

Nottinghamshire County Council Annual Report

2022 to 2023



Healthy

Prosperous

Green



**Nottinghamshire
County Council**

Welcome to our Annual Report 2022-23

In November 2021 we launched [The Nottinghamshire Plan](#), which sets out the County Council's 10-year vision for a healthy, prosperous and greener future for everyone. The Plan made clear the mechanisms we would use to monitor our progress, including an Annual Report that details what we have achieved in the last year, to meet the needs of Nottinghamshire's residents.

Now into the second year of the Plan, we remain committed to improving the quality of life in Nottinghamshire and levelling up chances across the County. Within the last year alone, we've opened new primary schools to ensure a school place for every child, taken steps to support the social care market to improve its quality and sustainability, and delivered a range of activities to ensure a "right first time" approach to our road repairs and highways maintenance.

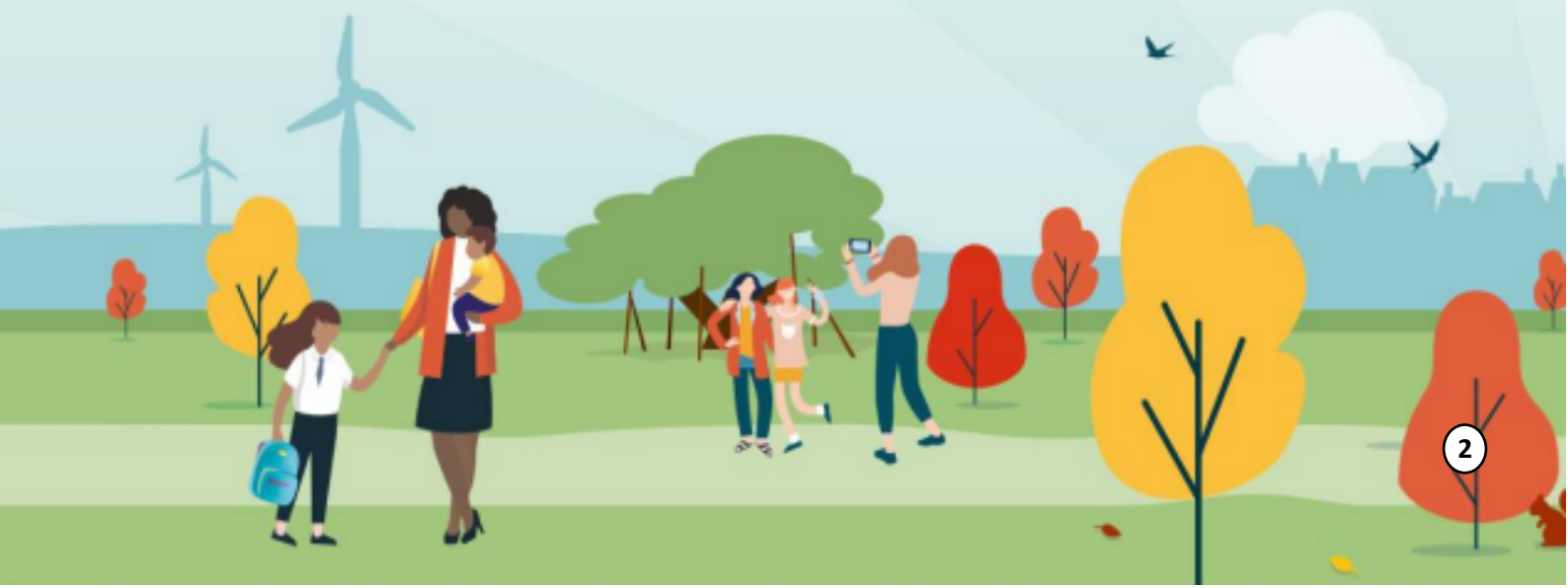
We want to do everything we can to support our communities and so I am committed to championing Nottinghamshire and listening to and working with our residents and partners, to ensure our County is the best it can be for all of us.

We are continually looking to the future and finding ways we can deliver the best for Nottinghamshire's communities, whilst ensuring value for money. You can read more about our plans for 2023/24 in our new [Annual Delivery Plan](#).

However, it is important that we continue to take the time to reflect on the progress we are making towards achieving our ambitions and to celebrate what has gone well during the last 12 months. This Annual Report therefore provides a detailed account of what we have delivered, working together as one Council, during 2022-23.



Cllr Ben Bradley MP



Measuring our progress

The Nottinghamshire Plan 2021-31 sets out our 10-year vision for a healthy, prosperous and greener future for everyone. We've split our vision into ten ambitions which provide a framework for all Council activity:

- **Helping our people live healthier, more independent lives**
- **Supporting communities and families**
- **Keeping children, vulnerable adults, and communities safe**
- **Building skills that help people to get good local jobs**
- **Strengthening businesses and creating more good-quality jobs**
- **Making Nottinghamshire somewhere people love to live, work and visit**
- **Attracting investment in infrastructure, the economy, and green growth**
- **Improving transport and digital connections**
- **Protecting the environment and reducing our carbon footprint**
- **A forward looking and resilient Council.**

Each year we will produce an Annual Delivery Plan that sets out what we will do that year to work towards these ambitions and, at the end of each year, an Annual Report which assesses our progress. This is the second Annual Report to describe our successes and achievements under these ambitions.

We will also continue to use data evidence to monitor how quickly we are moving towards achieving our ambitions, which is why we have selected some key indicators to help us understand our progress.

NB: For this year's Report, in some instances baseline data may differ from that which was previously published in the Annual Delivery Plan 2022/23. This is due to more accurate annual data being made available since its initial publication.



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Nottinghamshire today



Population & Demographics

- The population of the County is **824,800**, which is expected to grow by **10%** by 2034, to **908,000**
- The population aged **over 65** is expected to grow by **30%** by 2034 – an extra **53,000** people

Deprivation & Life Expectancy

- **31 neighbourhoods** in Notts fall within the **top 10%** most deprived neighbourhoods in England
- People in the most disadvantaged areas of the County have lives that are on average **7 years shorter** than those living in the least disadvantaged areas



Earnings & Education

- The median gross weekly pay of full-time workers by residence in Notts is **£599.40**, which is below the figure for England of **£645.80**
- In 2021, **33%** of the working age population in Nottinghamshire were qualified to at least **Level 4 or higher**, compared to **43%** for England

Transport & Digital Connections

- **99%** of Nottinghamshire homes and businesses can access a superfast broadband service
- There is over **4,000 kilometres** of road across the County



Nature & Environment

- There are **over 1,400** local wildlife sites across Nottinghamshire
- Between 2011 and 2021, CO2 emissions in Nottinghamshire reduced by **15%** – this is less than the reduction achieved in England over the same period (**26%**)

Local Satisfaction Levels

- In 2022, **70.5%** of residents who responded to our budget consultation were positive about their local area as a place to live
- **46%** of respondents indicated being satisfied with the way Nottinghamshire County Council runs things, **26.6%** were neither satisfied or dissatisfied, whilst only **26.4%** gave a negative response, and **1%** didn't know



Ambition 1: Helping our people live healthier and more independent lives

We know health and wellbeing is essential for everyone and helps our County to grow and flourish. But people's health and wellbeing varies across Nottinghamshire. Our ambition is that people in every community enjoy healthier, happier lives and remain independent for longer. Specifically, The Nottinghamshire Plan's 4-year targets include:

- Use our influence to create healthy and sustainable places
- Give our children the best start in life
- Promote good mental health and wellbeing for everyone
- Support individuals to improve their health and wellbeing
- Support people to live independently in their own homes for longer
- Create homes in which everyone can live and age well
- Strengthen partnership working across the local health and care system
- Protect people from existing and emerging threats to health.

In 2022-23, we set out to deliver the following actions:

Action		Progress and Impact
1.1	Launch the Nottinghamshire Food Charter, make Nottinghamshire a Sustainable Food Place and develop a food action plan to address the causes of food poverty and to improve the local food environment and food system for better health and wellbeing, environmental and economic outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Food Charter has been published on new County Council webpages which describe the work in relation to food, health and the environment, with particular emphasis on food insecurity. The Nottinghamshire Sustainable Food Network has been formed and partners from community groups, district and borough councils, universities, and the County Council met in a workshop at Brooke Farm in March 2023 to plan the refresh of the food action plan.
1.2	Develop and deliver a housing strategy for Nottinghamshire with our district partners, recognising the importance of good, safe, environmentally sustainable and affordable housing for healthier and more independent lives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A draft housing strategy has been completed with the involvement and co-operation of various services across the County Council. It has been agreed for the purpose of wider public and stakeholder consultation, with the District Councils having been briefed on the purpose and the consultation timetable for the Strategy. Following the consultation period and consideration of responses received, the Strategy will be amended as needed and then submitted to Cabinet for final endorsement. Further work will take place in 2023/24 concerning an Action Plan and arrangements for monitoring and overview of its implementation.
1.3	Work with partners to publish the County's 'best start for life' offer for prospective parents, expectant parents and for families with children up to their first 1,001 Days, also establishing a new team to help parents to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The publication of Nottinghamshire's Best Start Offer is currently in development, linked to the implementation of Family Hubs (currently in a pilot phase). A partnership approach is being taken to both the development and publication of the offer, underpinned by the Nottinghamshire Best Start Partnership Group. Co-production is taking place with parents and the Maternity Voices Partnership (currently in Bassetlaw), to help shape the Offer to meet the needs of expectant parents and new parents.

Action		Progress and Impact
	build good relationships and strong attachments with their babies. This will support parents/carers to provide a healthy and nurturing environment, so that children are able to thrive and develop with their families.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new parent/infant relationship intervention for families has been incorporated into the Nottinghamshire Healthy Families Programme. This intervention is underpinned by a holistic assessment undertaken by a Specialist Public Health Practitioner. • An evaluation of the intervention is underway, with initial findings expected in the Autumn of 2023.
1.4	Establish Local Area Coordinators to develop the personal strengths of those needing support to enable them to find it in their own community. Coordinators will work alongside community and voluntary sector partners to help people achieve good lives through increased and sustained independence, reduced social isolation and increased opportunity, and preventing more costly interventions later on.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five Local Area Coordinators are now in post and commenced their work in October 2022, with staggered start dates across five different localities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Bassetlaw – Harworth and Bircotes ◦ Gedling – Killisick ◦ Mansfield – Bellamy Road, Oaktree, Ravensdale ◦ Newark and Sherwood - Southwell, Laxton, Fernwood, Collingham, Coddington, Brough and Winthorpe ◦ Rushcliffe – Radcliffe on Trent/East Bridgford. • The Local Area Coordinators commenced walking alongside 88 Nottinghamshire residents, helping them to achieve their aims for a good life. Support has varied from supporting residents to access education opportunities, providing guidance about services across the county and supporting the older members of the community to continue to feel safe and able to stay in their own homes. • The aims of Local Area Coordinators is to walk alongside approximately 60 residents at any one time, so with the five current Local Area Coordinators in place, the aim is to have this level of support for at least 300 residents at any one time. • As part of the work, the local area coordinators have built relationships with partner organisations in their localities to better understand the profile of the communities in which they are based.
1.5	Adopt a new integrated, person-centred and needs-led model of delivery for mental health services for children, young people and their families (THRIVE). This will ensure we talk about mental health and help and support in a common language that everyone understands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nottingham and Nottinghamshire's Children and Young People's Local Transformation Plan has been updated to reflect the THRIVE Framework. This has enabled all system partners to have an improved understanding of I-THRIVE and what approach may be best suited to meet Children and Young People's needs.
1.6	Establish a Substance Misuse Partnership Board and develop a local Substance Misuse Strategy , in alignment with the new national Harm to Hope Strategy. This will reduce the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Nottinghamshire Combating Substance Misuse Partnership was established in October 2022. • The Local Substance Misuse Strategy and Delivery Plan was approved by Cabinet in March 2023. • A subgroup for each of the four priorities has been established and include (1) Break drug supply chains; 2) Deliver a world-class treatment and recovery system; 3) Achieve a generational shift in demand for drugs; 4)

Action		Progress and Impact
	harm to health and deliver better treatment and recovery programmes for people in need.	<p>Bigger Picture: Reducing Health Inequalities and Tackling Wider Determinants, plus three criminal justice subgroups covering custody, prisons and courts. Government grants have already been received for Priority 2 and have been used to improve access and scope of services for substance users- drugs and alcohol.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The next Partnership meeting in July will be a workshop around dual diagnosis of substance use and mental health.
1.7	Undertake a COVID Impact Assessment to understand the impacts of the pandemic and the needs of our residents of all ages in the future. This will inform what services we deliver in future, how we deliver them and will address the inequalities amongst our communities that have been exacerbated by the pandemic, especially for children and young people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A phased approach to this work has been undertaken with eight areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Direct Impact of Covid-19 – A report on Long COVID will be presented at July Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) 2) Domestic Abuse – Report presented at HWB in December 2022. 3) Mental Health and Wellbeing – Report presented at HWB in February 2023. 4) Behavioural risk factors – Report presented at HWB in March 2023. 5) Life Expectancy and Healthy Life Expectancy – This will be part of a report presented at HWB in July 2023. 6) Pregnancy and childbirth (including Early Years) – A report will be presented at HWB in May 2023. 7) Social determinants of health – A report will be presented at HWB in July 2023. 8) Healthy and Sustainable Places (including air quality and food insecurity)- A report will be presented at HWB in July 2023. Remaining Phase reports are planned to be delivered to either May or July HWB. July HWB will represent the culmination of the COVID Impact Assessment, with ongoing monitoring of recommendations by HWB.
1.8	Establish a new Health Protection Board to provide assurances on the arrangements and outcomes for the protection of the health of residents in Nottinghamshire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The joint Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Health Protection Board was established in February 2022. It is a multi-agency partnership group chaired by the two directors of public health, designed to provide assurance on health protection arrangements across the Integrated Care System footprint. A programme of meetings over the last year has reviewed health protection outcomes across sexual health, communicable disease, vaccinations and immunisations, environmental hazards, screening programmes, pollution and emergency planning.
1.9	Develop a CLEAR Process for Tobacco Control to ensure we are using the most effective methods and actions to reduce harm from tobacco. We will also work with schools to deliver INTENT, a smoking prevention programme, across secondary schools across the County which has been shown to reduce smoking uptake among young people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Health and Wellbeing Board have agreed and signed up to the following Vision for Smoking and Tobacco Control: 'To work with our local partners to create a smokefree generation for all communities in Nottinghamshire by 2040' The Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Smoking & Tobacco Control Strategic Alliance has adopted the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) MPOWER model which takes a whole system approach. The Alliance has used the CleaR model (Challenge, Leadership Results) – an evidence-based improvement model which helps to develop local action to reduce smoking prevalence and the use of tobacco.

Action		Progress and Impact
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CleaR process highlighted several areas for improvement which have informed the development of a Nottingham & Nottinghamshire Smoking & Tobacco Control delivery plan. Four delivery themes have been identified including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helping vulnerable groups to quit smoking Effective regulation of tobacco products Reducing exposure to second-hand smoke Prevention & Engagement with children and young people In addition, there are 3 cross cutting themes including multi-agency partnership working, effective communication, and improving the understanding of vaping/e- cigarettes. Task and Finish groups have been established to work on the 4 Delivery themes. 12 schools are participating in the INTENT programme (Smoking Prevention in Secondary Schools) this academic year 2022/23. Intent now includes additional lessons on e-cigarettes/vaping, with our Trading Standards service targeting businesses selling age restricted products, with a particular emphasis on vapes and tobacco. The aim is to reduce the selling of vapes to minors.
1.10	Work with partners to develop improved mental health support for adults and older adults in the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional management, trainee Approved Mental Health Professionals (AMHPs) and reablement community care officers are now in place and have added capacity to allow us to provide a timelier response to requests for support. Referrals have increased by 160%. This is positive as it demonstrates the demand for mental health reablement which continues to grow – this improves people’s mental health and opportunities to improve their skills for independent living. Feedback from other professionals has been positive and this will help develop a reablement alternative to detention.
1.11	Publish a Carers Strategy which will set out what we will do together to improve the health and wellbeing of carers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The joint all-age carers strategy was approved by Cabinet in March 2023 and by the Integrated Care System and Nottingham City Council in December 2022. An implementation plan is currently being coproduced with carers to ensure the detail within the strategy is actioned.

Actions we said we would ‘continue to’ do:

Action		Progress and Impact
1.12	Work with partners, as a member of the Health and Wellbeing Board, to understand	<p>Smoking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See action 1.09 above for progress and impact.

Action	Progress and Impact
<p>the health needs of Nottinghamshire's communities. We will develop joint action plans to reduce the harms to health of smoking/alcohol/obesity, promote good oral, sexual, physical and mental.</p>	<p><u>Alcohol</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Substance Misuse Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and a Health Needs Assessment have been undertaken to understand the needs of Nottinghamshire population around alcohol and drugs. • The Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Alcohol Clinical Pathways Group name has been changed to Alcohol Harm Reduction Group, with terms of reference changed to reflect the more preventative and wider determinants approach. • A revised Alcohol Action Plan is being developed. • National Grants from Government From Harm to Hope Strategy have been used to improve access, scope and quality of alcohol treatment and recovery services. Next Nottinghamshire Substance Misuse Partnership meeting in July will be a workshop around dual diagnosis of substance use and mental health. <p><u>Obesity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County Council Public Health fund the Your Health Your Way Integrated Wellbeing Service which includes services for residents who want help with their weight. This year the service relaunched its children and families offer as FAB, to make the service more fun and accessible to families. • Public Health is also working with NHS commissioners to improve NHS services for residents with more complex needs. • Plans are being developed for more accessible local services for residents.
<p>1.13 We will continue to fund Your Health Your Way, an integrated wellbeing service to help our residents become more active, eat healthier, manage their weight, drink less alcohol and stop smoking.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your Health Your Way have continued to provide support to Nottinghamshire residents to stop smoking, be more physically active, improve their nutrition, lose weight and reduce their alcohol intake. • During 2022/23, a total of 19,000 referrals for Nottinghamshire residents were received, with 46% of people being referred from the most deprived communities across Nottinghamshire. During the year, over 1,300 people have stopped smoking, over 1,200 people have reduced their alcohol consumption, 1,300 people have become more physically active and over 2,000 people have reduced their weight. The service has supported 5,333 people with long term physical or mental health conditions during 2022/23. • Your Health Your Way continue to engage with wider communities across Nottinghamshire and have attended 75 community events, alongside delivering courses for specific communities of need. The service has trained over 500 healthcare professionals and 200 Community and Voluntary Sector colleagues in lifestyle and behaviour change interventions.

