

The Arc  
High Street  
Clowne  
S43 4JY

To: Chair & Members of the Executive

Friday, 25th March 2022

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Dear Councillor

### **EXECUTIVE**

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Executive of the Bolsover District Council to be held in the Council Chamber, The Arc, Clowne on Monday, 4th April, 2022 at 10:00 hours.

### **Risk Assessment Disclaimer**

When attending this meeting in person, I confirm that I have read and understood the contents of each of the following risk assessments and agree to act in line with its content.

- Covid-19 ARC RTW RA001
- Working in Offices At The Arc During Covid-19 Pandemic Guidance – ARC – SSW001
- Meetings – EM001 - Committee and Council Meetings during the Covid-19 pandemic

*These documents have been emailed to Members and are available on the Modern.Gov App library.*



**We speak your language**  
Polish **Mówimy Twoim językiem**  
Slovak **Rozprávame Vaším jazykom**  
Chinese **我们会说你的语言**

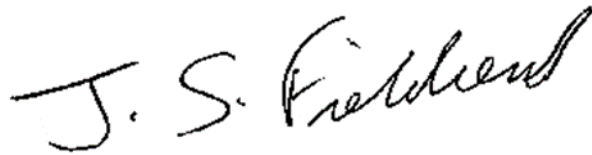
**If you require this agenda in large print  
or another format please call us on 01246 217753**

If you require an adjustment to enable you to participate in or access the meeting please contact the Governance Team at least 72 hours before the meeting starts.

Register of Members' Interests - Members are reminded that a Member must within 28 days of becoming aware of any changes to their Disclosable Pecuniary Interests provide written notification to the Authority's Monitoring Officer.

You will find the contents of the agenda itemised on page 3.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "J. S. Fielden". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'F'.

Interim Monitoring Officer

## EXECUTIVE

### AGENDA

**Monday, 4th April, 2022 at 10:00 hours taking place in the Council Chamber,  
The Arc, Clowne**

| Item No. | PART 1 – OPEN ITEMS   | Page No.(s) |
|----------|---|-------------|
| 1.       | <b>Apologies For Absence</b>  |             |
| 2.       | <b>Urgent Items of Business</b><br><br>To note any urgent items of business which the Chairman has consented to being considered under the provisions of Section 100(B) 4(b) of the Local Government Act 1972.  |             |
| 3.       | <b>Declarations of Interest</b><br><br>Members should declare the existence and nature of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and Non Statutory Interest as defined by the Members' Code of Conduct in respect of:<br><br>a) any business on the agenda<br>b) any urgent additional items to be considered<br>c) any matters arising out of those items<br>and if appropriate, withdraw from the meeting at the relevant time. |             |
| 4.       | <b>Minutes</b><br><br>To consider the minutes of the last meeting held on 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2022   | 4 - 13      |
|          | <b><u>MATTERS REFERRED FROM SCRUTINY</u></b>  |             |
| 5.       | <b>Review of Council's Policy on Fireworks</b>  | 14 - 47     |
|          | <b><u>BUDGET &amp; POLICY FRAMEWORK ITEMS</u></b>   |             |
|          | <b><u>NON KEY DECISIONS</u></b>   |             |
| 6.       | <b>Shared Prosperity Fund</b>   | 48 - 67     |
|          | <b><u>KEY DECISIONS</u></b>   |             |
| 7.       | <b>Independent Living Service and Community Alarm Service</b>   | 68 - 71     |

## EXECUTIVE

Minutes of a meeting of the Executive of Bolsover District Council held in the Council Chamber, The Arc, Clowne, on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 1000 hours.

### PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillor Steve Fritchley in the Chair  
(except for Minute No EX88-21/22 and Minute No EX97-21/22)

Councillors Duncan McGregor (Vice Chair), David Downes (to Minute No EX97-21/22), Clive Moesby, Sandra Peake (to Minute No EX97-21/22), Liz Smyth and Deborah Watson.

Officers:- Karen Hanson (Executive Director of Resources), Grant Galloway (Executive Director of Strategy and Development), Theresa Fletcher (Assistant Director of Finance & Resources), Jim Fieldsend (Interim Monitoring Officer), Pam Brown (Assistant Director of Leader's Executive, Partnerships and Communications), Ian Barber (Assistant Director of Property Services & Housing Repairs), Kath Drury (Improvement & Engagement Officer) (left during Minute No. EX87-21/22), Chris Fridlington (Assistant Director of Development), Natalie Etches (Business Growth Manager), Laura Khella (Commissioning and Contracts Officer) (from during Minute No. EX92-21/22), Ann Bedford (Customer Standards and Complaints Officer) (left during Minute No. EX87-21/22) and Tom Scott (Governance Officer).

### EX83-21/22. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Councillor Mary Dooley.

### EX84-21/22. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

As Members of Shirebrook Town Council, Councillors Steve Fritchley, David Downes and Sandra Peake, declared a significant other interest in Agenda Item 15 - Bolsover Homes Scheme - Market Close Cluster, Shirebrook, and left the meeting at the relevant time.

### EX85-21/22. MINUTES – 31<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2022

Moved by Councillor Duncan McGregor and seconded by Councillor Sandra Peake.  
**RESOLVED** that Minutes of an Executive meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022 be approved as a correct record.

## EXECUTIVE

### NON KEY DECISIONS

#### **EX86-21/22. CUSTOMER SERVICE STANDARDS/ COMPLIMENTS, COMMENTS AND COMPLAINTS REPORT 2021/22 - 1ST APRIL 2021 TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2021**

Executive considered a report regarding the Council's performance in relation to its customer service standards, which included information on the number of compliments, comments and complaints for the period 1st April 2021 to 30th September 2021.

The Customer Standards and Complaints Officer explained the targets in the report and added that some targets had slipped due to the current challenging times in relation to the Covid 19 pandemic.

Moved by Councillor Duncan McGregor and seconded by Councillor Sandra Peake.  
**RESOLVED** that the overall performance on Customer Service Standards and Compliments, Comments and Complaints be noted.

#### **REASON FOR DECISION:**

This was an information report to keep Members informed of performance on Customer Service Standards and Compliments, Comments and Complaints.

#### **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:**

Not applicable as the report provided an overview of performance against agreed targets.

#### **EX87-21/22. AMBITIONS TARGETS PERFORMANCE UPDATE – OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2021 (Q3 – 2021/22)**

Executive considered a report in relation to the Council's Quarter 3 outturns for the Council's Ambition targets 2020-2024.

Out of the 31 targets:

- 19 (61%) were on track
- 1 (3%) continued to be affected by Covid 19
- 4 (12%) had been placed on alert (as unlikely to meet their outturns in 21/22)
- 7 (22%) achieved previously.

Councillor McGregor noted that the report described a lot of hard work undertaken by officers.

Moved by Councillor Duncan McGregor and seconded by Councillor Deborah Watson  
**RESOLVED** that the Quarter 3 outturns against the Council Ambition 2020-2024 targets be noted.

#### **REASON FOR DECISION:**

This was an information report to keep Members informed of progress against the Council's Ambition targets noting achievements and any areas of concern.

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### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

Not applicable as the report provided an overview of performance against agreed targets.

As a Leaseholder in Shirebrook, Councillor Steve Fritchley declared an interest in the following item of business and did not participate in the debate or vote.

Councillor Duncan McGregor in the Chair

### **EX88-21/22. THE REPLACEMENT AND REFURBISHMENT OF FENCING IN SHIREBROOK**

Executive's approval was sought to award a contract for the replacement of existing dilapidated timber fencing and the refurbishment of existing timber fencing in Shirebrook to Impact Links Ltd.

It had been identified that the ranch style fencing bordering the public highway to a number of roads in Shirebrook was beyond economic repair and needed replacing with metal hoop fencing. Where timber fencing was in reasonable condition but not located on a highway, it would be refurbished or replaced in timber to match existing.

In response to a Member's query, the Assistant Director of Property Services & Housing Repairs, confirmed that Right to Buy leaseholders would be impacted by the works and would be advised of this in writing.

Moved by Councillor Duncan McGregor and seconded by Councillor Sandra Peake.

**RESOLVED** that (1) Impact Links Ltd be awarded the contract for replacement and refurbishment of fencing in Shirebrook as outlined in the report,

(2) progress on the contract be reported through the Housing Stock Management Group (HSMG).

(Assistant Director of Property Services & Housing Repairs)

### **REASON FOR DECISION:**

It had been identified that the ranch style fencing that borders the public highway to a number of roads in Shirebrook was beyond economic repair and required replacing.

### **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:**

Removal of the existing fencing with no replacement was considered but following consultation with the mainly elderly residents affected, they felt this would leave them feeling more vulnerable.

Councillor Steve Fritchley in the Chair

## EXECUTIVE

### **EX89-21/22. CARBON REDUCTION PLAN - MONITORING UPDATE**

Executive considered a report which provided an update on the Council's work towards carbon zero, and also sought Members' approval to change the way in which this was reported.

Although the thematic areas remained relevant, the action plans were out of date and did not reflect the changing face of climate change and the reduction of carbon emissions. Added to this, the Council had its own Carbon Reduction Plan which did not mesh easily with external funding opportunities.

Having looked at the existing action plans and those in use with regional funders, and in consultation with the Assistant Director of Development, a 10 point framework used by the Midlands Engine was identified which would allow the Council's existing themes to be transferred/captured but would also allow the streamlining of bids for schemes to be aligned with regional and national funders.

Moved by Councillor Steve Fritchley and seconded by Councillor Duncan McGregor.

**RESOLVED** that the proposed changes to the Carbon Reduction Plan be accepted, and the Council moves away from more traditional monitoring to a live document that tracks and evidences progress across all schemes and or Initiatives.

(Assistant Director of Development)

#### **REASON FOR DECISION:**

The framework allows better compatibility with funders both regionally and nationally, includes additional themes which represent new and emerging technologies that BDC are keen to explore.

This allows a number of different policies and groups to be brought together with progress clearly identified and evidenced with greater opportunities to be offered to partners through the climate group and the Bolsover Partnership.

The framework will ensure a consistent approach to climate improvements in the Bolsover District.

#### **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:**

Remain as we are, which would be less flexible, not relevant to new and emerging technologies, not clearly set out to funding and other partners the schemes BDC are working on and the opportunities for them to be involved.

#### **KEY DECISIONS**

### **EX90-21/22. SAFE & WARM UPGRADE AT VALLEY VIEW HILLSTOWN**

Members consented to a change in order of business to that stated on the agenda. The Safe & Warm Upgrade at Valley View, Hillstown item would be considered before the Replacement & Upgrade of Kitchens 2022 – 2027 item.

Executive's approval was sought to appoint a Contractor to undertake the Safe & Warm Upgrade work at Valley View, Hillstown.

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Housing Services had identified a need to improve facilities, including the replacement of an ageing heating system, alter flat layouts at Valley View and space for additional bungalows.

Working in conjunction with the Procurement Team, the works were tendered in accordance with Council procedures. One tender was received and evaluated on 9th February 2022. Davlyn Construction Ltd (Derby) scored 90 out of 100 and were recommended in the report to be awarded the contract.

Moved by Councillor Sandra Peake and seconded by Councillor Duncan McGregor.

**RESOLVED** that (1) Davlyn Construction be awarded the contract to carry out the Safe & Warm Upgrade at Valley View, Hillstown in accordance with tendered specification and following tender evaluation,

(2) Progress on the contract be reported through the Housing Stock Management Group.

(Executive Director of Development)

### REASON FOR DECISION:

The evaluation group were in unanimous agreement that this tender represented a competitive submission received from Davlyn Construction Ltd (Derby), who have provided excellent work on the Safe & Warm Upgrades at Ashbourne Court and Parkfields. Technical assessment by cost consultant confirmed that tender directly correlates with prices returned for those schemes uplifted to the current date.

### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

Retendering scheme to obtain more returns. Rejected as the price received was in line with prices received for the previous identical schemes, and Davlyn have proved themselves quality wise.

## EX91-21/22. REPLACEMENT & UPGRADE OF KITCHENS 2022 - 2027

Executive's approval was sought to appoint a contractor for the replacement & upgrade of kitchens 2022 – 2027.

The Council had a responsibility to maintain and improve its Housing stock and a number of dwellings required replacement or upgraded Kitchens.

Working in conjunction with the Procurement Team, the works were tendered in accordance with Council procedures. Two tenders were received and were evaluated on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022 with Matthews & Tannert scoring 96 out of 100.

Moved by Councillor Sandra Peake and seconded by Councillor Duncan McGregor.

**RESOLVED** that (1) the contract for replacement and upgrade of kitchens 2022-2027 be awarded to Matthews & Tannert Ltd,

(2) progress on this contract is reported through the Housing Stock Management Group.

(Executive Director of Development)



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### REASON FOR DECISION:

Following a competitive tendering process, Matthews & Tannert provided the best value and highest quality score.

### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

Utilise a Framework. Rejected because it would be too broad a brush, whereas through direct tendering the Council has honed and refined the kitchen specification over a number of years to its exact requirements.

