



# Walsall Council

## Children's Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on: **Tuesday 26 July 2022 at 6.00 p.m.**

Meeting at: Walsall Council House.

Public access to meeting via: [Walsall Council Webcasting Portal](#)

### **MEMBERSHIP:**

Chair:	Councillor. Hicken
Vice Chair:	Councillor. Jukes
	Councillor. Garca
	Councillor. Harrison
	Councillor. Horton
	Councillor. Kaur
	Councillor. Mazhar
	Councillor. Nasreen
	Councillor. Rattigan
	Councillor C. Statham
	Councillor. Waters

**PORTFOLIO HOLDER:** Councillor T. Wilson.

**Note:** Walsall Council encourages the public to exercise their right to attend meetings of Council, Cabinet and Committees. Agendas and reports are available for inspection from the Council's Democratic Services Team at the Council House, Walsall (Telephone 01922 654767) or on our website [www.walsall.gov.uk](http://www.walsall.gov.uk).

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Democratic Services, Council House, Lichfield Street, Walsall, WS1 1TW  
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## AGENDA

1.	<b>Apologies</b> To receive apologies for absence from Members of the Committee.	
2.	<b>Substitutions</b> To receive notice of any substitutions for a Member of the Committee for the duration of the meeting.	
3.	<b>Declarations of interest and party whip</b> To receive declarations of interest or the party whip from Members in respect of items on the agenda.	
4.	<b>Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended)</b> To agree that the public be excluded from the private session during consideration of the agenda items indicated for the reasons shown on the agenda (if applicable).	
5.	<b>Minutes of the previous meeting</b> To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting that took place on 13 April 2022.	<u>Enclosed</u>
<b><u>Scrutiny</u></b>		
6.	<b>Areas of focus 2021/22</b> For the Committee to consider and agree its areas of focus for the municipal year 2022-23.  This will include receiving a presentation on services within the remit of the committee including the Portfolio Holder priorities for the forthcoming year.	<u>Enclosed</u>
<b><u>Overview</u></b>		
7.	<b>Date of next meeting</b> To note that the date of the next meeting will be 27 September 2022.	

## The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012

### Specified pecuniary interests

The pecuniary interests which are specified for the purposes of Chapter 7 of Part 1 of the Localism Act 2011 are the interests specified in the second column of the following:

Subject	Prescribed description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	<p>Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by a member in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of a member.</p> <p>This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Regulations (Consolidation) Act 1992.</p>
Contracts	<p>Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority:</p> <p>(a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and</p> <p>(b) which has not been fully discharged.</p>
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	<p>Any tenancy where (to a member's knowledge):</p> <p>(a) the landlord is the relevant authority;</p> <p>(b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.</p>
Securities	<p>Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where:</p> <p>(a) that body (to a member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and</p> <p>(b) either:</p> <p>(i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or</p> <p>(ii) if the share capital of that body is more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.</p>

## **Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)**

### **Access to information: Exempt information**

#### **Part 1**

#### **Descriptions of exempt information: England**

1. Information relating to any individual.
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes:
  - (a) to give any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
  - (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.
8. Information being disclosed during a meeting of a Scrutiny and Performance Panel when considering flood risk management functions which:
  - (a) Constitutes a trades secret;
  - (b) Its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the risk management authority);
  - (c) It was obtained by a risk management authority from any other person and its disclosure to the public by the risk management authority would constitute a breach of confidence actionable by that other person.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBER, WALSALL COUNCIL HOUSE**

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 6.00 p.m.**

**Committee Members Present:**

Councillor A. Hicken (Chair)  
Councillor F. Mazhar (Vice Chair)  
Councillor H. Bashir  
Councillor G. Flint  
Councillor P. Kaur  
Councillor K. Murphy  
Councillor A. Nawaz  
Councillor A. Nazir  
Councillor L. Rattigan  
Councillor C. Statham

**Officers Present**

Colleen Male	-	Director, Children's Social Work
Sally Rowe	-	Executive Director, Children's Services
Zoe Morgan	-	Head of Service, Support and Protection
Nikki Gough	-	Democratic Services Officer
Edward Cook	-	Assistant Democratic Services Officer

**Partners in Attendance**

Sally Hodges		Independent Scrutineer of the Safeguarding Partnership
Ruth Rackstraw	-	Street Teams
Alison Jones	-	Walsall CCG
Phil Dolby	-	West Midlands Police
Clare Gallop	-	Violence Reduction Unit
Katie Storer-Young	-	Principal Exploitation Reduction Officer

46/21

**Apologies**

None received.

47/21

**Substitutions**

None received.

48/21      **Declarations of Interest and party whip**

There were no declarations of interest for the duration of the meeting

49/21      **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended)**

There were no items to be considered in private session.

50/21      **Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022 were considered by the Committee.

**Resolved**

**That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022 be approved as a true and accurate record.**

51/21      **Children at Risk of Exploitation**

The Committee were updated on Walsall's arrangements to support Children and Young People who may be at risk of exploitation and the work done since the last presentation to Committee in March 2021.

