### **Public Document Pack**



Meeting:	EAP Health & Wellbeing and Vulnerable People	
Date:	Friday 1st October, 2021	
Time:	9.30 am	
Venue:	Council Chamber, Cedar Drive, Thrapston, NN14 4LZ	

# To members of the Executive Advisory Panel for Health & Wellbeing and Vulnerable People:

Councillors Harrison (Chair), Harrington, Lawal, McGhee, Roberts, Shacklock and Smith-Haynes

	Agenda			
ltem	Subject	Presenting Officer	Page no.	
01	Chair's Announcements			
02	Apologies for absence			
03	Members' Declarations of Interest			
04	Minutes of the Meeting Held On 27 August 2021		5 - 8	
05	Whole Systems Approach to Healthy Weight	Director of Public Health	9 - 16	
06	Afghan Refugees and Resettlement	Executive Director Adults, Communities & Wellbeing	17 - 36	
07	<ul> <li>Health &amp; Wellbeing Papers</li> <li>Initial feedback presentation following the Health &amp; Wellbeing Board workshop</li> </ul>	Executive Director Adults, Communities & Wellbeing	To Follow	
08	Forward Plan of Executive Items	Executive Director Adults, Communities & Wellbeing	37 - 44	

09	Work Programme	Democratic Services	45 - 46
010	<ul><li>Updates and Alerts</li><li>Winter flu prevention</li><li>Covid-19 booster vaccines.</li></ul>		Verbal Updates
011     Close of meeting       Adele Wylie, Monitoring Officer       North Northamptonshire Council			
	Proper Officer 23 September 2021		

This agenda has been published by Democratic Services. Committee Administrator: Francesca McHugo 207776634147 "@francesca.mchugo@northnorthants.gov.uk

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## Agenda Item 4



**Minutes of the meeting of the EAP for Health & Wellbeing and Vulnerable People** At 9.30 am on Friday 27th August, 2021 in the Council Chamber, Cedar Drive, Thrapston, NN14 4LZ

#### Present:-

#### Members

Councillor Helen Harrison (Chair) Councillor Ken Harrington Councillor King Lawal Councillor John McGhee Councillor Russell Roberts Councillor Chris Smith-Haynes

#### **Officers**

David Watts – Executive Director for Adults, Communities and Wellbeing

Francesca McHugo – Democratic Services

#### HWVP/10 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair welcomed Cllr H Howell and Cllr A Mercer to the meeting in their' capacity as Executive members.

The Chair announced that Item 06 would be deferred until the next meeting to allow adequate time for discussion on the Draft Corporate Plan.

In response to Cllr McGhee's query, the Chair assured members that views were welcomed on the items to be considered and future reports that would be brought to them for consideration.

#### HWVP/11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor G Shacklock.

#### HWVP/12 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Lawal requested it be recorded that he managed a social care company and was involved with Groundwork.

#### HWVP/13 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30 JULY 2021

The draft minutes of the Health, Wellbeing and Vulnerable EAP held on 30 July 2021 had been circulated.

It was RESOLVED that:

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 July 2021 be approved as a

correct record.

#### HWVP/14 DRAFT CORPORATE PLAN

The Executive Director, Adults, Communities and Wellbeing, introduced the Draft Corporate Plan and outlined the route for stakeholder engagement.

Members had received presentations on the priorities of the draft Corporate Plan which related to Adult's, Communities & Wellbeing and Public Health, for the Panel to consider and provide advice and feedback to the Executive.

The Executive Director informed members that the Corporate Plan would be a high-level document, with a more detailed 'daughter' document to follow. The additional document would include information about the actions to deliver the Plan once the Corporate Plan had been developed. It would be regularly reviewed.

Members welcomed the overarching themes and commitments of the priorities and looked forward to receiving the detail behind them.

During discussion, members raised the following points:

- Our council should always lead by example
- The wording used in the Corporate Plan needs to be clear and understood by <u>all</u>
- Councillors would like to see the detail of the policies under the headings
- Opportunities for those who need care to access learning and employment
- How can care leavers plan their' care and future goals with us?
- Need a clear understanding of Voluntary Sector involvement and impact
- Can we clarify how we will work with partners rather than just who we will work with?
  - i. Inc. training for informal carers
- We need to show carers that we care about them as well as the people that they care for
- Concessionary rates for Care Leavers and left behind communities
  - i. Remove the stigma (e.g. family passes)
  - ii. Could be linked to community volunteering in exchange for free/ concessionary access to Leisure Service
  - iii. Part of the future Corporate Parenting Offer? varied

opinions within the group as to whether we should aim to lead or work in partnership with WNC to avoid a postcode lottery scenario.

- Need to engage with residents to put pride back into communities helping our communities to help themselves
  - i. Support of Local Strategic Partnerships and Voluntary Sector Organisations
  - ii. How do we create sustainable projects that provide a permanent solution to support our left behind communities?
- Request to planning and development control to review HMO levels in Corby, improve areas of inadequate housing & building standards, and promote widespread community integration rather than pocket communities.
  - i. Request to build new Council housing to ensure we have control over housing standards and the building and integration of future communities.

It was AGREED that:

The following priorities identified by the Panel be considered by the Executive during the development of the Corporate Plan:

- i. Employment/ apprenticeship opportunities for looked after children to be offered within NNC and our strategic partners. (This could include future opportunities for young carers)
- ii. Reflect Levelling up agenda with the inclusion of set targets within the Corporate Plan.
- iii. Life-long learning opportunities (Partnership working)
- iv. Learning in prison with continued course provision on release.
- v. Ability appropriate learning and opportunities for community/workplace contribution.
- vi. Identification, support and respite for Young Carers
- vii. Inclusion of flexible respite options
- viii. Ensure that our housing policies provide appropriate offers for our varied current and future communities.

#### HWVP/15 WHOLE SYSTEMS APPROACH TO HEALTHY WEIGHT

The Chair confirmed that this item would be deferred until the next meeting and welcomed any written questions in advance of the October meeting.

#### HWVP/16 FORWARD PLAN OF EXECUTIVE ITEMS

Members considered the latest Executive forward plan of items, dated

from 1 August to 30 November.

The Executive Director provided an update on the 'Hearndon Court Project' and members discussed future opportunities for specialist housing development.

It was AGREED that:

The Executive forward plan of items be noted.

#### HWVP/17 WORK PROGRAMME

Members considered the latest work programme for the Panel and noted that the Whole Systems Approach to healthy weight would be considered on 1 October.

It was AGREED that:

The work programme of Panel items be noted.

The Chair allowed opportunity for updates and alerts which would form part of future agendas.

Members were presented with a brief verbal update on:

- The progress of the Integrated Care System
- The review of Adult Social Care provider staff pay and conditions.
- The Council's response to the Afghan refugee resettlement
- Vaccination of staff within residential care provider services

#### HWVP/18 CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chair thanked members and officers for their' attendance and closed the meeting.

