

# Annual Delivery Plan Quarterly Assurance Report

Quarter **2**

December 2023



Healthy

Prosperous

Green

# Quarterly Assurance Report - Quarter 2 - Published December 2023

The 2023/24 Annual Delivery Plan outlined the actions we intended to take over the coming year, to deliver the ambitions outlined in The Nottinghamshire Plan (<https://plan.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/>), and how we will measure our success. This report provides members and residents with an update on our progress to date (up to end of September 2023) in delivering these actions, alongside a range of success stories from across all departments.

In addition, we will also be publishing an Annual Report in 2024 as part of our year-end review, outlining our progress and achievements during 2023/24 and the impact of these on Nottinghamshire's communities. The current Annual Delivery Plan for 2023/24 is available online, as is last year's Annual Report (<https://plan.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/our-progress/>).

## Summary:

**In summary, 87 (88%) actions agreed as part of the 23/24 Annual Delivery Plan are currently on track for completion, whilst only 12 (12%) have been highlighted as experiencing some issues. No actions have been highlighted as experiencing significant obstacles to completion. For those actions which are experiencing some issues, further assurance will take place before the end of the financial year, to allow further opportunity for Departments to provide updates and confirm that these actions are being progressed.**

# Ambition 1 – Helping our people live healthier, more independent lives

**Our ambition is that people in every community enjoy healthier, happier lives and remain independent for longer.**

The Council committed to delivering 11 actions to achieve this ambition by April 2024. Mid-way through the year, all of those actions are in progress and on track to be delivered on time.

## **Progress:**

- Nottinghamshire’s All Age Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery service has been commended by the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities national and regional teams as we have exceeded our targets for getting more people into treatment for 2023/24. Nottinghamshire has already achieved our 3-year target for supporting more young people into treatment (after only 18 months of the national programme to improve drug and alcohol treatment and recovery systems). Nottinghamshire is one of only a few local authorities to have achieved this particular target so quickly.
- A new suicide prevention communications campaign was rolled out through World Suicide Prevention Day with five new filmed stories of hope. Through this campaign, the Suicide Prevention webpage received the highest number of views so far in 2023 (485), and there was also the highest uptake of the Zero Suicide Alliance training in 2023 (206).
- The Carers and Young Carers Strategy launched in November 2023 through a workshop. The event showcased how the strategy has been fully co-produced by carers with lived experience, and that the voice of the carers is at the heart of the document with what ‘good’ looks like for them.
- Whilst there is still more to be done, the Council has developed a new vision and set of principles to support young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and their families, to prepare for adulthood. These have been developed in co-production with young people, people who have been through transitions, parents, carers, NCC colleagues and Health colleagues. To support this, we have also developed a dashboard to enable us to more accurately predict the needs and requirements of young people who will require support in adulthood to help us to ensure young adults get the right help at the right time to help them lead a happy, healthy and independent life.
- A partnership hospital discharge improvement plan is in place, with three key priorities to build on and improve on the success of our Transfer of Care Hubs across all three acute hospitals in the County. This will help people access home and community-based support on discharge from hospital, improving discharges at weekends and access to rehabilitation beds.

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## Progress (continued):

- Earlier this year, the Council's Adults Social Care teams carried out a series of listening events, meetings and surveys as part of The Big Conversation, a project to hear from the people who draw on adult social care, their families and carers. Over 540 people fed back to us. This gave us the opportunity to hear people's honest views, and we're using the feedback to help develop services and support which meet people's needs and improve their lives based on what they told us.

People's responses from the Big Conversation activities, along with the adult social care priorities, will feed into a new Local Account. The Local Account is being co-produced with people who draw on our services, including members of our Making It Real forum and Our Voice co-production group, who have been instrumental in making sure people's voices were heard and their experiences considered.

During a recent Cabinet meeting, our councillors had the opportunity to watch a video where members of the Making It Real forum explained their role, why they feel the Local Account is so important and what they hope to see as a result of their involvement.

Watch the [video](#) here.

# Ambition 2 – Supporting communities and families

**Our ambition is to ensure that our services are meeting demand and provide the best possible services for all our communities and families, in the most sustainable way.**

The Council committed to delivering 12 actions to achieve this ambition by April 2024. Mid-way through the year, 10 of those actions are on track, with the remaining experiencing some issues which will require further action to ensure delivery by the end of the year.