The Head of Service - Support and Protection introduced the report (annexed) outlining that the traditional processes associated with children at risk of exploitation have changed as environmental risks have. The update particularly focussed on Criminal Exploitation (CE) and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). The Walsall Safeguarding Partnership has an All-Age Exploitation Strategy, working with partners throughout the Borough and the West Midlands. Operationally, in Walsall there was a 'hub', which was a virtual multi-agency approach with data sharing and triage groups helping to identify and screen those at risk of exploitation, plus delivery groups who help coordinate partnership responses with relevant agencies. The triage groups discussed 334 cases between March 2021 and February 2022, with most cases being Criminal Exploitation. Walsall Children's Services were subject to a full inspection in October 2021 with exploitation a key line of inquiry. The inspection found that the response to exploitation concerns had significantly improved since previous visits with more effective and timely responses, delivered through partnerships.

Partners were invited to present updates on their work within the partnership:



### **West Midlands Police**

The Chief Superintendent and Borough Commander for Walsall informed the Committee that working within the hub structure and with local partners had helped to balance the funding deficit policing received in Walsall with regard to exploitation, relative to cities. Coordination of services and knowledge sharing had allowed more effective responses. The hub system allowed a 'bias for action'. Regarding CSE, the focus was now on assessing patterns and themes with regards to victims, location and perpetrators. An example of actions responding to exploitation was the work done on County Lines, including the Inter-Agency Intensification Groups, maturing partnerships and viewing children involved in Child Exploitation not only as perpetrators but often also victims.

### **Independent Scrutineer**

The Independent Scrutineer stated that the partnership had focused on ensuring strong, robust, meaningful and effective partnerships by calling partners to account and bringing them together. The aspiration was to continue strengthening and growing these partnerships.

### **Street Teams**

The Operations Manager described the work carried out by Street Teams, who were continuing to work with cases of Child Sexual Exploitation and Exploitation, with the Child Exploitation team having grown with the addition of a new worker. They had launched a Transition Project to help those aged 16-25, and a Historic Victims project which encouraged and supported historic victims of exploitation to come forward and hopefully achieve justice.

### **Walsall CCG**

The Designated Nurse for Looked after Children advised Members that the CCG supported the Walsall Safeguarding Partnership with the designated nurses for safeguarding adults and children in care being active members of partnership forums. The CCG chaired the All-Age Health Exploitation Group and coordinated health responses to children experiencing or at risk of abuse and/or exploitation. The CCG worked with regional partners in the Serious Violence Forum, helping to bring partners together as well as sharing knowledge throughout the Black Country and West Midlands to further development.

### **Violence Reduction Unit**

The Director addressed the Committee to provide detail on the work of the Violence Reduction Unit which continued to work across the region with two main aims: supporting and coordinating the system response through participating in meetings, supporting professionals and raising awareness; and providing additional resources such as support to Exploitation hubs, piloting peer-led experience-based youth workers in missing cases and helping to return trafficked children.

The Principal Exploitation Reduction Officer informed Members that the Authority was overseeing day-to-day work with victims, Chairing Delivery Groups, engaging with families and assisting with 'missing children' work.

There then followed questions from the Committee.

Responding to a question on the CCG's Health Exploitation Group and its impact, the CCG Representative explained that the purpose was discussing and gathering information and then feeding this into other partners and groups, rather than achieving a 'direct' impact themselves. The Group would like Ambulance service participation to further enhance its ability to achieve this and was also engaged in increasing awareness. Rather than focussing on key issues, it attempted to respond to what was happening at the time and building 'champions' who could share experiences in critical areas.

Regarding the Safeguarding Partnership, the Independent Scrutineer asserted that the partnership's biggest challenge was continuing the momentum of improvement, which was likely to be a significant challenge when partner leaders change. There had been big successes in shifting understanding of the role of different partners, ensuring a move towards genuine multi-agency work. With regards to the role of schools, 67 of the 334 referrals dealt with by the Partnership had come from schools, and it was stressed that they were one of the most important partners. West Midlands Police were expanding their police presence and engagement with schools.

A key challenge identified by the Chief Superintendent was the challenge of post-18 transition, as frameworks and support often reduced as a child turned 18. The Violence Reduction Unit were engaged in a Transition project for 16-25 year olds and there were efforts to ensure those affected by exploitation were not pushed into the Criminal Justice system when they were also victims.

Regarding a question relating to the Criminal Exploitation and Missing Board protocol about forced and coerced concealment, it was hoped that by October 2022 a full draft would be available. There was a need to change perceptions of coerced concealment, so they were more aligned with those towards sexual assault, with a focus on harm reduction. It was noted that this was the most advanced protocol Police County Lines teams had seen nationally.

