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Sefton Council



MEETING: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (REGENERATION AND SKILLS)

DATE: 4th July 2017

TIME: 6.30 pm

VENUE: Town Hall, Bootle

Member

Councillor
Cllr John Sayers (Chair)
Cllr Michael O'Brien (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Harry Bliss
Cllr Clare Louise Carragher
Cllr Daniel Terence Lewis
Cllr David Pullin
Cllr Michael Roche
Cllr Frederick Weavers
Cllr Veronica Webster
Cllr Bill Welsh

Substitute

Councillor
Cllr Janet Grace
Cllr Paula Murphy
Cllr Terry Jones
Cllr Anne Thompson
Cllr Anthony Carr
Cllr Pat Keith
Cllr Steve McGinnity
Cllr Tony Dawson
Cllr Susan Bradshaw
Cllr Simon Shaw

COMMITTEE OFFICER: Ruth Harrison Senior Democratic Services Officer
Telephone: 0151 934 2042
Fax:
E-mail: ruth.harrison@sefton.gov.uk

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A G E N D A

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

Members are requested to give notice of any disclosable pecuniary interest, which is not already included in their Register of Members' Interests and the nature of that interest, relating to any item on the agenda in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct, before leaving the meeting room during the discussion on that particular item.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pages 3 - 12)

Minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2017

4. Verbal Update - United Utilities - Increase In Surface Water Charges to Schools

The Chair, Councillor Sayers to update the Committee.

5. Peer Review Working Group - Final Report (Pages 13 - 32)

Report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance

6. Cabinet Member Reports (Pages 33 - 80)

Report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance

7. Work Programme - Key Decision Forward Plan (Pages 81 - 110)

Report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance

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

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (REGENERATION AND SKILLS)

MEETING HELD AT THE COMMITTEE ROOM, TOWN HALL, BOOTLE
ON TUESDAY 14TH MARCH, 2017

Overview
& Scrutiny

PRESENT: Councillor Sayers (in the Chair)

Councillors Bliss, Dan T. Lewis, Michael O'Brien,
Pullin, Roche, Weavers, Webster and Bill Welsh



39. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Carragher and the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Skills, Councillor Atkinson.

40. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest were received.

41. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) held on 24 January 2017 be confirmed as a correct record.

42. MATTER ARISING FROM THE MINUTES - OFWAT - INCREASE IN SURFACE WATER CHARGES

In relation to Minute No. 34, OFWAT – Increase in Surface Water Charges, the Senior Democratic Services Officer circulated two letters received from OFWAT and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA).

The Senior Democratic Services Officer reported that OFWAT understood that United Utilities were reviewing its charges to obtain a Schools solution and that they await instruction from United Utilities.

It was also reported that DEFRA had declined the invitation to attend a future Meeting of the Committee however representatives from DEFRA would welcome a small number of Officers/Members to attend its office in London to discuss the matter further.

The Senior Democratic Services Officer reported that Sefton Council had provided support to Sefton Schools in drafting a template letter for teachers and parents to send to the Customer Challenge Group at United Utilities and DEFRA opposing the charging scheme to Schools for the drainage of surface water.

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Members of the Committee agreed to wait and understand the outcome of the letters of objection to both United Utilities and DEFRA before accepting the invitation to attend the office of DEFRA, London.

43. UPDATE ON THE CARBON FOOTPRINT AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF THE BOROUGH AND THE WAY IT ALIGNED TO THE 20/30 VISION

The Committee considered a report of the Head of Corporate Resources in relation to the alignment of Sefton's carbon footprint and energy efficiency measures with the 2030 Vision.

It was reported that Sefton's Carbon footprint was calculated by the amount of carbon dioxide CO₂ emitted as a result of activities within the borough. It was further reported that it was measured on the basis of the environmental impact that carbon producing activities have on the environment. There are various ways of measuring, the most commonly measure used by local authorities to measure their CO₂ emissions is the UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics produced by the Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC) – which provide a reliable and consistent measure of CO₂ emissions going back to 2005.

The report detailed the following key points in respect of Sefton's carbon foot print and highlighted how those key points would be considered in conjunction with Sefton's 2030 Vision:

- In 2014 Industry and Commercial gas use emissions rose significantly (Sefton had one of the largest rises nationally).
For businesses to be sustainable and resilient (to climate change and economic pressures) assisting businesses to work in new ways and investing in making their buildings and plant energy efficient as well as investing in energy generation would be advisable to align with the Vision.
- For the domestic sector, gas use is the most significant contributor to emissions (likely to be used for space and water heating).
Assisting households to insulate their homes, invest in energy efficient forms of space and water heating, which could include heat networks and renewable technologies, brings not only carbon footprint benefits, but also reduces fuel poverty and could improve health issues.
- All electricity users will benefit from the “decarbonisation” of the electricity grid, with a greater use of renewable energy and move away from coal powered generation nationally.
Support for renewable technology industries, considering the purchase of “green” energy or investment in self generation could also contribute to a reduced carbon footprint and deliver more local jobs as well as support the Vision.
- Transport CO₂ emissions have only reduced slightly since 2010.
The UK has targets to reduce CO₂ levels, although Sefton has not increased emissions per head, we should continue to ensure

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carbon reduction and climate change remains a corporate priority, expressed in the vision as Sefton having “cutting edge green solutions”. Sefton Council should continue to raise awareness through education and initiatives to champion and provide community leadership as our role as long term stewards of Sefton to deliver the 2030 Vision and beyond.

- CO2 emissions per head had remained relatively stable since 2009.

The report detailed the following energy and environmental management measures being taken in relation to the following activities:

- Procurement of energy and water and contract management
- Energy efficiency projects
- Power generation (Renewables)
- Delivery of Home Energy Conservation Act requirements
- Sustainable Energy Action Plan
- Stewardship of the education and schools support

The report referred to the eight key themes within the Sefton 2030 Vision, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, and more specifically referred to the following three of the eight themes that aim to improve Sefton’s Carbon footprint/energy efficiency:

- Resilient People and Places “Sefton is a place where businesses, buildings, transport, the environment and housing are sustainable and resilient in 2030.”
- Image and Environment “It sets the bar in cutting edge green solutions, integrating renewable energy, housing and attractions in a way that protect local nature and wildlife.”
- Accessible and Linked “An eco-friendly borough, travel in Sefton is green, safe and affordable.”

Members of the Committee raised the following questions and observations:

- Members raised concerns regarding the rise of gas use emissions during 2014.
- Members highlighted that the consequence of the expansion of the Port, Liverpool 2 would result in an increase of carbon emissions.
- The approach to the management of the Council’s energy contracts that had yielded a cashable saving of £2.1M was referred to and Members agreed that Invest to save was the future focus to take.
Response: The team were investigating other ways of using resources within the Department along with identifying external funding for a number of invest to save projects.
- Reference to zero carbon houses was made and more specifically how that could assist individuals out of fuel poverty.
- Members requested more information regarding solar panel roof tops and if they were encouraged on new builds.

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Response: Solar Panels may not be suitable for all new builds. The Council would always encourage and promote solar panel roof tops where appropriate. If the build is not South facing then the solar panelling will not work.

- What is the definition of fuel poverty?

Response: A household that spends more than 20% of its disposable income on heating the house.

- Members highlighted the simple efficiencies that could be made in Council and School buildings such as lighting sensors in rooms, heating controls, hand driers, toilet flush, it was accepted that there would be a short term cost but with a longer term benefit.

Response: The Council conduct ongoing building surveys and there is an engagements Officer who liaises with Schools on such matters.

- United Utilities charge Schools the amounts for the drainage of surface water, can or do schools harvest their surface water?

Response: An Officer of the Council, Mr Jonathan Williams does look at Schools to identify those suitable for the harvesting of surface water to reduce charges.

- A Member of the Committee referred to a business case he was compiling for an energy lagoon like that in Swansea which would reduce the cost of energy.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

44. NOT IN EDUCATION EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING (NEETS) WORKING GROUP - IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Investment and Employment in relation to the implementation of recommendations of the Not in Employment or Training (NEETS) Working Group.

The Head of Investment and Employment reported on the following progress in relation to NEETs:

- Schools continued to be under a statutory duty to provide universal Careers Education and Information Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) service to all students. The service should be both impartial and independent i.e. not delivered by school staff, though a teacher may co-ordinate activities.
- Sefton Council commissioned a full service contract to track the NEET cohort and those at risk of NEET, through an annual Activity Survey and a continuous monitoring system that embraces all sources and destinations for 16-18 year olds (18-25 year old for those with Special Educational Needs)

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- Sefton Council also commissioned an Information Advice and Guidance service for NEETs with a view to maximising their participation and reducing the NEET rate, which involved close working relationships with Youth Offender Team, Care Providers, Health services, Troubled Families and others who have clients in common.
- The Council is a founding partner of the Sefton Education Business Partnership, its purpose being to develop school/industry links and to prepare young people for the world of work by engaging employers and motivating students.

The Head of Inward Investment and Employment reported that the situation for young people post-16 had changed considerably in the four years since the then Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Environmental Services) agreed the NEETs Working Group Final Report. The following changes were reported:-

- The Raising the Participation Age (RPA) legislation had been completely implemented, and since 2015, all 16-18 year olds must be in education training or in employment with training.
- The academization of schools had moved the fulcrum of relations between the schools and the Council from legal oversight and educational improvement to provision of back-office services and pathway planning.
- The Area Review of Further Education published in 2016 had authorised the merger by 2018 of Hugh Baird College, South Sefton Sixth Form College, Southport College and King George V College, in a new “Sefton College”. The new college would acquire and re-purpose its estates, and develop specialisations linked to the needs of the city region economy.
- The government had imposed a funding obligation on training providers that learners with a grade D in Maths and English must continue to study those subjects in their post-GCSE programme, in effect generating an extra volume of resits and drop out in Further Education.
- For independent training providers, the impact of the Maths/English requirement on achievement rates had come on top of difficult trading conditions, leading to poor Ofsted scores, cash flow issues, and in several cases, closure and loss of provision for 16-18 year olds in Sefton.

The Head on Inward Investment and Employment reported that the pattern of provision and progression were very different for the young people of today. The following impacts of the structural, organisational and curricular changes were captured in the headline performance measures reported to government as follows:

- The current situation was that the 2016 Participation Rate for Sefton of 92.8% was higher than the rate of 90.8% for the North West and

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that for England which was 91.3% however the rate for Sefton had fallen from the rate achieved in 2015.

- For 16 and 17 year olds (the 18 year old rate no longer requiring to be reported nationally), Sefton's NEET rate was 3.9% in 2016. This is higher than the rate for the North West (3.2%) and for England (2.7%).
- The most up-to-date NEET data shows that the NEET rate for Sefton had increased since September 2016, and was at a higher rate than 12 months previously.

Other impacts relating to learners' experiences of the educational and skills system were reported as:

- Where providers had withdrawn (e.g. Oakmere, Shaw Trust), students in PRUs or Impact find alternative provision less attractive or accessible. Conversely, colleges regard this cohort as not ready to progress, and the drop-out rate has increased for those who do make the transition.
- The English/Maths requirement deters progression from schools to FE, generates high levels of re-sits, which do not improve grades, and lead to higher drop-out rates and learner frustration. In addition, lower achievement rates in English & Maths damage the formula funding on which Colleges rely and risk provider contraction.
- Some SEND learners with Education & Health Care Plans cannot find a local provider, and all schools have struggled to supply information on SEND students to training providers in a timely manner.

It was further reported that the tracking systems in place facilitate the monitoring and where possible anticipate trends in progression. All the key organisations (primary and secondary school heads, education/families/care authorities, colleges, training providers, labour market intermediaries and employment) were reported as being represented on the Sefton Education Partnership Board.

Members of the Committee raised the following questions and observations:

Members referred to the Apprentice Levy and asked if the Council's Levy income could be ring fenced for young people who are NEET?

Response: Apprentices have to be 16+ and in employment to access an Apprenticeship, with highest rates of training subsidy for 16-18 year olds. Therefore it is desirable that the Council recruit young people to fill vacancies and provide appropriate training. The Council's provider framework is currently being renewed, to support an Apprenticeship Programme recruiting about 100 people per year. The Council takes about 25 p.a. into permanent employment, so offers opportunities both for employment and for work experience.

Members requested clarification on the way in which the tracking system worked and the organisational accountabilities.

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Response: The tracking of young people at 16 is outsourced entirely to our IAG contractor, currently Career Connect. They undertake an Activity Survey of all 16-18 year olds in school in September each year providing a baseline against which to measure progress. Students are tracked by a variety of means (mainly telephone and email) for the two years to their 18th birthday. Additional support is provided to those students deemed to be at risk of NEET (RONI). The contract with Career Connect runs until March 2018, so the relevant Cabinet Member for Regeneration & Skills, Councillor Atkinson has authorised a review of current performance and how the service needs to be reshaped to meet modern needs.

Members were curious to understand how the tracking system worked with seasonal/part time employees who also are in receipt of Job Seekers Allowance.

Response: The question will be forwarded to Career Connect and a response will be forwarded to Members when received.

Do the Council encourage Vocational Colleges to come to Sefton? I believe there is a Vocational College in Southport that has been successful.

Response: The Vocational College is a commercial training provider rather than a type of provision. The Council is not obliged to manage the commercial training market, but we track trends in provision and progression and in particular the departure of established providers which inhibit progress for young people, as referred to in the O&S report. Where a gap has been identified, we make representations to the Educational Funding Agency for additional support.

Members of the Committee referred to the matter of students who had not achieved GCSE Grade C or above in Math or English and the government stipulating that those students must continue to study those subjects in their post-GCSE programme, in effect generating an extra volume of resists and drop-outs in Further Education. Members agreed that the stipulation government were imposing on training providers had created a stumbling block.

Members requested how Care Leavers were supported in the process?

Response: The question will be forwarded to Career Connect and a response will be forwarded to Members when received.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

45. ACTION PLAN FOR EMPLOYMENT

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Inward Investment and Employment in relation to the implementation of recommendations contained in the Final Report of the Employment Development Working Group.

It was reported that the former Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Environmental Services had developed an Action Plan for each of the recommendations detailing action and progress made against each of

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them, the newly appointed Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Skills had adopted the same process, as set out in the report.

The Head of Inward Investment and Employment reported that the employment landscape was constantly evolving and that there could be some difficulties in restricting reporting to the format of the recommendations and so the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Skills had summarised activity across her portfolio whilst also identifying initiatives undertaken with other portfolio holders regarding employment.

Members of the Committee congratulated Sefton@work on achieving the Cabinet Office Customer Service Excellence Award.

RESOLVED: That:

- (1) the report be noted; and
- (2) the Committee extend its congratulations to Sefton@work on achieving the Cabinet Office Customer Service Excellence Award.

46. PEER REVIEW WORKING GROUP - FINAL REPORT

RESOLVED:

That the Peer Review Working Group – Final Report, be deferred until the next Meeting the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills).

47. CABINET MEMBER REPORTS

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance that included the most recent report from the following Cabinet Members:-

- Cabinet Member – Communities and Housing;
- Cabinet Member – Health and Wellbeing (parks element only);
- Cabinet Member – Locality Services;
- Cabinet Member – Regeneration and Skills; and
- Cabinet Member – Planning and Building Control

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet Member update reports be accepted.

48. KEY DECISION FORWARD PLAN - 1 APRIL - 31 JULY 2017

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance in relation to the Committee's programme of work. A number of Key Decisions within the latest Key Decision Forward Plan fell under the remit of this Committee and Members were reminded of their right to pre-scrutinise such items.

The Senior Democratic Services Officer, Mrs Ruth Harrison, referred Members to Appendix B to the report, which detailed the programme of work for the Committee for the Municipal Year 2016/17. It was reported that whilst the majority of work within the work programme had been completed there were some outstanding reports that would be carried forward to the new Municipal Year 2017/18.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Committee notes items for pre-scrutiny from the Key Decision Forward Plan for period 1 April to 31 July 2017;
- (2) the Committee notes the progress of the Peer Review Working Group;
- (3) the Committee notes the progress of the Parks and Greenspaces Working Group; and
- (4) the programme of work for 2016/17, as set out in Appendix B to the report, be noted and agreed as completed subject to the following reports being carried forward to the work programme of the Committee for the new Municipal Year 2017/18:-
 - Refuse Collection;
 - New Houses being sold as Leasehold; and
 - Peer Review Working Group – Final Report.

49. VOTE OF THANKS

As this was the last Meeting of the Committee in the Municipal Year, the Chair thanked Members and Officers for the assistance they had given him throughout the year.

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Report to:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) Cabinet	Date of Meeting:	4 July 2017 27 July 2017
Subject:	Peer Review Working Group - Final Report		
Report of:	Head of Regulation and Compliance	Wards Affected:	(All Wards);
Cabinet Portfolio:	Communities and Housing		
Is this a Key Decision:	No	Included in Forward Plan:	Yes
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

To present formally the final report of the Peer Review Working Group.

Recommendations:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills)

- (1) That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) approves and commends the Peer Review Working Group – Final Report with its' recommendations to the Cabinet for its' approval; and
- (2) That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) be requested to authorise the Senior Democratic Services Officer in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, to make any amendments, arising as a result of the Committee meeting, to the Final Report.

Cabinet – That the Cabinet be requested to approve the following recommendations:

- (1) That tribute be extended to all those Partnership Members who play a vital role in ensuring that Sefton is a safe community to live, work and visit;
- (2) That the MARSOC be requested to investigate the merits and feasibility of a secure and sophisticated Information Sharing System/Programme to be shared/used by key Officers in the Partnership;
- (3) That the MARSOC be requested to approach Further Education establishments to investigate the feasibility of developing a course specifically aimed at targeting a cohort of young offenders;

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- (4) That the MARSOC be requested to develop a pathway leading to the signposting of services for those individuals with a desire to change their behaviour and depart from being involved with SOC (Using Partnership funds were available to invest in programmes for young people who are vulnerable or at risk to becoming adopted into SOC. For example business training, Modern Technology Training or Mentoring);
- (5) That the MARSOC be requested to speak with schools across Sefton about how the data they hold on every child can be shared between schools when the child is departing from one to another in order that schools can be alerted to SOC or vulnerability in the community;
- (6) That the Youth Prevention Team and Youth Offenders Team receive, where possible support and/or funding to improve, introduce and promote the 'Neglect Strategy' which will further support the prevention of young adults accessing SOC while also helping young people prepare to become young adults;
- (7) That the Council submit this report with feedback from success stories to the Government department and Minister to request increased funding from central Government for this borough so that there is not a decrease in some of the highest quality serious and organised crime prevention work in the UK; and
- (8) That the Head of Communities, on behalf of the MARSOC, be requested to update the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) on the progress made in relation to the implementation of recommendations on an annual basis, until the recommendations are signed off as complete.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

The Working Group has made a number of recommendations that require approval by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) and the Cabinet.