## **Progress:**

- The Council published a report outlining the principles it will follow as it continues to embed an early intervention and prevention approach, naming five initial ‘priority places’ in which the Council will test new approaches to supporting a more community-based preventative offer. Partnership engagement events are already taking place in the five areas and are generating place-specific partnership action plans.
- Community Health and Wellbeing Champions (CHWCs) have been recruited in three areas of the county and are undergoing training from the Royal Society of Public Health to support their communities. Recruitment is also taking place for five additional Local Area Co-ordinators (LACs) to expand our existing offer across the county. Following an extensive recruitment exercise, LACs will be extended from five to a total of ten localities across Nottinghamshire from late November 2023. The LACs are part of the Early Help and Support Team and walk alongside individuals at their own pace to help them to achieve their best life. The programme supports the ambitions of the Council to provide, promote and support access to services to build capacity and resilience in the community and to reduce the potential for escalation of individual needs to crisis point.
- The Council are developing a Joint Strategy Needs Assessment to outline the national and local evidence of what works in providing community and place-based support. This will ensure that we target our resources on delivering initiatives or approaches that are likely to have the greatest impact.
- The Council continue to improve the accessibility of information, advice and guidance available for people through our Community Directory and the Council’s website. This will include a review of NottsHelpYourself and targeted and iterative improvements to our website.

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## Progress (continued):

- Community projects which include improvements to sporting facilities, play areas and the local visitor experience are set to share more than £233,500 worth of grants. 28 groups and organisations have received capital grants via the latest round of Nottinghamshire County Council's Local Communities Fund (LCF). It means they will be able to use the funding to continue their work to improve the health and well-being of residents and helping make communities an even better place to live. More information on this story is available here: [£233,000 boost to improve community facilities in Nottinghamshire | Nottinghamshire County Council](#). For online financial support and advice, check the council's dedicated cost of living support page [www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/business-community/cost-of-living-support](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/business-community/cost-of-living-support).
- Nottinghamshire is on track to exceed its target of supporting 1,426 families in need of Early Help Services to make significant and sustained change through whole family assessment and support. 813 families have already been supported to make sustained progress, so that positive changes in families have been achieved and maintained.



# Ambition 3 – Keeping children, vulnerable adults, and communities safe

**We're working hard with partners like the police, district and borough councils, the NHS and Government agencies to keep all residents - especially children and vulnerable adults - safe and supported in our communities.**

The Council committed to delivering 12 actions to achieve this ambition by April 2024. Mid-way through the year, 10 of those actions are on track, with the remaining experiencing some issues which will require further action to ensure delivery by the end of the year.

## **Progress:**

- The Council continue to invest in new and innovative ways of safeguarding children and supporting families. The Newark Family Support and Safeguarding Team is now providing support to children and families who have a child in need or child protection plan in a multi-disciplinary manner. Plans are in place for this to be replicated in the Gedling District Child Protection Team and then all other District Child Protection Teams within the next 18 months.
- The Council is on track to meet national targets through The Turnaround programme, which offers a whole family assessment and support to young people and their families) where there is a risk of them entering the criminal justice system or of being exploited. These are young people who would otherwise not have met the threshold for support from the Youth Justice Service and it has allowed the service to work in a preventative capacity, diverting young people from crime and exploitation at a very early stage. The programme has engaged with 52 families to date.
- The Council, working together with Nottingham City, Derbyshire County and Derby City, have secured £1.6 million from the Department for Education fostering Recruitment and Retention programme. This will allow the four local authorities to invest in new services and approaches to will improve the recruitment and retention of foster carers. This will mean more children in our care will be cared for in a family setting, they will experience greater stability in their care and in turn, it will reduce reliance on more expensive external fostering and residential placements.
- The Council is making good progress in implementing new ways for working to improve how people can access support or raise concerns about the safety and/or wellbeing of vulnerable children and adults. These approaches have been co-designed with practitioners, partner and people making referrals and will be designed to ensure people can get the right help at the right time.
- Between June and September 2023, Trading Standards have seized approximately £116,700 worth of illegal tobacco products and vapes from various premises across the County, with support from partners, including Nottinghamshire Police.

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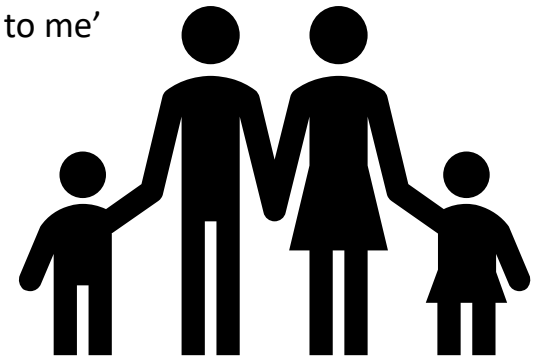
## Progress (continued):