Chief Superintendent Dolby provided more details on the effects of 'intensification' weeks, giving the example of a seven-day period in which 1375 Cannabis plants, 25 wraps of heroin and 35 of crack cocaine, and numerous phones and similar items were seized and destroyed in a County Lines intensification week. These were connected to exploitation as often these items were watched over by exploited individuals. Increasing understanding of how Organised Crime Groups (OCGs)



engaged in exploitation was leading to more groups being designated as such and subsequently having more resources dedicated to them. The Director of the VRU added that intensification periods also allowed multi-agency responses and actions, by focussing groups simultaneously and learning from what worked well and less well.

The Regional Exploitation Data generated by the VRU was likely to be identifying trends more clearly within the next 6 months, but early data corroborated the suggestion that there was an under-representation of those at risk of exploitation in existing statistics and that there was a link between children and young people excluded from educational settings and those at risk of exploitation. The majority of exploitation did not emerge in the home but within communities. The Principal Exploitation Reduction Officer and Director VRU identified that families were often essential safeguarding partners and important in raising concerns, along with schools. These were key partnerships.

Responding to a Member question concerning mentors in elected referrals, the Principal Exploitation Reduction Officer identified that mentors were deployed following the triage process, evidence-led strategic discussions with partners, and the MASH process. Discussions also took place with families and young people to ensure the best fit and that the child's voice remained at the heart.

Street Teams had returned to working mostly in person since June 2021. Phone support and online meetings were used through the pandemic, but efforts were made to safely conduct in-person meetings as soon as possible. School engagement with Street Teams reduced through lockdown but there had been lots of enquiries since January 2022 and they were now as busy as ever within educational settings.

**Resolved:**

- 1) That the work being done by and with partners was noted; and**
- 2) That the Committee endorsed what was being done to tackle the issues surrounding children at risk of exploitation.**

52/21

**Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report 2020-2021**

The Committee received the Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report for 2020-2021, providing an annual review of performance in relation to the safeguarding of young people and children.

The report was presented by the Independent Scrutineer of the Safeguarding Partnership and covered the year 2020-21. The report had already been approved but was before the Committee for scrutiny and so the Committee understand what the partnership had done. The 2021-22 Annual Report will be published later in the year.

The report highlighted that things had improved and evidence continued to show children were safe in Walsall, despite the challenges of the pandemic. In response to the pandemic, many aspects of the Partnership had moved online leading to increased attendance at meetings. There was a need and desire to move back to face-to-face meetings as it had significant benefits, but the challenge was maintaining this increase in participation whilst doing so.

Five multi-agency audits were conducted, four linked to Safeguarding Partnership priorities and one in response to a request from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families request for assurances that services were still performing satisfactorily under conditions of COVID-19 lockdowns. A new Independent Chair (Sally Hodges) was appointed, commencing the post in April 2021, following the end of the previous Chair's contract.

Key areas for improvement in 2021-22 include:

- Strengthening the links within the Safeguarding Partnership and with other partnerships such as the Family Safeguarding model and the Safer Walsall Partnership;
- Preparation for inspections and responding to their findings; and
- Increased concentration on improving the impacts of the partnership including by reducing the number of priorities.

**Resolved:**

- 1) That the report be noted; and**
- 2) That the Committee congratulate the Safeguarding Partnership for their work.**

53/21

### **Areas of Focus**

The Committee considered the areas of focus document. All items have now been considered.

**Resolved**

- 1. The areas of focus and forward plans were noted;**
- 2. That an update on Child Exploitation be added to the 2022/23 work plan;**
- 3. That the Holiday Activity Fund and any similar or alternative programmes be added to the 2022/23 work plan; and**

- 4. That an update on CAMHS and children’s’ emotional wellbeing/health across a full spectrum, including FLASH teams, be added to the 2022/23 work plan.

The date of the next meeting will be agreed at Council in April.

**Termination of Meeting**

The meeting terminated at 7.37 p.m.

Signed .....

Date .....

**27 July 2022**

**Areas of focus for 2022/23**

**Ward(s)** All

**Portfolios:** Cllr. T. Wilson – Children's

**Report**

The purpose of this item is to provide relevant background information for Members so that the Committee's areas of focus can be agreed for 2022/23.

It is important for Members to consider the wide range of potential issues within their remit and which of these they could consider during the year.

When agreeing items, it is important that consideration is given to the level of value the Committee could add taking into account the tools and performance measures available to support them in their work.

**Remit**

Following Annual Council, the remit of the Committee has been agreed as follows:

All aspects and general services related to serving children and young people (excluding education and learning). The scrutinising of performance in relation to the following Council Plan priority:

- Children have the best possible start and are safe from harm, happy, healthy and learning well.

**Presentations from Leader and Portfolio Holders on their priorities**

The Scrutiny-Cabinet Protocol encourages dialogue and communication between Scrutiny Committees and the Cabinet at all times; but especially with selecting items to scrutinise during the ensuing year. To assist with this presentations on priorities will be received at this meeting from Cllr. T. Wilson.