Action	Progress and Impact
<p>1.14 Develop and deliver new pathways and services that meet identified health needs in our communities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a pathway to access mental health support during pregnancy and in the first year following birth • a service for children and young people with behaviours indicative of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and autism spectrum disorder (ASD). 	<p>Mental Health Support Pathway</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The pathway to access maternal mental health support is delivered in partnership with Integrated Care Board (ICB) commissioned services and the Local Maternity and Neonatal System. A regular maternal mental health steering group brings all partners together to strengthen support for maternal mental health. • The numbers of people accessing the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Community Perinatal Mental Health team over the past 12 months has increased, and the service continues to expand. A community engagement worker was appointed to increase engagement with the service, with a focus on those who are underrepresented or least likely to engage. • Training and awareness raising around perinatal mental health and the support available has been delivered to wider partners such as children's centre services, social care and the voluntary sector. Referrals into the perinatal mental health team are now accepted from more agencies. • A new Trauma and Bereavement team have become successfully embedded within the maternal mental health pathway over the last year. • Health visitors in Nottinghamshire's Healthy Family Teams assess mental health at every 10-14 day, and 6–8-week health and development review - using evidence-based tools - and support women to access appropriate support. This formal assessment has been extended to the 1-year health and development review and in 2022-23 maternal mental health was assessed at 4,590 1-year reviews. • Children's Centre services deliver a Parent Emotional Wellbeing Group for parents of under 5's experiencing low mood, anxiety, loneliness (amongst other needs), as well as a New Parent's Group, which gives new parents (under 6 months) opportunities to meet others, reduce isolation and build support networks. <p>Neurodevelopmental Behavioural Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since June 2022 we now provide a Neurodevelopmental Behavioural Service as part of the wider Children's service offer. • Since June 2022 and March 2023, the Neurodevelopmental Behavioural Service: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ received over 2,700 referrals (since June 2022 when the service transferred into the Local Authority the average number of monthly referrals has increased by almost 50% from 240 to 330). ○ completed over 550 assessments for families on the neurodevelopmental diagnostic pathway. ○ delivered evidence-based parenting workshops and groups and 1-1 interventions to over 600 families. • Following a multi-agency service review, the Neurodevelopmental Behavioural Service is introducing revised referral arrangements and threshold criteria for assessment in response to the pressures on this aspect of the

Action		Progress and Impact
		service and in recognition that within statutory education additional support can be put in place without the need for a diagnosis.
1.15	<p>Develop and expand the ways in which children, young people, parents, carers and professionals can find advice, information and services to support good physical and mental health and wellbeing, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supporting an increase in the uptake of Healthy Start Vouchers so that families in need can access healthy food, milk and vitamins. • Expanding the Nott Alone website to continue to offer advice and information for children, young people, parents, carers and professionals on mental health and creating a new website to offer support for children and young people with autism. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uptake of the Healthy Start scheme in Nottinghamshire has increased to 66%; higher than the national and regional uptake of 64%. From April 1, 2023, free Healthy Start vitamins are being given out universally throughout pregnancy for everyone receiving maternity care from Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust and Sherwood Forest Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. • Nott Alone continues to develop. All children's mental health services are advertised, alongside self-help materials. The website is continually evolving with new services for children and young people regularly added and feedback taken into consideration. • Social media channels have been set up to promote the website and support available for young people. The social media channels have different targeting, with Twitter content aimed towards parents and professionals and Instagram content aimed directly at the young people. • NottAlone hosted the first ever free NottAlone Live event in February 2023 with over 1000 children and young people from Nottingham and Nottinghamshire schools attending with teachers. Children and young people were able to take part in a wide range of wellbeing workshops throughout the day, visit a wellbeing art gallery, take time out in a wellbeing hub and enjoy music performances in and around the venue. A main stage hosted keynote speakers with inspiring talks. There were over 50 stall holders sharing information about community mental health and wellbeing services for young people in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.
1.16	<p>Commissioning training for the workforce and communities on mental health, suicide prevention and self-harm, to support them to identify and provide support for residents on mental health.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new contract for the delivery of mental health, suicide prevention and self-harm prevention training has been commissioned and training commenced in January 2023. Training has been prioritised to workers from a range of services and providers who are likely to be in contact with Nottinghamshire residents who may be experiencing poor mental health or at risk of suicide and self-harm. • A total of 58 training courses were delivered from January to the end of April 2023. There were 1,196 attendances for the training across City and County. • Training increased participants knowledge of mental health conditions: Pre-training 41% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that they were confident in their knowledge of mental health conditions increasing to 94% post-training. Training also increased people's awareness of the support and services available to help, with 41% of participants agreeing or strongly agreeing that they were confident in their awareness of services pre-training increasing to 96% post-training. • Training increased participants understanding of the risks for suicide and confidence in their ability to respond: Pre-training 34% of participants were confident in recognising the signs, initiating a conversation and in ability to apply a model of suicide intervention, post-training this increased to 90% of participants being confident. Pre-training 37% of individuals felt they could recognise the warning signs, risk factors and different risk groups

Action		Progress and Impact
		for suicide, which increased to 99% post-training. Pre-training 37% of participants felt confident in their knowledge of services to signpost people experiencing suicidality to, increasing to 96% of participants post-training.
1.17	Working with partners, as a signatory of the Prevention Concordat for Better Mental Health, to develop communication campaigns to promote mental wellbeing , including suicide prevention and awareness, reducing stigma and sign-posting to support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New suicide prevention communications campaign resources have been co-produced with people with lived experience, services and partners from across the county. Suicide prevention communications are promoted by a wide range of services to Nottinghamshire residents. Suicide prevention communications aim to reduce stigma, promote help seeking and support people into the right services at the right time. As part of our communications campaign, we are working with people with lived experience to develop filmed stories to reduce stigma and promote hope. • Public Health are working with partners and contributing funding to develop the new Nott Alone website for adults and a new mental health and wellbeing communications campaign. • A guide to enable anyone to champion mental health awareness, suicide and self-harm prevention, whatever their role, has been produced and widely distributed, including to Public Health and Integrated Care Board (ICB) communities teams. A short survey is planned to be circulated to evaluate the impact of the guide in future, with more information available through the Nottinghamshire Insight Mental Health page.
1.18	Take every opportunity to expand our Mental Health Support Teams for Schools in Nottinghamshire and undertake an evaluation of the service in 2022/23. This will ensure that children and young people are able to get early help and support to meet their emotional and wellbeing needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health Support Teams in Schools (MHSTs) continue to grow across Nottinghamshire, ensuring that children and young people have access to early help and support for their emotional wellbeing needs. As of May 2023, 6 MHSTs are mobilised across Nottinghamshire, supporting approximately 120 schools, equating to 35% coverage. • A strong partnership approach to developing and mobilising MHSTs has ensured that project plans for a further 3 MHSTs have been successful, therefore by February 2025 approximately 180 schools, including primary, secondary, special and further education, will have access to an MHST equating to 52% coverage.
1.19	Lead on the local Suicide Prevention Strategy and Suicide Prevention Action Plan across Nottinghamshire. This includes establishing a new Suicide Prevention Stakeholder Network and piloting new approaches to providing targeted suicide prevention and self-harm support for high-risk groups , working collaboratively with Nottingham City Council and the Integrated Care System.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new Suicide Prevention Stakeholder Network was established in early 2022 and has 230 members. The Suicide Prevention Stakeholder Network has themed quarterly meetings and has so far covered how to support someone to reduce the risk of crisis, supporting someone in crisis and suicide bereavement. 2023 sessions will focus on some of the risk factors relating to suicide, starting with financial worries in May 2023. Around 40-50 people attend each Network Event from a wide range of organisations and groups across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. A regular newsletter is distributed to the Network to share information and guidance with partners and services across Nottinghamshire and Nottingham. • A local service has been commissioned to pilot targeted suicide crisis support for men and boys and is due to be completed May 2023. To date, the pilot has engaged with 129 organisations that have a high male engagement rate to promote the service and provide leaflets and information to enable males to be more aware of crisis support. There has been a 12% increase in referrals to crisis support and a 92.6% increase of

Action		Progress and Impact
		<p>engagement by males with support to provide safety and stability between sessions and enable them to cope differently as a result.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A pilot of support for parents and carers of children and young people experiencing self-harm has also commenced. To date, 5 drop-in sessions have been offered and the focus for the remaining period will be on increasing engagement of parents and carers.
1.20	Play our part as a local leader in delivering the Integrated Care System's Health Inequalities Strategy and Green Plan, as well as the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for 2022-2026. We will also support the integration of changes proposed for the Integrated Care System from July 2022 and increase partnership working and commissioning with adults and children services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since the establishment of the Integrated Care System (ICS) in July 2022, we have maintained our role as a key leader and partner in the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICS. This has included a collaborative approach to the development and approval of the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Strategy 2023-2027 at the Integrated Care Board in March 2023. The new strategy was co-produced across the system including engagement with our local population. It builds on the work of the Integrated Care System's Health Inequalities Strategy, Green Plan and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy to provide a clear vision for integrated working across the ICS. The strategy has defined levels of ambition and three guiding principles of prevention, equity and integration. Implementation of the strategy will be regularly reviewed at the Health and Wellbeing Board and Integrated Care Board via the development of the NHS's Joint Forward Plan.
1.21	Work together to protect people's health from flu and roll out vaccinations in the autumn 2022/23.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The County Council actively promoted the public NHS flu vaccination programme to children, adults and older people. This involved sending generic communications to residents through a variety of channels, as well as employing bespoke communications aimed at target groups. This included, for example, specific social media advertising for pregnant women from areas and communities where vaccination rates were low. The posts, which were in English, Polish and Romanian, reached over 40,000 Nottinghamshire residents. In addition, flu vaccinations were offered to all frontline County Council employees in the autumn of 2022, building on the success of internal programmes in previous years. A newly commissioned vaccination provider undertook clinics in a wide variety of Council workplaces, including special schools, and flu vouchers were also offered to staff and foster carers which could be redeemed at local pharmacies. A total of 1,896 frontline staff were vaccinated through the Council's programme, which equates to an uptake of 41.2%.
1.22	Review and update the COVID-19 Local Outbreak Management Plan to ensure we have the correct arrangements in place to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A refreshed Local Outbreak Management Plan (LOMP) was published on the Council's website in February 2022. In April 2022, the previous Contain framework national guidance was withdrawn, which included the requirement for local authorities to produce a Local Outbreak Management Plan. A decision was therefore taken on 20 April 2022 to remove the LOMP as it was no longer required. Learning from the LOMP will be embedded in the ongoing local authority health protection response.
1.23	Talk to people about their strengths, assets and skills and support them to live the best	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The transition in the delivery of adult social care from a deficit model to a strength-based approach, through the implementation of the Three Conversation model, has helped to foster greater collaboration with partners.

Action		Progress and Impact
	life they can and reduce reliance on long-term care.	<p>This is helping to change the way that the whole system of community-based support works together to provide a more holistic and positive experience for the people the Council supports and for social care staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The impact of this has been an increase in the number of people who have been connected to a wider support network within their communities as part of working with them to build on their existing strengths to meet their needs. The number of people connected to a community group or the voluntary sector as part of their support offer increased by 32% between Q2 and Q4. This approach has been supported by an increased use of technology to help people maintain their level of independence for longer.
1.24	Work with partners to develop our multi-disciplinary teams and practice to support more people to live a good life, be part of their local communities and improve their health and well being. We will increase the number of people who benefit from short-term preventative support to help them maintain their independence , and live in their own homes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There has been a positive impact from this action that is reflected in the following improvements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of people who have been through a period of reablement in 2022/23 was 1,825 which represents a 6% increase from 2021/22. The number of people who have been through a period of enablement in 2022/23 was 706 which represents a 55% increase from 2021/22.
1.25	Work with providers and partners to enhance Nottinghamshire's homecare offer to tackle the current challenges and to meet future capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There have been two home care schemes implemented as part of the winter plan. The first scheme, implemented from December 2022, was an incentive scheme awarding providers based on increased packages and the first payments have been passed onto providers. The second scheme, to put in place a block contract, commenced on 16 January 2023. These initiatives have helped towards a significant increase in homecare capacity across Nottinghamshire.
1.26	Work with people to make sure that the adult social care services we provide in local areas meet the support needs of residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We continually collect data on services commissioned in respect to quality, performance and delivery and use the contract monitoring processes to assess that the service is meeting the support needs of those people using/living in the services. Part of the contract management process is assessing quality of documentation, including care plans, as part of the annual auditing process. There is also a well-established quality referrals system that colleagues internally in Adult Social Care and externally (Care Quality Commission etc.) are able to share intelligence regarding a service.
1.27	Identify future care and support needs to create homes that meet the needs of people of all abilities in Nottinghamshire and help them to live independently.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An accommodation tracker has been developed to identify the needs of young people with additional needs from the age of 14 to 18. This is helping us to plan to ensure that we have the right amount and type of accommodation for people coming into adult social care. In July 2022, approval was given by the Cabinet Member for eight tenders for the first phase of the tender programme to be developed. This is now underway, and it is envisaged that if all the tenders agreed come to

Action		Progress and Impact
		<p>fruition there will be an additional 200-300 units of accommodation procured. This accommodation will start to become available within the next 18 months to three years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The second phase of the tender programme will aim to increase accommodation by an additional 121 units. There will be a higher proportion of supported living plus developments within this phase, offering more bespoke environments and specialist support.

Our ambitions coming to life:

Increasing Community Support Across the County

The Early Help and Support in the Communities Team has launched and host the five Local Area Coordinators, who are based in communities to help people achieve their best lives. Local area coordinators walk alongside residents regardless of need to professional service intervention. They work with individuals to build personal resilience, confidence and increase community capacity. One Local Area Coordinator has said that:

“I have developed an extensive network of local contacts, including key players in community groups, the churches and the parish and town councils. This is already yielding benefits within the community as I can connect groups and services with the resources that they need and am fast becoming a well-known face of the County Council in the area.

“I have begun to work with various individuals and have accessed funding from local charities to provide essential furniture, introduced people to benefits assessments and begun various conversations around social isolation and the possibilities available locally. My local knowledge is already proving useful as a means of publicising the excellent range of community resources in my area.”

Sustainable food places

The partnership work on food, health and sustainability led by the County Council Public health team has enabled Nottinghamshire to become part of the [Sustainable Food Places Network](#). This will enable the Nottinghamshire Sustainable Food Network to access specialist support, advice and resources from other areas of the country and the dedicated team at Sustainable Food Places.



Preparing for Adulthood

The Preparing for Adulthood team works with young people, families and carers embedding strengths-based practice, helping young adults to be independent. The team takes a person-centred approach, using strength-based conversations and support planning, positive risk taking and the Mental Capacity Act to promote choice and independence. The support the team provides is invaluable in preparing young people for adulthood. This is just one of many pieces of positive feedback that we have from a parent: “I wanted to compliment the work that social workers have

progressed in the short time that they have been involved in my son's care planning, and how much was achieved by them by his leaving care review due to their dedication and commitment to him. I am confident that as he transitions into adulthood, he will have a strong committed team and the onus will be on him to work with services and support in order to achieve the best outcomes for himself."

Success indicators the Council owns:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest Data	Time period
ASCH Core Metric 18a: Number of people reabled to higher levels of independence (people supported to regain independence after a period of ill health)	1,721	2021-2022	1,825	2022/23
ASCH Core Metric 18b: Number of people enabled to higher levels of independence (people with disabilities supported to find greater independence)	455	2021-2022	706	2022/23

Success indicators the Council works with partners to influence:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest Data	Time period
Healthy life expectancy – male	63.4 years	2017-2019	62.4 years	2018-2020
Healthy life expectancy - female	61.6 years	2017-2019	60.0 years	2018-2020
Inequality in life expectancy - male	9.3 years	2018-2020	9.3 years	2018-2020
Inequality in life expectancy - female	7.7 years	2018-2020	7.7 years	2018-2020
Self-reported wellbeing – people with a high anxiety score	25.9%	2020-2021	23.96%	2021-22
The rate of suicide	8.6 per 100,000	2018-2020	10.3 per 100,000	2019-2021
ASCH Core Metric 1: Thinking about the good and bad things that make up your quality of life, how would you rate the quality of your life as a whole? (Score out of 24)	18.8	2019-2020	19.2	2021-22
ASCH Core Metric 12: Proportion of carers who reported that they had as much social contact as they would like	23.6%	2018-2019	22.7%	2021-22
ASCH Core Metric 13: Proportion who use services who reported that they had as much social contact as they would like	42.7%	2019-2020	43.3%	2021-22

What this means for Nottinghamshire:

Whilst we have made excellent progress within the last year to improve people's health and wellbeing, we know that health and wellbeing varies across Nottinghamshire and is influenced by a variety of factors, such as housing, employment, education, food, transport, air quality and community networks. This is why the council continues to invest to improve people's health, by strengthening the building blocks for good health and by ensuring everyone has access to services to help them improve their health. The actions we are aiming to deliver during 2023-24 reflect this continuing journey to work with residents and partners alike, to ensure that people in every community enjoy healthier, happier lives, and remain independent for longer. Initiatives to strengthen this in the coming year include but are not limited to the below.

Specific actions in the [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24](#):

- **1.2** Work with partners to deliver on the final year of the wave 4 suicide prevention transformation programme, with a particular focus on at-risk groups, so that suicide prevention interventions such as training, communications and awareness raising, and support, can be appropriately targeted towards those groups at increased risk of suicide and self-harm.
- **1.4** Work with partners across the Integrated Care System regarding prevention, equity and integration, to support delivery of the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Strategy 2023-2027. This will include development of the Making Every Contact Count Framework, reviewing our prevention approach, priority work on alcohol, tobacco and mental health, and further developing the Council's role as an anchor institution.
- **1.9** Work with the local District and Borough Councils and adopt a joint Housing Strategy to create healthy and sustainable places, meet housing needs in Nottinghamshire and ensure that people can live and age well in their own homes. This strategy will also focus on how we work together to provide safe homes for the most vulnerable in our communities.

Ambition 2: Supporting communities and families

Nottinghamshire has a diverse range of communities in our market towns, rural villages and urban centres. Supportive, vibrant communities can boost health and wellbeing, give people a sense of belonging, and create enjoyable, welcoming places to live. Our ambition is to strengthen communities through supporting the voluntary and community sector and making the most of community-based services so that residents can find the support they need in their local area. Specifically, the Nottinghamshire Plan's 4-year targets include:

- Forge closer relationships with voluntary and community partners
- Strengthen support for those who need it most
- Empower people to make a difference in their community
- Give our children the best start in life
- Improve access to family support services
- Improve support for children with special educational needs
- Develop our libraries as community and learning hubs
- Provide safe and engaging activities for young people through our Youth Service
- Support people at key moments in their lives through our Registration Service
- Strengthen community support for adults with our partners
- Bring services together in local communities
- Strengthen early support for communities and families.

In 2022-23, we set out to deliver the following actions:

Action		Progress and Impact
2.1	Encourage key partners to adopt the Compact developed between public sector bodies and voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations. We will work with the VCS sector to understand what support is needed to maintain and grow its capacity. This will help us to work together to build a strong, vibrant and sustainable VCS and provide effective community-based support to Nottinghamshire's communities and residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 statutory organisations from local government and health have signed up to the Compact.
2.2	Establish Family Hub Networks across Nottinghamshire that help to give children the best start for life. This will give parents/carers, children and young people access to local support centres, where they	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each family hub is unique to the local community it serves and aims to make a positive difference to parents, carers and their children by providing a mix of physical and virtual spaces, as well as support in family homes, where families can easily access non-judgmental information, advice and support. In Nottinghamshire, we are

Action		Progress and Impact
	can find a broad and integrated range of support and early help to help them overcome challenges and build stronger relationships.	<p>developing Family Hub Networks which will provide a physical hub and a range of spokes including local libraries, websites, charities and other sources of information, advice and guidance for families.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are progressing the first Family Hub Network in Retford and a series of co-production activities have taken place to help us gather ideas from families about their information and advice needs and what they like about where they live and what could be improved. Ideas from parents and carers are being progressed through a local Retford partnership who are committed to support families as early as possible. There are plans to roll out Family Hub Networks across Nottinghamshire with 1-3 Family Hub Networks in each District depending on need. For more information, please see: Retford and the story so far Nottinghamshire County Council.
2.3	Work with our partners to improve the way children receive support to develop their speech language and communication , aligning early intervention support with specialist speech and language services across the County. This will ensure all children have the opportunity to access services and support to help them develop their communication skills, so that they can reach their potential.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New information has been published online and in print to support parents to help children with their speech, language and communication under the banner of 'Start Talking Together'. The council and Integrated Care Partnership have jointly commissioned speech and language services for children. The Council funds an early help intervention for preschool children and networks for Early Years Practitioners. <p>In 2022/23:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 771 children aged 2 – 2½ accessed the Early Intervention Speech and Language programme (66% completed the programme). 98% of parents reported an increase in skills and confidence to help improve speech, language and communication following access to the programme. 96% of parents reported an increase in home learning since participating in the programme. 97% of parents reported that their child increased their ability to listen, understand and talk following the programme. 93% of parents reported they were reading more at home, and 88% reported less screen time. 36% of children who accessed the programme were referred to specialist speech and language therapy, so we prevented 64% being referred to a specialist service as their needs were met earlier. 54% of children were offered a place on the programme within 8 weeks of referral.
2.4	Increase the range and quality of short breaks provision and opportunities for education, employment and training after school for children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND). This will support children, young	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over the last 12 months the internal County Council's Specialist Support Team have launched three new hubs across Nottinghamshire to provide targeted and good quality short break provision to children and young people. The Commissioning Team have continued over the past year to develop the provider market. A Market Position Statement has been produced and published.