Chair

Date

The meeting closed at 11.48 am

#### Whole Systems Approach to Healthy Weight Briefing Paper Public Health Northamptonshire 2021

#### 1. Purpose of this paper

- 1. For information and assurance through the contents of this report.
- 2. Ensure this work is aligned to projects within the Council.
- 3. To identify further key stakeholders to be involved; political champions and appropriate governance arrangements.

#### 2. Context

Obesity is a complex problem with multiple causes and significant implications for health and beyond. We know that there is no one single solution. Tackling such an ingrained problem requires a long-term, system-wide approach that make obesity everybody's business, is tailored to local needs and works across the life course.' <sup>1</sup>

In July 2019 PHE brought out their research surrounding the four years of pilot work on the Whole Systems Approach (WSA) to obesity<sup>2</sup> which complements the LGA report of 2017<sup>3</sup>.

A local WSA responds to complexity through an ongoing, dynamic and flexible way of working. It enables local stakeholders, including communities, to come together, share an understanding of the reality of the challenge, consider how the local system is operating and where there are the greatest opportunities for change. Stakeholders agree actions and decide as a network how to work together in an integrated way to bring about sustainable, long-term systems change.

Actions to tackle healthy weight and obesity at a local level do not just benefit people's health. They can have positive impacts on other local agendas, including employability, education, the environment and transport. The WSA adds value by providing the opportunity to engage stakeholders across the wider system to develop a shared vision and actions that tackle driver's right across the system. Figure 1, below illustrates the key components of this work and gives some examples of current actions for each. A WSA works on all these areas simultaneously with an agreed plan to effectively impact on healthy weight and obesity.

Nationally, obesity is a key priority and Covid has meant it has been even more highlighted as a challenge that needs addressing. The government has initiated a new national policy<sup>4</sup> and provided additional investment to boost current activities and requirements and to emphasise that all Integrated Care Systems prioritise this work. The recent LGA briefing, 2021<sup>5</sup>, has also highlighted the role of local authorities in this work. It advocates for robust weight management services within a whole-system approach to tackling healthy weight and obesity, and particularly following Covid to focus on those most in need – men, people living with obesity from deprived areas and

<sup>4</sup> DHSC, 2020, Tackling Obesity: empowering adults and children to live healthier lives. source:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> PHE, 2019, Whole Systems Approach to Obesity: A guide to support local approaches to promoting a healthy weight. <sup>2</sup> Ibid 1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> LGA 2017, Making Obesity Everybody's Business <u>Making obesity everybody's business: A whole systems approach to obesity | Local</u> <u>Government Association</u> 04/11/2019

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tackling-obesity-government-strategy 27/07/2020 <sup>5</sup> LGA, 2021, Must Know: behavioural weight management services – a guide to tackling obesity. <u>Must know: behavioural weight</u> management services – a guide to tackling obesity | Local Government Association 27/07/2021

people from BAME groups and to ensure inclusive services for people with protected characteristics.

Figure 1: Framework for the Whole Systems Approach in relation to Healthy Weight		
(With examples of current initiatives in Northamptonshire for each aspect)		

Partnership approach and engagement Event – Autumn Mapping events Governance	Communication and marketing Awareness raising and education Campaigns Behavioural insight	Workforce skills and knowledge development MECC (Making Every Contact Count) 'Let's talk about weight'	<b>Pregnancy and Infants</b> Infant feeding Baby Friendly Initiative Peer breastfeeding support Healthy lifestyles midwives Healthy Start
Providing access to services including weight management and Exercise on Referral Contract Weight Management Exercise on Referral Tier1 -4 Pathways Schools and early years' settings Healthy schools Scheme 'Healthy Me' early years	to Healthy Weig Partner an conversat engageme ambitions Data colle Hotsp /LSOA	ent to develop the and actions. ection and briefings ot areas at MSOA level	Activating communities in supporting healthy eating and active lives initiatives Community cooking & growing Adult learning Universal children's offer Local community voice Create an environment that promotes physical activity Green spaces
NCMP and healthy lifestyle groups (NHFT) Weight management pathways Special schools	mana • Behaviou	t groups for weight gement ral insight of the narrative	Nsport strategy Country parks lottery project Healthy walks
<b>Creating Healthy</b> <b>workplaces</b> Standards and product offer Workplace roles and plans	Planning a healthy environment Planning Licensing Local Nature Partnership SPD's on Hot food takeaways in Local Plans	Active travel CWIS – cycling and walking strategy LCWIP Transport plans Town transport strategies	The food environment and access to healthy foods Eat Out Eat Well Award Sustainable Food Places Procurement for public services Community food Food poverty

The Long Term Plan 2021/22 planning guidance sets out a requirement for the acceleration of preventative programmes and proactive health management for groups at greatest risk of poor health outcomes. The new Weight Management Enhanced Service encourages practices to develop a supportive environment for clinicians to engage with patients living with obesity about their weight, and provides up to £20m funding for referrals to weight management services. This enhanced service goes alongside a broader expansion of weight management services, including the launch of the NHS Digital Weight Management Service for those with hypertension and diabetes, and further investment into local authority tier 2 services.

The government has recently invested through PHE over £30m into local authorities commissioned adult behavioural weight management services. This has been aggregated on our levels of population, obesity and deprivation and the figure for West Northamptonshire for 2021/22 is £211,075 and for North Northamptonshire is £181,070.

#### 3. Local need

With almost two thirds of the adult population across the county and a third of 11-yearolds being overweight or obese the scale of the challenge to tackle is stark and clear. It is mirrored nationally and has implications beyond the individual and health. It impacts on life chances physically, economically and emotionally and is a key priority as demonstrated in table 1 below.

Table 1: Proportion of resident's overweight or obese in Northamptonshire <sup>6</sup>		
Children Reception (age 4-5) 11)	Year 6 (age 10-	Adults 18+
22%	32%	64%
North Northamptonshire		
24%	34%	66%
West Northamptonshire		
21%	30%	62%

#### 4. Background

At the onset of this work in 2019 it was clear that there were services, work and initiatives across the system influencing the environment in Northamptonshire that support the healthy weight agenda. However, this work was not necessarily joined up, working to shared targets and agendas or working across all areas, or utilising data and soft intelligence to determine need and actions.

The past 18 months has seen the networking and mapping of this area and development of how a coordinated plan across the two new Unitary Authorities can be initiated. This plan is being led by public health and in partnership with stakeholders will identify clear ambitions and targets for a system wide approach to tackling issues surrounding healthy weight.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> PHE Fingertips website <u>Public Health Profiles - PHE</u> 05/05/2021

The first partnership conversation was held through a webinar in November 2020 with over 40 partners across the system coming together to share best practice, agree challenges and how we can work together to develop a system wide coordinated plan. This work is now expanding and with the inauguration of the two new Unitary Authorities a workplan is being developed with partners.