## **EX92-21/22. EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

Executive's approval was sought for the use of ring-fenced external funding from Derbyshire County Council (DCC) Public Health, to commission an external organisation or consortium to deliver activity which aimed to improve the emotional health and wellbeing of children and young people in Bolsover.

Members shared a number of concerns regarding the three target areas identified in the report (Bolsover, Clowne and Shirebrook) such as:

- the three areas were a small part of a large District, and the plan overlooked smaller towns and villages,
- the selection of the three areas had received no input from Members,
- the Council would have no control over the selection of the areas.

The Commissioning and Contracts Officer advised the meeting that the three areas would not be set in stone and there would be scope for Members to provide local intelligence to help inform the areas of delivery and the funding, which had already been received, would be overseen and managed at a local level by Bolsover Partnership's Commissioning Group.

Moved by Councillor Duncan McGregor and seconded by Councillor Clive Moesby.

**RESOLVED** that (1) the use of ring-fenced external funding from Derbyshire County Council (DCC) Public Health, to commission an external organisation or consortium to deliver against pre-defined objectives which aim to improve the emotional health and wellbeing of children and young people, for an initial period of 24 months from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022 be agreed,

(2) a collaborative approach with North East Derbyshire District Council who have funding for the same activity from DCC Public Health, and proceed with a joint commission in recognition of the shared aims and objectives therefore maximising resource and achieving best value for money be agreed,

(3) the flexibility to extend the contract beyond June 2024, subject to budget availability from DCC Public Health, or other external funding providers, and successful delivery of output and outcomes be agreed.

(Assistant Director Leader's Executive, Partnerships and Communications)

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### REASON FOR DECISION:

For the Council to support this initiative to improve the emotional health and wellbeing of children and young people living in Bolsover by developing a preventative approach that enables the expansion of mental health awareness, awareness of preventative factors, building resilience and raising aspirations. This could have longer term impact improving community cohesion and reducing anti-social behaviour, although not a key driver at this stage.

This will not have a direct impact on Council budgets and will be fully funded by DCC Public Health. The collaborative approach with North East District Council enables the maximisation of resources and provides best value for money.

The tender process will create a transparent approach in appointing an organisation or consortium that will be able to deliver the objectives, offer the best value for money and meet the needs of children and young people living in Bolsover.

### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

The option to 'do nothing' and not utilise the external funding could undermine post-COVID recovery. There wouldn't be increased interventions to support younger residents in Bolsover build resilience and cope with mental health issues later in life. A local tailored approach would be unlikely and not meet the outcomes required. To provide this support in-house using Council budgets was also not an option as no additional resources were available.

## EX93-21/22.                    **REDUCING INVALID PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND BACK OFFICE PLANNING SYSTEM**

Executive's approval was sought to join the RIPA/BOPS project (Reducing Invalid Planning Applications and Back Office Planning System), on the terms of the associated funding agreement, and work with North East Derbyshire District Council through the programme to ensure that the best possible outcomes were achieved.

The existing back-office systems that were used by planners to determine planning applications were sometimes confusing and joining the RIPA/BOPS project would seek to receive funding and make these processes simpler.

Members referred to the report which stated "*the remaining £300,000 would be split between the two councils to pay for the cost of back filling officer time 'seconded' to the project over the twelve months it would run*", and queried what the split would be between the authorities. The Assistant Director of Development explained that each Council would receive £150,000 each.

Moved by Councillor Duncan McGregor and seconded by Councillor Liz Smyth

**RESOLVED** that the decision to join the project on the terms of the associated funding agreement and support the provision of North East Derbyshire with an indemnity to allow recovery of any ineligible costs claimed by this Council be endorsed.

(Assistant Director of Development)

## EXECUTIVE

### REASON FOR DECISION:

The benefits of joining the RIPA/BOPS project include receiving grant in aid funding to:

- Improve the planning process for both officers and applicants;
- Provide better customer service in both Councils;
- Help both Councils make more effective and efficient use of officer time;
- allow both Councils to consider additional income generation opportunities;
- put both Councils in a stronger position with improved ICT systems; and
- a better understanding and awareness of the new digital technology the Government wishes to see adopted by LPAs.

### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

The 'do nothing' option was rejected because this project provides a unique opportunity to improve its planning systems with external funding. To undertake the project separately as an 'alternative option' for both Councils was rejected on the advice of the funding body and in light of the efficiencies to be gained because both Council's planning services operate with the same ICT functionality and support.

### EX94-21/22. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Moved by Councillor Duncan McGregor and seconded by Councillor Sandra Peake

**RESOLVED** that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the stated Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and it is not in the public interest for that to be revealed.

### NON KEY DECISIONS

### EX95-21/22. REDEVELOPMENT OF PLEASLEY MILLS EXEMPT PARAGRAPH 3

Executive considered a detailed report which sought Members' approval for proposals for a dedicated officer to project manage master planning and prepare a planning application for the redevelopment of Pleasley Mills.

Moved by Councillor Liz Smyth and seconded by Councillor Duncan McGregor

**RESOLVED** that the approach for the redevelopment of Pleasley Mills as outlined in the report be approved.

(Assistant Director of Development and Planning)

### REASON FOR DECISION:

Appointing a dedicated officer 'in house' with an appropriate budget is considered to offer clear benefits to the Council by providing a dedicated resource designed to accelerate delivery of a credible redevelopment scheme for Pleasley Mills.

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### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

A 'do nothing' option was rejected because the existing buildings are increasingly becoming a liability. A 'do more' option such as appoint an external consultancy was rejected because the constraints on redevelopment on the site do not indicate that a consultancy could add any substantial value to master planning or redevelopment of the site at this stage. Alternative options including the use of existing staff or establishing a permanent post paid from general funds were rejected because of insufficient capacity.

### KEY DECISIONS

#### **EX96-21/22.                    MANAGEMENT OF CORPORATE DEBT - WRITE OFF OF OUTSTANDING AMOUNTS**

Executive's approval was sought for proposals to write-off of debts in respect of Business Rates, Council Tax, Housing Rents and Overpaid Housing Benefits.

Moved by Councillor Clive Moesby and seconded by Councillor Duncan McGregor **RESOLVED** that the amounts included at paragraph 2.1 of the report and individually detailed in Appendix 1 to the report be approved for write off.

(Assistant Director of Finance & Resources)

### REASON FOR DECISION:

Given that all available options to recover this debt have been explored, it is important that the Council recognises the position and approves the write-off of the uncollectable debt.

### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

These are outlined in the main body of the report.

Having previously declared a significant other interest in the following item, Councillors David Downes, Steve Fritchley and Sandra Peake left the meeting.

Councillor Duncan McGregor in the Chair

#### **EX97-21/22.                    BOLSOVER HOMES SCHEME - MARKET CLOSE CLUSTER, SHIREBROOK**

Executive's approval was sought to enter into a contract to deliver the Market Close cluster scheme through the existing Bolsover Homes framework, and to purchase land at Market Close.

Moved by Councillor Duncan McGregor and seconded by Councillor Liz Smyth **RESOLVED** that (1) an expenditure budget as outlined in the report to deliver the Market Close, Shirebrook cluster social housing building scheme be approved,

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(2) Homes England funding be applied for and if received be used to offset or partially offset the viability gap. If the Homes England funding is unsuccessful then available 1-4-1 receipts be used to reduce the cost to the HRA,

(3) the recommendation to enter into contract for the development of a further 28 properties in Shirebrook as outlined in the report be approved,

(4) the purchase of Site 3 in the amount stated in the report, together with any Stamp Duty Land Tax and other associated purchase costs that are usually incurred, be approved,

(5) delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director of Property Services and Housing Repairs to complete the purchase of Site 3 by triggering the Option.

(Assistant Director of Property Services and Housing Repairs)

### **REASON FOR DECISION:**

To deliver the Council's aspirational target of building a minimum of 150 new Council properties by March 2024, to use funding from either Homes England or 1-4-1 receipts to support the Scheme, and to enable Site 3 to be purchased.

### **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED:**

Executive could choose not to support the development but this would not help to achieve the Council's agreed ambition of building 150 social housing properties. This would not help to meet the current demand for social housing in Shirebrook.

The meeting concluded at 1050 hours.

## **Bolsover District Council**

### **Meeting of the Executive on 4th April 2022**

### **Review of Council's Policy on Fireworks**

### **Report of the Chair of Climate Change & Communities Scrutiny Committee**

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>Classification</b>  | This report is Public  |
| <b>Report By</b>       | Joanne Wilson, Scrutiny & Elections Officer, 01246 242385,<br><a href="mailto:joanne.wilson@bolsover.gov.uk">joanne.wilson@bolsover.gov.uk</a> |
| <b>Contact Officer</b> | Joanne Wilson, Scrutiny & Elections Officer, 01246 242385,<br><a href="mailto:joanne.wilson@bolsover.gov.uk">joanne.wilson@bolsover.gov.uk</a> |

### **PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF REPORT**

- To present to Executive the completed report for the recent Review of Council's Policy on Fireworks.

### **REPORT DETAILS**

#### **1. Background**

- 1.1 During the 2020-21 municipal year, Members of the Healthy, Safe, Clean & Green Communities Scrutiny Committee were made aware of a number of resident concerns in relation to the impact of firework use, both at specified celebrations such as Bonfire Night and New Year's Eve and inappropriate use throughout the year.
- 1.2 Following referrals from the Customer Standards & Complaints Officer and the Leader of the Council, Members chose to investigate further to establish what the Council could do to mitigate the impacts at a local level.
- 1.3 Members looked at action taken previously following a motion to Council and also compared the approach of Bolsover District Council (BDC) to that of other neighbouring authorities, including North East Derbyshire District Council (NEDDC) who have the joint Environmental Health Service with Bolsover. This is set out in section 5 of the attached appendix.

#### **2. Details of Proposal or Information**

- 2.1 This review was originally agreed by the previous Healthy, Safe, Clean and Green Communities Scrutiny Committee as part of their 2020-21 work programme. Following the change in scrutiny structure for 2021-22, the

Members of the new Committee agreed to carry this work forward with a view to clarifying the Council's stance and addressing residents' concerns previously identified.

- 2.2 While the Committee have taken the review forward in a slightly different manner to that originally agreed, the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on service delivery has instigated the need for a different approach.
- 2.3 Members feel the evidence considered in the subsequent pages and the recommendations agreed by Scrutiny should bring about further improvements at a local level, while we await further changes to national legislation as a result of continued lobbying.
- 2.4 The aim of the review was:
- To assess the local impact of fireworks and review local Council policy.

The objectives agreed were:

- Review the previous motion adopted by Council in 2019 and the action completed to date.
- Assess the scale of the local environmental impact via consultation with both residents and local agencies/groups.
- Assess the scope for a local level policy and the enforcement that could take place in addition, to the potential for additional lobbying/impact at a national level.

- 2.5 The key issues identified for investigation were as follows:

- A number of complaints/comments are received per annum from residents in relation to the use of such items and the environmental damage caused. All communications received refer to the national campaigns. Is it possible to establish evidence of the scale of the issue at a District level using data held by environmental health and legal services?
- The Council has previously approved a motion submitted and completed a range of agreed activity – what has been the effect of this?
- Further debate at a national level has not yet resulted in a change to national policy/legislation in regards to the noise levels of fireworks sold to the public and used at displays – this is a key element of various national campaigns by organisations such as RSPCA. What action can be taken at a local level in relation to licensing and sales, and encouraging use of low dB or silent fireworks?
- Is there an impact on the Dog Warden service in October/November as a result of lost dogs due to fireworks?

### **3. Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 The Committee have put together four recommendations which will hopefully assist the Council in improving regulation of local firework displays and enforcement against misuse of fireworks.

3.2 The key findings arising from the review are:

- That there is limited additional impact we can have at a local level due to current legislation.
- To ensure service delivery remains efficient and effective across the board, Members advise that the Council adopts the recommendations in section 2 of the attached report as this will allow officers in the joint Environmental Health Service to take a proportionate and appropriate approach to enforcement and advice/guidance.

**4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

- 4.1 While the number of contacts over recent years has been limited, Members felt that further action could be taken to enhance the approach taken by the Council. This should enable a more streamlined service for the joint team. As such a 'do nothing' option was discounted.
- 4.2 Executive could choose not to endorse the recommendations of the review, where they feel the course of action recommended is beyond the delivery capacity of the Authority.

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**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

1. That the Executive endorses the recommendations of the review outlined in section 2 of the attached report.
2. That for recommendations approved by Executive, monitoring by Committee takes place over a twelve month period via the PERFORM system with an update report to Committee at the end of the monitoring period.

**IMPLICATIONS:**

**Finance and Risk:** Yes ☐ No ☒

**Details:**

None from this report. Suggested action for the service can be contained within existing budgets.

On behalf of the Section 151 Officer

**Legal (including Data Protection):** Yes ☐ No ☒

**Details:**

In carrying out scrutiny reviews the Council is exercising its scrutiny powers as laid out in s.21 of the Local Government Act 2000 and subsequent legislation which added/amended these powers e.g. the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

The Council has a statutory duty under s.149 Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity and to eliminate discrimination.

