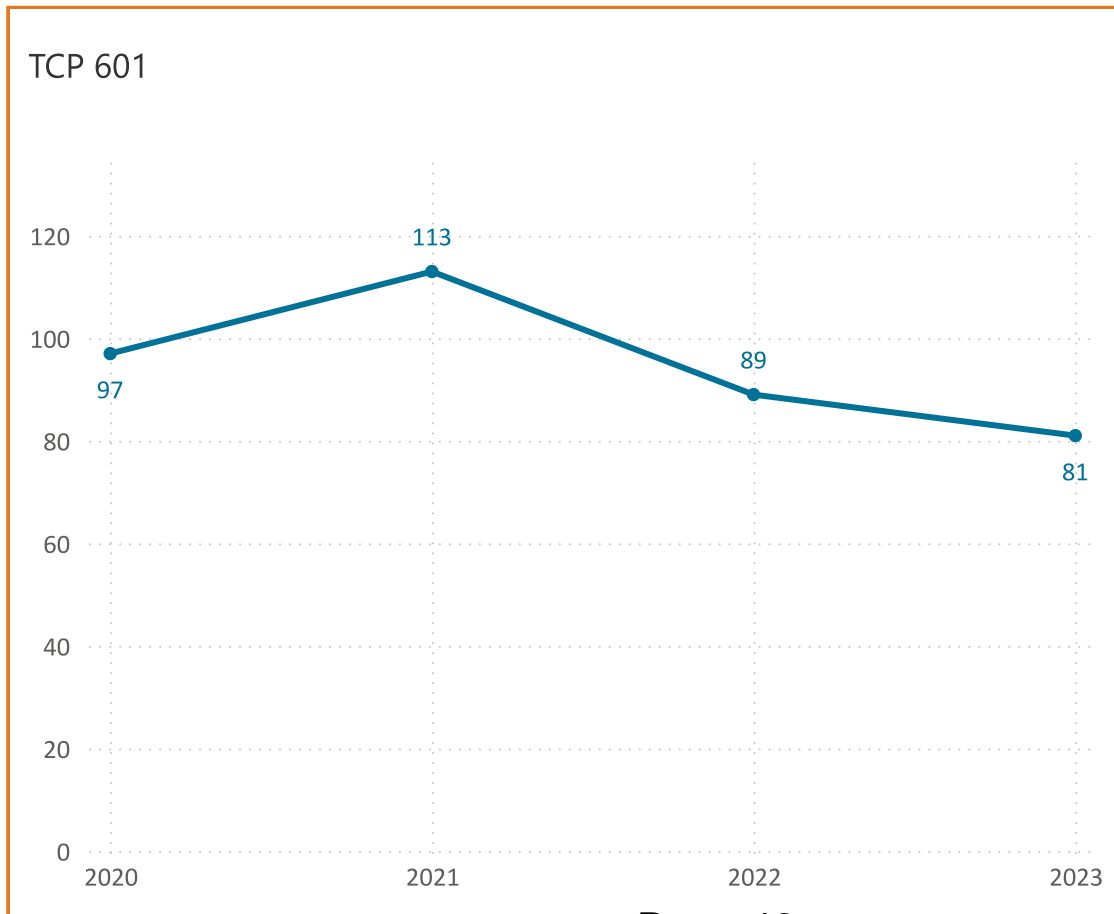
This is an annual indicator based on the 2023-24 calendar year. The data is collected through Durham Police via the Stats 19 reporting system.

Data for 2023 shows a decrease over 2020-22 despite traffic volumes recovering to similar levels to that recorded in 2019 prior to Covid-19. This is showing a downward trend since the pandemic.

Based on the years prior to Covid-19, we are still seeing a substantial reduction with accidents halving, and this level is significantly below the baseline.