Action		Progress and Impact
	people with SEND and their families to stay happy, healthy and thrive in their communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 1,100 children and young people across Nottinghamshire have an allocation of short break hours increasing their social opportunities and developing their independence. In a recent survey over 66% of families were either satisfied or extremely satisfied with the short break provision they were currently receiving. The Short Break Service has responded to the increasing demands for short breaks across Nottinghamshire. The service has adapted new ways of working which enables children and young people to access the appropriate level of support that they need.
2.5	Review how people can access services, information, advice and guidance from Nottinghamshire County Council, through our Improving Residents Access programme. This will enable residents to find the right information and help, at the right time and in the right place.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work continues to review and develop proposals for investment to improve the information, advice and guidance (IAG) that is available for people and communities. We are also looking at best practice options to provide IAG on an easily accessible platform that helps residents to find the help or support they need at a time and a place that is right for them.
2.6	Implement a comprehensive review of the County Council's Registration Service , services for births, deaths, marriages and civil partnerships. This will ensure the Council provides the best support we can for milestone moments in everyone's lives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The review is making good progress, with proposals to reshape the service to deliver improved customer service being finalised that incorporate feedback from a staff learning event and consultation. In recent months, we have launched our new improved accessible website, and we have recently completed the refurbishment of our Mansfield Register Office.
2.7	Use the '3 conversations' approach in all our adult social care assessments. These conversations will strengthen the focus on how an individual can use the support around them and access resources in their community. It will also ensure that we concentrate on what is important to the person and their carer(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 3 conversations model has been embedded within Mosaic, the system that we use to record information about the care and support we provide, to ensure that we use this approach in all interactions with people engaging with Adult Social Care. This means that the case management system is now aligned with strength-based practice that has been introduced and supports the embedding of the 3 conversations model.
2.8	Develop a strategy to improve support for those with autism at all stages of their lives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An Integrated Care System (ICS) wide autism strategy steering group has been set up. The ICS wide autism strategy implementation plan has been developed to implement the 12 priorities in the autism strategy. This includes the commissioning of an autism pre-diagnostic support service, to support people who are waiting for/have an autism diagnosis.

Action		Progress and Impact
2.9	Publish a Day Opportunities Strategy. This will set out our ambition to support the development of an inclusive society where mainstream leisure and employment is accessible to people who access care and support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Day Opportunities Strategy was approved by the Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee in April 2022. This sets out the ambition to support the development of an inclusive society, where mainstream leisure and employment is accessible to people who access care and support. The new Day Opportunities Framework Agreement will be in place by September 2023.

Actions we said we would 'continue to' do:

Action		Impact and/or next steps
2.10	Help communities recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. We will update our current community support plans, build on the success of the Nottinghamshire Community Support Hub and evaluate the impact of recovery support funding we have distributed to those most in need across our County. This will ensure that we are able to direct our resources effectively to best help our communities bounce back.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Communities Fund continues to support Cost of Living and Food redistribution initiatives. The establishment of the Early Help and Support in the Community has introduced Local Area Co-ordination and Community Health Champion Co-ordinator roles into Nottinghamshire. The team is a frontline resource who engage with communities on a daily basis, gathering intel about the needs in the community and building relationships across both Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) service and external public sector bodies.
2.11	Provide a wide range of activities for young people through our Youth Service. This means that that our young people will be able to access safe, welcoming places where they can learn, have fun, and reach their full potential. We will continue to support them to voice their ideas and aspirations through our system of participation and engagement and we will increase our focus on supporting and celebrating young people's achievements through recognised awards and accreditation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12,623 individual young people accessed youth service provision during 2022/23 and engaged in a range of fun, safe and high-quality positive activities and opportunities with a trusted youth worker. Children and young people also continued to engage in opportunities to influence design and delivery of services. Last year we had 20 Young People's Voice Expressions of Interests (EofI) from organisations, which sought the support, advice and ideas from children and young people to improve their service delivery. Our EofI provides a mechanism which enables services both internal and external to the Council to engage with young people and hear their views about the provision they receive, or are affected by, and provides an opportunity for young people to offer insight into how changes can be made to better meet their needs. Each EofI submitted is reviewed by the Young People's Board (Made up of 8 Members of Youth Parliament, the Chair of the Children in Care Council and a representative from the D2N2 Voice of Adoption) allowing the board to take ownership of the agenda, establish the information required and the time needed to enable their active involvement, they then determine the next steps of engagement.

Action		Impact and/or next steps
2.12	Offer high quality family support, that works to meet the needs of the whole family. By developing strong partnerships with other organisations and community-based support, our Family Support services will bring together a network of support around vulnerable children and their families to prevent needs increasing or risks escalating.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Hub developments have been successful in engaging a wide range of partners including District Councils, the NHS, the voluntary and community sectors. • The first Family Hub Network is being developed in Retford and all partners have worked together to shape how the network will be provided to better understand and support families. • The Family Hubs Workforce Development Plan has also been created and has been delivered in the Retford area with partners now accessing a range of training e.g. on how to reduce parental conflict.
2.13	Support eligible families to access funded childcare , so that parents/carers can return to education, work or training and children benefit from early learning and education to make them ready to thrive at school and in their later lives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2022 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment identified that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Take up of 2-year-old entitlement is better than pre-pandemic levels at 84% by the end of the summer term 2022. (This is the highest on the region, and above national average.) ○ Take up of funded childcare for 3- and 4-year-olds stands at 93% and 100% respectively. • Online information on the Notts Help Yourself website has been improved to better help families find and access childcare that meets their needs.
2.14	Develop and embed a wide range of specialist educational provision for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities , both in mainstream school settings and in Special Schools. This will enable families to access school places that will meet their child's needs and help them make progress and achieve.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Strategic SEND Place Planning Board oversees the delivery of up to 375 additional SEND school places by 2026 to address the ongoing growth in demand for more specialist school places. Capital projects completed during 2022-2023 have included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ King Edward Satellite (24 additional places) ○ Newark Orchard (30 additional places) ○ Derrymount (20 additional places) • In March 2023, the County Council announced a new Special School in Mansfield due to open in September 2025. The new school will be located on the former Ravensdale School site at Ravensdale Road, Mansfield and will have capacity for up to 160 pupils. • The County Council's SEND Place Planning Strategy will be reviewed and updated during 2023-2024.
2.15	Develop our libraries as accessible local community spaces , offering resources and activities that are affordable for everyone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council's contracted partner Inspire: Culture, Learning and Libraries offers an annual programme of accessible and affordable resources, activities and events across its libraries. • The Council and Inspire continue to work closely to identify opportunities for the improvement of its overall offer. In 2022/2023, this included physical improvements to a number of libraries, using £170,000 of grant money awarded by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sports (DCMS), and delivered by Arts Council England, to create Village Community Hubs in selected locations. This project involves reconfiguring and reimagining existing libraries, including Blidworth, Bilsthorpe, Bircotes, Burton Joyce and Woodthorpe, to create more flexible community spaces, allowing an improved range of services and activities. These changes

Action	Impact and/or next steps
	have been designed in consultation with communities, ensuring that the new flexible spaces meet local needs. The project began in Autumn 2022 and will run until September 2023.

Our ambitions coming to life:

Children's Centre Service Re-accredited for UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative Gold Award

Nottinghamshire County Council's Children's Centre Service has again retained the UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative Gold Status for 2023/24.

Nottinghamshire remains one of only a handful of places in England where both parts of the community support for infant feeding are accredited to this high level. This is due to the close partnership working between the Council and Notts Healthcare Foundation Trust's Infant Feeding Leads and Healthy Families Teams, supported by a dedicated team of trained Breastfeeding Peer Supporters, who run the BABES (Breastfeeding and Babies Encouragement and Support) Groups in Children's Centres. Each year an audit takes place, checking on how local families find the service. Families really value the support provided, summed up by comments from this Mansfield mum: "BABES group offered good support and seeing other parents having positive outcomes at breastfeeding after overcoming different problems has helped me continue breastfeeding." For more information: [Nottshelpyourself | Breastfeeding](#)



Homes for Ukraine

Families displaced by the ongoing conflict in the Ukraine have been supported by Nottinghamshire County Council's involvement in the Homes for Ukraine Scheme.

Over one thousand displaced refugees have been supported to live in Nottinghamshire with host families across the county. The Communities Team have been co-ordinating and supporting the activities involved such as schools placements, support with employment and accessing health services alongside district and borough partners.

Relationships Really Matter

Since launching in 2021/22 the Relationships Really Matter resource on Notts Help Yourself goes from strength to strength, with almost 6,000 hits on the site during 2022/23 - an increase of 24% on the initial year. For more information see: [Nottshelpyourself | Relationships Really Matter](#)

Start Talking Together

Start Talking Together is Nottinghamshire's online resource to support parents/carers and practitioners to help their young children develop speech, language and communication skills. Since launching in April 2022 there have been almost 4,000 hits to the site. For more information: [Nottshelpyourself | Start Talking Together... part of the Best Start Strategy](#)

Delivery of the Local Communities Fund

The Local Communities Fund provides grants to support community and voluntary organisations across the county to provide services wide range of activities. These include befriending luncheon clubs, voluntary transport schemes and cost of living support for energy and food.

Our Local Communities Fund awarded just under £1.2m revenue to over 90 voluntary and community groups in 2022/23. The fund also supported the talented athletes programme - which has provided funding to support training, transport and equipment needs to 110 athletes in the last year. We also awarded £500,000 of capital funding to 54 local community groups to help them improve local facilities for residents. In addition, over 100 community groups shared £250,000 to help them support people to manage with energy and food costs.

Success indicators the Council owns:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
Number of organisations who have adopted the Community Compact	15	2021	15	Position at end of March 2023
Number of individual children and young people engaged in positive activities delivered by the Young People's Service	9,884	2021/22	12,623	2022/23
Total engagements with library services	3.1 million	2021/22	4.5 million	2022/23
Number of Bookstart Contacts (% of new babies)	91%	2021/22	7,347 (94.5% of babies reached)	2022/23
Customer satisfaction with libraries	93%	2019/20	97%	2022/23
Number of families supported making significant sustained progress through the Supporting Families programme	1,011	2021/22	880 *	2022/23
ASCH Core Metric 2: Overall satisfaction of people who use services with their care and support	60.7%	2019/20	65.8%	2021/22
ASCH Core Metric 3: Overall satisfaction of carers with social services	33.2%	2018/19	33.5%	2021/22

* Reflective of how we process claims for successful outcomes, rather than a reduction in the positive impact the service is having with families.

Success indicators the Council works with partners to influence:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
ASCH Core Metric 14: Proportion of people doing things they enjoy in their community	32.7%	2019/20	37.5%	2021/22
Foundation stage % achieving good level of development	Updated measure: Data to follow on release	N/A	66.8%	2021/22 (academic year)

What this means for Nottinghamshire:

We have seen many positive outcomes for our residents within just the last year alone – whether this be an increase in the proportion of people doing things they enjoy in their community, a significant increase in engagements with library services, the increase in the overall satisfaction of people who make use of our services with their care and support, or the number of children and young people engaged in positive activities delivered by the Young People’s Service – there is much to be proud of. However, it remains our ambition to continue strengthening communities through our support to the voluntary and community sector and by making the most of community-based services, so that residents can find the support they need in their local area. To that end, we have set out a variety of new and existing actions that will be undertaken in 2023/24 to further these areas, as shown below.

Specific actions in the [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24](#):

- **2.4** Supported by the Financial Resilience and Inclusion transformation project, we will deliver the Local Communities and Household Support Funds to help communities to be financially resilient and support our most vulnerable residents by funding the voluntary and community sector through revenue, capital, cost-of-living, and food redistribution grants.
- **2.8** Establish Family and Youth Hub Networks across Nottinghamshire that help to give children the best start for life, as a key area of focus in our transformation portfolio. This will give parents/carers, children and young people access to local support centres, where they can find a broad and integrated range of support and early help, to help them overcome challenges and build stronger relationships.
- **2.9** Offer high quality family support, delivering the national Supporting Families Programmes, working to meet the needs of the whole family and leads to improved outcomes for children. By developing strong partnerships with other organisations and community-based support, we will bring together a network of support around vulnerable children and their families to prevent needs increasing or risks escalating.

Ambition 3: Keeping children, vulnerable adults, and communities safe

We play an essential role in keeping all residents - especially children and vulnerable adults - safe and supported in our communities. Specifically, The Nottinghamshire Plan's 4-year targets include:

- Work in partnership to reduce crime, the fear of crime and victimisation
- Lead efforts to reduce domestic abuse and violence against women and girls
- Tackle knife crime and violence with our partners
- Protect the vulnerable against fraud
- Tackle loneliness, isolation and vulnerability
- Protect communities from flooding
- Provide the right support for families to reduce the need for vulnerable children to go into foster or residential care
- Expand the number of foster placements available to children
- Ensure children in our residential homes have stability, support and protection to meet their needs
- Ensure that our care leavers have somewhere safe and stable to call home
- Support adults with learning disabilities, mental health issues, autism spectrum disorders or physical disabilities to live independently
- Work to prevent homelessness
- Keep improving our support for vulnerable people.

In 2022-23, we set out to deliver the following actions:

Action		Progress and Impact
3.1	Establish the Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board and deliver the Domestic Abuse Strategy 2021- 2024. Our focus for 2022-23 will improve community services for survivors and their families, and strengthen the prevention of domestic abuse.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Domestic Abuse Partnership Board has been established and it has discussed key issues on Violence Against Women and Girls, preventing domestic abuse and the needs of children and young people affected by Domestic Abuse. • A new service has been established to extend the healthy relationship education in schools, firstly focusing on Mansfield and Ashfield, with the intended roll out across the whole County in 2023-25.
3.2	Develop joint protocols to identify and address child criminal exploitation. This means that young people who are at risk of exploitation, and therefore involvement with County Lines and/or knife crime, can access support to prevent them entering the youth justice system or reoffending.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership panels are in place that work effectively to recognise and respond to risk for those young people who are at the highest risk of harm for Child Sexual Exploitation, Child Criminal Exploitation and Missing which promotes oversight of these young people at a senior level. • The cross authority steering group is being re-designed with partners to cover all areas of exploitation. This will allow for more effective partnership working to disrupt criminal activity and protect children and young people.
3.3	Increase the number of foster carers and residential homes supported by Nottinghamshire County Council and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our internal foster carer capacity has not increased overall during 2022/23. It is positive that new foster carers have been recruited (14), but a number of carers have chosen to stop fostering children for Nottinghamshire County Council over this same period. This reflects a national trend.

Action		Progress and Impact
	recommission supported accommodation for children in our care aged 16+, so that we are better able to find high quality, safe and stable homes that meet the needs of children in our care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During 2022/23 the Council purchased two properties for use as residential children's homes. Work to refurbish and set up the properties for operational use (e.g. meeting Ofsted's regulatory requirements etc.) is in progress. The Council has been successful with two bids for Department for Education (DfE) funding for a further two new homes, which will be add to the overall capacity of the internal homes' estate over the coming 18-14 months.
3.4	Work with district partners to promote stronger partnerships and joint commissioning arrangements to prevent homelessness, reduce rough sleeping and provide good accommodation options, particularly for our most vulnerable residents e.g. care leavers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is a long-term ambition which we will continue to develop over the next two years in line with the end of multiple funding schemes in March 2025. A Framework for Action on Homelessness has been developed and endorsed by the Health and Wellbeing Board. Through Public Health funding, we have given more capacity to resource roles that support people with lived experience of homelessness, so we are able to co-produce our approach. We are continuing to develop our Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM) approach with partners, which will help us to test and learn so we can improve how we deliver and commission services supporting people with multiple needs.
3.5	Develop long-term plans for people with mental health needs, learning disabilities and autism to support their independence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 3 conversations model is now embedded and all teams who work with people with mental health needs, learning disabilities and autism are using a strength-based approach. This approach enables staff to support people to maximise their independence. It also encourages staff to talk to people about their strengths and the support they already have around them to ensure that family, friends and community links are explored as a means of support. This ensures that people remain as independent as possible for as long as possible.
3.6	Implement the recommendations of Adult Departmental Safeguarding Review to improve people's experience and outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The key recommendation from the review has been implemented, whilst work to deliver improvements to the 'front door' to adult social care is progressing and will simplify, speed up and improve outcomes for those people accessing this dedicated hub.

Actions we said we would 'continue to' do:

Action		Impact and/or next steps
3.7	Work with partners to coordinate actions to improve community safety, tackle scams or doorstep crime and to prevent abuse, exploitation and violent crime. This will contribute to residents' feelings of safety in their community, support the prevention of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Safer Nottinghamshire Board have identified Fraud and Cyber Crime as a community safety priority. Our Trading Standards service have met with partner agencies and are working together with other agencies to improve the partnership approach of the prevention of scams and doorstep crime and to improve the partnership approach in supporting victims.

Action		Impact and/or next steps
	crime and violence and support victims and survivors.	
3.8	Protect people's homes and communities from flooding , working with partners to ensure that we have strong multi-agency emergency response plans. This will ensure that residents living in flood-risk areas are well supported.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Flood Risk Management Team have been leading on the Council's Community Flood Signage Scheme to increase community led resilience to flooding within the County. • We have set up seven new Flood Signage schemes in the past year, with an additional two to go live shortly which will bring the total number of live schemes to 17. • We have also trained over 120 Signage Wardens during nine bespoke training events to ensure that they can carry out their duties in a safe and effective manner. Further to this, online training modules have been created and new information resources, such as informative crib cards, have been given to Wardens.
3.9	Host the County's multi-agency safeguarding hub , providing a proactive partnership response when people are worried about the safety or wellbeing of a vulnerable resident. The hub ensures that concerns are explored, and professionals are able to make an informed decision about what support is needed, so that people who need help are safe and protected.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) is the county's first point of contact for new safeguarding referrals and provides a timely response to the sharing of information between partners agencies (Police, Health and Education representatives), sitting alongside the social work team to ensure the timely sharing of information to keep children safe and ensure risks are understood and acted upon appropriately.
3.10	Provide good social work services to vulnerable children, young people and adults and older people. This means that vulnerable residents will get the right help at the right time and will benefit from a proportionate response that builds resilience and independence.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Adults Board consulted upon and published its new three year 'Safeguarding Adults Strategy', with three identified themes of Prevention, Assurance and Engagement. The Board's Annual Plan identified how partners could contribute towards achieving these strategic aims, as well as the overall vision of making Nottinghamshire a county where all adults people can live a life free from abuse or neglect.
3.11	Deliver high quality Youth Justice Services for young people who have been convicted of an offence, and to identify and support young people who are at risk of coming into the Criminal Justice System.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Service (YJS) have expanded its "My Future" Programme, which offers early intervention and prevention activities to young people at risk of offending. The service now has a team of YJ interventions workers, Early Help professionals and Qualified Youth Workers who will offer whole family assessment and support when a child first comes to the attention of the justice system, before they are convicted of any offence. • The service has also worked in collaboration with the police to increase the proportion of young people receiving an out of court disposal as opposed to a court order. This strengths-based approach benefits young

Action		Impact and/or next steps
		people who have committed lower-level offences as they can now be supported to prevent reoffending with fewer delays and a reduced impact on their criminal record.
3.12	<p>Pilot new and innovative approaches to supporting children, young people and families who are in need of help, protection or who are at risk of coming into care. We will continue to work with families, building on what is working well to create positive and sustained change, so that children are safe, happy and healthy within their family. In 2022/23 this will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Introducing a new model for supporting adolescents on the edge of care; ▪ Developing a kinship support service to enable better support to family and friends caring for children so that they can remain in their local community; ▪ We will introduce a multi-disciplinary safeguarding team in Newark to address the needs of the whole family more directly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Creative Solutions Panel has now been set up which has multi-disciplinary attendance including Early Help Service, Placements and Commissioning and Education. Its purpose is to share the management of risk with social work teams and provide advice and decision making in difficult circumstances, including for those children where it may be appropriate for them to be cared for by the Local Authority. This Panel has a direct link to a new Stronger Families Team. This team consists of Family Workers and Youth Workers and is designed to work with those children and families where the care arrangements are at risk of breaking down and work with families to build on their strengths. • In April 2022, we established the Family Support and Safeguarding Team in the Newark area. This is a multi-disciplinary team which entails Domestic Abuse workers and Adult Mental Health workers, working alongside District Child Protection Social Workers. There is also an aim to have a worker from Change, Grow, Live (service who works with children and adults who are affected by drug and alcohol misuse) within this team. • Early indications suggest that our investment in these new models of support is having a positive impact and helping more children to stay safely at home with their family.
3.13	<p>Work with health and housing partners to develop appropriate accommodation options for people with multiple and complex needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To progress this work, it has been agreed to develop two joint posts to address this area; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A joint post is being established to work across the districts, boroughs and county that focuses on accommodation provision and planning. This post will be part of the Housing Commissioning team and will also support, and work alongside the Integrated Care Board (ICB). ○ A second post has been developed that will be jointly funded with the ICB and will focus on discharge from hospital for the most complex and vulnerable people with mental health needs where more specialised provision is needed.
3.14	<p>Ensure our safeguarding arrangements are robust, including delivering our Annual Safeguarding Improvement Plan and a new Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Strategy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Adults Board consulted upon and published its new three year 'Safeguarding Adults strategy', with three identified themes of Prevention, Assurance and Engagement. The Board's annual

Action	Impact and/or next steps
	plan identified how partners could contribute towards achieving these strategic aims, as well as the overall vision of making Nottinghamshire a county where all adults people can live a life free from abuse or neglect.