#### 5. Progress to date

#### 5.1 Development of the whole systems framework

Public Health has been networking with key partners across the system, including NHS, Primary Care, Local Authority Planning, Transport, Education, NSport, Voluntary and Community Sector and mapping services across the system to understand the current position and identify opportunities for partnership working. Planning for a series of webinars is in progress to consider each aspect of the framework and agree plans and ambition. These will include potential targets and plans for the years 2022 and beyond.

#### 5.2 Draft WSA strategy

Currently drafting the template for a document that pulls together the principles, ambitions and workplan of the project following events, conversations and webinars. By January 2022 an overarching plan with actions and targets will be drafted for approval. Each aspect of the whole systems approach (WSA) will have a lead group or person who informs and helps drive the document objectives and action plan. Integral in the document is a clarity of the targets, goals and monitoring and evaluation plans to ensure we can identify the difference made and the gaps still existing.

#### 5.3 Development of weight management services and pathways

Public Health are working in partnership with the CCG on weight management pathway development from universal to tier 4, incorporating the LA and CCG services. This has included re-tendering of tier 2 adult weight management services, with the new providers commencing in April 2021.

 Local Authority Tier 2 weight management services - There are currently three providers for tier 2 services in the council, which are: Slimming World; Northampton Town Football Club and a digital offer from Solutions for Health – all self-referrals. Self-referral site is <u>here</u>.

Currently working with Sarah Barnes on a collective weight management pathway page for system 1 that also takes into account the NDPP work.

- PHE fund for Tier 2 weight management services as mentioned above, PHE have provided additional in-year funding to increase the reach of Tier 2 services and target specific groups not currently engaging with services. In order to identify and encourage more community-based programmes an 'Expression of Interest' for funding has been circulated to community and voluntary groups. 15 applications across the county have been received and are currently being evaluated and if successful will commence in the autumn. A second round is also planned.
- Enhanced GP Service & launch of National Digital Weight Management Service
   The LTP 2021/22 planning guidance sets out a requirement for the acceleration of preventative programmes and proactive health management for groups at greatest risk of poor health outcomes. The Weight Management Enhanced Service

encourages practices to develop a supportive environment for clinicians to engage with patients living with obesity about their weight, and provides up to £20m funding nationally for referrals to weight management services. This enhanced service goes alongside a broader expansion of weight management services, including the launch of the NHS Digital Weight Management Service for those with hypertension and diabetes, and further investment into local authority tier 2 services. This service launched on 1st July. Public Health are working with the CCG to ensure that pathways and referrals into services are clear for the system.

#### 5.4 Communications and engagement

Public Health have launched a new campaign 'Your Roadmap to Better Health' to promote health and wellbeing and will develop and deliver a wider communication and engagement plan throughout 2021. The aim is to increase community engagement in order to raise awareness, access and usage of relevant services. This will involve particularly working with targeted groups that are not currently accessing services. It will also utilise the national government 'Better Health' campaign material.

#### 5.5 West Northants Sustainable Food Place (WNSFP)

In West Northants a group of key organisations representing a wide range of interest in good, sustainable food, including Public Health, has come together to inspire and coordinate work under the 6 criteria below and produce a sustainable food strategy for our area, which aligns to the WSA programme.

- Taking a strategic and collaborative approach to good food governance and action
- Building public awareness, active food citizenship and a local good food movement
- Tackling food poverty, diet related ill-health and access to affordable healthy food
- Creating a vibrant, prosperous and diverse sustainable food economy
- Transforming catering and procurement and revitalizing local supply chains
- Tackling the climate and nature emergency through sustainable food and farming and an end to food waste7

The group obtained registration as a Sustainable Food Place in April of 2021. Northampton Hope Centre convenes the work of the partnership and chairs meetings, and with Sustain and Lottery funding employs a development worker. A number of subgroups have been set up and Public Health are chairing the Food and Health Partnership Group which has held its first meeting. The group's aim is to agree a shared framework of action on food and health.

A similar food network is beginning to form in the North under the Chair of Elaine O'Leary from Northamptonshire ACRE and Public Health are a key partner along with others from North Northants.

#### 5.6 Planning partnerships

Prior to unitary status Public Health have worked with planning teams to develop and implement planning policies creating healthier environments. By taking this approach, we can work with the local planning system to improve access to healthy food. Northampton has included a 'Hot Food Takeaways' policy in their Local Plan, only permitting new hot food takeaway proposals located at least 400m from any primary or secondary school entrance. Additionally, Public Health respond to planning application

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Sustain: Sustainable food places criteria, <u>https://www.sustainablefoodplaces.org/about/our\_approach/</u> 26/05/2021

consultations where there are applications impacting on the food environment. In the new unitary authorities, Public Health will continue to work with planning teams on the development of policies that improve the food environment across the whole county, encouraging healthier food choices and enhancing access to good, local food.

#### 5.7 Physical Activity Network

The 2018/21 Northamptonshire Physical Activity Framework needs updating for 2022. Public Health have established a network group with an initial focus on bringing in partners from primary care and the NHS, in order to ensure the new framework uses the whole systems view. Keys links have been made contributing to the proposed development of the pathway for physical activity across the universal to tier 4 health spectrum. This framework will be an integral strategy in the whole system approach and the goal is to ensure it explores the areas highlighted in figure 1 above and identifies current best practice, opportunities and challenges.

#### 5.8 Updating JSNA documents

Task and finish group set up to refresh the data that informs the narrative for this work. The initial JSNA Insight Pack will be available in September 2021.

#### 6. Future Plans

#### 2021/22

- By September 2021 hold the initial internal WSA project board and agree the direction of travel and the governance structure for this work. This will include taking the project through CLT / ELT, CCG and Councillor briefings.
- Continue the networking across identified groups. Particularly NHS; business; voluntary sector and communities. This ongoing work will increase the awareness of the initiative across partners and communities and identify key champions. Meeting with the '1001 Days' strategic group to begin discussions on their work and contribution to this agenda.
- Develop a series of webinars for schools in partnership with the Healthy Schools Advisers.
- Identify and work with commissioners and officers in the CCG / ICS regarding the whole system and joint working. The recent Kings Fund report, 2021, clearly describes the role of the NHS and primary care in the whole system approach<sup>8</sup>.
- To ensure a wide reach of this work we are keen to identify key senior management and political champions in each of the 2 new unitary authorities who can drive this work.
- Developing a grant model to encourage and facilitate community approaches and solutions particularly in the areas of cooking skills, growing food and being active.

#### 2022/23

Further implementation of the plans and review of the current position and forward targets and ambitions developed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Holmes, J., 2021, Tackling Obesity: The role of the NHS in a whole-system approach. Kings Fund.