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

No alternative options were considered. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) established the Working Group to ensure that the recommendations of the Home Office Peer review had been considered and were necessary implemented. The Working Group has delivered on the terms agreed in the scoping document.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

There are no financial implications arising for the Council as a direct result of this report.

(B) Capital Costs

There are no financial implications arising for the Council as a direct result of this report.

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets):
Legal Implications:
Equality Implications: There are no equality implications.

Contribution to the Council’s Core Purpose:

<p>Protect the most vulnerable:</p> <p>The findings and recommendations of the Peer Review Working Group will assist in protecting not only the most vulnerable but all who live, work and visit Sefton and the surrounding Liverpool City Region area.</p>
<p>Facilitate confident and resilient communities:</p> <p>Sefton Council promotes a Multi-Agency approach to engaging with its communities in order that individuals are confident in how to report instances of concern.</p>
<p>Commission, broker and provide core services: Not applicable</p>
<p>Place – leadership and influencer:</p> <p>The report promotes the 2030 Vision in ensuring that, as far as possible, Sefton Council with its Partners provides and environment that is a safe place to live, work and visit.</p>
<p>Drivers of change and reform: Not applicable</p>
<p>Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: Not applicable</p>
<p>Greater income for social investment: Not applicable</p>
<p>Cleaner Greener: Not applicable</p>

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Head of Corporate Resources (FD4678/17.) notes the report indicates there are no financial implications arising for the Council as a direct result of this report.

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The Head of Regulation and Compliance (LD.3962/17) 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:	Ruth Harrison
Telephone Number:	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

At its meeting held on 5 July 2016 the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) approved the establishment of a Working Group to review Sefton’s approach to serious and organised crime in light of the Home Office Peer Review findings in November 2015 with the following terms of reference:

To ensure that the recommendations of the Home Office Peer review are considered and were necessary implemented.

Be satisfied that the findings of the report are accurate.

To be assured that those leading on the agenda in Sefton have a sound approach.

To challenge and make recommendations to improve service delivery.

Accordingly, the Working Group has met on numerous occasions, considered relevant documentation and interviewed various expert witnesses, as detailed in the Final Report.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) and the Cabinet are requested to support the contents of the Working Group Final Report and approve the recommendations contained therein.

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
(REGENERATION & SKILLS)**

**PEER REVIEW WORKING GROUP
FINAL REPORT
MARCH 2017**



Overview & Scrutiny



**'Valuing
Improvement'**

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LEAD MEMBER'S INTRODUCTION

It gives me great pleasure to submit to you the findings of the investigation in relation to the Peer Review with Sefton's Partners.

This opportunity to get a deeper understanding of the council's work that goes unseen by the public through partnerships which are of highest strength and communication beyond the day to day emails and phone calls has been an experience that further proves how hard our officers and partners work under some of the most strenuous times I know of. Cuts and re-structures with changing political climates do not make a difference to how hard our teams work in making our communities, safer, better and built to be resilient against negative situations.

The Government were critical in their review but we have gone further and scrutinised the holistic map of Sefton's work in this area. We have met with several key members of our network who have explained the day-to-day roles that they fulfil and the in-depth cases that they become involved in.

There definitely are still improvements that we can make but if there is one main thing we've learnt from this review, it is that there is a united aim to always be ready to take on new challenges and do better the next time, or prevent it from happening again at all.

On behalf of the Working Group I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the agencies, outside bodies and organisations that took part in this review and all Members and Officers from Sefton M.B.C. that were involved in completing the report.



Councillor Dan. T. Lewis
Lead Member of the Peer Review Working Group

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1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 At its meeting held on 5 July 2016, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) agreed to establish a Peer Review Working Group.
- 1.2 At its meeting held on 20 September 2016, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) appointed Councillors Dan T. Lewis (Lead Member), Claire Carragher, Michael O'Brien and Anne Thompson to serve on the Peer Review Working Group.
- 1.3 Details of Working Group meetings are as follows:-

Date	Activity
12.8.16	Appointment of the Lead Member – Councillor Dan.T.Lewis. Agreed Scope of the Review. Received Background Information – Home Office Peer Review.
7.9.16	Reviewed activities undertaken at the various Partnership Meetings.
10.10.16	Next Steps.
20.10.16	Interviewed Representatives from Sefton's Area Command Team.
1.11.16	Interviewed Senior Probation Officer and Representative from the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office.
15.11.16	Briefed on the Role of the Safeguarding Nurse at Aintree Hospital.
24.11.16	Presentation from Mr. Riley regarding the "Get Away N Get Safe" Project.
8.12.16	Interviewed the Head of Communities and Service Manager, Integrated Youth Services.
15.12.16	Next Steps.

- 1.7 Members of the Group drafted and agreed the following terms of reference and objectives of the review:-

2.0 PEER REVIEW

To review Sefton's approach to Serious and Organised Crime (SOC), in light of the Home Office Peer Review findings in November 2015. Overview & Scrutiny are asked to review the report and:

1. To ensure that the recommendations of the Home Office Peer review are considered and where necessary implemented.
2. Be satisfied that the findings of the report are accurate
3. To be assured that those leading on the agenda in Sefton have a sound approach
4. To challenge and make recommendations to improve service delivery

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3.0 METHODS OF ENQUIRY

- 3.1 Background reading.
- 3.2 Presentation of information and progress.
- 3.3 Topic based discussion:- thematic meetings, drawing on key witnesses,

4.0 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

- 4.0.1 Members of the Working Group gathered evidence through various methods, including presentations and briefings and receiving reports. Evidence was also obtained when Members had the opportunity to interview key witnesses, various Officers and Partners.
- 4.0.2 The common theme raised throughout all witness interviews and what was reported as being key and underpinned the good work being done was the excellent approach and relationships adopted by all agencies in the Partnership. It became apparent that there was and is a genuine commitment by all in the partnership to work with all offenders to progress the Early Intervention and Prevention work being undertaken that could help to reduce Children and Young People becoming involved in SOC.
- 4.0.3 The passion, commitment and enthusiasm of individuals at all levels within the partnership was clear. The nature of the issue and impact on the community was well understood. There were examples of effective joint working ranging from improved information sharing and risk management through to co-location of key partners to deliver Integrated Offender Management and effective multi-agency enforcement.

4.1 PEER REVIEW BACKGROUND

- 4.1.1 The peer review took place over 4 days and consisted of taking into account the views of a wide range of stakeholders through a series of interviews. The review is intended to be a constructive and supportive process with the central aim of helping partnerships improve on how they deliver outcomes in tackling gangs and youth violence.
- 4.1.2 It is undertaken from the viewpoint of a 'critical friend' with an emphasis on self-assessment and the challenge of accelerating practical improvement, rather than merely diagnosing issues. The review looked at seven strands:
 - Strong local leadership
 - Mapping the problem
 - Responding in partnership
 - Assessment and referral



- Targeted and effective interventions- enforcement , pathways out and prevention
- Criminal justice and breaking the cycle
- Mobilising communities.

4.1.3 For the purposes of the review Members of the Working Group agreed that in order for it to be satisfied that each of the recommendations made by the Home Office had been implemented that each recommendation be set out, as detailed in paragraph 4.2 to the report, with an explanation as to the action taken against each recommendation.

4.2 SCOPE – TO ENSURE THAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE HOME OFFICE PEER REVIEW ARE CONSIDERED AND WHERE NECESSARY IMPLEMENTED

4.1.1 **Develop a long term strategy to deliver prevention, enforcement and to consolidate gains made.** Members of the Working Group agreed that the partnership were developing ways of consolidating the work already achieved in relation to enforcement activity. The partnership were working on longer term interventions that revolve around diverting young people “at risk” away from crime. Schools in Sefton are playing an instrumental part in raising awareness of the issues by supporting initiatives such as the “mini police” pilots, the “Get Away N Get Safe” (GANGS) and Evolve projects. The objective of those initiatives is to raise awareness of the dangers associated with SOC and to divert those youngsters deemed to be “at risk” away from the crime cultures or behaviours they may already be exposed to.

The GANGS project uses a programme that was originally created for year 11 school pupils. After the successful roll-out of the GANGS project it became apparent that interventions were also required of Years 4 and 5 in some instances. It has been adjusted for use with school years 6&7, to cover the transition from primary to secondary education, recognising that children are vulnerable to intimidation, bullying and gang recruitment at this time. The project highlights the dangers of gang lifestyles to young children and allows them to turn away from local negative peer groups. Interventions at this age range allow a wide range of “messages” and support to be delivered at an early intervention point. Through helping to identify non responsive groups it also supports interventions tailored towards those most vulnerable to gang recruitment.

The Multi Agency Response to Serious and Organised Crime (MARSOC) meet monthly to identify youths at risk and who may be on the cusp of offending. The MARSOC will identify suitable pathways of support or methods of disruption to divert vulnerable individuals away from SOC.

4.1.2 **Prepare a strategy document identifying key activities, key leads and establishing timescales.** There was an agreement that clear governance was required in order that key lead individuals are identified within the partnership, as the “go to” people for the clearance of blockages. Members of

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the Working Group were satisfied that key lead individuals had been identified amongst Partnership Members so that decisions and actions could be moved forward quickly.

- 4.1.3. **Devise internal and external communication strategies.** The Partnership has developed the following guidance documents to support it and Members of the Council in addressing matters relating to Serious and Organised Crime:-
- Protocol – Multi-Agency Critical Incident Response Guidance. The protocol sets out guidance in relation to Merseyside Police’s process, Multi-Agency Process and Exit Strategy.
 - Media Release Sharing Agreement – Merseyside Police now consult with Sefton Council’s Communication team before any media release is agreed to go out in the public domain.
 - Terminologies Consistent – The partnership use the same language.
 - Information Sharing – Clear and Concise
- 4.1.4 **Make use of gang flag on Police National Computer (PNC).** Working Group Members recognised that the use of gang flags on PNC would be a useful tool in enhancing intelligence in relation to “group” offending. Working Group Members were given examples of how a flag method had been adopted locally and more specifically in relation to the partnership approach adopted with the Lead Safeguarding Nurse. To build upon the local use of a flag system and translating that through on National approach would be effective in tracking the movements of gang Members around the Country and highlighting offending behaviours in other areas. Such intelligence can inform effective interventions and help to identify more mature offenders who are exploiting young vulnerable people.
- 4.1.5 **Consideration for the Organised Crime Group (OCG) co-ordination meeting to be held prior to the MARSOC.**
- OCG Weekly Governance (now monthly).
 - Pre-meet between MARSOC co-ordinator and Chair of the MARSOC to discuss agenda items and specific issues.
 - Representative on the Threat, Harm, Risk Force Meeting held weekly.
- 4.1.6 **Raise awareness amongst partnership frontline operators and voluntary sector of context of offending and possible responses.** Based upon the evidence received from witness interviews, Working Group Members were satisfied that the Community, on the whole, were positive and supportive about the work the Police, Council and other partners were doing in relation to addressing the serious and organised crime culture. There was a view that there could be an opportunity to harness and bring the Voluntary Community Sector deeper into the operational structure.

- 4.1.7 Refresh and develop key individual network with potential for local IAGs.** The operation developed by Merseyside Police in relation to a pan-Merseyside Independent Advisory Group (MIAG) was something that Members felt could be mirrored at a local level. This could be achieved by exploring the potential of Local Independent Advisory Groups as another method of communication between partners and the local communities. It was felt that IAGs could assist with regard to community reassurance and in providing community intelligence. This has now been progressed and the first Meeting of the Sefton Community Advisory Group was held on Monday 27 February 2017.
- 4.1.8 Further develop links between public and commercial sectors, e.g. taxis, licensing trade.** Members of the Working Group acknowledged the safeguarding model which embeds critical pathways for child sexual exploitation into the main safeguarding process. The inclusion of commercial sector pathways such as taxi operators and licensees provide good examples of a public/private approach to safeguarding. This work with those groups could be translated through to the Partnership, as those groups are looked upon as the eyes and ears within our Communities.
- 4.1.9 Engage health, prisons, JCP etc. at strategic level.** Working Group Members agreed that the MARSOC process would benefit from attendance by representatives of the Voluntary Sector, Prisons and Job Centre Plus. Job Centre Plus could provide potential options in terms of diversion/exit through preparing individuals for work or the claiming of benefits to avoid reliance upon income from crime. Bringing the voluntary sector closer to the process is likely to result in referrals into the MARSOC/Youths at risk from those engaged in outreach. Members of the Working Group were satisfied that the MARSOC could build upon the secure ways that are already in place, in which relevant information can be discussed.
- 4.1.10 Continue with problem solving approaches, e.g. fire bags, designing out crime, Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) etc.**
- SMARTWATER technology for lighting and CCTV columns.
 - New Public Spaces Protection Order for Marian Square and surrounding areas – to tackle high level Anti-Social Behaviour and disrupt those involved in Serious and Organised Crime.
 - Supporting Infrastructure such as CCTV upgrades in HOTSPOT areas and other identified areas.
 - Drug wipes for targeting known vehicles linked to Serious and Organised Crime and disrupting activity resulting in disqualification and fines.

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4.1.11 **Early Intervention Foundation Work.** The MARSOC partnership constantly reviews its Early Intervention and Prevention work and where necessary use experiences and evidence from the foundation.

5.0 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 Working Group Members referred to the outcome of the Home Office Peer Review and drew on areas of best practice. The Working Group agreed that in its view, it had taken the Sefton MARSOC time to review and reflect on its priorities and its approach which had enabled it to develop an effective and efficient partnership that tackle the issue of serious and organised crime. The Working Group agreed during the review and through evidence received that to widen the footprint on a Pan Merseyside basis needed a similar approach and the local perspective not to be lost.
- 5.2 Members of the Working Group were reassured to learn that Sefton is a safe place to live, work and visit.
- 5.3 After receiving all evidence and receiving information at evidence sessions Members of the Working Group were satisfied that the findings of the Home Office Peer Review Report were accurate.
- 5.4 Working Group Members were reassured that those leading on the Agenda of Serious and Organised Crime in Sefton have a sound approach and will continue to ensure that Sefton is a safe community to live, work and visit.
- 5.5 Members of the Working Group agreed that the excellent practices identified by the Home Office as practices that other areas could learn from should be celebrated. Working Group Members agreed that it reflected the excellent partnership approach that exists within Sefton.
- 5.6 Members of the Working Group recognised that in times of budget constraints, public sector agencies face significant pressures to reduce costs, but still deliver results. The Working Group agreed that the Partnership should be praised for its sterling efforts in ensuring that Sefton remains a safe place to live, work and visit in the current difficult financial climate.



6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTION

- 6.1 That tribute be extended to all those Partnership Members who play a vital role in ensuring that Sefton is a safe community to live, work and visit;
- 6.2
- 6.2 That the MARSOC be requested to investigate the merits and feasibility of a secure and sophisticated Information Sharing System/Programme to be shared/used by key Officers in the Partnership;
- 6.3 That the MARSOC be requested to approach Further Education establishments to investigate the feasibility of developing a course specifically aimed at targeting a cohort of young offenders;
- 6.4 That the MARSOC be requested to develop a pathway leading to the signposting of services for those individuals with a desire to change their behaviour and depart from being involved with SOC (Using Partnership funds were available to invest in programmes for young people who are vulnerable or at risk to becoming adopted into SOC. For example business training, Modern Technology Training or Mentoring);
- 6.5 That the MARSOC be requested to speak with schools across Sefton about how the data they hold on every child can be shared between schools when the child is departing from one to another in order that schools can be alerted to SOC or vulnerability in the community;
- 6.6 That the Youth Prevention Team and Youth Offenders Team receive, where possible support and/or funding to improve, introduce and promote the 'Neglect Strategy' which will further support the prevention of young adults accessing SOC while also helping young people prepare to become young adults;
- 6.7 That the Council submit this report with feedback from success stories to the Government department and Minister to request increased funding from central Government for this borough so that there is not a decrease in some of the highest quality serious and organised crime prevention work in the UK; and
- 6.8 That the Head of Communities, on behalf of the MARSOC, be requested to update the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) on the progress made in relation to the implementation of recommendations on an annual basis, until the recommendations are signed off as complete.

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7. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND THANKS

In producing this report regarding the Peer Review, acknowledgements and thanks are attributed to the following individuals for their time and input:-

- All Key Witnesses
- Officers, Partners and former Members of the Working Group

Thanks must also go to the Members of the Working Group who have worked hard and dedicated a great deal of time to this review, namely:-



***Councillor Dan. T. Lewis
(Lead Member)***



Councillor Claire Carragher



Councillor Michael O'Brien



Councillor Anne Thompson

**Overview
& Scrutiny**



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For further information please contact:-

Ruth Harrison

Senior Democratic Services Officer

Telephone: 0151 934 2042

E-Mail: ruth.harrison@sefton.gov.uk

Sefton Council 



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Report to:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills)	Date of Meeting:	4 July 2017
Subject:	Cabinet Member Report – June 2017		
Report of:	Head of Regulation and Compliance	Wards Affected:	All
Cabinet Portfolio:	Communities and Housing; Health and Wellbeing (Parks element only); Locality Services; Planning and Building Control; and Regeneration and Skills.		
Is this a Key Decision:	No	Included in Forward Plan:	No
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

To submit to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee recent Cabinet Member Reports.

Recommendation:

That the Cabinet Member Reports relating to the remit of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be noted.

Reasons for the Recommendation:

In order to keep Overview and Scrutiny Members informed, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board has agreed for relevant Cabinet Member Reports to be submitted to appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:

No alternative options have been considered because the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board has agreed for relevant Cabinet Member Reports to be submitted to appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

Any financial implications associated with the Cabinet Member report which are referred to in this update are contained within the respective reports.

(A) Revenue Costs – see above

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(B) Capital Costs – see above

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets):
Legal Implications:
Equality Implications: There are no equality implications.

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: None directly applicable to this report. The Cabinet Member update provides information on activity within the various Cabinet Member's portfolio during a previous two month period. Any reports relevant to the various portfolios considered by the Cabinet, Cabinet Member or Committees during this period would contain information as to how such reports contributed to the Council's Core Purpose.
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: As above
Commission, broker and provide core services: As above
Place – leadership and influencer: As above
Drivers of change and reform: As above
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: As above
Greater income for social investment: As above
Cleaner Greener: As above

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Cabinet Member Update Report is not subject to FD/LD consultation. Any specific financial and legal implications associated with any subsequent reports arising from the attached Cabinet Member update report will be included in those reports as appropriate

(B) External Consultations

Not applicable

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Committee meeting.

