



COUNCIL SUMMONS

To Members of the Metropolitan Borough Council

Dear Councillor

You are requested to attend a Meeting of the Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council to be held on **Thursday 15th July, 2021 at 6.30 pm at the Chesterfield High School, Chesterfield Road, Crosby, L23 9YB** to transact the business set out on the agenda overleaf.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dwayne D.", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Chief Executive

Town Hall,
Southport

Wednesday 7 July 2021

Please contact Ruth Harrison, Democratic Services Manager
on 0151 934 2046 or e-mail ruth.harrison@sefton.gov.uk

See overleaf for COVID Guidance and the requirements in relation to Public Attendance.

We endeavour to provide a reasonable number of full agendas, including reports at the meeting. If you wish to ensure that you have a copy to refer to at the meeting, please can you print off your own copy of the agenda pack prior to the meeting.

COVID GUIDANCE IN RELATION TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE

In light of ongoing Covid-19 social distancing restrictions, there is limited capacity for members of the press and public to be present in the meeting room indicated on the front page of the agenda at any one time. We would ask parties remain in the meeting room solely for the duration of consideration of the item to which their interests relate.

We therefore request that if you wish to attend the Council Meeting to please register in advance of the meeting via email to ruth.harrison@sefton.gov.uk by no later than **12:00 (noon) on the day of the meeting.**

Please include in your email –

- Your name;
- Your email address;
- Your Contact telephone number; and
- The details of the report in which you are interested.

In light of current social distancing requirements, access to the meeting room is limited.

We have been advised by Public Health that Members, officers and the public should carry out a lateral flow test before attending the meeting, and only attend if that test is negative. Provided you are not classed as exempt, it is requested that you wear a mask that covers both your nose and mouth and you use the hand sanitizer stations frequently.

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

Members are requested at a meeting where a disclosable pecuniary interest or personal interest arises, which is not already included in their Register of Members' Interests, to declare any interests that relate to an item on the agenda.

Where a Member discloses a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, he/she must withdraw from the meeting room, including from the public gallery, during the whole consideration of any item of business in which he/she has an interest, except where he/she is permitted to remain as a result of a grant of a dispensation.

Where a Member discloses a personal interest he/she must seek advice from the Monitoring Officer or staff member representing the Monitoring Officer to determine whether the Member should withdraw from the meeting room, including from the public gallery, during the whole consideration of any item of business in which he/she has an interest or whether the Member can remain in the meeting or remain in the meeting and vote on the relevant decision.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

(Pages 7 - 26)

Minutes of the meetings held on 18 and 20 May 2021.

4. Mayor's Communications

Public Session

5. Matters Raised by the Public

To deal with matters raised by members of the public resident within the Borough, of which notice has been given in accordance with the procedures relating to public questions, motions or petitions set out in Paragraph 37 to 48 of the Council and Committee Procedure Rules in Chapter 4 of the Council Constitution.

(Details of any petitions notified or questions submitted by members of the public will be circulated at the meeting).

Council Business Session

6. Questions Raised by Members of the Council

To receive and consider questions to Cabinet Members, Chairs of Committees or Spokespersons for any of the Joint Authorities upon any matter within their portfolio/area of responsibility, of which notice has been given by Members of the Council in accordance with Paragraph 50 to 52 of the Council and Committee Procedure Rules, set out in Chapter 4 of the Council Constitution.

7. Extension of the North West Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme (Pages 27 - 32)

Report of the Head of Highways and Public Protection.

8. Climate Emergency Annual Report (Pages 33 - 56)

Report of the Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services.

9. Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2020/21 (Pages 57 - 104)

Report of the Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services

10. Financial Management 2021/22 to 2024/25 and Framework for Change 2020 - Revenue and Capital Budget Update 2021/22 including the Financial Impact of COVID-19 on the 2021/22 Budget - Capital Budget Update – Additional Capital Estimates (Pages 105 - 112)

Report of the Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services.

11. Honorary Freedom of the Borough - Aintree and Liverpool University NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust (Pages 113 - 118)

Report of the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer.

12. Appointments to the Roles of Independent Person and Independent Remuneration Panel Member and Co-opted Members of the Audit and Governance Sub-Committee (Pages 119 - 124)

Report of the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer.

13. Membership of Committees 2021/22

To consider any changes to the Membership of any committees etc.

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 14. Matters dealt with in accordance with Rule 46 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules (Call-In and Urgency) of the Constitution | (Pages 125 - 128) |
| Report of the Leader of the Council. | |
| 15. Motion Submitted by Councillor Irving - Additional Resources for Additional Enforcement | (Pages 129 - 130) |
| 16. Motion Submitted by Councillor Irving - Sefton Council to Request Secretary of State For Permission to Increase Penalty Charge Notices | (Pages 131 - 132) |
| 17. Motion Submitted by Councillor Pugh - Cycle Lanes | (Pages 133 - 134) |
| 18. Motion Submitted by Councillor Myers - Hands Off Southport and Ainsdale - A response to the Boundary Commission | (Pages 135 - 136) |

This page is intentionally left blank

COUNCIL

MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, BOOTLE ON 18 MAY 2021

PRESENT: Councillor Burns (in the Chair)

Councillors Bennett, Bradshaw, Brough, Carragher, Cluskey, Cummins, Evans, Fairclough, Grace, Hansen, John Kelly, John Joseph Kelly, Ian Maher, Morris, O'Brien, Pugh, Spencer and Veidman

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Atkinson, Blackburne, Brennan, Brodie-Browne, Byrom, Carlin, Carr, Corcoran, D'alberquerque, Dodd, Dowd, Doyle, Dutton, Friel, Halsall, Hardy, Howard, Irving, Jones, Sonya Kelly, Killen, Lappin, Lewis, Christine Maher, McGinnity, McKinley, Moncur, Murphy, Myers, Page, Prendergast, Riley, Robinson, Roche, Roscoe, Sathiy, John Sayers, Yvonne Sayers, Shaw, Thomas, Anne Thompson, Lynne Thompson, Tweed, Waterfield, Sir Ron Watson, Webster and Wilson.

(Due to COVID restrictions the Council was required to hold the meeting with a politically balanced quorum of Members present and so the Members listed above were asked to submit their apologies for this Meeting to ensure that Government guidelines were adhered to)

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of any disclosable pecuniary interests or personal interests were received.

3. ELECTION OF MAYOR FOR 2021/22

It was moved by Councillor Ian Maher, seconded by Councillor John Joseph Kelly and unanimously

RESOLVED:

That Clare Louise Carragher, a Councillor of the Borough, be elected Mayor of the Borough for the ensuing Municipal Year and until the acceptance of office by her successor.

**Councillor Clare Louise Carragher took the Chair
at this point in the meeting**

Agenda Item 3

COUNCIL- TUESDAY 18TH MAY, 2021

4. ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIR FOR 2021/22

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Fairclough and unanimously

RESOLVED:

That June Burns, a Councillor of the Borough, be elected Deputy Chair of the Borough for the ensuing Municipal Year and until the acceptance of office by his successor.

5. VOTE OF THANKS FOR RETIRING MAYOR

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Fairclough and unanimously

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Council do hereby place on record its appreciation of the ability, courtesy and impartiality, shown by Councillor June Burns in her capacity as Mayor of the Borough and Chair of the meetings of the Council, during the Municipal Years 2019/20 and 2020/21, and for her attendance at many civic and public functions, both inside and outside of the Borough;
- (2) the Council also desires to extend its thanks to Mr Paul O'Brien for his support and encouragement given to the Mayor;
- (3) the Council wishes to record its appreciation of the excellent effort and involvement by both Councillor Burns and Mr O'Brien, in connection with the Mayor of Sefton's Charity Fund;
- (4) the Council further desires to extend its sincere thanks to Councillor Burns and Mr O'Brien for the hospitality extended to Royal Visits, Overseas Visitors and Civic Dignitaries hosted by this Borough; and
- (5) a copy of these Resolutions be passed under the Corporate Seal and presented to Councillor Burns.

Councillor Burns was then presented with a framed copy of the Vote of Thanks as a token of the Council's appreciation of the manner in which she and Mr Paul O'Brien had undertaken their duties in the Office of Mayor during the past twenty-four months.

Councillor Burns responded to the Vote of Thanks and expressed her appreciation to her Consort, Mr Paul O'Brien, the members of the public, various organisations and Council officers who had supported her during her Term of Office.

COUNCIL- TUESDAY 18TH MAY, 2021

6. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Fairclough and

RESOLVED

That the meeting be adjourned and the Council re-convene on Thursday, 20 May 2021 at 6.30 pm at the Golden Miller Suite, Aintree Race Course.

Agenda Item 3

This page is intentionally left blank

THIS SET OF MINUTES IS NOT SUBJECT TO "CALL-IN"

COUNCIL

MEETING HELD AT THE GOLDEN MILLER SUITE, AINTREE RACE COURSE ON 20 MAY 2021

PRESENT: Councillor Clare Louise Carragher (in the Chair)

Councillors Atkinson, Bennett, Blackburne, Bradshaw, Brennan, Brodie - Browne, Brough, Burns, Byrom, Carlin, Carr, Corcoran, Cluskey, Cummins, D'Albuquerque, Dowd, Doyle, Dutton, Evans, Fairclough, Friel, Grace, Halsall, Hansen, Hardy, Howard, Jones, John Kelly, John Joseph Kelly, Sonya Kelly, Killen, Lappin, Ian Maher, McKinley, Chris Maher, Moncur, Morris, Murphy, Myers, O'Brien, Page, Prendergast, Pugh, Riley, Roche, Roscoe, John Sayers, Shaw, Spencer, Thomas, Anne Thompson, Lynne Thompson, Tweed, Veidman, Waterfield, Sir Ron Watson, Webster and Wilson.

7. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dodd, Irving, Lewis, McGinnity, Robinson, Sathiy and Yvonne Sayers.

8. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of any disclosable pecuniary interests or personal interests were received.

9. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 22 April 2021 be approved as a correct record.

10. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

Election of New Councillors

The Mayor congratulated all Councillors who were re-elected to office following the Local Government Elections held on 6 May 2021, and extended a warm welcome to the following 10 new Councillors elected to office:

Natasha Carlin, Jennifer Corcoran, Sinclair D'Albuquerque, James Hansen, Sonya Kelly, Christine Maher, Catie Page, Mike Prendergast, Joe Riley and Andrew Wilson.

Agenda Item 3

COUNCIL- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2021

Councillors Not Re-Elected

The Mayor reported that she wished to place on record, the gratitude of the Council to the 3 former Councillors who were not re-elected to office, namely Bob McCann who served for 5 years and Tony Dawson and Pat Keith who both served for 9 years, and on behalf of the Council, thanked them for their dedicated service to the people of Sefton.

Both the Mayor and Councillor Evans paid tribute to the work of Pat Keith.

11. ELECTION RESULTS - 6 MAY 2021

The Council considered the report of the Chief Executive and Returning Officer on the results of the Council Elections held on 6 May 2021.

It was moved by Councillor Grace, seconded by Councillor Fairclough and

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

12. LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

The Mayor reported that on 16 May 2019 the Council had appointed Councillor Maher as the Leader of Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council for a four-year term of office and until the Adjourned Annual Council Meeting in May 2023 or until such time as his term of office expires.

13. CABINET AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

The Council considered the report of the Leader of the Council on the membership of the Cabinet.

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Fairclough and

RESOLVED: That

- (1) it be noted that Councillor Fairclough was appointed as the Deputy Leader of the Council in May 2019 for a four year term of office or until such time as his term of office expires;
- (2) it be noted that the Cabinet comprising of the Members indicated below will hold office until the Leaders term of office expires, unless removed by the leader or for any of the reasons set out in Paragraph 4 (a) to (c) of Chapter 5 in the Constitution;

Cabinet (10)

Portfolio	Member
Leader of the Council	Councillor Maher
Cabinet Member – Adult Social Care	Councillor Cummins
Cabinet Member – Children’s Social Care	Councillor Doyle
Cabinet Member – Communities and Housing	Councillor Hardy
Cabinet Member - Education	Councillor Roscoe
Cabinet Member – Health and Wellbeing	Councillor Moncur
Cabinet Member – Locality Services Deputy Leader	Councillor Fairclough
Cabinet Member – Planning and Building Control	Councillor Veidman
Cabinet Member – Regeneration and Skills	Councillor Atkinson
Cabinet Member – Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services	Councillor Lappin

- (3) the Portfolios set out in Chapter 5 of the Constitution be amended and agreed with the Leader and be lodged with the Monitoring Officer as set out in Paragraph 9 of Chapter 5 in the Constitution; and
- (4) the Monitoring officer be authorised to make any consequential amendments to the Constitution arising from the matters set out above and all Members of the Council be notified of those changes in due course. If necessary, any changes would be referred to the Audit and Governance Committee for consideration.

Agenda Item 3

COUNCIL- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2021

14. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES 2021/22

The Council considered the report of the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer which provided details of the allocation of Committee Places in accordance with the Political Balance Rules and the proposed Membership of the Committees and Working Groups for 2021/22. The report also sought approval to the terms of reference for Committees and Sub-Committees set out in chapters 6 and 7 of the Council's Constitution.

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Fairclough and

RESOLVED: That:

- (1) the allocation of Committee Places be noted; and
- (2) the Members, Chairs and Vice Chairs for the Committees and Sub-Committees set out in the appendix to this report be appointed for a maximum period of twelve months until the Adjourned Annual Council Meeting to be held in May 2022, subject to any changes political groups may make to memberships of Committees at meetings of the Council.

(A) OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH) (10)

(Plus 2 Associate Members)

(Lab 7 /LD&PA 1 /Con 1 /Ind 1)

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Substitute</u>
1.	Chair: Cllr. Thomas	Cllr. Anne Thompson
2.	Vice-Chair: Cllr. Myers	Cllr. Brennan
3.	Cllr. Brodie-Browne	Cllr. Pugh
4.	Cllr. Carr	Cllr. Christine Maher
5.	Cllr. Cluskey	Cllr. Andy Wilson
6.	Cllr. Halsall	Cllr. Roche
7.	Cllr. Irving	Cllr. Bennett
8.	Cllr. Jones	Cllr. Riley
9.	Cllr. John Joseph Kelly	Cllr. Tweed
10.	Cllr. Killen	Cllr. Webster

**Associate Members:
(Non-voting Co-opted Members)**

Mr. Brian Clark and Mr. Roger Hutchings (Nominated by Healthwatch, Sefton)

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (CHILDREN’S SERVICES AND SAFEGUARDING) (10)

(Plus 4 Education Added Members and 3 Associate Members)

(Lab 8 / LD&PA 1 /Con 1 /Ind 0)

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Substitute</u>
1.	Chair: Cllr. Burns	Cllr. Blackburne
2.	Vice-Chair: Cllr. Spencer	Cllr. Brennan
3.	Cllr. Carlin	Cllr. Howard
4.	Cllr. Dowd	Cllr. John Kelly
5.	Cllr. Evans	Cllr. Dodd
6.	Cllr. Murphy	Cllr. John Sayers
7.	Cllr. Prendergast	Cllr. Jones
8.	Cllr. Yvonne Sayers	Cllr. McGinnity
9.	Cllr. Webster	Cllr. Myers
10.	Cllr. Wilson	Cllr. Christine Maher

**Education Added Members:
(Voting Co-opted Members)**

Church Diocesan Representatives:

Father Des Seddon (Archdiocesan Representative) and
Mr. Stuart Harrison (Diocesan Representative)

Parent Governor Representatives:

Ms. Claire McDonough 2-year appointment until November 2021 and
Ms. Machalla McDermott – 2-year appointment until November 2022

**Associate Members:
(Non-voting Co-opted Members)**

Mrs. Sandra Cain
Ms. Karen Christie and Maurice Byrne
(Nominated by Healthwatch, Sefton)

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (REGENERATION AND SKILLS) (10)

(Lab 8 / LD&PA 1 /Con 1 /Ind 0)

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Substitute</u>
1.	Chair: Cllr. John Sayers	Cllr. Killen
2.	Vice-Chair: Cllr. Blackburne	Cllr. Howard
3.	Cllr. d’Albuquerque	Cllr. Morris
4.	Cllr. Cluskey	Cllr. O’Brien
5.	Cllr. Hansen	Cllr. Grace
6.	Cllr. Christine Maher	Cllr. Anne Thompson
7.	Cllr. Myers	Cllr. Thomas
8.	Cllr. Page	Cllr. Waterfield
9.	Cllr. Robinson	Cllr. Yvonne Sayers
10.	Cllr. Sathiy	Cllr. Shaw

Agenda Item 3

COUNCIL- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2021

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (REGULATORY, COMPLIANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES) (10)

(Lab 7 / LD&PA 1/Con 1 /Ind 1)

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Substitute</u>
1.	Chair: Cllr. Bradshaw	Cllr. McGinnity
2.	Vice-Chair: Byrom	Cllr. Murphy
3.	Cllr. Bennett	Cllr. Irving
4.	Cllr. Brennan	Cllr. Myers
5.	Cllr. Grace	Cllr. Roche
6.	Cllr. Howard	Cllr. Page
7.	Cllr. Killen	Cllr. Friel
8.	Cllr. Lewis	Cllr. Brodie-Browne
9.	Cllr. McKinley	Cllr. Thomas
10.	Cllr. Morris	Cllr. Sir Ron Watson

(B) REGULATORY AND OTHER COMMITTEES

APPEALS COMMITTEE

Members of the Council (other than Cabinet Members) to form a Panel from which 3 Members are selected to form a politically balanced Committee. (Lab 2 / LD&PA 1 /Con 0 /Ind 0)

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (10)

(Lab 6 / LD&PA 2 /Con 2 /Ind 0)

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Substitute</u>
1.	Chair: Cllr. Robinson	Cllr. Bradshaw
2.	Vice-Chair: Cllr. Roche	Cllr. Carr
3.	Cllr. D'Albuquerque	Cllr. Riley
4.	Cllr. Dowd	Cllr. Murphy
5.	Cllr. McGinnity	Cllr. Yvonne Sayers
6.	Cllr. John Joseph Kelly	Cllr. Spencer
7.	Cllr. Pugh	Cllr. Lewis
8.	Cllr. John Sayers	Cllr. Sonya Kelly
9.	Cllr. Shaw	Cllr. Evans
10.	Cllr. Sir Ron Watson	Cllr. Prendergast

HEARINGS SUB-COMMITTEE OF AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

All Members of the Audit and Governance Committee will form a Panel from which 3 Members will be selected to form a Sub-Committee.

COUNCIL- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2021

INITIAL ASSESSMENT SUB-COMMITTEE OF AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

All Members of the Audit and Governance Committee will form a Panel from which 3 Members will be selected to form a Sub-Committee.

REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE OF AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

All Members of the Audit and Governance Committee to form a Panel from which 3 Members will be selected to form a Sub-Committee.

Co-opted Voting Members of Audit and Governance Standards Sub-Committees

If any complaints are submitted in respect of the conduct of any Parish Councillor in the Borough, one of the Parish Councillors from the nominated panel will be selected to form part of the 3 Member Panel on the Sub-Committees set out above.

INDEPENDENT PERSONS (STANDARDS ISSUES)

(Currently 1 member – interviews pending)

Mr. E. Davies

EMPLOYMENT PROCEDURE COMMITTEE

Members of the Council to form a panel from which a minimum of 3 Members are selected to form a politically balanced Committee (Lab 2 / LD&PA 1 /Con 0 /Ind 0). At least one member of the Cabinet to be included on the Committee.

Agenda Item 3

COUNCIL- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2021

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Members appointed by the Leader of the Council	Councillor Moncur – Cabinet Member – Health and Wellbeing (Chair)
	Councillor Cummins – Cabinet Member – Adult Social Care
	Councillor Doyle – Cabinet Member – Children’s Social Care
Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Health	Deborah Butcher
Executive Director of Children’s Social Care and Education	Vicky Buchanan
Representative of NHS South Sefton Clinical Commissioning Group	Dr Craig Gillespie
Representative of NHS Southport and Formby Clinical Commissioning Group	Dr Rob Caudwell
Chief Officer of NHS South Sefton and NHS Southport and Formby Clinical Commissioning Groups	Fiona Taylor
Representative of NHS England	Vacancy
Representative of Healthwatch, Sefton	Bill Bruce
Representative of the NHS Acute Provider Sector	Steve Warburton
Representative from the Every Child Matters Forum	Lorraine Webb
Representative from the Health and Social Care Forum	Andrew Booth
Representative from Merseyside Police	Superintendent Graeme Robson
Representative from Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service	Gary Oakford
Representative from Alder Hey Children’s Foundation trust	Louise Shephard
Representative from the Voluntary Community Faith Sector (representative to be agreed through Sefton CVS as the umbrella organisation for the voluntary community and faith sector)	Angela White

The Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 made under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 provide that the Board shall be a committee of the Council. The requirement for political balance does not apply to the Board and the Act requires that the Councillor Membership is nominated by the Executive Leader (Leader of the Council).

LICENSING AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE (15)

(Lab 11 / LD&PA 2 /Con 2 /Ind 0)

	<u>Member</u>
1.	Chair: Cllr. John Kelly
2.	Vice-Chair: Cllr. Waterfield
3.	Cllr. Blackburne
4.	Cllr. Bradshaw
5.	Cllr. Burns
6.	Cllr. Dodd
7.	Cllr. Friel
8.	Cllr. Morris
9.	Cllr. O'Brien
10.	Cllr. Prendergast
11.	Cllr. Yvonne Sayers
12.	Cllr. Thomas
13.	Cllr. Anne Thompson
14.	Cllr Lynne Thompson
15.	Cllr. Webster

LICENSING AND REGULATORY (URGENT REFERRALS) COMMITTEE (3)

(Lab 2 LD&PA / 0 /Con 1 /Ind 0)

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Substitute</u>
1.	Chair: Cllr. John Kelly	Cllr. Bradshaw
2.	Cllr. Prendergast	Cllr. Morris
3.	Cllr. Waterfield	Cllr. Friel

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

Members of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee to form a Panel from which 3 Members are selected to form a Sub-Committee.