We continue to invest in road safety education and through our Local Transport Plan, we continue to invest in speed management and casualty reduction schemes.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

TCP 602

Indicator Name

Number of children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents (annual)

Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

And we will support economic growth by keeping the borough - Safe

Narrative

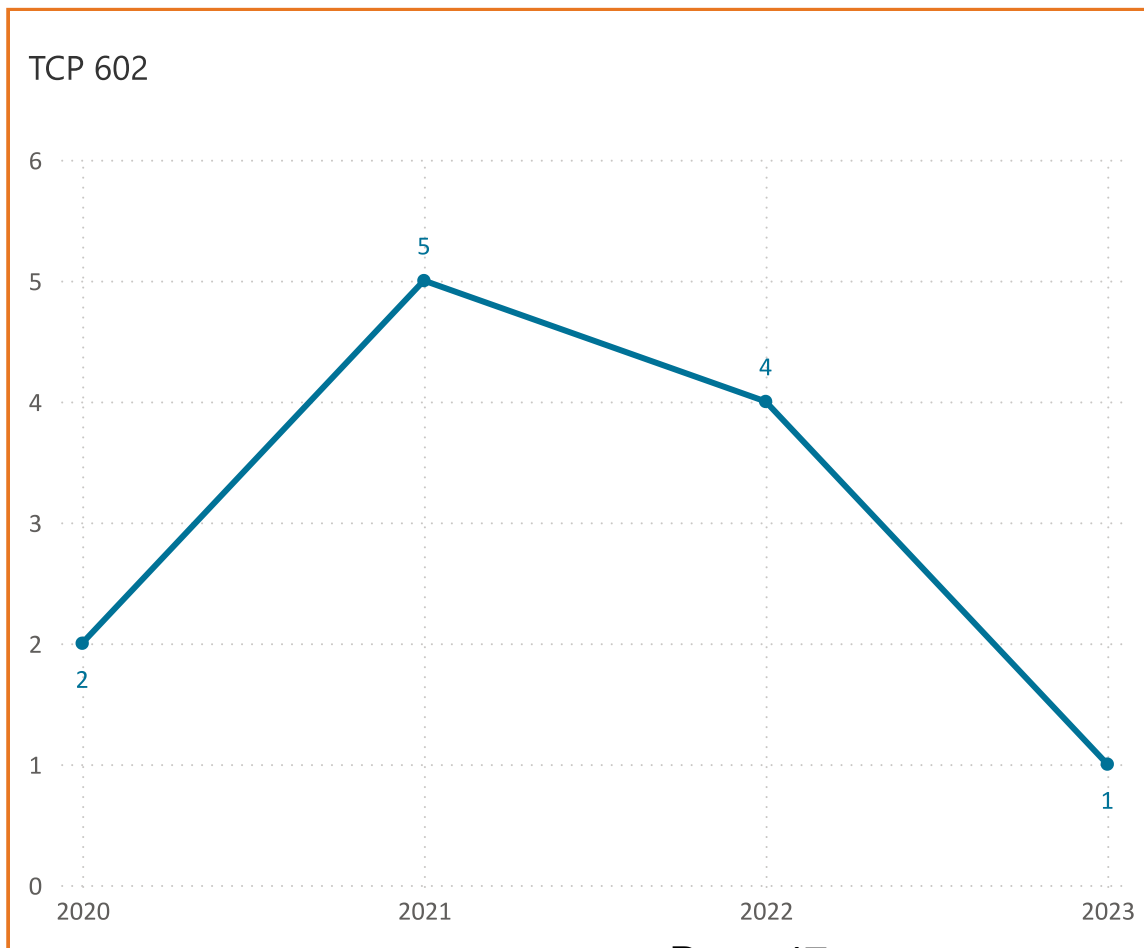
This is an annual indicator based on the 2023-24 calendar year. The data is collected through Durham Police via the Stats 19 reporting system.

Data for 2023 shows a decrease over 2022 despite traffic volumes recovering to similar levels to that recorded in 2019 prior to Covid-19.

Based on the years prior to Covid-19, we are at a lower level which falls below the baseline. There have been no child fatalities since 2013.