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

Appendices:

The following appendices is attached to this report:

Cabinet Member – Communities and Housing;
Cabinet Member – Health and Wellbeing (Parks element only);
Cabinet Member – Locality Services;
Cabinet Member – Planning and Building Control; and
Cabinet Member - Regeneration and Skills

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1. Introduction/Background

- 1.1 In order to keep Overview and Scrutiny Members informed, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board has agreed for relevant Cabinet Member Reports to be submitted to appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committees.
- 1.2 Attached to this report, for information, are the most recent Cabinet Member reports that fall under the Terms of Reference of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills).

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CABINET MEMBER UPDATE REPORT		
Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills – 4th July 2017)		
COUNCILLOR	PORTFOLIO	DATE
Patricia Hardy	Communities and Housing	June 2017

NEIGHBOURHOODS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Sefton Safer Communities Partnership (SSCP)

The SSCP have agreed to fund a further 100 drug wipes for use in disrupting our Organised Crime Groups through targeting vehicles known to be used by them and undertaking drug driving tests. These tests have resulted in significant driving offences and significant banning orders being imposed by the court.

The recruitment of two Child Criminal Exploitation Advocates in partnership with Knowsley MBC is complete. The advocates are now introducing themselves to key partners within Sefton and Knowsley in order to develop relationships and to provide education, training and resource in this complex area for twelve months.

The SSCP is looking to assist Councillors and Partners within Maghull with tackling ASB issues within a particular hotspot location.

The SSCP has recently received presentations from the Chief Superintendent for Sefton on our approach to Tackling Serious and Organised Crime and from Service Manager Neighbourhoods and Partnerships on Tackling Crime and ASB in the Night Time Economy.

Anti-Social Behaviour Unit (ASBU)

The ASBU and Neighbourhoods team are continuing to work with Merseyside Police and will this year deliver the third round of the scrambler bike initiative. Five schools, Lander Road, The Grange, English Martyrs, Hatton Hill and All Saints will take part. The Schools will be asked to make short videos about the dangers of scrambler bike use and the impact they have on the community. Schools have been chosen who are within hot spot areas for scrambler bike nuisance. The project will commence in May with workshops being carried out in the schools throughout May – July with Merseyside Police, Merseyside Fire Service, Alder Her and Sefton Councils ASB team. There will be an inter schools sports day arranged with Sefton Council Leisure Services hosted at the CLAC in September. One winning video from each schools will be chosen to be edited and their video used on social media to promote the project and to highlight the dangers to the local community. The winners from each school will be taken on a trip and a presentation event held at Police headquarters.

15 warning letters have been issued to offenders in relation to their behaviour in the Marian Square PSPO area. One case has proceeded to a full FPN and the fine has been paid.

Several arson reduction campaigns have taken place within Sefton since March. As part of Merseyside Fire and Rescue Services “Arson Awareness Campaign” we have been working with partners from MFRS, Registered Housing Providers, Merseyside Police and Mini Police to promote multi-agency working in order to engage communities and tackle deliberate fire setting and serious and organised crime.

Actions have included:-

- Community skips being placed within the area as well as utilising caged tippers to remove fly tipping.
- Void properties identified and referred to Arson Reduction Officer to secure.

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High Visibility Policing (HVP) by Community team as well as numerous reassurance visits.

- Mobile police station deployed.
- Police mobile youth van utilised.
- Mounted patrols provided HVP to the community.

Campaigns have taken place in the following areas:-

- Bark Road and Daley Road area – Wednesday 22nd March
- Marsh Avenue and surrounding areas – Friday 28th April
- Eden Vale area - Friday 26th May

Neighbourhood co-ordination

Neighbourhood co-ordination activities have continued across the Borough with recent involvement including:

A six month community skips programme has been rolled out across Netherton & Orrell ward. The programme began in February has already seen 9 tonnes of waste removed from the ward. The programme has now been reviewed and with some slight amendments to locations, it has been agreed to continue with the programme for a further six months.

As part of the Litherland Prototype Project work is ongoing with English Martyrs school to develop a week long locality based, multi-agency project which will be delivered within the school. The programme will see various agencies working alongside each other to ensure the best deal for families within the school who have been highlighted as having complex needs. There will also be a number of drop-in sessions over the week long project which will take place week commencing 25th September. There will be a series of engagement sessions with local people to establish what sessions are most relevant to residents including, door knocking, letters from school and meetings with governors and PTA. It is envisaged that a timetable of activities will be developed with the community. Offers from organisations to deliver assistance have already included, sessions around physical wellbeing, mental health, drugs and alcohol, early years development, housing and debt management.

Work is ongoing with registered housing providers housing and their charitable partner “Big Help” on an environmental project which will be piloted in and around Carr Meadow Hey as part of the Litherland Prototype project. The project will see two vacant shop units on Carr Meadow Hey utilised to distribute furniture to residents who are in need of larger furniture items such as sofas, beds and wardrobes, all of which would have been recycled. Short term the aim of the project is to reduce waste and provide families or individuals with furniture items for their homes, and to pilot a small scale “Bulky Bobs” style service to the local community. Longer term it is hoped that registered providers could look to offer furnished tenancies, link to ELAS scheme and provide training opportunities to residents which would enable them to gain qualifications in DIY skills.

Work has been completed on all play equipment and fencing in Killen Green Park. 4 volunteer days in partnership with Emmanuel Baptist have taken place to edge pathways, clear grot spots and tidy up all entrances. Green Flag judging takes place on Wednesday 31st May.

The community growing project in Netherton held a hay-bale building day on Saturday 13th May which was attended by 25 people including children from the local area and 2 local businesses. Netherton Moss has also confirmed that they will be taking a group of children to the site for outdoor lessons every Monday afternoon and Rowan Park will attend every Thursday.

Neighbourhoods facilitated a meeting on Wednesday 24th May with partner agencies including local businesses and the voluntary sector. Discussions were based around the recent discharge in the area and the issues it has caused. On the same day, side Police reassured all partners that they are working hard to combat the issues surrounding gang culture and only two days prior to the

meeting Merseyside Police had recovered 8 off road motorcycles from the Westfield Avenue area.

On- going meetings with registered providers regarding fly – tipping at the rear of Marian Square shops. Merseyside Fire and Rescue and SMBC are working with businesses to ensure rubbish is stored away securely and correctly after an arson attack on 2 wheelie bins that were set alight and then pushed up against the building.

There have been several post & shrubs schemes designed to protect grass verges across the borough. A combination of funding from ward budgets, Parish Council budgets and matched funding from the Transportation Capital Improvement Works budget has made these schemes possible.

Cabinet Member- Communities and Housing is considering the reintroduction of Community Payback throughout Sefton. Facilitated through the Neighbourhoods Team, requests for litter & fly-tipping removal; dog-fouling stencils & stickers would be carried out by offenders undertaking their court orders.

Members of Waterloo and Seaforth Carers continue to meet to address loneliness and social isolation within Church Ward. Following the successful launch of Waterloo and Seaforth Cares, the steering group has agreed to roll learning across all four wards of Crosby to establish a Crosby Hub.

The group will work closely the Community Asset Development Officers from Sefton CVS, who are currently working within Bootle to establish a web of connectivity between organisations, services and key protagonists within the community, who can help connect people who may otherwise be lonely or socially isolated. Waterloo and Seaforth Cares continue to work closely with key council groups such as the Early Intervention and Prevention Working Group, and the Dementia Action Alliance for Sefton.

Following recent discussions and meetings around The Crescent in Thornton a scheme has now been developed. This has been shared with the Local Elected Members and Thornton Parish Council. This will incorporate a One Way System, Kerb Build Outs and a New Street Lighting Column. The funding for the scheme is being sought and secured. Consultation works has now been undertaken with those directly affected by the highway changes proposed.

A very successful event was held at Rimrose Valley Country Park on the first Bank Holiday in May. The event was extremely well attended and fully supported by the elected member's from the wards surrounding the park.

Work in South Park continues. The Community Garden plan has been approved and is out to tender. A community growing project co-ordinator is in place to assist with the garden and engage with the local community, schools and Hugh Baird College. Regular meetings are being held to discuss the misuse of the park and surrounding area and to address the ASB that has been going on in recent months. A Fun Day is taking place in the park on Friday 18th August. The event will be free to the community and will include carousal rides, pony rides, a climbing wall and inflatables.

Community Transition Fund/Community Support Fund

A total of £482,296 has been spent with £517,897 remaining in this fund as of June 2016.

Domestic Abuse

Save the date invitations have been sent out to partners for the 2017 Domestic Abuse Conference on Thursday 6 July 2017 and a number of people have already put their name down to attend.

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The MARAC Executive Group has met to discuss the recently completed MARAC Review. Overall the report shows Sefton's MARAC works well and operates within Safelives guidelines. The MARAC Executive Group has agreed a number of recommendations which will form the basis of an action plan to be delivered over the coming year. This will be shared with the Domestic Abuse Executive Group.

Sefton IDVA Team, SWACA and the No Xcuses programme team are working together to achieve joint accreditation for the Sefton's victim and perpetrator support work. This is being funded by the Turnaround Families programme and will be accredited by Safelives (for the victim services) and Respect (perpetrator services) which are nationally recognised organisations in their field. The initial self-assessment stage is due to be completed within the next couple of months.

DHR 7 has now been published on the Council website and shared with SSCP members and the LSCB and Safeguarding Adults Board Business Managers. A DHR briefing and case study has also been shared with partners.

DHR6 has been submitted to the Home Office for quality assurance and is due to be heard at their panel meeting on 20 September 2017.

Equalities

We continue to work with the Learning & Development Team to develop LGBT and other equality and diversity training for staff. A briefing is being prepared for the Senior Leadership Board to highlight the importance of the online training in achieving the NAVAJO charter mark.

We have identified three Council buildings which can take part in the Liverpool Pride 'Come out of the Shadows' event in 2017 which is being delivered again following the success of the 2016 event. This involves the lighting up of buildings in the colours of the rainbow flag. The buildings are Bootle Town Hall, Crosby Library (took part in 2016) and The Atkinson (took part in 2016)

Hate Crime

We are continuing to work with our network of 3rd party reporting centres to raise awareness of hate crime and the Stop Hate UK helpline. We have obtained and distributed resources from Stop Hate UK including pull-up banners. Briefings on hate crime and the role of the 3rd party reporting centres have been delivered to staff from the Venus Centre, Sefton CAB and The Carers Centre.

We continue to work with the Merseyside Police SIGMA Team, including attending the new Sefton Community Action Group.

Hate crime training continues to be delivered to staff in organisations across Sefton. A hate crime awareness session was delivered to a group of school governors in May. Further training dates for staff in all agencies working in Sefton have been arranged for July and September. The Merseyside Police SIGMA team are arranging training for Arriva bus drivers and that will be delivered jointly with the Council. Contact has also been made with parent & carer groups and with Health watch Sefton.

The Council will again be Liaising with relevant agencies regarding Remembering Srebrenica in July.

Welfare Reform – Foodbanks

9 Children's Centres across the Borough have agreed so far to take part in this summer's Access to Food project. Litherland Moss has agreed to be the kitchen for the South of the Borough with Linaker a possible kitchen for the North.

Sefton Council and the “Migrant Workers Sefton Community” Charity (MWSC) delivered a social inclusion event called ‘Cakes of the World’ which was hosted by The Salvation Army, 65 Shakespeare Road in Southport on Saturday 29th April 2017. The event was aimed at improving social inclusion within Southport and for the migrant residents to see the range of social activities & groups that exist to increase participation. Tackling debt and getting residents onto the Electoral roll formed other themes for this day as well as giving migrant residents the opportunity to sign-up to ESOL courses and undertake consultation with the company (MEL Research) carrying out the Private Rented Sector Licensing Consultation.

LIBRARY & INFORMATION SERVICES

New Business workshops

Over the last 2 months the Alt Valley Community Trust have held pop up Smarta Business workshops in Meadows, Crosby, Formby and Southport Libraries. Funded by European Regional Development Fund, the workshops provide advice to local residents interested in starting their own business. The workshops have proved very successful and the Alt Valley Community Trust are now supporting 17 new Sefton businesses on the back of the sessions.

Human Library

The Library service has secured £99,000 of funding from the Arts Council to develop an arts related scheme called ‘The Human Library’. The scheme is aimed at encouraging the participation of adults in Bootle who are socially isolated or living with poor mental health, we will create a ‘human library’ where people can ‘gift’ their talents or experience to someone in need. A series of creative programmes will uncover local talents; in turn this will build a sustainable bank of volunteers who can pass their ‘gift’ on. The project will train volunteers & staff in social prescribing techniques including Making Every Contact Count. Gifts might range from preparing and hosting a community meal to 1:1 sessions with someone living with a mental health condition.

Arts Council / Libraries Opportunities for Everyone Innovation Fund

The library service has been successful in its application for funding from the Arts Council to support a mental health project based in the Bootle area. The project will encourage adults to participate in the creation of a ‘human library’ where people can ‘gift their talents or experience to someone in need. The ambition is to build a sustainable bank of volunteers who can pass their ‘gift’ on. The project will train volunteers and staff in social prescribing techniques. Gifts may range from preparing and hosting a community meal to 1:1 sessions with someone living with a mental health condition

Sefton Super Reads

The annual Sefton Super Read event took place at Crosby library on 30th March, with 90+ Teenagers, from eight high schools in attendance. Super Reads is a book award aimed at students in year 7, 8 and 9. The students read and review six titles, selected by a panel of schools librarians, teachers and public library staff. The students vote on their favourite book, with the winner announced at the award ceremony,. Three of the nominated authors attended the event, with Peter Bunzl crowned the winner for his book ‘Cogheart’. The aim of the award is to encourage continued reading for pleasure, amongst teens.

At the Library

At The Library is a new programme of commissions, projects and activities inviting artists and communities to be creative in Sefton’s Libraries. It’s aimed at all ages and all members of Sefton's communities with different projects and activities taking place in Bootle, Crosby, Netherton, Maghull, Formby and the Atkinson, Southport. The programme will run until spring 2018 and is funded by Arts Council England.

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At the library was launched a Bootle Library with a One Pot lunch hosted and cooked in the Library by the Fair Land Collective. The artists, library users and invited guests prepared Japanese stuffed dumplings, printed napkins, made ceramic spoons, and created ikebana centre-pieces to decorate the table. One Pot meals will take place in each library over the coming year, creating a chance for people to gather and spend time together, sharing skills, ideas and food. The next meal is planned for Formby library on 14th June.

THE ATKINSON

Writing Through Time - January - March 2017

An outreach projects developing Literacy with Christchurch Primary School

In 2016, discussions began between The Atkinson, Sefton Library Service and Christchurch Primary School about school priorities in the south of Sefton. Christchurch is a larger than average primary school with a higher than average proportion of disadvantaged pupils. The 2016 Ofsted report states that the school 'Requires Improvement'. The school has taken pupils to visit Bootle library in the past but the school had never visited The Atkinson prior to this project. Improving writing was established as a key priority for schools in the area and developing writing across the curriculum was a specific priority for Christchurch.

It was agreed that the range of resources on offer at The Atkinson and Bootle library could be combined to deliver a cross-curricular project that would develop children's writing, their knowledge of Ancient Egypt and their awareness of local history. The story of Anne Goodison, the objects she collected and the letters she wrote would be used as stimulus for a variety of writing activities as a collection of letters written by her was discovered in Brooklyn Museum Archives. The Atkinson Development Trust agreed to fund the project as it met their objectives.

Two external experts came in to the school to work with the pupils: Claire Ollett, a Freelance Educator and Egyptologist and Mandy Coe, Prize-winning poet and author.

Evaluation

At the end of the project detailed evaluation took place to understand the impact of the activities and work with the writer and archaeologist.

The teachers felt that the children's knowledge, understanding and writing of poetry definitely improved as a result of the project and the project hit the targets for poetry that are in the curriculum. They also noted that the children became excited about Ancient Egypt – with a significant increase in the pupils' confidence and enthusiasm when talking about Ancient Egypt. The teachers felt that the pupils got so much from visiting The Atkinson and working with an Egyptologist: "I couldn't believe that my kids could sit on the carpet for two hours and listen to her talk. I could deliver those facts and they wouldn't listen in the same way. During the celebration event Claire unveiled a new addition to The Atkinson's Egyptology collection and the pupils gasped with excitement when the artefact was revealed. Claire explained that one girl had made her own book about Ancient Egypt that was full of detailed research that she had done. Overall the project encouraged the children to be confident and resilient.

What impact did the project have on the school as a whole?

The lead teacher gave the following evaluation: *It was really good for the school to be seen in a positive light and to be involved in something. We're often overlooked because we are requiring improvement and because of where we are. We were inspired by the way that Emma spoke about The Atkinson. For our pupils to experience something cultural beyond what they normally would, was a very positive thing. The celebration event helped to raise the profile of writing within the school. The teachers said that having Radio and press coverage was very good for the profile of the school and it encouraged the staff to look for other opportunities to promote the school. Families liked to see people like Emma and the trustees in school, and to see that they care about our school and want to support the local community in Bootle'*

What next?

As part of the project, a selection of poetry books were purchased for the school. These will be available in the school library to inspire pupils and teachers in the future. Christchurch C of E Primary is already planning another project with Bootle library which will take place later in 2017. In Autumn 2017 there will be a temporary exhibition at The Atkinson about Anne Goodison and other female collectors. The work produced during this project will feature in the exhibition.

INTEGRATED YOUTH SERVICES

Sefton's Key National Performance Indicators – headlines

Police National Computer (PNC) Youth Justice Published data has been used to report on all three key Performance Indicators which are priorities of the Youth Justice Board,

- **Re-offending** – This was historically poor but is much improved across England, particularly for Sefton which has a lower rate nationally and locally compared to other Merseyside YOTs.
- **Our reoffending rates (per offender)** - In Sefton they are lower than others in the North West region but higher than the rest of Merseyside and in England. There is an increase across England in general.
- **First Time Entrants** – Performance is very good and continues to be better than Merseyside and England. Sefton achieved the second largest reduction but also had a significant lower number of first time entrants as the starting point.
- **Custody Rate** - Sefton's performance is now good but was historically high. It is currently lower than England and Merseyside.

To summarise Sefton's performance has gone from strength to strength in the majority of measures. The Reoffending per reoffender rate is a new measure and this shows some improvement is required.

While Sefton has reduced the numbers of young people offending and had some impact upon the number of offences committed, there is a small group of young people who commit the majority of offences. These young people are the harder to engage and motivate and the number of offences they are committing are beginning to increase. The management team will be reviewing the effectiveness of interventions and partnership resources that are drawn upon in working with young people who are at a high risk of re-offending.