LICENSING (SEXUAL ENTERTAINMENT VENUES) SUB-COMMITTEE

Members of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee to form a Panel from which 3 Members are selected to form a Sub-Committee.

PAY AND GRADING COMMITTEE (7)

(Lab 5 / LD&PA 1 /Con 1 /Ind 0) – Including Cabinet Member – Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services

	<u>Member</u>
1.	Chair: Cllr. Lappin
2.	Vice-Chair: Dowd
3.	Cllr. Carr
4.	Cllr. Howard
5.	Cllr. McKinley
6.	Cllr. Shaw
7.	Cllr. Sir Ron Watson

Agenda Item 3

COUNCIL- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2021

PLANNING COMMITTEE (15)

(Lab 11 / LD&PA 2 /Con 2 /Ind 0)

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Substitute</u>
1.	Chair: Cllr. Veidman	Cllr. Carlin
2.	Vice-Chair: Cllr. O'Brien	Cllr. John Sayers
3.	Cllr. Corcoran	Cllr. Anne Thompson
4.	Cllr. Dutton	Cllr. Jones
5.	Cllr. Hansen	Cllr. Carr
6.	Cllr. John Kelly	Cllr. McKinely
7.	Cllr. Sonya Kelly	Cllr. Byrom
8.	Cllr. McGinnity	Cllr. Grace
9.	Cllr. Pugh	Cllr. Dodd
10.	Cllr. Riley	Cllr. D'Albuquerque
11.	Cllr. Roche	Cllr. Friel
12.	Cllr. Spencer	Cllr. Robinson
13.	Cllr. Lynne Thompson	Cllr. Dodd
14.	Cllr. Tweed	Cllr. Blackburne
15.	Cllr. Waterfield	Cllr. Cluskey

PLANNING (URGENT REFERRALS) COMMITTEE (3)

(Lab 2 / LD&PA 0/Con 1 /Ind 0)

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Substitute</u>
1.	Chair: Cllr. Veidman	Cllr. Tweed
2.	Cllr. Dutton	Cllr. Riley
3.	Cllr. John Kelly	Cllr. Roche

PLANNING VISITING PANEL (15)

The Panel comprises of the Members of the Planning Committee.

(C) CONSULTATIVE BODIES

INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL

(Currently 2 members – interviews pending)

Mr. E. Davies

Mrs. S. Lowe

1-year term until May 2022

(To advise and make recommendations to the Authority about the allowances to be paid to Elected Members).

COUNCIL- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2021

JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE FOR TEACHING STAFFS

(9 Council Members plus 9 Teacher representatives)

(Lab 7 / LD&PA 1 /Con 1 /Ind 0)

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Substitute</u>
1.	Cllr. Blackburne	Cllr. Myers
2.	Cllr. Bradshaw	Cllr. O'Brien
3.	Cllr. Brennan	Cllr. Waterfield
4.	Cllr. Brough	Cllr. Prendergast
5.	Cllr. Friel	Cllr. John Sayers
6.	Cllr. Howard	Cllr. Tweed
7.	Cllr. John Joseph Kelly	Cllr. Yvonne Sayers
8.	Cllr. Lewis	Cllr. Sathiy
9.	Cllr. Wilson	Cllr. Corcoran

LOCAL JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

(12 Council Members plus 12 Trade Union Representatives)

(Lab 10 / LD&PA 1 /Con 1 /Ind 0)

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Substitute</u>
1.	Cllr. Bradshaw	Cllr. Christine Myers
2.	Cllr. Brennan	Cllr. Carlin
3.	Cllr. Brodie-Browne	Cllr. Lewis
4.	Cllr. Carr	Cllr. McKinley
5.	Cllr. Dutton	Cllr. Brough
6.	Cllr. Grace	Cllr. Yvonne Sayers
7.	Cllr. Halsall	Cllr. McKinley
8.	Cllr. Lappin	Cllr. Waterfield
9.	Cllr. Murphy	Cllr. Spencer
10.	Cllr. Page	Cllr. Burns
11.	Cllr. John Sayers	Cllr. Tweed
12.	Cllr. Webster	Cllr. Myers

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION PANEL (4)

(Lab 3 / LD&PA 0 /Con 1 /Ind 0)

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Substitute</u>
1.	Cabinet Member – Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services – Cllr. Lappin	Cllr. John Kelly
2.	Cllr. Byrom	Cllr. Myers
3.	Cllr. Dutton	Cllr. Brough
4.	Cllr. Grace	Cllr. Blackburne

Agenda Item 3

COUNCIL- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2021

15. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES ON MERSEYSIDE JOINT AUTHORITIES 2021/22

The Council considered a schedule of the proposed representation on the Merseyside Joint Authority Bodies for 2019/20.

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Fairclough and

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the following Members be appointed to serve on the following Joint Authority Bodies in 2021/22:

Joint Authority

Representatives

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority

Leader of the Council (Councillor Maher)
Substitute Member – Deputy Leader of the Council (Councillor Fairclough)

Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority

Councillors Byrom (Lab), Grace (Lab),
Lynne Thompson (LD &PA) and Tweed (Lab)

Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority

Councillors Page (Lab) and Yvonne Sayers (Lab)

Merseyside Police and Crime Panel
(Nominations only – The appointments are agreed on a Pan-Merseyside basis)

Councillors John Sayers (Lab) and Spencer (Lab)

- (2) That the Leader of the Council in consultation with the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer be granted delegated authority to make the necessary amendments to the below appointments should Sefton's allocation change in relation to the following Joint Authority Bodies arising from the allocation determined by the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority for 2021/22:

Joint Authority

Representatives

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillors Howard (Lab) (Scrutiny Link)
Hansen (Lab) and Waterfield (Lab)

To Be Confirmed

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Transport Committee

Councillors Brough (Con), Friel (Lab),
Halsall (Lab) and Killen (Lab)

To Be Confirmed

COUNCIL- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2021

16. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION – HIGHWAYS; AND COUNTER TERRORISM AND SECURITY ACT 2015

Further to Minute No. 30 of the Audit and Governance Committee held on 17 March 2020 the Council considered the report of the Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services on proposals for amendments to the Constitution relating to Highways.

The report indicated that it was considered more expedient and efficient for the Head of Highways and Public Protection to have delegated authority to enter into agreements under s38 and s278 Highways Act 1980 and the making and amending Traffic Regulation Orders with regards to Disabled Parking Places outside an individual's property

Also, to comply with the 2020 statutory guidance issued pursuant to the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015, the report also sought to amend the Council's Constitution to detail that the Council's responsibilities under the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 to be the responsibility of the Cabinet Member - Communities and Housing.

It was moved by Councillor Roche, seconded by Councillor Fairclough and

RESOLVED: That:

- (1) the Constitution be amended to allow for the authority to enter into agreements under s38 and s278 Highways Act 1980 and the making and amending Traffic Regulation Orders with regards to Disabled Parking Places outside an individual's property to be delegated to the Head of Highways and Public Protection; and
- (2) the Constitution be amended to provide that the Council's responsibilities under the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 be the responsibility of the Cabinet Member - Communities and Housing.

17. AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Further to Minute No. 27 of the Audit and Governance Committee held on 17 March 2020 the Council considered the report of the Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services reviewing the current terms of reference for Audit and Governance Committee and recommending a revised terms of reference in order to comply with best practice as recommended by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA).

It was moved by Councillor Roche, seconded by Councillor John Sayers and

RESOLVED:

Agenda Item 3

COUNCIL- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2021

That the revised terms of reference for the Audit Committee, as set out in the report be approved.

18. MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT

Further to Minute No. 28 of the Audit and Governance Committee held on 17 March 2020 the Council considered the report of the Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services on proposals for a new Members' Code of Conduct.

It was moved by Councillor Roche, seconded by Councillor Fairclough and

RESOLVED:

That the new Member Code of Conduct as set out in Appendix A to the report, be approved.

19. PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION IN RELATION TO PLANNING COMMITTEE

Further to Minute No. 35 of the Audit and Governance Committee held on 17 March 2020 the Council considered the report of the Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services proposing changes to the constitution in relation to the exercise of the Council's planning powers.

It was moved by Councillor Roche, seconded by Councillor Fairclough and

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the proposed changes to matters which are delegated to Planning Committee and matters which will not be determined by Planning Committee as set out in Table 1 and reflected in the revised wording set out in Figure 1, be approved; and
- (2) the proposed changes to the public speaking process as set out in section 3 of the report, be approved.

20. REVISIONS TO EMPLOYEE CODE OF CONDUCT

Further to Minute No. 29 of the Audit and Governance Committee held on 17 March 2020 the Council considered the report of the Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services on proposals for revisions to the Employee Code of Conduct.

It was moved by Councillor Roche, seconded by Councillor Fairclough and

RESOLVED:

That the revised Employee Code of Conduct be approved.

COUNCIL- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2021

21. GREEN HOMES GRANT (GHG) LOCAL AUTHORITY DELIVERY (LAD) ROUND 2 SCHEME

The Council considered the report of the Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services in relation to securing over £2 million grant funding.

The report detailed that Sefton Council had received a direct award of £1.9M capital and £0.225M revenue funding to retrofit 215 poorly insulated homes for low income Sefton residents. The report set out that the funding had come from The Department of Business Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) as part of the government's post covid 19 response.

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Fairclough and

RESOLVED: That:

- (1) the supplementary capital estimate of £1.9M and supplementary revenue estimate of £0.225M be approved; and
- (2) the Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services be granted delegated authority to appoint a contractor via a direct award from the Procure Plus framework and then enter into the contract once the procurement process is completed in order to undertake the required works.

22. DATES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS 2021/22

It was moved by Councillor Maher, seconded by Councillor Fairclough and

RESOLVED:

That it be noted that the Council meetings scheduled to be held during the Municipal Year 2021/22 are as follows:

- 15 July 2021
- 16 September 2021
- 18 November 2021
- 20 January 2022
- 3 March 2022 (Budget Meeting)
- 21 April 2022

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 7

Report to:	Cabinet Council	Date of Meeting:	24 th June 2021 15 th July 2021
Subject:	Extension of the North West Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme		
Report of:	Head of Highways and Public Protection	Wards Affected:	Ainsdale; Blundellsands; Cambridge; Church; Dukes; Harington; Linacre; Meols; Ravenmeols;
Portfolio:	Cabinet Member - Health and Wellbeing		
Is this a Key Decision:	Yes	Included in Forward Plan:	Yes.
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

The continuation of the North West Regional Coastal Monitoring programme has been approved by the Environment Agency and allocations of grant funding have been made. This report seeks approval to include the capital grant into the capital programme from 2021 to 2026 with a total value of £5.699m. The allocation for 2021/2022 is £834,000.

Recommendation(s):

that Cabinet consider and recommend to Council;

(1) approval of the inclusion of the capital allocation of £834,000 into the capital programme for 2021/2022 and the associated supplementary capital estimate;

(2) approval of the inclusion of future annual capital allocations (2022-2026), as outlined in this report, in the capital programme subject to annual confirmation from the Environment Agency; and

(3) delegation of the acceptance and administration of the grant in each of the six years to the Head of In-House Operational Services.

that Council;

(1) approve the inclusion of the capital allocation of £834,000 into the capital programme for 2021/2022 and the associated supplementary capital estimate;

(2) approve the inclusion of future annual capital allocations (2022-2026), as outlined in this report, in the capital programme subject to annual confirmation from the Environment Agency; and

Agenda Item 7

(3) delegates the acceptance and administration of the grant in each of the six years to the Head of In-House Operational Services.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

Grant to be included in the capital programme in accordance with the constitution.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

N/A

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

There are no revenue cost implications. Eligible in-house staff time will be recharged against the capital budget for this scheme.

(B) Capital Costs

The total cost of the programme will be £5.699m over six years, 100% grant funded by the Environment Agency.

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets):

The programme funds three FTEs within Sefton Council, they are fully funded through this programme. Any equipment and software required is also funded through the programme.

Legal Implications:

N/A

Equality Implications:

There are no equality implications.

Climate Emergency Implications:

The recommendations within this report will

Have a positive impact	N
Have a neutral impact	Y
Have a negative impact	N
The Author has undertaken the Climate Emergency training for report authors	Y

The delivery of the project will have some short term negative impacts, such as using specialist vehicles on the beach to survey, driving to sites across the northwest to survey and commissioning vessels to go and maintain marine monitoring equipment. However, the purpose of the programme is to better understand the changing coastal conditions to enable future sustainable management along the northwest coastline. The project actively seeks to use new technologies that reduce the need for site based surveys, thus reducing carbon footprint.
On balance the project has a neutral impact.

--

Contribution to the Council’s Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: N/A
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: Provides the evidence to support discussions with communities at risk
Commission, broker and provide core services: N/A
Place – leadership and influencer: N/A
Drivers of change and reform: The project actively seeks to use new technologies that reduce the need for site based surveys, thus reducing carbon footprint
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: N/A
Greater income for social investment: N/A
Cleaner Greener: N/A

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services (FD.6395/21) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD.4595/21) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

(B) External Consultations

Not applicable

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately after the meeting of the Council

Contact Officer:	Paul Wisse
Telephone Number:	Tel: 0151 934 2959
Email Address:	paul.wisse@sefton.gov.uk

Appendices:

There are no appendices to this report

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

Agenda Item 7

1. Introduction/Background

1.1. Sefton MBC has been the lead authority (since 2011) for the collection of coastal process monitoring data for the Northwest of England. This is being delivered by the Green Sefton - Development Team within Locality Services. As lead authority Sefton Council will continue to:

- Act as Accountable Body in respect of all payments to contractors (including in-house teams), participating local authorities and recharges to participants.
- Act as Banker in respect of all receipts of grant aid (whether Environment Agency or externally funded)
- Coordinate all applications for grant aid from Environment Agency, and other agencies where appropriate, in consultation with the National Implementation Board for Phase 3 of the National Network of Regional Coastal Monitoring Programmes.
- Undertake the supervision and administration necessary to co-ordinate the project.
- Co-ordinate procurement of all programme elements, within the Northwest Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme.

2. Grant Allocation

2.1. The programme has been allocated a 6-year funding stream. Only the value for the first year 2021/22 has been confirmed, which is normal practice for grant from the Environment Agency. Sefton Council will receive annual confirmation of budget values. The funding programme is detailed below.

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	Total
GIA	£834,000	£735,000	£1,058,000	£1,306,000	£888,000	£878,000	£5,699,000
Contingency	£95,000	£96,000	£96,000	£96,000	£96,000	£96,000	575,000

It is anticipated that the contingency will not be drawn upon due to the nature of the work.

2.2. As the grant allocation is only approved each year updates to the capital programme will have to be undertaken annually. Any variation to the above profiled amounts will be approved in line with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules.

3. Monitoring programme spend profile

3.1. The programme has an outline spend profile against the various datasets it collects over the 6yr period. The profile is subject to change as the data collection is sensitive to weather related delays.

	Year 2021/22	Year 2022/23	Year 2023/24	Year 2024/25	Year 2025/26	Year 2026/27
	(£ k)	(£ k)	(£ k)	(£ k)	(£ k)	(£ k)
Topographic Surveys	207	171	187	182	187	193
Bathymetric Surveys	250	200	200	641	300	300
Aerial photography/photogrammetry	21	-	276	-	23	-
Hydrodynamics	105	105	105	105	105	105
Terrestrial Ecological Mapping	10	11	33	114	-	-
Assets	34	35	37	37	39	40
Project Management	52	53	55	57	59	60
Data Management (regional)	62	64	66	68	70	72
Data Analysis & Reporting	93	96	99	102	105	108
Total	834	735	1058	1306	888	878
<i>Contingency</i>	95	96	96	96	96	96
<i>Total</i>	<i>929</i>	<i>831</i>	<i>1,154</i>	<i>1,402</i>	<i>984</i>	<i>974</i>

3.2. The programme funds three full-time-equivalents within Sefton Council (c£135k per year) and reimburses other northwest maritime authorities for legitimate staff time spent on the project. Within Sefton Council the staff are based within Green Sefton's Development Team. The staff undertake the following project activities:

- Project management
- Contract management
- Engagement with Northwest Maritime Authorities
- Data management
- Data analysis and reporting
- Asset inspections
- Coastal surveys

4. Risk Management

4.1 There are several risks inherent in a programme of this scale that require management:

- **Procurement** – The programme requires the appointment of several contractors to deliver different work packages. The national network of coastal monitoring programmes, of which this north west programme is a member, has developed a dynamic purchasing framework of quality assessed suppliers to minimise procurement risks. Tendering is undertaken through the Chest portal via a mini competition with the framework suppliers under Sefton Council's terms and conditions. This will minimise procurement risk.
- **Weather related delays** – There is a high likelihood of weather-related delays due to the nature of the surveying and monitoring. Where possible these delays are specified in contract documents to manage financial commitment risks. Many surveys have a specified survey period for data collection that includes an allowance for weather related delays.

Agenda Item 7

- **Financial** – the programme allocation has been specified based on the previous programme survey requirements and costs, a review of this for this programme and allowances for inflation. However, there is a contingency allowance that can be draw upon should insufficient funds be available in the allocated programme. Based on previous programme not calling upon this contingency it is unlikely that this programme will need it.

5. Programme Outputs

- 5.1 The programme collects coastal datasets to inform the deliver of the Shoreline Management Plan and sustainable coastal management decisions. As well as collecting a variety of coastal datasets such as beach topographic surveys, aerial photography, wave data, the programme also undertakes analysis and interpretation of this data to provide coastal managers with informed information. This data and reports are made freely available on www.coastalmonitoring.org
- 5.2 The programme is collecting data to inform decisions across the Sefton frontage and, in particular, the Crosby Coastal Defence Scheme has benefited from the information the programme has collected.

Agenda Item 8

Report to:	Cabinet Council	Date of Meeting:	24 June 2021 15 July 2021
Subject:	Climate Emergency Annual Report		
Report of:	Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services	Wards Affected:	(All Wards);
Portfolio:	Cabinet Member - Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services		
Is this a Key Decision:	Yes	Included in Forward Plan:	Yes
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

Sefton Council declared a climate emergency in July 2019. Following that declaration work has progressed within the council on the agreed actions that were contained and approved by Members. The climate emergency strategy and associated action plan was approved by Cabinet (28 May 2020) and Council (17 September 2020).

Annual reporting on progress made is required as part of the governance approach to the programme. Members are asked to note the progress made on achieving net zero carbon by 2030 and the programme of works supporting the Council's transition to low carbon working.

Recommendation(s):

Cabinet / Council are recommended to :-

(1) Note the progress made on the targets in the Sefton climate emergency strategy and action plan.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

To support the delivery of the council motion that declared a climate emergency.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

Agenda Item 8

Not acting would increase the risks to Sefton in future years, on the themes of energy security and climate change resilience (increased incidence of extreme weather events, sea level rise etc.)

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

There are no revenue implications arising from this report. There is currently no additional budget provision for the delivery of the strategy/action plan with all resources being met from within the council's approved budget.

(B) Capital Costs

There are no capital implications arising from this report. Currently, any capital works being undertaken are fully funded through external funding sources and subject to the normal governance protocols.

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets):	
There are no resource implications arising from this strategy	
Legal Implications:	
There are no legal implications arising from this strategy	
Climate Emergency Implications:	
The recommendations within this report will	
Have a positive impact	Y
Have a neutral impact	N
Have a negative impact	N
The Author has undertaken the Climate Emergency training for report authors	Y
The continuation of work directly contributes towards achieving the targets within the Council's Climate Emergency strategy.	
Equality Implications:	
There are no equality implications.	

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

The delivery of the council motion will support all of the council's core purpose themes.

Protect the most vulnerable: By enabling greater resilience to future climate events.
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: By enabling greater resilience to future climate events and encouraging energy security measures

Commission, broker and provide core services: By training staff to consider climate impacts as part of service delivery
Place – leadership and influencer: By Sefton taking decisive action on its energy/carbon emissions
Drivers of change and reform: By Sefton taking decisive action on its energy/carbon emissions
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: By enabling greater resilience to future climate events.
Greater income for social investment: By Sefton taking decisive action on its energy/carbon emissions
Cleaner Greener By Sefton taking decisive action on its energy/carbon emissions

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services (FD.6401/21) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD.4602/21) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

(B) External Consultations

Not applicable

Implementation Date for the Decision

Following the expiry of the “call-in” period for the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting

Contact Officer:	Stephanie Jukes
Telephone Number:	Tel: 0151 934 4552
Email Address:	stephanie.jukes@sefton.gov.uk

Appendices:

The following appendices are attached to this report:

Climate Emergency Annual Report 2020/21 (draft version)

1. Introduction/Background

Agenda Item 8

- 1.1 Sefton Council declared a climate emergency in July 2019. Following that declaration work has progressed within the council on the agreed actions that were contained and approved by Members. The climate emergency strategy and associated action plan was approved by Cabinet (28 May 2020) and Council (17 September 2020).
- 1.2 The strategy and delivery via the action plan is based on the following approach;
 - Approval of a strategy for the period to 2030
 - Establishing and refining a baseline position on council carbon emissions (carbon footprint)
 - The development of 3 year implementation plans
- 1.3 The progress made on the delivery of the strategy has been impacted by the COVID 19 pandemic, however, opportunities have arisen as part of the recovery phase which Sefton has acted upon.
- 1.4 Both the strategy and action plan have seven key principles to guide work in this area – guided by the acronym C.L.I.M.A.T.E.
 - Carbon Reduction
 - Leadership
 - Innovation
 - Mobilisation
 - Adaptation
 - Transformation
 - Engagement

As such, the Annual Report is structured around reporting against each of the above principles.