Through our Local Transport Plan, we continue to invest in speed management and casualty reduction schemes.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

TCP 603

Indicator Name

Number of children slightly injured in road traffic accidents (annual)

Theme or Portfolio

Priority or Key Action

And we will support economic growth by keeping the borough - Safe

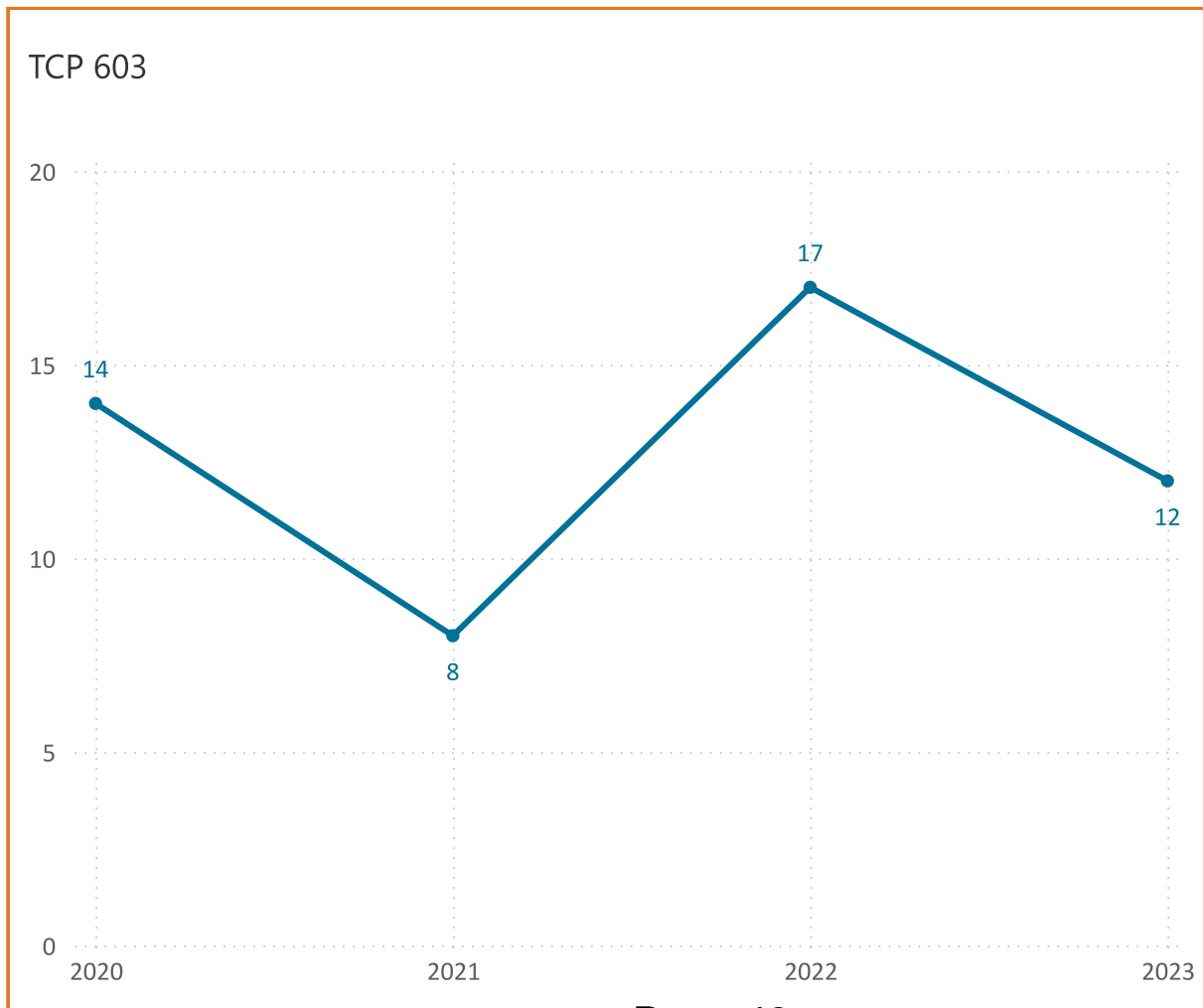
Narrative

This is an annual indicator based on the 2023-24 calendar year.

