

CITY OF SHEFFIELD

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL – 14TH SEPTEMBER, 2022

COPIES OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS THERETO

Questions of Councillor Sue Auckland to the Leader of the Council and Chair of the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee (Councillor Terry Fox)

Q.1 Please can you provide a copy of the schedule of repairs completed on the Rose Garden Café since 2018 and a schedule of the maintenance and repairs that were planned for the next two years?

A.1 Please refer to Appendix 1 – Table of Repairs 2018-present

Our approach to investment is decided using three main factors: condition information, corrective action to achieve compliance and escalated day to day repairs to mitigate health and safety risks. See extract from condition survey data. Work elements that meet out minimum weighting score of 60 are to be considered in any future investment programme. Repairs or monitoring are for the Rose Garden Café are unknown at this time.

Please refer to Appendix 2 – Table of Repairs Planned

Decisions on spending would be approved by the Finance Sub-Committee via Graves Trust.

May I respectfully request you follow procedure and address any such future questions to the relevant LAC, then the relevant Policy Committee in the first instance before coming to the Leader.

Q.2 How many in-person meetings have been held between Council officers and Directors of Brewkitchen about the café provision since the café was closed? How many virtual meetings have been held between Council officers and Directors of Brewkitchen since the café closed?

A.2 Officers have had 3 in person meetings, including the Public meeting held on 5 August and one virtual meeting has been held. All other contacts have been via email.

Q.3 What are the current plans for café provision in the park?

A.3 We continue to have commercial discussions with the café operator which are of a confidential nature and await a final decision from them as to whether they wish to provide a temporary café operation. We will also continue to work up options for the future of the building and we are keen to engage with the Friends of Graves Park group and other interested parties in helping to shape this.”

Q.4 With the loss of 12 jobs at these times of rising prices and financial insecurity with 15 minutes notice (in spite of the Council being aware of the condition survey for three weeks before closure of the café), what is this Council doing for these staff?

A.4 See the above response - the commercial operator employed the staff working in the café.

Questions of Councillor Ian Auckland to the Leader of the Council and Chair of the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee (Councillor Terry Fox)

Q.1 What progress has been made with preparation of the Graves Park Charity Account and Annual Return to the Charities Commission as at 31.03.22? (The last return was reported as 87 days late)

A.1 Compilation of the 21/22 draft charity accounts for Graves Park is anticipated by 1 November. These will then be subject to independent review by our external auditors Rogers Spencer throughout November/December, with a view to obtaining Member sign off and publication with the Charity Commission by the required timescale of 31st January 2023.

Q.2 What level of Capital and Revenue support has the Council provided to the Graves Park Charity over recent years, and how does this compare to the level of funds which are “self-generated” by the Charity for example from Car Parking, Voluntary Contributions, and the like.

A.2 Please refer to the spreadsheet below “GRAVES CAP AND REVENUE SUPPORT”. This shows the level of capital and revenue support provided by the City Council, along with self-generated funds for the three years 2018/19 to 2020/21, with reference to the relevant notes to the published accounts.

GRAVES PARK REVENUE AND CAPITAL SUPPORT 2018/19 TO 2020/21

	2020/21 £'000	2019/20 £'000	2018/19 £'000	reference to charity accounts
REVENUE INCOME- SCC				
Sheffield City Council Revenue Contribution	287	243	163	Notes to the Accounts 2b
REVENUE INCOME- SELF GENERATED				
Income from Charitable Activities	177	248	281	Notes to the Accounts 3
REVENUE INCOME - OTHER				
Donations	11	6	18	Notes to the Accounts 2a
Grants- Countryside agency		4	5	
TOTAL INCOME- REVENUE	475	501	467	
REVENUE EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES				
Employees	278	289	263	
Supplies and Services	96	88	77	
Grounds Maintenance	40	40	41	
Repairs and Maintenance	25	22	23	
Water and sewerage	6	15	4	
Tree Work	12	9	6	
Other	18	23	41	
Total	475	486	455	Notes to the Accounts 5
EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS				
Events	0	15	12	
Total	0	15	12	Notes to the Accounts 4

TOTAL EXPENDITURE- REVENUE	475	501	467
NET TOTAL	0	0	0

SCC CAPITAL SUPPORT	261	19	0
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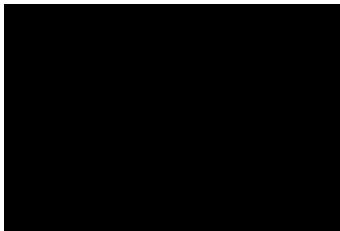
Element of Capital expenditure funded by Sheffield City Council. Largely consists of:
£223k Graves Park Farm Staff Welfare facilities
£36k Graves Pavilion road and path repairs
£0.5k Graves Park Pitch repairs

Q.3 Please provide a breakdown of the staff costs allocated to the Graves Park Charity (posts and duties within the Charity and if fully allocated to the Charity or in part) , and also if applicable, posts and duties not charged?

A.3 Please refer to the spreadsheet below “Graves staff costs 21.22”. This provides a breakdown of the staffing costs for 2021/22 (not yet published), and details of those funded outside of the charity.

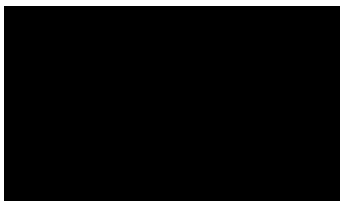
Graves Staff Costs 21/22 £

Animal Farm



Stockperson
 Stockperson
 Animal Farm Worker
 Animal Farm Worker
 Head Stockperson
 Agency general support

152,468



Gardener
 Gardener
 Ticket seller
 Ticket seller
 Graves Park Manager

150,457

302,924

Total Direct Costs

1,050

Independent Assessment fees

1,340

Finance Officer fees

2,390

Total Indirect Costs

305,314

Grand Total

Current No. Direct Employees (Excluding Agency)

10

Employees funded by other SCC cost centres

Farm Apprentice fully funded by wider Parks & Countryside Apprentice scheme
 Figures above exclude wider SCC Management & Support costs within the Council

Questions of Councillor Roger Davison to the Leader of the Council and Chair of the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee (Councillor Terry Fox)

Q.1 What investment was made in the Rose Café in Graves Park in the period between 2004-6?

A.1 Generally, we retain repair records for 10years, we don't hold any data for this building during 2004-06 and no investment works were undertaken according to our records in this period either.

Q.2 What former park keeper lodges are still in use as employee homes?

A.2 **Park Lodges**

Lodges	Use	Comment
Norfolk Park	Park Keeper duties	
Norfolk Park	Park Keeper duties	
Graves Park	Park Keeper duties	
Graves Park (Charles Ashmore)		Vacant
Concord Park	Park Keeper duties	
Endcliffe Park	Park Keeper duties	Due to vacate as per identified charity requirements
Glen Howe Park	Park Keeper duties	
Greenoak Park	Park Keeper duties	
High Hazels Park	Park Keeper duties	
Hollinsend Park		Vacant
Norton Nursery (Graves)	Park Keeper duties	
Parson Cross Park	Park Keeper duties	
Westwood Country Park	Park Keeper duties	
Hillsborough Park	Park Keeper duties	
Hillsborough Park (Penistone Rd)		Vacant . Not habitable
Botanical Gardens	Park Keeper duties	Leased from Town Trust
Richmond Park Lodge		Vacant
Whiteley Woods Lodge	Park Keeper duties	

Q.3 What former park keeper lodges are now no longer either used or used for other purposes?

A.3 Please refer to the attached spreadsheet in the previous question.

Q.4 What is the future of the Lodge in Graves Park (Charles Ashmore Road entrance)?

A.4 Currently vacant awaiting further information on long-term parks asset repair costs to help influence stock requirements

Q.5 What income is being raised by activities including car parking from our Parks?

A.5 The amount of income attributed to the Parks and Countryside service in 2021/22 was £2,406k. This is derived from a number of activities including car park income, concessions, leases, licences, donations and rents. The net amount of revenue budget subsidy provided to the parks and countryside service in 2021/22 was £7,986k.