On behalf of the Solicitor to the Council



|  |
|--|
| <b>Staffing:</b> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/><br><b>Details:</b><br>There are no staffing implications from this report.<br><br><div style="text-align: right;">On behalf of the Head of Paid Service</div> |
|--|

## DECISION INFORMATION

|  |    |
|--|----|
| <b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b><br>A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:<br><br><b>Revenue - £75,000   <input type="checkbox"/>   Capital - £150,000   <input type="checkbox"/></b><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i> | No |
| <b>Is the decision subject to Call-In?</b><br><i>(Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</i>   | No |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>District Wards Significantly Affected</b>   | None   |
| <b>Consultation:</b><br><b>Leader / Deputy Leader</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Executive</b> <input type="checkbox"/><br><b>SLT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Relevant Service Manager</b> <input type="checkbox"/><br><b>Members</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Public</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b> <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Details:</b><br>Relevant Service Managers and Portfolio Holder engaged during the review process. |

|   |
|---|
| <b>Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy and Environment.</b> |
| Ambition: Environment   |

| DOCUMENT INFORMATION |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Appendix No          | Title                                       |
| 1                    | Review of the Council's Policy on Fireworks |

|  |
|--|
| <b>Background Papers</b><br><i>(These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Executive you must provide copies of the background papers).</i> |
| Please contact Scrutiny & Elections Officer where further information is required.   |



**Review of Council Policy on Fireworks**  
**December 2020 - December 2021**  
**CLIMATE CHANGE & COMMUNITIES**  
**SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

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## Chair's Foreword

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This review was originally agreed by the previous Healthy, Safe, Clean and Green Communities Scrutiny Committee as part of their 2020-21 work programme. Following the change in scrutiny structure for 2021-22, the Members of the new Committee agreed to carry this work forward with a view to clarifying the Council's stance and addressing residents' concerns previously identified.

While we have taken the review forward in a slightly different manner to that originally agreed, the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on service delivery has instigated the need for a different approach.

Members feel the evidence considered in the subsequent pages and the recommendations agreed by Scrutiny should bring about further improvements at a local level, while we await further changes to national legislation as a result of continued lobbying.

**Cllr Nick Clarke**

**Chair of the Climate Change & Communities Scrutiny Committee**

## 1. Introduction

---

During the 2020-21 municipal year, Members of the Healthy, Safe, Clean & Green Communities Scrutiny Committee were made aware of a number of resident concerns in relation to the impact of firework use, both at specified celebrations such as Bonfire Night and New Year's Eve and inappropriate use throughout the year.

Following referrals from the Customer Standards & Complaints Officer and the Leader of the Council, Members chose to investigate further to establish what the Council could do to mitigate the impacts at a local level.

Members asked for a breakdown showing the number of contacts over the last three years. In relation to the release of fireworks the Council has received a number of requests from the public over the last few years for Members to consider, including new requests during the 2021/22 year after the review commenced:

|         | <b>No. of Comments/Complaints Received</b> |
|---------|--|
| 2021/22 | 2  |
| 2020/21 | 3  |
| 2019/20 | 8  |
| 2018/19 | 0  |
| 2017/18 | No formal tracking                         |

Members were mindful that while there is national legislation in relation to these environmental issues, at a local level we would be limited in what else we can put in place. This is likely to be limited to action on council owned land and property.

Members looked at action taken previously following a motion to Council and also compared the approach of Bolsover District Council (BDC) to that of neighbouring authorities. This is set out below in section 5.

An information request to Derbyshire County Council during the course of the review established that the following legislation covers the licensing, storage, and sale of explosives/fireworks:

[Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974](#)

[Consumer Protection Act 1987](#)

[Fireworks Regulations 2004](#)

[Fireworks \(Amendment\) Regulations 2004](#)

[Explosives Regulations 2014](#)

[Pyrotechnic Articles \(Safety\) Regulations 2015](#)

## 2. Recommendations

| PERFORM Code   | Recommendation  | Desired Outcome  | Target Date | Lead Officer   | Resources  | Service Response  |
|----------------|---|--|-------------|--|--|---|
| CCCSC20-22 1.1 | That BDC adopt a Firework & Bonfire Event Voluntary Registration Scheme, to align our approach with neighbouring areas and provide consistency of approach to Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service. | <p>Implementation of a Registration Scheme with the Bolsover District.</p> <p>Alignment of shared service across both Councils.</p> <p>Alignment with neighbouring areas, supporting a consistent approach for the Fire Service.</p> | June 2022   | <p>Assistant Director Environmental Health;</p> <p>Joint Environmental Health Manager (Commercial &amp; Environment)</p> | <p>Officer time</p> <p>Approval of Executive</p> | Report to be submitted for next available cabinet and implemented thereafter. Systems and process adopted from NEDDC existing arrangements require minimal work to replicate. |
| CCCSC20-22 1.2 | That provision of advice and guidance on the BDC website is amended to be more accessible   | <p>Improved provision of information on BDC website.</p> <p>Alignment of the approach of</p>   | June 2022   | <p>Assistant Director Environmental Health;</p> <p>Joint Environmental</p>   | Officer time                                     | Website to be updated in readiness for the scheme going live  |

| PERFORM Code   | Recommendation  | Desired Outcome  | Target Date    | Lead Officer   | Resources    | Service Response  |
|----------------|---|--|----------------|--|--------------|---|
|                | within the existing page.   | the service reducing duplication of workload.<br><br>Adoption of Registration Scheme will require a refresh of existing information. |                | Health Manager (Commercial & Environment);<br><br>Communications, Marketing and Design Manager |              |   |
| CCCSC20-22 1.3 | That BDC writes a follow-up letter to the Government further lobbying for change to legislation   | Further lobbying for change due to in-action by Government following parliament debate.  | April 2022     | Portfolio Holder for Environmental Health;<br><br>Governance Manager                           | Officer time | This can be completed pending approval by Executive. In light of current staff vacancies this may be actioned by the Scrutiny & Elections Officer in conjunction with the Portfolio Holder. |
| CCCSC20-22 1.4 | That the Enforcement Team investigates the possibility of operating under a Community Safety Accreditation Scheme in relation to firework misuse, | Improved local enforcement powers in relation to firework misuse.  | September 2022 | Assistant Director Housing Management & Enforcement  | Officer time | This has previously been explored as a development/enforcement option in January 2020, pre-covid, in conjunction with the now Director of Resources. At the time Derbyshire Police          |

| PERFORM Code | Recommendation                                     | Desired Outcome | Target Date | Lead Officer | Resources | Service Response  |
|--------------|--|-----------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|---|
|              | enabling enforcement powers similar to the Police. |                 |             |              |           | agreed to consider our request for accreditation, however due to the pandemic this has not been progressed further. We have made contact with the Police again who have indicated they will explore this further. We will continue to explore the possibility of such a scheme if the Committee recommends this, although this is subject to the Police granting the Council additional powers. |



### 3. Scope of the review

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The Healthy, Safe, Clean & Green Communities Scrutiny Committee agreed to undertake a Review of Council Policy on Fireworks, as part of the 2020-21 Work Programme.

The issue was initially raised via a number of comments received by the Leader and Customer Standards & Complaints Officer in relation to Council's Policy and the suggestion of a Council motion in relation to the matter in line with current national campaigns.

The review supports the Corporate Ambition of 'Environment' and the Priority of 'Ensuring a high standard of environmental cleanliness, undertaking appropriate enforcement activity where required', but does not link directly to any Corporate Targets.

The aim of the review was:

- To assess the local impact of Fireworks and review local Council policy.

The objectives agreed were:

- Review the previous motion adopted by Council in 2019 and the action completed to date.
- Assess the scale of the local environmental impact via consultation with both residents and local agencies/groups.
- Assess the scope for a local level policy and the enforcement that could take place in addition, to the potential for additional lobbying/impact at a national level.

The key issues identified for investigation were as follows:

- A number of complaints/comments are received per annum from residents in relation to the use of such items and the environmental damage caused. All communications received refer to the national campaigns. Is it possible to establish evidence of the scale of the issue at a District level using data held by environmental health and legal services?
- The Council has previously approved a motion submitted and completed a range of agreed activity – what has been the effect of this?
- Further debate at a national level has not yet resulted in a change to national policy/legislation in regards to the noise levels of fireworks sold to the public and used at displays – this is a key element of various national campaigns by organisations such as RSPCA. What action can be taken at a local level in relation to licensing and sales, and encouraging use of low dB or silent fireworks?
- Is there an impact on the Dog Warden service in October/November as a result of lost dogs due to fireworks?

The Committee originally agreeing the review comprised the following Members:

|                              |                                   |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Councillor D. Downes (Chair) | Councillor A. Clarke (Vice-Chair) |
| Councillor J. Tait           | Councillor T. Munro               |
| Councillor E. Parkin         | Councillor N. Hoy                 |
| Councillor D. Salt           | Councillor P. Roberts             |
| Councillor D. Bullock        | Councillor R. Walker              |

Due to a change in the scrutiny structure at the AGM in May 2021, this area of delivery moved to the remit of the Climate Change & Communities Scrutiny Committee. At their inaugural meeting in July 2021, they agreed to continue with the review alongside their work programme.

The new Committee comprised the following Members:

|                              |                                   |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Councillor N. Clarke (Chair) | Councillor A. Clarke (Vice-Chair) |
| Councillor J. Tait           | Councillor D. Salt                |
| Councillor E. Parkin         | Councillor D. Bullock             |
| Councillor D. Dixon          |                                   |

Support to the Committee was provided by the Scrutiny & Elections Officer.

## 4. Method of Review

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The original Committee approving the review met on three occasions to consider the scope of the review, key issues they wanted to discuss and to carry out interviews and evidence gathering. This was supplemented by a further three meetings by the new Climate Change & Communities Scrutiny Committee.

The Committee sought evidence by way of:

- Internal enquiries to establish existing policy and procedures; comparison between delivery across the two councils in the shared service; number of resident contacts; and specific action following a previous motion to Council;
- External enquiry to establish policy and service delivery by Derbyshire County Council, as the upper tier authority;
- Development of a draft resident/community group survey (not subsequently pursued following further information from Environmental Health).

Alongside officers providing examples from neighbouring authorities, a core area of discussion was around the difference in approach across the two Councils in the shared service which was recognised as causing an inefficient approach to service delivery. Members were also keen to assess action taken following the motion and the extent to which the Covid-19 pandemic may have hindered progress.

A document review was completed of the following as part of the evidence gathering process:

- An extract from Hansard on 2 November 2020 covering the debate on the impact of Fireworks and relevant legislation;
- North East Derbyshire Policy, Committee reports and Firework & Bonfire Event Voluntary Registration Scheme
- BDC Compliments, Comments and Complaints data
- Council motion from 13 November 2019 and associated paperwork
- Review of BDC and neighbouring authority websites.

### **Equality and Diversity**

Within the process of the review, the Committee has taken into account the impact of equalities. As part of the consideration of local consultation, Members devised a wide list of stakeholders to ensure that all groups were targeted to encourage engagement with the review. Had the consultation gone ahead the survey would have been available in a variety of accessible formats and have targeted all areas of the District. Members also considered how local policy which targeted council land and property would disproportionately target council tenant over private owners.

## 5. Analysis of evidence and key findings

---

### 5.1 Review of previous motion adopted by Council in 2019 and the action completed to date.

The full link to Council papers associated with the motion can be found within the Bibliography of this report. The following image is an extract from the Council agenda of 13 November 2019, where Cllr Nick Clarke proposed a motion in line with a suggested motion from the RSPCA [view the motion here \(PDF 170KB\)](#):

Figure 1: Extract item 7E BDC Council 13112019

**e) USE OF FIREWORKS**

Motion moved by Councillor Nick Clarke

I move that Bolsover District Council resolves:

To require all public firework displays within the District boundaries to be advertised in advance of the event, allowing residents to take precautions for their animals and vulnerable people.

To write to the Government urging them to legislate that the law be changed to only allow the sale of fireworks to operators of licensed displays.

To actively promote a public awareness campaign about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people - including the precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks.

To write to the UK Government urging them to introduce legislation to limit the maximum noise level of fireworks to 90db for those sold to the public for private displays.

To encourage local suppliers of fireworks to stock 'quieter' fireworks for public display.

To tighten up the restriction of sales of fireworks in the run up to Bonfire Night to under 18 year olds and to discourage proxy sales of fireworks for those under the age of 18.

As noted at Appendix 4, Cllrs resolved to approve all six elements of the motion:

- i) all public firework displays within the District boundaries to be advertised in advance of the event, allowing residents to take precautions for their animals and vulnerable people.
- ii) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to write to the Government urging them to legislate that the law be changed to only allow the sale of fireworks to operators of licensed displays.