Data for 2023 shows decrease over 2021-22 which appears to follow the downward trend before the 2019-20 Covid-19 pandemic. At 12, this is now below the baseline. It should be noted that the long term trend shows significant reductions from the 45 child slight casualties recorded in 2012.

2020-21 is a statistical outlier due to the impact of Covid-19 on traffic levels (15% of normal traffic levels at its lowest). Since 2020 traffic levels have recovered to similar volumes to that recorded in 2019.

Graph/Table





DBC Number

TCP 900

Indicator Name

Overall Public Satisfaction with Public Transport Theme (National Highways and Transport Survey)

Theme or Portfolio

Local Environment

Priority or Key Action

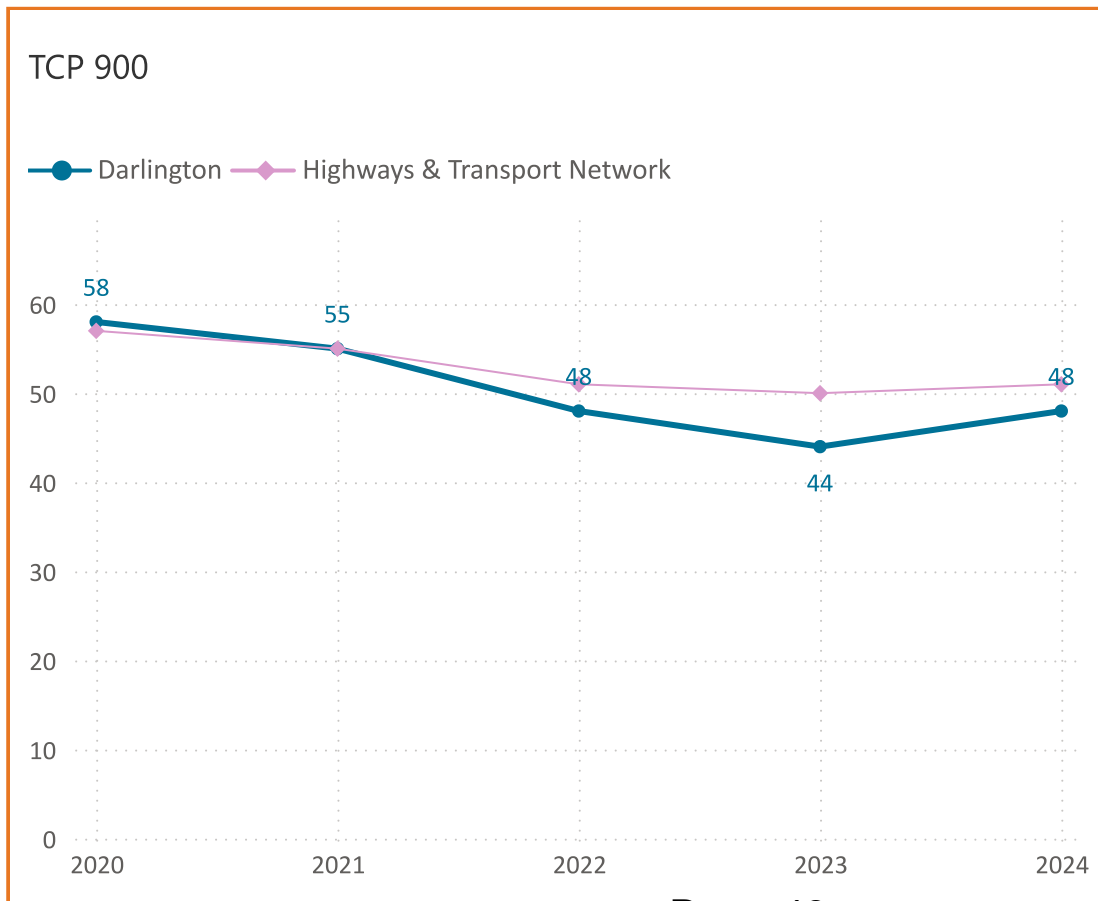
Enable improvements in transport systems by working in partnership with TVCA and public transport operators to deliver the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement programme, including the improvement of bus facilities and the reliability of services

Narrative

The satisfaction survey results are taken from a survey conducted by the National Highways and Transport Network, an organisation who provide a range of benchmarking services to Local Authorities. The overall public satisfaction with public transport has increased from 44% in 2023 to 48% in 2024. This is below the Highways and Transport Network average of all the authorities taking part of 51%.