Critical incident

At 1.15pm on Wednesday 3rd May, a young male aged 17yrs was shot by an unknown male in Kirkby, in a public place within the community. He received serious injuries to his ankle, knee and stomach areas, although his injuries were not deemed life threatening but he suffered blood loss and required surgery.

The male is currently under the supervision of Sefton YOT and had complied with his order up until the time of this incident. A full Critical Learning Review is underway and the learning points will be shared.

Sefton YOT took responsibility for a number of actions as a result of strategy meetings and continues to offer support and manage the court order.

Digital Advantage

Sefton has nominated 12 young people to engage in an innovative project which supports people to develop business ideas and build them on line. It's a unique opportunity for 15-17yrs olds to develop skills to enable them to be apprenticeship and work ready in a number of environments, but in particular the creative IT industry which has future apprenticeship on offer locally.

The project will be delivered in August 2017 by industry experts supported by two TYP workers and the young people are currently involved with TYP. There will be a celebration event at the end of the project to showcase the participants' success.

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The project team are already securing opportunities as exit pathways to new experiences, involving local partners including Innovators Hub, Maghull Radio, Arvato and The Atkinson Centre.

New Beginnings - LGBTQ

Following the growth and success of the New Beginnings session in Crosby, staff from TYP are in process of developing and extending provision of New beginnings in Southport which will be launched in July-August 2017.

TYP is also working in partnership with Merseyside Police via the Sefton Community Group and also a Transgender Community to develop stronger community links. Merseyside Community Engagement Team are dedicated to supporting the community to work with the police, who have also recognised that they need to work better with the LGBTQ community more specifically the Trans community.

HOUSING

Work with Registered Providers

We are looking to re-establish new relationships with the Registered Provider (RP) sector in the context of their operating models and principles. It is apparent to many that some are increasingly behaving as private companies; we need to redefine our partnerships in this context. The 2016 Housing and Planning Act introduces the voluntary Right to Buy imposed on housing associations, as well as other potential regulatory changes.

There are also opportunities to work positively with housing associations on issues such as welfare reform, improving health outcomes, sharing data and support to deliver council priorities, which I would like to explore in 2017/18.

Homes and Community Agency

The Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) issued their prospectus for the next Affordable Housing funding round (2016-2021). However, virtually all of the funding was originally only available for low cost home ownership products. The results of this bid round were announced in early January 2017.

We have been advised by HCA that four scheme bids have been successful for Sefton, for funding to build new low cost ownership homes on sites in Southport, Thornton, Litherland and Melling.

The Chancellors 2016 Autumn Statement signals a change in Government positioning on affordable housing. Not only did the Government announce an extra £1.4bn of funding, but also that a third of this would be available for affordable rented homes. In the north of Sefton, particularly, there is a greater need for more affordable rented housing, so the change may help Registered Providers to deliver rented homes to meet this need.

The Autumn Statement announced a total of £5.4bn for a housing delivery programme. As well as the funds for affordable housing:

- £2.3bn Housing Investment fund. Available to bring forward housing development sites, mainly by private developers to deliver market housing. Delivery must be by 2021, in areas/sites where there is strong demand.
- £1.7bn accelerated construction fund – aimed at bringing forward surplus public sector land. This could include opportunities to buy land. HCA will require developers to build at a faster pace.

Housing Development Company

I am also the Cabinet Member sponsoring the investigation to set up a council wholly owned housing company that could build and sell and/or rent at a variety of levels. Due to the sensitivities

of the markets this is confidential. Cabinet approved in principle the creation of a Sefton housing development company at the meeting on the 1st of September 2016.

Subject to successful feasibility and outline viability studies (these are currently being developed) we should be able to collate and report on the viability of the concept, at the Cabinet meeting in September. If all goes to plan then a Sefton Council development company could be up and running by the end of 2017.

The plan and options we have set out to date would additionally have the flexibility to compliment any proposals brought forward by the Combined Authority, subject to working through the fine detail. Clearly this is a highly confidential and sensitive piece of work that I am leading with officers currently.

Private Rented Sector Licencing

We are progressing well with the private landlord licensing scheme. As you are aware the Government changed the legislation to make it very difficult to introduce borough wide schemes, as the current rule limiting schemes to no more than 20% of private rented housing stock would not enable this to happen. We urgently need a licensing scheme in Bootle, Seaforth/Waterloo and Southport. A formal report and business case was approved by Cabinet on 1st December 2016, setting out our proposals.

A formal 12 week consultation, required by Law, is being undertaken, which commenced on the 1st of April 2017 and will run for 12 weeks up to the 24th June. This consultation has been widely promoted.

Legal provisions will enable us to have three different schemes - focusing on the licensing of all private landlords in Bootle, but developing stronger 'Additional HMO' licensing schemes to cover more types of HMO properties for Southport and Waterloo. So this is the approach I am taking to maximise our impact and also run the development of all the schemes together. The draft programme should see the three schemes implemented in Sefton by January 2018. I will update colleagues regularly as we make progress with these proposals.

Housing and Planning Act - Private rented sector enforcement

The Act was introduced in the summer of 2016 and includes six measures designed to tackle rogue landlords and property agents:

- Banning orders for most prolific offenders;
- Database of rogue landlords/property agents;
- Civil penalties of up to £30,000;
- Extension of Rent Repayment Orders;
- Tougher Fit and Proper Person test for landlords;
- Tenancy Deposit Protection Scheme data sharing.

However, all of these new measures will require new regulations to be introduced by Government before they can be implemented. For example the Government has recently issued a consultation on what offences could result in a banning order. Following this consultation the Government has indicated that it will seek to introduce regulations to come into force in October 2017. I intend to review the Council's own housing enforcement policies when there is greater clarity over these new measures.

In the meantime officers in the Housing Standards team take enforcement actions and occasional prosecutions.

Housing Strategy

Our new Sefton Housing Strategy was approved by Cabinet in June 2016. I have recently agreed a Delivery Plan, which was published in January Page 45 then look to prioritise and implement many

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actions, including the Landlord Licensing schemes. We will also use this as the basis for engagement with a wide variety of housing partners.

Bellway Homes have begun remediation and site preparation works on the Klondyke Phase2-3 site, which is the final phase of new development from the former HMRI programme. Communications have been ongoing with local residents. Bellway Homes hope to begin construction of new housing in July/August this year.

Homeless services and Housing Options Service

The Council has a legal duty to adopt a Homelessness Strategy. We adopted the current strategy in September 2013, together with a Delivery Plan. Together with our service delivery partners, we have reviewed the delivery plan, and I have recently approved an updated version with a number of new actions. During the course of 2018, we will have to undertake a formal review of homelessness in Sefton, with a view to adopting a new strategy by September 2018.

The Homeless Reduction Act received royal ascent recently. The principle behind the Act is to confer a legal duty on local authorities to provide homeless prevention services to all people who are potentially homeless. This mirrors the current legislation in Wales.

The current legislation (Housing Act 1996 as amended) broadly states that we must provide “housing advice to all” and “homeless assessment and resolution to those in priority need”. There was previously no legislation covering “prevention activity”, rather it is promoted as value for money good practice. Most local authorities only offer specific homeless prevention services to those who are deemed to be in priority need.

The Act once enforced will enforce a statutory duty to provide homeless prevention services to all people who are threatened with homelessness irrespective of whether they are in priority or not. The Act will offer more protection for people who are homeless or threatened with homelessness, at an earlier stage, to a greater number of people than we are currently obliged to assist.

The new Act is likely to become law “early 2018” so we should assume April 2018 at the latest. We will need to monitor and assess the impact of the new measures on the demand for Council services, particularly as we move toward the introduction of Locality teams in 2018.

Gypsy & Traveller Encampments

I have received report concerning the increased numbers of unauthorised Gypsy & Traveller encampments that have arrived in the borough over the summer period and the impact on the Council’s resources. Southport Area Committee considered the same topic and have requested that the Council looks to provide a transit site in the borough. The Local Plan identifies a potential site for this. I will be reviewing what action can be taken in future to help deliver a Traveller Transit site provision.

<p>CABINET MEMBER UPDATE REPORT</p> <p>Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills – July 2017)</p>		
<i>COUNCILLOR</i>	<i>PORTFOLIO</i>	<i>DATE</i>
Ian Moncur	Health and Well Being	July 2017

PARKS AND GREENSPACES

Community Resilience

Community self-management/Market testing of empty buildings

The service continues to explore new opportunities to facilitate community, sports and other groups taking on self-management of their facilities and features. In addition to existing arrangements, developing discussions are ongoing with a combination of groups and a market test exercise is to be undertaken to hopefully find suitable users for empty buildings (which may include commercial lettings).

ASB Initiatives

In response to issues of antisocial behaviour related to bicycles in and around the areas of Victoria and Coronation Parks, the Community Parks Team are working with Neighbourhoods and Active Travel/Cycling UK Development Officer to put together an initiative to address these issues that are of particular concern to the community as they are also leading to theft of bicycles (sometimes by force).

Creating and Building Partnerships

In addition to the ongoing partnership that has been established with Santander since 2014, Parks and Greenspaces are building relationships further with several external partners such as; Access Point and McDonalds. Initially, Access Point came on board to complete a 100 volunteering hour's target with its staff, but have since decided to continue volunteering in Hesketh Park; and McDonalds are due to get involved in quarterly litter-picks in North Sefton.

To expand the partnership element of the Service even further a focused and pro-active marketing initiative will take place in 2017.

Community Hubs

Botanic Gardens Community Hub: The Hub has now entered its operational phase with most of its partners now established on-site. As the partners become more established they will seek to channel their efforts into providing positive projects and activities in Botanic Gardens. Current

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partners include The Community Parks Officers, the Botanic Gardens Community Association, Sefton New Directions, Macmillan Cancer Care, Arden College and The Botanic Gardens Café.

Further works are being developed for new Community Hub concepts throughout the borough including Orrell Mount Park, Hesketh Park, and others.

Capital schemes

Hesketh Park Observatory

Refurbishment works have been completed on site to the dome and mechanism of the Observatory. A celebration and commemorative event is being planned in conjunction with the community groups involved.

King's Gardens

The last of the capital works is almost complete; this sees a new balustrade wall on the lower promenade from the play area to the end of the mini golf and will see the last of the lighting installed. All seventeen sets of steps repaired and made more accessible to those with disabilities, and a hand rail added to the Venetian bridge.

An innovative art project has been completed with Southport College under the Venetian bridge in Kings Gardens. This has seen an area previously suffering from graffiti now decorated by young people. This has been taken as good practice and a further project is now planned for under the Marine Way Bridge.

Benchmarking/ Awards

Green Flag Award

In 2017/18 in addition to the 8 existing Green flag Award applications (Botanic Gardens, Hesketh Park, Lord Street Gardens, King's Gardens, Coronation Park, Hatton Hill Park, Derby Park and North Park) two further applications were judged in May for Killen Green Park, Netherton and Duke Street Park, Formby.

Green Flag Community Award

In 2017 we are also assisting community groups in retaining the Green Flag Community Award i.e. Rotten Row, Southport, St Luke's Church Grounds, North Park Community Garden, involving the Gateway Collective and Ykids; and Bridge Inn Community Farm, Formby. We are assisting the Friends of Ainsdale Village Park with a new application for 2017/18; EDDA are also submitting a 2017/18 application for the first time.

In Bloom and It's Your Neighbourhood Awards

The 2017 NWiB Entries are underway and Groups are being encouraged to submit entries it is anticipated that the same number of entries will be made as last year.

The Open Golf 2017

Preparations continue for the Open Golf which takes place 16th-23rd July. Bedford Park, Waterloo Road Rec, Carr Lane and (possibly) Sandbrook Road Rec will all be used for visitor park and ride.

CABINET MEMBER UPDATE REPORT		
Councillor	Portfolio	Period of Report
Cllr Fairclough	Overview & Scrutiny (Regeneration and Skills)	June 2017

Strategic Transport

Port Access

- The City Region Port Access Steering Group continues to meet every two months, being chaired by Sefton Chief Executive. The most recent meeting was on the 20th March.
- The programme of interventions is continuing including rail infrastructure requirements, promotion of coastal and inland shipping, short term highway improvement measures and detailed studies into the options for long term major highway improvement. Work on the doubling of the rail line into the Port has been delayed and is now expected to take place in 2018.
- The Highways England report on the consultation on two options for a major road improvement to the Port of Liverpool has not yet been published and was delayed due to the general election purdah. Highways England is expected to seek further discussions with the Council regarding the Council's response to the consultation. A decision on a preferred option is expected later in 2017.

LTP & Growth Plan

- Sefton is continuing to work with Merseytravel and the other Merseyside authorities on the delivery of the transport capital programme.
- Work has started on developing the sustainable transport intervention proposals for Years 3-6 as part of the City Region programme. Sefton has three schemes approved as part of the programme, amounting to almost £3m of allocated funding. This consists of three phases of improvements on the A565, in Seaforth, Waterloo and Thornton, as well as a cycle route between Maghull and Kirkby and East-West cycle improvements in Southport. The proposals for the first phase of the A565 improvements, in Seaforth, were approved by Area Committee and will be going out to tender once the capital programme has been approved.
- Work is continuing on the land acquisition process for the A565 North Liverpool Key Corridor Improvements (led by Liverpool City Council). A Statement of Case has been prepared in advance of a CPO Public Inquiry in August. Negotiations have been undertaken with the two objectors in Sefton to enable them to withdraw their objections before the Inquiry. The consultation strategy for local businesses and residents is being implemented to ensure that people are kept informed of the progress of the scheme. Discussions are ongoing with the Port and other businesses fronting Regent Road in order to agree details of how cyclists using the proposed cycle route can interface safely with the HGV's accessing and egressing the main port entrances.

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- The contractor appointed for the delivery of M58 J1 scheme has been proceeding with the design of the scheme and the commissioning of essential survey work. The planning application for the scheme was submitted at the end of May. The appointment of an Employer's Agent to support the Council has been finalised, subject to satisfactory references. With the land requirements now fully defined, the Council's appointed agent is conducting negotiations with each owner and tenant so that Heads of Terms can be agreed. Cabinet approved a report on 6th April giving authority to make a Compulsory Purchase Order.
- Maghull North Railway station is progressing. Merseytravel and Network Rail are proceeding with the scheme design process. Now that the planning application has been approved, there is only limited involvement for Sefton. The scheme as a whole remains on programme with work due to commence on-site in August 2017 and opening to passengers with the start of the Summer 2018 timetable in May 2018.
- The Council has been awarded £180,000 of City Region Feasibility Fund towards the project development work on the Southport Eastern Access and the Maritime Corridor projects. The funding will be used for option development and testing and development of a strategic outline case for Southport Eastern Access and for traffic modelling and option testing for the Maritime Corridor.

Local Transport Schemes

- The delivery of the LTP Capital Programme for 2016/17 has been completed and the out-turns are being reviewed. An initial Transportation Capital Programme for 2017/18 has been developed and discussed with Cabinet Member. Approval of the programme will be completed once Council has approved amendments to the Council's Capital Programme.

Sustainable Transport

- The Sefton Circular Cycle Route was launched on 21st May with more than 400 people taking part.

Permit Scheme

- The second annual review of the permit scheme has been undertaken and is available to view on the website. The review can confirm the positive effect of the permit scheme once again and shows a benefit to society of £3.4million.

Winter Service

- Cabinet Member has once again asked officers to write to all elected members as part of the annual consultation and review of the winter service policy and operational plan. Letters will be going to members very shortly.
- Revised guidance from the Department for Transport is imminent.

FCERM

- Work continues on the investigations on the Pool and Nile watercourses in Southport. Opportunities are being explored to work in partnership with the Healthy Rivers Trust to restore some of the piped watercourse to an open watercourse.

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- Coastal protection schemes at Crosby continue to be developed and Environment Agency Grant in Aid Funding has been approved to support the project development. Discussions are also underway with United Utilities regarding contributions to part of the scheme.
- Sefton Council are moving away from maintaining watercourses not in its ownership and are supporting the riparian owners in undertaking their responsibilities.

Key Route Network

- Work continues across the region on KRN issues.
- Benchmarking of service levels and standards is continuing to establish levels of consistency and allow gap analysis to be undertaken. An update report has been prepared for TAG on 20th June 2017
- A further draft of the section 111 agreement has been shared with district lawyers for comment

Road Safety

- The LCR road safety strategy has been finalised and is awaiting sign off by the Mayor

Street Lighting

- As part of the budget savings proposals approved at Council in March, the current street lighting 'night scouting' service is due to cease. It is currently anticipated that the service will continue to operate until September following which the Council will become predominantly reliant on fault reports from the public.
- Also as part of the budget savings proposals the in-house street lighting maintenance service is to be outsourced to an external contractor. Work is progressing well on the preparation of the tenders. It is currently anticipated that it could be January 2018 before the new service will become operational.

Traffic Signals

- Work continues on the LCR joint Traffic Signal maintenance contract. Tenders are expected to go out in July 17 with a go live date for the Contract being 1st April 2018.
- Consideration continues to being given to upgrading the existing video wall in the traffic signals control room. The current equipment has now exceeded its operational life and is causing some regular maintenance issues with associated costs. Outline costings have now been received. Subject to available resources a procurement exercise will be undertaken later this year to renew the equipment.
- Initial discussions have now commenced on beginning to migrate some of the traffic signal communication circuits from analogue to digital technology. This

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work will need to be developed and delivered over the next few years as the current analogue circuits provided by BT are to be withdrawn after March 2020. Without the communication circuits the Council will be unable to monitor and coordinate the traffic signals remotely.

Highway Maintenance

- Remedial works to the defective surface dressing that was laid last year have been put back and are now due to commence in late July. The costs associated with the remedial works are being underwritten by the Contractor.
- The grass cutting and weed spray programme have now recommenced and will be ongoing until the autumn.

Catering Services:

Holly Charnock, the Cook in Charge at Woodlands Primary School has won the 'Locality & Community Award' at the recent STAR Awards ceremony held at The Atkinson.

Catering Services are providing a 'mini diner' during the event for children attending the festival. This will replicate the school meal 'experience' and is designed to provide a positive experience as to what school meals entail, and also to promote the service and encourage more children to take up the offer of a warm nutritious meal each day as opposed to packed lunches and snacks.

Work is underway to provide meals for Sefton's 'Access to Food' Programme during the forthcoming summer school holidays. Working with colleagues from the Communities Department and our Children's Centres, we will be providing meals for children that might otherwise go without a nutritious hot meal when schools are closed. Last year's programme was a great success but was centred in South Sefton. It is hoped that this year the programme will be expanded to include all areas of the Borough.