Please note that the figure for the income attributed to the parks and countryside service in 21/22 of £2,406k excludes recharges (consisting mainly of HRA landscape services charges). Including recharges, the figure is £7,046k.

Question of Councillor Douglas Johnson to the Leader of the Council and Chair of the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee (Councillor Terry Fox)

Q. You will have seen the Mayor of South Yorkshire has indicated that the cost of franchising would be £22m a year.

(a) Do you still support franchising?

(b) How do you think this sum would be funded?

A. A business case is being worked up by the Mayoral Combined Authority.

Questions of Councillor Alexi Dimond to the Leader of the Council and Chair of the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee (Councillor Terry Fox)

Q.1 Will Sheffield Council be submitting a response to the Government's consultation on the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) approach to climate change risks? ([lgps climate change](#))

A.1 Officers are currently reviewing the consultation documents. The deadline for response is 24th November 2022.

Q.2 And if so, will the Council push for LGPS to move faster towards full divestment from fossil fuels, and investment in renewable energy so as to help Sheffield meet our 2030 net zero target?

A.2 The Council is committed to reaching net zero by 2030. Officers will work through the consultation issues with members to assess any response.

Questions of Councillor Maroof Raouf to the Leader of the Council and Chair of the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee (Councillor Terry Fox)

Q.1 How much did the Race Equality Commission (REC) report cost, including staff cost in time?

A.1 We have not calculated an overall figure for the cost of the REC including staff cost in time, but it will rightly be significant – issues of this importance should be resourced properly, which is what we did.

Q.2 What was the process to select the commissioners of this REC report?

A.2 There was open recruitment held to select Commissioners and those who applied were then shortlisted and recruited by the Chair Kevin Hylton and Cllr Abtisam Mohamed.

Q.3 Was there an open application to the selection of the chair (Kevin Hylton) for the REC report?

A.3 Prof Kevin Hylton was selected based on his background, knowledge and academic reputation. Prof Hylton was approached directly to be the chair of the commission.

Q.4 What have Sheffield City Council done to enact the recommendations of the report thus far?

A.4 At the 30 August meeting of the Strategy and Resources Committee, the council published its first formal response to the REC report. In our response we noted that the REC's report has demonstrated that Sheffield and Sheffield City Council have much to do if we are to genuinely root out racism and racial inequality. The City Council is hugely grateful to the REC Commissioners for their commitment and, dedication to the city and the courage that they have shown in the Commission, often hearing traumatic evidence of racism which may have triggered reflections on their own experiences.

The publication of the REC report is the start of a journey for the whole city and for ourselves as an organisation, as an employer, as a service provider

and as a city leader. As an organisation, we need to plan, sequence and implement short term and long-term actions to make improvements and bring about powerful change. We need to change with and alongside communities who rightly should hold us to account for achieving that change.

Becoming an inclusive, antiracist city should be a central goal for Sheffield's future as inequality undermines life chances and undermines the ability of people to play a full and active role in the city and its communities. The scale of change needed to address long-established structural racism in our city will take time and that means we need a robust and resolute approach to change with bold actions and collaborative leadership with civic institutions and communities in the city.

SCC have a vital role in leading the charge against racial inequality – driving out discrimination and championing inclusion in our organisation and through our services; and standing shoulder-to-shoulder with city partners to embed more systemic progress. In a challenging financial time both within SCC and in communities following the impacts of the pandemic, now more than ever before it is essential to ensure the widest range of voices are heard in all we do to help shape the future of the city and its diverse communities.

The Council's Strategic Equality and Inclusion Board (which has cross-party representation) will lead the production of a draft action plan to be presented to the S&R Committee on 12th October. This will ensure that staff, trade unions, senior leaders and Members have time to engage in the development of a comprehensive response to the REC, reflecting the scale and significance of the commitments we want to make.

The development of the Action Plan will gather inputs from all the Portfolios across the Council as well as the senior leadership team in relation to the key issues within their services and communities. The key overarching areas already identified for issues we need to focus on include:

- Workforce diversity and senior leadership diversity
- Reviewing commissioning and funding arrangements and distribution
- Education leadership and exclusions
- Business development and support
- Reducing health inequalities
- Improving data collection, sharing and analysis
- Building trust and improving staff and community engagement
- City leadership and governance

In terms of immediate actions we are taking, the council is:

- Building becoming an anti-racist city into our statutory Equality Objectives
- Consolidating changes made to its recruitment practices to fully anonymise application forms, improve training for recruiting managers, and ensure that processes are designed in a fully inclusive way

- Working with the Staff Race Equality Network to ensure that staff voice is heard as we begin to implement the recommendations
- Supporting the initial development of the legacy body (although it is proposed that ongoing support for this will be provided by one of the city's other key anchor institutions)

Questions of Councillor Dianne Hurst to the Leader of the Council and Chair of the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee (Councillor Terry Fox)

Q.1 There are concerns that licensing policy does not currently sit well within the Waste and Street Scene Policy Committee, as the committee responsible for administering the policy is the Licensing Committee.

A.1 I know this has been raised as an issue and am sure when the Governance Committee considers scope this will be one of the matters that will be looked at.

Q.2 Will Licensing Policy – setting and administering - within the Committee System be considered by the Governance Committees forthcoming review?

A.2 The terms of the review are still being worked through with the Governance Committee. That includes deciding on how to determine the matters to be within the scope of the Review.

As Leader and Chair of Strategy and Resources, having listened to the concerns of colleagues; I will be recommending that licensing be included within the scope of the Review.

Questions of Councillor Barbara Masters to the Co-Chairs of the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee (Councillor Julie Grocutt and Councillor Mazher Iqbal)

The Liberal Democrats support the principle of Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTN) but believe there must be full consultation with residents within the proposed area and those adjacent to it before implemented.

An area in Nether Edge was designated a Low Traffic Neighbourhood recently which has impacted directly on residents in the neighbouring ward, Ecclesall. Residents here appear not to have been consulted and nor were the local councillors included in any discussion before the changes were implemented.

Q.1 Why were residents in the area immediately adjacent to the Nether Edge LTN not informed that a road, Archer Lane, providing a key link between the two areas, was to be closed?

A.1 As you rightly outline, these routes are not used exclusively by those that live on the specific road or the adjacent streets so trying to capture the comments from people driving through the area is a challenge. In this instance, all addresses in the Nether Edge Active Neighbourhood scheme received a postcard to let them know that the trial would be taking place. The postcard drop did also include a number of surrounding roads, but as you can appreciate, the line needed to be drawn somewhere.

To try and capture the comments from outside of the immediate scheme area, the closure was also promoted on the Connecting Sheffield website, complete with a freephone number, and advertised via the Council's social media channels, which is open to everyone. There was also press coverage to help make people aware of the changes in addition to the statutory lamppost advertisement of the traffic order.

There were also many comments from the initial scheme engagement, with feedback telling us that the scheme area needed to be extended and this has been taken on board and will be applied in the future comms and engagement.

Notwithstanding this, lessons have been learnt, such as greater use of advanced highway signage and the previous approach to step away from traditional letters to information flyers, will not be applied to future projects.

Q.2 There is a mandatory six-month consultation period before any changes are made permanent. This should allow residents a chance to feed in any concerns and suggest changes they wish to be considered. How can residents be sure their views will be given proper consideration?

A.2 During the perp period, Labour Councillors picked up that consultation wasn't up to standard. As the new TRC committee leadership one of our first actions was to ensure we went back to communities to ensure their views were heard.

All feedback through the initial consultation, feedback at the drop-in sessions and feedback during the trial will be considered. We will also assess and compare traffic flow data collected before and during the trial. And finally, we will be undertaking attitudinal surveys of those in and around the scheme.

The scheme has required an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order and there is a statutory consultation process aligned to this. Comments provided in response will be included within the Objection Report to be considered by the members of this Committee.

Q.3 The traffic on adjacent roads is reported to be heavier since the implementation of the LTN. What data is there on the traffic levels on these roads before the LTN was implemented and is data being regularly collected on traffic levels now?