Tees Valley combined Authority are the Local Transport Authority responsible for public transport and the Council will continue to work in partnership to steer investment into public transport in Darlington to improve satisfaction levels.

Graph/Table



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**COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
16 JANUARY 2025**

PUBLIC SECTOR EXECUTIVES GROUP

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To inform the committee about the work of the Public Sector Executive Group.

Summary

2. This report describes the Public Sector Executives Group and outlines the work it has been undertaking.

Recommendation

3. It is recommended that this report is received for information and discussion.

**Seth Pearson
Partnerships Director**

Background Papers

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

Author: Seth Pearson

Council Plan	The report contributes to the Council Plan in that it outlines how public sector agencies have been engaged at a senior level in its development.
Addressing inequalities	There are no issues relating to diversity which this report needs to address.
Tackling Climate Change	There are no issues which this report needs to address.
Efficient and effective use of resources	This report has no impact on the Council’s Efficiency Programme.
Health and Wellbeing	This report has no direct implications to the Health and Well Being of residents of Darlington.
S17 Crime and Disorder	This report has no implications for Crime and Disorder
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.
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

Background

4. At its meeting of 15 July 2021, Council agreed the formation of the Public Sector Executives Group (PSEG) as one of the arrangements that replaced the Darlington Partnership.
5. The PSEG includes senior officers from key public sector bodies with the purpose of co-ordinating the broader efforts of the Public Sector to Deliver Success for Darlington.
6. The key aims are to :-
 - a) Gain a common understanding of the issues facing Darlington
 - b) Collective 'horizon scanning' 2
 - c) Maximise the benefits of the public sector resources
 - d) Review and plan initiatives to deliver success
 - e) To advise their own Governance on issues raised at the partnership and seek approval from them where appropriate
 - f) To work and support the private and voluntary sector to deliver programmes and projects to deliver success for Darlington.
 - g) To act as the Programme Board for key initiatives.
7. The group meets regularly includes the following:
 - (a) Chief Executive, DBC
 - (b) Executive Director of Place Based Delivery – Tees Valley & Central, NHS
 - (c) Chief Constable
 - (d) Chief Fire Officer
 - (e) Director of Teesside University
 - (f) Chief Executive of Durham & Darlington Health Trust
 - (g) Principal of Darlington College
 - (h) Chief Executive of the Police Victim and Crime Commissioners office.
 - (i) Chief Officer of the Primary Care Network
 - (j) Acting Permanent Secretary and Director General, Tax and Welfare HM Treasury

Other relevant officers attend as necessary.
8. The group is supported by the Director of the Darlington Partnerships who acts as programme/project lead for many of the initiatives together with support from the Council's Policy & Performance Manager in respect of evidence and policy matters.

9. Partners continue to financially support PSEG as they did the Darlington Partnership and lend their support as needed.
10. As outlined in the aims above the group works with the private sector engaging through existing, issues focused forums such as the Towns Fund Board and Darlington Cares.
11. The Board also looks to work with the newly established voluntary sector engagement group to ensure they are aware of emerging challenges and opportunities.