**Presentation on services within the remit of the Committee**

A presentation will be provided at the meeting providing more detail about the Committee's services that fall within the committee's remit.

### **Items considered in the 2021-22 municipal year**

The following items were recommended for consideration by the committee in the last municipal year:

- Safeguarding young people with disabilities
- Family Safeguarding: progress in eighteen months
- Right for children transformation programme
- CAMHS
- Effectiveness of partnership working
- Understanding the impact of deprivation
- Children's Services performance and benchmarking
- Transition from children's services into adult services
- Impact of the Holiday Activity Fund
- Child at risk of Exploitation
- Youth Justice First time entrants
- Youth Justice Peer review
- Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report 2020 - 2021
- Budget monitoring.

### **Potential items for the 2022/23 municipal year**

- Youth Justice priorities
- Young Carers
- Early Help Strategy – progress
- Child Neglect Strategy
- Family Hubs
- Walsall Children and Young People Alliance
- Private Fostering
- Placement Sufficiency
- Children's Services Performance and Benchmarking
- Transition from Children's Services into Adult Services - Update
- Children at Risk of Exploitation
- Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report 2021 - 2022
- Children's Services Locality Working

The Scrutiny Overview Committee has recommended that the Children's Services Overview Scrutiny Committee add the following items to their work programme for 2022/23:

- Children's Play strategy
- Children's Health.



## **Budget scrutiny**

Monitoring the financial performance of the Council is a valuable and important task that Scrutiny Committees are ideally placed to perform. It assists Members in identifying areas of operation that are underperforming that may require scrutiny.

It is suggested that all Scrutiny Committees consider the quarter 2 updates at a formal meeting. It is also suggested that the financial outturn for the previous year, quarter 1 and quarter 3 updates be circulated to Members outside of a formal meeting for information. Subject to the caveat that Members can request the reports to come to a Committee meeting if they wish, and that any significant budget pressures or changes will be raised with the Chair, to discuss the issue being formally reported to a Committee meeting.

## **Council performance**

The Council Plan, as agreed by the Council, sets the strategic direction for the authority by reference to five priorities. Each priority has a number of measures allocated to it. Scrutiny committees may wish to consider monitoring progress against the measures that sit within their remit. It is the role of the Scrutiny Overview Committee to take an overarching view of performance against all measures included in the Council Plan.

## **Pre-scrutiny**

A copy of the Forward Plans of key decisions from Walsall Council's Cabinet and the Black Country Joint Executive Committee are attached at Appendix 1 to this report. Updates of these will be provided to Committees at subsequent meetings. Members should consider the forthcoming decisions and consider if there are any issues that they may wish to review and seek to influence prior to the Cabinet making a decision on these matters.

## **Working Groups**

A working group is an effective method for Members of Scrutiny Committees to consider an issue in depth over a number of months and to produce a final report and recommendations to the Committee. In due course the report and recommendations can be considered by the Cabinet and/or Council. The challenge for Members is selecting the right topic at the right time and to provide the working group with an achievable brief.

In terms of resourcing working groups Democratic Services are expected to continue to have reduced capacity during the municipal year. Due to these challenges the Scrutiny Overview Committee, at its meeting on the 16 June 2022, agreed to establish a single working group this municipal year.

## **Prioritisation**

The remit of the Committee is very broad and the range of issues that could be considered during the year is vast. The challenge that Members face is in prioritising those issues that are the most important whilst still leaving sufficient capacity to address other issues that may arise during the year. To assist Members to manage the broad topics available, it is important that alternative methods of being informed and updated, away from Committee meetings, are used effectively. For example, Members could request briefing notes on particular topics thereby helping to create additional capacity for more substantial items at Committee meetings.

In terms of scheduling items, it is important that an agenda includes a manageable amount of business to enable the Committee to focus on topics in depth rather than to carry out superficial treatment that may require the Committee to revisit the topic at a later date.

## **Recommendations:**

**That Members consider the range of issues within this report and formulate and agree a work programme for the year.**

### **Contact Officer:**

Nikki Gough

Democratic Services Officer

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## FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

Council House,  
Lichfield Street,  
Walsall, WS1 1TW  
[www.walsall.gov.uk](http://www.walsall.gov.uk)

6 June 2022

## FORWARD PLAN

The forward plan sets out decisions that are termed as “key decisions” at least 28 calendar days before they are due to be taken by the Executive (Cabinet). Also included on the plan are other decisions to be taken by the Cabinet (“non-key decisions”). Preparation of the forward plan helps the Council to programme its work. The purpose of the forward plan is to give plenty of notice and an opportunity for consultation on the issues to be discussed. The plan is updated each month with the period of the plan being rolled forward by one month and republished. Copies of the plan can be obtained from Democratic Services, Walsall MBC, Council House, Walsall, WS1 1TW [craig.goodall@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:craig.goodall@walsall.gov.uk) and can also be accessed from the Council’s website at [www.walsall.gov.uk](http://www.walsall.gov.uk). The Cabinet is allowed to make urgent decisions which do not appear in the forward plan, however, a notice will be included on the agenda for the relevant Cabinet meeting which explains the reasons why.