Transport & Vehicle Maintenance:

Inspections have been undertaken and the necessary authorisations have been granted by VOSA for the installation of the tachograph equipment at Hawthorne Road Depot. It is envisaged that the service will be fully operational by mid-July. This will not only provide a saving for our own fleet but also generate additional income from private external contractors utilising the services offered by the Council.

MOT service has shown a marked increase in customers over the first two months of the financial year. Plans have been developed to further promote and market the services on offer to the wider public.

Transport & Vehicle Maintenance:

Initial investigations and work has begun on setting up the HGV MOT Testing Station at Hawthorne Road Depot. There will be some minor changes required to the existing MOT set-up to create an additional escape route from under the vehicles, as we will likely need to lengthen the pit lane.

The service is also implementing the plan to offer a tachograph repair and calibration service. Consultations and expressions of interest have been sought from local

businesses of road haulage, which is a requirement of VOSA. So far over 140 letters of support have been received from local hauliers and businesses as there is currently no provision within Sefton for either HGV testing or Tachograph calibration/repair.

Burial and Cremation Service

Fee changes

The service now offers two new fees designed to expand the service offer, increase value for money for the mourner/family, and also mitigating/reduce income loss due to new private sector competition. The new fees are a 'direct cremation' fee and 'early morning midweek fee' (Southport Crematorium only). A 'Direct Cremation' is a cremation without a chapel service. By offering this service at a reduced fee, the high-demand time slots at the crematorium are protected. It also enables local funeral directors to increase their offer, and it will mitigate losses of direct cremations to the new private sector facility at West Lancashire Crematorium. The early morning midweek time slots at Southport Crematorium were generally used for 'basic' funeral services. These have decreased since the opening of the private sector West Lancashire Crematorium (which offers lower price cremations for funerals before 10:00am). The early morning midweek fee will offer a more competitive low cost funeral option for customers using funeral directors based within the Southport and West Lancashire Crematoria catchment.

Grounds maintenance and cleansing

Since April 2017, the emptying of the litter bins has been undertaken by the in-house Cleansing Services team. The transition from the previous private sector contractor has been both smooth and efficient, and has resulted in additional capacity being released for the wider grounds maintenance contract at no extra cost.

Bootle Cemetery – Section 106 works

Improvements have now been completed including boundary painting, baby garden painting, and tree-planting across the site. Feedback received so far from visitors is very complimentary.

Duke Street Cemetery

A meeting was held in January 2017 with Kew Ward elected members to investigate opportunities to improve the aesthetics of the entrance area. A number of relatively small-scale schemes are now being developed, and following consultation with the Cabinet Member Locality Services, will be presented for funding from the relevant ward budget.

Liverpool Road Cemetery

In order to generate additional revenues within the service, following the opening of the new private sector facility in Burscough, a new 'Natural Meadow Burial' area has been completed. Finishing works are still required and graves will be available in late 2017.

Southport Crematorium

The Crematorium is now connected to the network via fibre optic cable. This will enable new software procurement, streamlining of ICT, and will enable opportunities for greater staff efficiency/joint working with Thornton Garden of Rest. Quotes are also being sought to replace the existing chapel windows at Southport which have reached the end of their operational life.

Cleansing Services:

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Waste & Recycling Operations

Access issues as a result of inconsiderate parking by car owners have caused considerable issues for the Cleansing (waste) operation of late. A 'mobilisation programme' is being developed in conjunction with colleagues in Traffic Management and once potential sites for additional/enhanced road markings are identified, the report will be presented to the Cabinet Member for consideration.

The water main burst on the northward carriageway of the Formby by-pass has added considerable time to collection crews in Ainsdale/ Birkdale & Southport during the first week in June. Some collections were missed on the scheduled day and have necessitated a collection the following day, due to the re-routing of traffic through Formby Village. Updates have been provided daily to the contact centre and where appropriate, to the Ward Members.

Street Cleansing

The Aintree Grand National meeting was a huge success in terms of attendees (some 160,000 over the 3 day festival). Liaison took place with colleagues in Liverpool Council and Highways England over litter removal over the four day festival. During this period the two Councils collected some 40 tonnes of waste, with the largest clear up being on Sunday after the Grand National, when some 10 tonnes of rubbish was collected in Sefton alone.

The major review of cleansing standards, frequencies and tasks has been undertaken in order to meet the financial targets associated with the service following a number and range of saving options over recent years. This is also obviously coupled with also trying to meet the expectations of stakeholders, including residents, elected members, businesses and visitors. This report to Cabinet Member will be available and presented in July 2017.

CABINET MEMBER UPDATE REPORT Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) - 4 th July 2017		
COUNCILLOR	PORTFOLIO	DATE
Daren Veidman	Cabinet Member Planning and Building Control	4 July 2017

1. Local Planning

The Sefton Local Plan

- 1.1 The Inspector's report into the Local Plan examination was received by the Council on 17th March 2017. This enabled the Local Plan to be adopted on 20th April 2017 and its policies supersede those in the UDP which was revoked.
- 1.2 Permission is being sought to proceed with a legal challenge to the Local Plan was received on 30th May 2017. It relates to policy NH4 'The Sefton Coast' in the Local Plan, and relates to the Coastal Change Management Area (CCMA) which is shown on Policies Map. The boundary of the CCMA was amended during the course of the examination in the Formby area to follow the line of the Local Geological Site rather than the Green Belt boundary, and was published for comments as part of the Modifications to the Local Plan in summer 2016.
- 1.3 Counsel's advice is being sought and updates will be provided once it is known if the challenge can proceed and what the likely timescales for this are. However, it should be noted that the challenge does not affect the rest of the Local Plan.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

- 1.4 Although it had been hoped to have the CIL draft charging schedule approved by Council in July, this has not proved possible for a number of reasons, including the fact that we have been waiting to see the Inspector's report into the Chester and Cheshire West Inspector's report following their CIL examination. This was delayed due to the purdah periods for the mayoral election and the general election. This will help us take into account any changes that will help reduce our CIL examination and ensure that the document we submit addresses any issues likely to be raised.
- 1.5 CIL has also been delayed to ensure sufficient evidence is available to support the levy rates at the examination. The emerging evidence was showing that viability of development has come under pressure recently primarily due to an increase in build costs.

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Our viability consultants are undertaking further work, particularly in respect of recent home sales. This will ensure the CIL rates in Sefton are set at a rate that secures a suitable rate that will help support local services and infrastructure. The Draft CIL is expected to be approved for publication in September.

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)

- 1.6 Consultation took place on 5 SPDs, 2 Information notes and a Scoping Paper on the external sale of goods from March – May 2017. The responses are now being assessed prior to the final documents being recommended for approval by Cabinet in July.
- 1.7 We are also preparing a programme for reviewing and updating the remaining Supplementary Planning Guidance Notes (SPGs) and SPDs to reflect the fact that the Local Plan has been adopted.

Other planning policy work

- 1.8 Work on the Liverpool City Region-wide Strategic and Employment Land Market Assessment (SHELMA) has slipped, primarily due to the inability to approve a draft document for technical engagement during the recent purdah period. Discussions have begun about follow up work that may be required to take this forward, although this will be influenced by the requirements of the Liverpool City Region mayor.
- 1.9 The Authority Monitoring Report (AMR), Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) and housing trajectory were approved by the Cabinet Member: Planning and Building Control in May.
- 1.10 We have been advised that the 4 Neighbourhood Plans being prepared by five Town and Parish Councils will be submitted for examination in the near future. This will impose new challenges on the team as we organise examinations for each.
- 1.11 Members of the Local Plans team continue to provide policy advice on all relevant planning applications and pre-application inquiries, and the two planning officers are also processing their own caseload of applications.

2. Heritage and Conservation

Heritage at Risk Sites

- 2.1 We are continuing to work towards the removal of the 6 Heritage at Risk Areas from the National Register. This includes a number of different work areas including raising their profile, regeneration funding bids, working with the local community, Conservation Area Appraisals and taking enforcement and other legal action in relation to a number of derelict sites and listed buildings in these Areas including the major Lord Street Verandah project.

Heritage Trails

- 2.2 The trails project has now been completed and trails for the Heritage at risk areas relating to Parks and Gardens, Waterloo and Lord Street Conservation Area have now been published following successful press release and launch and have been distributed accordingly. a distribution list is currently being formulated. They will also be marketed through the Visit Southport website and at the forthcoming Open Golf.
- 2.3 The aims of the project have been met in that all the information provided has been provided by the local community and the costs have been met by Historic England. The trails will raise the Heritage profile of these areas and thus attract more cultural visitors, for day trips and longer stays. It will build up the capacity and commitment of local communities to champion the conservation and enhancement of their own local historic environment and boost civic pride. The identified outputs are:
- Community groups are better able to deliver other such activities in the future
 - Communities feel greater sense of ownership of the heritage trails in their areas
 - Individual volunteers have a better understanding and ability in photographing historic places
 - Younger people are engaged in looking at, and recording their historic environment
 - The wider community are more interested in and therefore care more for the historic environment
 - The local visitor economy is boosted.

Development Management

- 2.4 In terms of the general day to day responsibilities, allied to the increased development pressure which the wider Service is facing, the Conservation officers have formulated 77 detailed consultation responses from February to April on planning applications and pre-applications relating to a number of Listed Buildings and developments within a number of our Conservation Areas. We have also provided expert advice at Public Hearings and also continued on site monitoring and enforcement action.

3. Development Management

3.1 The performance for 2016-17 was well above the government targets. However, the pressure on this part of the Service is increasing due to more complex proposals following the receipt of the Inspector's report into the Local Plan.

3.2 From 1st March to 31st May we have approved 186 units of residential accommodation, comprising 27 applications.

The following 12 major developments were considered and approved by the service/Planning Committee.

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Address	Proposal
45 Ormskirk Road, Aintree Liverpool L9 5AF	Outline planning application with details of access and layout for the erection of A1 (Retail) or A2 (Financial & Professional Services) or A3 (Restaurant & Cafes) units with associated parking following the demolition of existing buildings
Units 1, 2 And 3, 215-217 Knowsley Road, Bootle L20 4NR	Change of use from car sales and repairs (Sui Generis) to a children's indoor soft play area (D2) with associated parking
Marble Place, Southport PR8 1DF	Erection of a 96 bedroomed hotel and replacement retail unit on the ground floor after partial demolition and remodelling of the existing shopping centre
Brooklands Farm, Brewery Lane, Melling L31 1EZ	Erection of 11 detached two storey dwellinghouses after demolition of existing buildings
101 Liverpool Road, Lydiate Liverpool L31 2LX	Outline Planning Application with some matters reserved (appearance, landscaping and scale) for the demolition of an existing dormer bungalow and the erection of 12 no. flats with associated car parking
27 Brook Road, Maghull Liverpool L31 3EG	Construction of a residential block containing 12 self-contained apartments
Parkhaven Trust, Liverpool Road South Maghull L31 8BR	Construction of a residential development comprising 57 dwellings, new highway access from Green Lane and relocation of existing growing plots
Site Of 43 And 45 Leyland Road, Southport	Erection of 14 self-contained flats
Parkhaven Trust Liverpool Road South, Maghull	Outline planning application for the erection of a 45 bedroom nursing home after demolition of existing building
Land Adjacent To 5 And Opposite 10-34 George Drive And 19-22 Elizabeth Avenue Birkdale Southport	Erection of 10 dwellings and eight self-contained apartments with associated car parking and landscaping
Glenn Buildings And 10 Moor Lane, Moor Lane, Crosby Liverpool L23 2UN	Refurbishment of the Glenn Buildings (south) including insertion of new shop fronts and alterations to the rear, with A1-A5 uses permitted at ground floor and D1, D2 or B1a uses permitted at first floor. Demolition of DIY store at 10 Moor Lane and replacement with new A1-A5 retail units and all associated works
Atlantic House, Derby Road, Bootle L20 8LP	Approval of Reserved Matters for Phase 2 two-storey extension to the premises in respect of access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale pursuant to outline planning permission reference DC/2014/01552 granted 24 October 2014

3.3 We have received a total of 501 applications in this time scale, including 71 pre application inquiries.

3.4 The capacity of the Service is stretched by the increased pressure relating to the processing of these applications. It is a team effort across the Service to process, assess and determine applications expediently and in line with Government targets.

3.5 The 20% proposed increase of planning fees and additional fee income through entering Planning Performance Agreements (PPAs) has allowed us to recruit further staff which will be critical to maintaining a high level of performance as we are already beginning to receive complex and contentious proposals following the adoption of the Local Plan in April.

3.6 PPAs enable us to agree a defined level of service with the applicant which adds to the workload of the team. While further staff have been appointed, it will take some time for the effect of this to be felt as they will not be in post until late summer.

Enforcement update

3.7 The number and persistence of complaints on even relatively minor schemes is a major drain on limited resources and inhibits the ability of the Service to focus on more complex proposals. Notwithstanding this, no complaint has been upheld by the ombudsman during the past year.

3.8 A long standing and experienced member of the enforcement team has gone part time from 1st April and we are in the process of recruiting a new enforcement officer. This highlights the need for succession planning in order to retain expertise in this important part of our Service which has been built up over many years.

Review of the quarter from 1st March to 31st May 2017:

- New cases – 159
- Cases resolved – 68
- Formal action: 1 x enforcement notice
- 23 retrospective applications totalling £8,153.

4. Building Control

Performance targets

4.1 The Building Control Team continues to meet its statutory targets as well the performance targets it sets locally. The year-end results show that the Teams market share for 2016/17 was 75% - which remains equal to or better than that of neighbouring Authorities and is significantly above the average for English Councils, which stands at 67%.

Income and financial performance

4.2 Initial financial results for 2016/17 show a 16% increase in Building Regulation income in comparison with the previous year. This, together with a modest increase in charges for 2017/18 should ensure that the Building Control Team continues to be self-funding in providing a Building Regulation service and can part subsidise the various statutory elements of the work undertaken by the Building Control Team.

Grand National race meeting and the Open Golf Championship at Royal Birkdale

4.3 The Building Control Team administers various legislation associated with 'Safety at Sports Grounds' and annually assess' the safety all of the permanent and temporary structures at Aintree Racecourse, in preparation for the annual Grand National meeting. This involves checking plans and structural calculations, as well as making sure that all structures / buildings have suitable 'means of escape' in case of fire.

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In addition, site inspections are carried out during the build-up to the event to ensure that permanent structures are adequately maintained and that temporary structures are correctly erected and are in accordance with approved plans. As part of the process, the Building Control Team liaises closely with Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service to ensure that they kept abreast of the fire and evacuation strategy for all structures within the sports ground. At Aintree Racecourse, there are 5 permanent grandstands all of which have been issued with their own individual Safety Certificate and these certificates are issued by the Council's Regulatory & Licencing Committee, on the receipt of technical advice / recommendations by the Building Control Team.

This year, the Building Control Team are also faced with having to carry out a similar function at Royal Birkdale, in preparation for the 2017 Open Golf Championship

5. Technical Support

Performance

5.1 Performance against targets has increased within the last quarter:

- The validation of planning applications within 5 days has remained above target at 93% (8% above target)
- The team registered and acknowledged 95% enforcement complaints within 3 days (15% over target)
- Booking in of Building Control applications remains to 97% within 3 working days (1% above target).
- 100% of pre-application enquiries were validated within 3 working days (6% above target)
- The team achieved 98% of land charge searches within 12 working days (2% below target). The reduced level was due to high levels of staff sickness and the Christmas shutdown. Performance for February and March was at 100%.

Service Development

5.2 Officers have been involved in the upgrade of software systems for Land Charges. The system is now able to record VAT against each search as required by HMRC. Officers have been setting up the system and ensuring the changes are fit for purpose.

5.3 Business process review and setting up new procedures to deal with requests for fast track services. This includes services provided within Planning Services and those provided by the Contact Centre.

5.4 Monitoring work is ongoing for the preparation of the Annual Monitoring Report and the Strategic Housing Land Availability Appraisal.

5.5 SIMON+ has been deployed to Planning users to replace Planweb for intranet mapping functions. User Acceptance Testing, issue resolution and in-house training has been undertaken.

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CABINET MEMBER UPDATE REPORT		
Councillor	Portfolio	Period of Report
Marion Atkinson	Overview & Scrutiny Cabinet Member Regeneration & Skills	July 2017

REGENERATION

The Regeneration Team is playing an active role in the authority's Growth Programme, providing a programme management function and playing a key role in the successful purchase of The Strand Shopping Centre in Bootle and delivering a programme.

Town Centres

Work over the winter and spring period has enabled Town Centre Action Plans to have been prepared for Bootle, Crosby and Southport. This follows the publication of the associated Development or Investment Frameworks.

The Action Plans are representative of the work streams/themes and priorities that will be progressed over the coming months and years. They are not Council centric and relate to all potential stakeholders and deliverers.

The Authority's role will be to stimulate, facilitate and enable the regeneration of each of the Town Centre with developers and other agencies and stakeholders providing the direct investment.

Across each of the town centres discussions are ongoing with potential investors and developers to bring viable development sites to fruition. Project ideas are being scoped out and options reviewed.

Within Crosby Town Centre phase 3 of the Section 106 environmental improvement works, the installation of new street furniture is underway and due to complete in August 2017.

In Bootle the purchase of the Strand Shopping Centre was completed in April and now provides for the Council to agree and masterplan the Canal side area and wider town centre retail contribution the Strand will make.

Additionally the Town Hall Heritage Complex has been considered further on within this report.

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Funding Opportunities

The team are exploring opportunities for funding to support regeneration initiatives through:

One Public Estate

OPE (Round 6): Following the General Election the government will open up requests for OPE funding. It is anticipated that a call will be made in late June with submissions by August.

Building on the work undertaken in the Early Intervention and Prevention (EIP) programme and the unsuccessful, yet commended, Round 5 proposals we will explore opportunities for funding and develop robust proposals to enable the Council and multi-agency partners to move to Place Based working.

European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

A funding bid with a total value of £7.9m has been prepared through Viridis (a collective of housing providers and local authorities) with Sefton Council acting as Accountable Body and submitted to the Department of Communities and Local Government. Although it does not fall within the Regeneration portfolio, the outcomes of the proposed project will see installation of energy efficiency measures. A decision on this funding bid is expected at the end of June.

The team supported the successful funding bid for **Coastal Communities Fund**: for the regeneration and refurbishment of Southport Pier.