Our ambitions coming to life:

Flood Risk Education Programme

Over the past 18 months the Flood Risk Management Team has delivered interactive flood awareness sessions to 13 Primary Schools, engaging with nearly 1,000 children across the County and our diary is already getting booked up for the 2023/24 school year.

Our sessions endeavour to teach the children how to think rather than what to think and challenge them to make decisions about flood risk and climate change. They build their own flood walls to protect their teachers from getting wet and interact with our SUDs model and Augmented Reality Sandbox.



Delivery of the Household Support Fund

The Early Help and Support in the Communities team have worked in partnership to deliver both phases two and three of the fund resulting in £11.2m being provided to households in immediate need across the whole county.

Trading Standards help to return money to scam victims

Following a 4-year investigation by the US Federal Trade Commission, action has been taken against US-based fraudsters who have targeted UK households with scam mail offering alleged cash wins and claiming 'guaranteed' cash prize pay-outs. The mailings to addresses across the UK have deliberately targeted vulnerable people, such as older people living alone. The action taken has led to an agreement to forfeit \$30m in cash and assets, allowing compensation to be given to victims from all around the world. Trading Standards Officers have visited 14 Nottinghamshire residents and returned £7,700 to date.

Domestic Abuse Survivor – in their own words

Children's Centre Service works with Women's Aid to jointly deliver the Freedom programme. The Freedom Programme is a 12-week programme for women who have or are currently experiencing domestic abuse. It aims to inform and empower women to recognise abusive behaviours and make better relationship choices using 'The Dominator' and 'The friend'. It is an opportunity for survivors of domestic abuse to understand male violence towards women. It helps women understand the behaviours and beliefs of their abusive partners or ex-partners, connect with other women who have had similar experiences, feel less isolated and alone and have the chance to work through their feelings and experiences in a safe way.

A resident who accessed the programme said: *"I attended the Freedom programme offered by my local Children Centre. I was initially sceptical, fuelled by my depressive state at the time as I believed nothing would help me. The support I received allowed me to see that I am not worthless and what happened to me was not my fault. I was able to vent and be open and transparent in a safe space while the worker listened and over the weeks the light at the end of the tunnel shined brighter. Thank you for your patience as this is the first time I had slept properly in weeks".*



Community Flood Signage Scheme

Over the nine training events we have delivered to Flood Signage Wardens, we have trained over 120 wardens across 15 schemes. We have also set up six new schemes with an additional two to go live shortly, and have developed online training modules and new information resources for wardens.

Success indicators the Council owns:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
% of victims of doorstep crime, scams or other frauds who feel safer in their own homes following Trading Standards tailored interventions	87%	2021/22	94%	2022/23
Nottinghamshire County Council's OFSTED rating for Children's Services	Good	2019	Good (Most recent inspection remains 2019)	2019
% of children subject to child protection plan for a second time within two years	17.5%	2020/21	10.8%	2022/23

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
% of child protection cases reviewed within timescale	94%	2020/21	87.5%	2022/23
% of looked after children in stable placements (the same placement for 2.5 years or more)	58.4%	2021/22	54.5%	2022/23
% of looked after children in family-based setting	71%	Position at March 2022	67%	Position at March 2023
ASCH Core Metric 4: Proportion of people who use services who say that those services have made them feel safe and secure	88.7%	2019/20	90.9%	2021/22
ASCH Core Metric 5: Proportion of adults where the outcomes of a safeguarding assessment is that the risk is reduced or removed	86%	2019/20	86.5%	2022/23

Success indicators the Council works with partners to influence:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
Total recorded offences per 1000 population (excluding fraud)	66.23	December 2021 (12 months ending)	72.77	September 2022 (12 months ending)
Self-reported feelings of safety: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outside in the day • Outside after dark 	89.5% 59.1%	September 2021 (12 months ending)	89% 59%	Year to December 2022
Number of properties with enhanced levels of flood Protection as a result of NCC schemes	27,517	2021/22	35,173	2022/23

What this means for Nottinghamshire:

Great work has been carried out in the county across 2022/23 to help make communities feel safer, such as the rise in the number of properties with enhanced levels of flood protection, as a result of Nottinghamshire County Council schemes. We have also seen a reduction in the proportion of children being made subject to child protection plans for a second time. This is a positive development, which supports our aim that this figure remains consistently low and to be confident that risks are addressed, and needs met for children on child protection plans, including when those plans end. Having said this, we recognise we can continue to improve and in particular, we know there has been an increase in the total number of record offences within the last year. Therefore, we'll continue working hard with partners, such as

the police, district and borough councils, the NHS and Government agencies, both to improve our support and tackle some of the challenges we face in ensuring residents feel safe and supported. For 2023/24, some of the work we will do is referenced below.

Specific actions in the [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24](#):

- **3.3** Work with partners including the Safer Nottinghamshire Board to prevent and reduce violent crime, including residents' involvement with County Lines gang activity and violence against women and girls. This will contribute to feelings of safety in communities, whilst ensuring that victims and survivors are supported.
- **3.5** Improve the pathways and services that enable people and partners to access support for children, young people, families and adults in need of care and support, through our multi-agency needs led front door transformation project. This will ensure that safeguarding concerns are identified, assessed and acted on appropriately and that people are able to access timely and proportionate advice, guidance and intervention.
- **3.8** Invest in kinship and foster care as a key priority in our Whole Family Safeguarding transformation programme, working with regional partners, so that more children benefit from safe and stable care in a family setting, as close to home as possible.

Ambition 4: Building skills that help people get good jobs

Nottinghamshire needs a skilled workforce that can compete on a local and global stage, and we want our residents to have access to good quality, rewarding, local jobs. Our ambition is to do what we can to make sure everyone has the ability to reach their potential whatever their age, ability or background. Specifically, The Nottinghamshire Plan's 4-year targets include:

- Give children and young people access to learning settings with 'good' or 'outstanding' Ofsted ratings
- Make sure there are the right number of mainstream and special school places for Nottinghamshire's children and young people
- Ensure that every child with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) accesses education which prepares them for good jobs
- Champion the education of children and young people in the care of the local authority
- Advocate for fairer funding for Nottinghamshire's schools, especially for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
- Ensure that Council maintained school buildings and facilities are in good condition
- Help adults to learn new skills
- Create pathways from training into employment
- Support adults with additional needs to access learning, training and employment opportunities
- Develop our libraries as community and learning hubs
- Use our position as a major employer to create training and development opportunities.

In 2022-23, we set out to deliver the following actions:

Action		Progress and Impact
4.1	Develop new primary schools in Bingham and East Leake to open by September 2023 with high environmental standards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Millside Spencer Academy, run by the Spencer Academy Trust, has opened. 73 pupils have currently been allocated places and the reception class for September 2023 is full, with a waiting list. • Bingham Primary and Nursery School has also opened and has now allocated places to 90 pupils. At the time of writing, the reception class for September 2023 has allocated 29/30 places.
4.2	Expand the number of specialist school places at Newark Orchard Special School and Derrymount Special School for autumn term 2022. In addition, a partnership between King Edward Primary and Stubbin Woods Special School will provide additional primary specialist places.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Orchard Special School expansion was completed in the Autumn 2022 and opened to 24 new pupils in January 2023. A further six pupils will be offered places by September 2023. • The Derrymount expansion was completed in Autumn 2022 and 20 new pupils have joined the school in the Spring of 2023. • Stubbin Wood Mansfield successfully opened in the Autumn of 2022 and provides 24 additional specialist places.

Action		Progress and Impact
4.3	Lead by example by increasing the number of supported internships and inclusive apprenticeship placements for children with SEND within the local authority and facilitate supported internships with local businesses. These internships will support those with SEND to achieve their aspirations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Placement opportunities for young people with additional needs were significantly restricted during the pandemic. Work is now underway to identify opportunities internal to the County Council and with external employers. • A new placement programme for Higher Education students with additional needs is being launched in summer 2023. • More widely, recruitment processes have been reviewed and a simplified application form developed to encourage applications from under-represented groups. • Externally, Nottinghamshire now has three Project Search sites which will provide opportunities for 20 young people with additional needs to access placements potentially leading to paid employment. • The Local Authority continues to provide funding and advice to Further Education colleges to support them to develop their partnerships with local and national employers including the productive partnership between Landmarks Specialist College and Greene King.
4.4	Work in partnership to support improved education outcomes in Mansfield and Ashfield through the Department for Education funded Mansfield and Ashfield place-based project, including convening a Mansfield and Ashfield headteachers summit in June.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The DfE (Department for Education) funded a range of projects to support the education of pupils in Mansfield and Ashfield. These projects focus particularly on speech and language development, identifying and supporting pupils with autistic spectrum condition, working with schools to maximise support for SEND pupils in school, and offering a selection of teacher training opportunities. • The DfE have completed this work but have not yet released any analysis outcome data.
4.5	Promote local employment opportunities through expanding our Nottinghamshire Opportunity website.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nottinghamshire Opportunities is a website that helps to support the local economy by providing residents with a quick and easy way to find employment and/or training opportunities. This has helped to make labour market information more accessible and relevant for everyone, with residents able to explore resources to understand the career opportunities and pathways available locally. • We have also undertaken PR/marketing/comms/campaigns to ensure that residents and businesses know about and can benefit from <i>OppsinNotts</i> • We also ran a campaign for National Apprenticeship week (6-12 February 2023), have promoted careers/jobs fairs, and have created additional industry sector webpages for social care and the visitor economy.
4.6	Work with partners and the wider community to increase the number of adults with disabilities in employment, education, training or volunteering.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Preparing for Adulthood Employment Task and Finish group has secured funding as part of a government initiative to double supported internships (SI) over the next three years. A Special Education Needs (SEND) SI Employment forum is being established in partnership with Nottingham City Council to progress this work. • The Council's Economic Development team sit on this group and are working with D2N2 on the Youth Futures Foundation Connected Futures research project. This 18-month project seeks to examine and improve the

Action		Progress and Impact
		<p>processes and pathways to help young people with learning disabilities and/or Autism Spectrum Conditions (ASC) prepare for and progress within employment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group contributed to a Preparing for Adulthood event to offer advice around employment options and support available. This was successful, with 91% of young people and parents/carers reporting that they found the information provided helpful. <p>Internally, the group have developed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A guide to enable partner agencies to support young people with additional needs into work. A shared directory of employers to maximise efficiency and coordinate contacts with employers. Systems to gather data which will enable outcomes to be measured and successes to be built upon.

Actions we said we would 'continue to' do:

Action		Progress and Impact
4.7	Ensure that there are sufficient mainstream school places , expanding existing schools and building new ones as needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nottinghamshire currently has sufficient school places to meet the needs of the number of children resident in the county.
4.8	Ensure that mainstream schools are supported to include pupils with SEND and ensure that there are enough specialist school places for pupils who need them. This will mean that children can attend a local school that meets their needs and provides a positive learning environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nottinghamshire has a comprehensive system of support and funding that schools can access to assist them in meeting the needs of pupils with SEND needs in mainstream school. The ambitions for children with SEND in Nottinghamshire are encapsulated within the SEND Policy. Nottinghamshire has experienced an increase in demand for Education Health and Care Plans and is seeking to expand the number of specialist places available to pupils in special schools and alternative provision. The need for additional places is outlined in the SEND strategic Action Plan.
4.9	Ensure there are sufficient high-quality childcare places for preschool children , so that parents/carers can return to education, work or training and children benefit from early learning and education to make them ready to thrive at school	<p>The 2022 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment identified that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the last few years, the number of Early Years settings in Nottinghamshire had been largely static, at approximately 1,000. However, in the last four years there has been an overall net decrease of Private Voluntary and Independent providers of 16%, (9% in the last year). This has largely been driven by a decrease in childminder numbers. This trend is in line with the national picture.

Action		Progress and Impact																		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 86% of the inspected provision in Nottinghamshire is classed as Good or Outstanding by Ofsted. This is on par with national figures. 																		
4.10	Support and challenge maintained schools which are judged to require improvement to become good or better and work in partnership with the Department for Education Regional Schools Commissioner to support and challenge academies so that all children can attend a good school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nottinghamshire is in line with all schools nationally. Nottinghamshire primary schools are performing in line with all schools nationally which is an improvement on the 1% gap previously reported. As at 31 March 2023, 159 Nottinghamshire primary schools are local authority maintained and 120 are academies. Nottinghamshire secondary schools are performing below national figures (see table below) which represents a decline on previous performance. All Nottinghamshire secondary schools are now academies except for one, Chilwell School. The summary table shows inspection outcomes by school status and phase, both nationally and locally. <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3">Management Information for Schools – 31st March 2023 (New methodology; includes former judgement of new schools)</th></tr> <tr> <th>Number of Good or better schools</th><th>National</th><th>Nottinghamshire</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>All schools</td><td>88%</td><td>88%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Primary</td><td>90%</td><td>90%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Secondary</td><td>81%</td><td>78%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Special</td><td>89%</td><td>92%</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Management Information for Schools – 31 st March 2023 (New methodology; includes former judgement of new schools)			Number of Good or better schools	National	Nottinghamshire	All schools	88%	88%	Primary	90%	90%	Secondary	81%	78%	Special	89%	92%
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4.11	Petition the Secretary of State for Education to ensure that the funding for children with SEND is the same in Nottinghamshire as the highest funded authorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication took place with the Secretary of State for Education regarding High Needs Funding and Capital Funding for SEND in September 2021 and a response was received in January 2022. SEND High Needs funding has continued to be uplifted and Nottinghamshire has had significant growth from £89m in 2021/22 to £114.4m in 2022/23. Lower numbers of children and young people in Special Schools and historic spending factors mean that despite the uplifts, Nottinghamshire funding per pupil remains lower than statistical neighbours. 																		
4.12	Champion the education of children and young people in the care of the local authority by advocating for extra educational support where needed and ensuring they can access high quality careers advice and work experience opportunities. This will ensure that children in our care can achieve, make progress and realise their ambitions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 73% of Year 12/13 young people are in education, training or employment. 36 care leavers were at university this academic year (18 first years). 65% pupil premium+ claimed by schools was for additional academic support or vocational/extended learning or experiences. A Post-16 planning support document has been developed and sent to all schools with year 11 students. A Post-16 pupil premium pilot funded mentors in two local colleges to support access and facilitation of opportunities in the workplace. 28 employability briefings this academic year were accessed by looked after children and care leavers. 																		
4.13	Deliver a programme of maintenance across our schools to ensure that school buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The School Building Improvement Programme (SBIP) forms part of the wider capital school's capital programme and provides capital improvements for the maintained schools estate. In particular, during 2022- 																		

Action		Progress and Impact
	are of high quality and high environmental sustainability to support children and young people's learning.	23 two large projects, Jesse Gray Primary School and Lowes Wong Junior School projects were completed on site. The £1.3m project at Jesse Gray Primary included the replacement of the heating system and single glazed windows and doors. The £1.1m Lowes Wong Junior project replaced the heating system and ceilings, lighting, and fire alarm.
4.14	Deliver a range of adult and community learning courses and community activities in local libraries. This will enable residents to easily access education, training and community-based support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspire have provided a full programme of informal and accredited learning opportunities accessible in local libraries and online. The range and number of courses has increased, especially in basic numeracy, maths, English and digital skills. Inspire has also developed an adult reading programme to improve levels of functional literacy across Nottinghamshire. Learners are also offered information advice and guidance to support progression to further training, volunteering, and employment. • Inspire Learning's 19 + adult learning accredited provision had an achievement rate* of 87.9% in the last academic year. • Inspire Learning's 16-18 Study Programme had an achievement rate of 79.2%. • Inspire Learning's Non-Accredited Community and Family Learning Provision had an achievement rate of 93.7%. <p><i>*As defined by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, 'Qualification achievement rates (QARs) give one measure of how well further education (FE) colleges and other training organisations perform each year. QARs use individualised learner record data to calculate what proportion of learning was successfully completed and the result is shown as a percentage figure.'</i></p>
4.15	Work with businesses to ensure there are appropriate training courses to support business growth and fill skills and training gaps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Growth and Economic Development Team's Business Advisers work in partnership with the D2N2 Growth Hub to provide support to local businesses. In the past 12 months, 226 individual businesses have received intensive and ongoing professional advice, whilst 52 businesses have participated in webinars for knowledge and direction, totalling over 229 hours of expert input.
4.16	Open up training and development opportunities at the Council through work experience placements, apprenticeships and our Graduate Development programme, particularly for children in our care and care leavers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of opportunities are delivered under the Skills Development and Employment Opportunities strategy including work experience, apprenticeships, and graduate initiatives. These opportunities are widely promoted to those groups furthest removed from the employment market and directly to care experienced young people via the Achievement Advisor Service.

Our ambitions coming to life:

Nottinghamshire's childcare champions celebrated at special event

Childcare providers and early years settings in Nottinghamshire received a special thank you from Nottinghamshire County Council in a celebration evening on Tuesday, 19 July 2022 at the Fretwell Complex Mansfield.

The 100 guests included childcare providers, nurseries, early years school settings and childminders, who were nominated by peers and parents for their dedication and passion for supporting children.

Over 440 nominations were received in total, and the event showcased individuals and teams in Nottinghamshire that go the extra mile to deliver high quality early years care and education for under-fives.

One award-winner said: "It was an amazing feeling to think that families, friends and other childminders nominated me for the award, it was a complete surprise.

"After 30 years of childminding, dealing with so many changes in the Early Years, knowing how hard we work, it was an evening where we all came together as professionals, and we were all recognised for what we have achieved.

"Childminders have to be qualified to be able to work in the early years, we are not babysitters like a lot of people think. It's important to promote childminders and the early years workforce as the professionals that we are and the incredible work we do.

"Thank you, Nottinghamshire County Council, for a wonderful evening and for making it special for me."

For more information on the event, please see: [Celebrating Early Years in Nottinghamshire | Nottinghamshire County Council](#)

Brooke Farm – Employment Training Hub

Brooke Farm offers employment and training opportunities for people with learning disabilities and autism. Depending on what's right for them, people will be part of the Hub from twelve weeks to up to three years. At Brooke Farm, individuals are helped to gain the skills and confidence that can lead into sustainable paid employment and a brighter, more independent future.

There are a range of practical opportunities in different working environments, including horticulture in the greenhouses and outdoor areas and retail and customer service in the café, farm shop, and garden centre. There is also the opportunity to learn skills through the employability programme, which includes all aspects of the job application process such as writing a CV, job readiness, and preparing for interviews.



After successfully completing his induction, one trainee developed skills and confidence in the real-life practical work environment and soon became recognised for his excellent customer service. Before he finished Brooke Farm training, he said: “I came to Brooke Farm for more experience and what I found was much more than that. The staff have been very supportive in helping me achieve many targets...I am very grateful for the role Brooke Farm has played in my development.”

Trading Standards Officers Exam Success

Three Officers, who commenced their Trading Standards career as apprentices, are now pursuing a career in Trading Standards and have all been successful in passing their initial exams, allowing them to continue with their qualification. One of the Officers is due to receive an award from the Chartered Institute of Trading Standards for achieving the highest mark in the Country for one of the exams. Their success is down to their hard work, dedication and the support of their colleagues within Trading Standards.

Success indicators the Council owns:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
% of children who get first choice of school	93.4% - Primary 90.1% - Secondary	2021/22	96.5% - Primary 89% - Secondary	2022-23
ASCH Core Metric 15: Proportion of young adults supported to access employment, education, training or volunteering	8.1%	Position at March 2022	363 *	Position at March 2023
Number of guided learning hours delivered through Inspire Learning	199,000	2021/22 (academic year)	149,582	2022/23 academic year (to March 2023)
Number of placements provided: Apprenticeships	264	2021/22	272	2022-23
Number of placements provided: Graduate Training	14	2021/22	19	2022-23

* Please note the definition for this indicator has changed – the presentation of the latest data reflects this.