- iii) a public awareness campaign be actively promoted about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people – including the precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks.
- iv) the Chief Executive be requested to write to the UK Government urging them to introduce legislation to limit the maximum noise level of fireworks to 90db for those sold to the public for private displays.
- v) local suppliers of fireworks be encouraged to stock ‘quieter’ fireworks for public display.
- vi) the Authority tighten up the restriction of sales of fireworks in the run up to Bonfire Night to under 18 year olds and to discourage proxy sales of fireworks for those under the age of 18.

Points (i), (iii), (iv) and (v) appear in the suggested motion by RSPCA which a number of residents have urged Council to consider (see section 1 outlining background information and contacts from residents).

Cllr Clarke’s motion and the subsequent resolution went beyond this and had two additional elements to those stated above.

#### Action to date

The following table summarises activity to date:

| Action | Activity completed  |
|--------|---|
| (i)    | No specific activity has been taken forward in this area to date. . Members acknowledge the benefits of a Registration Scheme and have been made aware of such schemes at other neighbouring authorities and believe it would lead to more efficient service delivery if the same approach was taken within the Bolsover District. This would also require minimal additional input from staff as the documentation already exists and can be easily adapted. |
| (ii)   | Following agreement of the resolution by Council on 13 November 2019, a letter was sent to Rt Hon Andrea Leadsom MP from the Council (See Appendix 2). The Council urged the Government to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) ...that the law be changed to only allow the sale of fireworks to operators of licensed displays....</li> </ul>  |
| (iii)  | Following agreement of the resolution by Council on 13 November 2019, a letter was sent to Rt Hon Andrea Leadsom MP from the Council (See Appendix 2). The Council urged the Government to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) a public awareness campaign be actively promoted about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable</li> </ul>   |

| Action | Activity completed  |
|--------|---|
|        | <p>people – including the precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks.</p> <p>In terms of any local activity, this area of work has not moved forward at Bolsover. Following a briefing from Environmental Health in September 2021, Members are aware how a Registration Scheme aids awareness of the impact of displays. Section 5.3 below and Appendix 4 of this report shows what could be replicated at BDC.</p> |
| (iv)   | <p>Following agreement of the resolution by Council on 13 November 2019, a letter was sent to Rt Hon Andrea Leadsom MP from the Council (See Appendix 2). The Council urged the Government to consider:</p> <p>c) the introduction of legislation to limit the maximum noise level of fireworks to 90db for those sold to the public for private displays.</p>  |
| (v)    | <p>Responsibility for compliance with legislation supporting the control of sales sits with Derbyshire County Council. It is not within the Council's remit to further restrict sales. As such this element of the motion is beyond the powers of the Council to address. See Section 5.3 for more detail.</p>  |
| (vi)   | <p>Responsibility for compliance with legislation supporting the control of sales sits with Derbyshire County Council. It is not within the Council's remit to further restrict sales. As such this element of the motion is beyond the powers of the Council to address. See Section 5.3 for more detail.</p>  |

As part of the review, Members of Healthy, Safe, Clean & Green Scrutiny Committee reviewed the debate in parliament on existing legislation. This was re-circulated following Committee changes. A link to the Hansard extract can be found within the Bibliography. No further action was taken by the Government at the time to propose changes to the existing legislation in the Fireworks Act 2003.

### **Recommendation:**

**That BDC adopt a Firework & Bonfire Event Voluntary Registration Scheme, to align our approach with neighbouring areas and provide consistency of approach to Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service.**

**That BDC writes a follow-up letter to the Government further lobbying for change to legislation.**

**That provision of advice and guidance on the BDC website is amended to be more accessible within the existing page.**

## **5.2 Assess the scale of the local environmental impact via consultation with both residents and local agencies/groups**

As part of the original scope, Healthy, Safe, Clean & Green Communities Scrutiny Committee developed a brief questionnaire that could be used to consult with both residents and local community groups. Due to the timing of this coinciding with lead up to municipal year-end and a scheduled Citizen Panel Survey, hard copy questionnaires were not an option. Members had agreed to look at a web-based approach but agreed that they would re-assess how the consultation could be completed following the election period and Council AGM.

Due to changes in the scrutiny structure at AGM, the review was presented to Climate Change & Communities Scrutiny to assess whether the review was still relevant and if members wanted to continue the piece of work. The new Committee agreed to continue with the review but chose to hold off carrying out consultation in favour of speaking to officers in more detail.

At one of the evidence sessions in September 2021, it became apparent that Environmental Health officers received little complaint from residents in relation to fireworks and there was also no demand on the Dog Warden during this period due to lost dogs as a result of firework incidents. As such, Members felt there was not sufficient evidence to suggest wider consultation was not required, due to the limited volume of contacts to both Environmental Health and the Complaints & Customer Standards Officer.

## **5.3 Assess the scope for a local level policy and the enforcement that could take place in addition to the potential for additional lobbying/impact at a national level.**

### **District-level Policy**

Following agreement by the new Climate Change & Communities Scrutiny Committee to take on the review, an information request was put to officers in Legal and Environmental Health Services.

Members requested the following details:

- *What actions are the Council completing in the run up to November 2021, particularly any partnership approaches with Parishes/Community groups?*
- *Members would also like to understand what legislation is place to support the licensing of Low dB Fireworks and whether we can stipulate that this is all that's used/sold locally?*

Officer responses were as follows:

By way of background information:

- Sale of fireworks is licensed by the County Council, not District;
- Conditions cannot be imposed locally;



- Conditions/prohibitions to be attached to a licence can only be set by the Secretary of State in regulations.

The District Council has no powers to restrict or place conditions on the sale of fireworks in the area. Nor do we have any powers to control what people do on private property in respect of the use of fireworks.

In addition to the policy in respect of BDC-owned land the only other possibility would be to look at restrictions on use of them in other publicly-accessible open spaces but that would be of limited scope and would probably not be helpful in the context of noise/volume.

Officers also attended Committee in September 2021 to brief Members on the approach taken at North East Derbyshire DC (NEDDC) 'Bonfire and Firework Display Registration Scheme' which could easily be replicated at Bolsover. A number of neighbouring authorities have also adopted similar schemes to the Registration Scheme. The scheme would raise awareness of safety concerns, promote the RSPCA noise campaign, and introduce a voluntary registration system (with code of conduct) for public displays. While this had not been implemented as planned in 2021 due to the pandemic, it was expected to be fully operational for 2022. The Council websites at both authorities in the shared service are used as the primary resource for raising awareness of safety and the approach taken by the respective Councils.

It was also noted that Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service are considering whether they could actually start to run these schemes, and are currently looking at taking over the Derbyshire Dales DC one, as it fits more with their role. There may be that opportunity for NEDDC too, so any BDC scheme needs to be mindful of countywide fire and rescue services looking to take on and run them, which can only be an improvement in the long-term.

The Environmental Health Manager – Commercial & Environment responded to some of the specific points raised by Committee on 3 August 2021 as below:

- 1) Derbyshire County Council licence all storage of the fireworks people buy in the area (see further detail in County section below).
- 2) The Government has researched the impact of firework noises on people and concluded that the volume is the same as a ringing telephone. However, distance can change this.
- 3) Having different types of firework shows such as light shows would depend on the Government legislating for it.
- 4) The Environmental Health Service did not receive complaints/requests for the Dog Warden Service as a result of dogs being scared by fireworks.

The Environmental Health Manager – Commercial & Environment explained that many of the issues mentioned were Police matters. The concept of a Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS) was discussed and the Environmental Health Manager – Commercial & Environment noted awareness of such an approach used by neighbouring authority areas and was aware that this was something that could happen across the County in the future. On a CSAS scheme, they are usually agreed individually with local authorities (LA) based on what issues each LA wants to tackle,



and which fit with local police priorities and Community Safety Partnership priorities. If BDC or another District or the county wanted to do something similar then it would need a separate legal agreement with the Police. However the issues and expectations on those authorised Council staff may be different.

Most commonly, CSAS schemes enable staff from Councils and private companies (usually large shopping centres such as Meadowhall) to deal with very low level ASB by way of on the spot fines or confiscating alcohol. They vary depending on the issues. However, it was noted further information was needed on how the Derbyshire Police CSAS schemes work and whether they may have different powers they usually allow others to discharge for them.

Members agreed that they would like to see an approach to enforcement and firework misuse that would see Enforcement officers join a Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS), which would allow them to carry out Police work. The Assistant Director Leader's Executive, Partnerships and Communications agreed they could investigate the possibility of such an approach via their links with the Community Safety Partnership, in conjunction with Assistant Director Housing Management & Enforcement. Any CSAS developed could run alongside any Registration scheme developed in Bolsover.

### **County-level Policy**

A further request was submitted to Derbyshire County Council Trading Standards team confirming that Members were exploring what avenues were open in terms of setting local policy and seeking clarity on DCC's perspective and to clarify local activity:

- *What actions the Council is completing in the run up to November 2021, particularly any partnership approaches with Parishes/Community groups?*
- *Members would also like to understand what legislation is place to support the licensing of Low dB Fireworks and whether we can stipulate that this is all that's used/sold locally?*

Their response was as follows:

"As you are aware; at Derbyshire Trading Standards we licence the storage of explosives (fireworks) within the County. On the basis of any applications we receive, previous history, storage conditions (including separation distances), hazard type, and complaints, we then plan our inspections as a targeted approach to ensure that the businesses concerned only store safely the fireworks they are licensed to possess. We also respond to any complaints regarding unlicensed storage and the retailing of fireworks to persons under the stipulated age.

Fireworks are listed as the following categories:

- Category F1 fireworks present a very low hazard and negligible noise level and are intended for use in confined areas, including fireworks that are intended for use inside domestic buildings.
- Category F2 fireworks present a low hazard and low noise level and are intended for outdoor use in confined areas.
- Category F3 fireworks present a medium hazard, are intended for outdoor use in large open areas and have a noise level that is not harmful to human health.
- Category F4 fireworks present a high hazard, are intended for use only by persons with specialist knowledge and have a noise level that is not harmful to human health.

Only categories F1, F2 and F3 can be supplied to the public. Category F4 can only be supplied to persons with specialist fireworks knowledge. There are also four hazard types (HT1 - HT4), which are used for storage licensing purposes.

The Pyrotechnic Articles (Safety) Regulations 2015 prohibit the supply of category F4 fireworks to the general public. The Regulations prohibit the supply of category F2 (outdoor use - confined areas) and category F3 (outdoor use - large open areas) fireworks to any person under 18. The Regulations prohibit the supply of category F1 (indoor use low-hazard low-noise - party poppers etc.) fireworks to any person under 16. An exception is made for Christmas crackers, which must not be supplied to any person under 12. Caps for toy guns are exempt from fireworks legislation. Any firework that exceeds 120 decibels must not be supplied to consumers.

As stated earlier, this authority intends to targeted inspections at premises licenced to store explosives and respond to any complaints in regard to storage/retail sale. Regarding partnership approaches; at the present time we have no-intention of taking part in any such activity, but would be willing to do so if there was a perceived benefit and resources allowed. We have undertaken joint inspection work in the past with the Fire Service.

The second part of your question regarding the licensing of Low dB Fireworks and whether we can stipulate that this is all that's used/sold locally is a little more complex. The category of firework is stipulated within the legislation and such fireworks must meet the noise level requirements of that category. When we licence a premises for storage we licence to store for hazard types (HT1 – HT4) - HT1 being the most dangerous. HT1 and HT2 are not suitable for retail storage. Most fireworks that can be supplied to consumers contain HT4 explosives but some are designated as HT3 because they are more dangerous.

The supply of fireworks is governed by different legislation, which uses a different numbering system that is covered above (F1 - F4). HT4 fireworks are suitable for retail supply and are categorised for supply using a system that is explained above. HT3 fireworks are normally only available from specialist fireworks suppliers with premises that only supply fireworks. For the vast majority of retailers we licence to store HT4 which would include categories F1- F3.

As you can see from the above it would be difficult for us to try and stipulate the supply of a certain F1 – F3 category as we only licence the hazard type. Even if we could there would be nothing stopping a consumer travelling to another district, or across the border into Nottinghamshire, to purchase the fireworks there. From an enforcement point of view it would be virtually impossible to stipulate that only low decibel fireworks are sold and used in a certain district/area; especially when you take into account the fact of people buying and selling via Facebook and other such sites. In Trading Standards we only licence legitimate businesses, although as detailed above, we will act when we receive information about any unlicensed storage.

Members were satisfied that the detail received confirmed the difference between District and County roles and that there was limited powers available to District Councils.

**Recommendation:**

**That the Enforcement Team investigates the possibility of operating under a Community Safety Accreditation Scheme in relation to firework misuse, enabling enforcement powers similar to the Police.**

## 6. Conclusions

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The Committee have put together four recommendations which will hopefully assist the Council in improving regulation of local firework displays and enforcement against misuse of fireworks.

The key findings arising from the review are:

- That there is limited additional impact we can have at a local level due to current legislation.
- To ensure service delivery remains efficient and effective across the board, Members advise that BDC aligns its approach with that of neighbouring authorities as this will allow officers in the joint Environmental Health Service to take a proportionate and appropriate approach to enforcement and advice/guidance, within the Fire Service area.