#### 7. Recommendations

Elected members are pivotal in ensuring this work is championed and signalling that this is a priority for North Northamptonshire and engaging the local community and local community assets.

We therefore ask, that Councillors support and endorse the whole systems approach described above in Public Health tackling healthy weight and obesity.

- This work will enable the whole system to come together and identify shared agendas and goals in line with the Corporate Plan, Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Integrated Care System Plans.
- Identify a political champion who can work together with Public Health in leading and driving this work.

Project lead: Deborah Mbofana - Public Health Practitioner (NNC), August 2021

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### Health, Wellbeing and Vulnerable People Executive Advisory Panel 01 October 2021

Report Title	Afghan refugees and resettlement
Report Author	David Watts Executive Director for Adults, Communities and Wellbeing
Lead Member	Cllr Helen Harrison, Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing

Key Decision	□ Yes	🛛 No
Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny?	□ Yes	🛛 No
Are there public sector equality duty implications?	□ Yes	⊠ No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information (whether in appendices or not)?	□ Yes	⊠ No
Applicable paragraph number for exemption from publication under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1974		

#### List of Appendices

Appendix 1 Report to the Leader Appendix 2 Decision Notice

#### 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. To provide the EAP with an update on the progress made in developing the Council's response to the Afghan resettlement situation and to seek advice from EAP members endorsement of the approach and contributions that the EAP members would want both the Executive and officers to consider as it further develops the councils response.

#### 2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The background to the Afghan resettlement and the council's pledge to date is set out in appendix 1 and 2.
- 2.2 There were three likely requests on local authorities to supporting the efforts in relation to Afghan refugees:

- 1) Managed Quarantine Service (MQS)
- 2) Bridging Hotels
- 3) Longer term resettlement of Afghan families
- 2.3 At this point no MQS have been set up in North Northamptonshire. It is important to note that whilst airlifts of refugees directly from Kabul airport ended on 31 August 2021, there is still an ongoing commitment to support refugees that leave Afghanistan over land borders. As time progresses the requirement for MQS should reduce although this will depend on the volumes of people continuing to exit Afghanistan through other bordering countries.
- 2.4 In addition, to date there have been no bridging hotels identified in North Northamptonshire, however two have been identified and mobilised in West Northamptonshire.
- 2.5 Sourcing of suitable bridging hotels is being undertaken directly by the Home Office and the council has no influence over whether local hotels are used. This is causing some negative press around the councils' response, despite being out of the council's control and as an area the Leader has stated we are here to help and support Afghan Refugees.
- 2.6 A North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) Tactical Coordination Group (TCG) has been stood up to coordinate the council response. The Senior Responsible Officer for this response is the Executive Director for Adults, Communities and Wellbeing.
- 2.7 Appropriate governance systems are in place to manage delivery of this activity however further consideration of reporting routes needs to be agreed to ensure the Executive and Corporate Leadership Team are appropriately sighted on this activity.
- 2.8 It is important that a council pledge around how many families it will support was made for a number of reasons including 1) the moral obligation to support Afghans that have supported the allied forces over the last 20 years in Afghanistan in resettling and building new lives through being welcomed in to our communities, and 2) with bridging hotels, despite best intentions, not being the best environments for families for anything more than a few days or weeks.
- 2.9 External communications will be an important part of ensuring a wide range of stakeholders understand the council's response and it is important to note that the council's response to date is an initial response and there is the intention to extend our pledges of support further as and when this is possible.

#### 3. Recommendations

- 3.1 It is recommended that the EAP:
  - a) Note and consider the council response to date to the Afghan resettlement requests and the initial pledge made to support families to resettle in North Northamptonshire

- b) Note the work to date in mobilising the North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) Afghan Resettlement Tactical Coordination Group (TCG) and preparatory work undertaken in anticipation of both a bridging hotel and longer-term resettlement requests
- c) Provide feedback and suggestions to the Executive members on areas of further development that the Executive and officers may explore as it refines and delivers against its current and future pledges
- 3.2 The reasons for the recommendations can be summarised as follows:
  - a) To enable the EAP to understand the approach to date and provide advice to executive members on how it may consider future approaches to supporting resettlement of Afghan families in North Northamptonshire.

#### 4. Report Background

4.1 The background to this report has been well reported nationally. This report will provide an update on key activity including preparation for resettlement of Afghan families in North Northamptonshire

#### 5. **Progress to date**

#### 5.1 <u>Requests that have come forward to all local authorities</u>

- 5.1.1 In summary, there are likely to be three types of requests that will continue to come forward from central government to all local authorities:
  - 4) Managed Quarantine Service (MQS)
  - 5) Bridging Hotels
  - 6) Longer term resettlement of Afghan families
- 5.1.2 At this point no MQS or Bridging hotels have been set up in North Northamptonshire. It is important to note that whilst airlifts of refugees directly from Kabul airport ended on 31 August 2021, there is still an ongoing commitment to support refugees that leave Afghanistan over land borders. As time progresses the requirement for MQS and bridging hotels should reduce although this will depend on the volumes of people continuing to exit Afghanistan through other bordering countries.

#### 5.2 <u>North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) Afghan Resettlement Tactical</u> <u>Coordination Group (TCG)</u>

- 5.2.1 In order to coordinate the council's response a task and finish group was mobilised, and governance arrangements put in place to coordinate the council's response.
- 5.2.2 The Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) for the TCG is the Executive Director for Adults, Communities and Wellbeing. The following departments are represented on the TCG:
  - Housing

- Communities
- Revenue and Benefits
- Finance
- Emergency Planning
- Education
- Children's Services (Northamptonshire Children's Trust)
- Adult Social Care
- 5.2.3 Where necessary, and as required, additional staff from across council departments will be co-opted on to the TCG in order to ensure the right skills are available to develop and deliver activities efficiently on behalf of the council.
- 5.2.4 Detailed action, risk, issues and lessons learned logs are in place and a repository of guidance notes and documents has been developed.
- 5.3 Support provided to the Bridging Hotel activity in West Northamptonshire
- 5.3.1 As a bridging hotel has not yet been identified and mobilised by the Home Office in the North Northamptonshire area, mutual aid has been offered to support the activity being led by West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) in relation to the two bridging hotels in West Northamptonshire.
- 5.3.2 A pool of 17 members of staff have been identified, up to 12 from Housing and Communities and up to 5 from Adult Services. The purpose of this pool of staff is three-fold:
  - 1) to ensure we have adequate resources able to mobilise at short notice to support a bridging hotel in North Northamptonshire
  - 2) whilst there is not a bridging hotel in the area, we have offered access to this pool of staff as mutual aid to support WNC in delivering activity in the two bridging hotels in West Northamptonshire
  - 3) To enable learning that will support NNC in its ongoing preparation for both prospective bridging hotels and longer-term resettlement
- 5.4 <u>Preparing for a Bridging Hotel & longer-term resettlement in North</u> <u>Northamptonshire</u>
- 5.4.1 Whilst to date there has not been a suitable hotel identified by the government in the North Northamptonshire geographic footprint. It is now unlikely that there will be a requirement to step-up a bridging hotel in North Northamptonshire.
- 5.4.2 Initial contact has been made with a number of voluntary sector partners with regards to their potential help and support with both the initial short-term issues, such as advice, activity packs for families and children, and longer-term support for example to help with furniture for housing. A local Muslim Community Leader in Corby has been contacted for cultural and religious advice, as well as a local Inter-Faith leader from the Kettering area.
- 5.4.3 A webpage has been developed that enables people to submit details of their donations and enables us to clearly communicate the items that we are in need of, this will enable us to manage and target donations. In addition, we are liaising with a local charity who have significant capacity in Kettering to manage, sort and prepare donations to partner on donation management.