2 Progress during 2020/21

- 2.1 A significant amount of work has been undertaken in the past twelve months and this is reflected in the attached document 'Climate Change Annual Report 2020/21' Appendix 1. A summary of the progress made, is presented below.

2.2 The Council’s carbon footprint has fallen 10% from last year’s baseline. This reduction means the Council are on track to meet net zero carbon by 2030.

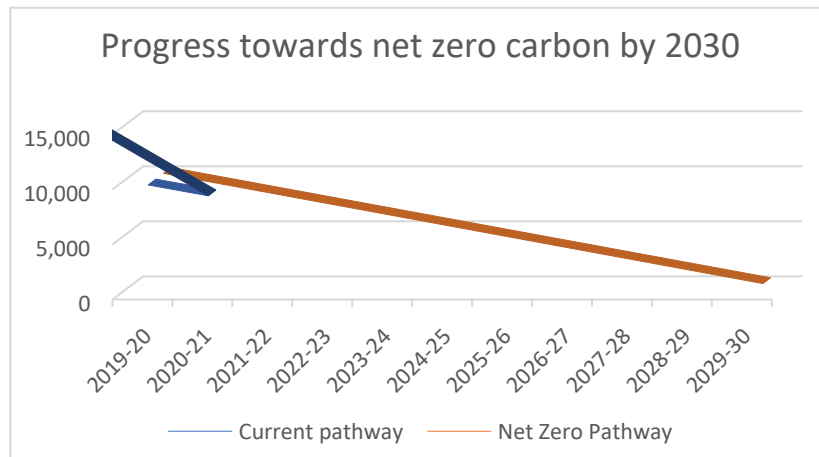


Figure 2.2 Progress to net zero carbon by 2030

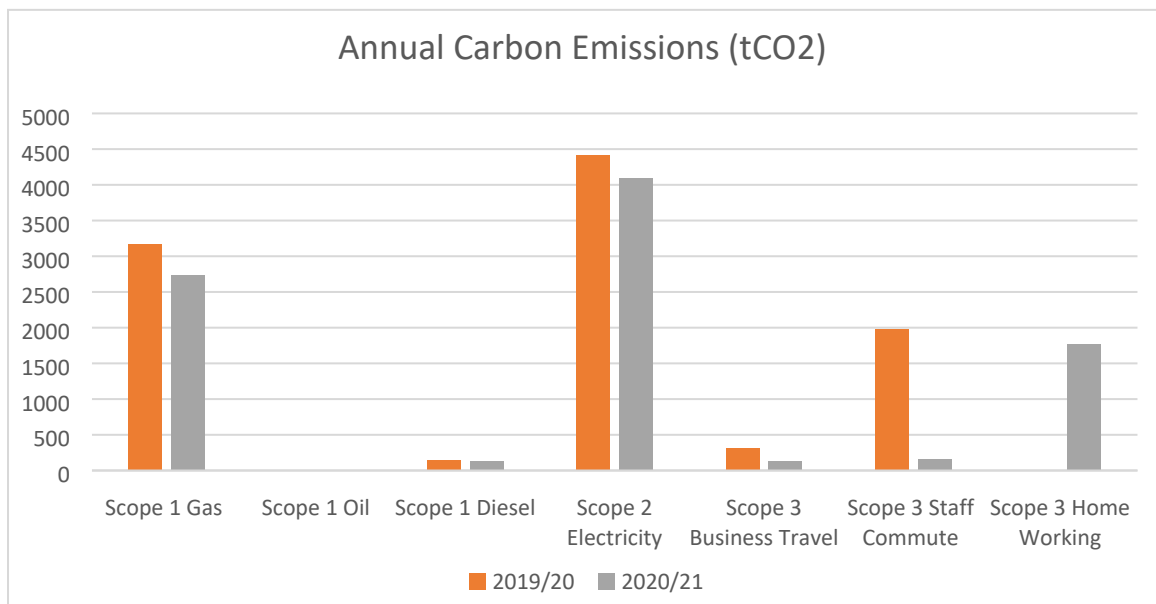


Figure 2.3 Annual Carbon Emissions 2019/2020 and 2020/2021

2.3 Figure 2.3 above shows the Councils carbon emissions have fallen largely through changes to working practices brought about by the pandemic, notably a move to home working. This led to a reduction in staff commuting and reduced the energy consumed in Council owned buildings. Scope 1 emissions (largely gas emissions) fell by 13% and Scope 2 (electricity) emissions fell by 7%. Emissions from staff commuting to work fell by 92%.

2.4 The change in working practice has led to emissions being shifted away from council buildings but into staff homes. Therefore, to avoid false accounting, the emissions associated with home working will be accounted for by the Council for the first time. This is a discretionary element of the carbon footprint but given the scale of home working it is now included and calculated utilising an accepted tool to estimate average home working emissions.

Key Projects

Agenda Item 8

2.5 The foundations have been laid this year for several key projects which will significantly reduce carbon emissions going forward. For example, within this period the Council have approved the Asset Street Lighting Project and Town Hall Retrofits which will both lead to significant carbon savings in the future.

2.5.1 **Asset Street Lighting Project**

The energy used by Street Lighting accounted for 26% of the Council's total carbon footprint in 2019-20 and these energy costs are increasing year-on-year at a rate above inflation incurring a significant cost to the Council.

This year the Council approved an investment of £12.750m in the Street Lighting Asset Project to improve the portfolio through the installation of energy efficient LED technology and replacement of life expired assets. The programme will generate significant operational cost savings over 20 years against current forecast expenditure without intervention.

By the end of 2021 (year 1 of programme) it is anticipated that Sefton will achieve financial savings of circa £240,000 based on 2020/21 rates.

When the project is complete, annual emissions are expected to reduce by 1,655 tCO₂ per year – which would mean street lighting emissions reduce to 10% of the Council's total carbon footprint (based on 2019-20 data) – saving 16%.

2.5.2 **Energy efficiency work at Bootle and Southport Town Hall**

The Council recently secured £865,000 from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund to undertake works at Bootle and Southport Town Halls, with the aim of reducing heat loss at both sites. A specialist heritage contractor will work to improve the glazing and roof insulation in both buildings, ensuring that key historic features are maintained and protected.

Works are scheduled to be completed in late 2021 and will be carried out simultaneously alongside other essential maintenance projects. The works are expected to reduce emissions by approximately 59 tCO₂ per year - reducing the Council's carbon footprint (by 1%) and energy bill as well as creating a more comfortable working environment for staff and visitors.

Agile Working

2.6 The Council need to maintain the 10% carbon reduction achieved this year and repeat it year on year – to achieve net zero carbon by 2030. The Property Services Department are developing proposals to embed agile working changes including changes to office numbers, staff commuting, staff travel, IT use and building usage. The climate emergency carbon reduction target is helping to inform the decisions made on how Sefton employees work in the future.

Procurement

2.7 The Council have a leadership role in the community, therefore, have established a formal mechanism for procurement of sustainable products and services. During 2020/21, environmental based social value questions have been introduced to large/carbon intensive tenders. Scored by the Energy and Environmental Management Team. A pilot of a new social value tool TOMS which better captures and quantifies carbon emissions has also begun at the Council.

Domestic Housing Retrofit

- 2.8 The Council are the accountable body for an ERDF funded project with Housing Associations retrofitting homes in Sefton and across the LCR with both innovative and traditional carbon reduction interventions – such as external wall insulation, floor insulation and electric heating. Utilising this expertise, the Council have accepted grant funding for retrofit of approximately 245 homes within Sefton. This work will focus on the most inefficient homes of the poorest residents. The outputs from this work will not only reduce the carbon emissions across the Borough, but support local jobs and reduce the risk of fuel poverty for residents.

Staff Training

- 2.9 An eLearning climate emergency module has been developed and will be available to all staff on the Corporate Learning Centre 'Me learning' platform from May 2021. The compulsory training will provide all Council staff with a basic understanding of what climate change is, why it is important, what the Council are doing in response and what staff can do.

Committee Reporting

- 2.10 From May all Cabinet and Council decision papers will include a climate change impact assessment. This will help ensure that climate change is a visible part of the decision-making process in the future, helping to embed climate change thinking into everything we do across the whole council.

Tree Planting

- 2.11 For the planting season 2020/21, 3,430 new trees have been planted in the borough with 160 mature (dead, diseased or dying) trees felled on the highway, and in parks and on the coast. Trees are a valuable carbon sink helping to absorb carbon and aid adaptation to weather extremes by helping to reduce flood risk and providing solar shading.

3 Future delivery plans

- 3.1 In addition to the roll out of projects and processes noted above, in 2021-22 there are a number of key projects scheduled to commence, in line with the Action Plan.
- Climate Change Risk Assessment (adaptation). A full risk assessment of climate change impacts, identifying threats and how they can be managed as well as realising the opportunities.
 - Focus on customer engagement and delivery of communications plan, linking to the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) due to be held in Glasgow in November 2021.
 - Investigate the potential to switch to a 100% renewable/green electricity tariff. This would enable the Council to remove electricity from the carbon footprint. (which currently makes up nearly half of the Council's carbon footprint. Indicative costs are included in the attached report).
 - Explore options for local offset via climate adaptation programmes and local landscape enhancement

This page is intentionally left blank

Sefton Council Climate Emergency Annual Report 2021

What Sefton Council
are doing about
Climate Change

Agenda Item 8

0900

1000

1100

1200

1300



6°

6°

6°

6°



95%

99%

100%

99%

94%

43

42

41

25

24



Foreword

Climate change represents a significant threat to our future and preventing and protecting ourselves from climate change is a top priority.

Recent extreme weather events over several years have presented severe challenges to property, transport, agriculture and other services in the Sefton area and have led to the deaths and displacement of thousands of people worldwide.

The Meteorological Office clearly states that these kind of extreme weather events are significantly more likely if we take no action on reducing our carbon emissions; the main driver of man-made climate change.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the United Nations body for assessing the science related to climate change. In their report "Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change 1.5C report", published in October 2018, they conclude that humanity has 11 years for "ambitious action from national and sub-national authorities, civil society, the private sector, indigenous peoples and local communities" to deliver the "rapid and far reaching transitions in land, energy, industry, buildings, transport, and cities" needed to turn this around, so we can avoid reaching tipping points where we would no longer have the ability to avoid extreme weather events.

Children in Sefton will be in their teens and twenties in 10 years' time. They deserve a liveable Sefton. We must act now to ensure this. Bold climate action can deliver economic benefits in terms of new jobs, economic savings and market opportunities, as well as improved wellbeing for people locally and worldwide.

Work on reducing carbon emissions does not start from a zero base. Sefton has been involved with numerous projects aimed at reducing emissions and will continue to do so, in the context of the climate emergency and with increased urgency.

We have a strategy that sets out our vision and broad aims and objectives and represents our commitment to maximise the opportunity within climate action and to protect our communities from that damage already caused by climate change.

It was followed by an implementation plans which detailed our journey towards net zero carbon operations by 2030.

We will be reporting our progress in a series of Annual Reports, detailing actions taken so far and progress towards our 2030 net zero carbon target.

This is the July 2021 Annual Report and is part of Phase 1 of our Implementation Plan

We are committed to taking responsibility for our carbon emissions and playing our part in limiting global average temperature rises. Business as usual is no longer an option.

Page 42



Executive Summary

The Council's carbon footprint has fallen 10% from last year's baseline. This reduction means the Council are on track to meet net zero carbon by 2030.

This is a huge achievement, as this Annual Report is presented against a back drop of the Covid-19 pandemic - putting Council funding, resources and delivery of services under extreme pressure.

However, this has not derailed progress. There were some positive consequences of lockdown which the Council have embraced. For example,

- The pandemic provided an opportunity to change behaviour and embed new agile working arrangements which have reduced the Council's carbon footprint. Staff have embraced the change and work is underway to retain the benefits going forward.
- The lockdown led to the largest ever recorded global reducing in atmospheric CO2 emissions, including improvements to air quality in Sefton.
- The national response to 'build back better, build back greener' has provided unexpected funding streams which the Council have taken advantage of.

In addition to the pandemic, 2020-21 has been a year of extremes. The Met Office 'Look Back at 2020' stating that 2020 has been a year of extremes with the wettest February on record, the sunniest spring, a heatwave in the summer and a day in October breaking rainfall records. 2020 was also one of the top five hottest on record for the UK but was also one of the top ten wettest and the top ten sunniest years.

Page 43

Agenda Item 8



Executive Summary

This makes it clear that the general trend of warming as a consequence of climate change is being seen, not just at a global level, but in our own national temperature records. It is even being felt at a local level, for example, the extreme flooding event which led to the evacuation of residents in Maghull due to Storm Christoph in March 2021.

Such events act as a reminder of how important tackling climate change is and why it is an emergency.

Page 44
The reduction in emissions during 2020-21 was largely driven by the Council embracing the change to working practices brought about by the pandemic, notably moving away from office working and into home working. We are working to ensure that we retain some of the new working practices post pandemic, for example, through agile working.

The foundations have also been laid this year for several key projects which will significantly reduce carbon emissions going forward. For example, this year the Council have approved the Asset Street Lighting Project and Town Hall Retrofits which will both lead to significant carbon savings in the future.

Work has also been undertaken to ensure that climate change becomes embedded in all areas of the Council. For example, through the introduction of climate change impact assessments in decision making reports and staff training.

The pandemic has limited progress with external stakeholders, but we hope that we can focus on this going forward, particularly during COP26 in November.





Introduction

In July 2019 Sefton Council declared a Climate Emergency. In declaring a Climate Emergency, it was agreed that:

Sefton Council is committed to reducing carbon emissions and resolves to go further than UK100 Agreement and to act in line with the scientific consensus that we must reduce emissions to net zero by 2030, and therefore commits to:

45 Declare a 'Climate Emergency' that requires urgent action.

- Make the Council's activities net-zero carbon by 2030.
- Commit to municipalisation of energy supply by utilising public sector sites to generate energy where appropriate
- Ensure that all strategic decisions are in line with a shift to zero carbon by 2030.
- Support and work with all other relevant agencies towards making the Sefton area Zero Carbon within the same timescale.
- Achieve 100% clean energy across Sefton Council's full range of functions by 2030.
- Convene an assembly of interested groups not directly represented on Council in 2020 to oversee and feed into the development of related action plans and budgets across the City.

This Annual Report highlights the actions Sefton Council have taken over the year 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 to address the Climate Change Emergency.





Strategy and Implementation Plan

Since declaring the Climate Change Emergency Sefton Council have produced a Strategy and associated Implementation plan/action plan. Both were approved by full council in September 2020.

The documents establish a path to lead the organisation to become net zero carbon by 2030.

Both the strategy and action plan have seven key principles to guide work in this area – guided by the acronym C.L.I.M.A.T.E

- Carbon Reduction
- Leadership
- Innovation
- Mobilisation
- Adaptation
- Transformation
- Engagement





CLIMATE

All current projects align with our CLIMATE strategy

Carbon Reduction

Street Lighting Asset Project

Page 47
The energy used by Street Lighting accounted for 26% of the Council's total carbon footprint in 2019-20 and these energy costs are increasing year-on-year at a rate above inflation incurring a significant cost to the Council.

The Council approved an investment of £12.750m in the Street Lighting Asset Project to improve the portfolio through the installation of energy efficient LED technology and replacement of life expired assets. The programme will generate significant operational cost savings over 20 years against current forecast expenditure without intervention. By the end of 2021, it is anticipated that Sefton will achieve financial savings of circa £240,000 based on 2020/21 rates.

The scheme is expected to reduce the council's emissions by 347tCO₂ over the course of 2021-22. When the project is complete, annual emissions are expected to reduce by 1,655 tCO₂ per year – which would mean street lighting accounts for around 10% of the Council's total carbon footprint (based on 2019-20 data).

This is a positive scheme for the Council, it is win-win in terms of long-term cost savings and reducing carbon emissions.

Energy efficiency work at Bootle and Southport Town Hall

The Council recently secured £875,000 from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund to undertake works at Bootle and Southport Town Halls, with the aim of reducing heat loss at both sites. A specialist heritage contractor will work to improve the glazing and roof insulation in both buildings, ensuring that key historic features are maintained and protected.

Works are scheduled to be completed in late 2021 and will be carried out simultaneously alongside other essential maintenance projects. The works are expected to reduce emissions by approximately 59 tCO₂ per year - reducing the Council's carbon footprint and energy bill as well as creating a more comfortable working environment for staff and visitors.

In addition to these improvements, funding has been secured for the production of a Heat Decarbonisation Plan, covering 14 main corporate buildings. This plan will help to determine how the Council can move away from using fossil fuel heating and utilise alternative low carbon options, such as heat pumps instead.



CLIMATE

All current projects align with our CLIMATE strategy

Leadership

Procurement

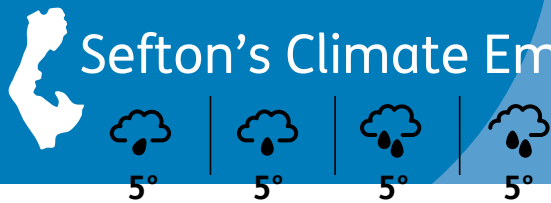
The Council's baseline carbon footprint does not include the emissions associated with the products and services which the Council 'buy-in' – this is in line with the international methodology for calculating carbon footprint. However, we estimate that we could add an additional 19% to the carbon footprint if these were included.

Sefton Council have a leadership role in the community, therefore, have begun to procure in a way which helps ensure we buy sustainable products and services and work with companies who have a similar environmental ethos to Sefton Council. This year, environmental based social value questions have been introduced to large/carbon intensive tenders. Scored by the Energy and Environmental Management Team. A pilot of a new social value tool which better captures and quantifies carbon emissions has also begun at the Council.

The regeneration of Crosby Lakeside Adventure Centre is an example of the Council requiring contractors, suppliers and stakeholders to consider climate change.

The tender for this regeneration included climate specific social value questions. The regeneration will include the installation of five electric charger points on site and the contractors have agreed the following measures:

- No plastic cups for water coolers
- Sorting all waste into appropriate bins/skips for recycling
- Using local suppliers and employees where possible to reduce mileage
- Minimising electricity, water and fuel use on site
- Looking at potential for employee cycle scheme
- These will all be reported against as part of their monthly update report.



CLIMATE

All current projects align with our CLIMATE strategy

I nnovation

Page 49
using retrofit

The Council are the accountable body for an ERDF funded project with Housing Associations retrofitting homes in Sefton and across the LCR with both innovative and traditional carbon reduction interventions – such as external wall insulation, floor insulation and electric heating.

The Council have also accepted grant funding for retrofit of approximately 245 homes within Sefton.

This work will focus on the most inefficient homes of the poorest residents. Which will not only reduce the carbon emissions across the Borough – but also help to reduce the risk of fuel poverty for residents.

M obilisation

All Staff Climate Emergency eLearning module

An eLearning module has been developed in-house by the Teachers at the Eco Centre, the Energy and Environmental Management Team and the Corporate Learning Centre. The training will provide all Council staff with a basic understanding of what climate change is, why it's important, what the Council are doing in response and what we expect staff to do.

The training will be compulsory and takes around an hour to complete. The eLearning will be launched in June. The images are screenshots of the training package.





CLIMATE

All current projects align with our CLIMATE strategy

A daptation

Agile working

The Property Services Department are developing proposals to embed agile working changes including changes to office numbers, staff commuting, staff travel, IT use and building usage. The climate emergency carbon reduction targets are helping to inform the decisions made on how Sefton employees work in the future.

While working has dramatically reduced the daily commute and its associated emissions. It has also meant the underutilisation of offices which has led to emission reductions in the Council owned building. However, the emissions saved from the commute are largely offset by the emissions which result from home working (see Figure 3). This is because, for example, staff at home are using individual gas boilers which are less efficient than those of a larger scale use to heat offices and they tend to be older.

The emissions associated with home working have been calculated based on an industry recognised methodology. It is robust; however, it does include several assumptions. Work will be ongoing this year to test whether those assumptions are reflective of Sefton staff and to educate staff about energy use in the home. For example, heating costs and emissions can be reduced significantly by only heating the room you are working in – rather than the entire house, during winter.

Internal Communications

Periodic campaigns were run for staff throughout the year, for example, Halloween switch off campaign, Climate Change Christmas Advent Calendar and the creation of Energy Dashboards.

Staff at all levels have been involved and input into the climate emergency workstream, either through the Climate Emergency Officers Working Group with Departmental Management Team representatives from across the Council to assist in the delivery of the climate change implementation plan and communicate climate change messages throughout the Council. Or through One Council or the Climate Change Emergency Member Reference Group.

Tree Planting

For the planting season 2020/21, 3,430 new trees have been planted in the borough (all via external funding sources), as opposed to 160 mature (dead, diseased or dying) trees felled on the highway, and in parks and on the coast.

Trees are a valuable carbon sink helping to absorb carbon and also aid adaptation to weather extremes – in terms of reducing flood risk and providing solar shading.



CLIMATE

All current projects align with our CLIMATE strategy

Transformation

Climate Change Emergency in Decision Making Reports and associated staff training

In May all Cabinet and Council decision papers which go to Members will include a climate change impact assessment for the first time.

This will help ensure that climate change is a visible part of the decision-making process in the future, helping to embed climate change thinking into everything we do across the whole council.