## Appendix 1: Stakeholders

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Stakeholders engaged during the Review:

- Portfolio Holder – Cllr Watson (Environmental Health)
- Leader of Bolsover District Council
- Customer Standards and Complaints Officer
- Assistant Director of Environmental Health
- Joint Environmental Health Managers
- Legal Team Leader (Contentious)
- Derbyshire County Council Trading Standards
- Assistant Director of Leader's Executive, Partnerships & Communications
- Assistant Director of Housing Management & Enforcement

Stakeholders impacted by the Review:

- Bolsover residents
- Bolsover DC tenants
- Portfolio Holder – Cllr Watson (Environmental Health)
- Assistant Director of Environmental Health and Joint Environmental Health team
- Communications team
- Governance team
- Assistant Director of Housing Management & Enforcement
- Enforcement Team

## Appendix 2: Letter to Andrea Leadsom MP



Our Ref: Motion-0411-(e)-2019/2020  
Please Ask For: Nicola Calver  
Direct Line: 01246 217753  
Email: [nicola.calver@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:nicola.calver@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk)  
Date: 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020

The Ard  
High Street  
Clowne  
S43 4JY

Rt Hon Andrea Leadsom MP  
Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

Dear Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy


At its meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019, Bolsover District Council agreed a motion to:


- a) write to the Government urging that the law be changed to only allow the sale of fireworks to operators of licensed displays.
- b) a public awareness campaign be actively promoted about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people – including the precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks.
- c) write to the UK Government urging the introduction of legislation to limit the maximum noise level of fireworks to 90db for those sold to the public for private displays.

It was resolved that the Council writes to the Government to request that these issues be addressed.


Please find enclosed a copy of the resolution for your information.

Yours sincerely

  
Nicola Calver  
Governance Manager



Tel 01246 242424 Email [enquiries@bolsover.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@bolsover.gov.uk)  
Web [www.bolsover.gov.uk](http://www.bolsover.gov.uk)



## BOLSOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

¶

Council – 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Minute 0411 (e)

¶

e) The following motion was submitted for consideration by Councillor Nick Clarke:

¶

*I move that Bolsover District Council resolves:*

¶

*To require all public firework displays within the District boundaries to be advertised in advance of the event, allowing residents to take precautions for their animals and vulnerable people.*

¶

*To write to the Government urging them to legislate that the law be changed to only allow the sale of fireworks to operators of licensed displays.*

¶

*To actively promote a public awareness campaign about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people – including the precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks.*

¶

*To write to the UK Government urging them to introduce legislation to limit the maximum noise level of fireworks to 90db for those sold to the public for private displays.*

¶

*To encourage local suppliers of fireworks to stock ‘quieter’ fireworks for public display.*

¶

*To tighten up the restriction of sales of fireworks in the run up to Bonfire Night to under 18-year olds and to discourage proxy sales of fireworks for those under the age of 18.*

¶

Councillor Tom Kirkham duly seconded the motion and reserved his right to speak.

¶

AMENDMENT

¶

Councillor Andrew Joesbury proposed an amendment to the motion to add a new paragraph to the end, reading: “To write to the Government for a blanket ban on all firework sales to private individuals.”

¶

Councillor Andrew Joesbury spoke on his amendment, believing that there were multiple fire incidents all over the country on every Bonfire Night, and he felt the Government had done little to address it.

¶

Councillor Dan Salt duly seconded the amendment.

¶

Councillor Anne Clarke believed it was important to consider the effect fireworks could have on veterans who might have Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. She added that fireworks can also have a significant impact on pets.

¶

Councillor Duncan McGregor advised that the second resolution within the original motion (“To write to the Government urging them to legislate that the law be changed to only allow the sale of fireworks to operators of licensed displays”) already covered Councillor Andrew Joesbury’s amendment. Councillor Andrew Joesbury, with the agreement of the seconder Councillor Dan Salt agreed to withdraw the amendment.

BOL SOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

¶

ORIGINAL MOTION

¶

On being put to the vote, the original motion was carried.

¶

RESOLVED that

¶

i) → all public firework displays within the District boundaries to be advertised in advance of the event, allowing residents to take precautions for their animals and vulnerable people.

¶

ii) → the Chief Executive Officer be requested to write to the Government urging them to legislate that the law be changed to only allow the sale of fireworks to operators of licensed displays.

¶

iii) → a public awareness campaign be actively promoted about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people – including the precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks.

¶

iv) → the Chief Executive be requested to write to the UK Government urging them to introduce legislation to limit the maximum noise level of fireworks to 90db for those sold to the public for private displays.

¶

v) → local suppliers of fireworks be encouraged to stock 'quieter' fireworks for public display.

¶

vi) → the Authority tighten up the restriction of sales of fireworks in the run up to Bonfire Night to under 18 year olds and to discourage proxy sales of fireworks for those under the age of 18.

(Chief Executive Officer)

¶

¶



## Appendix 3: NEDDC Report to Cabinet (February 2020)

Agenda Item No \*

### North East Derbyshire District Council

### Cabinet

13<sup>th</sup> February 2020

### **Bonfire and Firework Display Safety Campaign 2020**

### Report of the Portfolio Holder for the Environment

This report is public

### Purpose of the Report

- To present to Cabinet initial plans for a Bonfire and Firework Display Campaign for 2020.
- To make Cabinet aware of a national campaign by the RSPCA calling for additional controls and measures including reducing noise levels, licensing displays and raising awareness of the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people.

### **1 Report Details**

#### **1.1 Background and Current Regulatory Framework**

- 1.2 It has been widely reported in the press that thousands of people are injured each year in firework related accidents in the home. The RSPCA has launched a campaign called #BangOutOfOrder to raise awareness and lobby for greater controls on firework volumes and sales and greater awareness of the impact on pets, horses, farm animals and wildlife.
- 1.3 The Fireworks Regulations 2004 updated the previous legislation regarding the sale and use of fireworks. They prohibit the possession and use of excessively loud category 3 fireworks (above 120dB(A)) and restrict sales of Category 4 fireworks to professional display companies who can demonstrate they have full insurance, proper licenced storage and competence.
- 1.4 It is illegal to set off fireworks between 11pm and 7am, except for on Bonfire Night, when the cut off is midnight and on New Year's Eve, Diwali and Chinese New Year, when the cut off is 1am. It is also illegal to sell fireworks to people under the age of 18. It is illegal under the Town Police Clauses Act 1847, to

set off or throw fireworks (including sparklers) in the street or other public places.

- 1.5 Buying fireworks for private use from Derbyshire County Council registered sellers is also restricted to between the 15<sup>th</sup> October and 10<sup>th</sup> November, 26<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> December and 3 days before Diwali and Chinese New Year. Outside of these times people can only buy fireworks from one of five Derbyshire premises which hold a year round licence premises.
- 1.6 The laws on possession and use of fireworks are enforced by the Police, and the licensing of sellers and under age sales offences are the responsibility of Derbyshire County Council's Trading Standards.
- 1.7 Although North East Derbyshire District Council has no powers to deal with the sales and use of fireworks, it does enforce health and safety legislation in shops and at some outdoor events. Although the topic is not on the Health and Safety Executive's priorities for local enforcing authorities in 2020/21, the Joint Environmental Health Service recognises that there is concern about the impact fireworks can have at public displays and in domestic settings.

## **2 Conclusions and Reasons for Recommendation**

- 2.1 The Joint Environmental Health Service has begun planning a Bonfire and Firework Display Registration Scheme due to be launched in September 2020, and through the run up to the Bonfire Night period.
- 2.2 The scheme will aim to raise awareness of the principle safety concerns and risks associated with fireworks, bonfires and uncontrolled displays. It will also promote the RSPCA campaign to raise awareness of the impact on pets and other animals to enable people to make informed decisions about their use of fireworks and to be aware of events taking place in their community.
- 2.3 The scheme will introduce a voluntary registration system and a code of conduct for public display, addressing safety and noise concerns, which registered events will be requested to agree to. Registered events will be publicised on the Council's website, helping to raise awareness of events within communities as requested by the RSPCA.

## **3 Consultation and Equality Impact**

- 3.1 In developing the registration scheme further consultation will be held with the Police, Trading Standards and the RSPCA.
- 3.2 There are no impacts on equality arising from this report, although it is noted that fireworks can have a disproportionate impact on vulnerable people in society.

## **4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

- 4.1 The Service has considered other options such as attempting to draw up Public Space Protection Orders and use of Community Protection Notices. However, there have not been any events which have been reported to the service over the previous Bonfire Night period which would lead to the need for additional local regulation. In addition, the existing primary legislation contains robust controls for dealing with anti-social behaviour related to fireworks and the general use and sale of fireworks to authorised persons.
- 4.2 Further restrictions on sales and categorisation of fireworks would require primary legislation to further restrict the manufacture and sale of fireworks. The RSPCA's national campaign calling for additional restrictions and measures is summarised in a draft motion for Councils attached at appendix 1 to this report.

## **5 Implications**

### **5.1 Finance and Risk Implications**

- 5.1.1 The safety campaign and promotion has no financial risk associated with it. There are a number of registration schemes operating nationally through other local authorities which the Council can use as a template. Online marketing of the scheme as well as press releases and social media messages will enable promotion of the registration scheme.

### **5.2 Legal Implications including Data Protection**

- 5.2.1 There are no legal implications of these proposals.
- 5.2.2 Businesses who sign up to the registration scheme will consent to organisation details being published and prior to the electronic form being made live these matters will be checked with the Data Protection Officer.

### **5.3 Human Resources Implications**

- 5.3.1 There are no human resource implications for these recommendations as the work will be completed and administered through existing resources.

## **6 Recommendations**

- 6.1 That Cabinet notes and supports the introduction of a Firework and Bonfire Registration Scheme and Code of Conduct.
- 6.2 That Cabinet agrees that officers arrange to meet with the RSPCA to consider their call for additional controls and measures including reducing the maximum noise level of fireworks sold to the public, ensuring they are labelled accurately and licensing all public firework displays.

## 7 Decision Information

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b><br>A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:<br>BDC:      Revenue - £75,000 <input type="checkbox"/><br>Capital - £150,000 <input type="checkbox"/><br>NEDDC: Revenue - £100,000 <input type="checkbox"/><br>Capital - £250,000 <input type="checkbox"/><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please indicate which threshold applies | No  |
| <b>Is the decision subject to Call-In?</b><br>(Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)  | No  |
| <b>Has the relevant Portfolio Holder been informed</b>   | Yes   |
| <b>District Wards Affected</b>   | All   |
| <b>Links to Corporate Plan priorities or Policy Framework</b>  | NEDDC Council Plan 1.4, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, 4.3<br>BDC – To be confirmed |

## 8 Document Information

| Appendix No  | Title  |
|--|--|
| 1  | RSPCA Draft motion for councils on fireworks |
| <b>Background Papers</b> (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet (NEDDC) or Executive (BDC) you must provide copies of the background papers) |  |
| 1. <a href="#">The Fireworks Regulations 2004</a><br>2. <a href="#">National Local Authority Enforcement Code, Health and Safety Executive</a>   |  |
| Report Author  | Contact Number                               |
| Matt Finn, Environmental Health Manager  | 01246 217848                                 |

## Appendix 4: Firework and Bonfire Event Voluntary Registration Scheme Booklet and Application Form

---

Specific advice and links to additional guidance including the neighbouring Voluntary Registration Scheme can be found on the NEDDC website:

<https://www.ne-derbyshire.gov.uk/environmental-health/waste-damage-and-disturbance/fireworks>

A further example can be found on Derbyshire Dales District Council website:

<https://www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk/community-a-living/health-a-wellbeing/bonfire-and-firework-safety-scheme>

<https://www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk/component/weblinks/weblink/72-g/1047-gov-uk-celebrating-bonfire-night-a-community-guide-to-organising-bonfires-and-fireworks>

While not specifically an example of a Registration Scheme, Mansfield DC also link to a Nottinghamshire guide on event management:

<https://www.mansfield.gov.uk/downloads/file/229/nottinghamshire-event-planning-a-z-guide>

## Appendix 5: Bibliography

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Bolsover District Council, (13 November 2019), Minutes of Council, Minute number 411(e), pp9-10.

<https://bmoderngov.bolsover.gov.uk/documents/g2200/Printed%20minutes%2013th-Nov-2019%2010.00%20Council.pdf?T=1>

Hansard, 2 November 2020, Volume 683: Fireworks,

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2020-11-02/debates/F982D230-02C0-4A8B-8A60-D0C51F952944/Fireworks>

North East Derbyshire District Council, (February 2021), Item 5(a) Bonfire and Firework Display Safety Campaign 2020, pp47-52.