- The Kinship Support Service is a team we have established to work with the kinship carers. Kinship care is when a child lives with a relative or friend who isn't their parent, because their parents aren't able to care for them. The team have continued to increase the number of Children Looked After in long-term fostering placements exiting care via Special Guardianship Order, working with partners to provide support to children and their families. Kinship Care Week took place from the 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> October 2023 and was a week of celebration of kinship families. The Kinship Support Service and Hetty's Charity held their first 'Kinship Youth Group' with children taking part in craft activities and watching movies and carers taking a well-earned tea and biscuit break, taking the time to share their experiences and offer support to one another. The group created some beautiful pieces of artwork about their families and what makes being a kinship young person special. Comments from carers following the group:

'Thank you SO SO much for tonight was amazing'

'A lovely night thank you everyone. My granddaughter had a great time too talked all the way home to me'

'Thank you. We all had a great time. All three of them asked when the next one is'.





# Ambition 4 – Building skills that help people get good jobs

Whatever stage people are at in their education, we'll partner with schools, colleges, universities and training providers to ensure that the skills being taught match the needs of local businesses and new investors, while supporting the kinds of work our people want to do.

The Council committed to delivering 7 actions to achieve this ambition by April 2024. Mid-way through the year, 5 of those actions are on track, with the remaining experiencing some issues which will require further action to ensure delivery by the end of the year.



## Progress:

- The Council is on track to progress the expansion of Rushcliffe Spencer Academy, West Bridgford and South Wolds in Keyworth and we are also on track to develop a new primary school in Edwinstowe, to open by September 2025.
- The Council has completed the permanent build of Millside Primary School, replacing temporary school provision which, when fully occupied, will provide 315 school places. We have also completed an expansion of Carlton le Willows to deliver an increase of 120 places per year group, totalling 600 new spaces.
- The latest programme of school infrastructure improvements worth £9.2m has been unveiled by Nottinghamshire County Council. Twenty primary and infant schools will benefit from a range of improvements, dependent on the needs for each school. The works will include roof replacements, drainage improvements as well as energy-efficient lighting and boiler upgrades.
- The Council's Economic Growth and Regeneration, HR and Welfare teams collaborated closely and rapidly with Bassetlaw District Council in their efforts to assist affected Wilkos employees. A redundancy support event was held on September 14th at the Bridge Street Skills Hub in Worksop, offering access to employment, skills development options and crisis support programs. Over 60 organisations were present including support agencies, businesses and local authorities, offering potential job opportunities to 300+ jobseekers, primarily those affected by the Wilko closure.

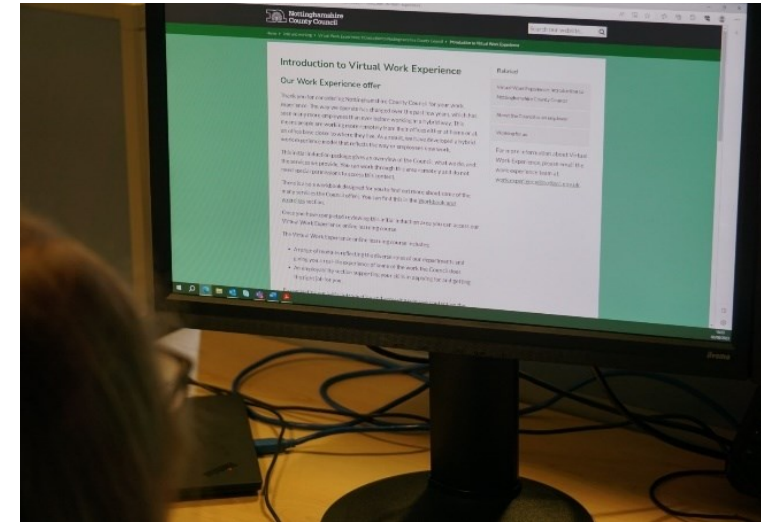
# Ambition 5 – Strengthening businesses and creating more good-quality jobs

We are helping businesses grow and be more profitable, but we're shaping them to be more sustainable too.

The Council committed to delivering 6 actions to achieve this ambition by April 2024. Mid-way through the year, all of those actions are in progress and on track to be delivered on time.