A.3 The scheme has a monitoring and evaluation plan to determine the impacts. Before surveys have been collected throughout the scheme area to baseline the traffic flows and speeds prior to the interventions being implemented. The locations were at: the junction of Abbeydale Road/Woodseats Road, Abbeydale/Bannerdale/Archer, Abbeydale Road/Carterknowle, Abbeydale Road/Sheldon and Chesterfield Road/Woodseats Road, Bannerdale/Brincliffe Edge, and Bannerdale Road.

These surveys will be repeated in September when the school holidays are over, and the traffic levels begin to return to normal levels.

Q.4 Is the air quality being regularly monitored on roads within and around the LTN and how long has this been taking place?

A.4 Nothing specific to this scheme however regular air quality monitoring takes place across the city at existing locations. The map showing air quality data collected across the City is accessed through here [Air quality in Sheffield | Sheffield City Council](#).

Q.5 What criteria are being used to judge the effectiveness of the LTN and does this include the effect on the areas adjacent to it?

A.5 For each scheme we will be pulling together a report based on both data, consultation feedback and attitudinal survey(s). We expect attitudinal surveys to be undertaken within (and around) the scheme, but we are also expecting to commission external research to ensure a representative

sample of views within the area. These will be presented to councillors on the transport committee. We currently expect a decision in early summer 2023. In both cases it will be the committee that determines the weight of the three elements and the future of the schemes.

For this scheme we have a variety of benefits that we will monitor against, including making areas that people feel are more pleasant places to live and improving the perception of safety of walking and cycling. However, although there is no specific target to increase walking and cycling - the following was presented as part of the assumptions of the value of benefits within the business case that was presented to the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority: Nether Edge and Little London Road – 17% increase in cycling, 13% increase in walking.

We will ask people if they have changed their travel behaviours, but this will not be determined by quantitative data. We would like to see a 20% reduction in traffic through the Nether Edge area though this isn't a benchmark we will use for success or failure.

Question of Councillor Ann Woolhouse to the Co-Chairs of the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee (Councillor Julie Grocutt and Councillor Mazher Iqbal)

Q. In March of this year, I received an email from the Senior Transport Planner at Strategic Transport, Sustainability and Infrastructure outlining plans for Rother Valley and the surrounding streets; have these proposals been put to local residents and if so what has been the response?

A. The Rother Valley Parking scheme will formalise on-street parking with the introduction of parking bays and parking restrictions. The scheme will also increase the number of parking spaces and improve access to the Rother Valley Country Park.

The preliminary design has been amended following the comments we received from sharing the scheme plans with Councillors in April, including removing the parking bays on the bend of Meadowgate Avenue. The next stage will be public consultation, we are aiming to deliver a letter and plan to residents at the end of September. We will also work with Local Members and the LAC regarding further engagement activities.

Following public consultation, we will make any changes needed to the scheme design. Then we are aiming for the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to be advertised in Winter 2022. At this point, construction timescales, traffic management/build schedule and costs will be more certain and a programme for completion will be communicated to Members, and the public.

Questions of Councillor Richard Shaw to the Co-Chairs of the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee (Councillor Julie Grocutt and Councillor Mazher Iqbal)

Q.1 How many road traffic collisions and injuries have been recorded at the junction of Greenhill Avenue and Greenhill Main Road since February 2022?

A.1 At the time of writing this response, the accident data is not available. Accident information is recorded by SY Police, and this is then uploaded onto portal that we can use to see casualty information. The timeline for uploading information includes data checking to help enhance the validity of the data. Officers will confirm the current position from February 2022 and contact you with this when it is available.

Q.2 What is this location's current ranking in priority for further safety interventions?

A.2 This location is 29th on the Local Safety Scheme priority list. We currently typically fund two or three road safety schemes a year from the Local Safety Scheme funding allocation.

Therefore, we have to prioritise which schemes we do choose to carry out each year, to ensure that the most deserving locations are built first with the limited resources that we have available. Under the procedure, all identified locations are given points based on several set criteria and those scoring the highest are taken forward and constructed on site, whilst the others are deferred and considered for future funding.

There is potential for further investigations at the junction within the Chesterfield Rd A61 scheme which is part of the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement allocation. It is very early stages so nothing and subject to a series of approvals but has been raised in the initial scoping of this scheme.

Just to note, the most recent change to the junction, included the provision of a yellow backed give way sign. This was installed to further emphasise the priority for drivers using the junction. This is being monitored.

Q.3 Bocking Lane and Hutcliffe Wood Road were closed for two days for resurfacing on the 24th and 25th August, having initially being advertised being closed for 2 weeks. However, bus services using these roads continued to be diverted via Woodseats and Meadowhead until the 5th September. Why were buses continued to be diverted more than a week after the works were completed?

A.3 The road was closed between the hours of 09:30 – 15:30hrs on the 24th and 25th August for resurfacing.

All signs were laid down as of the 25th and the road fully opened.

The road was then closed again on the 6th September for one day for the replacement of the road markings.

The initial advanced notice was for a potential 10 day period to allow for delays to the works but we only had the closure in place for 3 days.

Representatives from the Bus Partnership are present in joint SCC/Amey Traffic Management meetings when we agree closures and working hours for each scheme and they are fully aware of our planned closures.

The Bus Partnership send out weekly updates on planned closures across the whole network, see attached which shows that they were aware of the closure being for 2 days only, it appears communications between the Bus Partnership and the Bus Operators has failed.

Local businesses on Hutcliffe Wood Road have complained that they received no information from Streets Ahead about the closures and the impact on access to their premises for customers and business deliveries.

Q.4 What measures will be put in place to improve communication between Streets Ahead and local residents, councillors and bus operators regarding closures and diversions?

A.4 Representatives from the Bus Partnership are present in joint SCC/Amey Traffic Management meetings when we agree closures and working hours for each scheme and they are fully aware of our planned closures.

Information provided on bus shelters is the responsibility of the Bus Partnership, we have recently raised concerns with them regarding the lack of information provided at bus stops stating the stop is no longer in use when roads are closed but our TM operatives on site provide support to customers wanting to get an update.

Q.5 What measures will be put in place to improve communication between Streets Ahead and local residents, businesses and bus operators regarding closures and diversions?

A.5 See above.

Question of Councillor Joe Otten to the Co-Chairs of the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee (Councillor Julie Grocutt and Councillor Mazher Iqbal)

Q. At a recent meeting of Strategy and Resources Committee you assured the meeting that you would be urgently considering the 12 hour bus lane proposals for Abbeydale road and Ecclesall road to end the uncertainty face by businesses on the two streets. Can you update Council on this matter?

A. The commitment we have given as the new TRC committee leadership, in view of the pandemic, and COL crisis is to understand the impact of measures before any of this is implemented.

Officers are undertaking further investigations to determine the costs and benefits of any amendments to bus lane hours of operation along Abbeydale Road and Ecclesall Road.

The consultation has been analysed and this is contributing towards the overall project interventions.

Extensive parking surveys have been undertaken to determine the impact of any amendments to bus lane hours of operation upon parking, and to inform investigations into the enhanced enforcement of illegal parking along Ecclesall Road and Abbeydale Road such as possible red routes.

Modelling of the proposed project interventions has also been undertaken to determine the impact upon bus journey time reliability and consistency. Officers are analysing this to determine the extent of the benefits resulting from any changes to bus lane hours of operation.

The conclusion of these investigations will determine the proposals for bus lanes on Abbeydale Road and Ecclesall Road to be considered, and the measures required for the enhanced enforcement of illegal parking. This will be brought back to members for their consideration and determination of how to progress.

Questions of Councillor Brian Holmshaw to the Co-Chairs of the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee (Councillor Julie Grocutt and Councillor Mazher Iqbal)

Q.1 This week, and from 9th-18th September 2022 it's Heritage Open Days. Massively successful in Sheffield, it makes the city the location of one of the largest free mass participation events in the country. There is a wealth of evidence that Historic England, Heritage Lottery Fund and others have put forward to show that heritage events and activities like these, plus the restoration and retrofitting of historic buildings contributes enormously to the local economy of cities. In 2019, pre

COVID-19 pandemic, the heritage sector in England provided over 206,000 jobs directly and supported a further 357,000 jobs through indirect and induced mechanisms in sectors including construction, tourism, public realm, creative industries, social services and health. Do you agree with the strategic importance of heritage to the Sheffield economy?