A new reporting template has been developed by Democratic Services and the Energy and Environmental Management Team.

The associated reporting guidance note to authors has also been updated to include advice on how to complete the new climate emergency implications section. So far, over 90 staff members have been trained in completing a climate change impact assessment.





CLIMATE

All current projects align with our CLIMATE strategy

Engagement

A draft Communications Plan for the climate change emergency has been created. It focuses on awareness raising campaign's both internally and externally, largely using digital methods (website, Twitter, Yammer etc due to budget constraints).

Internal Communications have been carried out in conjunction with key partners such as Liverpool City Region Combined Authority and Sefton Council for Voluntary Service (CVS).

Sefton Council continue to attend Nature Connected (the LCR Local Nature Partnership with engagement in projects and campaigns accordingly - such as reporting on the Fields In Trust initiative in Liverpool City. As part of the Nature Connected Board involvement, Green Sefton have been involved with the development of a Natural Capital baseline work with John Moores University - which will now feed into the Strategic Land Use Plan which highlights the huge contribution landscape can make to the climate change agenda - both adaptation, and mitigation.

The pandemic has meant that the Council have not been able to progress engagement workstreams as much as hoped. However, as the pandemic eases, this can be a focus in 2021-22.

Air Quality

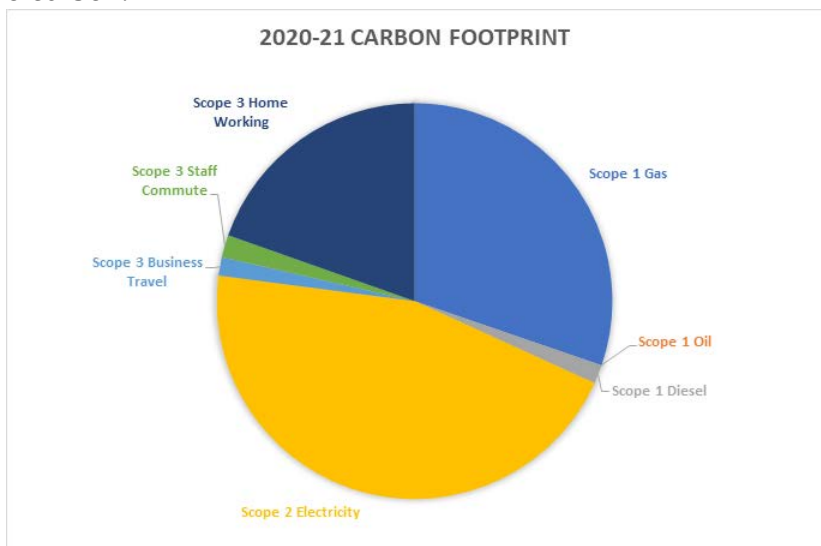
The Council have been involved in the work the LCR have been doing and their consultation on the regions Spatial Strategy. The LCR Environment Fund has been utilised to improve and roll out of Sefton Council's Clean Air Crew Website - which is an online learning tool which communicates messages about air quality, the environment and climate change to primary school children across the entire LCR.

The Council have also received funding from Defra to invest in air quality and create an immersive room/experience at the ECO Centre - which will be a valuable engagement tool available to the Council in the future.



Carbon Footprint

The Council's baseline carbon footprint was calculated in 2019-20 and will be used as a baseline against which to chart progress towards net zero carbon.



Page 53

The scope of the Council's carbon footprint was determined as Council operations and details of how this was calculated are available in the Sefton Council Carbon Footprint Report 2019-20.

The footprint was calculated as 10,017 tCO2 in 2019-20.

This compares to 9,035 tCO2 for 2020-21. This is a decrease of 982 tCO2, which is 10%.



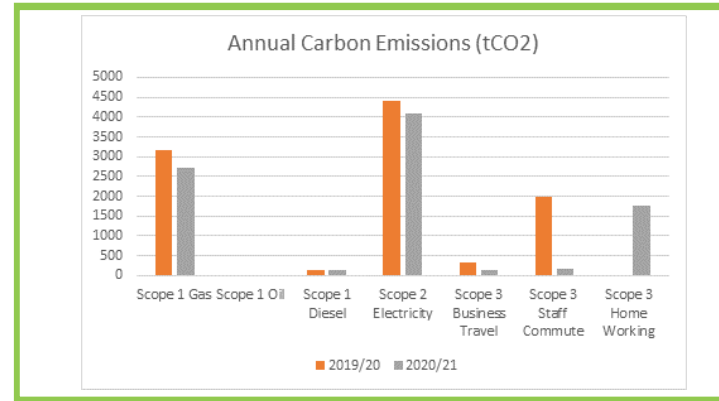
Agenda Item 8

Carbon Reduction

The reduction was largely driven by changes to working practices brought about by the pandemic, notably a move to home working.

This meant that staff did not commute to the office (reducing commuter emissions and also reduced the energy consumed in Council owned buildings – when buildings were closed or had a reduced number of staff working on site).

Scope 1 emissions (gas, oil and diesel emissions) fell by 13% and Scope 2 electricity emissions fell by 7%. Also, emissions as a result of the staff commute to work fell by a dramatic 92%.



The chart above, shows a breakdown of the Council's carbon emissions in 2020-21 and compares it to 2019-20.

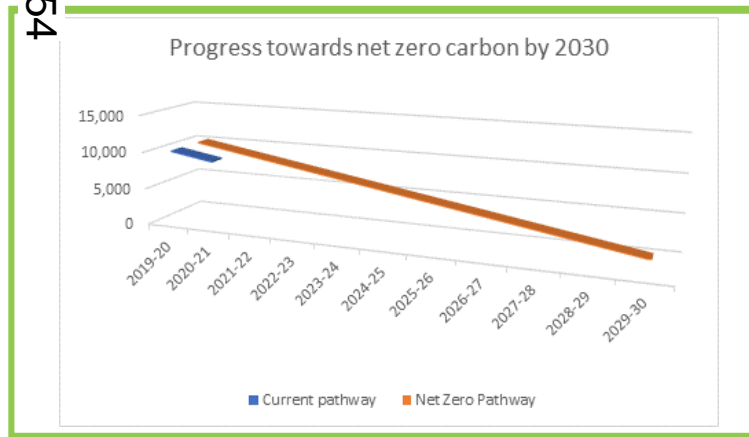
Work is underway to ensure that the carbon savings which have resulted from the new ways of working are retained by implementing a new agile working policy.

The progress made in one year is very positive and the achievement should not be underestimated. But a report by Manchester University Tyndall Centre for Climate Change provides a stark warning that there is a lot still to be done, not only in the Council's operations but across the entire Borough.

The United Nations Paris Agreement sets the UK a carbon budget. If the UK stick to this budget the UK will be playing its part in ensuring global temperatures don't rise above 1.5 degree Celsius.

The Tyndall Centre state that if the Borough of Sefton continue to emit carbon in the way it currently is – it will have used its entire carbon budget up in 7 years. The budget needs to last until 2100. So, it will have used up its entire allocation of carbon 73 years ahead of schedule!

Sefton is not unique in its position, nearly all the Local Authority areas have the same stark warning, but it serves as an important reminder of the challenge.



The change in working practice has led to a large proportion of emissions being shifted away from the Council but into staff homes. Therefore, we have followed best practice in capturing and accounting for the emissions associated with staff working from home.

This is a discretionary element of the carbon footprint but given the scale of home working this past year – the emissions associated with home working will be accounted for by the Council.



Conclusion

In addition to the roll out of projects and processes we have outlined, in 2021-22 there are a number of key projects scheduled to commence, in line with the Action Plan.

- Page 55
- Climate Change Risk Assessment (adaptation). A full risk assessment of climate change impacts, identifying threats and how they can be managed as well as realising the opportunities.
 - Focus on Customer Engagement particularly linking to the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) due to be held in Glasgow in November.
 - Investigate the potential to switch to a 100% renewable/green electricity tariff when re-procuring the Council's supplier (for supply beginning 1 April 2023). This would enable the Council to entirely remove electricity from the carbon footprint, which made up 45% of the 2020/21 carbon footprint. Traditional procurement routes would be utilised, but the Council would opt for an accredited 'REGO backed' renewable electricity tariff. There is an additional cost associated with the purchase of renewable/green electricity under Sefton's current contract which is driven by market forces. Based on the current market price and 2019/20 annual consumption the additional annual costs would be around £19,500 for corporate sites. If we took a broader approach to also included school and new direction sites, it would be an additional £42,000 per year (Corporate, schools and New Directions). This offsetting would be carried out alongside electricity demand reduction projects, such as the LED Street Lighting projects following the energy hierarchy.
 - Explore options for local offset via climate adaptation programmes and local landscape enhancement

Conclusion

After the first year of the Council's ten-year climate change emergency action plan – the Council is on track to reach net zero carbon by 2030, with emissions falling by 10%. This is an achievement, especially set against a backdrop of the global pandemic.

The Street Light Asset Project and energy efficiency works at Bootle and Southport Town Hall projects which have begun this year will translate to further emission reductions in the future (17%). This means plans are in place to have a total reduction of 27%.



Page 56



Agenda Item 9

Report to:	Council	Date of Meeting:	15 July 2020
Subject:	Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2020/21		
Report of:	Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services	Wards Affected:	(All Wards);
Portfolio:	Adult Social Care Children's Social Care Communities and Housing Education Health and Wellbeing Locality Services Planning and Building Control Regeneration and Skills Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services		
Is this a Key Decision:	No	Included in Forward Plan:	No
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

To present formally the Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board and the four Overview and Scrutiny Committees for 2020/21.

Recommendation:

That the Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board and the four Overview and Scrutiny Committees introduce their Annual Reports for 2020/21.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

To comply with the Local Government Act 2000 and the formal reporting mechanism to Council.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

No alternative options have been considered as the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report needs to be submitted to Council.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

(A) Revenue Costs – see above

Agenda Item 9

(B) Capital Costs – see above

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets): None	
Legal Implications: None	
Equality Implications: There are no equality implications	
Climate Emergency Implications: The recommendations within this report will	
Have a positive impact	Neutral
Have a neutral impact	Neutral
Have a negative impact	Neutral
The Author has undertaken the Climate Emergency training for report authors	Yes
There are no direct climate emergency implications arising from this report. Any climate emergency implications arising from matters referred to in the Annual Report would have been contained in reports when they were presented to Members during the previous year; or will be contained in future reports during the forthcoming year.	

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: None directly applicable to this report
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: None directly applicable to this report
Commission, broker and provide core services: None directly applicable to this report
Place – leadership and influencer: None directly applicable to this report
Drivers of change and reform: None directly applicable to this report
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: None directly applicable to this report
Greater income for social investment: None directly applicable to this report
Cleaner Greener: None directly applicable to this report

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

This report is not subject to FD/LD consultation. Any specific financial and legal implications associated with any reports referred to in the Annual Report have been

subject to the LD and FD process when they were originally submitted to Committee. Likewise, any reports referred to in the “Year Ahead” section of the Annual Report will be subject to the LD and FD process prior to their submission to Committee during the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

(B) External Consultations

Not applicable

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Council meeting.

Contact Officer:	Paul Fraser, Senior Democratic Services Officer
Telephone Number:	Tel: 0151 934 2068
Email Address:	paul.fraser@sefton.gov.uk

Appendices:

Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2020/21

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

Introduction/Background

1. Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2020/21

- 1.1 Each year the Council receives the Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board and the four Overview and Scrutiny Committees.
- 1.2 Attached as an Appendix to the report is the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2020/21.
- 1.3 The Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board and the four Overview and Scrutiny Committees have been requested to introduce their Annual Reports for 2020/21.

This page is intentionally left blank

Overview & Scrutiny



SEFTON COUNCIL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21

Sefton Council 



Overview & Scrutiny

**'Valuing
Improvement'**

www.sefton.gov.uk

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board



Councillor John Sayers
*Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board
2020/21*

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board for 2020/21.

Communication has always been a key consideration for the Management Board and the Board has previously agreed that Cabinet Member reports would be submitted to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee in order to contribute towards the relationship between the Executive and Overview and Scrutiny Members.

Members have welcomed the Cabinet Member update reports and attendance of relevant Cabinet Members at Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings; and this process will remain in place during 2021/22.

The Management Board met three times during 2020/21 and considered the following issues:

- Draft Executive/Scrutiny Protocol
- Centre for Public Scrutiny - Results of Annual Survey
- Centre for Public Scrutiny - Document on Climate Change
- North West Employers' Network Events
- Update on Working Groups
- Preparations for Municipal Year 2021/22

More detailed information about some of the issues considered can be found below.

Draft Executive/Scrutiny Protocol

The Management Board responded to a request from the Cabinet to develop an Executive/Scrutiny protocol for use in Sefton.

The Management Board was happy to undertake this task as the Annual Survey of the Centre for Public Scrutiny found that the presence of an Executive/Scrutiny protocol made a difference to the quality of the scrutiny/executive relationship; and it



Agenda Item 9

was also considered that the protocol could be utilised as a training tool, particularly for new Members.

An [Executive/Scrutiny Protocol](#) was subsequently developed and was approved by the four Overview and Scrutiny Committees and Cabinet.

Centre for Public Scrutiny

The Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS), now known as the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny is a national centre of expertise on governance and scrutiny. The Management Board considered a number of matters as detailed below:

- **Results of Annual Survey**

The [Annual Survey](#) 2019 produced by the Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) was formulated on the basis of 437 survey responses from within 242 different councils. Key findings related to the topics of Resourcing, Impact and Influence and Councillors and Politics. Details of how Sefton fared in respect of the findings are as follows:

- Impact and Influence - the Annual Survey found that the quality of the scrutiny/executive relationship – and the presence of an executive/scrutiny protocol – made a difference to effectiveness. As referred to above Sefton has approved an Executive/Scrutiny Protocol
- Councillors and Politics - the Annual Survey found that the position on gender parity (chairing and gender) had actually fallen since this question was last raised – 65% of those in chair and vice-chair positions were men. This was not the case in Sefton where gender parity was higher than average
- Resourcing - the Annual Survey found that the average number of full-time equivalent (FTE) officer resource available for scrutiny in 2019/20 was 1.29. In Sefton there were 2 FTE officers dedicated to scrutiny, higher than average

- **Document on Climate Change**

The Management Board considered a document produced by the Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) entitled [“10 questions to ask if you are scrutinising climate change”](#). The Management Board took cognisance of the questions and requested that the Member Reference Group for Climate Change take account of the 10 questions posed as part of their work on climate change; and agreed that a copy of the document be circulated to all Overview and Scrutiny Committee members for information.

North West Employers’ Network Events

The Management Board was kept abreast of business conducted at North West Employers’ Network Events and updates were provided on the following matters;

- Strategic Scrutiny in Practice Network meetings
- Councillor Development Network
- Development of the Councillor Induction Programme



Email addresses of the Management Board Members have been shared with the North West Employers' organisation so that they can be invited to digital events.

Update on Working Groups

The Management Board received updates at each meeting on the current position of on-going Working Groups established by the four Overview and Scrutiny Committees. Details of Working Groups can be found in the individual Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Reports contained within this document.

Preparations for Municipal Year 2021/22

The Management Board kept an overview of the preparations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees for the Municipal Year 2021/22; particularly the production of Work Programmes and the operation of Working Groups as referred to above. Overview and Scrutiny Committees will hold physical meetings in 2021/22 in accordance with Government advice.

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee (LCRCA O&S)

The Management Board received updates on LCRCA O&S. During 2020/21 Sefton's representatives on the LCRCA O&S were Councillors Dowd, Howard and Waterfield. Councillor Dowd was Sefton's Scrutiny Link. One elected Member from both the Liverpool City Region Liberal Democrat Group and the Liverpool City Region Conservative Group also served on LCRCA O&S and Councillors Pugh and Sir Ron Watson took up these respective roles.

Overview and Scrutiny Training Event

A training event for Overview and Scrutiny Members, "Scrutiny Essentials and Questioning Skills" was held on 27 May 2021 and attended by 15 Members. The event was facilitated by the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny and presented by Lisa Smart, an elected Member of Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council. The Powerpoint presentation made at the training event can be viewed [here](#) A copy of the presentation has been circulated to all Overview and Scrutiny Members and Substitute Members.

The Year Ahead

Given the scale of the financial and service challenges facing the Council, together with the Council having to contend with the impact of the on-going Covid-19 pandemic, the year ahead will be extremely busy for the four Overview and Scrutiny Committees and the Management Board. A key role of Members will be to scrutinise such challenges, including how they impact on the Council's statutory requirement to remain financially sustainable, provide a wide range of services and the desire to deliver Sefton's 2030 Vision and Core Purpose.



Agenda Item 9

I look forward to receiving further updates on the work of the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny, including the full results of the 2020 Annual Survey.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Officers of the Democratic Services Team for all their hard work during the year; and to thank the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees for their on-going input into the work of the Management Board.

Councillor John Sayers
July 2021



During 2020/21 the following Members served on the Committees indicated-

Overview & Scrutiny Management Board

Councillor John Sayers (Chair)
Councillor Roscoe (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Blackburne
Councillor Bradshaw
Councillor Byrom
Councillor Carragher
Councillor Doyle
Councillor Murphy

Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Adult Social Care and Health)

Chair: Cllr. Doyle
Vice-Chair: Cllr. Roscoe
Cllr. Carr
Cllr. Cluskey
Cllr. Howard
Cllr. Irving
Cllr. Jones
Cllr. Myers
Cllr. Pugh
Cllr. Waterfield

Mr. B. Clark, Healthwatch Representatives
Mr. R Hutchings, Healthwatch Representatives



Agenda Item 9

Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services and Safeguarding)

Chair: Cllr. Murphy
Vice-Chair: Cllr. Carragher
Cllr. Bennett
Cllr. Evans
Cllr. Keith
Cllr. Pitt
Cllr. Yvonne Sayers
Cllr. Spencer (Subsequently replaced by Councillor Cluskey)
Cllr. Thomas
Cllr. Webster

Mr. M. Byrne, Healthwatch Representative
Ms. K. Christie, Healthwatch Representative
Mrs. S. Cain, Advisory Member
Mr. S. Harrison, Church Diocesan Representative
Father D. Seddon, Church Archdiocesan Representative
Ms. M. McDermott, Parent Governor Representative
Ms. C. McDonough, Parent Governor Representative

Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills)

Cllr. John Sayers (Chair)
Cllr. Janis Blackburne (Vice-Chair)
Cllr. Tony Brough
Cllr. Liz Dowd
Cllr. Sean Halsall
Cllr. Killen
Cllr. Daniel Lewis
Cllr. Greg Myers
Cllr. Dave Robinson
Cllr. Yaso Sathiy



Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services)

Cllr. Susan Bradshaw (Chair)
Cllr. Leslie Byrom C.B.E. (Vice-Chair)
Cllr. Iain Brodie - Browne
Cllr. Tony Brough
Cllr. Mhairi Doyle, M.B.E.
Cllr. Janet Grace
Cllr. Nina Killen
Cllr. Daniel Lewis
Cllr. Bob McCann
Cllr. Patrick McKinley



Agenda Item 9

Adult Social Care and Health



Councillor Mhairi Doyle, MBE
Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee
(Adult Social Care and Health)

It is my pleasure to introduce the 2020/21 Annual Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Adult Social Care and Health).

Introduction

This is my second Annual Report as Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Adult Social Care and Health). 2020/21 has been a difficult year for all of us as we had to respond to the pandemic and restrictions and move away from traditional physical meetings towards remote meetings.

Despite the big changes that virtual meetings brought, I believe that the Committee has built on the existing good working relationships we have with many of our health partners. The trust that has been established has meant that we are recognised in our role of “critical friend”; we are listened to and have been able to have a positive influence on the development of health and adult social care services within Sefton. This Report is presented to the Council and a wider audience beyond in the hope that the information it contains will contribute to the debate and discussion about the provision of health and adult social care services for Sefton residents and their development, improvement and access.

The Committee met formally on four occasions during 2020/21. An informal meeting of Members of the Committee also took place in order to receive information on the NHS 111 First service. Details of these events are outlined below.

NHS Trust Quality Accounts

Generally, the Committee commences the Municipal Year with the consideration of draft Quality Accounts from local healthcare providers. This provides Committee Members with an opportunity to comment on the performance of local NHS Trusts during the preceding twelve months, particularly in relation to patient experience, safety and clinical effectiveness. A number of local NHS Trusts routinely submit their draft Quality Accounts for consideration and comment each year and it is always a challenge to determine where the Committee will focus each year. Usually, an informal meeting of Members of the Committee takes place early in the Municipal



Year dedicated to considering the draft Quality Accounts from invited NHS Providers. This year we did things a little differently and Members of the Committee were invited to attend a Quality Accounts Day during October, organised by the Sefton Clinical Commissioning Groups, and we were able to comment on any issues raised by NHS Trusts. In time I hope that we will be able to return to inviting representatives of NHS Trusts to attend physical meetings.

Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs)

Throughout 2020/21 the Committee received regular update reports from the two Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) within Sefton, namely the South Sefton Clinical Commissioning Group and the Southport and Formby Clinical Commissioning Group.

The CCGs are, of course, responsible for the planning and commissioning of health care services for the local area. During 2020/21 they reported to the Committee on a range of activities designed to promote health and wellbeing amongst residents. I believe that excellent relationships exist between Committee Members and officers of the CCGs, particularly the Chief Officer who attends virtually every Committee meeting and has always been willing to take up issues raised by Members and explain aspects of the services provided.