Broadband – ‘gain share’

The Regeneration Team has supported the delivery of the Merseyside Connected project in Sefton. The project was delivered through a gap funding model where state aid was used to provide top up funding without which the broadband services would not have been financially viable. As a result of this take up of those broadband services has exceeded agreed thresholds. Consequently, BT has agreed to repay an element of the funding known as ‘gain share’.

Gain share funding will be used to continue the Merseyside Connected Programme for one year to provide additional broadband services throughout the LCR. This project will run from July 2017 to June 2018, the programme is currently being worked up but it is envisaged that a number of cabinets in Sefton serving hundreds of properties both residential and business will be upgraded to superfast status.

Southport Business Park

Site investigations are coming to a conclusion and a final report is being considered by the Council’s Contaminated Land Officer. Information contained within the report is now being used to help understand the condition of the ground in relation to its impact on the cost of developing the site for new business premises.

Concurrently officers have initiated detailed discussions with businesses and developers interested in bringing forward detailed proposals for the site. This will be a follow up from earlier initial discussions.

Work is underway to commission a development marketing strategy that will assist in bringing forward the remaining parcels of land on the Business Park.

Combined Authority SIF Round 1

Officers continue to liaise with the Combined Authority to refine the detail and assist in the development of the two principle Single Investment Fund Bids (SIF) that the Combined Authority opened before the Christmas break 2016.

Chancerygate, Mersey Reach has progressed through to a Final Business Case and is being further appraised given the application for some grant assistance to help remediate this large employment site along Dunning Bridge Road.

If the scheme moves forward through to implementation a total of circa 380 jobs will be created within the locality in addition to tackling a brown field site that has lain dormant for many years. The opportunity to regenerate the site remains subject to the award of SIF.

A further application has been made by Royal London for the Atlantic Park Employment site also along Dunning Bridge Road, Bootle. The scheme put forward by the investor developer will look to create 100,000 sq.ft of commercial and employment space in the next speculative phase and 531,00 sq ft beneath their overall masterplan. This site has the potential to create circa 1,200 jobs if all the parcels within the hybrid planning application were to progress.

Bootle Town Hall Heritage Complex

The Bootle Investment Framework sets out the aspiration for the Complex and a first first opportunity is being looked at what role the Council could take to develop out this unique set of built assets which have played such an important role in Bootle's history over the past 150 years.

I will shortly bring forward more details of the priorities we wish to achieve to ensure the sustainable development of the Complex in due course.

TOURISM

Business Tourism

- In the fourth quarter of 2016/17, three more conferences were confirmed worth around £2.3m. This makes a total of 20 for the 2016/17 fiscal year, worth approx. £11.5m in economic impact and bringing a potential of around 25,000 bed nights to accommodation providers.

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- Live enquiries added to the system during the 2016/17 period totalled 55 which if converted would be worth IRO £78.9m to the area.

Open Golf Championship 2017

- Ticket sales continue to be strong, on current trends over 200,000 people will visit the event.
- Multi Agency operational groups have produced and signed off their associated plans including: - Contingency Plan, Transport Management Plan, Medical Plan, Media Schedule and Protocol and Incident Response Plan.
- The Local Authority has established a number of management groups to ensure Sefton achieve commercial strategic aims and objectives. Detailed activities are in place around the key themes of Destination Presentation, Employment & Skills, Marketing & Communications and Hospitality & Investment. This will ensure that as a result of hosting The 146th Open, Sefton grows the economy, enhances the reputation and visibility of Sefton in national and international markets and builds on our existing reputation in hosting major national and international events.

Events

Southport Festival, 5th, 6th & 7th May

- This event is a partnership between Southport BID, Sefton Council, Southport Contemporary Arts and the private sector.
- This was the second year of this town wide event which included Arts, Jazz, Folk, Literature, Poetry, Comedy and Visual Arts. There were numerous venues that took part including – The Atkinson, Kings Gardens, Wesley Street, Town Hall Gardens, Bars & Restaurants.
- All outdoor events were well attended. Highlights included the Wesley Street Sea and Shore Festival, Pif Paf Action Painting, live music at Remedy and Dr. John Cooper Clarke at the Atkinson.

Southport Food and Drink Festival 2nd, 3rd & 4th June 2017

- The 2017 event was a great success with positive feedback from both visitors and traders, over 35,000 visitors attended the event.
- The event included over 50 Street Food traders, 50 Producers and 15 Bars.
- The children's festival marquee was extended and enhanced to include crafts, face painting, storytelling etc.

Southport Air Show 15th, 16th & 17th September 2017

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- There will be a programme of night flying on the Friday including a fireworks finale
- Military Aircraft have now been confirmed (unfortunately no Red Arrows due to international commitments)
- The highlight of this year's show is Sally B – The Flying Fortress
- Civilian Aircraft are being confirmed
- Trade forms have been sent out with a positive response so far
- Tickets sales are steady

British Musical Firework Championships 29th & 30th September, 1st October

- This year is the Champion of Champions Event
- 7 previous winners from 1999 – 2016 will return to compete for this title. The competitor briefing took place in February 2017
- Tickets sales are going well with the seated area nearly sold out

Southport Market

- Southport Indoor Market currently sitting at 78%, this corresponds with the retail fall in Southport. Planned targeted marketing for the empty units commenced in March.
- Outdoor Markets are performing well, 35 gazebos on a Tuesday and Wednesday on chapel St Southport, and 35 gazebos in Formby on a Friday. The markets support local businesses and drive much needed footfall into the area. We intend to increase this over time to a maximum of 50 gazebos for each market.

Destination Development

- Radio – spring campaigns have been booked on Smooth and Gaydio. As well as air time the campaigns have included visibility on station websites and competitions.
- Two pieces of destination print have been designed printed and delivered (with partner support) – The Open Golf Toolkit and The Southport Retail Investment Prospectus
- STBN – meetings have been held by the main STBN Board as well as The Southport Restaurateurs Association. The Destination Management Group is due to meet 13 June 2017.
- STBN membership stands at 116 and whilst we have had a few restaurant and a guesthouse closures, several new members have been secured including Formby Hall Golf Resort & Spa.
- A review of conference advertising and events / exhibitions attended is underway to inform 2018 promotional activity.

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- Southport won the 'UK Coach Friendly Destination' award at the recent Travel Trade Awards held at the National Motorcycle Museum in Birmingham. The town beat off stiff competition from five other finalists including Bournemouth and Poole.
- Southport Market – spring campaign is drawing toward its close and included Facebook (paid campaign), press advertising, bus panels, refreshed leaflet and website update.

EMPLOYMENT AND LEARNING UPDATE

Sefton@work Successes

Customer Service Excellence

During this period, it was confirmed that Sefton@work has successfully completed its Customer Service Excellence inspection for the sixth consecutive occasion and was awarded 18 “compliance plus” points.

STAR Awards

Sefton@work won a highly commended award in the Chief Executive's award category of Sefton's Special Thanks and Recognition ceremony in May.

Key Programme Performance

ESF Ways to Work

Ways to Work project reports in two strands, related to:

- Young people aged 16 – 29 years who are NEET. This is the part of the Programme that incorporates the Youth Employment Initiative, which needs to be fully expended by July 2018
- Workless Adults aged over 18. This part of the programme operates at a different grant intervention rate from the young people strand and activity on this element continues until end December 2018.
- On the young people strand, Sefton@work has engaged **598** participants.
- On the adult strand, **661** participants are now engaged on the programme. Across both strands of Ways to Work, there are currently **156** clients who have self-declared as having disabilities.

Youth Employment Gateway

YEG is now in its second phase and has largely been used as match finance to access the ESf grant to operate Ways to Work.

We have **404** clients on the programme for YEG phase 2, meeting our target forecast and no further enrolments can be admitted for this element.

Youth Employment Initiative (YEI)

Since the closedown of new starts onto YEG 2, we have been offering young people referred to us assistance using the YEI element of the ESf Ways to Work funding. This is currently supporting **102** clients aged up to aged 29 who may be claiming any benefit or are non-claimants.

Carers in employment contract – final outturn

This contract has now been completed and **87** clients, against a target of 50, were supported through the various strands, which captured young carers, carers claiming benefits and carers seeking help to maintain their employment.

Personalised Budgets

Personalised budgets have been an innovative feature of the Youth Employment Gateway and we have also made these available for YEI clients. The concept is about empowering young people to take control of their own personal development and journey towards employability by enabling them to draw down a budget to pay for a range of items they and their client adviser agree will help them move closer to work.

L30's Million

There are currently **111** clients within the relevant postcode area for this intervention who are receiving assistance. This has been extremely successful and all targets for engagement, jobs and placements have either been met or exceeded. Although the project has completed, the L30's Million steering group has requested a further proposal for funding for the 17/18 year and this has been prepared for their consideration.

All Programmes

Between 1st April and 5th June 2017, **91** Sefton@work clients have moved into work who were formerly workless.

In the same period, Sefton@work employment liaison team captured **112** job vacancies which were matched with Sefton@work clients through their advisers.

Transition to the Evolutive Customer Relationship Management system

Sefton@work has moved to a new CRM system, called Evolutive. The move was necessary as the previous system was becoming expensive and difficult to develop to reflect emerging needs of new programmes. The transition so far has been relatively smooth and has not caused undue delays to submission of project claims. Export of historic data from past projects is continuing. The expectation is that once all the report writing is complete, access to data will be quicker, more straightforward and enable a wider number of the team to get the data they need. We are working

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with the supplier to ensure reports reflect all contracts, grants, referral pathways and collaborations with internal and external partners. Adoption of the Evolutive system puts Sefton@work in line with Invest Sefton who have been using Evolutive for some time.

LCR Combined Authority Household into Work Test

The final version of the business case for the Household Test has now been submitted to DWP for their consideration. The decision on confirmation of funding has now been postponed until after the general election. However, partners within LCR employment & skills teams have continued to work together to progress key implementation plans to ensure a swift and controlled start on the project can be made once an offer is made and approvals are signed off within each LA.

When the Household into Work Test commences, we are anticipating that some funding will be allocated to us to further develop our Evolutive system to enable additional data reports to be generated for specific purposes such as linking client records together into familial groups.,

DWP Work and Health Programme

The Procurement process for the DWP Work & Health Programme continues and the period of commercial dialogue with potential providers has been commenced. DWP has informed providers that the general election will not cause delays to the tender award timetable.

Maximising the Employment Benefit from the Open Golf Tournament for Sefton residents

Sefton@work has been actively contributing to the Employment & Skills Task force for the Open Golf. This involvement has led to an agreement between JCP, Sefton Adult Community Learning and Sefton@work. This has already generated joint publicity to promote the opportunity to work at the event.

Sefton@work has been the single point of contact for the first wave of advertisements and the response has already been significant. A referral pathway is in place to direct any clients who may want to brush up their basic skills or application techniques to access SACL short courses. This package of learning includes customer care, basic English and maths, food preparation and hygiene and is expected to generate further interest started through the SACL Open days held in April.

Sefton@work is supplying clients with jobs skills, application techniques and individual guidance where needed. For those who register with Ways to Work we have identified a budget to pay for free travel to get to work during the event, making use of the allocation from Mersey Travel. JCP has agreed to confirm destinations of any clients coming through the single point of contact to assist Sefton@work track the impact of this work. Sefton@work staff will be available to work alongside JCP

staff during the event at unsociable hours to respond to immediate staffing needs of the employers.

Collaboration between Sefton@work and Sefton Adult Community Learning

Previous reports have outlined the collaborations between Sefton@work and SACL in order to provide learners with the information, advice and guidance they need to make progress towards employment, linking them to work placements and job opportunities when they are ready to proceed.

In order to monitor the outcomes of this joint working, a data trawl has been done to cross-check SCL learners who have taken up the offer provided by Sefton@work. This has shown that since 1st April 2015, **70** SALC learners have accessed support from Sefton@work and of these, **12** have moved into employment and a further **6** have taken up further learning, work experience placements or voluntary work to improve their employability.

Recruitment Trends – Care Vacancies

During this period, Sefton@work employment liaison team has seen a marked increase in the number of residential care homes in Sefton seeking support to fill a range of caring vacancies. This increase has not been the result of any marketing exercise and has largely been reactive, following employer's direct contact. This is noteworthy as these kinds of vacancies tend to be particularly difficult to fill and reflect problems of poor staff retention. Sefton@work will of course market these vacancies to clients but there are relatively few people who have identified care as a sector they are considering moving into.

Case Studies

CASE STUDY : Young person with an youth offending order

R, aged 17, was referred to S@W from Sefton Council's Community Adolescent Service (CAS) and Sefton's Youth Offending Team (YOT). The CAS team were involved with R's family for some time as they had been experiencing problems arising from J's challenging behaviour and his involvement with a troubling peer group. At the time he was referred to Sefton@work, R had been issued with a YOT order and was under supervision for a range of issues. He was spending time at the Sefton Council respite facility at Melrose House which provides opportunity for breathing space and support for both young people and their families.

R's CAS worker made contact with Sefton@work because they felt he could benefit from intensive, personalised support to help him become more hopeful about his future and give him practical assistance to develop a personal plan to get him on the right track to help him progress towards an apprenticeship or a job. Initially, R attended his sessions with the Sefton@work adviser with his CAS worker. His adviser aimed to introduce R to a number of different pathways to encourage him to get a better understanding of possible points of entry to the world of work and build within him a sense of momentum about his own future.

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R's initial assessments related to his skills and preferences highlighted that he preferred working with his hands and outdoors work so this was taken into account by his adviser. R had no formal qualifications gained from school and he was very clear that he had not enjoyed his time in formal education which had influenced his poor attendance. So, in many ways, R's choice of direction appeared limited.

After a couple of sessions focusing on communication skills and confidence, R's adviser took him to meet with a railway training company and a construction training company who are key partners of Sefton@work and who agreed to talk to R about the pathways he would need to take to lead into work in their sectors. The exposure to employers at this relatively early stage was critical as a means of inspiring R about different jobs he had not really known about before. The involvement of local employers who share our values about the importance of developing local young people is extremely valuable to Sefton@work. R, along with all the other clients we work with in this way was given a full briefing into the value of these employer relationships.

After a further period, R felt it was time to apply for a place at FE College and he was accepted at Hugh Baird College onto an introductory construction course. R's decision to go to college was critical for his personal development as it marked a real moment of maturity. He had some tough choices to make about the area of specialism he would opt for and he was not looking forward to doing English and Maths again after his school experience but enrolled despite these worries.

R was now attending appointments alone at Sefton@work but after some time his attendance became very erratic and for a period his Sefton@work adviser was unable to contact him. With assistance from the CAS team, R was eventually located and the reasons for his going "off the radar" became apparent. R's home life had begun to deteriorate badly and he was having second thoughts about attending his course at Hugh Baird College. His principal worry related to social issues and in particular being around other young lads with whom he had been in past friendship groups where there had been bad feelings.

Early in 2017 R and his Advisor discussed one of S@W's new ILM training opportunities with Sefton Council Coastal Services. An ILM is a paid work experience placement with a sympathetic local employer for a set period of time where the young person is given on the job support and helped to use their experience to develop their prospects going forward whilst receiving job search assistance to obtain their next position in the wider labour market. R was very keen about the prospect of a Coastal ILM and so he put all his efforts into ensuring his application for one of these competitive positions could be the best he could make it.

He started attending interview skills sessions with his Sefton@work adviser in preparation for the application and learned all he could about the ILM position, the type of work he would be doing and the setting he would be working in. As a result, his adviser noticed a marked change in R's behaviour with his attendance at appointments improving 100%.

R attended the ILM interview and conducted himself so impressively that he was offered a position. He started on his placement in April 2017. In order to assist him get to his place of work reliably, S@W has provided his first month's travel ticket before he receives his monthly wages and we will also provide ongoing in-work support in the form of calls and visits to ensure R can successfully sustain the job for the whole placement and can use the essential experience he gains as a positive asset to his next move.

INVESTSEFTON

Sefton Growth Hub

InvestSefton is one of the Liverpool City Region growth hubs working alongside the Local Enterprise Partnership, other local authorities, Chambers of Commerce and The Women's Organisation. This is part of current UK Government funded activities delivered locally by Local Enterprise partnerships. In Sefton this activity has been merged with the ERDF Business Growth Programme to help provide a more cohesive service to businesses.

As at 5 June, InvestSefton has engaged with 918 businesses, carried out 282 diagnostics and brokered 406 businesses into other areas of support. The team has now surpassed its contract target of 800 business engagements.

The ERDF element of delivery provides eligible SMEs, who would not typically engage with providers of business support, with the capacity and support they need to grow and prosper.

InvestSefton serves as a bridge between start-up and more bespoke, intensive or specialist support typically supplied by the private sector and provides participating SMEs with a dedicated Business Growth Adviser. The Advisers provide diagnostic, business planning and brokerage into other specialist/commercial support. This follows triage activity performed by two Business Growth Officers who provide initial support and capture the necessary information to help develop into growth projects

InvestSefton recently attended a briefing by the host Department for the national programme -Business, Energy, Innovation & Skills (BEIS). They are currently undertaking a national review of all LEP areas and Liverpool City Region feedback has been excellent. The review will be concluded after the June election but BEIS have indicated a preference to extend the programme which is currently due to end on 31 March 2018.

Start Up Support

InvestSefton has established a close relationship with a complementary ERDF start up programme delivered by the Enterprise Hub, a consortium of providers led by The Women's Organisation (TWO) and Liverpool Community College. This three-year part funded ERDF programme offers pre start up and business start-up support to aspiring entrepreneurs across the Liverpool City Region. The programme is tasked

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with engaging and providing initial enterprise awareness support to 6,360 people and a minimum of 12 hours intensive support to 2,320 individuals over three years. The programme anticipates supporting the start-up of 1,272 new businesses as a result of these interventions, and 17% of all targets will be achieved in Sefton with Sefton residents. Key headlines to end March 2017 include:

- 346 Sefton residents have had at least 3 hours support – 238 women and 108 men
- 169 individuals have had over 12 hours support in Sefton
- 60 individuals have started a business in Sefton – 45 women and 15 men of whom 25 were unemployed and 9 economically inactive on joining the programme

Over 30 delegates attended an Enterprise event in the Atkinson, Southport, following a successful Bootle forum in November 2016. In attendance were Invest Sefton, Start-Up Direct and Enterprise Hub partners, The Prince's Trust and Alt Valley Community Trust.

Alt Valley Community Trust brought along their client, James Dale, to share his inspiring entrepreneurial journey and how he set up his personal training business. Nick Bell from StartUp Direct talked about the types of start-up loans that are available to those thinking about setting up a business and going self-employed. Katie Dullaghan, client of The Women's Organisation, shared her experience of working alongside The Women's Organisation when setting up her dentistry business.