<https://democracy.ne-derbyshire.gov.uk/documents/g1283/Public%20reports%20pack%2013th-Feb-2020%2016.30%20Cabinet.pdf?T=10>



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your language**

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językiem**

---

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**Rozprávame  
Vaším jazykom**

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**Chinese**

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## **Bolsover District Council**

### **Meeting of the Executive on 4th April 2022**

#### **Shared Prosperity Fund**

#### **Report of the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development**

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>Classification</b>  | This report is public  |
| <b>Report By</b>       | Natalie Etches – Business Growth Manager<br>Ext: 2389<br>Email: <a href="mailto:natalie.etches@bolsover.gov.uk">natalie.etches@bolsover.gov.uk</a> |
| <b>Contact Officer</b> | As above   |

#### **PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to update Members on the contents of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund pre-launch guidance and to set out the process to engage with internal departments and local partners to draft and formulate an Investment Plan for consideration and agreement at a future meeting.

#### **REPORT DETAILS**

##### **1. Background**

- 1.1 The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is a new funding initiative, part of the UK Government's levelling up agenda. It will provide £2.6 billion of new capital and revenue funding for local investment by March 2025, with all areas of the UK receiving an allocation from the Fund via a funding formula rather than a competition.
- 1.2 In England, Scotland and Wales, local government will be given responsibility for developing an Investment Plan for approval by the UK Government, and for delivery of the Fund thereafter. Bolsover District Council will receive an allocation to manage, including assessing and approving project applications, processing payments and day-to-day monitoring.
- 1.3 In order to access the allocation, each place is asked to set out measurable outcomes it is looking to deliver, and what interventions will be prioritised. Each place will have the flexibility to invest across a range of activities that represent the right solutions to improve local pride in place, help spread and create opportunity, and a sense of community and belonging.
- 1.4 There are three Investment Priorities the UKSPF is aimed at addressing:



|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Communities and Place | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening our social fabric and fostering a sense of local pride and belonging, through investment in activities that enhance physical, cultural and social ties and amenities, such as community infrastructure and local green space, and community led projects.</li> <li>• To build resilient and safe neighbourhoods, through investment in quality places that people want to live, work, and play and learn in, through targeted improvements to the built environment and innovative approaches to crime prevention.</li> </ul>  |
| Local Businesses      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating jobs and boosting community cohesion, through investments and that build on existing industries and institutions, and range from support for starting businesses to visible improvements to local retail, hospitality, and leisure sector facilities.</li> <li>• Promote networking and collaboration, through interventions that bring together businesses and partners within and across sectors to share knowledge, expertise and resources, and stimulate innovation and growth.</li> <li>• Increase private sector investment in growth-enhancing activities, through targeted support for small and medium-sized businesses to undertake new-to-firm innovation, adopt productivity-enhancing, energy efficient and low carbon technologies and techniques, and start or grow their exports.</li> </ul>   |
| People and Skills     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boost core skills and support adults to progress in work, by targeting adults with no or low level qualifications and skills in maths, and upskill the working population, yielding personal and societal economic impact, and by encouraging innovative approaches to reducing adult learning barriers.</li> <li>• Support disadvantaged people to access the skills they need to progress in life and into work, for example the long-term unemployed and those with protected characteristics through funding life, and basic skills where this is not delivered through national or local employment and skills provision.</li> <li>• Support local areas to fund local skills needs and supplement local adult skills provision e.g. by providing additional volumes; delivering provision through wider range of routes or enabling more intensive/innovative provision, both qualification based and non-qualification based.</li> <li>• Reduce levels of economic inactivity and move those furthest from the labour market closer to employment, through investment in bespoke employment support, tailored to local need. Investment should facilitate the join-up of mainstream provision and local services within an area for participants, through the use of one-to-one keyworker support, improving employment outcomes for specific cohorts who face labour market barriers.</li> </ul> |

1.5 'Communities and Place' and 'Local Businesses' Interventions will both be delivered in 2022-23 and 2023-24. Further investment to support 'People and Skills' will follow from 2024-25, when the funding pot reaches its full extent.

- 1.6 Lead local authorities for each area will have flexibility over how they deliver the Fund, for example they may wish to use a mix of procurement, local competitions or deliver some activity through in-house teams.
- 1.7 Working with other places will be welcomed in the delivery of Fund interventions where it meets the needs of their place, and achieves value for money or better outcomes for local people or businesses.

## **2. Details of Proposal or Information**

- 2.1 In order to prepare the Investment Plan for accessing the UKSPF, there will need to be early consultation and conversations held with both internal and external partners from across the District to understand the priorities and how the Fund can be best used to support people and businesses across the Bolsover District.
- 2.2 The Government's intention is that local authorities need to be working on their draft Investment Plans now, with the Fund being launched in late spring. It is anticipated that more detailed guidance, including the funding formula and monetary allocations for the three-year period, will be published in late spring. This will give local authorities some time to revise and refine draft Investment Plans, ready to submit in the summer.
- 2.3 Investment Plans must set out measurable outcomes, state how projects/activities will be procured and delivered, and set out governance arrangements. To ensure this is captured, Assistant Directors have been sent a proforma template to capture investment priorities as well as identify the partners and resource required to deliver any proposed initiative. The proforma is in Appendix 1.
- 2.4 Officers have until the end of March to complete their proformas and to identify initiatives as well as the priorities they will deliver against. The proforma identifies both the corporate priorities and the UKSPF Investment priorities to ensure we are aligning initiatives to our corporate objectives, as well as: the capital/revenue funding required; the resources and partnerships established to deliver; and, the timescales for delivery.
- 2.5 Lead authorities should involve MPs in every stage of UKSPF planning and delivery.
- 2.6 Local partnerships must be in place (existing partnerships can be used for this purpose) to agree Investment Plans and for UKSPF governance. These are likely to include local business/employer bodies, the voluntary and community sector, as well as local authorities. It is inherent in the guidance that lead authorities must work closely with county councils to agree and commission skills and employment activity. Partnership working with other districts may be appropriate where investment packages are common.
- 2.7 Government has indicated that the costs of developing the Investment Plan, managing funding, assessing and approving projects can be met from a lead authority's UKSPF funding allocation. More details will be provided later in the spring.

### **3. Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 The UKSPF will be allocated to all district and unitary authorities across England, with the allocation being via a funding formula rather than a competition.
- 3.2 Based on the pre-launch guidance in appendix 2, Members are asked to endorse the proposal for engaging partners and developing a draft investment plan which aligns to both the corporate priorities and those of the UKSPF, so that a draft of the Investment Plan can be brought back to a future meeting for agreement before being submitted to Government for approval.

### **4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

- 4.1 There is no alternative to this proposal as the UKSPF requires an Investment Plan to be submitted in order to unlock the District's funding allocation.

---

### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

1. Endorse the report's proposal for the formulation of a draft Investment Plan engaging with partners to develop initiatives, all of which aligns to the corporate priorities.
2. That a draft of the Investment Plan is brought back to Executive for approval before it is submitted to the UK Government.

Approved by Cllr Liz Smyth – Portfolio Holder for Economic Development

#### **IMPLICATIONS:**

**Finance and Risk:**            Yes ☐            No ☒

**Details:**

There are no additional financial implications arising from this report.

On behalf of the Section 151 Officer

**Legal (including Data Protection):**            Yes ☐            No ☒

**Details:**

There are no specific legal implications.

On behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

**Staffing:**            Yes ☐            No ☒

**Details:**

There are no staffing implications arising from this report

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

## DECISION INFORMATION

|  |    |
|--|----|
| <b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b><br>A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:<br><br><b>BDC:</b><br><b>Revenue - £75,000</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Capital - £150,000</b> <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| <b>Is the decision subject to Call-In?</b><br><i>(Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</i>   | No |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>District Wards Significantly Affected</b>  | All  |
| <b>Consultation:</b><br><b>Leader / Deputy Leader</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Executive</b> <input type="checkbox"/><br><b>SLT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Relevant Service Manager</b> <input type="checkbox"/><br><b>Members</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Public</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b> <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Details:</b><br>Portfolio Holder for Economic Development,<br>Executive Director – Strategy and Development |

|  |
|--|
| <b>Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy and Environment</b>   |
| The Investment Plan will align closely to the corporate priorities as set out in the Council's prospectus – Vision Bolsover, as well as the Growth Strategy. |

| DOCUMENT INFORMATION |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Appendix No          | Title  |
| 1                    | Investment Plan Proforma                       |
| 2                    | UK Shared Prosperity Fund: Pre-launch guidance |

|   |
|---|
| <b>Background Papers</b><br><i>(These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Executive (BDC) you must provide copies of the background papers)</i> |
|   |

## SHARED PROSPERITY FORM INVESTMENT PLAN PROPOSAL TEMPLATE

### INTRODUCTION

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is a central pillar of the UK Government's ambitious levelling up agenda and a significant component of its support for places across the UK. It will provide £2.6 billion of new funding for local investment by March 2025, with all areas of the UK receiving an allocation from the Fund via a funding formula rather than a competition.

To access the allocation, each place is asked to set out measurable outcomes it is looking to deliver, and what interventions will be prioritised. This document sets out a template proforma for departments to complete which sets out potential interventions which could be supported through Bolsover's allocation of the UKSPF.

Each place will have the flexibility to invest across a range of activities that represent the right solutions to improve local pride in place, help spread and create opportunity, and a sense of community and belonging.

Communities and place and local business interventions to boost pride in place in both 2022-23 and 2023-24. Further investment to support people and skills will follow from 2024-25, when the funding pot reaches its full extent.

In England, Scotland and Wales, local government will be given responsibility for developing an investment plan for approval by the UK Government, and for delivery of the Fund thereafter. Bolsover District Council will receive an allocation to manage, including assessing and approving project applications, processing payments and day-to-day monitoring. This recognises that pride in place can be best achieved by delivery close to local people and businesses; by authorities that understand each place's unique local context, and with established governance.

Lead local authorities for each area will have flexibility over how they deliver the Fund, for example they may wish to use a mix of procurement, local competitions or deliver some activity through in-house teams.

Working with other places will be welcomed in the delivery of Fund interventions where it meets the needs of their place, and achieves value for money or better outcomes for local people or businesses. In particular, we strongly encourage lead local authorities to work with other district, county or unitary authorities to agree and commission skills and employment activity.

### BDC'S CORPORATE PRIORITIES

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Customers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increasing customer satisfaction with our services.</li><li>• Improving customer contact and removing barriers to accessing information.</li><li>• Actively engaging with partners to benefit our customers.</li><li>• Promoting equality and diversity and supporting vulnerable and disadvantaged people.</li></ul> |
|-----------|---|

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
|             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing good quality council housing where people choose to live.</li> <li>• Improving health, well-being and increasing participation in sport and leisure activities.</li> </ul>  |
| Economy     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with partners to support enterprise, innovation, jobs and skills.</li> <li>• Unlocking development potential: unlocking the capacity of major employment sites.</li> <li>• Enabling Housing Growth: increasing the supply, quality and range of housing to meet the needs of the growing population and support economic growth.</li> <li>• Making the best use of our assets.</li> <li>• Ensuring financial sustainability and increasing revenue streams.</li> <li>• Promoting the district and working with partners to increase tourism.</li> </ul>             |
| Environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reducing our carbon footprint whilst supporting and encouraging residents and businesses to do the same.</li> <li>• Increasing recycling.</li> <li>• Ensuring a high standard of environmental cleanliness, undertaking appropriate enforcement activity where required.</li> <li>• Enhancing biodiversity and developing attractive neighbourhoods that residents feel proud of and take responsibility for.</li> <li>• Working with partners to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.</li> <li>• Actively engaging with partners to benefit our communities.</li> </ul> |

## VISION AND OBJECTIVES FOR UKSPF

Boost productivity, pay, jobs and living standards, especially in those places where they are lagging;

Spread opportunities and improve public services, especially in those places where they are weakest;

Restore a sense of community, local pride and belonging, especially in those places where they have been lost;

Empower local leaders and communities, especially in those places lacking local agency.