Updates submitted by the CCGs have included details of the following:

- Covid-19 and the phase 3 response
- Winter preparedness
- Annual flu vaccination campaign
- Community services in Southport and Formby
- Talking therapies in Sefton
- GP out of hours service
- Primary care networks
- Successful funding bid for Mental Health Support Teams in Sefton
- Governing Body meetings
- Changing commissioning landscape
- Covid-19 vaccination programme
- Sefton's GP led service
- Sefton vaccination volunteering programme
- National vaccination booking service
- NHS reforms to better integrated care
- Shaping Care Together Programme
- NHS 111 First

The regular updates allow Members to raise questions and scrutinise aspects of the services provided by the CCGs.

We also received separate reports from the CCGs on the following matters:

- Potential Merger of Clinical Commissioning Groups in North Merseyside

Agenda Item 9

- Reconfiguration of Spinal Surgery Services in Cheshire and Merseyside

Throughout the year the Sefton CCGs have also submitted statistics to the Committee on Health Provider Performance which has enabled us to scrutinise the key performance areas of our local NHS Hospital Trusts, including the Friends and Family Test and A&E monitoring for both Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust and Aintree University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. These statistics have been particularly useful in scrutinising services during winter pressures.

I am grateful to Fiona Taylor, Chief Officer for both the Sefton Clinical Commissioning Groups, and her staff, for their input into the work of the Committee and their attendance at Committee meetings.

NHS Trusts / Partners

Throughout 2020/21 the Committee has received reports and presentations on work and activities undertaken by certain NHS organisations. Attendance at meetings by senior NHS representatives have included the following:

- Integrated Care Teams – the Deputy Director of Integration, Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust, contributed towards a presentation given by the Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Health.
- Low Secure Unit New Build Project – Maghull Health Park – the Consultant Clinical Psychologist, Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust, presented on proposals.

This attendance has enabled Committee Members to scrutinise NHS performance in the areas concerned.

Joint O&S Meeting with Children’s Services

In February 2021, the Chief Executive of Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust, attended a joint meeting we held with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children’s Services and Safeguarding), to brief Members on the the Shaping Care Together Programme, a programme of work designed to improve hospital services. A listening (engagement) exercise had been launched in January 2021 to gather the views of patients, staff, the public and stakeholders about what currently worked well at Southport and Ormskirk hospitals, as well as in primary and community healthcare services. The Joint Committee requested the submission of information on feedback received, together with a review of the engagement exercise undertaken, prior to any options being considered. I expect we will hear more about the Shaping Care Together Programme during 2021/22.

Adult Social Care

During the year, the Committee received reports on the following aspects of the Council’s Adult Social Care function:

- Integrated Care Teams



- Winter Plan
- Adult Social Care Vision
- Care Homes in Sefton
- Integrated Commissioning Update

Due to the pandemic, Adult Social Care has faced a range of challenges throughout the year, not least within our Care Homes, and I am grateful to Deborah Butcher and her Teams, for their input and their attendance at Committee meetings. I hope the Committee will be able to continue to focus more on Adult Social Care in the forthcoming year and I look forward to receiving Deborah's reports in the future.

Public Health

Public Health has become an extremely important function throughout the past year and during 2020/21 the Committee received reports on the following aspects of the Council's Public Health function:

- Covid Response
- Sefton Covid-19 Outbreak Management Plan
- Public Health Annual Service Plan

I am very grateful to Margaret Jones, Director of Public Health, and her Team for keeping the Committee informed of Public Health developments during the year, particularly in relation to the Council's response to the pandemic and on-going developments.

Other Items

During the year we received a report from the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer on "Centre for Public Scrutiny - 10 Questions to ask if you are Scrutinising Climate Change". This was very timely as we also had a presentation from the Section Manager Energy and Environmental Management, Corporate Resources, on Climate Change and the Council's response to the climate emergency on the same agenda, so the report provided Members with valuable questions to pose.

The Committee also received reports from the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer on the draft Executive/Scrutiny Protocol, and I am certain the Protocol will improve the quality of relationships between Cabinet and Scrutiny Members; clarify respective roles; and contribute towards more effective scrutiny in Sefton. The Protocol can also be utilised as a training tool in Sefton, particularly for newly-elected Members.

Informal Meeting of Committee Members

During October 2020, an informal meeting of Members of the Committee took place in order to receive a briefing and information on the NHS 111 First service. This was delivered by our CCG colleagues. As a result of the briefing, it was agreed that further information would be provided in relation to training programmes and the recruitment process for call handlers.

Agenda Item 9

Scrutiny Review Working Group

During 2020/21 the Committee established a Mental Health Issues Working Group, comprised of Councillors Roscoe. Howard and one of Healthwatch co-opted members. This topic arose mainly out of concern for the mental health of individuals as a result of on-going lockdowns and restrictions, in response to the pandemic. We were also conscious that many of the services offered to people with mental health issues were forced to change in the way they were delivered during the last year. I look forward to hearing about the outcome of the review during the next Municipal Year, together with any recommendations that may be made.

Site Visits

Normally, Committee Members are occasionally provided with opportunities to visit NHS Trust premises to view the provision of services and such visits allow us to ask questions and make observations. Unfortunately, it has not been possible to conduct any site visits during 2020/21 and I hope that Committee Members will be able to resume physical visits in the not too distant future.

Pre-Scrutiny and the Key Decision Forward Plan

As ever, the Key Decision Forward Plan provided the Committee with an opportunity to pre-scrutinise Key Decision items from the Council's Forward Plans, as each of the latest Forward Plans are submitted to the Committee as part of its Work Programme update. The pre-scrutiny process assists the Cabinet and Cabinet Members to make effective decisions by allowing Overview and Scrutiny Committees to examine issues beforehand and make recommendations prior to a determination being made by the Executive.

Cabinet Member Reports

The regular attendance at Committee meetings of both Councillor Paul Cummins, Cabinet Member - Health and Social Care, and Councillor Ian Moncur, Cabinet Member – Health and Wellbeing, has been very much appreciated by Members of the Committee. Throughout the year all the relevant Cabinet Member Update Reports have been included on agendas and I feel that it is particularly important to include regular updates on major areas of the Council's activities, particularly as budgets have become increasingly under pressure. The Cabinet Member Update Reports have included a wealth of valuable information on aspects of the services and the Cabinet Members' attendance, together with the presence of senior officers from both the Council's Adult Social Care and Public Health service areas, has been very useful, providing Members with an opportunity to raise question and scrutinise developments within those Council Portfolio areas. I hope that opportunities to scrutinise those areas will continue into the next Municipal Year.

Sefton Healthwatch



Back in 2014/15 the Committee was fortunate in securing the services of two Advisory Members from Healthwatch Sefton who bring additional experience and expertise to the table, and this good practice has continued into 2020/21.

Myself and my Vice-Chair have met informally with the Healthwatch representatives on a regular basis, together with the Manager of the Organisation, and these informal meetings have proved to be very useful, enabling us to discuss a wide range of issues and strengthen the excellent working relationship between Healthwatch Sefton and the Committee. We have also been able to use these informal meetings to exchange information.

I am very grateful to both our Healthwatch co-opted Members for their valuable input into the work of the Committee and their attendance at Committee meetings.

Contributions Made During 2020/21

The attendance of representatives of organisations and partners, including senior officers of NHS Trusts, has been much appreciated and I would like to thank all our partners for their openness and their responses to our requests and suggestions. I have also appreciated the advice and support of Fiona Taylor, Chief Officer for both the Sefton Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs); Deborah Butcher, the Council's Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Health; and Margaret Jones, Director of Public Health, during 2020/21.

I am grateful to all the Members of the Committee for their support and for the enthusiastic way that they have contributed to our work. I would specifically like to thank my Vice-Chair during 2020/21, Councillor Diane Roscoe, for her help and assistance with the work of the Committee. During the year she has been invaluable with her eye for detail and her ability to spot potential risks and issues. Diane has also attended informal meetings with Healthwatch representatives, and this has assisted in strengthening the excellent working relationship between Healthwatch Sefton and the Committee.

My particular appreciation goes to our Democratic Services Officers for their commitment, advice and support. Without them the work of Overview and Scrutiny could not take place. Specific thanks must go to the officer who supports the Committee, Debbie Campbell, Senior Democratic Services Officer, for her hard work, dedication and patience.

The Year Ahead

Looking ahead to 2021/22, there may be potential for some Health Scrutiny work in the following areas:

- Review of Hyper-Acute Stroke Services;
- Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust – Shaping Care Programme
- Merger of CCGs across the Cheshire and Merseyside



Agenda Item 9

With on-going pressures on social care and health services at a time when public expectations remain high, I am aware that the Committee faces fresh challenges at the beginning of each new Municipal Year and this year could see exceptional challenges. Despite these challenges, I am confident that the Committee will rise to meet the expectations on it and that Members will be kept fully informed and continue to play an active role on the Committee. The coronavirus has dominated available resources and it may be some considerable time before services are anywhere near fully recovered and able to function as something approaching “normal”.

Councillor Mhairi Doyle
July 2021



Children's Services and Safeguarding



Councillor Paula Murphy
*Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
(Children's Services and Safeguarding)*

I am pleased to introduce Sefton Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services and Safeguarding) Annual Report 2020/21 to the Council.

Introduction

2020/21 has been a difficult year for all of us as we had to respond to the pandemic and restrictions and move away from traditional physical meetings towards remote meetings, despite some of the challenges remote meetings brought.

During 2020/21 the Committee met formally on four occasions. We also met informally for a children's workshop. Details of the meetings and the items considered are below.

Covid-19 Response

We began our remote meetings with a presentation on the Council's response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Committee received a presentation from Vicky Buchanan, Executive Director of Children's Social Care and Education, on the Council's response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Ms. Buchanan provided information on the following in relation to the Council's response and activity:

- Following the announcement of lockdown on 23 March 2020 the Council agreed a set of principles to support the most vulnerable; to work alongside partner agencies and businesses; communicate with communities; and to planning for recovery;
- Governance arrangements at the start of the pandemic;
- Immediate Council response;
- Sefton Covid-19 statistics;
- Support for residents and communities and the Council's workforce;
- Economic impacts and the starting point for recovery;
- Core objectives for recovery planning;



Agenda Item 9

- Strategic approach to recovery; and
- Recovery planning progress update.

Ms. Buchanan concluded by indicating that the unprecedented worldwide pandemic created a most complex set of circumstances; that the Council workforce was a credit and that the Council was able to operate a significant number of services and for staff to work agile during this time; that partnership working was very strong and enhanced relationships were established with all partners including schools; that the Council was in a strong position going forward in terms of recovery but needed to ensure it received financial backing; and that tragically, significant numbers of local people had died and families suffered loss.

Laura Knights, Head of Children's Care, updated the Committee on activity and response in relation to Children's Social Care, indicating that the service had continued to support children and families; that virtual visits, some doorstep visits and the resumption of face-to-face visits since July 2020 had taken place; and that close work with schools had taken place, with increased demand since schools had resumed.

Tricia Davies, Interim Head of Education, updated the Committee on activity and response in relation to Education, indicating that weekly meetings had taken place throughout the pandemic with a wide range of officers from the Council, plus health partners; that risk assessments of schools had taken place; that school attendance had been high at the commencement of the Autumn term; that close partnership working took place with input from Public Health and the Department for Education health-line; and that a blended learning approach was being adopted.

The Committee agreed that the presentation be noted, and Ms. Buchanan be thanked for her informative presentation.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Continuous Improvement Plan Updates

Improvements had been required following the Ofsted and Care Quality Commission joint local area SEND revisit during April 2019, and this remained an area of concern. Throughout 2020/21 we received regular updates on progress made regarding the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Continuous Improvement Plan and updating on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on developments.

It is anticipated that we will see improvements to the SEND service in the months ahead.

Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI)

In relation to the Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) of the Multi-Agency Response to Children's Mental Health, representatives of the key partner agencies involved had attended a meeting during 2019/20 to present the findings of the JTAI and outline the actions required. In addition to officers representing Children's Social Care and Communities from the Council, representatives of NHS South Sefton Clinical

Commissioning Group (CCG) and NHS Southport and Formby CCG and Merseyside Police also attended.

During 2020/21, progress of the JTAI was reported to the Committee and a summary is below.

Progress of the Joint Targeted Area Inspection Action Plan

During September 2019, Ofsted, the Care Quality Commission (CQC), HMI Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services, (HMICFRS) and HMI Probation (HMIP), had carried out a joint inspection of the multi -agency response to abuse and neglect in Sefton. This inspection had included a “deep dive” focus on the response to children’s mental health. In January 2020, the Committee had received the published letter and a presentation from the partnership in response to the inspection. The written Statement of Action was produced and submitted to Ofsted in March 2020, and on in April 2020, correspondence was received stating that, Ofsted, the CQC, HMICFRS and HMIP had reviewed the action plan and agreed that it demonstrated an accurate understanding of the areas of priority action and findings of the joint inspection team. During 2020/21 the Committee received updates on the progress of the delivery of the Joint Targeted Area Inspection Action Plan.

Regular updates will continue to be presented to the Committee in the months ahead.

Reports/Presentations from the Sefton Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs)

The Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) are made up of local doctors, nurses, practice staff and lay members who are well placed to know the health needs and views of people living in the area. The CCGs are responsible for planning and buying, or “commissioning”, the majority of local health services that local residents may need.

From time to time representatives of the CCGs attend the Committee in order to update on services commissioned by the CCGs and to respond to questions put by Members of the Committee. A summary of the items concerned is below.

Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Across Sefton - Update Report

During November 2020, the Committee considered a report from the Children and Young People Commissioning Manager, NHS South Sefton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and NHS Southport and Formby CCG. The report provided an update on CCG commissioned provision of Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), focussing on the response and performance of Sefton’s mental health services, specifically in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic and the challenges this presented. The report also highlighted new services and initiatives which were contributing to improvements in the mental health offer for the children and young people of Sefton, together with developments.

The Committee noted the update report and the Chief Officer of the Sefton Clinical Commissioning Groups was requested to provide information on any additional

Agenda Item 9

funding available for services to the Senior Democratic Services Officer, for circulation to Members of the Committee.

Performance Reports for Key Children's Services

In March 2021, the Committee considered Integrated Performance Reports for Key Children's Services, submitted by NHS South Sefton Clinical Commissioning Group and NHS Southport and Formby Clinical Commissioning Group. The Integrated Performance Reports set out information on:

- Alder Hey Children's Mental Health Services;
- Improve Access to Children & Young People's Mental Health Services (CYPMH);
- Waiting times for Routine/Urgent Referrals to Children and Young People's Eating Disorder Services;
- Children and Young People new Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD) referrals within 12 and 30 weeks;
- Children and Young People new Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) referrals within 12 and 30 weeks;
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS);
- % Referral to Choice within 6 weeks;
- % Referral to Partnership within 18 weeks;
- Children's Community (Alder Hey);
- Paediatric Speech and Language Therapies (SALT);
- Paediatric Dietetics;
- Paediatric Occupational Therapy (OT); and
- Paediatric Children's Continence Promotion Service.

Fiona Taylor, Chief Officer for NHS South Sefton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and NHS Southport and Formby CCG; and Martin McDowell, Deputy Chief Officer, NHS South Sefton CCG and NHS Southport and Formby CCG; attended the meeting to present the Integrated Performance Reports and to respond to questions/issues raised by Members of the Committee. Fiona Taylor indicated that representatives of Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust could be requested to provide an overview of services when the matter was next considered.

Members of the Committee asked questions/raised issues on the following:

- How services and staff were commissioned, as some indicators appeared to vary. Representatives of Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust could be requested to provide an overview on the flexibility of services and staff at a future meeting.
- Any differentiations in diagnosis between boys and girls for ASD and ADHD. Would girls go undiagnosed? What age range were children diagnosed? Information would be sought from Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust.
- Reasons for the delay in the start of assessment of some children and young people for new Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) referrals within 12 and 30 weeks and actions being taken to rectify.



The Committee agreed that

- (1) the Integrated Performance Reports be noted;
- (2) the Chief Officer for NHS South Sefton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and NHS Southport and Formby CCG be requested to:
 - (a) seek information from Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust on any differentiations in diagnosis between boys and girls for Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), including the age range of children diagnosed and the risk of girls being undiagnosed, the information to be provided to the Senior Democratic Services Officer, for circulation to Members of the Committee; and
 - (b) consider inviting representatives of Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust to provide an overview on the flexibility of services and staff at a future meeting.

Review of Health Services for Children Looked After & Safeguarding in Sefton - Update on Actions Being Undertaken

In March 2021, the Committee considered a joint presentation by NHS South Sefton Clinical Commissioning Group and NHS Sefton and Formby Clinical Commissioning Group, providing an update on actions being undertaken since the Care Quality Commission (CQC) Review of Looked After Children and Safeguarding in Sefton. The presentation set out the following:

- Context;
- Process;
- Update;
- Lessons Learned; and
- Evidence of Impact.

Fiona Taylor, Chief Officer for NHS South Sefton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and NHS Southport and Formby CCG; and Helen Case, Designated Nurse, for NHS South Sefton CCG and NHS Southport and Formby CCG, attended the meeting to present the update and to report on the progress of actions.

Members of the Committee asked questions/raised issues on the following:

- The Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) referred to within the presentation was the same as the JTAI referred to under Minute No. 37 below.
- The good progress made regarding health assessments was welcomed, particularly as certain practices were now considered to be good practice.
- The tracking and sampling technique adopted to follow the experiences of children where there had been safeguarding concerns or who were looked after.



Agenda Item 9

- The good progress made by the team following the review was acknowledged, despite the number of children coming into care and the pressures due to the pandemic.

The Committee agreed that the joint presentation be noted.

I am grateful to Fiona Taylor, the Chief Officer for NHS South Sefton CCG) and NHS Southport and Formby CCG, and her staff for their contributions towards the work of the Committee and their willingness to attend meetings to respond to questions put by Members.

Reports/Presentations on Children’s Social Care

The Council’s Children’s Services aims to provide services to promote and safeguard the welfare of children.

During 2020/21 the Committee received and considered reports on the following aspects of Children’s Social Care:

Children and Young People’s Plan Progress Update.

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Director of Children’s Social Care and Education presenting the final version of the Children and Young People’s Plan, 2020 – 2025.

The final draft of the Plan was received at the meeting in November 2019 and the Plan went on to gain Cabinet approval in January 2020 and was adopted as the Children and Young People’s Plan for Sefton with effect from 1 March 2020. The report presented a Delivery Plan to accompany the document and to support the communication of the Plan’s key priorities. The report also provided an overview of a recent review of the “Heard” priority of the Plan at the Children’s Partnership Board. The report set out information on the Delivery Plan; communication of priorities; and the “Heard” priority in that children and young people would always be central to decisions made about them and their journeys would be shaped by their voice.

Copies of the final published version of the Children and Young People’s Plan; the Delivery Plan; and an example of a Children’s Service Dashboard were attached to the report.

The Committee agreed to:

- (1) note the contents of the report and
- (2) the Integrated Social Care and Health Manager was requested to investigate whether Covid-19 has affected the data contained within the Dashboard attached to the report and provide the results to the Senior Democratic Services Officer for circulation to Members of the Committee. In the event that the data is accurate, consideration be given to holding an informal workshop session to explain the detail to Members of the Committee.

Children’s Social Care Annual Report 2019/2020

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Director of Children’s Social Care and Education setting out a summary of the progress in relation to the Children’s Social Care Improvement Plan and activity for the year end 2019/2020.

The Improvement Plan had identified three key objectives, as follows:

1. Ensure frontline practice is consistently good, effective and focused on timely, measurable outcomes for children.
2. To improve management oversight at all levels to ensure effective services for children and young people receive good quality supervision.
3. Ensure that frontline services are sufficiently resourced and the workforce appropriately skilled to enable high quality work to be undertaken with children and young people.

The Committee agreed that the report be noted and bi-annual reports in relation to the progress of the Children’s Social Care Continuous Improvement Plan be continued to be received by the Committee.

Children and Young People’s Plan Data Dashboard In-depth Narrative

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Director of Children’s Social Care and Education presenting an update on the data relating to the Children and Young People’s Plan four priorities that were presented at the previous meeting. The latest Children and Young People’s Plan dashboard was attached to the report.

An informal workshop session had taken place previously to explain the data in detail to Members of the Committee.

The Committee agreed that

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) a further update be received by the Committee on the progress of the plan in six months’ time; and
- (3) the Director of Public Health be requested to provide information on the National Child Measurement Programme and whether any monitoring with local foodbanks took place, to include information on support offered to schools through Active Sefton, etc., and the information to be provided to the Senior Democratic Services Officer, for circulation to Members of the Committee.

Sefton Local Safeguarding Children Board Report on Serious Case Review Activity

The Committee considered the report of the Sefton Local Safeguarding Children Board Independent Chair providing an overview of Series Case Review activity.

Agenda Item 9

The Sefton Local Safeguarding Children Board Independent Chair was in attendance to present the report and respond to issues raised by Members.

The Committee agreed that

- (1) the Sefton Local Safeguarding Children Board be requested to provide its Annual Report to the Committee in future; and
- (2) the Sefton Local Safeguarding Children Board Independent Chair be thanked for her attendance.

Fostering Service Annual Report

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Director of Children's Social Care and Education that provided a summary of the fostering service; highlighting practice; and plans to build on current achievements for the period 2019/2020.

The Fostering Service provided a range of short-term and permanent placements for Looked After Children with foster carers who had a diverse range of skills and experience. Foster carers provided respite support to each other, support to birth parents and carers, emergency care, and care for children in preparation for adoption and long-term permanence. Many young people had chosen to Stay Put with foster carers and carers had been able to support them beyond 18, through to independence and into adulthood.