A.1 Sheffield has a long and proud history of celebrating its diverse heritage and this Committee welcomes the Open Days referenced in the question. Not least because our Labour Cllr Janet Ridler is our Heritage Champion and has played a pivotal role in the Heritage Open Days this year and for a number of years in the past. We are lucky to boast many highly successful schemes that utilise these wonderful assets, and I note the Park Hill and Heart of the City II schemes as only a few examples. These clearly demonstrate the role heritage plays in supporting the city's economy, and long may it continue.

Q.2 Historic England and Heritage Lottery Fund studies have found that investing in a heritage conservation area can lead to increased tax revenues, more jobs, revitalised neighbourhoods and economic growth. Conservation Areas are crucial to our city's economic development and the wellbeing of our citizens. What plans are there to update Conservation Area Appraisals and Conservation Area Management Proposals in the city and further support our established Conservation Areas?

A.2 There is a recognised need to update some of the older conservation area appraisals and the Planning Team are reviewing the resource implications of this at present. I would be happy to provide a more detailed update when this exercise is completed later in the year.

Q.3 What progress has been made on the plans to bring in new conservation areas in Sheffield?

A.3 There are no current proposals under consideration in respect of bringing forward new conservation areas. If areas are put forward, these will of course be considered against relevant criteria in respect of their appropriateness for designation.

Q.4 Can you provide a list of the statutory consultees for historic buildings and landscapes as used for planning applications in Sheffield?

A.4 Statutory consultees in respect to historic building & landscapes do vary depending on the nature of the application. These can consist of:

- Historic England
- the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings,

- the Ancient Monuments Society,
- the Council for British Archaeology,
- the Georgian Group,
- the Victorian Society,
- the Twentieth Century Society, and
- the Gardens Trust

Q.5 Are there any statutory consultees for pre-Georgian buildings for planning applications in Sheffield?

A.5 Yes, when these buildings are designated heritage assets (i.e. listed) and comply with set requirements around when statutory consultees would be consulted.

Q.6 What is the process for being considered to be added to the statutory consultee list in Sheffield?

A.6 Statutory consultees are determined by the Government as set out in various Orders and Acts, including the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

Questions of Councillor Maroof Raouf to the Co-Chairs of the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee (Councillor Julie Grocutt and Councillor Mazher Iqbal)

Q. With the increase in the cost-of-living crisis, can you confirm what the exact amounts of the grants are that will be given to taxi drivers to help them to upgrade to CAZ compliant vehicles?

A. It is not possible to confirm the exact amount of grant that will be made available to each taxi driver as the value of support is determined by a number of factors including the type and cost of replacement vehicle, the value of the current non-compliant vehicle, whether loan finance is required through the Council's scheme and whether they are seeking support to either delicense or retrofit the existing taxi, or acquire a replacement taxi.

Members will also be aware that the Council has written to Government seeking greater flexibility with the funds available which would potentially see an increase in the values highlighted above. At the time of writing; a decision from Government is expected in the near future.

The current maximum levels of support are outlined below but are also subject to the applicant meeting all the relevant eligibility criteria:

Category	Measure	Grant Offer
HACKNEY	Delicensing Grant	£4,000 grant
	Replacement Grant/Interest	Up to £6,000
	ULEV Replacement Grant/Interest Second Hand Vehicle	Up to £10,000
	ULEV Replacement Operational grant /Interest New Vehicle	Up to £10,000
	SCR retrofit Grant	Up to £4,000
PRIVATE HIRE	Replacement Grant/Interest	Up to £3,000
	ULEV Replacement Grant/Interest Second Hand Vehicle	Up to £4,000
	ULEV Replacement Operational grant /Interest New Vehicle	Up to £4,000
	SCR Retrofit Grant	Up to £1,500

Questions of Councillor Minesh Parekh to the Co-Chairs of the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee (Councillor Julie Grocutt and Councillor Mazher Iqbal)

- Q.** How much of a reduction in the Council's use of glyphosate, over the period of 2017 to 2022, since the glyphosate reduction programme began?
- A.** This question has been referred to the Waste and Streetscene Policy Committee.

Question of Councillor Ben Curran to the Co-Chairs of the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee (Councillor Julie Grocutt and Councillor Mazher Iqbal)

- Q.** Do you welcome Liberal Democrat and Green Councillors supporting plans for an additional £4 million being spent on road safety? And are thanks due to them for their U-Turn on this – having originally rejected this budget amendment in 2021 (though the funding was secured by the then Labour majority)?
- A.** I wholeheartedly welcome the wide-ranging programme – which includes eleven additional 20mph zones for residential areas, School 20mph zones, crossing and accessibility works at eight sites, and nearly 30 Speed Indicator Devices across the city.

It was disappointing that Liberal Democrat and Green councillors voted against this additional investment in 2021, but thanks are now due to them for the U-Turn and for backing these plans when they went to the Committee recently. Though it does beg the question why they originally thought road safety should not be prioritised.

Going forward, I think residents will be pleased and the Council will ensure that all of those affected will be consulted on the plans and that the final designs will meet local needs. And it will be up to all councillors to ensure that these plans are properly scrutinised and remain on track.

Question of Councillor Tony Downing to the Co-Chairs of the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee (Councillor Julie Grocutt and Councillor Mazher Iqbal)

I welcome the on-going rollout of 20 mph zones throughout the city, and the commitments made to Mosborough Ward. The 20 mph schemes for Westfield and Waterthorpe were put forward when the Council was under Labour control, but these schemes stalled last year when under the Executive Portfolio of Green Councillor Douglas Johnson.

Q. Can you please provide an update on what progress is being made on delivering these schemes?

A. Both schemes are on the priority list for delivery this financial year. Waterthorpe will be going out to consultation on the 15th September where all residents will receive a letter and plan. If no objections are received, we can finalise the design and move to construct in the new calendar year. Any objections would mean a report to the TRC Committee, and this will likely need to be the January meeting.

Westfield was slightly further down the priority list, so we are a little further back with this. Speed surveys will be on site next week and the feasibility design is being undertaken. We are hopeful we can consult on this towards the end of October/ Early November.

Question of Councillor Gail Smith to the Chair of the Waste and Streetscene Policy Committee (Councillor Joe Otten)

Q.1 What is the current criteria for a resident getting a large black bin?

A.1 Policy for additional capacity is published here

<https://democracy.sheffield.gov.uk/documents/s40609/Waste%20Management%20Policies%20-%202020.pdf>

The table below sets out the capacity allowance based on household size.
Number of residents

Number of Residents	Black Bin	Brown Bin	Blue Bin
1-5	240	240	140
6	360	240	140
7	360	240	140
8	2 x 240	240	140
9	2 x 240	240	140
10	1x 360 and 1x 240	240	140

Recognising the impact of nappies in the amount of general waste a household generates, any child aged under the age of 3 will be classed as 1.5 residents. This means that a household of five permanent residents with two children aged under 3, will qualify for the 6 person entitlement.

Households where one or more person has a medical condition which generates additional waste can, if they are struggling to manage with the capacity provided, apply for additional capacity regardless of household size. Applications of this nature will be considered in line with the provision of the clinical waste collection service.

Households requesting additional capacity will be required to complete an application form. The applicant will be required to provide evidence of occupancy for each permanent occupier of the household.

Question of Councillor Kurtis Crossland to the Chair of the Waste and Streetscene Policy Committee (Councillor Joe Otten)

Q. Following the decision of Cabinet on the 17th February, 2021 to change the payment mechanism for underperformance on the Amey Contract, how much has the Council lost to date in penalties for underperformance as a result of this change?