- 5.4.4 The overall approach to managing donations focusses on asking what people are offering, either items or support, and then confirming whether they are required at present. This is to ensure that appropriate items and support are prioritised and enable us to communicate any high need items.
- 5.4.5 Cultural awareness training continues to be explored with East Midlands Councils, to brief and support those council staff members who will be working with the families that resettle in North Northamptonshire.
- 5.4.6 We have connected with Leicester and Coventry City Councils, who have wellestablished programmes through their ongoing support to Syrian resettlement and their Afghan response.

#### 5.5 <u>The council pledge – longer term resettlement</u>

- 5.5.1 A number of councils have already made specific pledges regarding the numbers of families they will offer to support. NNC has previously indicated to government that it would make a more specific pledge.
- 5.5.2 In making a pledge the council needs to consider availability of appropriate housing, places in primary and secondary education, how it will support refugees to find and be successful in gaining employment to further support independence and the work it will need to undertake with local communities to support integration.
- 5.5.3 The pledge agreed by North Northamptonshire Council under delegated powers available to the Leader is:

"A commitment is made to support a minimum of 10 Afghan families to resettle in the North Northamptonshire area with associated support from the council working closely with our partners.

Furthermore, following resettlement of 10 families, the council commits to continue to identify opportunities to extend our pledge and explore how the council can support a greater number of families."

#### 6 Implications (including financial implications)

#### 6.1 Resources and Financial

- 6.1.1 The government has put in place funds that can be accessed to support people both in bridging hotels and for longer term resettlement. This includes bridging the gap between housing benefit and higher costs associated with leasing larger properties for larger family units from the private rental sector.
- 6.1.2 At this point it is not clear what the longer-term costs of supporting resettled families will be.
- 6.1.3 Human resources will play an important part in supporting the integration of resettled families into the local area, this will include time of benefits, housing

and communities' staff, work with community groups, community safety partnerships and strategic partners.

6.1.4 At present the officers identified come primarily from the Adults, Communities and Wellbeing directorate, however it may be necessary to free up additional staff from across other directorates to support this programme.

#### 6.2 Legal

6.2.1 There are no direct legal implications as a result of the matters raised in this report.

#### 6.3 Risk

- 6.3.1 Skills gaps could be a risk to the success of this work both in relation to having to support a bridging hotel within the North Northamptonshire area and longer-term resettlement approaches. Mitigations put in place have included working with East Midlands Councils to explore training and learning opportunities for key staff that will be supporting with this programme.
- 6.3.2 Contact has been made with both Coventry and Leicester City Councils who have established refugee resettlement programmes in place and both councils have confirmed they are happy for their leads to liaise with NNC officers in developing our own responses, informed by their approaches and lessons learned.
- 6.3.3 There is potential risk around community tensions towards families temporarily accommodated in hotel accommodation and with those settling more permanently in local areas.
- 6.3.4 The council's communications will need to focus on supporting people to positively settle and integrate, how people can appropriately help/donate, and myth bust where it appears that assumptions are being made/may be made that are wrong or could lead to negative attitudes towards families settling.
- 6.3.5 The contribution of members of these families supported the UK role in Afghanistan. It is important that there is recognition of their efforts that, under intimidation in Afghanistan, have been heroic, and the reasons why these families are being resettled in the UK is also due to the very likely event of persecution if they were to remain in Afghanistan.

#### 6.4 Consultation

6.4.1 No specific local consultation has been undertaken. This activity has been initiated and undertaken following events unfolding in Afghanistan over the previous month to six weeks.

#### 6.5 Consideration by Scrutiny

6.5.1 This matter has not been considered by the Scrutiny Commission; however, the SRO has offered to provide the Health, Wellbeing and Vulnerable People Executive Advisory Panel with an update briefing on the approaches taken.

#### 6.6 Climate Impact

6.6.1 There are no direct climate impacts as a result of the matters discussed in this report.

#### 6.7 Community Impact

6.7.1 Community impacts have been highlighted in main body and the risk section of this report.

#### 7 Background Papers & Reading

#### 7.1 Background Papers, web links and reading

- 7.1.1 <u>Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy: further information on eligibility</u> <u>criteria and offer details - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>
- 7.1.2 <u>Afghan locally employed staff relocation schemes.docx</u> (publishing.service.gov.uk)
- 7.1.3 <u>Additional guidance on the eligibility of additional family members under the</u> <u>Afghan locally employed staff relocation schemes (publishing.service.gov.uk)</u>

#### 8 Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix 1: Report to the Leader
- 8.2 Appendix 2: Decision notice

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# Appendix



### Report to the Leader 09 September 2021

Report Title	Afghan refugees and resettlement
Report Author	David Watts Executive Director for Adults, Communities and Wellbeing
Lead Member	Cllr Helen Harrison, Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing

Key Decision	□ Yes	🛛 No
Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny?	□ Yes	🛛 No
Are there public sector equality duty implications?	□ Yes	⊠ No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information (whether in appendices or not)?	□ Yes	⊠ No
Applicable paragraph number for exemption from publication under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1974		

#### List of Appendices

There are no appendices, however a series of web-links have been provided to relevant parts of government guidance for the Afghan Resettlement Scheme

#### 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. To provide the Leader with an update on the progress made in developing the Council's response to the Afghan resettlement situation and to seek agreement for the council's pledge to support the longer-term resettlement of several families within North Northamptonshire communities.