## Progress:

- Use of the Employment and Skills Platform "Notts Opportunities" is growing, and now has over 26,000 users. The Council has recently agreed to continue our investment in this platform until March 2025.
- A new virtual work experience programme has been launched by Nottinghamshire County Council to give placements an opportunity to explore career opportunities with the authority. The Work Experience Induction Module has been designed to reflect the changes in the way the council operates since it introduced a hybrid workplace model following the Covid-19 pandemic. It primarily gives people on placements an understanding of council life, its structure, democracy, and what services it offers – as well as providing them with access to online learning courses.
- Good progress has been made this quarter, with approval to work with Visit Notts and provide the resources required to prepare a Destination Management Plan to underwrite a Local Visitor Economy partnership bid to Visit England. It is expected that this will be prepared in the next quarter for submission by the end of the financial year. This is a key task in ensuring we support the visitor economy and secure further funding to drive future growth in this sector. Work is also ongoing with partners to drive the other aspects of the approved Visitor Economy Framework.



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

**Nottinghamshire has so many strengths, which we want to build on to make an even more attractive place to live, work and visit. We're working towards making more of these assets for residents and visitors, and we are prioritising the places in Nottinghamshire that would benefit the most from regeneration.**

The Council committed to delivering 9 actions to achieve this ambition by April 2024. Mid-way through the year, 6 of those actions are on track, with the remaining experiencing some issues which will require further action to ensure delivery by the end of the year.

## **Progress:**

- More than two thousand people are estimated to have attended the Nottinghamshire Day celebrations at Sherwood Forest County Park in August. The free-to-attend event was a celebration of all things Nottinghamshire, led by the County Council working with partners such as RSPB, Notts Outdoors and Inspire, as part of the annual Robin Hood Festival. The event was a follow-up to Nottinghamshire Day itself which is marked every 25 August.
- The 2023 Tour of Britain Cycling Race was successfully delivered on the 6th of September 2023. Starting at the Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre and finishing with a record equalling sprint finish in Newark Upon Trent, the race once again showcased the best places to visit in Nottinghamshire to a global TV audience.
- The Council are working closely with the District and Boroughs to deliver the town deals (totalling £146m), £6.3m of Future High Street, £270k of High Street Heritage Action Zones and Levelling Up Funding round 1 (totalling £20m), £57.6m secured through the second round of Levelling Up Funding, £40m over the two Levelling Up Partnerships in Bassetlaw and Mansfield, all of which have previously been secured across the County. Since July 2022, there has been a further £80m allocated to Kirby, Mansfield, Newark and Worksop as part of the long-term plan for towns and Officers have been working closely with the respective district/borough councils.



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

**We are working towards Nottinghamshire growing greener and improving jobs, opportunities, and quality of life for everyone, supporting a bright and prosperous future for Nottinghamshire.**

The Council committed to delivering 6 actions to achieve this ambition by April 2024. Mid-way through the year, 5 of those actions are on track, with the remaining experiencing some issues which will require further action to ensure delivery by the end of the year.

## **Progress:**

- Cabinet has recently committed a further year's funding for the East Midlands (EM) DevCo. The overall ambition of EM DevCo is to supercharge growth for the regional economy. This will be achieved initially on three sites – Toton & Chetwynd Barracks, Ratcliffe-on-Soar Power Station, and the East Midlands Airport Area – that build on the potential of HS2, the region's status as a major trade and logistics gateway, and its historic strengths in research, development and industrial innovation.
- Derbyshire County Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Derby City Council and Nottingham City Council have been working with the Government on devolution plans including a package of local powers and funding worth £1.14 billion, from 2024. As an early investment, £18m of funding has been awarded to projects across Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Derby and Nottingham. The largest of which, with an allocation of £9.9m, will help councils to carry out retrofit work on homes to make them more energy efficient. Homes across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire will benefit from the scheme, specifically targeting homes with poor energy efficiency ratings – the most poorly insulated – and low-income households.
- Funding hasn't been the only benefit drawn in via devolution; with the East Midlands securing one of just [12 new Investment Zones](#) being created across the UK.
- Further work is being progressed with the Spherical Tokamak for Energy Production (STEP) Fusion programme project, to help deliver long term investment in clean energy, including the first partnership meeting being held in early September. This has established a work programme which will help to secure the wider economic impact for our residents and businesses.

# Ambition 8 – Improving transport and digital connections

We continue to develop our Local Transport Plan which will set out how we'll improve our transport networks, prioritising those areas that would benefit most from better connections and making use of the latest technology and data to keep Nottinghamshire moving and thriving.

The Council committed to delivering 11 actions to achieve this ambition by April 2024. Mid-way through the year, all of those actions are in progress and on track to be delivered on time.