Recent Activity

12. The most recent meetings of PESG were held on June 5th, October 2nd and December 4th 2024.
13. The meeting of June 5th focused on the Long Term Plan for Town initiative. Information was shared about the approach being taken in Spennymoor providing an opportunity to share practice and learn from each other
14. In addition the Police and Crime Commissioner outlined the emerging Police and Crime Plan providing other public sector agencies an opportunity to comment on its focus and consider how they might collaborate on its delivery. There was a particular interest in how agencies might share data.
15. At the meeting of October 2nd partners agreed to explore a data sharing tool to improve collaboration on safeguarding.
16. The meeting of December 4th considered the implications of the Autumn Budget Statement. In addition an update was provided on the Household Support Fund being delivered by the Council and its partners in the voluntary sector.
17. An important aspect of each meeting is the time given to updates from individual agencies where important developments or concerns can be shared with their peers and common approaches can be adopted.

Outcome of Consultation

18. The Public Sector Executives Group was formed with the full involvement of the public sector agencies involved. It was also considered by Cabinet and its formation was ratified at Council at its meeting of 15 July 2021.

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COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 29 AUGUST 2024

WORK PROGRAMME

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the work programme items scheduled to be considered by this Scrutiny Committee during the 2024/25 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 2024/25 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**).
4. Two Quads of Aims have been received by Members in relation to Customer Relationship System and Accessibility Review. In accordance with the agreed process, these items are still under discussion as to the most effective way to consider them and an update will be given at the next meeting.

Recommendation

5. 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.

Luke Swinhoe
Assistant Director Law and Governance

Background Papers

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

Author: Olivia Hugill Ext:5363

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. The Work Programme contains items which enable Members to scrutinise those areas that contribute the priority of 'Communities' – Working together for safer, healthier and more engaged communities and 'Local Environment' – A well-connected, clean and sustainable borough.
Addressing inequalities	There are no issues relating to diversity which this report needs to address.
Tackling Climate Change	There are no issues which this report needs to address.
Efficient and effective use of resources	This report has no impact on the Council's Efficiency Programme.
Health and Wellbeing	This report has no direct implications to the Health and Well Being of residents of Darlington.
S17 Crime and Disorder	This report has no implications for Crime and Disorder
Wards Affected	The impact of the report on any individual Ward is considered to be minimal.
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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
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers.

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

6. The format of the proposed work programme has been reviewed to enable Members of this Scrutiny Committee to provide a rigorous and informed challenge to the areas for discussion.

Forward Plan and Additional Items

7. 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.
8. A copy of the Forward Plan has been attached at **Appendix 3** for information.

COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

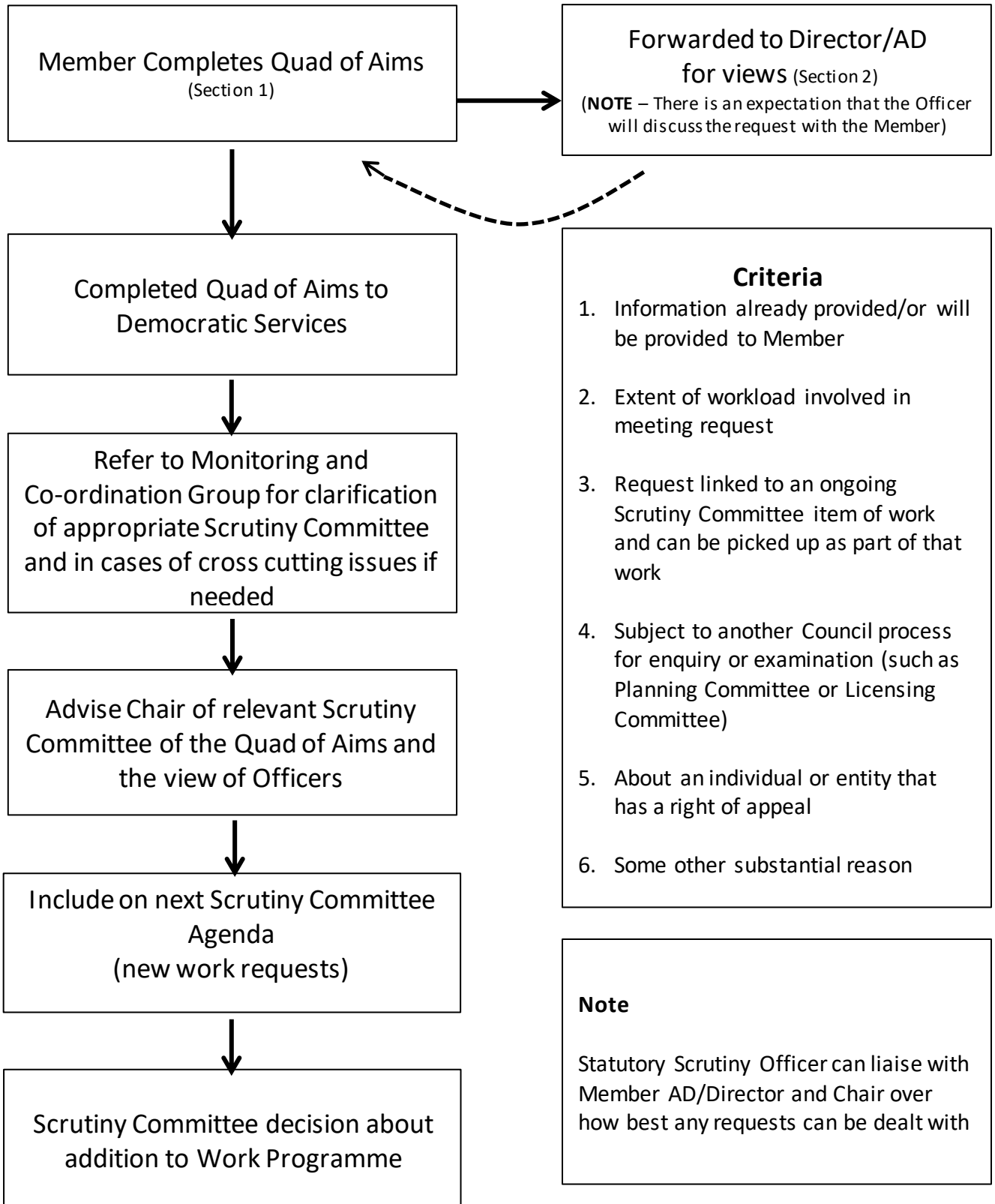
Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer/ Organisation Involved	Link to Performance Management Framework (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
Performance Management and Regulation/ Management of Change Regular Performance Reports to be Programmed End of Year Performance (including Compliments Comments and Complaints)	16 January 2025 (Q2) Year End August 2024	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.
Stronger Communities Fund Update	Year End August 2024 January 2025	Stronger Communities Portfolio Holder		To update Scrutiny Members.
Local Transport Plan	27 February 2025 Last received 22 February 2024	Andy Casey/ Anthony Hewitt		To scrutinise and undertake any further work if necessary.
Public Sector Executive Group 6 Month Review	16 January 2025 Last considered 22 February 2024	Seth Pearson		To scrutinise and undertake any further work if necessary.

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer/ Organisation Involved	Link to Performance Management Framework (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
Tree and Woodland Strategy	April / May 2025 Last considered 18 April 2024	Brian Graham		To receive a yearly review of the strategy.
Tees Valley Combined Authority Transport Committee	Last received on 24 October 2024. To be received when published.	Anthony Hewitt		To receive the Minutes from the Tees Valley Combined Authority Transport Committee
Environment Act 2021 – Waste Management Arrangements	24 October 2024 Last considered 21 October 2021	Ian Thompson		To give Scrutiny Members the opportunity to consider prior to Cabinet.
Darlington Cultural Strategy Action Plan for 2024/25	June 2025 Last considered 13 June 2024	Stephen Wiper		Annual update for Scrutiny Members.
Residents' Parking Permits – Differential Charges	10 April 2025	Anthony Hewitt		To scrutinise and undertake any further work if necessary.
Private Sector Housing	10 April 2025	Christine Booth		To scrutinise and undertake any further work if necessary.
Allotment Strategy Review	27 February 2025	Brian Graham		To scrutinise and undertake any further work if necessary.
Parks and Open Spaces	10 April 2025	Brian Graham		To scrutinise and undertake any further work if necessary.