Please note that the decision dates are indicative and are subject to change. Please contact the above addressee if you wish to check the date for a particular item.

The Cabinet agenda and reports are available for inspection by the public 7 days prior to the meeting of the Cabinet on the Council’s website. Background papers are listed on each report submitted to the Cabinet and members of the public are entitled to see these documents unless they are confidential. The report also contains the name and telephone number of a contact officer. These details can also be found in the forward plan.

Meetings of the Cabinet are open to the public. Occasionally there are items included on the agenda which are confidential and for those items the public will be asked to leave the meeting. The forward plan will show where this is intended and the reason why the reports are confidential. Enquiries regarding these reasons should be directed to Democratic Services ([craig.goodall@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:craig.goodall@walsall.gov.uk)).

“Key decisions” are those decisions which have a significant effect within the community or which involve considerable expenditure or savings. With regard to key decisions the Council’s Constitution states:

- (1) A key decision is:
  - (i) any decision in relation to an executive function which results in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant, having regard to the Council’s budget for the service or function to which the decision relates or
  - (ii) any decision that is likely to have significant impact on two or more wards within the borough.
- (2) The threshold for “significant” expenditure/savings is £500,000.
- (3) A decision taker may only make a key decision in accordance with the requirements of the Executive Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution.

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# FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS JULY 2022 TO OCTOBER 2022 (6.6.22)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Reference No./ Date first entered in Plan	Decision to be considered (to provide adequate details for those both in and outside the Council)	Decision maker	Background papers (if any) and Contact Officer	Main consultees	Contact Member (All Members can be written to at Civic Centre, Walsall)	Date item to be considered
97/22 (7.3.22)	<b>Corporate Plan 2021/22:</b>  To note the Quarter 4 (outturn) performance against the Measures of Success in the Corporate Plan 2021/22	Cabinet  Non-key decision	Stephen Gunther  <a href="mailto:Stephen.gunther@walsall.gov.uk">Stephen.gunther@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Internal Services	Cllr Bird	22 June 2022
99/22 (4.4.22)	<b>Corporate Performance Management Framework:</b>  To present the refreshed framework which is part of the Council's governance arrangements along with feedback from Audit Committee following its consideration of the robustness of the framework.	Cabinet  Non-key Decision	Helen Dudson  <a href="mailto:Helen.dudson@walsall.gov.uk">Helen.dudson@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Internal Services	Cllr Bird	22 June 2022
100/22 (4.4.22)	<b>Pre-Audit Outturn 2021/22 and Covid-19 Update:</b>  To receive the pre-audit revenue and capital financial outturn position for 2021/22 and approve recommended carry forwards, and financial and treasury indicators for 2021/22, along with an updated assessment of Covid-19 funding allocations to address cost pressures and income losses	Cabinet  Key Decision	Vicky Buckley  <a href="mailto:Vicky.buckley@walsall.gov.uk">Vicky.buckley@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Internal Services	Cllr Bird	22 June 2022

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106/22 (24.5.22)	<b>Local Development Scheme:</b>  An amendment to the timetable is required to accommodate the proposed additional Black Country Plan Regulation 18 consultation and delegated authority. Approval is also sought for delegated authority to make factual changes to the document.	Cabinet  Key Decision	Stuart Crossen  <a href="mailto:stuart.crossen@walsall.gov.uk">stuart.crossen@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Internal services	Cllr Bird	22 June 2022
101/22 (4.4.22)	<b>Corporate Financial Performance 2022/23, approach to Budget Setting for 2023/24, and changes to the council's Tax Strategy:</b>  To report the financial position based on 2 months to May 2022, including the impact of Covid-19, and to set out our approach and timeline for the 2023/24 budget process and amendments to the Tax Strategy.	Cabinet  Key Decision	Vicky Buckley  <a href="mailto:Vicky.buckley@walsall.gov.uk">Vicky.buckley@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Internal Services	Cllr Bird	20 July 2022
106/22 (6.6.22)	<b>Treasury Management Annual Report:</b>  To note and forward to Council, for consideration and noting (and in line with the requirements of the Treasury Management Code of Practice (2017)), the annual report for treasury management activities 2021/22 including prudential and local indicators.	Council  Non-Key Decision	Treasury Management Code of Practice.  Richard Walley  <a href="mailto:Richard.walley@walsall.gov.uk">Richard.walley@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Internal Services	Cllr Bird	7 September 2022