#### 2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The urgent requirement to support refugees from Afghanistan is well documented nationally.
- 2.2 There were three likely requests on local authorities to supporting the efforts in relation to Afghan refugees:
  - 1) Managed Quarantine Service (MQS)
  - 2) Bridging Hotels
  - 3) Longer term resettlement of Afghan families

- 2.3 At this point no MQS have been set up in North Northamptonshire. It is important to note that whilst airlifts of refugees directly from Kabul airport ended on 31 August 2021, there is still an ongoing commitment to support refugees that leave Afghanistan over land borders. As time progresses the requirement for MQS should reduce although this will depend on the volumes of people continuing to exit Afghanistan through other bordering countries.
- 2.4 In addition, to date there have been no bridging hotels identified in North Northamptonshire, however two have been identified and mobilised in West Northamptonshire.
- 2.5 Sourcing of suitable bridging hotels is being undertaken directly by the Home Office and the council has no influence over whether local hotels are used. This is causing some negative press around the councils' response, despite being out of the council's control and as an area the Leader has stated we are here to help and support Afghan Refugees.
- 2.6 A North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) Tactical Coordination Group (TCG) has been stood up to coordinate the council response. The Senior Responsible Officer for this response is the Executive Director for Adults, Communities and Wellbeing.
- 2.7 Appropriate governance systems are in place to manage delivery of this activity however further consideration of reporting routes needs to be agreed to ensure the Executive and Corporate Leadership Team are appropriately sighted on this activity.
- 2.8 It is important that a council pledge around how many families it will support is forthcoming for a number of reasons including the moral obligation to support refugees fleeing Afghanistan and with bridging hotels, despite best intentions, not being the best environments for families for anything more than a few days or weeks.
- 2.9 External communications will be an important part of ensuring a wide range of stakeholders understand the council's response into this crisis.

#### 3. Recommendations

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Leader:
  - a) Consider and agree, through delegated powers, the council's response to Afghan resettlement requests and a firm commitment pledge to supporting a number of families to resettle in North Northamptonshire Communities.
  - b) Note the work to date in mobilising the North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) Afghan Resettlement Tactical Coordination Group (TCG) and preparatory work undertaken in anticipation of both a bridging hotel and longer-term resettlement requests.

c) Agree the council's "pledge":

"A commitment is made to support a minimum of 10 Afghan families to resettle in the North Northamptonshire area with associated support from the council, working closely with our partners.

Furthermore, following resettlement of 10 families, the council commits to continue to identify opportunities to extend our pledge and explore how the council can support a greater number of families."

- 3.2 The reasons for the recommendations can be summarised as follows:
  - a) To ensure urgent consideration and agreement of the council's approach to Afghan resettlement.

#### 4. Report Background

4.4 The background to this report has been well reported nationally. This report will provide an update on key activity including preparation for the likelihood of a bridging hotel in North Northamptonshire and longer-term resettlement matters including a firm council pledge.

#### 5 Progress to date

- 5.1 Requests that have come forward to all local authorities
- 5.1.1 In summary, there are likely to be three types of requests that will continue to come forward from central government to all local authorities:
  - 4) Managed Quarantine Service (MQS)
  - 5) Bridging Hotels
  - 6) Longer term resettlement of Afghan families
- 5.1.2 At this point no MQS or Bridging hotels have been set up in North Northamptonshire. It is important to note that whilst airlifts of refugees directly from Kabul airport ended on 31 August 2021, there is still an ongoing commitment to support refugees that leave Afghanistan over land borders. As time progresses the requirement for MQS and bridging hotels should reduce although this will depend on the volumes of people continuing to exit Afghanistan through other bordering countries.

#### 5.2 <u>North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) Afghan Resettlement Tactical</u> <u>Coordination Group (TCG)</u>

- 5.2.1 In order to coordinate the council's response a task and finish group was mobilised, and governance arrangements put in place to coordinate the council's response.
- 5.2.2 The Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) for the TCG is the Executive Director for Adults, Communities and Wellbeing. The following departments are represented on the TCG:

- Housing
- Communities
- Revenue and Benefits
- Finance
- Emergency Planning
- Education
- Children's Services (Northamptonshire Children's Trust)
- Adult Social Care
- 5.2.3 Where necessary, and as required, additional staff from across council departments will be co-opted on to the TCG in order to ensure the right skills are available to develop and deliver activities efficiently on behalf of the council.
- 5.2.4 Detailed action, risk, issues and lessons learned logs are in place and a repository of guidance notes and documents has been developed.
- 5.3 Support provided to the Bridging Hotel activity in West Northamptonshire
- 5.3.1 As a bridging hotel has not yet been identified and mobilised by the Home Office in the North Northamptonshire area, mutual aid has been offered to support the activity being led by West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) in relation to the two bridging hotels in West Northamptonshire.
- 5.3.2 A pool of 17 members of staff have been identified, up to 12 from Housing and Communities and up to 5 from Adult Services. The purpose of this pool of staff is three-fold:
  - 1) to ensure we have adequate resources able to mobilise at short notice to support a bridging hotel in North Northamptonshire
  - 2) whilst there is not a bridging hotel in the area, we have offered access to this pool of staff as mutual aid to support WNC in delivering activity in the two bridging hotels in West Northamptonshire
  - 3) To enable learning that will support NNC in its ongoing preparation for both prospective bridging hotels and longer-term resettlement
- 5.4 <u>Preparing for a Bridging Hotel & longer-term resettlement in North</u> <u>Northamptonshire</u>
- 5.4.1 Whilst to date there has not been a suitable hotel identified by the government in the North Northamptonshire geographic footprint, the TCG continues to prepare for the eventuality that a hotel in North Northamptonshire may be mobilised.
- 5.4.2 The Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), have fielded representatives at the Northamptonshire Tactical Coordination Group (TCG). They have reported that those airlifted from Afghanistan were unable to bring large amounts of belongings and will require support with basic needs such as clothing, toiletries, baby food and nappies.
- 5.4.3 Activities for families with children in the bridging hotels will be required, this could include toys and colouring books, but other resources could be required as we get to know more about the families coming into the bridging hotels.

- 5.4.4 Initial contact has been made with a number of voluntary sector partners with regards to their potential help and support with both the initial short-term issues, such as advice, activity packs for families and children, and longer-term support for example to help with furniture for housing. A local Muslim Community Leader in Corby has been contacted for cultural and religious advice, as well as a local Inter-Faith leader from the Kettering area.
- 5.4.5 A webpage has been developed that enables people to submit details of their donations and enables us to clearly communicate the items that we are in need of, this will enable us to manage and target donations. In addition, we are liaising with a local charity who have significant capacity in Kettering to manage, sort and prepare donations to partner on donation management. Once confirmed these arrangements will be publicised.
- 5.4.6 Options for cultural awareness training are being explored with East Midlands Councils, to brief and support those council and hotel staff members who will be working with the refugees.
- 5.4.7 Work has been done in engaging with several external organisations, to support refugees in making benefit claims and potentially to offer a whole package of support, which would also include Immigration status proof, national insurance applications which then enables access/support to welfare benefits and services.
- 5.4.8 We have connected with Leicester and Coventry City Councils, who have wellestablished programmes through their ongoing support to Syrian resettlement and their Afghan response.