As of 31 March 2020, Sefton Fostering Service had 89 approved mainstream fostering households caring for 159 children and 62 connected carer households caring for 67 children. The remainder of the children in care were placed with Independent Fostering Agencies, residential units, residential schools, Staying Put placements, Supported Lodgings or in semi-independent accommodation and children placed for adoption.

The Sefton Fostering Service Annual Report 2019/20 was attached to the report.

The Committee agreed that:

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) annual reports in relation to the progress of the Children's Social Care Fostering Service be continued to be received by the Committee; and
- (3) the Head of Children's Care be requested to provide figures on the number of people with disabilities who are foster carers to the Senior Democratic Services Officer, for circulation to Members of the Committee.

High Needs Funding Update



Further to Minute No. 30 (6) of 26 January 2021, and to Minute No. 89 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 4 February 2021, the Committee considered the report of the Head of Education Excellence in relation to the financial position of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) High Needs Block Budget; actions to address ongoing in-year pressures; and longer-term sufficiency plans to meet increasing demand for specialist places, to improve processes and governance and balance the budget.

Members of the Committee asked questions/raised issues on the following:

- The relationship of the local authority with schools, in relation to grants and budgets.
- The possibility of additional funding from the Department for Education (DfE), given the pressures of the pandemic.
- How the High Needs Block Budget was determined for each local authority.
- The demand pressures facing education, particularly in relation to the pandemic.
- Views on proposed initial changes to the High Needs National Funding Formula were currently being sought from the DfE and the link would be provided.
- Post-16 provision in relation to young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) and how best to promote the current strategy and approach.

The Committee agreed that:

- (1) the report be noted; and
- (2) the Head of Education Excellence be requested to provide the link to the Department for Education public consultation on proposed initial changes to the High Needs National Funding Formula to the Senior Democratic Services Officer, for circulation to Members of the Committee.

Bi-Annual Report and Review of Children’s Social Care Improvement Plan

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Director of Children’s Social Care and Education, summarising the progress in relation to the Children’s Social Care Improvement Plan for the last six months.

The Improvement Plan had identified five key objectives, as follows:

1. Assessment, planning and review
2. Achieving early permanence
3. Continuous practice development and a stable workforce
4. Ensuring good quality management oversight and supervision
5. Quality Assurance/Performance Framework- delivering improvement.

The Children and Young People’s Scorecard was attached to the report.

Members of the Committee asked questions/raised issues on the following:

Agenda Item 9

- Clarification on the frequency of reporting the matter to the Committee.
- Good quality supervision remained an ongoing concern.
- Recruitment of social workers remained an on-going concern.
- Clarification regarding referrals and re-referral rates to Children's Social Care.
- Caseloads held by social workers remained an ongoing concern.

The Committee agreed that

- (1) the contents of the report be noted; and
- (2) bi- annual reports in relation to the progress of the Children's Social Care Continuous Improvement Plan be continued to be received by the Committee.

Emotional Health and Wellbeing Strategy

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Director of Children's Social Care and Education presenting the new Sefton Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2026. The final draft of the Strategy was attached to the report. The report outlined recent activity and the approach taken to refresh the content of the Sefton Emotional Health and Wellbeing Strategy, together with the next steps to be taken.

Members of the Committee asked questions/raised issues on the following:

- Had the Wellbeing Toolkit been rolled out to schools and colleges and had any feedback been received? An overview could be provided to the next Committee meeting. Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust also had a good news item to report.
- The former Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Working Group had advocated emotional support in schools.
- The age range the Strategy was directed to, together with the organisations that would support the Strategy.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report be noted; and
- (2) the Executive Director of Children's Social Care and Education be requested to consider presenting an overview of the Wellbeing Toolkit rolled out to schools and colleges, together with any feedback received, to a future meeting of the Committee.

Corporate Parenting Board Annual Activities Report 2020

The Committee considered the report of the Executive Director of Children's Social Care and Education providing an overview of the activities of the Sefton Corporate Parenting Board 2020. The overview related to all Board activities completed between January 2020 and December 2020. The Corporate Parenting Board – Annual Activities Report 2020 was attached to the report.

In line with local and national guidance and restrictions, in relation to COVID 19, meetings of the Sefton Corporate Parenting Board had been facilitated via Microsoft Teams. Virtual attendance at meetings had not been affected by this.

Members of the Committee asked questions/raised issues on the following:

- The positive contribution of the work of the Sefton Corporate Parenting Board and acknowledgement of organisations and individuals concerned, particularly the Making a Difference Group.
- An annual survey of all children in care took place.

The Committee agreed that the report be noted.

I would like to place on record my appreciation of the contribution made by Vicky Buchanan, Executive Director of Children's Social Care and Education, and her Children's Social Care Teams towards the work of the Committee.

I am also grateful to Laura Knights and her Team for their contribution towards the work of the Committee.

Reports on Schools

The Education Excellence service within the Council provides a range of statutory and support services for schools to ensure pupils have the best opportunity to achieve.

Details of reports submitted by the Interim Head of Education are set out below.

Covid Management in Schools

In January 2021, the Committee considered the report of the Executive Director of Children's Social Care and Education outlining the safeguarding arrangements for vulnerable children who did not attend school during the first Covid-19 lockdown, between March to June 2020. The report also referenced information relating to the wider re-opening of schools following this period. The report indicated that the Covid Act 2020 had removed statutory enforcement of school attendance.

The Committee agreed that:

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) the Director of Public Health be requested to provide information on whether numbers of primary children currently attending school were too high given the risks associated with Covid-19, to the Senior Democratic Services Officer, for circulation to Members of the Committee; and
- (3) the Head of Communities be requested to provide information on the BBC donation scheme of unwanted IT equipment to schools, to the Senior Democratic Services Officer, for circulation to Members of the Committee.



Agenda Item 9

I am grateful to Tricia Davies, Interim Head of Education, and her Team for their contribution towards the work of the Committee.

Working Groups

During 2020/21, that Committee established a Working Group to consider Persistent Pupil Absence in schools. Membership was comprised of Councillors Bennet, Carragher and former Councillor Keith. Mrs. Sandra Cain, the Associate co-opted member on the Committee, also took part. The Final Report of the Working Group was presented to the Committee in January 2021 and the outcome is set out below.

Persistent Pupil Absence Working Group Final Report

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer presenting formally the final report of the Persistent Pupil Absence Working Group. The Final Report of the Working Group was attached to the report.

Councillor Carragher, the Lead Member of the Working Group, introduced the report.

The Committee recommended the Cabinet and Council to support and approve the following recommendations:

1. That the good practice regarding school attendance currently undertaken by the Council and schools, as outlined in the findings of the Final Report, be acknowledged and noted;
2. That the Interim Head of Education be requested to explore the possibility of:
 - (a) a campaign to tackle school attendance across all key stages with a specific emphasis on the early years and foundation stage, the campaign to focus on conveying clear messages about how absence affects attainment, wellbeing and wider outcomes;
 - (b) delivering of clear messages about expectations, routines and consequences to new pupils and families through prospectus and admission/transition events;
 - (c) ensuring that the attendance of vulnerable children is monitored across the early years stage;
 - (d) an aspiration for a post of a dedicated worker for children who are supported by Education, Health and Care Plans, in order to address any barriers for children and young people attending school; this aspiration could be considered in the future as part of the on-going work on school attendance;
 - (e) attendance being part of the enhanced transition and not just for children and young people on the Special Educational Needs and disability



(SEND) register, as this will address the early identification of any school attendance issues;

- (f) sanctions for non-attendance being applied consistently across primary and secondary schools;
 - (g) schools providing an adult mentor to those children who have contact with the school Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) but who are not on the SEND register, with whom the children can have regular access and build up a relationship;
 - (h) encouraging schools to provide training in SEND and Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) conditions to all teaching staff, to include office staff;
 - (i) extending buddy schemes with older peers to all schools, pupils to be “matched up” to ensure they have something in common;
 - (j) Improving communication between primary and secondary schools at transition stage, to ensure children are “understood” by teaching staff in secondary schools and that any good practice is shared; and
3. That the Senior Democratic Services Officer be requested to liaise with relevant officers in order to ensure that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children’s Services and Safeguarding) receives a six-monthly monitoring report, setting out progress made against each of the recommendations outlined above.

The link to the Final Report is here: [Sefton Council](#)

Secondary School Performance and Attainment Working Group

Towards the end of 2020/21, the Committee established a Working Group to consider Secondary School Performance and Attainment. Membership was comprised of Councillors Carragher, Keith and Murphy. The Working Group agreed that the review would take place in two stages. The first stage would focus on historical performance and attainment. The second stage would focus on current performance and attainment and would commence in September 2022. Unfortunately, Councillor Carragher is unable to continue serving on the Working Group as she has been appointed as Mayor of the Council. Former Councillor Keith lost her seat at the Local Elections in May 2021.

I hope that other Members of the Committee will volunteer to take part in this important piece of work.

Reports/Presentations from Corporate Resources

Centre for Public Scrutiny - 10 Questions to ask if you are Scrutinising Climate Change

Agenda Item 9

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer providing information contained within a document produced by the Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) entitled “10 questions to ask if you are scrutinising climate change”. The report set out the contents of the document, together with the 10 questions posed, indicating that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board had requested the CfPS document to be circulated to all Overview and Scrutiny Committee Members for information.

The Committee agreed that the Centre for Public Scrutiny document entitled “10 questions to ask if you are scrutinising climate change”, be noted.

Climate Emergency Progress Report

The Committee received a presentation from Stephanie Jukes, the Section Manager Energy and Environmental Management, Corporate Resources; and Julia Thorpe, Project Officer – Climate and Environment, reporting on Climate Emergency progress by the Council. The presentation outlined the following:

- Purpose of the presentation
- Background – Climate Emergency
- Carbon footprint for Sefton
- Strategy and Implementation Plan
- Implementation Plan - Phase 1
- Covid-19
- Green Recovery
- How will progress be monitored?
- Communications Plan
- Climate Assembly UK
- Summary and next steps
- Contact details

Members of the Committee asked questions/raised matters on the following issues:

- The projected timescale to achieve carbon-neutral status.
- The cost of alternative transport.
- Progress with the Sefton Clean Air Zone and heavy goods vehicles accessing the docks. An update could be obtained and forwarded to Members of the Committee.

RESOLVED: The Committee agreed that the presentation be noted and thanked the officers concerned for their informative presentation.

Draft Executive/Scrutiny Protocol

In November 2020 and following a request for a draft Executive/Scrutiny Protocol to the meeting of the Cabinet in July, the Committee considered the report of the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer presenting a draft Executive/Scrutiny Protocol to the Committee for consideration and comment. The development of an Executive/Scrutiny Protocol aimed to improve the quality of relationships between Cabinet and Scrutiny



Members; clarify respective roles; and contribute towards more effective scrutiny in Sefton. The draft Protocol was attached to the report.

The Committee agreed that the draft Executive/Scrutiny Protocol, as attached to the report, be endorsed and submitted to the Cabinet for approval, in due course.

Executive/Scrutiny Protocol

In January 2021, the Committee considered the report of the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer advising of the Cabinet decision to approve the Executive/Scrutiny Protocol for use in Sefton.

The Executive/Scrutiny Protocol was attached to the report at Appendix A.

The Committee agreed that the decision of the Cabinet in approving the Executive/Scrutiny Protocol for use in Sefton be noted and welcomed.

Parent Governor Representative

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer indicating that the term of office for one of the current Parent Governor Representatives on the Committee was due to expire in November 2020. The report sought to formally agree extending the term of office of the Parent Governor Representative concerned.

The Committee agreed that the term of office for the Parent Governor Representative concerned be extended for a period of no more than two years, up to November 2022.

Informal Meeting re: Children's Workshop

Following on from consideration of the Children and Young People's Plan Progress Update, the Integrated Social Care and Health Manager was requested to investigate whether Covid-19 has affected the data contained within the Dashboard attached to the report and provide the results to the Senior Democratic Services Officer for circulation to Members of the Committee. In the event that the data was accurate, consideration would be given to holding an informal workshop session to explain the detail to Members of the Committee.

An informal workshop session did take place and I am grateful to officers for organising this and explaining the data to Members.

Cabinet Member Reports

In order to keep Overview and Scrutiny Members informed, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board had previously agreed for relevant Cabinet Member Reports for the Children, Schools and Safeguarding Portfolio to be submitted to the appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee. During 2020/21, the Cabinet Member Update Reports have been included on Committee agendas for general information purposes for Members of the Committee.

Agenda Item 9

Items considered within Cabinet Member reports have included issues relating to:

- Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND);
- Commissioning;
- Response to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Emotional Health and Wellbeing Strategy;
- Capital Funding to Support Children in Sefton; and
- Announcement of Ofsted Focused Visit.

Councillor John Joseph Kelly, the Cabinet Member – Children, Schools and Families, attended meetings of the Committee during 2020/21 to present his Update Report, and I would like to place on record my thanks to the Cabinet Member for his regular update reports to our Committee, which have greatly assisted the Committee in keeping abreast of issues within the Children, Schools and Safeguarding Portfolio. The update reports are much appreciated by all the Committee Members. I am also grateful to him for his on-going support and commitment towards the Scrutiny function.

Pre-Scrutiny and the Key Decision Forward Plan

The Key Decision Forward Plan provides the Committee with an opportunity to pre-scrutinise Key Decision items from the Council's Forward Plan, as the latest Forward Plan is submitted to the Committee as part of its Work Programme update. The pre-scrutiny process assists the Cabinet and Cabinet Members in making effective decisions as it allows Overview and Scrutiny Committees to examine issues and make recommendations prior to the executive decision being made.

I am pleased that Committee Members were presented with an on-going opportunity to pre-scrutinise Key Decisions relating to the Children, Schools and Families Portfolio.

Front-Line Visits by Elected Members

During 2020/21, opportunities for a wider range of Members to engage with Children's Social Care, to enhance their understanding of front-line delivery, had to cease and I hope that front-line visits will re-commence in the future.

Co-Opted Members

The Committee has the following representatives as part of its membership:

- 1 Church of England diocese representative;
- 1 Roman Catholic archdiocese representative;
- 2 parent governor representatives;
- 2 advisory members from Healthwatch Sefton; and
- 1 independent advisory member.



All our co-opted members regularly attend the Committee to contribute towards debates and bring additional experience and expertise to the table. I would like to thank all our Added Members for their attendance and contributions during 2020/21, as it is very much appreciated.

Coronavirus and the Response to COVID-19

The last few months have been disruptive for children and their education and I hope that school attendance will be able to resume and flourish in the year ahead, presenting our children with opportunities to resume their education and to thrive.

Thanks and Acknowledgements

I am particularly appreciative of our Democratic Services Officers for their commitment, advice and support. Our responsible officer is Debbie Campbell, Senior Democratic Services Officer, and I am grateful for the contributions she has made during 2020/21 towards the smooth running of the Committee.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all Committee Members, officers and partners for their support, hard work and contributions to our endeavours throughout the year, particularly Laura Knights, Head of Children's Care, and Tricia Davis, Interim Head of Education.

Special thanks must go to Vicky Buchanan, former Executive Director of Children's Social Care and Education, and I'm sure the committee look forward to working with her successor, Lisa Lyons, in the future.

The Year Ahead – 2021/22

The Committee will be examining a number of key areas during 2021/22 in order to ensure that the services we provide are continually improved to benefit all who live and work in the Borough, particularly children and young people and I know that the Committee will look forward to the new Municipal Year as it works as a "critical friend" to our Cabinet Member and partners.

I am conscious that the response to COVID-19 has dominated the way services are provided to children and we may need to take this into account in prioritising items during the new Municipal Year.

Councillor Paula Murphy
July 2021

Agenda Item 9

Regeneration and Skills



Councillor John Sayers
Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
(Regeneration and Skills)

It gives me great pleasure to introduce Sefton Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) Annual Report 2020/21.

During the year the Committee has met five times and considered matters relating to:

- Climate Emergency Progress Report – Presentation
- Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Annual Report to Overview and Scrutiny
- Green Sefton Annual Report 2020
- Green Sefton - Income and Growth Update - Presentation
- Winter Maintenance Policy & Operational Plan
- Centre for Public Scrutiny - 10 Questions to ask if you are Scrutinising Climate Change
- Draft Executive/Scrutiny Protocol
- Digital Inclusion Working Group – Update on Recommendations
- Sefton Vehicle Crossings Policy
- Digital Strategy – Presentations
- Sefton Economic Strategy Update

A special meeting of the Committee was also convened to consider a decision of Cabinet, in relation to the Procurement of 120 litre Blue Wheeled Bins for Glass Recycling, that had been called-in.

Cabinet Member Reports

In keeping with previous years and in order to keep Members informed, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board agreed for relevant Cabinet Member Reports to be submitted to appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committees. The Committee therefore received regular Cabinet Member update reports; and I would like to take the opportunity to thank Councillor Hardy, Cabinet Member – Communities and Housing, Councillor Moncur, Cabinet Member Health and Wellbeing (Green Sefton element), Councillor Veidman, Cabinet Member – Planning and Building Control,



Councillor Fairclough, Cabinet Member – Locality Services and Councillor Atkinson, Cabinet Member – Regeneration and Skills for their regular and informative update reports.

Work Programme 2020/21, Scrutiny Review Topics and Key Decision Forward Plan

At each meeting the Committee considered the reports of the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer that sought views of the Work Programme for 2020/21, the identification of potential topics for scrutiny reviews to be undertaken by a Working Group(s) appointed by the Committee; the identification of any items for pre-scrutiny by the Committee from the Key Decision Forward Plan; and provided an update on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The pre-scrutiny process referred to above can assist the Cabinet to make effective decisions by giving the Overview and Scrutiny Committee the opportunity to examine issues beforehand and making recommendations prior to a determination being made.

All agendas and minutes of the Committee can be accessed [here](#)

Covid-19 Pandemic

The Covid-19 pandemic had, and continues to do so, a major impact on Sefton's communities, businesses and workforce. This was acknowledged in a presentation made to the September 2020 meeting of the Committee in which Sefton's response and activity to the pandemic was set out. Information was provided on:

- Following the announcement of lockdown on 23 March 2020 the Council agreed a set of principles to support the most vulnerable; to work alongside partner agencies and businesses; communicate with communities; and to planning for recovery
- Governance arrangements at the start of the pandemic
- Immediate Council response
- Sefton Covid-19 statistics
- Support for residents and communities and the Council's workforce
- Economic impacts and the starting point for recovery
- Core objectives for recovery planning
- Strategic approach to recovery
- Recovery planning progress update

In conclusion it was noted that the unprecedented worldwide pandemic created a most complex set of circumstances; that the Council workforce was a credit and that the Council was able to operate a significant number of services and for staff to work agile during this time; that partnership working was very strong and enhanced relationships were established with all partners including Schools; that the Council was in a strong position going forward in terms of recovery but needed to ensure it

Agenda Item 9

received financial backing; and that tragically significant numbers of local people had died and families suffered loss.

The Committee was appreciative of Council staff for their response to the pandemic and their performance of different work roles and ways of working; mentioned the transfer of staff to support clinically vulnerable residents and how these resources could be maintained when services returned to normal; and considered that a major objective would be to provide support and recovery planning with minimal disruption to Council services. The Committee raised concerns about the national crisis in the Covid-19 testing programme due to laboratory testing capacity and the effects this had on Sefton's communities.

Working Groups

The Committee currently has two Working Groups in operation and details are set out below.

Effectiveness of the Council's Enforcement Activity Working Group

I am the Lead Member of the Working Group and am joined on it by Councillors Dowd and Roche. To date, the Working Group has met on six occasions and considered information relating to:

- enforcement activity undertaken within service areas across the Council
- legal enforcement powers available to the Council
- promotional campaigns with fast-food outlets
- costs to clear fly-tipped waste
- NSL civil enforcement contract

Following consideration of all the information the Working Group agreed that its scoping document be narrowed and that the focus should concentrate on cleansing aspects of littering and fly-tipping/rear entry problems; and interviews have been undertaken with witnesses from NSL to obtain their views of and hear of their experiences undertaking enforcement action in the borough.

The Working Group has agreed to:

- Investigate options to address the scale and visibility of enforcement resources and the need to focus on environmental issues such as littering and fly-tipping; and
- Look at best practice in other local authorities as to how they operate their civil enforcement contracts including alternative approaches whereby the contractor was only paid based on performance and outcome

Housing Support Services to Vulnerable People

Councillors Blackburne, Murphy, Robinson (Lead Member) and Anne Thompson are members of the Working Group. To date, the Working Group has met on five occasions and considered information relating to:



- the scale and location in Sefton of supported accommodation for the cohorts of vulnerable people within the scope of this review
- details of the Serco contract specification with the home Office;
- profiles of service users in relation to age, gender, children;
- support services commissioned by the Council and the accommodation related to those services; and the associated support service specifications
- a report on Serco Postcode Checks

The Working Group has also interviewed witnesses from the Home Office, Serco, Migrant Help, Venus Charity, a former Asylum Seeker, a Syrian Refugee, the Bosco Society and service users and the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority.

The Year Ahead

The Committee will continue to make progress on the following priorities over the coming year:

- Flood & Coastal Risk – Annual Report
- Review of Winter Service and Operational Plan
- Update on Operational Activities delivered via Locality Services
- Procurement of 120 litre Blue Wheeled Bins for Glass Recycling – Update on progress
- Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority – Service Delivery Plan 2020/21
- Sefton Economic Strategy for Growth
- Update on the progression of the Liverpool City Region Digital Inclusion Strategy
- Leasehold House Sales
- Green Sefton 2020/21 Annual Report, Service Vision 2030, and Service Plan 2020/21
- Update on recommendations of the Housing Licensing Performance Framework, Digital Inclusion and Post-16 SEND Provision Working Groups
- Approval of the Final Reports for submission to Council of the Housing Support Services to Vulnerable People and the Effectiveness of the Council's Enforcement Activity Working Groups
- Identification of further topics to be the subject of Working Group reviews

Given the scale of the financial and service challenges facing the Council, together with the Council having to contend with the impact of the on-going Covid-19 pandemic, the year ahead will be extremely busy for both Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Management Board to scrutinise such challenges, including how they impact on the Council's statutory requirement to remain financially sustainable and the desire to deliver the Sefton's 2030 Vision and Core Purpose.