Topic	Timescale	Lead Officer/ Organisation Involved	Link to Performance Management Framework (metrics)	Scrutiny's Role
Town Centre Programme	24 October 2024	Alex Nicholson		To scrutinise and undertake any further work if necessary.
Waste Control Review - To look at fly tipping and back lane strategy/bins	27 February 2025	Brian Graham		To scrutinise and undertake any further work if necessary.

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



PLEASE RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

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

SECTION 1 TO BE COMPLETED BY MEMBERS

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

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

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Signed Councillor

Date

SECTION 2 TO BE COMPLETED BY DIRECTORS/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS
(NOTE – There is an expectation that Officers will discuss the request with the Member)

	Criteria
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**

PLEASE RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

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**DARLINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL
FORWARD PLAN**



DARLINGTON

Borough Council

**FORWARD PLAN
FOR THE PERIOD: 1 JANUARY 2025 - 31 MAY 2025**

Title	Decision Maker and Date	Page
Annual Statement of Accounts 2022/23	Cabinet 7 Jan 2025	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Climate Change Progress	Cabinet 7 Jan 2025	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Council Plan Performance Reporting Update	Cabinet 7 Jan 2025	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Council Tax Calculation of Tax Base 2025/26	Council 30 Jan 2025 Cabinet 7 Jan 2025	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Environment Act 2021 - Waste Management Arrangements	Council 30 Jan 2025 Cabinet 7 Jan 2025	9
Maintained Schools Capital Programme - Summer 2025	Cabinet 7 Jan 2025	10
Release of Capital for Children's Play Area - West Park	Cabinet 7 Jan 2025	11
Schedule of Transactions	Cabinet 7 Jan 2025	12
Calendar of Council and Committee Meetings	Cabinet 4 Feb 2025	13
Capital Strategy	Cabinet 4 Feb 2025	14
Darlington Indoor Market	Cabinet 4 Feb 2025	15
Former St Modwen Site and Biodiversity Net Gain Mitigation	Cabinet 4 Feb 2025	16
Housing Revenue Account - Medium Term Financial Plan 2025/27 to 2028/29	Cabinet 4 Feb 2025	17
Land at Coniscliffe Road,	Cabinet 4 Feb 2025	18

**DARLINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL
FORWARD PLAN**

Darlington		
Land at Faverdale - Burtree Garden Village - Proposed Infrastructure Development Agreement (IDA)	Cabinet 4 Feb 2025	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Project Position Statement and Capital Programme Monitoring - Quarter 3	Cabinet 4 Feb 2025	20
Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Strategy 2025/26	Cabinet 4 Feb 2025	21
Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) and Renewal of Town Centre Order	Cabinet 4 Feb 2025	22
Revenue Budget Monitoring - Quarter 3	Cabinet 4 Feb 2025	23
Review of the Local Development Scheme (LDS) 2024/27	Cabinet 4 Feb 2025	24
Review of the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP)	Council 27 Mar 2025 Cabinet 4 Feb 2025	25
Schools Admissions 2025/26	Cabinet 4 Feb 2025	26
Strategic Asset Plan	Cabinet 4 Feb 2025	27
Customer Services Strategy 2025/30	Cabinet 4 Mar 2025	28
Darlington Transport Plan	Cabinet 4 Mar 2025	29
Digital Darlington Strategy 2025-30	Cabinet 4 Mar 2025	30
Dolphin Centre – Invest to Save Projects	Cabinet 4 Mar 2025	31
North East Smokefree Declaration	Cabinet 4 Mar 2025	32
Preventing Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2025/30	Cabinet 4 Mar 2025	33
Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA)	Cabinet 4 Mar 2025	34
Annual Procurement Plan Update	Cabinet 8 Apr 2025	35
Physical Activity Strategy	Cabinet 8 Apr 2025	36
Woodland Road Waiting Restrictions	Cabinet 8 Apr 2025	37