A. Written response to be provided.

Question of Councillor Ian Auckland to the Chair of the Waste and Streetscene Policy Committee (Councillor Joe Otten)

Q. What progress is being made with the Depot Review, when might a report see the light of day?

A. Reviewing Manor Lane and Staniforth depots will form one strand of the Strategic Accommodation Review. The Depot premises are in poor condition with substantial backlog maintenance. There is a need to make significant investment to bring SCC depots up to a sustainable standard and reduce future running costs. In April 2022, Facilities Management commissioned a RIBA Stage 0 feasibility study to advise if either site can be redeveloped to accommodate an amalgamated facility and offer outline proposals. The study recommends a new build approach, demolishing existing buildings and amalgamating onto one site. Further investigation will be needed to fully understand the business case for the redevelopment, including capital receipts and resources, site investigations and in-depth analysis of future service delivery requirements and improvements.

Also, worth noting several reviews have taken place over the years and this is what he may be referring?

A comprehensive piece of work is taking place regarding the Councils overall accommodation which includes future depot provision. The outcome of this work will be considered in due course by the Strategy and Resources Committee.

Questions of Councillor Minesh Parekh to the Chair of the Waste and Streetscene Policy Committee (Councillor Joe Otten)

Q.1 What steps is the Council taking to ensure safe night-time travel for workers working at venues open late?

A.1 The Lead Officer for the Night-Time Economy works closely with Unite and we will be working with them and supporting them with their Get Me Home Safely Campaign.

The Lead Officer for the Night-Time Economy will contact the Unite Union and arrange for a discussion as to how we can help promote the campaign and work with employers in the night-time economy to sign up to this important campaign.

Our Lead Officer will also work with the Interim Head of Licensing to ascertain whether it is possible under the existing legislation to impose such conditions on individual premises licences.

Q.2 What options are being considered to make providing safe travel for workers a condition of licensing? Do you support the Unite Union’s “Get Me Home Safely” campaign, which calls on employers to take all reasonable steps to ensure workers are able to get home safely from work at night, and will you resolve to work with Unite in this campaign?

A.2 Answer included in one above.

Question of Councillor Minesh Parekh to the Chair of the Waste and Streetscene Policy Committee (Councillor Joe Otten)

Q. How much of a reduction in the Council’s use of glyphosate, over the period of 2017 to 2022, since the glyphosate reduction programme began?

A. For last year, in 2021, for Highways, 3901 litres of Glyphosate were used as part of our weed killing operations.

As part of our trial Glyphosate reduction strategy we have been tracking use throughout the year.

Current forecasts are that we are likely to achieve a reduction in Glyphosate use of around 1000 litres (circa 25%) in year as a result of the trial changes made.

Questions of Councillor Fran Belbin to the Chair of the Waste and Streetscene Policy Committee (Councillor Joe Otten)

Q.1 I am glad to see that the Waste and Street Scene Committee recently approved a £500,000 one-off investment for street clean environmental enforcement – directed specifically to the areas of most need, to deal with issues around litter, vermin and street cleaning.

This decision was taken unanimously, though I note that the Liberal Democrats originally voted against this budget amendment proposed by Labour in 2021. Do you now welcome this additional spend and believe that it would have been a mistake to have stopped this funding?

A.1 The £500k was an approved budget amendment for 22/23 before the committee was operational and the Committee approved a report detailing proposals on how to spend it. These include a welcome mix of one-off clean ups and interventions and investment to change how services work. The committee had the opportunity to reject or amend the proposals for spending this money; it did not consider revisiting the budget decision made by Full

Council in March.

You will recall that Liberal Democrat members were willing to withdraw even our own budget amendment for the sake of passing a sound and legal budget, so I would caution against overinterpreting votes on other amendments. Members may yet regret the additional spend associated with passing any budget amendment at budget council if we fail to urgently take adequate control of the budget position.

Q.2 Can you please provide an update on what progress has been made in delivering the £100,000 per Local Area Committee (LAC) for street cleaning? Can the figures please detail committed works for each LAC, and what this spending has been committed to?

A.2 We presume this relates to the money provided to reduce flytipping and graffiti.

After project costs and CCTV units for use in neighbourhoods were taken care of, each LAC has a minimum of £57k remaining for other prevention works. More than 60 hotspots for flytipping have been identified across the city and the sites assessed for potential interventions. These have been provided to the LACS this summer and they are working through those with partners and landowners and will make their own decisions on which works to commission to target harden their local sites. One hold up was the corporate contract for fencing and similar works which has now been signed so there is an agreed cost for many of the potential works. So far £80k has been spent on CCTV cameras for use across the city and this is already having a dramatic effect on identifying perpetrators and reducing tipping in hotspots. The graffiti part of the project has now started with reps from the LACS working with partners to identify hotspots and prevention measures and spend will follow once interventions are agreed.

Q.3 What progress has been made with appointing to the volunteer strategy role, and in developing links for the appointee with the fantastic litter picking groups active around the city?

A.3 One of our graduate trainees with previous experience of streetscene work has taken on the role and started work. It is early days however they are already looking at what support we offer to litter picking groups. Proposals on a new volunteer strategy and any practical improvements which need member approval will need to come to the committee in early 2023.

Question of Councillor Anne Murphy to the Chair of the Communities, Parks and Leisure Policy Committee (Councillor Richard Williams)

Q. What, as Committee Chair, are you doing to resolve the issues around the Rose Garden, and how has the communication around this been handled?

A. I have attended a number of meetings chaired by the Leader of the Council, Cllr Terry Fox. These have been both internal with other Members and Officers, and at least two which were public facing. Early in this process, it was confirmed that the responsibility for the maintenance and repair of parks buildings did not sit within the remit of the Policy Committee that I chair, namely the Communities, Parks and Leisure Policy Committee. These responsibilities sit with the Finance Sub-Committee, which is jointly chaired by Cllrs Bryan Lodge and Zahira Naz, who have also attended the various meetings that Cllr Fox had led.

In terms of communications, there has been a significant effort to improve this area, including the development of a dedicated webpage [Rose Garden Cafe Closure | Sheffield City Council](#).

My understanding is that all survey reports of the Rose Garden Café building, carried out to date, have been forwarded to those parties who have requested them, and they are now generally available via the previously mentioned webpage.

Questions of Councillor Mike Levery to the Co-Chairs of the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee (Councillor Dawn Dale and Councillor Mick Rooney) (to be answered by the Chair of the Communities, Parks and Leisure Policy Committee (Councillor Richard Williams))

For each of the seven Family Centres across the city in 2021/22

Q.1 How many 0 – 5 years children are there in each Family Centre catchment?

A.1 See column 1 in table below.

Q.2 How many of those children are on roll at their Family Centre?

A.2 See column 2 in table below.

Q.3 How many families accessed early years services at their Family Centre?

A.3

Family Centre	1. Sum of Total population aged under 5	2. Sum of Number Registered	3. Percentage Registered	4. Average of Percent Reached Boosted	5. Number of under 5s Reached Boosted
Darnall	4668	3408	73.0%	65.7	2977
Early_Days	2965	2754	92.9%	75.0	2218
First_Start	5580	5439	97.5%	76.9	4271
Primrose	4018	3819	95.0%	72.8	2871
Sharrow	6001	4755	79.2%	58.3	3337
Shortbrook	4544	3257	71.7%	68.8	3148
Valley_Park	3590	2549	71.0%	58.0	2079
Grand Total	31366	25981	82.8%	67.0	20901

All data is for the period: 01/04/2021 to 31/03/2022

Data has been sourced from the reporting system that was developed as a 'draft for testing' in February 2022 (with amendments).

The data is the best we have available to answer the questions at the present time.

Q.4 How many of those on roll used the Family Centre on a regular basis, at least four times a year?

A.4

Family Centre	4 or more uses by individuals (unboosted)	4 or more uses (boosted) – which includes FEL at childcare providers
Darnall	866	2236
Early Days	1192	2022
First Start	2442	4017
Primrose	1784	2781
Sharrow	1669	3068
Shortbrook	1859	3072
Valley Park	772	1719
Grand Total	10584	18915

Note that the boosted figures for the above include all FEL children. The figures assume those accessing FEL are accessing more than 4 services per year. The safe measure is 'Unboosted' – since this relates to specific involvements with the Centre.

Q.5 How many families accessed early years services at each of the Linked Centres?

A.5 Reporting this is not possible at the current time.