Finally, and on behalf of the Committee, I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to our work over the past year. I would personally like to thank all Members of the Committee, Cabinet Members Councillors Atkinson, Fairclough, Hardy, Moncur and Veidman and the officers Stuart Barnes, Andy Cutts, Paul Fraser, Gary Jordan, Stephanie Jukes, Peter Moore, Mark Shaw, Helen Spreadbury,

Agenda Item 9

Julia Thorpe, Stephen Watson and Andrea Watts who have attended meetings for their support to me over the past year and provided the Committee with valuable information.

Councillor John Sayers
July 2021



Regulatory, Compliance, and Corporate Services



Councillor Sue Bradshaw
Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
(Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services)

On behalf of the Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services) it gives me great pleasure to introduce the 2020/21 Annual Report.

During the year the Committee has met five times and considered matters relating to financial issues and updates associated with the 2020/21 revenue and capital budget and financial management across the Council. As is the usual practice, a Special Meeting of the Committee was held prior to Budget Council in order to scrutinise budget options and proposals.

Other reports/presentations considered by the Committee related to:

- Surplus Council Owned Land/Asset Management Strategy
- Climate Emergency Progress Report
- Use of Social Media in the Council's Response to Covid-19
- "Manage my Requests" (iCasework) System – Statistical Update Report
- Centre for Public Scrutiny - 10 Questions to ask if you are Scrutinising Climate Change
- Draft Executive/Scrutiny Protocol;
- Ethical Business Practices Working Group Final Report – Update on Recommendations
- Digital Inclusion Working Group – Update on Recommendations
- Public Health Annual Report on Air Quality
- Air Quality and Clean Air Zone Update
- Council Tax Reduction Scheme, Council Tax Base 2021/22
- Digital Strategy
- Disciplinary and Grievance Procedures and Sickness Absence Monitoring
- Sefton's Social Value from Development Supplementary Planning Document

Agenda Item 9

- Updates on the Members Welfare Reform Reference Group

The Committee also received regular Work Programme and Cabinet Member update reports.

All agendas and minutes of the Committee can be accessed [here](#)

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to thank Councillor Lappin, Cabinet Member – Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services for her regular attendance at meetings to update Members on issues associated with her portfolio and the Members Welfare Reform Reference Group.

Covid-19 Pandemic

The Covid-19 pandemic had, and continues to do so, a major impact on Sefton's communities, businesses and workforce. This was acknowledged in a presentation made to the September 2020 meeting of the Committee in which Sefton's response and activity to the pandemic was set out. Information was provided on:

- Following the announcement of lockdown on 23 March 2020 the Council agreed a set of principles to support the most vulnerable; to work alongside partner agencies and businesses; communicate with communities; and to planning for recovery
- Governance arrangements at the start of the pandemic
- Immediate Council response
- Sefton Covid-19 statistics
- Support for residents and communities and the Council's workforce
- Economic impacts and the starting point for recovery
- Core objectives for recovery planning
- Strategic approach to recovery
- Recovery planning progress update

In conclusion it was noted that the unprecedented worldwide pandemic created a most complex set of circumstances; that the Council workforce was a credit and that the Council was able to operate a significant number of services and for staff to work agile during this time; that partnership working was very strong and enhanced relationships were established with all partners including Schools; that the Council was in a strong position going forward in terms of recovery but needed to ensure it received financial backing; and that tragically significant numbers of local people had died and families suffered loss.

The Committee was appreciative of and commended the hard work of staff in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, and how they adapted quickly to new ways of working and the performance of new and additional duties; and noted that the re-introduction of services had been undertaken in full compliance with Government guidance and that if there was a change in local circumstances



then decisions would be taken accordingly; and that feedback received from residents was that they were very appreciative of the continuation of front-line visible services during the pandemic, and in particular, the refuse collection service.

However, the Committee did have concern about the Government's promise to adequately fund additional expenditure incurred by Sefton and other local authorities in dealing with pandemic issues which had not yet been forthcoming and that a close watch would have to be kept on this and pressure maintained on the Government; and that that if the number of Covid-19 cases increased in Sefton then the Council may have to take measures to again cease certain services which would have a detrimental impact on the Council's finances and exacerbate an already difficult situation.

Financial Scrutiny

The Committee received regular budgetary update reports during the year and a Special Meeting of the Committee was held on 9 February 2021 prior to the budget meetings of both Cabinet and Council. At this Special Meeting the Committee considered reports relating to: Prudential Indicators 2021/22; Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2021/22; Capital Strategy 2021/22 to 2025/26; Robustness of the 2021/22 Budget Estimates and the Adequacy of Reserves – Local Government Act 2003 - Section 25; Revenue and Capital Budget Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23 and Council Tax 2020/21.

At this meeting the main report for consideration was the report of the Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services that explained that on 4 March 2021, the Council would be asked to consider and approve the Budget Plan for 2021/22 – 2024/25 and the level of Council Tax for 2021/22; and provided the Committee with:

- An assessment of the Council's current financial position and approach to the 2021/22 Budget Plan and preparation for the three-year budget period 2022/23 to 2024/25
- An update on the Government's announcement of resources that are available to the Council for 2021/22
- The Council's current financial position and the assumptions built into the Medium-Term Financial Plan;
- The proposed Budget for 2021/22; and
- The proposed Capital Programme for 2021/22

The report set out the financial strategy of the Council and the national and local financial context within which it is operating. The Council had a statutory requirement to remain financially sustainable and to balance its budget every year; and that the Council's Framework for Change Programme was a comprehensive and ambitious programme that sought to support the delivery of the Council's core purpose. As would be expected with a programme of this size and complexity that spanned a number of financial years, the detailed

Agenda Item 9

proposals had been and would continue to be the subject of change as they were developed and ultimately implemented.

The following appendices were attached to the report:

Appendix A	Individual School Budgets 2021/22
Appendix B	Draft Council Budget Summary 2021/22
Appendix C	Capital Programme 2021/22 – 2022/23

Work Programme 2020/21, Scrutiny Review Topics and Key Decision Forward Plan

The Committee considered the reports of the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer that sought views of the Work Programme for 2020/21, the identification of potential topics for scrutiny reviews to be undertaken by a Working Group(s) appointed by the Committee; the identification of any items for pre-scrutiny by the Committee from the Key Decision Forward Plan; and provided an update on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Working Groups

During the year the Committee did not establish any new Working Groups but continued to receive update reports on the implementation of recommendations on previously approved Final Reports relating to:

- Ethical Business Practices
- Digital Inclusion

Cabinet Member Reports

In keeping with previous years and in order to keep Members informed, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board agreed for relevant Cabinet Member Reports to be submitted to appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committees. The Terms of Reference of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee covered the portfolio of the Cabinet Member – Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services.

Pre-Scrutiny – The Key Decision Forward Plan

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee has also been given the opportunity to pre-scrutinise items from the Council's Key Decision Forward Plan. The Forward Plan is submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as part of the Work Programme update. The pre-scrutiny process assists the Cabinet to make effective decisions by giving the Overview and Scrutiny Committee the opportunity to examine issues beforehand and making recommendations prior to a determination being made.



The Year Ahead

The Committee will continue to make progress on the following priorities over the coming year:

- New Ways of Working following the Covid-19 pandemic
- Review the Council Tax Reduction Scheme during the eighth year of operation
- Disposal of Surplus Council Owned Land/Asset -Management Strategy
- “Manage my Requests” (iCaseWork) system – Statistical Update Report
- Members’ Welfare Reform Reference Group – Updates
- Air Quality Monitoring
- Disciplinary and Grievance Procedures and Sickness Absence Monitoring
- Update on Progress of LCR Digital Inclusion Strategy
- “Tool-Kit” for Armed Forces Covenant
- The consideration of budget proposals in preparation of the Budget Report 2022/23 to 2025/26 and savings and the Medium-Term Financial Plan
- Monitoring reports on the implementation of recommendations arising from Digital Inclusion and Ethical Business Practices Working Group reviews
- Other service operational reports as deemed appropriate by the Committee

I envisage the forthcoming year to be extremely busy and challenging for the Committee due to the impact of Covid-19, which will be felt for many years to come and the difficult budgetary position and financial savings that have to be met in Sefton. Based upon the revisions relating to Government funding and the updated MTFP assumptions it is now estimated that the funding shortfall between 2021/22 and 2024/25 will be £29.847m, before any Council Tax decisions are made, and any additional service delivery options are considered. This shortfall will have to be met on top of the £233 million budget reductions identified since 2010.

Finally, and on behalf of the Committee, I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to our work over the past year. I would personally like to thank all Members of the Committee, Councillor Paulette Lappin, Cabinet Member – Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services and officers who have attended meetings for their support to me over the past year and provided the Committee with valuable information.

Councillor Sue Bradshaw
July 2021



This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 10

Report to:	Council	Date of Meeting:	Thursday 15 July 2021
Subject:	Financial Management 2021/22 to 2024/25 and Framework for Change 2020 - Revenue and Capital Budget Update 2021/22 including the Financial Impact of COVID-19 on the 2021/22 Budget – Additional Revenue and Capital Estimates		
Report of:	Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services	Wards Affected:	All Wards
Portfolio:	Cabinet Member - Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services		
Is this a Key Decision:	Yes	Included in Forward Plan:	Yes
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

This report sets out a new scheme for approval in the Council's revenue budget and two new schemes for approval in the Capital Programme following recommendations for approval by Cabinet on 24 June 2021.

Authority is also requested to accept the Restart contract from G4S Ltd, the prime contractor appointed by the Department of Work and Pensions for Restart in the North West.

Recommendation(s):

Council is asked to approve:

- 1) That authority be given to enter into a contract with G4S Ltd for the delivery of the DWP Restart Employment programme and that the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Skills, be authorised to finalise the terms of the contract.
- 2) A supplementary revenue estimate of £1.576m in 2021/22 fully funded by income from Restart. Future years' allocations will be included in the associated budget report.
- 3) A supplementary capital estimate of £1.128m for the grant funded scheme to provide a new football pitch at Orrell Mount.
- 4) A supplementary capital estimate of £0.795m for the Bootle Strand Shopping Centre Business Plan. The cost of external borrowing will be met from income from the centre and this is included within the approved 3 year business plan.

Agenda Item 10

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

To approve updates to the 2021/22 revenue budget, the 2021/22 and future year's Capital Programme and associated funding resources so that they can be applied to the schemes in the delivery of the Council's overall financial strategy.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

N/A

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

The Restart Employment Programme will cost £1.576m fully funded by income generated by the contract for delivery.

The capital scheme for the Bootle Strand Scheme will be funded via borrowing, with the ongoing revenue costs being met from income from the centre and this is included within the approved 3 year business plan.

(B) Capital Costs

The total capital cost of the schemes identified in this report is £1.923m funded by £0.778m in external grant, £0.350m from Section 106 monies and £0.795m in external borrowing that will be met from income receipts.

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets):

Sefton@Work will need to recruit additional fixed term staff to carry out the Restart contract. However, there is an implementation phase before the contract reaches full delivery levels. Staff currently funded under ESF will be protected by transferring them across to Restart as key milestones are met and caseload numbers expand. Delivery costs for the Restart programme will be fully covered by the contract and no additional resource such as match-funding will be required from the Council to operate Restart.

Legal Implications:

A contract has been received from G4S which has been fully assessed by the Legal team. Specific risks and mitigations have been captured in a risk management plan using corporate risk methodology.

Equality Implications:

The equality implications of the Restart Scheme are positive since it relieves hardship, promotes equal access to employment and removes barriers to progression for economically disadvantaged people. This proposal will improve the lives of people from

across Sefton who have been affected by COVID-19 and have lost their employment. This scheme specifically targets people over 18 years old who have been workless and claiming benefits such as Universal Credit for more than one year when they commence Restart.

Climate Emergency Implications:

The recommendations within this report will

Have a positive impact	Y
Have a neutral impact	Y
Have a negative impact	N
The Author has undertaken the Climate Emergency training for report authors	N

Delivery of Restart is judged to have the potential for a positive impact on climate change for the following reasons:

- We have budgets to reimburse clients travelling to see their employment advisers using public transport only – contributing to reduced car travel.
- We will be working with local employers to seek employment for clients. We will be particularly seeking out opportunities for employment within Sefton and within a ten-mile travel to work radius across the city region, thereby helping to reduce commuting distances.
- We will be producing travel to work plans for participants, promoting public transport by train and bus.
- We will be promoting understanding of the ecology & local environment by working with Green Sefton on an employment pathway for our participants
- We will be working with employers in a range of sectors but will be particularly targeting those opportunities for jobs in the Clean and Green sectors.

We are also required as part of the Restart contract terms to produce a Sustainable Development Policy statement which will include provisions related to:

- The disposal of contract waste
- Reducing energy consumption
- Promoting waste management including recycling
- Promoting green or public transport
- Promoting corporate social responsibility
- Commit to continuous improvement on sustainability for the project.
- During the scheme we will also seek opportunities with the contractor to minimise carbon, reduce waste (including Single Use Plastics) and request/gather regular

Agenda Item 10

information to form part of the reporting on actions taken.

The additional allocations of capital funding outlined in this report may be spent on projects that will have a high climate change impact as they could relate to new build, rebuild, refurbishment, retrofit and demolition proposals. Environmental consideration will be taken into account when the projects are designed and tendered – which will help to mitigate negative impacts.

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable:

The Restart scheme allows the Council to assist workless residents whose employment has been lost as a result of COVID-19 and who have found themselves workless for a period of 12 months or more and claiming welfare benefits.

The Strand provides essential amenities that are accessible for local people including the most vulnerable.

Facilitate confident and resilient communities:

Employment is a key indicator in improving resilience within our communities, and Restart will enable more people in Sefton to be supported with building back their confidence, employability and skills to re-enter the job market.

The Strand provides essential amenities that are accessible for local people and the football pitch will contribute to the health and wellbeing of Sefton residents.

Commission, broker and provide core services:

The Restart scheme allows the Council to work with those in our communities most at risk of longer-term exclusion and disadvantage by supporting residents into employment who may otherwise require interventions from core services such as health, housing and social care.

The scheme at Orrell Mount will provide services in line with the delivery of Sefton's Playing Pitch Strategy.

Place – leadership and influencer:

The Restart scheme will underline the Council's economic leadership role, particularly in relation to our relationships with businesses in recovery from COVID-19, in developing a better skilled and motivated local workforce and promoting inclusive growth.

The Strand is a key asset at the heart of Bootle critical to the town's physical, economic and social regeneration.

Drivers of change and reform:

The Council will help bring about real structural change for people coping with unemployment through the provision of attractive and high-quality, accessible

support. Restart will support people who need to prepare for re-entry into a changed labour market, supporting adults to make informed choices in their chosen careers.

Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity:

Restart reflects the requirement to achieve sustainable employment through a payment structure which recognises and rewards real progression into work and sustained earnings. This allows businesses to generate prosperity from recruiting our residents from this programme, where they will be well supported, motivated and prepared to add value in the workforce. Moving more of our residents into employment also has a positive impact on disposable incomes which will benefit our local business culture and town centres.

The continued success of The Strand is essential to maintain and increase its significant contribution to the local economy, including creating local employment and providing essential facilities required to help attract inward investment.

Greater income for social investment:

Sefton@Work will be engaging with a full range of employers including those engaged in social investment. The Council will therefore seek out opportunities for community based employment, thereby contributing towards the stability and viability of our social trading sector.

Cleaner Greener

There are numerous opportunities for Restart to positively influence sectors which have a direct and measurable impact on our environmental sustainability agenda and these jobs will be promoted to residents. There are specific requirements within the contract regulations for Restart which focus on carbon reduction.

All capital development proposals will be compliant with the Building Regulations and other Planning and Habitat regulations meaning Sefton builds cleaner and greener.

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services (FD.6447/21) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD.4648/21) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

(B) External Consultations

N/A

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Council meeting.

Agenda Item 10

Contact Officer:	Graham Hussey
Telephone Number:	0151 934 4100
Email Address:	Graham.Hussey@sefton.gov.uk

Appendices:

There are no appendices to this report

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1. Introduction/Background

- 1.1. This report seeks approval, following recommendation by Cabinet, for the inclusion of supplementary estimates for three schemes – two schemes in the Council's capital programme for 2021/22 and future years – and one within the Council's revenue budget 2021/22 with future years estimates to be included within the associated revenue budgets.

2. Delivery of the Restart Programme for Sefton

- 2.1. A report on the delivery of the Restart Programme for Sefton was presented to Cabinet on 24 June 2021.
- 2.2. Restart is the main employment support activity to be commissioned by the Department for Work and Pensions for the next five-year period, announced in the Plan for Jobs in July 2020. Sefton Council has been identified as one of the subcontractors to deliver these employment support services within the borough via Sefton@Work. The cost of delivering this service is estimated to be £1.576m in 2021/22 and this is anticipated to be fully funded via the scheme.
- 2.3. Council is therefore asked to approve a supplementary revenue estimate for £1.576m in 2021/22 fully funded from income from the Restart contract, for inclusion in the revenue budget 2021/22. Future years allocations will be included in the associated budget report.

3. Orrell Mount Football Pitch

- 3.1. Sefton last reviewed its playing pitch strategy (PPS) in 2019. Following this review, it was identified that there was an approximate shortage of 17 artificial playing pitches in the borough. The Orrell Mount site, formerly known as Silcocks playing fields, was identified as a potential site to deliver an additional playing pitch in line with the PPS.
- 3.2. An application to the Football Foundation (FF) was made in 2020 for a grant to support the scheme. In addition to the FF grant, Section 106 monies from the St Wilfrids site in the adjacent Litherland ward has been identified to act as match funding for the scheme.
- 3.3. The project will deliver a brand new 3G football pitch, floodlights and a modular changing room facility as well as improved access and parking. The facility will be managed by an external provider who will pay £25k per annum into a Sefton managed sinking fund to meet future repair, refurbishment and replacement costs.
- 3.4. The total capital cost of the project is £1,128,047. This is made up of £778,047 grant from the Football Foundation and £350,000 of Section 106 funding. Council is therefore requested to approve a supplementary capital estimate for this scheme for inclusion in the 2021/22 capital programme.

Agenda Item 10

4. Bootle Strand Shopping Centre Business Plan

- 4.1. A three-year Business Plan for the fiscal years 2021/22 to 2023/24 for the Strand Shopping Centre, Bootle was presented to Cabinet on 24 June 2021. As well as forecasts for each of these periods, the Business Plan includes an outline strategy and short-term action plans for the future of the asset.
- 4.2. The Business Plan contains capital costs of £0.795m (£0.640m in 2021/22, £0.115m in 2022/23 and £0.040m in 2023/24) required to maintain and improve the performance of the centre. This will be financed by borrowing and the associated repayments have been factored into the business plan projections and will be met from income receipts.
- 4.3. Council is therefore asked to approve a supplementary capital estimate for £0.795m, funded from borrowing, for inclusion in the capital programme 2021/22 to 2023/24.

Report to:	Cabinet Council	Date of Meeting:	27 May 2021 15 July 2021
Subject:	Honorary Freedom of the Borough - Aintree and Liverpool University NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust		
Report of:	Chief Legal and Democratic Officer	Wards Affected:	(All Wards);
Portfolio:	Health and Wellbeing		
Is this a Key Decision:	No	Included in Forward Plan:	No
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

Under Section 249(5) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council has the power to grant the Freedom of the Borough to a person or a service unit of distinction who have rendered eminent service to the Borough and this report sets out proposals for the Aintree and Liverpool University NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust to be granted the Honorary Freedom of the Borough.

Recommendation(s): That the Cabinet approves the recommendations and commends them to the Council for approval:

- (1) In accordance with Section 249 (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, this Council wishes to place on record its high appreciation of, and the debt of gratitude of the Borough to the Aintree and Liverpool University NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust and in the light of their hard work and dedication during the devastation of the Covid 19 Pandemic, the Council resolves that the Honorary Freedom of the Borough be conferred on Aintree and Liverpool University NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust and that it be granted the right, privilege, honour and distinction of attendance at all ceremonial occasions and be invited to attend at an Extra-ordinary Council meeting to be held on a date to be determined at Bootle Town Hall; and
- (2) the Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services be authorised to take all of the necessary actions associated with (1) above and arrange a civic reception for the Officers and Aintree and Liverpool University NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust and invited guests to take place at the rising of the Extra-ordinary Council meeting in Bootle Town Hall.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

Agenda Item 11

Aintree and Liverpool University NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust have served Sefton Council and its residents tirelessly throughout the pandemic with hard work and dedication putting themselves at risk in ensuring the safety of others.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

No alternative options have been considered.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

The cost would be in the region of £5,000.

(B) Capital Costs

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets): There are no additional resource implications to those identified in Section A above.
Legal Implications: Section 249 (5) of the Local Government Act 1972
Equality Implications: There are no equality implications.

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: N/A
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: Both Aintree and Liverpool University NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust have served the Community for many years. The past 16 months have illustrated how the health service during the Covid pandemic has facilitated confident and resilient communities.
Commission, broker and provide core services: N/A
Place – leadership and influencer: N/A
Drivers of change and reform: N/A
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: N/A
Greater income for social investment: N/A

Cleaner Greener: N/A

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services (FD6366/21) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD4567/21) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

(B) External Consultations

None

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Council meeting.