Business Case Studies

Cabinet Member has now made visits to over 13 growth businesses and this has helped generate some publicity through subsequent press releases.

Two recent visits included:

Sefton Carers Centre is an active company incorporated on 10 November 1995 with the registered office located in Merseyside. Sefton Carers Centre has been running for 21 Years in Crosby and through their Learning Well Agency initiative has been given a unique opportunity to sell recycled paint via Recipro, Wirral (an organisation set up with community benefits in mind that supports the environment by recycling unused building materials). Dulux, the paint manufacturer, selected Recipro to be one of the first Community Repaint remanufacturing centres in the UK and invested over £3million in the new recycling equipment

The remanufacturing process takes unused/discarded paint and filters and processes it to create a new paint product. The paint is sold from the Crosby centre and a Sefton@Work ILM has been recruited to support the project.

Invest Sefton have supported Sefton Carers with introductions to commercial painting and decorating companies, bringing companies to visit the Recipro site, inviting companies to the launch of the new paint project, attending a meeting with

70 Landlords promoting use of paint and meeting with the Public Health lead to discuss opportunities regarding a proposed community shop in Bootle and shelf space for community paint.

Hybrid Technical Services Ltd was established in 2005 as a Training Provider. They specialise in electricity, gas and plumbing training and accreditation. In April 2006 they moved to Heysham Road, Aintree, grew the business and acquired an additional unit in July 2014 to expand their qualification portfolio.

The growth of the business was restricted by the size of the premises and the next phase of development was the purchase of business premises (completed 5 April 2017) with the creation of larger classrooms/training areas to train and accredit more students and grow turnover.

Invest Sefton have assisted in acquiring finance and grant support to purchase and renovate the new unit, which has tripled the size of their operation. This secures Hybrid's future and provides a permanent home within Sefton. Job creation is expected to be approximately 10 new roles adding to the existing staff of 8.

Further good news was received when Southport based broadband specialist Adaptive Communications was shortlisted for Business of the Year (up to 50 employees category) in the Liverpool Echo Regional Business Awards 2017. The award ceremony takes place on 22 June.

Seaforth based Crosby Coffee Ltd owner Jack Forster has also been shortlisted in the for Young Business Person of the Year category. Both businesses have received extensive support from InvestSefton Advisers including help with securing a Regional Growth Fund grant for Adaptive Communications.

Inward Investment Update

InvestSefton continues to work to attract and retain investment in the borough. Working with colleagues in Regeneration, InvestSefton continues to drive forward some key developments, including the 200,000 sqft+ Mersey Reach scheme on Dunnings Bridge Road and Atlantic Park. This will see £19m invested in a new industrial park in a strategic location in the borough.

InvestSefton has supported the development of the project and sought financial support to ensure viability of the scheme. A planning application has been submitted, and though this has required a number of changes in response to resident concerns, it is intended that this will be considered at July Planning Committee.

Following the investment by Kura in Atlantic Park, plans are in place to arrange a meeting between Kura senior management and key stakeholders. Over 90% of offices are now let on Atlantic Park and officers met with the site owner (RLAM) and development manager (Industrial Securities) in April. Work is ongoing with InvestSefton to bring forward a further phase of development, a planned 100,000 sqft industrial/distribution unit, including the submission of a full business case for

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Single Investment Funding. It is anticipated that this will be appraised and submitted for final consideration at the July meeting of the Combined Authority.

Similarly, InvestSefton is supporting the Head of Regeneration and Housing with Bootle Town Centre, Crosby Town Centre, Southport Business Park and other regeneration opportunities.

InvestSefton is also supporting the Executive Director with the delivery of investment activity associated with The Open Golf. Activity is being coordinated to maximise the benefits to Sefton through an integrated LCR approach with partners. Activity is focused on inward investment, development/regeneration opportunities associated with the whole of Sefton borough.

Tourism colleagues are also working to attract conferences, visitor attractions and infrastructure and boost profile. Over 50 places have been 'sold' to partner organisations with natural synergies, including Chancerygate (investor in Mersey Reach), Bruntwood (significant investor and landlord), International Business Festival, Marketing Liverpool and Bliss Investments (acquired Ramada complex and significant investment potential in surrounding complex).

InvestSefton supported Southport BID and the Council's tourism team to produce an Open Golf business toolkit for circulation to local businesses to help maximise trade opportunities during the July open. The toolkit is the subject of a separate report.

The Place Marketing for Investment Bid was approved in January 2017 and is now contracted. Activity is now under way with targeted activity in key sectors (Financial, Professional and Business Services, Advanced Manufacturing, Energy and Environment, Maritime, Creative and Digital and Life Sciences). InvestSefton is heavily involved in this activity.

InvestSefton is also handling a number of confidential enquiries relating to local business expansion and relocation.

Business Events

Brexit Group 21st April

InvestSefton arranged the first of an intended number of Brexit briefings for businesses. The event took place on 21st April and attendance also included over 20 business leaders. Christian Spence (Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce), a regional expert and policy adviser, updated on the latest position and implications for businesses, Other items covered included:

- Exports and Trade (markets, currency, tariffs, customs and regulations, supply chain etc.)
- Employment and Skills
- Inward Investment
- Local Impact and Mitigation

The group is to meet on a quarterly basis.

Sefton Economic Forum 19th May

More than 100 business delegates from across the borough attended the 26th Sefton Economic Forum hosted by Hugh Baird L20 Centre and sponsored by Arvato. The theme was '*The Future for Business is Digital*'. *Businesses learnt* about exciting new developments for SMEs in the field of digital technologies.

Subjects discussed at the event included digital technologies as an enabler for small firms, future trends and the many free applications available online to help businesses improve productivity, save time and reduce costs.

Speakers included Jo Wright (Executive Director of FACT), digital technologist Adrian McEwen, Andy Kent (CEO of Angel Solutions) and Yana Williams (Principal of Hugh Baird College).

Event evaluation revealed:

- 29% of businesses who attended had never attended a forum before, the increased engagement activities seem to be paying off
- 89% stated that the event made them think about how they could use digital technology to develop & grow their business
- Sales, marketing and social media are the most popular areas identified as needing further support

InvestSefton is using this data to develop future activities such as follow up advisor meetings with those businesses attending for the first time and brokering others into specialist areas for digital and sales support. The latter could include a bespoke sales and marketing event hosted for free by a commercial provider.

Business Friendly Sefton

I fully endorse and support proposals for "Business friendly Sefton". This followed a survey of business facing teams and services within the council in 2015/16 and the broad agreement for business friendliness to be a theme within Council agendas for both Reform and Growth.

The survey revealed:

- 21 sections across 7 different services of the Council engage with businesses. **This number has risen by 15 since 2012, an indication that cross authority liaison has improved in terms of greater awareness of each other's services.**
- **44% of respondents engage with businesses** as part of their core service

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provision including **37% dealing with compliance with statutory regulations.**

- **Business, investment and employer support activity remains high at 40%** through Investment & Employment front of house services InvestSefton and Sefton@Work. Tourism is also well represented through its Southport BID and Southport Tourism Business Network activities
- **22% of respondents are involved in generating income for the council** including business rates, bidding for and securing EU and UK government monies for regeneration programmes, planning/building fees and developing private sector income and sponsorship in support of services, e.g., Southport Tourism Business Network.
- Links between business/investor facing services and regulatory/compliance services have been strengthened by the co-location of Investment & Employment in Magdalen House which has helped improve communications between teams.
- The number of weekly engagements with businesses has **increased by 18%** since 2012.
- The most often used method of communication is through email (97%). Site visits and/or 1 to 1 meetings remain high at 71.4%. Postal communication has decreased by 27.2% since 2012. The use of media has also increased from **40% to 45% ranging from notices, press releases, adverts, service newsletters and council social media.**
- There is an opportunity to review the use of systems across the authority with the potential aim of developing more cohesive or even a Single User Business Account system. Both InvestSefton and Sefton@Work either use or are about to acquire Evolutive.

To further develop this work a task and finish group was established with the following twin aims:

- To develop a business friendly reputation to help drive the Council's Growth and Investment agenda
- To promote Corporate Social Responsibility for Sefton's well-being and support the Council's Welfare Reform agenda

The group has since met on three occasions and made progress on a number of fronts including:

- Improved co-ordination of regulatory responses to development and inward investment enquiries. This has included close collaboration between Planning, Regeneration and Investment and Employment Officers on recent investments at Kura (Atlantic Park), Domino (Senate Business Park) and Chancerygate which will lead to some 1,000 new jobs.

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- Production of an internal contact directory for business facing staff. This is near completion and the group is to develop an electronic interactive format for intranet use with Corporate Communications. This can be further refined for outward marketing and promotion purposes.
- Promoting Active Sefton to Sefton businesses to help increase awareness of services and potential benefits to employees, e.g., tackling absenteeism, increasing health and well-being in local workforces.
- Access to Business Rates appeals and intelligence reports which includes new business rate payers.
- Production of a Most Frequently Asked questions sheet for Business Rates staff to help them with referrals (Business Rates deal with 2,000 plus enquiries in April each year from businesses).

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Report to:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills)	Date of Meeting:	4 July 2017
Subject:	Work Programme 2017/18, Scrutiny Review Topics and Key Decision Forward Plan		
Report of:	Head of Regulation and Compliance	Wards Affected:	All
Cabinet Portfolio:	Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services		
Is this a Key Decision:	No	Included in Forward Plan:	No
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

To seek the views of the Committee on the draft Work Programme for 2017/18, identify potential topics for scrutiny reviews to be undertaken by a Working Group(s) appointed by the Committee and identify any items for pre-scrutiny scrutiny by the Committee from the Key Decision Forward Plan.

Recommendation:

That:-

- (1) the Work Programme for 2017/18, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be considered, along with any additional items to be included and thereon be agreed;
- (2) the Committee considers any potential scrutiny review topics, including those detailed in Appendix 2 to the report; prioritise the order in which they start; establish the Working Group(s) for each topic; appoint at least 3 Members of the Committee to each Working Group; and acknowledges that the Parks and Greenspaces Working Group is still ongoing; and
- (3) the Committee considers items for pre-scrutiny from the Key Decision Forward Plan as set out in Appendix 4 to the report, which fall under the remit of the Committee and any agreed items be included in the work programme referred to in (1) above.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

To determine the Work Programme of items to be considered during the Municipal Year 2017/18 and identify scrutiny review topics which would demonstrate that the work of the Overview and Scrutiny 'adds value' to the Council.

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The pre-scrutiny process assists Cabinet Members to make effective decisions by examining issues before making formal decisions.

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

No alternative options have been considered as the Overview and Scrutiny Committee needs to approve its Work Programme and identify scrutiny review topics.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. Any financial implications arising from the consideration of a key decision or relating to a recommendation arising from a Working Group review will be reported to Members at the appropriate time.

(A) Revenue Costs – see above

(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.

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: None directly applicable to this report but reference in the Work Programme to various reports could impact on the Council's Core Purposes in which they will be referred to in the report when submitted.
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: As Above
Commission, broker and provide core services: As Above
Place – leadership and influencer: As Above
Drivers of change and reform: As Above
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: As Above
Greater income for social investment: As Above
Cleaner Greener: As Above

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Work Programme Report is not subject to FD/LD consultation. Any specific financial and legal implications associated with any subsequent reports arising from the Work Programme report will be included in those reports as appropriate.

(B) External Consultations

Not applicable

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Committee meeting.

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

Appendices:

The following appendices are attached to this report:

- Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme for 2017/18
- Overview And Scrutiny – Potential Scrutiny Review Topics 2017/18
- Criteria Checklist For Selecting Topics For Review
- Latest Key Decision Forward Plan items relating to this Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

Introduction/Background

1. WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18

1.1 The proposed Work Programme of items to be submitted to the Committee for consideration during the Municipal Year 2017/18 is set out in **Appendix 1** to the report. The programme has been produced in liaison with the appropriate Heads of Service, whose roles fall under the remit of the Committee.

1.2 Members are requested to consider whether there are any other items that they wish the Committee to consider, that fall within the terms of reference of the Committee. The Work Programme will be submitted to each meeting of the Committee during 2017/18 and updated, as appropriate.

1.3 **The Committee is requested to comment on the Work Programme for 2017/18 and note that additional items may be submitted to the Programme at future meetings of the Committee during this Municipal Year.**

2. SCRUTINY REVIEW TOPICS 2017/18

2.1 It is usual practise for the Committee to appoint a Working Group(s) to undertake a scrutiny review of services during the Municipal Year and details of potential scrutiny review topics which have been identified by the Strategic Leadership Board are set out in **Appendix 2** to the report. The Heads of Service will be in

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attendance at the meeting to provide information on the topics set out in the Appendix.

- 2.2 A criteria checklist for selecting and rejecting potential topics to review is attached at **Appendix 3**, to assist the Committee in selecting topics and appointing Working Group(s) for the Municipal Year.
- 2.3 The Committee acknowledge that it has one Working Group outstanding in relation to the Parks and Greenspaces. It is anticipated that the review will be completed sometime in the Autumn 2017.
- 2.4 **The Committee is requested to approve any potential scrutiny review topics, including those detailed in Appendix 2 to the report; prioritise the order in which they start; establish the Working Group(s) for each topic; appoint at least 3 Members of the Committee to each Working Group; and acknowledge that the Parks and Greenspaces Working Group is still ongoing.**

3. PRE-SCRUTINY OF ITEMS IN THE KEY DECISION FORWARD PLAN

- 3.1 Members may request to pre-scrutinise items from the Key Decision Forward Plan which fall under the remit (terms of reference) of this Committee. The Forward Plan which is updated each month, sets out the list of items to be submitted to the Cabinet for consideration during the next four month period.
- 3.2 The pre-scrutiny process assists the Cabinet Members to make effective decisions by examining issues beforehand and making recommendations prior to a determination being made.
- 3.3 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Board has requested that only those key decisions that fall under the remit of each Overview and Scrutiny Committee should be included on the agenda for consideration.
- 3.4 The latest Forward Plan is attached at **Appendix 4** for this purpose. For ease of identification, items listed on the Forward Plan for the first time appear as shaded.
- 3.5 Should Members require further information in relation to any item on the Key Decision Forward Plan, would they please contact the relevant Officer named against the item in the Plan, prior to the Meeting.
- 3.6 **The Committee is invited to consider items for pre-scrutiny from the Key Decision Forward Plan as set out in Appendix 4 to the report, which fall under the remit of the Committee and any agreed items be included in the Work Programme referred to in (1) above.**

APPENDIX 1

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (REGENERATION AND SKILLS)
WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18**

Date of Meeting	4 JULY 2017	19 SEPTEMBER 2017	7 NOVEMBER 2017	23 JANUARY 2018	13 MARCH 2018
Cabinet Member Update Report	x	x	x	x	x
Work Programme Update	x	x	x	x	x
Service Operational Reports:					
Flood & Coastal Risk – Annual Report			x		
Review of Winter Service and Operational Plan		x			
Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority – Service Delivery Plan 2017/18				x	
United Utilities – Update on Increase in Charges	x				
Economic Strategy for Growth			x		
Refuse Collection		x			
New Houses being sold as leasehold		x			
Peer Review Working Group – Final Report	x				
Parks and Greenspaces Final Report		x			
Scrutiny Review Progress Reports:					
Shale Gas		x			
Town Centres			x		
Port Master Plan			x		
Employment Development				x	
NEET					x

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APPENDIX 2

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY – POTENTIAL SCRUTINY REVIEW TOPICS 2017/18

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (REGENERATION AND SKILLS)

Topic	Lead Officer(s)
Economic Growth	Sarah Kemp
Joint Review – Across all 4 O&S Committees	
Early Intervention and Prevention – Together We Are Stronger	Matt Ashton

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Appendix 3

CRITERIA CHECKLIST FOR SELECTING TOPICS FOR REVIEW

Criteria for Selecting Items
▪ Issue identified by members as key issue for public (through member surgeries, other contact with constituents or volume of complaints)
▪ Poor performing service (evidence from performance indicators/benchmarking)
▪ Service ranked as important by the community (e.g. through market surveys/citizens panels)
▪ High level of user/general public dissatisfaction with service (e.g. through market surveys/citizens panels/complaints)
▪ Public interest issue covered in local media
▪ High level of budgetary commitment to the service/policy area (as percentage of total expenditure)
▪ Pattern of budgetary overspends
▪ Council corporate priority area
▪ Central government priority area
▪ Issues raised by External Audit Management Letter/External audit reports
▪ New government guidance or legislation
▪ Reports or new evidence provided by external organisations on key issue
▪ Others

CRITERIA FOR REJECTION

Potential Criteria for Rejecting Items
▪ Issue being examined by the Cabinet
▪ Issue being examined by an Officer Group : changes imminent
▪ Issue being examined by another internal body
▪ Issue will be addressed as part of a Service Review within the next year
▪ New legislation or guidance expected within the next year
▪ Other reasons specific to the particular issues.

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SCRUTINY CHECKLIST DO'S AND DON'TS

DO
◆ Remember that Scrutiny <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Is about learning and being a "critical friend"; it should be a positive process ◆ Is not opposition
◆ Remember that Scrutiny should result in improved value, enhanced performance or greater public satisfaction
◆ Take an overview and keep an eye on the wider picture
◆ Check performance against local standards and targets and national standards, and compare results with other authorities
◆ Benchmark performance against local and national performance indicators, using the results to ask more informed questions
◆ Use Working Groups to get underneath performance information
◆ Take account of local needs, priorities and policies
◆ Be persistent and inquisitive
◆ Ask effective questions - be constructive not judgmental
◆ Be open-minded and self aware - encourage openness and self criticism in services
◆ Listen to users and the public, seek the voices that are often not heard, seek the views of others - and balance all of these
◆ Praise good practice and best value - and seek to spread this throughout the authority
◆ Provide feedback to those who have been involved in the review and to stakeholders
◆ Anticipate difficulties in Members challenging colleagues from their own party
◆ Take time to review your own performance

◆ DON'T
◆ Witch-hunt or use performance review as punishment
◆ Be party political/partisan
◆ Blame valid risk taking or stifle initiative or creativity
◆ Treat scrutiny as an add-on
◆ Get bogged down in detail
◆ Be frightened of asking basic questions
◆ Undertake too many issues in insufficient depth
◆ Start without a clear brief and remit
◆ Underestimate the task
◆ Lose track of the main purpose of scrutiny
◆ Lack sensitivity to other stakeholders
◆ Succumb to organisational inertia
◆ Duck facing failure - learn from it and support change and development
◆ Be driven by data or be paralysed by analysis - keep strategic overview, and expect officers to provide high level information and analysis to help.