Success indicators the Council works with partners to influence:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
Number of schools classified as ‘good’ or ‘outstanding’ by Ofsted	288 out of 339	As at end of March 2021	297 out of 341	Position as at end of March 2023

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
% of 3- & 4-year-olds benefiting from funded early education	96%	2021	97%	2022
% of pupils achieving a standard pass (grades 4-9) in English and Maths at KS4	73.4%	2020/21	70.2%	2021-22 (academic year)
% of pupils known to be eligible for free school meals achieving a standard pass (grades 4-9) in English and Maths KS4	47.6%	2020/21	44.3%	2021-22 (academic year)
Average Progress 8 score - pupils with a statement of SEN or EHC plan	-1.51	2018-19	-1.73	2021-22 (academic year)
Average of Progress 8 scores for Looked After Children with Progress 8 scores at the end of key stage 4	-1.30	2018-19	-1.57	2021-22 (academic year)
% of Children in Need who are persistent absentees	39.1%	2020/21	47.3%	2021-22 (academic year)
% 16-17 year olds NEET (not in employment, education or training) or their activity was not known	6.5%	2021	6.5%	2021
% of care leavers in education, employment or training aged 19-21	48%	2020/21	55%	2021-22
% population qualified to degree level or above	33.2%	2021	33.2%	2021
Gross average weekly earnings of full-time workers living in Nottinghamshire	£564.80	2021	£599.40	2022

What this means for Nottinghamshire:

We remain committed to helping ensure our residents have access to good quality, rewarding, local jobs. Our ambition is to do what we can to make sure everyone has the ability to reach their potential whatever their age, ability or background and within the last year alone, we have increased the number of apprenticeship and graduate placements provided by the Council. We have also seen an increase in the number of schools classified as 'good' or 'outstanding' by Ofsted. We will also continue our work with partners to help develop key facilities into community and learning hubs. Alongside this, we are also aware of the increase nationally in the proportion of pupils whose absence is persistent. Nationally it is currently around 22% for all pupils, with this increase very much related to the pandemic and the disruption this caused for young people, many of whom have struggled to re-establish regular attendance post pandemic. We have seen an increase in referrals for families including where attendance is a

concern, and this includes an increase in requests for legal intervention. As part of our responsibilities, we are reviewing data around pupil absences with a view to working with individual schools to improve attendance rates. We have also started work across Children services to raise awareness of the importance of school attendance as a protective factor for young people. For 2023/24, some of the additional work we will do is also referenced below.

Specific actions in the [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24](#):

- **4.1** Complete and publish an Annual Childcare Sufficiency Assessment to monitor the availability of childcare across the county, so that children can access early education to support their development and preparation for school, and to ensure there is sufficient childcare for working parents.
- **4.6** Lead by example by increasing the number of employment and training opportunities for children and adults with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) within the local authority, and facilitate similar opportunities with local businesses. We will also continue our local graduate development programme to help nurture talented graduates into the managers and leaders of tomorrow
- **4.7** Work with our partners to review and improve local library services and facilities. This will include the continued development of our libraries as community and learning hubs, enabling people to access adult learning opportunities, close to their home.

Ambition 5: Strengthening businesses to create more good quality jobs

We have bold plans for the Nottinghamshire economy. Not only are we helping businesses grow and be more profitable, but we're shaping them to be more sustainable, too. These actions will benefit everyone, but we want to particularly support those communities that would benefit most from better job opportunities. Specifically, The Nottinghamshire Plan's 4-year targets include:

- **Support and stimulate Nottinghamshire's economic recovery**
- **Help Nottinghamshire's businesses to thrive**
- **Support Nottinghamshire's businesses to comply with a changing world**
- **Develop new opportunities for business growth within the Council's land and premises**
- **Support our heritage and tourism businesses to grow and thrive**
- **Ensure a diverse and sustainable adult social care market**
- **Keep the early years sector diverse and sustainable**
- **Strengthen opportunities for all residents to access work which supports their wellbeing**
- **Use our spending power to create job opportunities for those who would benefit most.**

In 2022-23, we set out to deliver the following actions:

Action		Progress and Impact
5.1	We will deliver and refresh the Council's Economic Recovery Plan, supporting local businesses to bounce back from the COVID-19 pandemic . This will help to maintain and grow good local jobs for Nottinghamshire residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Growth and Economic Development Team's Business Advisers have supported Nottinghamshire companies in accessing grant programs, including the D2N2 Business Investment Fund, where 12 businesses received grants totalling over £240k. Additionally, 47 businesses were supported in securing over £217k of funding through the Community Renewal Fund: East Midlands Accelerator, resulting in 28 jobs created and 19 retained. Furthermore, 22 businesses received assistance from the advisers to gain over £101k of grant funding through the Capital Growth Fund. See the progress and impact identified in action 4.15 for further information.
5.2	We will support Nottinghamshire's businesses to help them transition to meet new regulatory requirements , including compliance with key Trading Standards legislative changes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 123 Nottinghamshire businesses have been provided with up to 10 hours funded Trading Standards business advice.
5.3	Create innovative business opportunities through the development at Top Wighay Farm . This will provide 13.5 acres of space for new and existing businesses to set up or expand, creating local jobs and employment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The land at Top Wighay Farm has outline planning permission for employment uses. The Council proposes to build a new office building on the site which has full planning consent, with a view to commence building later in 2023. The Council will also be undertaking highway works to service both the residential and employment land at Top Wighay.

Action		Progress and Impact
5.4	Review the Visitor Economy Strategy, so that we have a clear plan to support and grow our heritage and tourism sector , making Nottinghamshire a destination of choice and bringing investment into the County. We will also provide a training and support programme to businesses in this vital sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To meet the needs of Nottinghamshire visitor economy businesses and organisations, we've created a refreshed visitor economy framework following extensive and in-depth consultation with members of the public and stakeholders within the sector. Our framework draws the best out of the county's unique selling points, rich history and natural environment for our visitors and the businesses and organisations that serve them. Next, we'll lay out the steps we will take to support the sector to enable it to thrive and recover in an action plan. Some bespoke training and support for the sector has already taken place and this will be further developed and outlined in the action plan. In February 2023, we provided PR Training, with very positive feedback - for example, all indicated that they felt they had gained more confidence, knowledge, and skills to create good PR.
5.5	Deliver recruitment campaigns to encourage and support people to enter growth sectors , or sectors where we need additional capacity (e.g. social care, childcare) including working with our education partners and training providers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is ongoing work with the Careers Hub to promote key sectors across Nottinghamshire as an employment choice for young people. Enterprise co-ordinators work with secondary schools to support their careers leaders. We have highlighted key sectors on Nottinghamshire Opportunities. For example, please see: Social Care Nottinghamshire Opportunities (oppsinnotts.co.uk) The Childcare Recruitment campaign has been promoted on Notts Help Yourself as well as social media. The Working in Childcare webpage on Notts Help Yourself received a total of 1109 visits in 2022/23. Facebook posts from the Families Information Service related to vacancies in the sector have had a total of 13,461 views, 4505 engagements (e.g. liking, commenting on, sharing or saving) and 646 link clicks. Prospective Childminders have been able to access the local Childminder Agency who are an active member of our Early Years partnership groups.
5.6	Create an adult social care portal to support professional development. This help support and sustain the adult social care sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The adult social care portal was implemented in January 2021 and was made available for external social care providers and their workforce, with 936 care staff fully signed up. The funding was initially for two years but due to Covid impact (delays), which has been extended to June 2023. The outcome of the evaluation is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There have been positive benefits to both the workforce and providers It has been beneficial to be able to track workforce development/training The workforce has been able to access discounts in several areas. The next steps are to work with social care workforce and the Integrated Care System (ICS) in the review of any future investments which would support sustainability of the market/workforce. A new system wide ICS joint workforce plan is being developed and the outcomes/learning from project will be considered.

Action		Progress and Impact
5.7	Work with partners to develop a regional action plan for 'green growth' , delivering on the commitments made at the COP26 East Midlands Roadshow event.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There has been ongoing work with the Environment Agency and other regional partners to deliver the local evidence to inform climate change interventions across Nottinghamshire, including a Young Persons Task Force to develop and explore long, medium, and short term interventions. Nottinghamshire County Council engaged with students taking part in the Consultancy challenge, creating a report and presentation listing the top 100 actions to reach net zero across the county.
5.8	Provide post-COVID recovery support to SMEs and start-up businesses in Mansfield, Newark and Sherwood and Bassetlaw. As part of a Community Renewal funded programme we will work alongside partners and provide Trading Standards regulatory advice as part of a package of support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nottinghamshire County Council was granted £3.9 million as the Lead Authority for the UK Government's Community Renewal Fund in November 2021. The funding was used to support four projects across priority district areas in Bassetlaw, Mansfield, and Newark and Sherwood. This was completed in December 2022. The East Midlands Accelerator project received a budget of £1.8 million and was successful in providing financial and non-financial support to over 800 businesses, creating 40 new businesses, and developing over 80 decarbonisation plans. All but one of the project's targets were achieved. The Good Work project (£355k), which provided tailored support to individuals facing health and additional barriers to employment, achieved a 39% conversion rate for all 111 individuals who participated in the scheme and succeeded in finding employment. The Newstart project, with a budget of £450,000, exceeded its target for the number of participants receiving support by 66% and helped 81 participants gain employment. The project supported business growth and job creation through an employment programme that provided wage subsidies and recruitment support to local businesses. The Volunteer It Yourself project (£870k), which aimed to engage young people in developing vocational trade skills while renovating community buildings. The project renovated 19 buildings and 184 young people received training and work experience at these sites. Overall, the four projects were successful in supporting over 700 businesses, providing training and jobs to over 900 people, and benefiting 19 community buildings. While some targets were not met, an evaluation is being conducted to identify areas for improvement in future funding schemes.

Actions we said we would 'continue to' do:

Action		Progress and Impact
5.9	Provide advice and support to Nottinghamshire's businesses with our local and regional partners , through the D2N2 Growth Hub so that they can grow and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See actions 4.15 and 5.1 for progress and impact.

Action		Progress and Impact
	prosper and transition to a low carbon economy. This will include support to access funding and investment.	
5.10	Help new business to establish themselves in the County , creating opportunities for good quality, skilled jobs as well as supporting the growth and innovation of businesses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See actions 4.15 and 5.1 for progress and impact.
5.11	Offer a paid for service to Nottinghamshire businesses that provides regulatory support to help Nottinghamshire based businesses achieve compliance and prosper.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nottinghamshire Trading Standards Commercial Services provided paid for regulatory support to 21 “Primary Authority” businesses based within the County.
5.12	Support small businesses to grow through the Worksop Turbine , so that they have access to good quality digital connections and support to enable innovation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 40 businesses were supported as part of the digital connectivity project at the Worksop Turbine. These businesses now have a much better understanding of the merits and opportunities of using 5G connectivity and are now being supported to embed this within their organisations and business plans.
5.13	Ensure that environmental and social value is built into commissioning strategies and tenders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Sustainable Procurement Policy was approved in 2022. Working with the Social Value Portal, the National TOMs Framework (Themes, Outcomes and Measures) is being utilised to ensure environmental and social value indicators are built into commissioning strategies and tenders.
5.14	Provide advice on how employers can support employees to improve wellbeing at work to strengthen opportunities for residents to access ‘good work.’	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Association for the Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) and the Local Government Association (LGA) have identified enhancing the wellbeing of the workforce as one of five key national priorities and this is embedded within the Adult Social Care and Health Workforce Plan. The Quality Market Management Team have an external workforce lead who works with the provider market. One of the areas this role focuses on is wellbeing and they ensure commissioned providers are supported to recruit and retain employees. This role also shares good practice and encourages providers to consider wellbeing at work.

Our ambitions coming to life:

D2N2 Growth Hub Business Support

Our two NCC Business Advisers have provided intensive and on-going professional advice, including support to receive grant funding to 220+ Nottinghamshire businesses over the past 12 months. We have received a wealth of glowing feedback including:

“The service offered by our adviser [...] was fantastic. The process was not only effortless but, most importantly, it massively helped us decrease our carbon footprint. We have cut our energy usage through the new light fittings and reduced the volume of bubble wrap we waste by recycling our cardboard into packaging, which was previously disposed of.

Fundamentally, this grant helped us achieve these installations which we would have struggled to afford otherwise. We’ve received positive feedback from our customers who appreciate our efforts to do our bit to improve our environmental credentials. The grant contributed a large percent of the costs for these items, which not only saved us funds on the payment, but it also helped us save money, through reduced energy expenses and funds.”

Supporting the Early Years and Childcare Sector with recruitment and retention

Childcare settings across Nottinghamshire are able to use a range of marketing and publicity resources to help them recruit staff. This includes borrowing pop up banners for use at events, having a glossy leaflet that promotes a career where every day is different and having fun is part of the job description, along with providing videos and other resources that childcare businesses can use on their own social media sites to promote a career choice where you have the chance to make a difference for children and their families. More information on the range of resources available and working in the sector see: [Nottshelpyourself](#) | [Working in Childcare](#)

Success indicators the Council owns:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
Increase in income for Trading Standards Commercial Service	£250,000	2021/22	£4,500 increase (total income: £254,500)	2022/23
Number of small businesses supported by Growth Hub	242	2021/22	226	2022/23

Success indicators the Council works with partners to influence:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
Jobs density (number of jobs in an area divided by the resident population aged 16-64)	0.68	2020	0.68	2021
GVA: All industries (£million)	£16,019 million	2019	£17,121 million	2021
GVA: All industries per filled job	North Nottinghamshire - £43,573 South Nottinghamshire - £51,862	2019	North Nottinghamshire - £44,292 South Nottinghamshire - £54,728	2020
Business births per 1,000 population	3.8	2020	4.6	2021
Business deaths per 1,000 population	3.3	2020	3.14	2021
Business survival rate at 1 year	90.8%	2020	93.6%	2021
Business survival rate at 3 years	56.2%	2020	60.6%	2021

What this means for Nottinghamshire:

It is encouraging to see the latest data reflect our progress in helping businesses grow and be more profitable. As a result of joint working with key partners across the region, we are seeing more business births, alongside improved survival rates after both 1 and 3 years of a business trading. However, we don't want our progress to stop there, as we also want to continue to encourage and help make local businesses more green, sustainable and digital, which in turn will boost jobs, help Nottinghamshire through the current cost of living circumstances, and support the UK's Net Zero sustainability. To enable this to happen, we intend to carry out specific actions during 2023/24 that will further these aims, as shown below.

Specific actions in the [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24](#):

- **5.1** Support and grow our visitor economy, using the emerging Visitor Economy Framework to guide investment decisions and priorities, so that we can generate jobs, growth, and opportunity for local people, as well as supporting small independent businesses in Nottinghamshire.
- **5.2** Continue to support the economic transition from COVID-19 through the delivery of the Economic Transition Plan with a specific focus on people and skills, business and enterprise, visitor economy, digital connectivity, new infrastructure and place-based initiatives.
- **5.5** Support Nottinghamshire's businesses to help them transition to meet new regulatory requirements, including compliance with key Trading Standards legislative changes.

Ambition 6: Making Nottinghamshire somewhere people love to live, work and visit

Nottinghamshire is known for its rich history and heritage. It's the land of Robin Hood, Sherwood Forest and the origin of the Mayflower Pilgrims, and today is a destination for world-class sport, culture and leisure. We're working with our partners to create a more vibrant, attractive Nottinghamshire and we want to share our urban and rural environments with more people than ever before. Specifically, The Nottinghamshire Plan's 4-year targets include:

- **Work with partners to make sure the right mix of housing is available across Nottinghamshire**
- **Ensure that developments across Nottinghamshire are attractive, sustainable and well planned**
- **Deliver Levelling Up to improve quality of life in our prioritised places.**
- **Enhance and boost access to Nottinghamshire's natural environment**
- **Conserve and use our built heritage and cultural venues to cultivate a sense of place and pride in Nottinghamshire**
- **Attract more visitors to our world-class heritage and sporting venues**
- **Create healthy and sustainable places that promote people's wellbeing.**

In 2022-23, we set out to deliver the following actions:

Action		Progress and Impact
6.1	Review Nottinghamshire County Council's property assets, to release sites for development as appropriate for the benefit of the economy and local residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is an ongoing process as the Council rationalises its estate. During 2022/23 the Council completed the sale of residential development land at Walker Street, Eastwood to provide 110 homes. • The Council also achieved outline planning consent for residential development at Caudwell Road, Mansfield for 235 homes and submitted for outline planning consent at The Paddocks, Radcliffe on Trent and Abbott Road, Mansfield with the intention of sale once outline consent is received. Previously agreed sales of land for housing at Top Wighay and Jacksdale continue towards completion.
6.2	Support District and Borough Partners working with their communities to access funding available for 'levelling up' and to attract other investment in priority areas. We will support the delivery of these developments / initiatives that will create the conditions and opportunities for residents to thrive and prosper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have supported the four successful levelling up round 2 bids for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bassetlaw - Almost £18 million to transform Worksop Town Centre, funding will create a new leisure facility with ten pin bowling and soft play. The works will also create a new towpath link along Chesterfield canal. ○ Mansfield - £20m will transform the disused Mansfield department store Beales into office space and a civic hub. ○ Broxtowe - £16.5 million to make town centre improvements in Kimberley, including transforming the Bennerley Viaduct, creating step-free access to the viaduct and boosting the cycle path network in the region. ○ Sutton - £3.1m will help transform a Victorian underground reservoir into a science discovery centre and state-of-the-art planetarium. This will inspire the next generation of astronomers and encourage young people to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Action		Progress and Impact
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is expected that there will be a further chance to bid for Levelling Up Funding, as part of round three. We will continue to support colleagues at Gedling, Broxtowe and Rushcliffe on their bids.
6.3	Designate five new Local Nature Reserves for people and wildlife and support opportunities for people to actively engage with their local Green Spaces, including volunteering.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each proposed Local Nature Reserve needs to have a management plan in place before it can be designated. Funding is now in place for the first three sites and the production of management plans is currently underway. Designation of these three sites as Local Nature Reserves is expected to happen in Summer 2023. Funding for the management plans required for the remaining two sites is being sought.
6.4	Work to achieve ‘favourable management’ status for our heritage sites , meaning that important sites are conserved for the future.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This work will take several years to complete. In 2022/23 we have agreed the first steps that will enable us to ensure that all County Council heritage assets are identified and managed for their conservation value: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing and agreeing a Council-wide protocol for favourable management of its heritage assets. Developing systems for identifying (mapping) and consulting on heritage assets.
6.5	Refresh and deliver the Visitor Economy Strategy to support this vital sector to provide a range of attractive and accessible leisure opportunities for local people and visitors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To meet the needs of Nottinghamshire visitor economy businesses and organisations, we’ve created a refreshed visitor economy framework following extensive and in-depth consultation with members of the public and stakeholders within the sector. Our framework draws the best out of the county’s unique selling points, rich history and natural environment for our visitors and the businesses and organisations that serve them. Next, we’ll lay out the steps we will take to support the sector to enable it to thrive and recover in an action plan.

Actions we said we would ‘continue to’ do:

Action		Progress and Impact
6.6	Support District and Borough partners with the delivery of housing and commercial premises, through the local plan process so that Nottinghamshire’s residents benefit from attractive, sustainable, and well-planned residential and commercial developments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2022-23, we worked with a number of district and boroughs on the preparation of their local plans, including the Bassetlaw Local Plan and the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan. For example, we particularly focussed on transport impacts of the proposals in Bassetlaw’s local plan for Ordsall and the potential impact on the wider road network.