110/22 (6.6.22)	<b>Draft Revenue Budget and Draft Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2026/27:</b>  To provide an updated medium term financial outlook, draft revenue budget and capital programme for 2023/24 to 2026/27, including savings proposals, and to set out the process and timescales for setting a legally balanced budget for 2023/24.	Cabinet  Non-key decision	Vicky Buckley  <a href="mailto:Vicky.Buckley@walsall.gov.uk">Vicky.Buckley@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Public, Internal Services	Cllr Bird	19 October 2022
111/22 (6.6.22)	<b>Corporate Financial Performance 2022/23:</b>  To report the financial position based on 5 months to August 2022, including the impact of Covid-19.	Cabinet  Non-key decision	Vicky Buckley  <a href="mailto:Vicky.Buckley@walsall.gov.uk">Vicky.Buckley@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Public, Internal Services	Cllr Bird	19 October 2022
102/22 (9.5.22)	<b>Housing Renewal Assistance Policy 2022-25:</b>  To approve an updated policy governing delivery of capital housing funds.	Cabinet  Key Decision	David Lockwood  <a href="mailto:David.lockwood@walsall.gov.uk">David.lockwood@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Public, Internal Services	Cllr Andrew	22 June 2022
103/22 (9.5.22)	<b>Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation:</b>  To consider options for mitigation strategies in response to the requirement that all developments that would have Likely Significant Effects on the SAC need to provide mitigation for their impacts.	Cabinet  Key Decision	Stuart Crossen <a href="mailto:Stuart.crossen@walsall.gov.uk">Stuart.crossen@walsall.gov.uk</a>  John Raine <a href="mailto:John.raine@walsall.gov.uk">John.raine@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Internal Services	Cllr Andrew	22 June 2022

104/22 (9.5.22)	<b>Black Country Plan:</b> To approve additional draft Black Country Plan regulation 18 consultation for additional suitable development sites.	Cabinet Key Decision	Stuart Crossen <a href="mailto:Stuart.crossen@walsall.gov.uk">Stuart.crossen@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Internal Services	Cllr Andrew	22 June 2022
105/22 (9.5.22)	<b>Housing Retro-fit 2022/23 schemes- Appointment of contractors:</b> To approve appointment of contractors to deliver grant funded works to home in the borough to ensure that the council can use time-limited Local Authority Delivery Scheme (LADS) and Home Upgrade Grant (HUGs) funding to improve the energy efficiency of dwellings in the borough and help tackle fuel poverty, excess winter deaths and domestic carbon emissions	Cabinet Key Decision	David Lockwood <a href="mailto:David.lockwood@walsall.gov.uk">David.lockwood@walsall.gov.uk</a> Mark England <a href="mailto:Mark.england@walsall.gov.uk">Mark.england@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Internal Services	Cllr Andrew	22 June 2022
107/22 (6.6.22)	<b>Procurement of Corporate Landlord Strategic Partner:</b> To seek approval to the appointment of a strategic partner to support the programme of capital schemes related to the council's property portfolio.	Cabinet Key Decision	Nick Ford <a href="mailto:Nick.ford@walsall.gov.uk">Nick.ford@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Internal Services	Cllr Andrew	20 July 2022

108/22 (6.6.22)	<b>Town Deal:</b> To agree submission of business cases for Town Deal projects to secure funding.	Cabinet Key Decision	Philippa Venables <a href="mailto:Philippa.Venables@walsall.gov.uk">Philippa.Venables@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Internal Services, Town Deal Board members	Cllr Andrew	20 July 2022
94/22 (6.2.22)	<b>Adult Social Care Charging Policy:</b> To consider and approve the revised Charging Policy, within ASC, following completion of the Public Consultation.	Cabinet Key decision	Anne Doyle <a href="mailto:Anne.doyle@walsall.gov.uk">Anne.doyle@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Internal Services	Cllr Pedley	22 June 2022
98/22 (7.3.22)	<b>Statutory Advocacy Services:</b> To receive an update on the re-commissioning of these services and delegate authority to accept and award a contract	Cabinet Key decision	Tracy Simcox <a href="mailto:Tracy.simcox@walsall.gov.uk">Tracy.simcox@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Internal Services	Cllr Pedley	20 July 2022
109/22 (6.6.22)	<b>Schools Mainstream Local Funding Formula 2023/24:</b> That Cabinet approves a full consultation with all schools for the Mainstream Local Funding Formula, to be used for the allocation of mainstream funding to schools in Walsall	Cabinet	Schools Forum ESFA – Schools revenue funding operation guide  Richard Walley <a href="mailto:Richard.walley@walsall.gov.uk">Richard.walley@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Schools Forum  Cabinet	Cllr M. Statham	19 October 2022