Q.6 How many S35 postcode families accessed early years services at the Early Days Family Centre?

A.6 1,134 individuals (0-5) from the S35 postcode accessed early years services at the Early Days Family Centre between 01/04/2021 and 31/03/2022. This figure does not include those accessing a FEL place, and compares to a total from all postcodes attending this centre: 1,388. S35 attendees attending all centres totalled 1,383.

Question of Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed to the Co-Chairs of the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee (Councillor Dawn Dale and Councillor Mick Rooney)

Q. How many Y8 and Y9 pupils are there currently in the city who do not currently have a place at a school as their preferred schools were oversubscribed?

A. There are a total of 13 young people in Y8 and 8 young people in year Y9 who are currently recorded as not being on a school roll (Pupil Not On Roll – “PNOR”) where they have also not been provided a place in their preferred schools. This does not mean that they have not been offered a school place as all have been made an offer of a place, however, so far the parents have not taken up the place offered as it is not a place they have requested. All these cases are followed up by the Children Missing Education team.

The local authority will always ensure that a school place is offered to every child in line with its statutory duty to offer a mainstream school place. We are required to make these offers within 15 school days in line with the school admissions code. We recognise that for some children it will not, however, be a place they have made a preference for.

Background information:

All Y8 and Y9 students with a PNOR base have been reviewed. There are a total of 168.

In terms of Admissions, where a place is allocated to anything but a preferred school it is coded “15”

Y8 with a “15” Code and PNOR Base = 13

Y9 with a “15” Code and PNOR Base = 8

The remaining 147 Y8/Y9 are not coded “15” so will have been offered a preferred school, 1, 2 or 3 but still PNOR as not on roll yet.

These numbers appear low but there will be many more who have been allocated as “15” and taken up the place, hence not “PNOR”

Furthermore there are pending (31 Y8 and 45 Y9 applications which have not been processed yet so we don’t know their outcomes.

Questions of Councillor Mike Levery to the Co-Chairs of the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee (Councillor Dawn Dale and Councillor Mick Rooney)

For each of the seven Family Centres across the city in 2021/22

Q.1 How many 0 – 5 years children are there in each Family Centre catchment?

A.1 Question to be answered by the Chair of the Communities, Parks and Leisure Policy Committee (Councillor Richard Williams)

Q.2 How many of those children are on roll at their Family Centre?

A.2 Question to be answered by the Chair of the Communities, Parks and Leisure Policy Committee (Councillor Richard Williams)

Q.3 How many families accessed early years services at their Family Centre?

A.3 Question to be answered by the Chair of the Communities, Parks and Leisure Policy Committee (Councillor Richard Williams)

Q.4 How many of those on roll used the Family Centre on a regular basis, at least four times a year?

A.4 Question to be answered by the Chair of the Communities, Parks and Leisure Policy Committee (Councillor Richard Williams)

Q.5 How many families accessed early years services at each of the Linked Centres?

A.5 Question to be answered by the Chair of the Communities, Parks and Leisure Policy Committee (Councillor Richard Williams)

Q.6 How many S35 postcode families accessed early years services at the Early Days Family Centre?

A.6 Question to be answered by the Chair of the Communities, Parks and Leisure Policy Committee (Councillor Richard Williams)

NB Families Centres are managed within the Communities Directorate reporting to the Communities, Parks and Leisure Policy Committee

Questions of Councillor Maroof Raouf to the Co-Chairs of the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee (Councillor Dawn Dale and Councillor Mick Rooney)

Q.1 How many primary and secondary schools are currently run by Sheffield City Council?

A.1 There are currently 75 maintained schools made up of: 1 secondary, 62 primaries, 2 nurseries, 1 pupil referral unit and 9 special schools.

Q.2 Which of these have a uniform policy?

A.2 Uniform policies are the responsibility of individual schools, and these are published on individual websites. Collecting data on uniform requirements is not a statutory requirement so we do not hold this information on record. We are presently working with schools to broaden our understanding of this situation to enable us to further support schools with uniform policy and connected issues.

Q.3 Which of the above schools have a policy where parents have to purchase from a recommended supplier?

A.3 Uniform policies are the responsibility of individual schools, and these are published on individual websites. Collecting data on uniform requirements is not a statutory requirement so we do not hold this information on record. However, Department for Education Guidance requires schools to consider this issue and work towards changing policies regarding single recommended suppliers. We will be supporting schools to embrace the guidance, and to ensure that parents are aware of changes to policies connected to recommended suppliers.

Q.4 Which of the above schools allow parents to purchase from any supplier?

A.4 Uniform policies are the responsibility of individual schools, and these are published on individual websites. Collecting data on uniform requirements is not a statutory requirement so we do not hold this information on record. We are, however, working with schools who have these policies to move forward to meet the Department for Education's Guidance and consider developing more flexibility within its policy regarding the use of wider supplier sources. We will support schools to keep families updated about these changes.

Q.5 Which of the above schools have a specific policy of having a school logo on the uniform?

A.5 A recent desktop analysis focusing on school uniform requirements was however carried out for all 27 secondary schools (maintained and academies) and all but 2 of these schools have a uniform policy. Nearly all schools provided information to parents/carers of the uniform required, highlighting which specific uniform/PE items should be branded. A link to the schools preferred supplier is also generally added to the website. 1 school offers a pre-loved uniform programme which is open to all families and 2 schools offer branded items for free to their new Y7s.

Q.6 What is the cost of an average uniform for EACH school that is run by the Local Authority?

A.6 Uniform policies are the responsibility of individual schools, and these are published on individual websites. Collecting data on uniform costs is not a statutory requirement so we do not hold this information on record. We are working with our city schools to understand the level of support they provide to support families during this time and supporting them in any way we can to ensure that the impact of the cost-of-living crisis is not exacerbated by school uniform costs.

Questions of Councillor Sophie Thornton to the Chair of the Housing Policy Committee (Councillor Douglas Johnson)

Q.1 What is the current number of outstanding or incomplete council house repairs?

A.1 6,558. This The increase on the number reported at the last Council meeting (6085) is largely due to reductions in available resources over the summer period but the overall trend is an improving one, with the backlog of repairs having fallen 30% over the last six months.

Q.2 What was the average waiting time for a council house repair issue to be resolved over the last two months? and what was the longest wait?

A.2 The average waiting time for council house repairs over the last two months was 20.39 days, a slight reduction from the 22 days for the February to April period.

The longest wait for a council house repair was 979 days. This was to complete an annual gas service where the Council had been unable to access the property on numerous occasions. Several attempts have been made to access the property over the period, with the latest being as recent as 2nd September 2022. The case is now being dealt with via the Council's "no access" procedure. As before, this is not a reflection of delays caused by the Repairs and Maintenance Service.

Many of the older repairs are complex and often involve vulnerable tenants. They may require intervention across a number of Council services in order to resolve them.

Q.3 What was the average waiting time on the council house repairs phone line before answering each month in the last two months? and what was the longest wait?

A.3 The average waiting times at the council house repairs contact centre for the last two months was:

- July: 9 minutes
- August: 11 minutes

The longest wait for the telephone to be answered in the council house repairs contact centre over the last two months was:

- July: 74 minutes
- August: 131 minutes

Waiting times have been impacted by network and resourcing issues. Overall performance on answering calls for this period is 86%.

Work to reduce call waiting times continues with Customer Services. The Repairs Team are currently developing an online portal which will give tenants the option to order repairs online, further reducing demand on the contact centre. We currently expect this to be live by the end of September and it will alleviate pressure on the contact centre.

Q.4 How many repair issues have been ‘closed’ each month in the last two months as a result of not being able to make contact with a resident?

A.4 In July 2022 there were 1,843 repair jobs closed due to the service being unable to access the property. In August 2022 there were 1,971. The service is working closely with colleagues in the Housing Service to reduce the level of “no access” cases in the service.

Q.5 How many council housing residents are currently in temporary accommodation due to maintenance issues at their primary residence?