Action		Progress and Impact
6.7	Highlight and secure the funding needed to create infrastructure (schools, roads etc.) so that residents can access high-quality services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We prepared a Draft Infrastructure Plan for Nottinghamshire and discussed this with District Council partners to highlight the key infrastructure requirements for the County in terms of transport, schools, flood mitigation etc. This work was integrated with proposals for a new Combined Authority for Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, which will have a role in prioritising and funding infrastructure in the County.
6.8	Make use of the planning and transport system to make local areas safer and easier to be active and socialise and ensure that our transport and digital connections offer good and sustainable access to work, training and leisure opportunities, supporting people's health and well-being and generating positive benefits for our climate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have made use of public health funding to commission the Travel Choices Programme from AECOMM in 2022/23. This aimed to help residents in Bassetlaw and Mansfield and Ashfield Districts to change their travel behaviour to more active and sustainable forms of transport which are good for health and the environment and can help access their workplace. Through working with local GP practices, community groups and other partners, the project outcomes have included distributing 800 travel packs, 44 pedestrian fitbits, 17 bicycle loads and 23 e-bike loans. Provided cycle training for over 50 people.
6.9	Look after, and improve, our public rights of way network and promote access to our County Parks and green spaces , so that our residents can use good quality outdoor spaces that support their health and well-being.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through our volunteer activities on Green Spaces sites, local people have contributed more than 6,000 hours in 2022/23 to help with the management of sites, carrying out tasks ranging from habitat management to installing nest boxes, and from wildlife surveys to tree planting. We have also offered opportunities across our wider programme of activities, through the Miner2Major Landscape Partnership Scheme, the Trees for Climate programme and the Biodiversity Action Group. A further 6,000 hours of volunteer time have been contributed to projects ranging from the conservation of heritage assets to control of Invasive Non-Native Species, and from habitat works for the Grizzled Skipper butterfly to tree planting. The Miner2Major Scheme has also supported a series of new audio storytelling walks for the Sherwood area. For more information, please see: Sherwood Voices Inspire - Culture, Learning, Libraries (inspireculture.org.uk) The Council continues to work with its commissioned country park operators to ensure that its sites, which include Rufford Abbey, Holme Pierrepont, home of the National Water Sports Centre, Sherwood Forest and Bestwood Country Park are as accessible as possible. This includes specific improvements to attractions such as the development of Rufford Abbey Play Area, completed in 2022/2023, which involved the installation of new accessible play equipment. The Countryside Access Team are working on follow-up self-guided walk leaflets to the previously published West Bridgford Health Walks Pack. The walk packs are designed to assist health professionals with patient self-referrals encouraging their patients in undertaking gentle exercise in the location of their health centre. The next walks in the series are in Mansfield and Gedling areas.

Action		Progress and Impact
6.10	Work with our partners on our County's special landscapes and heritage buildings , to attract investment and protect them from neglect, decay, or from unsuitable or unsympathetic developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The partners of the Miner2Major Landscape Partnership Scheme have continued to work to protect and restore the special landscapes of Sherwood, through heathland restoration and woodland creation. This includes the installation of fencing at Budby South Forest to support heathland natural grazing, the creation of a new heathland area at Rainworth Heath Nature Reserve and heathland improvement works at Vicar Water Country Park. Further details are available on the Miner2Major website: Better Habitats Miner2Major (nottinghamshire.gov.uk) Over 3,000 hours of volunteer work have taken place on heathland sites at Budby South Forest, Rainworth Heath and the former Rufford colliery site. Species monitoring of heathland birds, reptiles and invertebrates has also taken place across heathland sites to help understand the impact of the work. We have also continued to work with Nottingham Trent University to update the Buildings at Risk register and worked with local communities to restore their heritage assets, through training or support with funding applications. All of this work will continue in 2023/24.
6.11	Use our libraries and heritage buildings to share our art and local heritage , so that residents and visitors can learn about and enjoy Nottinghamshire's unique stories.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inspire, on behalf of the Council, offer a range of heritage and archive resources and activities across its libraries, so that residents can engage with local history and stories. This includes free access to Ancestry.com, as well as a popular programme of events and talks, including the annual 'Hands-on-History' event at Mansfield Central Library, which offers visitors the chance to explore pop-up museums, local history displays and other fun hands-on activities. This year, Inspire has also collaborated with the Miner2Major Scheme to develop the Sherwood Voices Project, creating audio-guided walks to bring local heritage and landscapes to life through stories. This included sites across the Sherwood area, and covers important historic landmarks, such as the Winding Engine House at Bestwood Country Park.
6.12	Ensure our Nottinghamshire Spatial Planning and Health Framework (2019 - 2022) fully embeds health into the planning process , maximising benefits to health and wellbeing. We will refresh the framework for 2023 to ensure that our health and care infrastructure continues to meet the needs of the population of Nottinghamshire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have made use of public health funding to commission an Evaluation of the Spatial Planning and Health Framework from AECOMM in 2022/23. This reviews how health has been incorporated in to planning documents and development plans across Nottinghamshire. This will be used to inform the refresh of the Framework in 2023/24.

Our ambitions coming to life:

Discovering Sherwood Forest

Partners in the Miner2Major Landscape Partnership Scheme have created a [new audio walking experience](#). Voiced by people who live and work in Sherwood, they will take you on a journey through the rich heritage and landscapes of Robin Hood country.). Miner2Major has also carried out some research into the model villages of the Nottinghamshire Coalfield. This important but often forgotten part of our heritage is recorded in a book and a series of guides that are available through larger libraries and to download from the [Miner2Major website](#).



Tour of Britain

The Council planned and successfully delivered a stage of the 2022 Tour of Britain cycling race. The stage took in 190km of the county, with the race going from Rushcliffe to Mansfield, via Gedling, Newark and Sherwood and Bassetlaw, and passing through key villages, towns and landmarks along the way. The project involved significant engagement with schools, through competitions designed to encourage pupils' interest in cycling and exercise. The race commentary, which featured on the ITV4 national broadcast, commended the extraordinary school participation across the route; and the Tour Race Director said that the 'Nottinghamshire fans were the best of this year's race'.

Visitor Economy Framework for Nottinghamshire

To meet the needs of Nottinghamshire visitor economy businesses and organisations, we've created a refreshed [visitor economy framework](#) following extensive and in-depth consultation with members of the public and stakeholders within the sector. Our framework draws the best out of the county's unique selling points, rich history and natural environment for our visitors and the businesses and organisations that serve them. Next, we'll lay out the steps we will take to support the sector to enable it to thrive and recover in an action plan. We are committed to supporting businesses in the visitor economy sector.



Success indicators the Council owns:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
Country park user numbers: Rufford Abbey	331,000	2021/22	337,584	2022/23
Country park user numbers: Sherwood Forest	211,236		203,850	
Country park user numbers: Holme Pierrepont/National Water Sports Centre	149,450		240,734	
Number of volunteer hours contributing to conservation projects	4,834	2021/22	6,530	2022/23
Number of children and young people accessing Outdoor and Environmental Education	21,050	2021/22	27,007	2022/23
Number of events and activities held at libraries	3,746	2021/22	11,710	2022/23

Success indicators the Council works with partners to influence:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
Median housing affordability ratio (residence-based)	6.92	2021	6.96	2022
Volume of tourism in Nottinghamshire (excluding Nottingham city) (millions)	24.74m	2019	24.74m	2019
Average visitor spend per trip	£52.54	2019	£52.54	2019

What this means for Nottinghamshire:

Nottinghamshire enjoys vibrant urban and rural environments that deserve to be seen and celebrated. This is why it is great to see residents embracing what the region has to offer, whether this be through the significant increase in the number of children and young people accessing Outdoor and Environmental Education, or the increase in the number of volunteer hours contributing to conservation projects. Nottinghamshire has a lot to be proud of as a result of its rich history, heritage and culture. The significant rise in the number of events and activities held at libraries is also a positive development, with libraries now providing directly, or in partnership, a higher number of regular events and activities than before the pandemic. Partnerships, volunteer led groups and Arts Council funding have all contributed to this expansion of the overall offer. Despite this, it is also important to prioritise the places that would benefit the most from regeneration, and so for 2023/24 we have put a variety of steps in place to ensure more people than ever before can enjoy the county, with specific examples below.

Specific actions in the [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24](#):

- **6.1** Continue to collaborate with District and Borough Partners working with their communities to access funding available for 'levelling up' and to attract other investment in priority areas. We will support the delivery of these developments/initiatives that will create the conditions and opportunities for residents to thrive and prosper.
- **6.2** Finalise the Council's Cultural Services Strategy refresh, to support the long-term delivery and development of the Council's commissioned cultural services, including country parks and libraries.
- **6.9** Deliver, co-ordinate and promote major public events, including Nottinghamshire Day and a Nottinghamshire stage of the Tour of Britain, to attract investment and generate economic benefit for Nottinghamshire. These events will also ensure that residents and visitors can enjoy leisure and cultural activities within our vibrant county.

Ambition 7: Attracting investment in infrastructure, the economy and green growth

We want to raise the national and international profile of Nottinghamshire and create the right conditions for investment and economic growth, to support opportunities for residents and a bright and prosperous future for Nottinghamshire. Specifically, The Nottinghamshire Plan's 4-year targets include:

- Promote and drive the East Midlands Development Corporation, HS2, the Toton Campus and other major infrastructure projects
- Promote the delivery of the East Midlands Freeport
- Maximise the future use of major assets within the County
- Continue to deliver our major sites development programme at Lindhurst and Top Wighay Farm
- Protect our natural environment when new infrastructure is developed
- Help businesses to adopt low carbon practices
- Drive the development of green technologies.

In 2022-23, we set out to deliver the following actions:

Action	Progress and Impact
<p>7.1 We will facilitate and encourage partners to introduce new technologies and carbon neutral solutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ securing approval for the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund so that households in the most need are supported. ▪ agreeing the approach for Hydrogen for Nottinghamshire so that we are ready to maximise the economic benefits. ▪ supporting the Midlands' Energy Hub and participating in the Nottingham Energy Institute so that the County is at the forefront of low carbon energy production. 	<p>Agreeing the approach for Hydrogen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular participation in the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Hydrogen Taskforce Working Groups • We are supporting our partners to develop climate change strategies and carbon reduction plans as a first step towards becoming net zero and introducing carbon neutral solutions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A community directory is being developed to support the wider community in their search for new technologies and carbon neutral solutions. ○ Investigating the possibility of using MineWater Heat as a locally produced clean energy source. ○ Researching possible locations and available technologies, developing partnerships with the coal authority and district partners. <p>Partnership Working for low carbon energy production:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing work for the County Council delivering the Fuel Poverty Programme in partnership with District and Borough Council's to benefit Nottinghamshire residents with increasing their home efficiency, and reducing their energy bills. • Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund demonstrator and Wave 1 funds were secured for Arc Partnership enabled delivery with County, District and Borough monitoring to deliver. • Delivery of the Sustainable Warmth funds were secured for Midlands Net Zero Hub monitoring for County, District and Borough enabled delivery. • £90K of the cost of living heating optimisation fund was also delivered to end May 2023.

Action		Progress and Impact
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expansion of all programmes across Nottinghamshire into 2023/24 is underway.
7.2	<p>We will work with partners to develop and submit plans and business cases to secure funding for major projects, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road and railway improvements to increase the capacity of our transport infrastructure within the county. Toton and Chetwynd Masterplan to guide the development of this area to maximise the economic benefits. 	<p>Work has been completed with partners to submit a number of business cases to Central Government for major projects. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Robin Hood Line extension – Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC) submitted to Department for Transport for consideration. Nottingham to Lincoln rail line speed improvement submitted through Midlands Connect to increase line speed to 75mph. Toton link road improvement submitted through Levelling Up Fund (LUF). The latter was not successful as part of LUF round 2, but the concept remains an aspiration. The others are awaiting further feedback. If successful, they will provide new/enhanced sustainable transport options on these corridors (Mansfield-Ollerton and Nottingham to Newark).
7.3	We will support the delivery of the East Midlands Freeport and work to secure the seed funding allocation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work continues to support the delivery of the East Midlands Freeport. Government has now announced that the Freeport has been given formal approval and Space Park Leicestershire has become the first customs site operator. This meant that £25m of seed capital funding has now been released to enable delivery of infrastructure and investment projects.
7.4	We will transition into delivery of the East Midlands Development Corporation with our commercial and local partners.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing work to support the delivery of the East Midlands Development Corporation continues, with progress being made on master planning for key sites and the development of a long-term vision for them.
7.5	We will work with the landowners of the coal fired power stations in North Nottinghamshire in respect of their long-term future and proposals for each of the sites, including the case for using West Burton as a site for Spherical Tokamak Energy Production (fusion power).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The STEP fusion project at West Burton is a 20-year project being led by the UK Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA). The County Council, as the nominating body, is working in partnership with the UKAEA and local and regional stakeholders, to ensure that the best socio-economic benefits can be secured for Nottinghamshire and the East Midlands as a whole. At its meeting in March 2023, Cabinet approved overall governance arrangements for the project.

Actions we said we would ‘continue to’ do:

Action		Progress and Impact
7.6	Ensure our residents and businesses benefit from major infrastructure projects , such as HS2 and strategic road improvements, and that these prioritise the environment and sustainability, improve biodiversity, and minimise carbon emissions wherever possible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have responded to major infrastructure projects in Nottinghamshire including several nationally significant projects for Solar Farm development within Bassetlaw to ensure that landscape, flooding and highway impacts are controlled, and the amenity of residents is safeguarded. We have also responded to consultation on the National Highways A46 Newark bypass project, which will improve journeys around Newark at peak times.
7.7	Support and advise businesses to help them to reduce their carbon footprint and to secure funding or investment that supports this. This will ensure that business can grow and prosper, creating jobs and opportunities, but minimising their environmental impact.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the East Midlands Accelerator project, funded by the Government’s Renewal Funding, Trading Standards Officers were able to support the East Midlands Chamber to help raise awareness of the funded access to Zellar available to eligible businesses under the project.
7.8	Promote the East Midlands Freeport, Development Corporation and STEP proposals which offer the County and the wider region significant economic investment opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See actions 7.3-7.5 above.
7.9	Identify a pipeline of assets to be released for high quality housing and jobs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council has sold land at Walker Street, Eastwood for 110 dwellings which are under construction. Further pipeline includes receipt of planning consent for 235 homes at Caudwell Road, Mansfield and planning consent awaited at sites in Radcliffe on Trent and Mansfield. Exchange of contracts for sale of land for 800 homes at Top Wighay awaited. All these schemes will provide much needed quality homes across the County and are part of an ongoing programme of property rationalisation and disposal.
7.10	Deliver the development at Top Wighay Farm , ensuring that a master developer for the residential element is approved and a plan for the development of the remaining land including the employment elements is in place.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negotiations continue with the identified housing developer with a view to exchange of contracts in summer 2023. Supporting highway scheme to provide access from the new junctions to both the residential site and employment land proposed to be undertaken by the Council in 23/24. Project programme in place for the delivery of the Council office element of the employment land.

Our ambitions coming to life:

Nottinghamshire site wins bid for multi-billion-pound STEP fusion energy plant

At the start of 2021, the UK Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA) launched a national search for a suitable site to locate the Spherical Tokamak for Energy Production (STEP) fusion project. This project aims to commercialise fusion technology to provide a low carbon and virtually limitless source of energy in the future.

Nottinghamshire County Council, along with its partners, submitted two detailed bids to the UKAEA for consideration. These were the West Burton and Ratcliffe On Soar power station sites.

After a detailed assessment process, the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced in October 2022 that the West Burton site had been chosen as the home of the STEP project.

The STEP project is a very long term multi-billion-pound project that will bring major investment into Nottinghamshire and the region in terms of attracting cutting edge research and design facilities, high tech industry and a wide range of high quality and skilled employment opportunities.

The County Council and its partners are now collaborating with the UKAEA to ensure the benefits of the STEP project can be fully realised across Nottinghamshire and the region.



S-Pod Invest-to-Save Initiative, Holme Pierrepont Country Park

There has been an agreement of an invest-to-save initiative for the installation of 10 S-Pod Glamping modules at Holme Pierrepont Country Park, home of the National Water Sports Centre. These modules are anticipated to be operational in spring 2024, and will improve the accommodation offer on site, extending the average stay of overnight visitors and benefitting the Nottinghamshire Visitor Economy by providing a base for exploration of other attractions across the county. As part of the invest-to-save initiative, the Council will reduce the current annual management fee by £50,000 p/a to the commissioned site operator, in return for up-front £500,000 capital investment.

Success indicators the Council owns:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
Number of small businesses supported by Growth Hub	242	2021/22	226	2022/23
Value of Social Housing Decarbonisation Funding secured from central government for Nottinghamshire homes (cumulative)	£1.3million	March 2022	£1.3million	2022/23

Success indicators the Council works with partners to influence:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
GVA: all industries (£million)	£16,019 million	2019	£17,121 million	2021
Jobs density (number of jobs in an area divided by the resident population aged 16-64)	0.68	2020	0.68	2021
Gross average weekly earnings of full-time workers by residence	£564.80	2021	£599.40	2022
CO2 emissions commercial per capita	0.2 tonnes	2019	0.2 tonnes	2021

What this means for Nottinghamshire:

Increased investment in the Nottinghamshire economy and infrastructure contributes to an improved national and international profile for Nottinghamshire, which in turn supports opportunities for residents and helps foster a bright and prosperous future for everyone. Gross average weekly earnings of full-time workers in the county increased to just shy of £600 and, despite current difficulties posed by the cost of living and the continued recovery from the COVID pandemic, job density remains strong across Nottinghamshire. To further support this, we will continue to pursue and secure funding that will allow green technologies to be progressed, for the benefit of businesses and residents alike. Steps we will take to do this can be seen in the actions we have identified for 23/24, as below.

Specific actions in the [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24](#):

- **7.1** Through our devolution programme, we will work together with our regional council partners and Government to progress the establishment of an East Midland Combined County Authority, subject to the necessary approvals and the passage of the Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill through Parliament. Devolution will secure long term major investment, jobs and increased prosperity for Nottinghamshire and the East Midlands
- **7.5** Work with Partners to drive and support the work of the East Midlands Development Corporation to improve Nottinghamshire's road and rail connectivity and drive long term investment in green growth, infrastructure and employment across several major development sites
- **7.6** Continue to support the delivery of the East Midlands Freeport to drive green growth and sustainable regeneration at its identified sites.

Ambition 8: Improving transport and digital connections

Roads, transport and broadband infrastructure are essential for everyone. They bring friends and family together; grow businesses, markets and employment opportunities; open up training and leisure; and keep Nottinghamshire well connected. This means we're prioritising improving the condition of our roads and also our walking, cycling and public transport network so that people can be more active and choose sustainable transport where they can. Specifically, The Nottinghamshire Plan's 4-year targets include:

- Invest in and improve the condition of the County's roads and pavements
- Improve local and regional transport connections to make journeys easier
- Support people with transport options that are healthier and more sustainable
- Improve bus services
- Expand walking and cycling networks
- Keep our highways safe and reduce congestion
- Keep improving our school transport services
- Increase coverage of Gigabit capable broadband across Nottinghamshire.

In 2022-23, we set out to deliver the following actions:

Action		Progress and Impact
8.1	Implement a three-year capital programme of highway improvements , ensuring that our investment represents good value for money. This will focus on our local road network, footways, and drainage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new three-year capital programme was approved by the Transport and Environment Cabinet Member on 26 March 2023. The new programme focusses on the local road network, footways as well as drainage, and contains 175 schemes and other programmes to be developed in the first year.
8.2	Progress the planning application and Full Business Case for the A614/A6097 Major Road Network improvement scheme ; and develop a Strategic Outline Business Case for the A617 Kelham Bypass scheme .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Planning Application processed for the A614/A6097 Major Road Network improvement scheme was completed, with approval for all junctions being granted in September 2022. On completion, the necessary Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) was made, leading to a number of objections. As a result, a date for Public Inquiry is pending, with the Full Business Case work to be submitted once the CPO process has concluded. This will be completed in 2023/24. Work on the Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC) for the Kelham Bypass scheme was delayed due to the need for further hydrological assessments but this will be completed to SOBC, in 2023/24.
8.3	Ensure effective operation of the Gedling Access Road and associated infrastructure to the public. This will reduce congestion and unlock housing development and economic growth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gedling Access Road was opened on 22 March 2022 and is operating as planned, reducing congestion and unlocking housing development and economic growth.