<b>Black Country Executive Joint Committee</b> <b>Forward Plan of Key Decisions</b> Published up to <b>November 2022</b>					
<b>Date created</b>	<b>Key Decision</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>	<b>Main Consultees</b>	<b>Date of meeting</b>	
09/05/2022	<b>Constitution and Timetable of meetings 2022/23</b>  Approve the timetable of meetings for 2022/23. Approve any amendments to the BCJC Constitution, Terms of Reference and Working Protocols.	Dr Helen Paterson <a href="mailto:ChiefExecutive@walsall.gov.uk">ChiefExecutive@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Dudley MBC Sandwell MBC Walsall MBC City of Wolverhampton Council	27/07/2022	
09/05/2022	<b>Future working arrangements of the Black Country Executive Joint Committee</b>  Consider the future working arrangements in light of the receipt of Government correspondence dated 31 March 2022: Integrating Local Enterprise Partnerships into local democratic institutions.	Sarah Middleton <a href="mailto:Sarah_Middleton@blackcountryconsortium.co.uk">Sarah_Middleton@blackcountryconsortium.co.uk</a>	Dudley MBC Sandwell MBC Walsall MBC City of Wolverhampton Council	27/07/2022	
<b>Growing Places Fund</b>					
07/02/2022	<b>Black Country Digital Strategy</b>  Approval for the Accountable Body (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with the Black Country Consortium Ltd, to increase its funding allocation in 2022/23 to further develop the Black Country Digital Strategy, funded from the Growing Places revenue budget.	Simon Neilson <a href="mailto:Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk">Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Walsall Council	27/07/2022	



	Local Growth Fund (LGF)	Year End changes		
09/05/2022	<b>Growth Deal Year end changes</b>  Approval for the current position of the Growth Deal Projects, reflecting all changes to the programme throughout the year, this includes changes to outputs and match funding profiles.	Simon Neilson <a href="mailto:Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk">Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Walsall Council	27/07/2022
09/05/2022	<b>Wolverhampton Interchange</b>  Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with Wolverhampton City Council, to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of the Wolverhampton Interchange project with delivery to continue in the 2022/23 financial year. Note that change request relates to a change in outputs.	Richard Lawrence <a href="mailto:Richard.Lawrence@wolverhampton.gov.uk">Richard.Lawrence@wolverhampton.gov.uk</a>	Wolverhampton City Council	27/07/2022
Land and Property Investment Fund (LPIF)				
			Programme changes	

09/05/2022	<p><b>Land and Property Investment Fund Year End Changes</b></p> <p>Approval for the current position of the Land and Property Investment Fund Projects, reflecting all changes to the Land and Property Investment Fund Programme (Funding and Outputs) throughout the year and, to maximise the 2021/22 allocation.</p> <p>Approval of the individual change requests for projects that have exceeded the 10% threshold summarised within the report and detailed within the change request attachments.</p>	Simon Neilson <a href="mailto:Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk">Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Walsall Council	27/07/2022
09/05/2022	<p><b>Phoenix 10</b></p> <p>Approval for the Accountable Body for the Land and Property Investment Fund (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with Walsall Council, to deliver the Land and Property Investment Fund (LPIF) funded elements of the Phoenix 10 project with delivery to continue in the 2022/23 financial year.</p>	Simon Neilson <a href="mailto:Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk">Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Walsall Council	27/07/2022

09/05/2022	<b>i54 Western Extension</b>  Approval for the Accountable Body for the Land and Property Investment Fund (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with Wolverhampton City Council, to deliver the Land and Property Investment Fund (LPIF) funded elements of the i54 Western Extension project with delivery to continue in the 2022/23 financial year.	Richard Lawrence <a href="mailto:Richard.Lawrence@wolverhampton.gov.uk">Richard.Lawrence@wolverhampton.gov.uk</a>	Wolverhampton City Council	27/07/2022
09/05/2022	<b>Sandwell Housing Gap Funding</b>  Approval for the Accountable Body for the Land and Property Investment Fund (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with Sandwell Council, to deliver the Land and Property Investment Fund (LPIF) funded elements of the Sandwell Housing Gap Funding project with delivery to continue in the 2022/23 financial year.	Tony McGovern <a href="mailto:Tony.McGovern@sandwell.gov.uk">Tony.McGovern@sandwell.gov.uk</a>	Sandwell Council	27/07/2022
	Growing Places Fund (GPF)	Programme changes		
09/05/2022	<b>Growing Places Fund Year End changes</b>  Approval for the current position of the Growing Places Fund Projects, reflecting all changes to the programme throughout the year, and to maximise the 2021/22 Growing Places Fund allocated expenditure.	Simon Neilson <a href="mailto:Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk">Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Walsall Council	27/07/2022

09/05/2022	<b>Very Light Rail Test track</b>  Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growing Places Fund (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with Walsall Council, to deliver the Growing Places Fund (GPF) funded elements of the Very Light Rail Test Track project with delivery to continue in the 2022/23 financial year.	Helen Martin <a href="mailto:Helen.Martin@dudley.gov.uk">Helen.Martin@dudley.gov.uk</a>	Dudley Council	27/07/2022
09/05/2022	<b>Very Light Rail National Innovation Centre</b>  Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growing Places Fund (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with Walsall Council, to deliver the Growing Places Fund (GPF) funded elements of the Very Light Rail National Innovation Centre project with delivery to continue in the 2022/23 financial year.	Helen Martin <a href="mailto:Helen.Martin@dudley.gov.uk">Helen.Martin@dudley.gov.uk</a>	Dudley Council	27/07/2022