## Progress:

- The Council are progressing work to improve six junctions along the A614/A6097 road network. The work to compulsory purchase the land (known as the CPO process) required to build the improved junctions has taken a big step forward. We are finalising the bid required to secure the £24m funding from government.
- Our approach to using the Right Repair, Right First-Time to deliver permanent repairs on Nottinghamshire roads whenever possible continues. Delivery has commenced of cut-out and hot in-lay repairs for the majority of defects (excluding emergency defects, which will be followed up by permanent repair) from 5th of June 2023.
- The County Council, working in partnership with Derby, Derbyshire, and Nottingham City councils, has developed a D2N2 areawide Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan to help identify priorities for the future development of cycling and walking networks. Working with funding partners, the Council develops infrastructure schemes for the benefit of all road users in line with the Council's holistic 'whole street' approach.



# Ambition 9 – Protecting the environment and reducing our carbon footprint

We pledged to combat climate change and drive greener growth at a local level, to support the UK's 2050 Net Zero national target. We are working on further reducing emissions across our transport fleet, properties, and highways, whilst simultaneously supporting and improving biodiversity, reducing waste and increasing recycling thus improving air quality and promoting greener travel.

The Council committed to delivering 11 actions to achieve this ambition by April 2024. Mid-way through the year, 9 of those actions are on track, with the remaining experiencing some issues which will require further action to ensure delivery by the end of the year.

## Progress:

- The Council's Place Select Committee has established a Task and Finish Group to review the recycling centre network and make recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment. This work is expected to be complete in late 2023/early 2024.
- Nottinghamshire County Council's award-winning LED Street Lighting Conversion Project, which has delivered significant carbon and financial savings to the county, has been successfully completed in Ranskill, Bassetlaw. The ambitious conversion programme has been delivered by Via East Midlands on behalf of the council. The nine-year project involved replacing almost 95,000 conventional sodium streetlights with environmentally friendly LED lighting across the county's seven district and borough council areas. Over 98% of Nottinghamshire's streetlights are now LED, with mainly specialist and decorative lighting remaining as sodium lanterns. Since the project was first launched in 2014, the county has reduced its annual energy consumption by over 135 million kwh and cut its carbon emissions by over 107,000 tonnes. This has generated over £20 million in savings.
- The County Council continues working with regional and local partners to reduce fuel costs for Nottinghamshire residents and enable delivery where resources are maximised by working together. We recently met with registered social landlords, academics, charities, consultants, and suppliers to discuss properties facing environmental and social challenges, with funding, research and real time technologies to support low-income tenants. Over £3.9 million in energy saving measures has been delivered to fuel poor households, plus 8 fully funded retrofit training qualifications to consortium partners. This year targeted over 200 homes across Nottinghamshire. The scheme is now being extended for 2023-24.

# Ambition 10 – A forward looking and resilient Council

**We continue to work together to build a resilient council which develops and changes, to meet the needs of Nottinghamshire’s residents. To achieve our ambitions, we will deliver the actions below.**

The Council committed to delivering 14 actions to achieve this ambition by April 2024. Mid-way through the year, all of those actions are on track, with the remaining experiencing some issues which will require further action to ensure delivery by the end of the year.

## **Progress:**

- The Council’s new Data Strategy is being presented to Cabinet in December 2023. The delivery of this strategy will help us to identify opportunities to improve our organisational capability, generate high quality data needed to automate processes, enable innovation and create greater efficiency and productivity.
- Nottinghamshire County Council have reviewed how we coordinate all of the changes and improvements we are making across the organisation, to make sure we are using our resources effectively and prioritising the things that will deliver the Council’s priorities and have the biggest impact for Nottinghamshire residents. Our corporate transformation programmes are now focussed on delivering lots of the projects you have seen described throughout this document.
- The Director of Public Health Annual Report 2023 has taken an innovative video approach and has this year been co-produced with people in Nottinghamshire with lived experience of severe multiple disadvantage. This aims to raise awareness and understanding of severe multiple disadvantage and inspire services within the health and care system to enact positive change for our residents.

# Ambition 10 – A forward looking and resilient Council

We continue to work together to build a resilient council which develops and changes, to meet the needs of Nottinghamshire's residents. To achieve our ambitions, we will deliver the actions below.

## Progress (continued):

- The Council has agreed proposals to move our civic and democratic base to a new building near Hucknall to bring long-term savings for the taxpayer and environment. The Council's new low carbon, all-electric office near Hucknall, which has already had full planning permission, will be the new home of the council's civic, democratic and leadership functions. Construction will start later this year and should be completed by winter 2024/25. The new building will be all-electric and built to standards which will rank the building within the top 10 per cent of new UK (non-domestic) buildings in terms of environmental sustainability. These plans are part of a wider buildings' programme which aims to save taxpayers' money by creating more carbon-neutral council buildings, generating income by leasing older buildings with higher running-costs and co-locating with other public organisations.