#### 5.5 <u>The council pledge – longer term resettlement</u>

- 5.5.1 A number of councils have already made specific pledges regarding the numbers of families they will offer to support. NNC has previously indicated to government that it would make a more specific pledge.
- 5.5.2 In making a pledge the council needs to consider availability of appropriate housing, places in primary and secondary education, how it will support refugees to find and be successful in gaining employment to further support independence and the work it will need to undertake with local communities to support integration.
- 5.5.3 The proposed pledge by North Northamptonshire Council to be made by the Leader is:

"A commitment is made to support a minimum of 10 Afghan families to resettle in the North Northamptonshire area with associated support from the council working closely with our partners.

Furthermore, following resettlement of 10 families, the council commits to continue to identify opportunities to extend our pledge and explore how the council can support a greater number of families."

#### 6 Implications (including financial implications)

#### 6.1 Resources and Financial

- 6.1.1 The government has put in place funds that can be accessed to support people both in bridging hotels and for longer term resettlement. This includes bridging the gap between housing benefit and higher costs associated with leasing larger properties for larger family units from the private rental sector.
- 6.1.2 At this point it is not clear what the longer-term costs of supporting resettled families will be.
- 6.1.3 Human resources will play an important part in supporting the integration of resettled families into the local area, this will include time of benefits, housing and communities' staff, work with community groups, community safety partnerships and strategic partners.
- 6.1.4 At present the officers identified come primarily from the Adults, Communities and Wellbeing directorate, however it may be necessary to free up additional staff from across other directorates to support this programme.

#### 6.2 Legal

6.2.1 There are no direct legal implications as a result of the matters raised in this report.

#### 6.3 Risk

- 6.3.1 Skills gaps could be a risk to the success of this work both in relation to having to support a bridging hotel within the North Northamptonshire area and longer-term resettlement approaches. Mitigations put in place have included working with East Midlands Councils to explore training and learning opportunities for key staff that will be supporting with this programme.
- 6.3.2 Contact has been made with both Coventry and Leicester City Councils who have established refugee resettlement programmes in place and both councils have confirmed they are happy for their leads to liaise with NNC officers in developing our own responses, informed by their approaches and lessons learned.
- 6.3.3 There is potential risk around community tensions towards refugees temporarily accommodated in hotel accommodation and with those settling more permanently in local areas.
- 6.3.4 The council's communications will need to focus on supporting people to positively settle and integrate, how people can appropriately help/donate, and myth bust where it appears that assumptions are being made/may be made that are wrong or could lead to negative attitudes towards families settling.
- 6.3.5 The contribution of members of these families supported the UK role in Afghanistan. It is important that there is recognition of their efforts that, under intimidation in Afghanistan, have been heroic, and the reasons why these

families are being resettled in the UK is also due to the very likely event of persecution if they were to remain in Afghanistan.

#### 6.4 Consultation

6.4.1 No specific local consultation has been undertaken. This activity has been initiated and undertaken following events unfolding in Afghanistan over the previous month to six weeks.

#### 6.5 Consideration by Scrutiny

6.5.1 This matter has not been considered by the Scrutiny Commission; however, the SRO has offered to provide the Health, Wellbeing and Vulnerable People Executive Advisory Panel with an update briefing on the approaches taken.

#### 6.6 Climate Impact

6.6.1 There are no direct climate impacts as a result of the matters discussed in this report.

#### 6.7 Community Impact

6.7.1 Community impacts have been highlighted in main body and the risk section of this report.

#### 7 Background Papers & Reading

#### 7.1 Background Papers, web links and reading

- 7.1.1 <u>Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy: further information on eligibility</u> <u>criteria and offer details - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>
- 7.1.2 <u>Afghan locally employed staff relocation schemes.docx</u> (publishing.service.gov.uk)
- 7.1.3 <u>Additional guidance on the eligibility of additional family members under the</u> <u>Afghan locally employed staff relocation schemes (publishing.service.gov.uk)</u>

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# Appendix



### **Record of Executive Decision**

Local Government Act 2000 and the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Decision made by	Cllr Jason Smithers
	Leader of the Council
Decision Title	Afghan Refugees and Resettlement
Date of decision (same as date form signed)	10 <sup>th</sup> September 2021
Key Decision	No
Decision	That the Leader of the Council:
	<ul> <li>a) Considered and agreed the council's response to Afghan resettlement requests and a firm commitment pledge to supporting a number of families to resettle in North Northamptonshire Communities</li> <li>b) Noted the work to date in mobilising the North Northamptonshire Council (NNC)</li> </ul>
	Afghan Resettlement Tactical Coordination Group (TCG) and preparatory work undertaken in anticipation of both a bridging hotel and longer-term resettlement requests
	c) Agreed the following council' "pledge":
	"A commitment is made to support a minimum of 10 Afghan families to resettle in the North Northamptonshire area with associated support from the council, working closely with our partners.
	Furthermore, following resettlement of 10 families, the council commits to continue to identify opportunities to extend our pledge and explore how the council can support a greater number of families."
Reason for Decision	The urgent requirement to support refugees from Afghanistan is well documented nationally. It is