09/05/2022	<p><b>Spring Road, Wolverhampton</b></p> <p>Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growing Places Fund (Walsall Council) to proceed to enter into a Grant Agreement with KMN Investments Limited, to deliver the Growing Places Fund (GPF), funded elements of the Spring Road Wolverhampton project with delivery to commence in the 2022/23 financial year.</p> <p>Approval for the Accountable Body for the Land and Property Investment Fund (Walsall Council) to proceed to enter into a Grant Agreement with KMN Investments Limited for the remaining grant requirement to deliver the Land and Property Investment Fund (LPIF), funded elements of the Spring Road Wolverhampton project with delivery to commence in the 2022/23 financial year.</p>	Richard Lawrence <a href="mailto:Richard.Lawrence@wolverhampton.gov.uk">Richard.Lawrence@wolverhampton.gov.uk</a>	Wolverhampton City Council	27/07/2022
06/06/2022	<p><b>Dudley Zoo Visitor and Education Centre Development Phase</b></p> <p>The approval for the Accountable Body for the Black Country Growing Places Fund (Walsall Council) to proceed to enter into a Grant Agreement with the Dudley and West Midlands Zoological Society Ltd for £65,000, to deliver the Growing Places Fund (GPF), funded elements of the Dudley Zoo Visitor and Education Centre Development Phase project with delivery to commence in the 2022/23 financial year.</p>	Helen Martin <a href="mailto:Helen.Martin@dudley.gov.uk">Helen.Martin@dudley.gov.uk</a>	Dudley Council	27/07/2022



	This project is to be funded from the Growing Places Fund revenue budget that has been allocated to pipeline activity.			
Getting Building Fund (GBF)		Programme changes		
09/05/2022	<p><b>Getting Building Fund Year End Changes</b></p> <p>Approval for the current position of the Getting Building Fund Projects, reflecting all changes to the programme throughout the year, and to maximise the 2021/22 Getting Building Fund allocated expenditure.</p>	Simon Neilson <a href="mailto:Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk">Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk</a>	Walsall Council	27/07/2022
	<p>Approval for the <b>Very Light Rail Test Track</b> expenditure of £319,040 in 2021/22 (currently funded from Growing Places Fund) to be reallocated to the Getting Building Fund, to utilise unspent 2021/22 budgets allocated to the National Brownfield Institute project. Note that this is subject to the West Midlands Combined Authority's approval.</p>	Helen Martin <a href="mailto:Helen.Martin@dudley.gov.uk">Helen.Martin@dudley.gov.uk</a>	Dudley Council	27/07/2022

Black Country Enterprise Zone (EZ)		Programme changes	
09/05/2022	<p><b>Black Country Enterprise Zone Year End Changes</b></p> <p><b>Parallel 9-10</b></p> <p>Approval for the Accountable Body for the Black Country Enterprise zone (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with Cayborn Ltd, to deliver the Black Country Enterprise Zone (BCEZ) funded elements of the Parallel 9-10 project with delivery to continue in the 2022/23 financial year.</p> <p>There is also a change in the profile of output delivery for this project.</p> <p>Note that the financial position of the BC EZ projects and development funding will be confirmed in August 2022 when the final claims will be processed and verified.</p>	<p>Simon Neilson  <a href="mailto:Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk">Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk</a></p>	<p>Walsall Council</p> <p>27/07/2022</p>
06/06/2022	<p><b>Governance Principles: Enterprise Zones</b></p> <p>Approval of the amended Supplemental Deed of Governance <i>Principles: Enterprise Zones</i>, relating to the Black Country Executive Joint Committee Collaboration Agreement.</p>	<p>Simon Neilson  <a href="mailto:Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk">Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk</a></p>	<p>Walsall Council</p> <p>27/07/2022</p>

Local Growth Fund (LGF)		Programme changes	
06/04/2021	<p><b>Dudley Advanced Construction Centre</b></p> <p>Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with Dudley College, to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of the Dudley Advanced Construction Centre project with delivery to continue in the 2022/23 financial year. Note that change request relates to a change in outputs.</p>	<p>Helen Martin  <a href="mailto:Helen.Martin@dudley.gov.uk">Helen.Martin@dudley.gov.uk</a></p>	<p>Dudley Council</p> <p>07/09/2022</p>
06/09/2021	<p><b>Elite Centre for Manufacturing Skills</b></p> <p>Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with the University of Wolverhampton, to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of the Elite Centre for Manufacturing Skills (ECMS) project with delivery to continue in the 2022/23 financial year. Note that change request relates to a change in outputs.</p>	<p>Richard Lawrence  <a href="mailto:Richard.Lawrence@wolverhampton.gov.uk">Richard.Lawrence@wolverhampton.gov.uk</a></p>	<p>Wolverhampton City Council</p> <p>07/09/2022</p>