Action		Progress and Impact
8.4	Pilot our on-street electric vehicle infrastructure programme providing an easier transition to electric vehicles for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £774,000 Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) pilot funding secured from The Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV) for the EV cable channel pilot scheme. The pilot scheme is to be delivered during 12 months from receipt of funding (which was received in late January 2023), with delivery of EV cable channels starting in February 2023. Funding has also been secured from OZEV to develop an EV infrastructure strategy and potential future delivery programmes during 2023/24.
8.5	We will implement the Enhanced Partnership and the Bus Service Improvement Plan to maintain the existing network and where possible deliver improved bus services, ticketing, information, priority for buses on our roads, bus infrastructure and decarbonisation of bus services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feasibility work is underway for bus priority measures and is on course to be completed by early summer 2023. Feasibility work has been commissioned to implement an under-22s ticketing scheme which will also be completed by early summer, with feasibility work for Multi-operator tickets to be completed by the Autumn. A Passenger Charter has been agreed with operators, whilst support for bus services has been agreed from April 2023.
8.6	Promote new electric bus services in Mansfield and Rushcliffe and will procure more electric buses for the Nottinghamshire fleet.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A sales and communications plan has been agreed to promote all bus services supported by the County Council.
8.7	Replace underused bus services in rural parts of Rushcliffe, Ollerton and Mansfield with a system of transport that is available on demand as part of the rural mobility fund (RMF) programme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A bus network review is being undertaken to ensure services are providing value for money. This will include exploring further opportunities for demand responsive transport. The fourth Demand Responsive Travel pilot (West Rushcliffe) started on 15 May 2023.
8.8	Promote 'active' travel (walking and cycling) improving the cycling infrastructure and maintaining rights of way to enable Nottinghamshire residents to make healthy choices about how they travel around the County.	<p>This activity is ongoing and in 2022/23 included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing delivery of pedestrian improvements as part of the 2022/23 integrated transport programme Completion of new cycling routes on High Pavement, Sutton in Ashfield and Regatta Way, West Bridgford Development of potential Active Travel Fund Tranche 3 cycle route improvements in Mansfield, Netherfield, and Sutton in Ashfield Department for Transport funding secured to undertake feasibility work on potential priority cycling routes identified through the development of the D2N2 Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan A programme of personalised travel planning undertaken across Ashfield, Mansfield and Bassetlaw Active Travel England to become a statutory consultee on major planning application from June 2023 Series of Health walk packs encouraging Health Centre patients to undertake gentle exercise.

Action		Progress and Impact
8.9	We will review the requirement for parking and pick up/drop off outside new schools to ensure new developments are delivered in a manner that promotes safe and sustainable access to school whilst considering the needs of all users, including local residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New School Guidance for Developers is being finalised and going through the Member approval process prior to being published on our website. This will make clear the need for early planning and design of drop off facilities to prevent adverse impacts on residents in areas near schools. • Work on on-site drop off/pick up demand and implications for school design/layouts continues.
8.10	We will refresh our parking enforcement policies and services to strengthen our commitment to deliver efficient enforcement that protects road safety, support town centres and assist residents and disabled drivers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members have been briefed on a revised enforcement policy that focuses on key themes of road safety, assisting public transport and supporting town centre access whilst being reactive to more rural issues. For this, an E-form has been set up for Members to request urgent enforcement in their respective wards.

Actions we said we would 'continue to' do:

Action		Progress and Impact
8.11	Work with national and local partners to deliver improvements to the Strategic Road Network , so that our network remains fit for purpose and safe. We will continue to update the Strategic Infrastructure Plan to identify future transport/connectivity infrastructure priorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work is underway delivering a programme of upgrades along the A52, with further improvements to be delivered moving forwards. • National Highways have been consulting on the detail of the A46 Newark Northern bypass dualling scheme. Work will continue to feed into the necessary Development Consent Order (DCO) process to support this strategically important scheme.
8.12	Develop integrated transport infrastructure programmes to help reduce journey time delays, make roads safer and improve access to jobs, training, leisure, and services. This will include targeted casualty reduction education and publicity programmes, so that Nottinghamshire residents can stay safe on the County's roads.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The target of achieving a 40% reduction in the number of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) on Nottinghamshire's roads by 2030 remains on track. At the end of 2022 the number of people KSI on the County's managed roads has reduced by 12.3% compared to the 2015-19 average (from 333 to 292).

Action		Progress and Impact
8.13	Protect and maintain public rights of way to enable all to walk, ride and cycle safely - this includes promoting routes that don't have physical barriers, so everyone can enjoy the network. This includes identifying opportunities in linking public rights of way with the highway and the transport network to improve access to essential services and facilities, public transport, and recreation. We will also maintain and update the Authority's Definitive Map and Statement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work continues to update the Definitive Map and Statement (DMS) by undertaking research, diverting, adding paths and solving DMS anomalies. • Promotion of the network continues with attendance at local shows, distribution of the Routes and Rides booklets and work with the Miner to Major project on the promotion of walks and rides within the M2M area. • Promotion and publication of Public Health Walk leaflets to encourage local communities to undertake gentle exercise to improve physical and mental well-being. We are currently expanding the Health Walks to Gedling and Mansfield areas.
8.14	Maintain school transport services to ensure customers' needs are met and services remain at a high level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils and students continue to receive school transport services meeting the Statutory minimum required and also a range of discretionary school transport services and pass schemes.
8.15	Help homes and businesses in hard-to-reach locations get a fast and reliable broadband service , so that residents and communities can benefit from a good digital connection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 98.64% of Nottinghamshire homes and businesses can access a superfast (minimum 30Mbps download speed) broadband service. This is above the UK average of 97.53%. You are more likely to be able to access a superfast broadband service in Nottinghamshire than in neighbouring counties of Derbyshire (97.34%), Leicestershire (98.27%) and Lincolnshire (94.18%). • 78.90% of Nottinghamshire homes and businesses can access gigabit capable (1,000Mbps or 1Gbps) broadband services. This is also above the UK average of 76.02%.
8.16	Create the world's first 5G network in a forest setting in Sherwood Forest , protecting the area while enhancing the visitor experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 5G Connected Forest has now concluded and was highly commended by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) regarding the delivery of the project and the reporting associated of the use-cases relating to the Nottinghamshire visitor economy and protecting the forest environment. • One use-case (Rufford Augmented Reality ghost walk) is being deployed at Rufford Abbey for visitors to experience. Launch is expected late 2023. • 5G testbed remains at Turbine Centre, Worksop. Providing an environment for further development of 5G-related use-cases after the lifespan of the project.

Our ambitions coming to life:

Supplying Nottinghamshire businesses with broadband connectivity

It was identified that certain businesses were struggling with poor broadband connectivity. Previous efforts to utilise the Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme had been unsuccessful, owing to the eligibility criteria not deeming the area viable, and with no connection available providing fast, reliable broadband to the business they were struggling to keep up with the demands of customers. The Digital Connectivity team were contacted and reached out to their network of known suppliers who could survey and assess the situation. Within a two-week period, a Nottinghamshire-based company that specialises in non-fixed-line home broadband services had surveyed the site, determined where infrastructure needed to be installed to provide a fast, reliable connection, and had serviced the business with the connectivity required to continue providing the services of the business.

Cycle Routes

As part of plans to deliver a high-quality D2N2 areawide cycling network, the County Council used its Active Travel Fund allocation during 2022/23 to deliver cycle routes on High Pavement, Sutton in Ashfield and Regatta Way, West Bridgford.

Designed and constructed by Via East Midlands, both cycle tracks are fully segregated from the road and the pavement creating a safer environment for both cyclists and pedestrians.

The new three-metre-wide two-way route on High Pavement runs from Station Road to Silk Street on the south-eastern side and between Langton Road and Mill Street on the northern side.

The upgraded two-way route on Regatta Way connects residential areas to facilities at Holme Pierrepont Country Park and runs from the A6011 Radcliffe Road to Adbolton Lane, where it joins with the existing shared cycle and footway.

Both schemes also form part of the Councils ambition to encourage people away from their cars and embed walking and cycling into everyday life, creating cleaner air and less congested roads.

Electric Vehicle Charging

In February 2022 the County Council launched its electric vehicle (EV) cable channel pilot programme. The EV cable channel pilot programme provides eligible households without off-street parking the opportunity to commission the County Council's highway partners, Via East Midlands Ltd., to install cable channels from their property, across the footway, so that they can charge their electric vehicle without creating a trip hazard to road users or adding to street clutter.

It's one of only nine schemes across the country to receive funding from the Government, allowing the council to continue the roll-out of the project over 2022/23.



Nottsbus On Demand

The County Council's new Demand Responsive Transport service – Nottsbus On Demand - continues to go from strength to strength and gives residents the freedom and flexibility to travel across their local area with ease.

Following the council's successful bid for £1.5 million from the Government's National Bus Strategy Rural Mobility Fund in 2020/2021 and successful trials in the villages around Retford, Ollerton, Newark and Mansfield last year, the service is now being rolled out to West Rushcliffe.

Unlike other buses, Nottsbus on Demand doesn't follow a fixed route or timetable. Instead, passengers can travel between any stops within the zone, where there is not already a scheduled bus service running. Journeys can be booked through an easy-to-use app or by calling a dedicated Nottsbus On Demand phonenumber.

Around 3,000 accounts have already been set up to use the service and 17,000 passengers have now jumped on board. Downloads of the app are reaching 200 per month and figures show that 80% of users pay, with only 20% being concessions, highlighting the appeal to young people and commuters travelling for education, work and leisure.



Bus Service Improvement Plans

The County Council and local bus operators have set out a bold ambition in the Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) to build a sustainable, efficient, and growing bus network that meets peoples' travel needs and expectations.

In a bid to improve passenger numbers and satisfaction, officers are working with operators to deliver a fully integrated bus service, with through ticketing, more bus priority measures, the same high-quality information for all passengers in more places, and better turn-up and go frequencies that keep buses running in to the evening and weekends.

Prior to BSIP funding, the council supported over 80 bus services at a cost of £4.1m and BSIP funding has enabled it to step in and protect a further 12 at risk commercial bus services that are recovering from the post-Covid decline in passengers. The council is committed to using its BSIP to invest in bus services and infrastructure which is attractive, comfortable, safe, and accessible to all.

Work is ongoing to deliver personalised, lag-free, real-time journey planning and disruption information to passengers via a new online application which will be launched later this year.

Success indicators the Council owns:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
% of A roads where maintenance should be considered (by network length)	1.6%	2020/21	2.5%	2022/23
% of B and C roads where maintenance should be considered (by network length)	3%	2020/21	4.1%	2022/23
% of unclassified roads where maintenance should be considered (by network length)	24.8%	2020/21	31%	2022/23
Take up of superfast broadband services delivered by Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire roll out	76%	March 2022	77%	March 2023

Success indicators the Council works with partners to influence:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
Change in average journey time per mile during the morning peak on the County's urban centre networks (indexed)	2019 = 100	2019	2019 = 100	2019
% infrequent bus services running on time	82%	2019/20	83%	2022/23
Excess waiting time for frequent bus services (decimal minutes)	1.09	2019/20	1.79	2022/23
Bus patronage – single trips (excluding tram)	8,741,890 25,072,311	2020/21 2019/20	22,475,672	2022/23
Change in levels of cycling (indexed)	100	2021	98.4	2022 (related to 2021 baseline)
No. of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) on roads	332	Average number KSI per year 2015-2019	289	December 2021-December 2022
Publicly available electric vehicle charging devices at all speeds per 100,000 population	33.2	Snapshot at Q1 Jan-March 2022	39.8	Snapshot at Q1 Jan-March 2023
Proportion of premises passed by superfast network	99%	March 2022	99%	March 2023

Proportion of premises passed by ultrafast network	76%	March 2022	79%	March 2023
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What this means for Nottinghamshire:

Ensuring Nottinghamshire has well connected roads, transport and broadband infrastructure helps bring friends and family together; grow businesses, markets and employment opportunities; and opens up training and leisure activities. That is why we are actively working to ensure roads and pavements are maintained to a high standard. We are extending our Right Repair, Right First-Time approach to help ensure that permanent repairs are delivered in a timely way across our highways network. Where the latest data shows that further improvements can be made, such as a reduction in the excess waiting time for frequent bus services, we are keen to see these realised too, with work ongoing to implement our Bus Service Improvement Plan, to maintain the existing network and where possible, deliver improved bus services. It is also important that we embrace the latest innovations, which is why the public availability of electric vehicle charging devices has increased, enabling electric vehicle owners to have confidence in their ability to travel across the county. Similarly, it is positive to see a decrease in the number of people killed or seriously injured on roads, whilst bus patronage continues to recover to pre-pandemic levels. Specific actions outlining how we will continue to improve Nottinghamshire transport and broadband connections, being evidenced below.

Specific actions in the [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24](#):

- **8.1** Increase the coverage and quality of broadband connectivity across the county so that residents have access to fast and reliable broadband services. Where possible, this will also include the installation of better-quality, gigabit connectivity.
- **8.7** Implement the Enhanced Partnership and the Bus Service Improvement Plan to maintain the existing network and where possible deliver improved bus services, ticketing, information, first phase of priority measures for buses on our roads (including feasibility for the Baums Lane/A60 junction in Mansfield), bus infrastructure and decarbonisation of bus services.
- **8.11** Develop and implement a winter maintenance plan for road repairs to counteract the impact of the colder months on the state of Nottinghamshire's highways, ensuring that roads are well maintained.

Ambition 9: Protecting the environment and reducing our carbon footprint

We're committed to protecting and enhancing Nottinghamshire's environment over the next four years and, by 2030, it's one of our top priorities to make all Council activities net carbon neutral. Specifically, The Nottinghamshire Plan's 4-year targets include:

- Improve the sustainability of Council owned land and property assets
- Reduce our energy and water use
- Reduce the impact of our work-related travel and transport
- Reduce our waste generation
- Promote good environmental practice, by encouraging our workforce and community partners to be minimise their environmental impact
- Drive use of public transport and other green ways to travel
- Reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions
- Manage the impact of climate change on Nottinghamshire's environment
- Protect our green spaces from pollution, soil erosion and invasive non-native species
- Restore our landscapes, ecosystems and biodiversity
- Support cleaner economic growth.

In 2022-23, we set out to deliver the following actions:

Action		Progress and Impact
9.1	Publish our Greenhouse Gas Emissions report to set a baseline from which to reduce our carbon emissions to carbon neutral by 2030. We will also publish a Carbon Reduction Plan to set out how this will be achieved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greenhouse Gas Emissions reports have now been published for 2019-20 (baseline data), 2020-21 and 2021-22. Since 2019, greenhouse gas emissions from Council activity has reduced by 32%. The Carbon Reduction Plan was approved in early 2023. This is the framework for action split into three broad areas of energy use: buildings, highways assets and work-related travel and transport.
9.2	Develop a staff travel plan to encourage and support staff to use active travel and public transport alternatives. The travel plan will support the new Hybrid working strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A staff travel project is underway and a number of workstreams have been created to pull together a plan around staff travel. The workstreams will look at current offers and incentives for staff, hybrid working options, and car clubs.
9.3	Develop a plan for Zero Food Waste to eradicate the food waste generated at Council offices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our Zero Food Waste plan is ongoing, with an electronic ordering system now in place to reduce over ordering of food and to support effective stock management. Staff training regarding sell by/use by dates to reduce waste is also taking place, with other benefits including; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Control of electronic ordering from suppliers based on historical data and therefore future predictions. Ordering of pre-prepared fresh vegetables to cut down on waste during preparation. (County Hall kitchens – school food). Customer feedback to provide supply and demand modelling. Working collaboratively with suppliers relating to recyclable packaging.

Action		Progress and Impact
9.4	Develop and roll out training for all staff and Councillors about Climate Change and Carbon Literacy to provide an understanding of climate change, the challenges we face and how individuals can make a difference.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A tailored Carbon Literacy course, designed by the Local Authorities' Energy Partnership (LAEP) and approved by the Carbon Literacy Project, is being rolled out across the Council. So far, nearly 100 staff have completed the course and achieved Carbon Literate status.
9.5	Carry out habitat management works on Local Nature Reserves and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), to produce management plans to inform future works. This will improve biodiversity and reduce the level of non-native invasive species in the County.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This work is ongoing and in 2022/23, we have carried out habitat enhancement works at 20 Local Wildlife Sites on the County Council's Green Spaces, and at all 5 Sites of Special Scientific Interest that are under the Council's management.
9.6	Plant 170,000 trees through the Trees for Climate Change programme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2022/23 we planted approximately 50,000 trees, of which 16,000 were on County Council land. The programme continues until March 2025, and we are on target to achieve or exceed our goal of creating 250 hectares of new woodland, although the majority of this is likely to be through private landowners. The new woodlands we are creating at Bestwood and Brinsley have been dedicated as Platinum Woods, in tribute to the 70-year reign of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth.
9.7	Develop and implement a Greener Highways Plan , covering the management of trees, green corridors, and road verges so that we support the reduction in pollution, help alleviate flooding, increase biodiversity, enhancing the environment for both people and wildlife.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This activity is ongoing, and a final draft Greener Highways Plan is being prepared.

Actions we said we would 'continue to' do:

Action		Progress and Impact
9.8	Reduce the Council's energy and water use by making changes to site operation and management, raising staff awareness and engagement in energy saving behaviours and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance and improvement of the council's operational estate and maintained school buildings, including energy efficiency, has taken place, providing a good environment for service users and visitors across a whole range of council buildings.

Action		Progress and Impact
	investing in energy saving measures and equipment, such as systems, appliances, and controls.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A two-year programme of Energy Audits across the corporate property estate has commenced to identify areas for investment in energy efficiency and renewable generation. This exercise will also target behavioural improvements. A number of energy surveys have been undertaken in schools, to provide advice and possible funding solutions for energy efficiency measures, such as LED lighting upgrades.
9.9	Use the Council's spending power to support carbon reduction and sustainability by, procuring products and services from suppliers with good environmental practices and supporting suppliers to make improvements where necessary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Sustainable Procurement Policy was approved in 2022. Working with Social Value Portal, our Procurement Team has implemented the National TOMs Framework (Themes, Outcomes and Measures) to ensure environmental and social value indicators are built into commissioning strategies and tenders. The Sustainable Procurement Policy was successfully launched with suppliers attending across the County in March 2023. Further networking events will be scheduled later in the year, together with support for businesses, on delivering sustainability in Nottinghamshire.
9.10	Deliver the environmental benefits outlined in our 'Investing in Nottinghamshire' programme profile. This will reduce our carbon footprint and increase our renewable energy production. This year we will aim to complete the Beeston Central office refurbishment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Beeston Central Office refurbishment was completed early in the year and a maintenance and Decarbonisation project at County House was also delivered, which was a £1.4m project to replace the old gas heating system with an Air-to-Air Heat Pump heating and cooling system. Procurement of Zero Carbon for Business electricity for all sites under our portfolio (corporate estate as well as schools and academies, Inspire and VIA sites) and includes the energy for main streetlighting as well as signals and bollards across the county Work continues to enable electricity and gas consumption data to be collected from smart metering. This is currently covering 65% of suppliers under our portfolio (corporate estate as well as schools and academies, Inspire and VIA). This data assists sites to be more energy efficient.
9.11	Work with partners on the delivery of the Air Quality Strategy 2019-2028, to ensure air pollution remains low across all areas of the County.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Health colleagues are working with partners on Clean Air Day 2023, which aims to raise awareness of the links between air pollution, mental health and brain health.
9.12	Develop information and support that enables communities to respond to the climate emergency and transition to net zero.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A community directory continues to be under development to sign point community groups to key information and guidance to support their journey to net zero, including funding opportunities. A new round of the Local Communities Fund has been launched. Communities' groups and organisations can apply for up to £20,000 funding for projects that help to address climate and environmental change and/or minimises any negative impact on the environment.
9.13	Avoid and divert waste from landfill and improve the County's recycling rates,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working in partnership with the County's waste management partner, Veolia, as well as the District and Borough Councils, the County Council have successfully implemented an annual communications plan,

Action		Progress and Impact
	through initiatives and campaigns aimed at Nottinghamshire residents	focussing on educating residents on how to reduce, reuse and recycle their waste. Based upon latest figures the County Council look to be on track to diverting 95% of all waste from landfill.
9.14	Work in partnership with local operators and community transport providers to green their fleet , through applying for available funding to support investment, so that carbon emissions from public transport reduce.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council awaits a further Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA) bidding round from the Department for Transport, to reduce carbon emissions from public transport.
9.15	Work with partners to develop and roll out electric vehicle charging infrastructure across Nottinghamshire , providing an easier transition to electric vehicles for all.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In January 2023, there were 316 publicly available EV charging devices (at all speeds) available in Nottinghamshire – 38.2 per 100,000 population.
9.16	Convert street light bulbs to LEDs to reduce energy use from street lighting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The streetlights in all Nottinghamshire districts have now been updated with energy efficient LEDs. As a result, savings have been achieved through reduced energy, which is especially important during this current cost of living period when energy prices are increasing. Since 2015/16 we have saved over 90,000 tonnes of carbon and saved over £14 million.