A.5 As of the 9th of September 2022, we have 28 tenants who are not in their primary homes due to property related issues. When a tenant is unable to remain in their home due to property condition, our priority is to find them another Council property for a temporary period, this is known as a ‘decant.’ The tenant will stay in the decant until their primary home is repaired and then they would return. Occasionally we do not have decant properties that meet an individual or family’s needs. This could be due to moving a large household or a tenant with disabilities. In those circumstances we may use temporary accommodation such as hotel rooms or other private accommodation.

Q.6 How many evictions have there been from Council housing in the last two months? And over the last year? And can you give a breakdown of the reasons why these evictions have taken place?

A.6 There have been 20 evictions over the last 2 months, all of which were for rent arrears. Over the last 12 months (Sep 21 – Aug 22) there have been 77 evictions, of which 73 were for rent arrears and 4 were for Anti-Social Behaviour.

Q.7 How many eviction notices have been served against Council housing residents in the last two months? And can you give a breakdown of the reasons why these notices have been served?

A.7 There have been 608 Notice Seeking Possessions served over last 2 months. 589 of these were for rent arrears, and 19 were for Anti-Social behaviour.

Q.8 Can you please give the Council an update on ongoing work to properly insulate and damp-proof Council properties?

A.8 Work is currently ongoing through the LAD 2 project to deliver cavity and loft insulation measures to Sheffield Council properties. This project is anticipated to be completed by the end of September. Further insulation works are proposed to about 370 system build properties through external wall insulation measures and topping up of loft insulation in addition to installing of new windows and doors where these are required through the External Wall insulation projects phases 2 and 3. This work is proposed to commence in early 2023 once new contracts have been procured. There are no specific programmes currently in place relating to damp proofing properties, however these are addressed on individual basis on identification through the repairs service.

Q.9 How many void properties have had repairs started since the last housing committee meeting? How many have had work completed? And how many re-let?

A.9 Since the 1st July 2022, 465 new voids have become available with 515 void properties let. During this period void 682 properties have been repaired for both General Needs and Temporary Accommodation.

The overall trend in repairs performance is an improving one and, over the same period the number of properties with Repairs and Maintenance to brought to fit to let status is 413. This has reduced from 554 in June and over 600 in May.

Q.10 How many people are on the waiting list for Council housing? And what is the current average wait time?

A.10 The Council operates an open housing register and not a waiting list. This means that households do not need to have an identified housing need and can register with the council to accrue waiting time. They can choose when to bid for properties that are advertised at any time and there is no upper limit to how long they can be registered for, as long as they update their registration with us each year.

Currently there are 20,965 households on the Council's Housing Register. 9278 of these households have an expressed an interest in at least one social housing property advertised in the past 12 months by placing a bid. The longest waiting time date is 08/02/1961.

972 households have been assessed as having a housing need and awarded priority rehousing status currently. This means that they have been placed in band A, B or C.

The oldest date in these priority bands is 06/09/1977. This is a household whose priority has been backdated to the date they joined the armed forces in line with the councils Allocations Policy, and Part 6 of the Housing Act. The date they were awarded their priority was 06/09/2021.

Currently the average waiting time for an offer in Bands A-C is 5 months. However, the length of time for an offer is very much influenced by factors such as household size.

Q.11 How long are the current average and longest waiting times for an assessment for the rehousing of a Council Housing tenant?

A.11 Currently the average waiting time for a decision on a rehousing request by a council tenant is approximately 4 weeks except for priority considered on health grounds. Tenants who need to move due to their home not being suitable for hospital discharge are being assessed in 48 hours and other critical cases in 4 weeks. Other cases take longer to assess with the current oldest request awaiting allocation to an officer being from the 20th of April 2022.

Q.12 How often are repeat visits necessary to get work done on Council Homes? What proportion require these repeated visits? And what is the most number of repeated visits to get a job finished?

A.12 Repeat visits are required in a minority of cases. In August the repairs service completed 91.26% of jobs at the first visit (6,725 jobs out of 7,369), therefore only 8.7% of repairs required more than one visit. We unfortunately do not currently have analysis to show the highest number of visits to repair a property. We are happy to provide this information to Cllr Thornton following the Council meeting. It is worth noting that many properties do require significant work across a number of different trades. They will therefore take multiple visits before the work is completed.

Question of Councillor Penny Baker to the Chair of the Housing Policy Committee (Councillor Douglas Johnson)

Q. How many void Council House properties are there this month?

A. As at the week commencing the 5th September 2022 there were 914 void properties which is the lowest number since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic in March 2020.

Of these there are currently 413 empty properties with Repairs and Maintenance to brought to fit to let status. This has reduced from 554 in June and over 600 in May.

Questions of Councillor Gail Smith to the Chair of the Housing Policy Committee (Councillor Douglas Johnson)

Q.1 How many failed appointments are recorded by the Council for Council Homes, when a tenant may have waited in their home for repairs or gas checks, but the person sent by the Council failed to show up in the allocated timeslot?

A.1 In Quarter 1 of 2022/23, 90% of appointments were made and kept. This equated to 54,179 jobs in the period. This means that approximately 5,400 appointments were unfortunately made but not kept in the period (10%).

Q.2 I know of three people who have taken time off work and were never warned that the person coming to do their repairs was not going to show up. Is this happening four times a record or an average?

A.2 The service is improving its performance in terms of the number of repair appointments that are made and kept. In 2021/22, 85% of appointments were made and kept. In Quarter 1 of 2022/23 this is now 90%. In August the repairs service completed over 91% of repairs on the first visit.

The improvements have resulted from the introduction of the dynamic scheduling system, and text message reminders to the customer before the appointment and whilst the operative is on route.

Q.3 Do you believe the Council's Customer Service Teams need training in dealing with these sorts of occurrences?

A.3 Following extensive consultation and negotiation with the Trade Unions and the workforce, new terms and conditions come into effect from 1st July within the Repairs Service. These changes will address a number of legacy issues with the workforce and deliver efficiencies through an extended working day, start and finish on site and flexible working. As part of this work we are delivering customer service training to managers and Team Leaders and the intention is that this will be cascaded to all of our frontline repairs staff in the future.

Questions of Councillor Tom Hunt to the Chair of the Housing Policy Committee (Councillor Douglas Johnson)

The Full Council resolution to agree the HRA business plan and budget for 2022/23 said: "this Council welcomes the five year investment programme commitment to bring all council homes up to EPC level C, but commits to develop, by Spring 2022, a 'road map' to show how we not only can get our homes to EPC C, as quickly as possible, but for a

deliverable vision and timetable by which we can get to net zero for the Council's housing stock

Q.1 As such can you please provide an update on the progress since May 2022 to implement the roadmap (assuming it's in place)?

Q.2 How many homes since May 2022 have been brought up to EPC C and how many homes are forecast to be brought up to EPC C by January?

A. Rider Levett Bucknall (RLB) is a consultancy body appointed by the Council as its strategic capital delivery partner. The Housing & Neighbourhoods service commissioned RLB to develop a roadmap toward net zero carbon across all council housing. RLB is currently in the latter stages of a sizeable surveying programme that encapsulates all the different property archetypes so there is a sufficient sample to assure reliability of the results. Access to homes has been a challenge which has slowed the progress of the surveying. However, this is due to conclude shortly and the final report is due by November which will fully detail the works and costs. After the report being published, we will digest and consult on the findings ahead of producing a strategy and plan to implement. The biggest challenge will continue to be affordability, amongst others such as supply chain capabilities.

We also have to consider how we can achieve Net Zero in a financially sustainable way. As fuel prices rise, EPC Level C is not going to be adequate to prevent households slipping into fuel poverty. Achieving Net Zero has many advantages such as reducing demand for energy, providing warm healthy homes that require little heating no carbon emissions and greater energy security for the country. The Council has asked that the Energiesprong and other models be investigated to see how we might find the finance we need to achieve Net Zero on an ultimately self-sustaining basis.

Ahead of the RLB report, work has continued throughout the year to improve the energy efficiency and performance of council homes, focussing on the remaining 15% of properties that fall below EPC Level C. This has included over £1m funding from Govt to improve about 120 homes. We are also preparing to bid for the forthcoming Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) for approximately £5m to target 370 homes with external wall insulation. Lastly, with launch of ECO4 (Energy Company Obligation) in July, we are exploring opportunities for this funding to support more energy efficiency works getting homes to EPC Level C. Our prospective partner is currently undertaking non-intrusive surveying and planned thermography to ascertain the potential scale of works and funding that we might access.