(Please delete as appropriate and remove this text)

Contact Officer:	Ruth Harrison
Telephone Number:	Tel: 0151 934 2042
Email Address:	ruth.harrison@sefton.gov.uk

Appendices:

There are no appendices to this report

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1. Introduction/Background

- 1.1 Under Section 249 (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council has the power to grant the Freedom of the Borough to a person or a service unit of distinction who have rendered eminent service to the Borough and it is proposed that the Aintree and Liverpool University NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust be granted the Honorary Freedom of the Borough.
- 1.2 The conferring of the Freedom of the Borough upon any individual or service unit is the highest honour the Council can bestow and when the Freedom of the Borough is granted to a service unit, they are given the right, privilege, honour and distinction of marching through the streets of the Borough on all ceremonial occasions with colours flying, bands playing, drums beating and bayonets fixed.

Agenda Item 11

1.3 The scrolls of Honorary Freemen and organisations awarded Freedom of Entry to the Borough are displayed in both the Mayors Parlours at the Town Hall, Bootle and the Town Hall, Southport. Honorary Freemen may attend and take part in such civic receptions and functions to which all Members of the Council are invited. However, Freemen shall not have the right, as such, to attend meetings of the Council or a Committee, or to receive any such allowances or payments to which Councillors are entitled.

1.4 Past recipients of the Freedom of the Borough have been:

- 2004 - Donald “Ginger” McCain
- 2006 - James Carragher

The Freedom of the Borough (Freedom of Entry) has also been bestowed on the following Service Units:

- 1982 - No. 238 (Sefton) Squadron, 156 Regiment, Royal Corps of Transport, which was subsequently succeeded by No. 238 (Sefton) Squadron, 156 (North West) Transport Regiment, Royal Logistic Corps (Volunteers) in 2001
- 2011 - RAF Woodvale

The Council agreed on 17 November 2016 that the Honorary Freedom of the Borough be conferred on HMS Mersey at an Extra-ordinary Council meeting to be held on a date to be determined at Bootle Town Hall.

- 2017 – Duke of Lancaster’s Regiment

2. Aintree and Liverpool University NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust – Covid 19 Pandemic

2.1 Aintree and Liverpool University NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust have been serving Sefton’s residents for many years. The Health Service is thought of by most as the jewel in the crown of Britain.

2.2 It is known that cases of Covid 19 emerged in Britain around January 2020 and it is thought that it had probably emerged sooner. Covid 19 soon became a pandemic during March 2020 when cases started to increase as the disease mutated and spread quickly. At that time very little was known about the disease only that, in many cases it was fatal and so our NHS Services had to learn at pace and make life changing decisions based on the little knowledge that was known.

2.3 Aintree and Liverpool University NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust have served Sefton Council and its residents tirelessly throughout the pandemic with hard work and dedication putting themselves at risk in ensuring the safety of others. That selflessness and dedication can not be underestimated which is why the Council is recommending that the Honorary Freedom of the Borough be conferred on Aintree and Liverpool University NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust.

3. Conferment of Freedom of the Borough

- 3.1 In order to confer the Freedom of the Borough upon an individual or service the Council would need to pass a resolution by not less than two-thirds of the Members voting thereon at a meeting of the Council specially convened for the purpose, where notice of the object of the meeting has been given.
- 3.2 If the Council was minded to grant the Freedom of the Borough to Aintree and Liverpool University NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust, the Chief Executives of both Trusts would be advised and arrangements made for the Freedom to be bestowed upon the NHS Trusts on a date to be determined in 2021/22.
- 3.3 A scroll bestowing the honour would need to be ordered and produced, and arrangements made for a civic reception for the Aintree and Liverpool University NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust, and invited guests to take place at the rising of the Extraordinary Council. The costs of the scroll and reception could be financed from the Mayoral Hospitality budget provision.

This page is intentionally left blank

Report to:	Council	Date of Meeting:	Thursday 15 July 2021
Subject:	Appointments to the Roles of Independent Person and Independent Remuneration Panel Member and Co-opted Members of Audit and Governance Sub-Committees		
Report of:	Chief Legal and Democratic Officer	Wards Affected:	(All Wards);
Portfolio:	Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services		
Is this a Key Decision:	No	Included in Forward Plan:	No
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

To provide details of the Proposed Appointment of Independent Persons and Independent Remuneration Panel Members.

Recommendation(s): That the Council approves

- (1) the appointments to the roles of Independent Remuneration Panel Member and Independent Person as set out in paragraphs 2.5 and 3.2, to the report be approved; and
- (2) the appointment of Parish Councillor Judith Daley, Sefton and Lunt Villages Parish Council, Parish Councillor Peter Gill, Aintree Village Parish Council Town Councillor Jonathan Desmond, Maghull Town Council and Parish Councillor Ron Baker, Melling Parish Council to the position of co-opted member of the Audit and Governance Sub-Committees, as detailed in paragraphs 1.3 to 1.5 to the report be approved.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

To comply with the requirements of the Council's Constitution.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

None

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

None

Agenda Item 12

(B) Capital Costs

None

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets):	
None	
Legal Implications:	
This paper will ensure that the Council complies with appropriate legislation	
Equality Implications:	
There are no equality implications.	
Climate Emergency Implications:	
The recommendations within this report will	
Have a positive impact	N
Have a neutral impact	N
Have a negative impact	N
The Author has undertaken the Climate Emergency training for report authors	Y

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: N/A
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: N/A
Commission, broker and provide core services: N/A
Place – leadership and influencer: The proposals will ensure that the appointments are made in accordance with the Council Constitution
Drivers of change and reform: N/A
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: N/A
Greater income for social investment: N/A
Cleaner Greener: N/A

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

Agenda Item 12

The Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services (FD.6448/21.....) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD.4649/21.....) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

Immediately following the Council meeting.

Contact Officer:	Ruth Harrison
Telephone Number:	Tel: 0151 934 2042
Email Address:	ruth.harrison@sefton.gov.uk

Appendices:

There are no appendices to this report

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

Agenda Item 12

1. Introduction/Background

- 1.1 The Council is required to appoint Independent Persons to the Independent Remuneration Panel whereby a Panel of at least 3 Independent Members is required to be formed in order that the Scheme of Members Allowances and other associated issues in that respect maybe considered, as detailed in paragraph 2 to the report.
- 1.2 The Council is also required to appoint Independent Persons to serve on the Councils Audit and Governance Hearings Sub-Committee, Appeals Committee and its Employment Procedure Committee, as detailed in paragraph 3 to the report.
- 1.3 The Council also has a responsibility to hear complaints that have been made relating to the conduct of a Parish Councillor. If any complaints are submitted in respect of the conduct of any Parish Councillor in the Borough, one of the co-opted Parish Councillors from the nominated panel will be selected to form part of the 3 Member Panel on Audit and Governance Sub-Committees. The Council has therefore approached each Parish Council for one nomination to serve as a Member on the Audit and Governance Sub Committees.
- 1.4 A number of responses have been received from Parish/Town Councils and the following nominations have been made:
 - Parish Councillor Judith Daley – Sefton and Lunt Villages PC
 - Parish Councillor Peter Gill – Aintree Village PC
 - Town Councillor Jonathan Desmond – Maghull TC
 - Parish Councillor Ron Baker – Melling PC
- 1.5 It is recommended that the above Parish/Town Councillors be appointed as co-opted members of Audit and Governance Sub-Committees to consider complaints about the conduct of Parish/Town Councillors within Sefton.

2.0 Appointment of Members to serve on the Independent Remuneration Panel

- 2.1 The 1989 Local Government and Housing Act requires local authorities to establish and maintain a Scheme for Members' Allowances. The basic provisions of the Act have been fleshed out in subsequent Regulations. The 1991 Regulations provide that it is for each local authority to decide its Scheme and the amounts to be paid under that Scheme.
- 2.2 The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 required Councils to establish and maintain an Independent Remuneration Panel or Members' Allowances Panel. The purpose of the Panel is to make recommendations to the authority about the allowances to be paid to elected Members. Local authorities must have regard to this advice when agreeing a Scheme of Allowances.
- 2.3 The Regulations set out that a Members' Allowances Scheme can provide for the

following allowances to be payable to elected Members of local authorities:

- Basic Allowance
- Special Responsibility Allowance
- Childcare and Dependent Carers' Allowance
- Travel and Subsistence Allowance.

2.4 Sefton Council currently has two members appointed to its Independent Remuneration Panel. The minimum number of Members required to form a panel is three and so there is a requirement to appoint to the position in order that a panel can be formed as and when necessary.

2.5 The Democratic Services Manager and Senior Democratic Services Officer interviewed 6 candidates, 4 of whom have been appointed subject to references and Council approval:

- Isobel McDonald Davies
- Tony Hussey
- Joanne Hadley
- Susan Murphy

2.6 Appointing four Members to the Panel will allow for an element of flexibility should there be an issue with attendance giving greater reassurance that a Panel could be formed when required.

3.0 Appointment of Members to serve as an Independent Person (Standards Issues)

3.1 The Council currently has one appointed Independent Person which doesn't provide flexibility in the system when or if a Meeting was required to be called and the only appointed person couldn't attend. There is a need to appoint more persons to the position.

3.1 An Independent Person is a statutory position which is designed to provide a further level of independence and objectivity to corporate governance issues. The Independent Person will work closely with the Monitoring Officer and the Council's Audit and Governance Hearing Sub-Committee. The Independent Person will also be involved in the Council's Appeals Committee and Employment Procedure Committee should the need arise to consider disciplinary action and or dismissal of a statutory officer.

3.2 The Democratic Services Manager and Senior Democratic Services Officer interviewed 7 candidates, 3 of whom have been appointed subject to references and Council approval:

- Isobel McDonald Davies
- Joanne Hadley; and
- Andrew Pearson

Agenda Item 12

- 3.3 The Council is required to appoint Independent Persons to the Independent Remuneration Panel and Independent Persons to assist with the Councils Standards regime.

COUNCIL – 15 JULY 2021

REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

COUNCIL CONSTITUTION – RULE 46 (WAIVING CALL-IN) PROVISIONS

I wish to report that:

1. Cabinet Levelling Up Funding Bid Submissions for June 2021

The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) gave his consent, under Rule 46 (Waiving Call-In) of the Access to Information Procedure Rules set out in the Council's Constitution. The report was in relation to levelling up funding bid submissions for June 2021 and it was urgent and not subject to call-in on the basis that the decision could not be reasonably deferred because approval needs to be sought prior to the first submission date of 18 June 2021.

The Cabinet considered the report of the Executive Director (Place) in relation to the current position of the Levelling Up funding opportunity available to the Council and the proposal to submit up to two bids on or before the submission date of 18th June 2021, and potentially submitting a total of up to three bids to the fund.

Decision Made: That:

- (1) the submission of up to two Levelling Up funding bids to Government on or before 18th June 2021, in accordance with the given bid process, and up to three bids in total from Sefton (given the likely announcement of future bidding rounds), be agreed;
- (2) it be noted that any funded projects may require Cabinet and Council approval if successful, and would be presented for review and approval if successful and at the appropriate time, in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules;
- (3) the Executive Director (Place), in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Skills be granted delegated authority to finalise the bid submissions;
- (4) it be noted that the proposal was a Key Decision but had not been included in the Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions. Consequently, the Leader of the Council and the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) had been consulted under Rule 27 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules of the Constitution, to the decision being made by Cabinet as a matter of urgency on the basis that it was impracticable to defer the decision until the commencement of the next Forward Plan because approval needs to be sought prior to the first bid submission date of 18 June 2021; and
- (5) it be noted that the Leader of the Council and the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) had given consent under Rule

Agenda Item 14

46 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules for this decision to be treated as urgent and not subject to "call in" on the basis that it cannot be reasonably deferred because approval needs to be sought prior to the first submission date of 18 June 2021.

Reasons for the Decisions

The Levelling Up bid opportunity may offer a route to funding for capital projects, which the recommendations propose to pursue given the importance of such projects to economic recovery in the borough. The submission of up to two bids on 18th June 2021, and of up to three bids in total, reflects the ongoing work on the opportunities referenced herein, and on other potential projects, to finalise project details and bid documentation. The recommendations in respect of timescales are due to the given deadline for bid submission, and the importance of pace of development and delivery to economic recovery and the impacts and benefits of such projects.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:

The option of submitting bids at a later date may remain, but there is a risk of uncertainty on future rounds, criteria and timescales which prompts the recommended submission on 18th June 2021. There is a risk in working at such pace in respect of delivering a quality bid submission, but this will be mitigated through the quality and quantity of resource necessary to deliver, alongside the best practice and lessons learned from such processes as the Southport Town Deal.

The option of not submitting at all was considered and rejected, given the importance of the projects proposed to economic recovery, and the lack of funding currently available to deliver all elements of Sefton's economic recovery strategy and action plan.

2. CABINET MEMBER – REGULATORY, COMPLIANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES – 6 JULY 2021

the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regulation, Compliance and Corporate Services) gave her consent, under Rule 46 (Waiving Call-In) of the Access to Information Procedure Rules set out in the Council's Constitution. The report was in relation to Magdalen House, Trinity Road Bootle – Service of Break Notice to Terminate 3rd and 4th Floor Leases and it was urgent and not subject to call-in on the basis that the decision could not be reasonably deferred because The Notices to implement the Break Clauses have to be served and received by the Landlords of Magdalen House on or before the 11th July 2021 for them to comply with the contractual terms of the Leases. Failure to serve the Notices on time will result in the Council being liable for the rent and all outgoings associated with the 3rd and 4th floors of Magdalen House for a further 5 years. The total cost savings per annum for relinquishing the Leases is in the region of £195,000 per floor, per annum.

If call in was to apply, by the time the call in period has ended it would be too late to serve the Notices and the opportunity to make the savings will have been lost.

A decision by Cabinet Member - Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services has been published: Magdalen House, Trinity Road Bootle - Service of Break Notices to Terminate 3rd and 4th Floor Leases

Decision:

- 1) the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer be authorised to serve Notices to implement the Break Clauses contained in the Leases for the 3rd and 4th Floors of Magdalen House dated 12th January 2007 and undertake all associated work in connection with the same;
- 2) should there be a short-term requirement for office accommodation to meet the Council's requirements, terms and conditions be agreed with the Landlord for a short-term lease of the 3rd floor of Magdalen House; and
- 3) it be noted that the Leader of the Council and the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services) had given their consent under Rule 46 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules for this decision to be treated as urgent and not subject to "call in" on the basis that it cannot be reasonably deferred because If call in was to apply, by the time the call in period has ended it would be too late to serve the Notices and the opportunity to make the savings detailed in Appendix 1, will have been lost.

Reasons for the Decision:

To make cost savings from occupying a reduced amount of space within Magdalen House but to also ensure that the Council's accommodation requirements are met.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:

The Council can continue to occupy the 3rd and 4th floors of Magdalen House under the terms of the Leases and not implement the Break Clauses. The Council would then continue to pay rent and all associated costs with occupying the premises for a further five years.

This page is intentionally left blank

Council Motion

15 July 2021

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Dave Irving

SECONDED BY: Councillor Maria Bennett

TITLE: Additional Resources for Enforcement.

Over the last five years' visitor pressure on Sefton's attractive coast line has increased in such large numbers that the areas at Crosby, Blundell Sands, Ainsdale and especially Formby have been over whelmed by visitors. In Formby the majority of visitors arrive by car, car parks become full early on so visitors park in residential areas completely ignoring yellow line restrictions. The roads become impassable and Sefton Councils Civil Enforcement Officers are unable to deal with the sheer numbers of illegally parked vehicles with many motorists not getting fined for their complete disregard to traffic regulations which are clearly marked on roads.

The most recent case to prove this point of vehicle numbers was Sefton Council's green bin collection on May Bank Holiday Monday when collection was abandoned as the vehicle was unable to maneuver through the densely illegally parked vehicles in the area of Harington Ward, Formby and was rescheduled several days later at an extra cost to Sefton Council's collection. The lack of enforcement has now led to a belief by visitors that the same sort of tolerance will be accepted in the nature reserve and beach. This has resulted in large numbers of people attending 'Raves', lighting Barbecues on the beaches, in the Pine Woods and taking alcohol with them. All of these restrictions are prohibited and clearly marked as you enter the area. Due to the fact that this area has been defined as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSS.I)

Anti-social behavior activities have now increased to such a level that we have had two separate stabbing incidents on the beach, one of which resulted in a male running amok with a Samurai Sword and almost murdered two people. The Police who are over stretched throughout Merseyside have had to deploy extra patrols to this area and have issued over a hundred fines, closed the beach area for two days in the last month as well as removing disposable barbecue's and alcohol off visitors. Sefton Councils over worked C.E.Os did remarkably well issuing 121 tickets in Formby over two days at the recent Bank Holiday in May. Taking into account that they did not take a refreshment break but worked right through they should be praised for the diligence. It is clearly obvious that there is insufficient enforcement being put into the traffic parking problem that we have in Sefton. Enough is enough and I am asking this council to support my motion of requesting for additional funds to resource the service adequately in order that there is capacity to tackle the issues of illegal parking throughout the Borough and more specifically near to Sefton Coast. This action alone will undoubtedly convey the message to visitors that Sefton Council will not tolerate bad behavior either by drivers or organized groups who cause this anti-social behavior to our wonderful coast line. If the the Motion is agreed then it be referred to the Cabinet for further consideration

Agenda Item 15

Council Motion.

That this council be requested to refer the matter of additional resources for additional enforcement to the Cabinet for consideration.

Cllr Dave Irving/Cllr Maria Bennet

Harington/Ravenmeols Ward

Council Motion

15 July 2021

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Dave Irving

SECONDED BY: Councillor Maria Bennett

**TITLE: Sefton Council to Request Secretary of State
 For Permission to Increase Penalty Charge Notices**

Over the last five years there has been a complete disregard by motorists visiting the Sefton Coast in the parking of their vehicles on clearly marked single and double yellow lines as well as grass verges in residential areas. Drivers refuse to pay reasonable car parking charges thinking they can get away without receiving a parking ticket due to the many vehicles illegally parked. At a recent May Bank Holiday 2021, over two days Sefton Council issued in one small area of Sefton 121 penalty charge notices. The Civil Enforcement Officers who issued them were overwhelmed by the sheer numbers of illegally parked vehicles and were unable to issue more due to their time on duty. The charge of a parking ticket is at present at its maximum level allowed by Government, £70.00 charge but £35.00 if paid within 28 Days. This amount for parking fines the Government has imposed on local councils is simply not enough to persuade drivers to stop this unwarranted illegal parking in residential areas, which has caused many residents to resent visitors to their area.

Council Motion

This Council agrees to write to the Secretary of State in requesting him to allow Sefton Council to Increase the penalty charge in their area. By granting this request it is hoped that the continued abuse of traffic regulations by many motorists who illegally park vehicles in restricted areas of Sefton M.B.C. will force them to be more sensible in the way they park vehicles in the future.

Cllr Dave Irving/Cllr Maria Bennet

Harington/Ravenmeols Ward

This page is intentionally left blank

COUNCIL MOTION

15 JULY 2021

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Pugh

SECONDED BY: Councillor Shaw

CYCLE LANES

Recognising the concerns voiced by the public about planned cycle lanes in Southport, this Council will impose a moratorium on the plans to allow for sensible consideration of said plans by a cross-party working party who scrutinising all currently available evidence and feedback shall report back to elected members prior to any final decision being taken.

This page is intentionally left blank

SEFTON LABOUR GROUP

NOTICE OF MOTION

TO BE PUT TO THE COUNCIL MEETING ON 15 JULY 2021

Moved by: Councillor Myers

Seconded by: Councillor Doyle

Hands Off Southport and Ainsdale - A response to the Boundary Commission

The Boundary Commission has admitted that the radical changes it has proposed for Southport constituency are not justified in terms of the electorate.

Instead, it tries to explain them by claiming they will "...better respect both local ties and the boundaries of existing constituencies...".

They intend to cleave away Ainsdale, an area with very close ties to Southport, and replace it with various bits of the current South Ribble constituency which simply do not have anywhere near the same connection to our town. To add a further layer of confusion, they also lie under another council's authority.

As two councillors elected in Southport, one of whom lives in Ainsdale, we say that the Commission's claim is hogwash and an insult to the intelligence of local residents and representatives.

Ainsdale is a close and much-loved part of the local community here. Southport Town boundary actually lies in Ainsdale. It's a coastal community, as is Southport. It's one of our treasured villages.

Administratively, it's been linked with Birkdale, another of our lovely villages, since 1894 and both then joined Southport as a county borough in 1912. It is part of us.

As nice as they are, three of the four areas the Boundary Commission intends to replace Ainsdale with are quite separate and distinct from our town here.

There is no justification for trying to claim that wards such as Rufford, Hesketh with Beconsall or Tarleton have anything like the local ties to Southport that Ainsdale does. Only North Meols (Banks) comes remotely close to being justified on these terms.

Let us be clear, these changes do not better respect local ties - they sever them.

Ainsdale must remain part of Southport constituency or it is painfully obvious that both are being sacrificed on the altar of expediency by the Boundary Commission. An integral part of us should not be torn away simply because it makes life easier for others.

We move that Sefton Council rejects in the strongest possible terms the Boundary Commission's plan to remove Ainsdale from Southport constituency. Also, that it also writes to the Commission making clear our opposition as outlined above and that it asks the Commission to explain exactly how it comes to believe that the wards it is proposing to introduce at Ainsdale's expense have stronger ties to Southport.

This page is intentionally left blank