## UKSPF INVESTMENT PRIORITIES

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Communities and Place | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening our social fabric and fostering a sense of local pride and belonging, through investment in activities that enhance physical, cultural and social ties and</li> </ul> |
|-----------------------|--|

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
|                   | <p>amenities, such as community infrastructure and local green space, and community led projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To build resilient and safe neighbourhoods, through investment in quality places that people want to live, work, and play and learn in, through targeted improvements to the built environment and innovative approaches to crime prevention.</li> </ul>   |
| Local Businesses  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating jobs and boosting community cohesion, through investments and that build on existing industries and institutions, and range from support for starting businesses to visible improvements to local retail, hospitality, and leisure sector facilities.</li> <li>• Promote networking and collaboration, through interventions that bring together businesses and partners within and across sectors to share knowledge, expertise and resources, and stimulate innovation and growth.</li> <li>• Increase private sector investment in growth-enhancing activities, through targeted support for small and medium-sized businesses to undertake new-to-firm innovation, adopt productivity-enhancing, energy efficient and low carbon technologies and techniques, and start or grow their exports.</li> </ul>   |
| People and Skills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boost core skills and support adults to progress in work, by targeting adults with no or low level qualifications and skills in maths, and upskill the working population, yielding personal and societal economic impact, and by encouraging innovative approaches to reducing adult learning barriers.</li> <li>• Support disadvantaged people to access the skills they need to progress in life and into work, for example the long-term unemployed and those with protected characteristics through funding life, and basic skills where this is not delivered through national or local employment and skills provision.</li> <li>• Support local areas to fund local skills needs and supplement local adult skills provision e.g. by providing additional volumes; delivering provision through wider range of routes or enabling more intensive/innovative provision, both qualification based and non-qualification based.</li> <li>• Reduce levels of economic inactivity and move those furthest from the labour market closer to employment, through investment in bespoke employment support tailored to local need. Investment should facilitate the join-up of mainstream provision and local services within an area for participants, through the use of one-to-one</li> </ul> |

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | keyworker support, improving employment outcomes for specific cohorts who face labour market barriers. |
|--|--|

#### INVESTMENT PLAN PROPOSED INTERVENTION:

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Corporate priority/ies this intervention will address:                         |   |  |
| Shared Prosperity Fund investment priority/ies this intervention will address: |   |  |
| Lead partner / department  |   |  |
| Stakeholders and/or delivery partners identified?                              | Yes <input type="checkbox"/><br>No <input type="checkbox"/>   |  |
| If yes, please list  |   |  |
| Approximate cost of scheme/project: (select one option)                        | Capital <input type="checkbox"/><br>Revenue <input type="checkbox"/><br>Both <input type="checkbox"/> |  |
| 2022/23  | £   |  |
| 2023/24  | £   |  |
| 2024/25  | £   |  |
| Match funding confirmed?   | Yes* <input type="checkbox"/><br>No <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |
| *If yes, where from and how much?  | £   |  |
| Brief description of project   |   |  |
| Is the scheme/project new or already being delivered?                          |   |  |



## Coronavirus (COVID-19) (/coronavirus)

Latest updates and guidance

1. Home (<https://www.gov.uk/>)
  2. Business and industry (<https://www.gov.uk/business-and-industry>)
  3. UK economy (<https://www.gov.uk/business-and-industry/uk-economy>)
  4. UK economic growth (<https://www.gov.uk/business/uk-economic-growth>)
  5. UK Shared Prosperity Fund: pre-launch guidance  
(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-pre-launch-guidance>)
- Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities (<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-levelling-up-housing-and-communities>)

## Guidance

# UK Shared Prosperity Fund: pre-launch guidance

Published 2 February 2022

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# 1. Introduction

This provides further information to local authorities and other partners across the United Kingdom on:

- the aims of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund
- its contribution to our shared objectives
- the delivery roles of the UK Government and local partners across the UK

It will enable places to start initial preparations for the Fund's launch. We will publish a full prospectus on the Fund and how it will operate later in the spring.

For further information, you can [contact us](#) on any of the content of this guidance or via the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities area team for your place.

This Pre-Launch Guidance for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, published alongside the Levelling Up White Paper, sets out a bold new approach to improve livelihoods and opportunity in all parts of the UK.

The Fund is a central pillar of the UK Government's ambitious levelling up agenda and a significant component of its support for places across the UK. It provides £2.6 billion of new funding for local investment by March 2025, with all areas of the UK receiving an allocation from the Fund via a funding formula rather than a competition. This recognises that even the most affluent parts of the UK contain pockets of deprivation and need support.

It seizes the opportunities of leaving the European Union, by investing in domestic priorities and targeting funding where it is needed most: building pride in place, supporting high quality skills training and supporting pay, employment and productivity growth. It will dramatically reduce the levels of bureaucracy associated with EU funds, enable truly local decision making and better target the priorities of places within the UK. It will lead to visible, tangible improvements to the places where people work and live, giving communities up and down the UK more reasons to be proud of their area.

Places will be empowered to identify, and build on their own strengths and needs at a local level, focused on pride in place. Local places will be able to use the Fund in conjunction with other funding such as the Levelling Up Fund to maximise impact and simplify delivery.

The Fund's interventions will be planned and delivered by local authorities across England, Scotland and Wales, working closely with local partners. In Northern Ireland, UK Government will have oversight of the Fund; we plan to draw on the insight and expertise of local partners, including the Northern Ireland Executive, local authorities, City and Growth Deal geographies, business and the community and voluntary sector to target interventions where most appropriate.

## 1.1 Next steps for government

During February and March, the UK Government will:

- Run a series of webinars and engagement activities with local authorities and other stakeholders across the UK starting week commencing 59 February 2022.

- Continue engagement with partners in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland, including the Scottish and Welsh Governments and the Northern Ireland Executive, to develop arrangements that maximise Fund delivery in each nation.
- Start preparatory work with local partners on an investment plan for Northern Ireland.

The Department for Education will set out further details for local partners on plans to deliver Multiply, the £559m adult numeracy programme, to assist with local preparations in due course.

Later in the spring, the UK Government will publish further information on the Fund. This will include the Fund's outcomes and an interventions toolkit – guidance for how local areas should select local outcomes and a list of interventions from which places can choose. We will publish specific rules and guidance for operating the Fund. At the same time, we will commission each place to develop a local investment plan for UK Government sign off.

## 1.2 Next steps for local places

Local authorities in England, Scotland and Wales with responsibility for the Fund, set out in the [Delivery Geographies \(https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-pre-launch-guidance/delivery-geographies\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-pre-launch-guidance/delivery-geographies), can use this document to start preparing for the launch of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund by:

- Starting early conversations about how the Fund can best support the people and businesses in their community to thrive and grow. This should take account of the Fund's objectives and investment priorities and focus on the specific outcomes they want to achieve for their area.
- Identifying local partners and stakeholders who can provide advice and insight on local needs.
- In Scotland and Wales, working with neighbouring authorities to consider how accountable arrangements over strategic geographies could be implemented – including interim arrangements where needed.

The UK Government will engage with Northern Ireland partners. They may use this document to start preparing for the launch of the Fund by considering how the Fund can best support the people and businesses in their community to thrive and grow.

Note - the Department for Education will provide more details on delivery of the Multiply component in due course.

## 2. Setting out the vision: Objectives of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and its investment approach

### 2.1 Vision and objectives of the Fund

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund will support the UK Government's wider commitment to level up all parts of the UK by delivering on each of the four parts of Levelling Up:

- Boost productivity, pay, jobs and living standards, especially in those places where they are lagging.
- Spread opportunities and improve public services, especially in those places where they are weakest.
- Restore a sense of community, local pride and belonging, especially in those places where they have been lost.

- Empower local leaders and communities, especially in those places lacking local agency

The primary goal of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund is to build pride in place and increase life chances across the UK. Alongside economic pull and push factors, people's lives are shaped by the social and physical fabric of their communities. The local mix of social and physical capital is what gives local areas their unique character and shapes where people choose to live, work and invest. Recognising the acute challenges town centres and communities have faced during the Covid pandemic, this Fund will enable improvements to the places people live, as well as support individuals and businesses. It will drive noticeable improvements that matter to local communities and foster local pride in place.

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund forms part of a suite of complementary Levelling Up funding. It builds on the competitive Levelling Up Fund and Community Ownership Fund through long term, stable funding, allocated to all places. Its mix of revenue and capital funding can be used to support a wide range of interventions to build pride in place and improve life chances. These can complement larger-scale Levelling Up Fund or Community Ownership Fund capital projects.

## 2.2 The investment plan approach

All places across the UK will receive a conditional allocation from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. To access their allocation, each place will be asked to set out measurable outcomes they are looking to deliver, and what interventions they are choosing to prioritise in an investment plan. These will be submitted this summer for UK Government approval.

These plans will need to take account of the wider funding landscape, and in particular, complementary interventions such as the Levelling Up Fund which will launch its second round this spring, or other national or local schemes, including employment and skills schemes. In the plans, places will sign up to indicators so they, and we, can monitor improvement.

Within the context of the Fund's objectives, each place will have flexibility to invest across a range of activities that represent the right solutions to improve local pride in place, help spread and create opportunity, and a sense of community and belonging. This flexible approach represents a key shift from the previous EU system. Places will be able to choose from investment in three investment priorities of communities and place, local business and people and skills.

## 2.3 Reflecting the distinct circumstances of each nation and place

Each place has a range of economic and societal relationships with other places across the UK, including their neighbours and places with common needs and opportunities. Working with other places in the delivery of the Fund interventions will be welcomed where this meets the needs of their place, and achieves value for money or better outcomes for local people or businesses.

The UK Government also recognises that the circumstances in which the Fund will operate differ by nation. We therefore want to work with partners in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, including the Scottish and Welsh Governments and the Northern Ireland Executive, to inform the most appropriate mix of interventions for each nation, for publication in the full Prospectus later this spring.

In England, the Fund will focus on communities and place and local business interventions to boost pride in place in 2022-23 and 2023-24, alongside support for people through the Multiply adult numeracy programme. In addition, we will maintain the flexibility to fund voluntary sector organisations delivering locally important people and skills provision, where this is at risk due to the tail off of EU funds. Further investment to support people and skills will follow from 2024-25, when the funding pot reaches its full extent.

## 2.4 Investment priorities

We have set out initial information on each investment priority below. More detail will be provided in a full Prospectus later this spring.

### 2.4.1 Communities and place

The overall objectives of this investment priority are:

- Strengthening our social fabric and fostering a sense of local pride and belonging, through investment in activities that enhance physical, cultural and social ties and amenities, such as community infrastructure and local green space, and community-led projects.
- To build resilient and safe neighbourhoods, through investment in quality places that people want to live, work, play and learn in, through targeted improvements to the built environment and innovative approaches to crime prevention.

Example interventions may include, but are not limited to, visual improvements to town centres and high streets, cultural/visitor economy interventions, litter, waste and graffiti reduction, projects to fight antisocial behaviour, and capital funding to improve neighbourhoods or community projects and initiatives.

### 2.4.2 Local businesses

The overall objectives of this investment priority are to:

- Creating jobs and boosting community cohesion, through investments that build on existing industries and institutions, and range from support for starting businesses to visible improvements to local retail, hospitality and leisure sector facilities.
- Promote networking and collaboration, through interventions that bring together businesses and partners within and across sectors to share knowledge, expertise and resources, and stimulate innovation and growth.
- Increase private sector investment in growth-enhancing activities, through targeted support for small and medium-sized businesses to undertake new-to-firm innovation, adopt productivity-enhancing, energy efficient and low carbon technologies and techniques, and start or grow their exports.

Example interventions may include, but are not limited to, support to increase town centre footfall, outdoor markets, the development of cultural, visitor and heritage assets, targeted business growth and innovation support.

### 2.4.3 People and skills

The overall objectives of this investment priority are to:

- Boost core skills and support adults to progress in work, by targeting adults with no or low level qualifications and skills in maths, and upskill the working population, yielding personal and societal economic impact, and by encouraging innovative approaches to reducing adult learning barriers.

- Support disadvantaged people to access the skills they need to progress in life and into work, for example the long-term unemployed and those with protected characteristics through funding life, and basic skills where this is not delivered through national or local employment and skills provision.
- Support local areas to fund local skills needs and supplement local adult skills provision e.g. by providing additional volumes; delivering provision through wider range of routes or enabling more intensive/innovative provision, both qualification based and non-qualification based.
- Reduce levels of economic inactivity and move those furthest from the labour market closer to employment, through investment in bespoke employment support tailored to local need. Investment should facilitate the join-up of mainstream provision and local services within an area for participants, through the use of one-to-one keyworker support, improving employment outcomes for specific cohorts who face labour market barriers.

Example interventions may include technical and vocational qualifications in areas where there are skills shortages locally; and intensive, wraparound one-to-one support to address barriers to employment, supplemented by additional services. Additional services may include life skills, basic skills and specialist support including achieving basic qualifications in alternative settings, work experience, supported employment, enrichment activities, counselling and advice, and community referrals. These interventions should be additional and complementary to existing employment and skills provision in each area.

#### **2.4.3.1 Multiply**

To meet the UK Government's priority of enhancing adult numeracy, each area will be required to invest a ring-fenced amount of the Fund in local Multiply interventions. This will be managed by the Department for Education and further information on how this element of the Fund will be delivered will be set out in due course.

The Department for Education will also deliver a national digital numeracy platform, giving people the ability to learn at their own place (including at work, or at home), and pace. It will undertake randomised control trials and evaluation activity to test innovative approaches to reducing adult learning barriers, and build the evidence base on what works. This will complement local Multiply interventions.

### **2.5 Meeting other national policies and priorities**

Interventions supported by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund will need to take account of other local and national policies and priorities – including the government's commitment to reach Net Zero by 2050 and clean growth, and complement other UK, national or local provision. This will make sure that funding is effectively targeted. Further details on these requirements will be provided in the prospectus later in the spring.

## **3. Empowering local leaders: How we will deliver the Fund**

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund will establish new relationships between the UK Government, local government and local partners across the UK. We will put people that know their places best front and centre in shaping decisions, forming a new, direct relationship with the UK Government.

Working to a UK-wide framework published by the UK Government, local partners will influence the Fund through development and delivery of an investment plan for each place. This represents a fundamental shift in responsibility compared with the European structural funds that the Fund

succeeds.