Our ambitions coming to life:

Carbon Reduction Plan

The County Council has developed and published a Carbon Reduction Plan. The plan is a roadmap of how the Council will continue to reduce its carbon emissions over the next seven years to become carbon neutral by 2030 in all its own activities. The plan concentrates on our four big areas of emissions, setting out internal roles and responsibilities:

- Energy used in powering street lighting, traffic signs and signals, and other highways assets such as subway pumps, ticket machines and bus shelters
- Energy used to heat and power our operational buildings
- Fuel used by fleet vehicles owned or leased by the Council
- Fuel used by grey fleet (vehicles owned by staff and used for Council business)

Along with the latest Greenhouse Gas Emissions report the Carbon Reduction Plan will be reviewed annually.

New platinum woods

Through the Trees for Climate woodland creation programme, we are creating two new woodlands at Bestwood (next to the Country Park) and on land near Brinsley. Both of these new woodlands are over 70 acres in size and have been dedicated as Platinum Woods, as part of the Queen's Green Canopy. When the planting is complete, they will provide green spaces for local people, as well as valuable new habitats.



Green Investment Fund

We have 12 green investment fund projects underway that are helping to support the council's transition to becoming carbon neutral in all our activities by 2030. These projects include, providing cycle provision at our offices so staff have the option to make greener journey's and creating renewable energy on two of our buildings with PV solar panels.

Carbon Literacy Training

Over 90 members of staff are now Carbon Literacy trained. This is helping to create the low carbon culture we need to make Nottinghamshire a greener place.

Success indicators the Council owns:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
% household waste sent to refuse, recycling or composting	41.3%	2020/21	42%	2021-22
% household waste diverted from Landfill	95.3%	2021/22	95.3%	2021/22
Number (%) of lamps converted to LED	84,000 (87.5%)	2021/22	90,214 (95.5%)	Position at end of March 2023
Energy consumption across NCC Property Assets	26,376,556 kWh	2020/21	22,692,584 kwh	2022/23
Number of local nature reserves on County Council land	7	2021/22	7	2022/23
Number of Sites of Special Scientific Interest in "favourable condition"	0 out of 5	2021	0 out of 5	2022/23
Number of trees planted (cumulative)	53,348	2020/21	68,656	2022/23

Success indicators the Council works with partners to influence:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
Total CO2 emissions in Nottinghamshire	4,449.7 CO2 kiloton (kt)	2019	4,423.2 CO2 kiloton (kt)	2021
Co2 emissions per capita Nottinghamshire	5.4 tons (t) per Capita	2019	5.4 tons (t) per capita	2021

What this means for Nottinghamshire:

Protecting and enhancing Nottinghamshire's environment remains central to the council's goals and ambitions, and we continue to work to reduce total CO2 emissions across the county. More specifically, the Council continues to make progress towards our target of having planted a quarter of a million trees on Council land by March 2025, with us now just short of 70,000 trees planted. Similarly, we have seen a significant reduction in our energy consumption across Nottinghamshire County Council Property Assets, with these steps, amongst others, showing how seriously we are taking climate change. These are just a few of the actions taken since we declared a climate emergency in 2021, with other actions we will take in 2023/24, both new and in areas of work already underway, being included below.

Specific actions in the [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24](#):

- **9.4** Develop renewable energy capacity across the Council's estate to reduce our reliance on purchased energy and grid capacity, and to further the Council's progress towards achieving our ambitious carbon neutral target by 2030.
- **9.10** Develop and implement a Greener Highways Plan, covering the management of trees, green corridors, and road verges so that we support the reduction in pollution, help alleviate flooding, increase biodiversity, enhancing the environment for both people and wildlife
- **9.11** Develop a plan to minimise food wastage within our school and college catering estate so that we reduce our environmental impact and improve our cost effectiveness.

Ambition 10: A forward looking and resilient Council

We're always looking to make services more efficient and sustainable and better meet people's needs, and will carry on looking at ways to develop our services and change the way we work in the future. Specifically, The Nottinghamshire Plan's 4-year targets include:

- **Delivering our Council-wide Improving Residents Access Programme, to give people better access to information and services, develop technology that helps people access our services more easily, and empowering vulnerable people to be as independent as possible**
- **Maintaining the financial sustainability of the authority through our Medium-Term Financial Strategy, allocating resources appropriately to achieve the ambitions in this Plan and working with partners and the Government to maximise the resources available.**
- **Developing our Council-wide approach to service transformation. This will help us to identify and develop new ways of delivering services that create the best possible long-term outcomes for people. It will find better ways of managing costs and demand**
- **Managing the transition from our current Committee system to a Cabinet system of governance that will help speed up and improve our decision making**
- **Continuing to develop our hybrid-working model to enable staff to deliver services in new ways, whilst reducing our carbon footprint from staff travel and reducing our property costs**
- **Continuing to invest in supporting and developing our workforce, so that our staff are resilient, adaptable, and equipped to face the challenges of changing services and workplaces**
- **Ensuring that the way we work with our partners, residents and with each other across the Council reflects the values we set out in this Plan**
- **Joining up our commissioning activity across Council services to achieve financial benefits and improve services for people.**

In 2022-23, we set out to deliver the following actions:

Action		Progress and Impact
10.1	Work to bring forward regional devolution proposals with our regional council partners that will secure major investment, jobs and increased prosperity for Nottinghamshire and the East Midlands, in response to the Government's Levelling Up White Paper.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All 2022-2023 devolution programme milestones were met, with a historic devolution deal being signed with Government, in August 2022. • Following this, a public consultation on the proposal to create the East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA) took place between November 2022 and January 2023. • 4,869 responses were received, with the consultation showing support for the improvements that devolution would make possible. All four city and county councils (Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham, and Nottinghamshire) voted to approve a revised version of the proposal (amended to take account of the outcomes of the consultation), in March 2023.
10.2	Develop a Digital Strategy that embeds use of data and new technologies into all elements of the Council's business. This will	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Digital Strategy has been developed and approved by Finance Committee. This supplies the approach the Council should take to developing Digital services and is based on Government Digital Services principles.

Action		Progress and Impact
	improve the experience of our residents when they interact with the Council, create efficiencies in our processes and ways of working so that we use our resources where they add greatest value to our residents and communities and help us to understand the needs in our communities to target resources effectively.	
10.3	Implement changes to the Council's governance arrangements , so that Councillors can make timely and informed decisions about changes that affect the people of Nottinghamshire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes to the Governance arrangements from the Committee system to the Executive (Leader and Cabinet) system were completed following their implementation after the 12 May 2022 Full Council meeting. Training and familiarisation continues with members and officers, whilst a member led review is currently underway to consider overall impact and any minor adjustments which may be required to ensure the arrangements operate effectively.
10.4	Engage with our workforce around the Council's culture and ways of working – "The Nottinghamshire Way." This will involve developing and rolling out a refreshed approach to employee engagement so that colleagues understand how they fit into the 'bigger picture,' feel listened to and involved in the decisions and changes that impact them. This will be supported by a new corporate leadership development programme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our workforce has been widely engaged with on the Nottinghamshire Way. This includes roadshows from the Chief Executive, with the Nottinghamshire Way playing a key feature in all of our Leadership Development Programmes. The Nottinghamshire Way values also feature through our Employee Performance and Development Review (EPDR) process. As a result, there is increased engagement with our workforce about the "bigger picture" and the Council's direction of travel, through regular communications, Chief Executive blogs, online forums such as Yammer, as well as Corporate Director cascade of communications. Staff are listened to through networks, trade unions and team feedback, particularly when developing a new policy or initiative, to ensure that staff impact is considered.
10.5	Strengthen the processes we use to choose how to provide services for residents by developing our approach to 'strategic commissioning.' This will ensure that our funding is used effectively to meet identified needs and that services demonstrate good value for money.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Strategic Commissioning Framework has been developed and was approved by Cabinet in March 2023. As part of the framework, an interactive Strategic Commissioning toolkit has been developed with a comprehensive training plan. The focus is to now roll out and implement the framework across all departments to ensure our funding is used effectively and delivers better outcomes for our residents.
10.6	Review our Hybrid working model to ensure it is flexible and meets the needs of our	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New ways of working, alongside enabling technologies, has meant that travel costs have dropped by around £700k post-Covid.

Action		Progress and Impact
	changing workforce and reflects new developments in technology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The technology element for Hybrid working has been installed into 119 meeting rooms across the Council and the Council Chamber. The Rufford suite has also had equipment installed. Our internal health and wellbeing survey gathered data from approximately 1,500 staff who fed back about hybrid working and its impacts. It was very successfully rolled out and the next iteration for 2023 is to review this further alongside the plans for our future use of buildings, so that the two strategies are aligned.

Actions we said we would ‘continue to’ do:

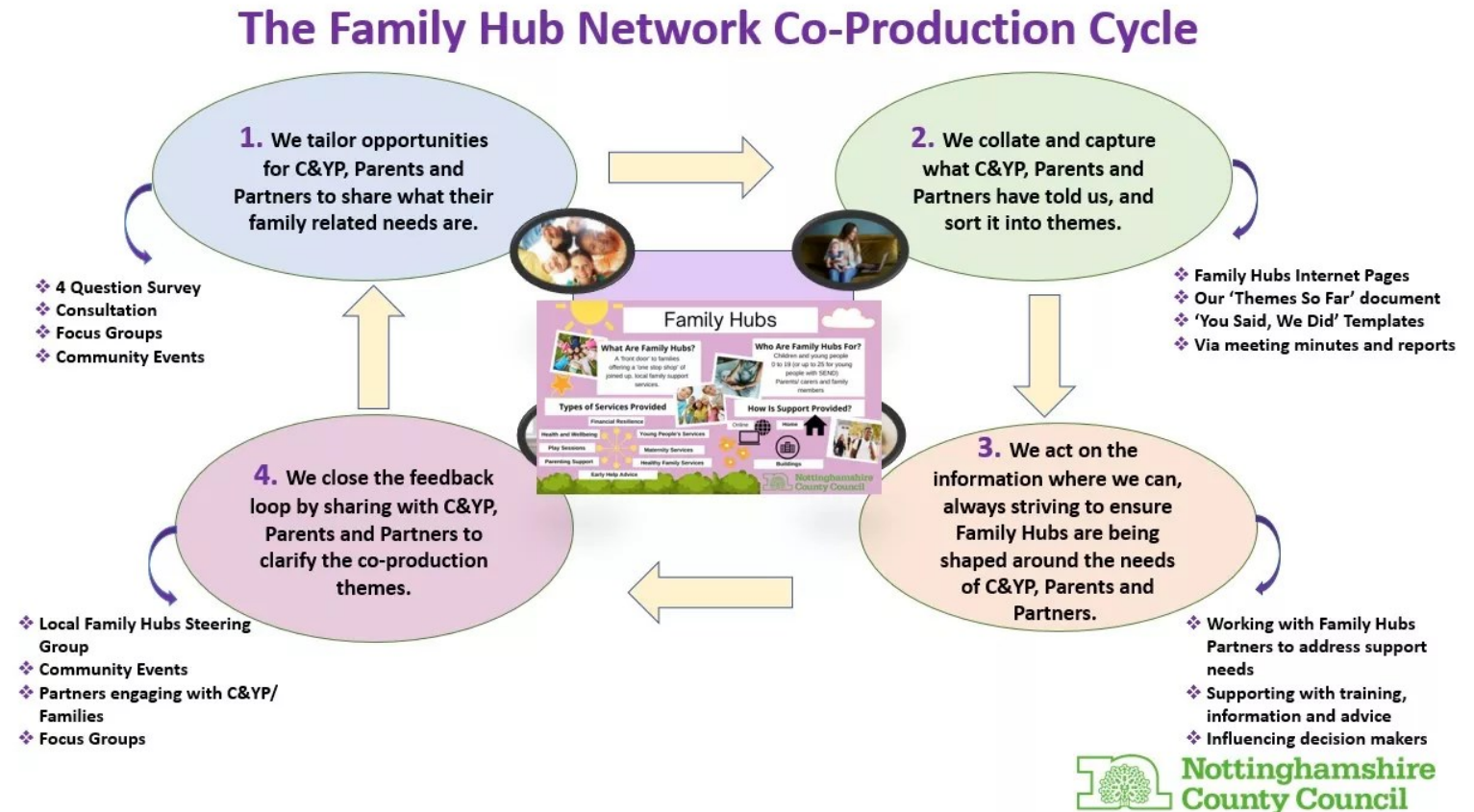
Action		Progress and Impact
10.7	Manage the Council’s finances effectively to maintain financial stability and sustainability, so that we can continue to invest in delivering or commissioning services that make a difference for our residents and communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council set its Budget in February 2022. This set out how the budget matches to the ambitions in the Annual Delivery Plan and the long-term plan for financial sustainability. The Council monitors its budget throughout the year with regular monthly reports to the Cabinet Member for Finance, and quarterly to Cabinet. The anticipated year-end forecast is an underspend on the budget of £1.6m (0.3% of the Council’s Net Budget Requirement).
10.8	Work collaboratively across the Council, and with partners, to develop and deliver our cross-cutting transformation programmes . This will help us to work together to test new and improved ways of working, service delivery and systems. It will also create the conditions to enable us to deliver coordinated and integrated transformation, that makes a difference for the County’s communities and residents.	<p>Work has progressed to deliver our cross-cutting transformation programmes. As part of our transformation programmes, we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launched a Stronger Families Team to support young people on the edge of care Established a multi-disciplinary approach dedicated to the needs of the whole family to support families to help themselves Launched a Kinship Support Service that will provide support to people looking after children within their family and friends network Increased the fees that we pay to foster carers to support them with the increased cost of living, supporting them to continue to provide family homes for children who need care Secured funding to increase the number of residential places in Nottinghamshire, so that young people who need a residential place can live closer to their family home. Undertaken co-production with Children, Young People Families and Carers on the Retford Family Hub Network offer; successfully hosted the Retford Egg-Stravaganza family event attracting approximately 100 families and 20 partners delivering a variety of family-friendly stalls; completed the Virtual Family Hub Recommendation report and commenced work on the redesigned Virtual Family Hub offer. Created a dedicated internet and intranet page of Cost of Living support; created a Cost-of-Living Support tile in the My Notts App; delivered Money Guides training for NCC employees to enable them to offer support to

Action		Progress and Impact
		<p>residents; developed an A5 booklet of advice, support, guidance and signposting to support those digitally excluded from accessing information, which has been distributed via Libraries, Children's Centres and through front line colleagues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed a new vision and set of principles to support young people with special educational needs and disabilities as they prepare for adulthood, which have been developed in co-production with young people, people who have been through transitions, parents, carers, NCC colleagues and Health colleagues. • Completed analysis regarding young people who are predicted to require services and support post-18 to improve understanding of their needs, to identify any themes and any gaps in service provision. • Developed options to improve how we provide information, advice and guidance, so that people can access up to date and relevant information that helps them to find the help or support they need at a time and a place that is right for them. • Developed proposals for how we will continue to improve the pathways to support for children, young people, families and adults in need of care and support, to enable people to access the right support at the right time • Worked with the Emergency Duty Team to help improve processes, so that more of their time can be spent supporting the people requiring help and support through the service. • Launched the Strategic Commissioning Framework to enable the Council to build on best practice and embed a consistent approach to developing, designing and commissioning services that is informed by evidence, is focussed on improving outcomes for people and communities and ensures that the money we spend is delivering maximum value to the County.
10.9	Develop and support employees of Nottinghamshire County Council, through our new People Strategy, embedding new ways of working and focussing on the wellbeing and resilience of our workforce. Supporting our employees means that they can provide good support to residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is strong wellbeing support for employees provided by the Council, with our health and wellbeing survey reporting that staff feel very well supported and that the provision is very comprehensive. This will continue to be strengthened each year and take account of any emerging wellbeing and resilience challenges.

Our ambitions coming to life:

Embedding the Family Hub Network Co-Production Blueprint

Family Hub Networks provide a 'front door' to families offering a 'one stop shop' of joined up, local family support services. A bespoke approach to co-production has successfully been piloted in the Retford Family Hub design site which has led to a new and fresh way of engaging with children and young people, families/ caregivers and partners, including a new strengths based 'Shape Your Family Hub' questionnaire and the 'Family Hubs Themed Document' which highlights the family related priorities identified in the community. All of the engagement (which included the Retford Egg-Stravaganza event held in Easter half term) has laid the foundations for developing the Virtual Family Hub which aims to reflect what children and families tell us they need support in accessing. This approach means that we can get it right, first time with truly listening and responding to the needs of families in Nottinghamshire.



Notts Help Yourself

Colleagues across the Council, led by the Families Information Service and Local Offer for Care Leavers, have been busy working on the new look Notts Help Yourself (www.nottshelpyourself.org.uk) website - the source for everything residents need to know about services in Nottinghamshire. Through co-production the final version went live on 31 October 2022.



Sustainable Procurement Policy

The Council approved the Sustainable Procurement Policy which sets out our ambition in delivering social value. The Sustainable Procurement Policy will ensure that for every Nottinghamshire pound spent, the most amount of value added is achieved for our residents and our community.

Strategic Commissioning

The Council approved the Strategic Commissioning Framework to ensure the Council commissions goods and services that will deliver the priority outcomes set out in the Nottinghamshire Plan.

Occupational Health and Safety Management System

The Council holds and operates an Occupational Health and Safety management system that complies with ISO 45001, an international (ISO) standard verified and continually audited by BSI as the external accrediting body. We have this recertified every three years with continuing assessment visits twice a year. The management system ensures good safety management, legal compliance, and continual improvement.

Success indicators the Council owns:

Measures	ADP 22/23 baseline	Baseline date	Latest data	Time period
% Change in Number of My Notts App Users	17,513 users	2021/22	81.5% increase (28,540 users)	At end of Mar 2023
% Change in visits to website	4,694,171 visits	2021/22	1.76% increase (4,776,706 visits)	2022/23
Customer Satisfaction with Customer Service Centre	Measure in development	N/A	97.7%	2022/23
% of staff satisfied with their health, safety and wellbeing at work	77.3%	2021	74.5%	2022

What this means for Nottinghamshire:

Whilst our focus is on the delivery of services that matter most to residents, it is also remains important that we are self-reflective and consider how we, as a Council, can improve our own internal mechanisms and processes. To that end, we know the health and wellbeing of our own workforce is pivotal and so where we have seen a slight reduction in the percentage of staff that are satisfied with their health, safety and wellbeing at work, we will work to design and implement a new approach to employee engagement, which will include a review of our approach to workforce Health and Wellbeing, focussing on staff wellbeing and resilience so that they are fully supported to be fit and well at work. We will also continue to develop the My Notts App, where we have seen a significant uptake in the number of residents accessing and being able to self-serve via their mobile phone, as a means of improving access and engagement with local people. Customer Satisfaction with our Customer Service Centre is also extremely high, with residents being very happy with the way their enquiries are being managed, the ease of accessing the service and the professionalism and helpfulness of the team supporting them – 97.7% reporting a positive experience from that contact.

Specific actions in the [Annual Delivery Plan for 2023-24](#):

- **10.3** Strengthen the processes we use to choose how to provide services for residents by developing our approach to ‘strategic commissioning.’ This will ensure that our funding is used effectively to meet identified needs, services demonstrate good value for money and our procurement procedures are both sustainable and compliant.

- **10.6** Design and implement a new approach to employee engagement to ensure colleagues, including our self-managed groups, have a voice, feel listened to, and involved in the decisions and changes that impact them. This will also include a review of our approach to workforce Health and Wellbeing, focussing on staff wellbeing and resilience so that they are fully supported to be fit and well at work.
- **10.11** Work collaboratively across the Council and with partners, to continue the development and delivery of our cross-cutting transformation programmes. This will help us to work together to test new and improved ways of working, service delivery and systems. It will also create the conditions to enable us to deliver coordinated and integrated transformation, that makes a difference for the County's communities and residents.