KEY QUESTIONS

Overview and Scrutiny Committees should keep in mind some of the fundamental questions:-

Are we doing what users/non users/local residents want?
Are users' needs central to the service?
Why are we doing this?
What are we trying to achieve?
How well are we doing?
How do we compare with others?
Are we delivering value for money?
How do we know?
What can we improve?

INVESTIGATIONS:-

To what extent are service users' expectations and needs being met?
To what extent is the service achieving what the policy intended?
To what extent is the service meeting any statutory obligations or national standards and targets?
Are there any unexpected results/side effects of the policy?
Is the performance improving, steady or deteriorating?
Is the service able to be honest and open about its current performance and the reasons behind it?
Are areas of achievement and weakness fairly and accurately identified?
How has performance been assessed? What is the evidence?
How does performance compare with that of others? Are there learning points from others' experiences?
Is the service capable of meeting planned targets/standards? What change to capability is needed.
Are local performance indicators relevant, helpful, meaningful to Members, staff and service users?

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SEFTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN

FOR THE FOUR MONTH PERIOD 1 JULY 2017 - 31 OCTOBER 2017

This Forward Plan sets out the details of the key decisions which the Cabinet, individual Cabinet Members or Officers expect to take during the next four month period. The Plan is rolled forward every month and is available to the public at least 28 days before the beginning of each month.

A Key Decision is defined in the Council's Constitution as:

1. any Executive decision that is not in the Annual Revenue Budget and Capital Programme approved by the Council and which requires a gross budget expenditure, saving or virement of more than £100,000 or more than 2% of a Departmental budget, whichever is the greater;
2. any Executive decision where the outcome will have a significant impact on a significant number of people living or working in two or more Wards

As a matter of local choice, the Forward Plan also includes the details of any significant issues to be initially considered by the Executive Cabinet and submitted to the Full Council for approval.

Anyone wishing to make representations about any of the matters listed below may do so by contacting the relevant officer listed against each Key Decision, within the time period indicated.

Under the Access to Information Procedure Rules set out in the Council's Constitution, a Key Decision may not be taken, unless:

- it is published in the Forward Plan;
- 5 clear days have lapsed since the publication of the Forward Plan; and
- if the decision is to be taken at a meeting of the Cabinet, 5 clear days notice of the meeting has been given.

The law and the Council's Constitution provide for urgent key decisions to be made, even though they have not been included in the Forward Plan in accordance with Rule 26 (General Exception) and Rule 28 (Special Urgency) of the Access to Information Procedure Rules.

Copies of the following documents may be inspected at the Town Hall, Oriel Road, Bootle L20 7AE or accessed from the Council's website: www.sefton.gov.uk

- Council Constitution
- Forward Plan
- Reports on the Key Decisions to be taken
- Other documents relating to the proposed decision may be submitted to the decision making meeting and these too will be made available by the contact officer named in the Plan
- The minutes for each Key Decision, which will normally be published within 5 working days after having been made

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Some reports to be considered by the Cabinet/Council may contain exempt information and will not be made available to the public. The specific reasons (Paragraph No(s)) why such reports are exempt are detailed in the Plan and the Paragraph No(s) and descriptions are set out below:-

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the Authority
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or b) to make an order or direction under any enactment
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime
8. Information falling within paragraph 3 above is not exempt information by virtue of that paragraph if it is required to be registered under—
 - (a) the Companies Act 1985;
 - (b) the Friendly Societies Act 1974;
 - (c) the Friendly Societies Act 1992;
 - (d) the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts 1965 to 1978;
 - (e) the Building Societies Act 1986; or
 - (f) the Charities Act 1993.
9. Information is not exempt information if it relates to proposed development for which the local planning authority may grant itself planning permission pursuant to regulation 3 of the Town and Country Planning General Regulations 1992
10. Information which—
 - (a) falls within any of paragraphs 1 to 7 above; and
 - (b) is not prevented from being exempt by virtue of paragraph 8 or 9 above, is exempt information if and so long, as in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings of the Cabinet and Council which are held at the Town Hall, Oriel Road, Bootle or the Town Hall, Lord Street, Southport. The dates and times of the meetings are published on www.sefton.gov.uk or you may contact the Democratic Services Section on telephone number 0151 934 2068.

NOTE:

For ease of identification, items listed within the document for the first time will appear shaded.

Margaret Carney
Chief Executive

FORWARD PLAN INDEX OF ITEMS

Item Heading	Officer Contact	Page No
Procurement of Fleet, Machinery and Equipment for Integrated Land Management Merged Services (PSR7)	Mark Shaw mark.shaw@sefton.gov.uk	4
Adoption of Supplementary Planning Documents	Ingrid Berry ingrid.berry@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 3556	5
Procurement Proposals for Winter Service Contract	Gary Jordan gary.jordan@sefton.gov.uk	6
Commercial Acquisition – Update Report	Sarah Kemp sarah.kemp@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 4770	7
Article 4 Direction - Houses in Multiple Occupation	Ian Loughlin ian.loughlin@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 3558	8
Adoption of the Sefton Coast Plan	Graham Lymbery graham.lymbery@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 4175	9
Peer Review Working Group - Final Report	Ruth Harrison ruth.harrison@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 2042	10
Parks and Greenspaces Working Group	Ruth Harrison ruth.harrison@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 2042	11
Community Infrastructure Levy - Publication Draft Charging Schedule	Ian Loughlin ian.loughlin@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 3558	11
Housing Selective and Additional (HMO) Licensing Scheme Proposals	Neil Davies neil.davies@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 4837	14
Commercial Acquisition – Update Report	Sarah Kemp sarah.kemp@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 4770	16
Sefton Council Housing Development Company	Neil Davies neil.davies@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 4837	17

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SEFTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN

Details of Decision to be taken	<p>Procurement of Fleet, Machinery and Equipment for Integrated Land Management Merged Services (PSR7)</p> <p>PSR7 approved a merger of the Parks and Greenspace, Coast and Countryside, and Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management services. All services require specialist fleet, machinery and equipment to undertake operations and works on site. Although the insourced parks grounds maintenance function has leased these items for the short term, it is much more cost effective to purchase them via a Prudential Borrowing scheme (re-paid over a combination of 3 and 5 year terms and funded via existing revenue resources). This report will seek approval to undertake a procurement exercise for the required fleet, machinery and equipment and to set in place the appropriate financial arrangements.</p>			
Decision Maker	Cabinet			
Decision Expected	27 Jul 2017			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Yes	Community Impact	Yes
Exempt Report	Open			
Wards Affected	All Wards			
Scrutiny Committee Area	Regeneration and Skills			
Persons/Organisations to be Consulted	Strategic Capital Investment Group			
Method(s) of Consultation	Meeting			
List of Background Documents to be Considered by Decision-maker	Procurement of Fleet, Machinery and Equipment for PSR7 Merged Services			
Contact Officer(s) details	Mark Shaw mark.shaw@sefton.gov.uk			

SEFTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN

Details of Decision to be taken	Adoption of Supplementary Planning Documents To seek the adoption of Supplementary Planning Documents relating to Land east of Maghull, Crosby centre, Nature Conservation, Open space, and Control of hot food takeaways and betting shops			
Decision Maker	Cabinet			
Decision Expected	27 Jun 2017 22 May 2017 Decision due date for Cabinet changed from 22/06/2017 to 27/06/2017. Reason: To enable the Council to fully reflect on and discuss with interested parties and consultees the comments made during the consultation process which ended in early May 2017			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	No	Community Impact	Yes
Exempt Report	Open			
Wards Affected	All Wards			
Scrutiny Committee Area	Regeneration and Skills			
Persons/Organisations to be Consulted	By email, newspaper advertisement and presentations to relevant forum meetings if these can be arranged during the consultation period.			
Method(s) of Consultation	Consultation on the draft SPD will take place between 1st March - 24th April 2017			
List of Background Documents to be Considered by Decision-maker	Adoption of Supplementary Planning Documents			
Contact Officer(s) details	Ingrid Berry ingrid.berry@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 3556			

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SEFTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN

Details of Decision to be taken	Procurement Proposals for Winter Service Contract			
	To agree the procurement proposal for the Winter Service Contract			
Decision Maker	Cabinet			
Decision Expected	27 Jul 2017			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Yes	Community Impact	Yes
Exempt Report	Open			
Wards Affected	All Wards			
Scrutiny Committee Area	Regeneration and Skills			
Persons/Organisations to be Consulted	None			
Method(s) of Consultation	Not applicable			
List of Background Documents to be Considered by Decision-maker	Procurement proposals for winter service contract			
Contact Officer(s) details	Gary Jordan gary.jordan@sefton.gov.uk			

SEFTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN

Details of Decision to be taken	Commercial Acquisition – Update Report To receive an update report on a commercial acquisition within the Borough and agree any necessary actions			
Decision Maker	Cabinet			
Decision Expected	27 Jul 2017			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Yes	Community Impact	No
Exempt Report	Fully exempt			
Wards Affected	All Wards			
Scrutiny Committee Area	Regeneration and Skills			
Persons/Organisations to be Consulted	Chief Executive and appropriate Heads of Service			
Method(s) of Consultation	Internal Meetings			
List of Background Documents to be Considered by Decision-maker	Commercial Acquisition – Update Report			
Contact Officer(s) details	Sarah Kemp sarah.kemp@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 4770			

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SEFTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN

Details of Decision to be taken	Article 4 Direction - Houses in Multiple Occupation Making of an Article 4 Direction to remove Permitted Development rights for conversion into Houses in Multiple Occupation in parts of Sefton			
Decision Maker	Cabinet			
Decision Expected	27 Jul 2017			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	No	Community Impact	Yes
Exempt Report	Open			
Wards Affected	Blundellsands; Cambridge; Church; Derby; Dukes; Kew; Linacre; Litherland; Victoria			
Scrutiny Committee Area	Regeneration and Skills			
Persons/Organisations to be Consulted	Cabinet Member - Planning and Building Control; Housing Standards Team; Planning Enforcement Officer; Derby Ward Councillors			
Method(s) of Consultation	Meetings, briefings, discussions			
List of Background Documents to be Considered by Decision-maker	Article 4 Direction - Houses in Multiple Occupation			
Contact Officer(s) details	Ian Loughlin ian.loughlin@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 3558			

SEFTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN

Details of Decision to be taken	Adoption of the Sefton Coast Plan The Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership, of which the Council is a Partner, have developed a Sefton Coast Plan to enable the strategic management of this important asset.			
Decision Maker	Cabinet			
Decision Expected	27 Jul 2017			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	No	Community Impact	Yes
Exempt Report	Open			
Wards Affected	All Wards			
Scrutiny Committee Area	Regeneration and Skills			
Persons/Organisations to be Consulted	The consultation is wide ranging and will include members of the public and organisations who either use or have an interest in the coast.			
Method(s) of Consultation	The draft Sefton Coast Plan is the subject of public consultation from March 2nd 2017 through to April 13th 2017. It will also be raised at all Area Committees. Response will be reported back to the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership and then Partners with recommendations on any changes required as a result of the consultation and a recommendation on adoption of the Plan.			
List of Background Documents to be Considered by Decision-maker	Adoption of the Sefton coast Plan			
Contact Officer(s) details	Graham Lymbery graham.lymbery@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 4175			

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SEFTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN

Details of Decision to be taken	Peer Review Working Group - Final Report To submit the findings of the Peer Review Working Group.			
Decision Maker	Cabinet			
Decision Expected	27 Jul 2017 27 January 2017 Decision due date for Cabinet changed from 02/02/2017 to 06/04/2017. Reason: The Working Group is still deliberating on its Final Report 27 March 2017 Decision due date for Cabinet changed from 06/04/2017 to 27/07/2017. Reason: The Working Group is still deliberating on its Final Report			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	No	Community Impact	Yes
Exempt Report	Open			
Wards Affected	All Wards			
Scrutiny Committee Area	Regeneration and Skills			
Persons/Organisations to be Consulted	Elected Members and Stakeholders			
Method(s) of Consultation	Meetings and Correspondence			
List of Background Documents to be Considered by Decision-maker	Peer Review Working Group - Final Report			
Contact Officer(s) details	Ruth Harrison ruth.harrison@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 2042			

SEFTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN

Details of Decision to be taken	Parks and Greenspaces Working Group To submit the findings of the Parks and Greenspaces Working Group.			
Decision Maker	Cabinet			
Decision Expected	27 Jul 2017 27 March 2017 Decision due date for Cabinet changed from 06/04/2017 to 27/07/2017. Reason: The Working Group is still deliberating on its Final Report			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	No	Community Impact	Yes
Exempt Report	Open			
Wards Affected	All Wards			
Scrutiny Committee Area	Regeneration and Skills			
Persons/Organisations to be Consulted	Elected Members and Stakeholders			
Method(s) of Consultation	Meetings and Correspondence			
List of Background Documents to be Considered by Decision-maker	Parks and Greenspaces Working Group			
Contact Officer(s) details	Ruth Harrison ruth.harrison@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 2042			

SEFTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN

Details of Decision to be taken	Community Infrastructure Levy - Publication Draft Charging Schedule Approval of the the publication draft of the Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule, and associated evidence, for public comment and submission of the Draft Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule,			
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	associated evidence and comments made for examination.
Decision Maker	Cabinet Council
Decision Expected	<p>7 Sep 2017</p> <p>21 Sep 2017 30 November 2016 Decision due date for Cabinet changed from 01/12/2016 to 06/04/2017. Reason: The Inspector's findings to the Local Plan examination have been delayed due to the re-opening of the Local Plan hearings. The Community Infrastructure Levy is informed by the Inspector's findings so therefore the decision has to be slipped to take account of this.</p> <p>30 November 2016 Decision due date for Cabinet changed from 06/04/2017 to 20/04/2017. Reason: Decision due date for Cabinet changed from 01/12/2016 to 06/04/2017. Reason: The Inspector's findings to the Local Plan examination have been delayed due to the re-opening of the Local Plan hearings. The Community Infrastructure Levy is informed by the Inspector's findings so therefore the decision has to be slipped to take account of this.</p> <p>30 November 2016 Decision due date for Cabinet changed from 20/04/2017 to 06/04/2017. Reason: Decision due date for Cabinet changed from 01/12/2016 to 06/04/2017. Reason: The Inspector's findings to the Local Plan examination have been delayed due to the re-opening of the Local Plan hearings. The Community Infrastructure Levy is informed by the Inspector's findings so therefore the decision has to be slipped to take account of this.</p> <p>30 November 2016 Decision due date for Council changed from 26/01/2017 to 20/04/2017. Reason: Decision due date for Cabinet changed from 01/12/2016 to 06/04/2017. Reason: The Inspector's findings to the Local Plan examination have been delayed due to the re-opening of the Local Plan hearings. The Community Infrastructure Levy is informed by the Inspector's findings so therefore the decision has to be slipped to take account of this.</p> <p>27 March 2017 Decision due date for Council changed from 20/04/2017 to 21/09/2017. Reason: Account has to be taken of the recently received Inspector's report and the policy implications arising therefrom</p>

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Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Yes	Community Impact	Yes
Exempt Report	Open			
Wards Affected	All Wards			
Scrutiny Committee Area	Regeneration and Skills			
Persons/Organisations to be Consulted	members; general public; developers; infrastructure providers; interest groups;			
Method(s) of Consultation	Preliminary draft charging schedule available for public comment; workshop; presentations			
List of Background Documents to be Considered by Decision-maker	Community Infrastructure Levy - Publication Draft Charging Schedule			
Contact Officer(s) details	Ian Loughlin ian.loughlin@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 3558			

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SEFTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN

Details of Decision to be taken	<p>Housing Selective and Additional (HMO) Licensing Scheme Proposals</p> <p>Selective Licensing requires all private sector landlords to apply for a licence to let out their property in designated area/s. Additional (HMO) licensing scheme would cover a broader range and types of Houses in Multiple Occupation than covered by existing mandatory licensing, again in designated areas of the borough.</p> <p>Licence holders will be required to adhere to a set of licence conditions and licence holders must be a 'fit and proper' person. The scheme aims to improve management and property standards across neighbourhoods suffering from deprivation, poor property standards and anti-social behaviour or crime. The schemes would run for 5 years.</p> <p>The report will consider feedback on the licensing proposals following the public consultation and consider the implementation of Selective and Additional licensing across areas of the borough.</p>			
Decision Maker	Cabinet			
Decision Expected	7 Sep 2017			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Yes	Community Impact	Yes
Exempt Report	Open			
Wards Affected	Blundellsands; Cambridge; Church; Derby; Dukes; Kew; Linacre; Litherland; Victoria			
Scrutiny Committee Area	Regeneration and Skills			
Persons/Organisations to be Consulted	A 12 week public consultation, to comply with statutory requirements, commenced on 1 April 2017 with residents, landlords and local businesses across proposed designated licensing areas and neighbouring areas and local authorities			
Method(s) of Consultation	<p>Ongoing engagement with the Cabinet Member - Communities and Housing.</p> <p>A consultation plan was agreed with the Council's Public Engagement and Consultation Panel to include: surveys,</p>			

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	information in different media, meetings and phone conversations with stakeholder groups
List of Background Documents to be Considered by Decision-maker	Housing Selective and Additional (HMO) licensing scheme proposals
Contact Officer(s) details	Neil Davies neil.davies@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 4837

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SEFTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN

Details of Decision to be taken	Commercial Acquisition – Update Report			
	To receive an update report on a commercial acquisition within the Borough and agree any necessary actions			
Decision Maker	Cabinet			
Decision Expected	7 Sep 2017			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Yes	Community Impact	No
Exempt Report	Fully exempt			
Wards Affected	All Wards			
Scrutiny Committee Area	Regeneration and Skills			
Persons/Organisations to be Consulted	Chief Executive and appropriate Heads of Service			
Method(s) of Consultation	Internal Meetings			
List of Background Documents to be Considered by Decision-maker	Commercial Acquisition – Update Report			
Contact Officer(s) details	Sarah Kemp sarah.kemp@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 4770			

SEFTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN

Details of Decision to be taken	Sefton Council Housing Development Company Report to seek consideration of the business case for the establishment of a wholly owned housing development company			
Decision Maker	Cabinet			
Decision Expected	7 Sep 2017			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Yes	Community Impact	Yes
Exempt Report	Fully exempt			
Wards Affected	All Wards			
Scrutiny Committee Area	Regeneration and Skills			
Persons/Organisations to be Consulted	Cabinet Member - Communities and Housing			
Method(s) of Consultation	Briefing meetings and reports			
List of Background Documents to be Considered by Decision-maker	Sefton Council Housing Development Company			
Contact Officer(s) details	Neil Davies neil.davies@sefton.gov.uk Tel: 0151 934 4837			

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