Appendix 1 – Table of Repairs 2018-present

Instruction ID	Location	Supplier	Actual	Description	Status	Reference	Print Date	Target Date
RFW073991	03190 - Graves Park -	SCC Corporate Repairs (Repairs)	-	SCCRPS - Joinery Repairs SCCRPS - Joinery Repairs Attend to Rose Garden Cafe to change the locks	Complete	13702307	28/07/2022	26/08/2022 11:00
RFW070753	03190 - Graves Park -	SCC Corporate Repairs (Repairs)	441.90	SCCRSP-ROOFER - Rose Garden Cafe, roof leak for access cafe open 9-3 pm	Complete	13698789	07/03/2022	05/04/2022 09:17
RFW066794	03190 - Graves Park -	SCC Corporate Repairs (Repairs)	612.97	SCCRSP-PLAST - Please attend to some tiles and a corner of the roof of the Rose Garden Café in Graves Park being damaged and told that it looks like it's been knocked by something.	Complete	13655463	24/09/2021	25/10/2021 12:40
RFW062592	03190 - Graves Park -	SCC Corporate Repairs (Repairs)	5,957.65	SCCRSP-ROOFER - FTAO Investigate roof leaking problems in Rose Garden Cafe as requested by	Complete	13496738	18/02/2021	19/03/2021 16:11
RFW057700	03190 - Graves Park -	SCC Corporate Repairs (Repairs)	187.52	SCCRSP-ROOFER - Rose garden cafe- please check roof for leaks and repair, clear gutters and repair as required.	Complete	13328513	06/03/2020	06/04/2020 08:04
RFW055087	03190 - Graves Park -	SCC Corporate Repairs (Repairs)	51.75	SCCRSP-FAEL - CAFE TOILET BLOCK:- E/L in Dis WC facility. DB board located in CAD 106 running at the back of the toilets. Use PGM key for access. Let Café know what you're doing beforehand to avoid any disruption.	Complete	13190095	02/12/2019	31/12/2019 08:37
RFW052258	03190 - Graves Park -	SCC Corporate Repairs (Repairs)	547.68	SCCRSP-ROOFER - Repair to damaged guttering on rose garden cafe, located on the corner near ladies toilets.	Complete	131113073	29/08/2019	27/09/2019 12:19
RFW043176	03190 - Graves Park -	SCC Corporate Repairs (Repairs)	109.25	SCCRSP -JETTER Please attend ASAP to the drains behind the Rose Garden Cafe as they are backing up waste into cafe courtyard. Contact. scrsp miscellaneous Contact Lia Hanna at the rose garden cafe. A large plank of wood fell off above the front door today and nearly hit a member of the public. is about 1.5 metres wide and the area is rotten. Please attend to investigate and replace. You will need a platform for access.	Complete	12862154	24/09/2018	01/10/2018 09:37
RFW031766	03190 - Graves Park -	SCC Corporate Repairs (Repairs)	491.07	scrsp roofer Contact is ***** Back of the servery area above the fire exit door there is a leak. Please attend to investigate. Scaffolding may be required	Complete	12521059	26/06/2017	03/07/2017 16:09
RFW029997	03190 - Graves Park -	SCC Corporate Repairs (Repairs)	433.34	scrsp plumber Contact ***** - Blocked drains at the rear of the cafe - Jetter required.	Complete	46309059	20/07/2016	27/07/2016 11:33
RFW020987	03190 - Graves Park -	Kier Facilities Services Ltd (Repairs)	109.25	scrsp jetter Contact is ***** Please attend today to jet the drains at the Rose Garden Cafe.	Complete	45953893	13/06/2016	13/06/2016 19:54
RFW012015	03190 - Graves Park -	Kier Facilities Services Ltd (Repairs)	1,465.67	SCCRSP - Roof the rose garden cafe - roof tiles are dislodged	Complete	42607674	06/07/2015	04/08/2015 12:28
RFW003437	03190 - Graves Park -	Kier Facilities Services Ltd (Repairs)	101.27	There is a light that is not working at the Rose Garden Café Light repair. There is a light that is not working at the Rose Garden Café There is a number of lights that are not working at the Sports Pavilion in the wood working group area.	Complete	39548878	21/08/2014	22/09/2014 13:59
RFW003420	03190 - Graves Park -	Kier Facilities Services Ltd (Repairs)	-	Bricklayer. Repair steps from cafe to rose garden	Complete	39542454	21/08/2014	22/09/2014 08:38
CYP016508	03190 - Graves Park -	Kier Help Desk	-	RESITE OUTSIDE LIGHT TO NEW WOODEN CAFE	Complete		23/10/2013	20/11/2013 13:55
CYP010304	03190 - Graves Park -	Kier Help Desk	-		Complete		04/07/2012	20/07/2012 00:00

Appendix 2 – Table of Repairs Planned

See TF extract from condition survey data. Work elements that meet out minimum weighting score of 60 and are to be considered in 23/24 programme.

UPRN	Establishment	IW No	Element	Sub Element	Attribute	Qty	UOM	Defect	Remedy	Condition	Probability	Severity	Risk Score	Risk Rank	Cost
EST00608	Graves Park	IW00050870	Electrical Services	Lighting	Internal Lighting Renewal	7	nr	Health and Safety Issue	Investigate/Repair	Bad	Certain	Moderate	15	Significant	£511.37
EST00608	Graves Park	IW00050882	External Areas	Fencing	Natural Stone	2	sq m	Health and Safety Issue	Repair	Bad	Certain	Moderate	15	Significant	£318.78
EST00608	Graves Park	IW00050396	External Areas	Fencing	Natural Stone	340	sq m	Health and Safety Issue	Investigate/Repair	Bad	Certain	Major	20	High	£180,642.00
EST00608	Graves Park	IW00050301	External Walls and Doors	Construction Frame	Timber Frame	134	sq m	Decay	Replace	Bad	Certain	Major	20	High	£30,257.54
EST00608	Graves Park	IW00050918	External Walls and Doors	Construction Frame	Timber Frame	4	sq m	Decay	Replace	Bad	Certain	Moderate	15	Significant	£398.48
EST00608	Graves Park	IW00050849	External Walls and Doors	Construction Frame	Timber Frame	66	sq m	Decay	Replace	Bad	Certain	Moderate	15	Significant	£14,902.97
EST00608	Graves Park	IW00050866	External Walls and Doors	External Walls	Natural Stone	60	sq m	Damaged	Investigate/Repair	Bad	Certain	Major	20	High	£44,947.98
EST00608	Graves Park	IW00050871	External Walls and Doors	External Walls	Natural Stone	1	sq m	Health and Safety Issue	Replace	Bad	Certain	Moderate	15	Significant	£749.13
EST00608	Graves Park	IW00050844	External Walls and Doors	External Walls	Natural Stone	4	sq m	Cracked	Repair	Bad	Certain	Moderate	15	Significant	£2,996.53
EST00608	Graves Park	IW00050892	Internal Walls and Doors	Internal Walls	Natural Stone	1	sq m	Cracked	Investigate	Bad	Likely	Major	16	Significant	£1,328.25
EST00608	Graves Park	IW00050893	Internal Walls and Doors	Internal Walls	Natural Stone	1	sq m	Health and Safety Issue	Repair	Bad	Certain	Moderate	15	Significant	£936.42
EST00608	Graves Park	IW00050829	Internal Walls and Doors	Internal Walls	Render/Plaster	50	sq m	Damp	Replace	Bad	Certain	Moderate	15	Significant	£6,641.25
EST00608	Graves Park	IW00050899	Internal Walls and Doors	Internal Walls	Timber Cladding	3	sq m	Decay	Replace	Bad	Likely	Major	16	Significant	£996.19
EST00608	Graves Park	IW00050878	Roofs	Pitched Roofs	Concrete Tiles	138	sq m	Leak Issue	Replace	Bad	Certain	Major	20	High	£23,095.61

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