The Fund will operate UK-wide and utilise the financial assistance powers in the UK Internal Market Act 2020 to deliver funding to places across the UK. In addition to Devolved Administrations' existing powers, this allows the UK Government to complement and strengthen the support given to local people, businesses and communities in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales, as well as England.

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities will oversee the Fund at UK level, working with other departments. For example, the Department for Education will lead delivery of the Multiply element of the Fund and will play a key role in relation to wider skills interventions, working with local partners. The Department for Work and Pensions will play a key role in the planning and delivery of employment interventions supported by the Fund.

### 3.1 Who will deliver the Fund

In England, Scotland and Wales, local government will be given responsibility for developing an investment plan for approval by the UK Government, and for delivery of the Fund thereafter. They will receive an area's allocation to manage, including assessing and approving project applications, processing payments and day-to-day monitoring. This recognises that pride in place can be best achieved by delivery close to local people and businesses; by authorities that understand each place's unique local context, and with established governance.

Lead local authorities for each area will have flexibility over how they deliver the Fund, for example they may wish to use a mix of procurement, local competitions or deliver some activity through in-house teams.

Working with other places will be welcomed in the delivery of Fund interventions where it meets the needs of their place, and achieves value for money or better outcomes for local people or businesses. In particular, we strongly encourage lead local authorities to work with other district, county or unitary authorities to agree and commission skills and employment activity.

In Northern Ireland, the UK Government is considering options for development of a Northern Ireland investment plan. We are committed to working with local partners to ensure that the investment plan reflects the particular needs of Northern Ireland's economy and society. We want this plan to draw on the insight and expertise of local partners, including the Northern Ireland Executive, local authorities, City and Growth Deal geographies, businesses and the community and voluntary sector to target interventions where most appropriate. This plan will be used by the Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities who will have oversight of delivery for Northern Ireland, working closely with local partners.

#### 3.1.1 England

In England, the Fund will primarily operate over the strategic geographies of the Mayoral Combined Authorities and the Greater London Authority, and lower tier or unitary authorities elsewhere. The geographies and authorities we will work with are set out in the [Delivery Geographies](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-pre-launch-guidance/delivery-geographies) (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-pre-launch-guidance/delivery-geographies>).

The Levelling Up White Paper sets out a devolution mission for England: By 2030, every part of England that wants one will have a devolution deal with powers at or approaching the highest level of devolution and a simplified, long-term funding settlement.

We expect delivery responsibility for the Fund to align with these deals once up and running. We will work with places to review local delivery arrangements for the Fund as they develop devolution arrangements such as County Deals or new or expanded Mayoral Combined Authorities.



The Multiply component of the Fund will be managed differently. The Department for Education will provide more details in due course.

### 3.1.2 Scotland and Wales

The partnerships that surround City and Growth Deals in Scotland and Wales are strong examples of collaboration. Supported by the UK Government and devolved governments, the deals have empowered local leaders and partners to come together to drive growth and productivity across their region. The UK Government is keen to build on this approach and promote partnership working where it makes sense for local leaders and can deliver good outcomes for local people and businesses.

Local authorities for each geography will be invited to collaborate in developing investment plans and delivering the Fund. This builds on feedback from local partners and the Scottish and Welsh Governments.

In Scotland, we would support delivery across strategic regional areas, such as the City and Growth Deal geographies. Where strategic regional areas overlap, we would welcome local views on the appropriate geography, how funds should be allocated and what the lead authority should be. Where City and Growth Deals do not cover multiple local authorities, we would also welcome and support collaborative proposals with other areas if they wish to do so.

In Wales, we would support delivery across strategic regional areas covering City and Growth Deal geographies. These geographies are set out in the [Delivery Geographies](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-pre-launch-guidance/delivery-geographies) (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-pre-launch-guidance/delivery-geographies>).

Local authorities in Scotland and Wales are invited to engage with each other to begin to consider how comprehensive, accountable arrangements could be established to administer the Fund, including any interim arrangements where they are needed.

The territorial offices, Department for Work and Pensions, Scottish Government and the Welsh Government will be invited to play a role in the development and delivery of local investment plans. This will maximise alignment with all related investment in each place.

### 3.1.3 Northern Ireland

In Northern Ireland, we propose to deliver at Northern Ireland scale, with lead oversight responsibility sitting with the UK Government. We want to work with the Northern Ireland Executive and a wide range of local partners.

The development of the single Northern Ireland investment plan will include a specific role for local authorities and other partners for each City and Growth Deal geography. This means we can maximise local intelligence, insight and knowledge, in recognition of opportunities and challenges unique to Northern Ireland, and the distinct and different role that local authorities play there.

## 3.2 Supporting local places to deliver

We recognise that local government will require support to administer the Fund and each lead authority in England, Scotland and Wales will be able to use a proportion of their allocation to undertake necessary Fund administration, such as project assessment, contracting and monitoring.

This approach, and broader technical guidance for Fund delivery will be developed further over the spring with further information made available to places as they are developing local investment plans.

Alongside existing capacity funding for complementary funds such as the Levelling Up Fund, we are also exploring the need for additional capability support for local government and other partners to maximise the opportunities that the Fund affords.

## **4. How places access the Fund**

Every place in the UK will receive a share of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund recognising that even the most affluent parts of the UK contain pockets of deprivation and need support.

As set out at Spending Review 2021, the Fund is worth £2.6 billion over the period to 2024-25. It will help people access opportunity in places in need, such as ex-industrial areas, deprived towns and rural and coastal communities, and for people in disadvantaged groups across the UK. The Fund will ramp up to £1.5bn a year by 2024-25, including Multiply. Alongside commitments to support regional finance funds across the UK via the British Business Bank, this exceeds the UK Government's commitment to matching EU structural fund receipts for each nation.

The Fund will make available a mixture of both revenue and capital funding to places. This funding will be allocated by formula to invest in local priority projects. This approach responds to clear feedback from partners. It will facilitate places' planning and allow the UK Shared Prosperity Fund to act as a predictable baseline element of local growth funding.

To access their allocation, each place will be asked to set out measurable outcomes they are looking to deliver, and what interventions they are choosing to prioritise in an Investment plan submitted for UK Government approval.

Further information on the allocation formula, including local allocations, will be made available in due course.

## **5. Developing national governance and local partnerships**

### **5.1 UK-wide governance**

Overall implementation of the Fund will be led by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, working in partnership with a range of UK Government departments. It will be managed through a UK-wide ministerial forum, with the responsibility to oversee the delivery of the Fund. It will monitor investment and overall performance, and ensure coherence with wider UK Government and devolved administration provision.

The UK Government remains committed to working with devolved administration ministers in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland in the implementation of the Fund. We are undertaking further engagement with each administration to determine the scope of this role so that we can facilitate the best possible outcomes across the UK.

### **5.2 Local partnerships**

Throughout the UK, access to local insight and expertise is essential for each place to identify and address need and opportunity, and respond with the right solutions for each place. Comprehensive and balanced local partnerships will be a core component of how the Fund will be administered locally. Local leaders (or the UK Government in Northern Ireland) will be tasked to work with a diverse range of local stakeholders, civic society organisations, employer bodies responsible for identifying local skills plans, and businesses to achieve Fund outcomes in their areas.

Local partners will support the authority leading the Fund in each place to develop an investment plan, which we will commission from each place later in the spring. Once the Fund has launched, partners will provide advice to the authority leading the Fund in each place on strategic fit and deliverability. This will ensure that Fund investments complement other activities in the area and meet goals.

Lead authorities should involve MPs in every stage of UKSPF planning and delivery, and we will set out our requirements in the full Prospectus later this spring.

### 5.3 Next steps

Drawing on the information set out in this Pre-Launch Guidance, each lead local authority is encouraged to start identifying a diverse range of local stakeholders, appropriate groups and organisations to represent cross-sector voices.

In circumstances where a local authority already has a group that could be used, it can designate the group for UK Shared Prosperity Fund purposes, taking care to ensure that it is fully representative and that its terms of reference meet the Fund's needs.

The UK Government and devolved administrations should have a standing invite to any partnership meetings to provide advice and information about their interrelated investments and policy priorities. Broader governance, statutory and regulatory requirements will be detailed in the full Prospectus, which we expect to publish later in the spring.

### 5.4 Engaging with other partners

In preparation for investment planning, lead authorities may wish to consider whether collaboration with other places may be appropriate in the delivery of the Fund and meet the needs of their place. For example, in achieving value for money or better outcomes for the people or businesses the Fund will benefit.

In addition, where the Fund is operating over a strategic geography, lead authorities are encouraged to start engagement with their constituent authorities and other local partners to ensure that the needs of places within the strategic geography can be effectively addressed.



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## **Bolsover District Council**

### **Meeting of the Executive on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

#### **Independent Living Service and Community Alarm Service**

#### **Report of the Portfolio Holder for Housing**

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>Classification</b>  | This report is public  |
| <b>Report By</b>       | Victoria Dawson, Assistant Director Housing Management and Enforcement, 01246 242231<br><a href="mailto:victoria.dawson@bolsover.gov.uk">victoria.dawson@bolsover.gov.uk</a> |
| <b>Contact Officer</b> | Amy Sigona, Care Line and Independent Living Manager, 01246 242264 <a href="mailto:amy.sigona@bolsover.gov.uk">amy.sigona@bolsover.gov.uk</a>                                |

#### **PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF REPORT**

To inform Executive of an offer to extend two contracts from Derbyshire County Council (DCC) and to decide if they should be accepted. These are the Independent Living Service Contract and the Community Alarm and Telecare Contract. These together are delivered by Bolsover District Council through the Care Line Service.

#### **REPORT DETAILS**

##### **1. Background**

- 1.1 Bolsover District Council has operated the Independent Living Service (Care Line Service) within the District for many years.
- 1.2 The Service is offered to a mix of tenants and private customers. Although the majority of people pay for the service, the contract with DCC provides the service for people who are on low income.
- 1.3 Within the Council's Care Line Service is the alarm and telecare monitoring service. The majority of people pay for this service themselves however DCC provides the service for people where there is an eligible health or social care need as required by the Care Act (2014).

##### **2. Details of Proposal or Information**

- 2.1 The Council was offered an Inter-Authority Agreement to deliver the DCC funded part of these services in 2019. The initial contract was for a period of 2 years, with a subsequent extension until March 2022.

2.2 Derbyshire County Council have served an extension of contract notification, offering the Council a contract extension of both contracts until March 2023 – i.e. an extension of 12 months.

2.3 The combined contracts will result in an income of £382,000 into the Council to continue to provide the service and assist with the analogue to digital switchover in 2024.

### **3. Reasons for Recommendation**

3.1 The services are well regarded by residents and Bolsover District Council are a trusted provider.

3.2 Accepting the offer of a contract extension for both contracts is a positive outcome for customers and for the Council.

3.3 The Council continues to extend the service and attract more customers, the majority who self-fund. This is part of a strategy to ensure that the Council are not dependent on DCC funding to operate the service, but would be self-sufficient if we were not successful in winning future tenders.

3.4 In order to ensure the Council is not reliant on any further DCC funding, the service continues to be extended, improved and promoted for paying customers.

3.5 The offer of a contract extension provides certainty until March 2023 and should be accepted.

### **4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

4.1 Not to accept the contract extensions. Rejected as this would have a detrimental impact on vulnerable customers.

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### **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

1. That Executive accept the offer of a 12 month contract extension to continue to provide an Independent Living Service to people within the District.

2. That Executive accept the offer of a 12 month contract extension to continue to provide a Community Alarm and Telecare Service to people within the District.

Approved by Councillor Sandra Peake

#### **IMPLICATIONS:**

**Finance and Risk:**            Yes ☒            No ☐

**Details:**

It is estimated that the contract extension will bring in an additional income of £382,000

Not accepting the contract extension would in effect invite an alternative provider into the District who may also compete for other services against the District Council.

On behalf of the Section 151 Officer

**Legal (including Data Protection):** Yes ☐ No ☒

**Details:**

None specifically, this is an extension to existing contracts

On behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

**Staffing:** Yes ☐ No ☒

**Details:**

There are no staffing implications arising from this report as the existing service will continue. Any future funding options for the service affecting staff will be subject to a further report if required.

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

## DECISION INFORMATION

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| <b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b><br>A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:<br><br><b>Revenue - £75,000</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Capital - £150,000</b> <input type="checkbox"/><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i> | Yes |
| <b>Is the decision subject to Call-In?</b><br><i>(Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</i>   | Yes |

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| <b>District Wards Significantly Affected</b>   | All indirectly |
| <b>Consultation:</b><br><b>Leader / Deputy Leader</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Executive</b> <input type="checkbox"/><br><b>SLT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Relevant Service Manager</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/><br><b>Members</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Public</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b> <input type="checkbox"/> | Details:       |

|   |
|---|
| <b>Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy and Environment.</b> |
| C07 – Install 150 lifeline units within the community per year        |

| DOCUMENT INFORMATION |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| Appendix No          | Title |
|                      | n/a   |

| Background Papers  |
|--|
| <i>(These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Executive you must provide copies of the background papers).</i> |
| None   |