Alternative options       has not been progressed because the Counce wishes to support the scheme, in recognition of the plight of the families in need.         Legal implications       The Leader has authority to make decisions on behalf of the Executive. Legal advice will be sought where relevant on any actions resulting from this decision.         Financial implications       The government has put in place funds that can be accessed to support people both in bridging hotels and for longer term resettlement. This includes funds to bridge the gap between housing benefit and highe costs associated with leasing larger properties for larger family units from the private rental sector.         At this point it is not clear what the longer-term costs of supporting the integration of resettled families into the local area, this will include time of benefits, housing and communities staff, work with community groups, community safety partnerships and strategic partners.         Other implications       At present the officers identified come primarily from the Adults, Communities and Wellbeing directorate, however it may be necessary to free up additional staff from across other directorates to support this programme.         Background papers considered       None         Consultation       The Leader has consulted with the Executive in making a decision.		important that a council pledge around how many families it will support is forthcoming for a number of reasons including the moral obligation to support refugees fleeing Afghanistan as well as bridging hotels, (despite best intentions) not being the best environments for families for anything more than a few days or weeks.
Legal implicationsbehalf of the Executive. Legal advice will be sought where relevant on any actions resulting from this decision.Financial implicationsThe government has put in place funds that can be accessed to support people both in bridging hotels and for longer term resettlement. This includes funds to bridge the gap between housing benefit and highe costs associated with leasing larger properties for larger family units from the private rental sector.At this point it is not clear what the longer-term costs of supporting resettled families will be.Other implicationsHuman resources will play an important part in supporting the integration of resettled families into the local area, this will include time of benefits, housing and communities staff, work with community groups, community safety partnerships and strategic partners.Other implicationsAt present the officers identified come primarily from the Adults, Communities and Wellbeing directorate, however it may be necessary to free up additional staff from across other directorates to support this programme.Background papers consideredNone 	-	Not to commit to support Afghan families. This option has not been progressed because the Council wishes to support the scheme, in recognition of the plight of the families in need.
Financial implicationsaccessed to support people both in bridging hotels and for longer term resettlement. This includes funds to bridge the gap between housing benefit and highe costs associated with leasing larger properties for larger family units from the private rental sector.Financial implicationsAt this point it is not clear what the longer-term costs of supporting resettled families will be.Other implicationsHuman resources will play an important part in supporting the integration of resettled families into the local area, this will include time of benefits, housing and communities staff, work with community groups, community safety partnerships and strategic 	Legal implications	behalf of the Executive. Legal advice will be sought where relevant on any actions resulting from this
Other implicationssupporting the integration of resettled families into the local area, this will include time of benefits, housing and communities staff, work with community groups, community safety partnerships and strategic partners.Other implicationsAt present the officers identified come primarily from the Adults, Communities and Wellbeing directorate, however it may be necessary to free up additional staff from across other directorates to support this programme.Background papers consideredNoneDeclarations/conflict of interest?NoneConsultationThe Leader has consulted with the Executive in making a decision.NoNo	Financial implications	accessed to support people both in bridging hotels and for longer term resettlement. This includes funds to bridge the gap between housing benefit and higher costs associated with leasing larger properties for larger family units from the private rental sector. At this point it is not clear what the longer-term costs
considered         Declarations/conflict of interest?       None         Consultation       The Leader has consulted with the Executive in making a decision.         Confidential Decision?       No	Other implications	supporting the integration of resettled families into the local area, this will include time of benefits, housing and communities staff, work with community groups, community safety partnerships and strategic partners. At present the officers identified come primarily from the Adults, Communities and Wellbeing directorate, however it may be necessary to free up additional staff from across other directorates to support this
interest?       The Leader has consulted with the Executive in making a decision.         Confidential Decision?       No		
Consultation         The Leader has consulted with the Executive in making a decision.           Confidential Decision?         No		None
Confidential Decision? No		
	Confidential Decision?	
member Date: 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2021	Officer/ Executive member	•

Governance Procedures (if applicable)						
Date published to all	10 <sup>th</sup> September 2021	10 <sup>th</sup> September 2021				
Councillors		-				
Call In Deadline	N/A	N/A				

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## **North Northamptonshire Council**

## FORWARD PLAN

## 1 SEPTEMBER 2021 TO 31 DECEMBER 2021

**Published by: Democratic Services** 

Leader of North Northamptonshire Council: Councillor Jason Smithers

#### INTRODUCTION

This is the North Northamptonshire Council's Forward Plan. It is published pursuant to The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012. Its purpose is to provide the required 28 days notice of the Council's intention to take 'key decisions' and to hold meetings or parts of meetings in private. It gives advance notice of all the "key decisions" and "exempt decisions" which the Executive or another body or officer so authorised are likely to take over a four month period. The Plan is updated on a rolling monthly basis.

The Members of the Executive a	are:
Councillor Jason Smithers	Leader of North Northamptonshire Council
Councillor Helen Howell	Deputy Leader of North Northamptonshire Council Sport, Leisure, Culture and Tourism
Councillor Helen Harrison	Adults, Health and Wellbeing
Councillor Scott Edwards	Children, Families, Education and Skills
Councillor Harriet Pentland	Climate and Green Environment
Contraction Cloyd Bunday	Finance and Transformation
Councillor Steven North	Growth and Regeneration
Connection Craham Lawman	Highways, Travel and Assets
Councillor Andy Mercer	Housing and Community
Councillor David Howes	Rural Communities and Localism

The concept of a "key decision" is intended to capture the most important or significant decisions. "Key decisions" will normally be made at meetings open to the press and public. The press and public will only be excluded from such meetings as and when the Council's Monitoring Officer considers that this is necessary in order to avoid the public disclosure of confidential or exempt information.

The authority has decided that a Key Decision is one which is likely:-

- (a) to result in the authority incurring expenditure of which is, or the making of savings which are, significant; or
- (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more electoral wards in the area of the authority."

The Council has decided that significant expenditure or savings are those amounting to above £500,000.

In determining the meaning of *"significant"* for these purposes North Northamptonshire Council will also have regard to any guidance for the time being issued by the Secretary of State in accordance with section 9Q of the Local Government Act 2000.

At times it may be necessary for the North Northamptonshire Council to give consideration to items where the public may be excluded from the meeting. Members of the public are excluded from meetings whenever it is likely that, in the view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that confidential information would be disclosed. This includes exclusion from access to any pertinent documents. Details of the exemption categories can be found in the 'Access to Information Procedure Rules' section in the Council's <u>Constitution</u>. This plan provides advance notice of any items which may be held in private.

Paragraph 5 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 provides for members of the public to make representations to the Council on why an exempt item should be considered in public, rather than in private. Persons wishing to make such representations and/or obtain further details in respect of any issues referred to in the Plan should contact the undermentioned officer.

The Monitoring Officer may also include in the Forward Plan references to such other decisions, which are to be taken by the Council or any of its Committees or Sub-Committee or officers as they consider appropriate. These will be those decisions that are considered to be significant or sufficiently important and/or sensitive so that it is reasonable for a member of the public to expect it to be recorded and published.

All general questions or queries about the contents of this Forward Plan or about the arrangements for taking key decisions should be raised with Ber Smith, Democratic Services.

Please email: <u>democraticservices@northnorthants.gov.uk</u>

September							
Subject of the Decision:	Decision Maker	Is it a key decision?	Will it contain exempt information? /Reasons for exemption, if any	Consultation undertaken	Anticipated Date of Decision:	Report Author	Support documents (if any)
Adoption of the Part 2 Local Plan for Corby	Council	Yes	No		29 Sep 2021	Executive Director - Place and Economy	
Budget Forecast Update 20 <del>21/</del> 22	Executive	Yes	No		30 Sep 2021	Executive Director - Finance	
Capital Programme Update 2021/22	Executive	Yes	No		30 Sep 2021	Executive Director - Finance	
Community Funding Policy	Executive	Yes	No		30 Sep 2021	Executive Director - Adults, Communities & Wellbeing	
Lease at Arkwright Road and Baird Road	Executive	Yes	Exempt		30 Sep 2021	Executive Director - Place and Economy	
Development at Stanton Cross - Farm Tenancy	Executive	Yes	No		30 Sep 2021	Executive Director - Place and Economy	
Cannock Road Housing Development	Executive	Yes	Exempt		30 Sep 2021	Executive Director - Adults, Communities & Wellbeing	
Cheltenham Road Housing Development	Executive	Yes	No		30 Sep 2021	Executive Director - Adults, Communities & Wellbeing	

Council Housing Development - Former Grange Methodist Church Site, Kettering	Executive	Yes	Exempt	Public consultation carried out as part of planning process	30 Sep 2021	Executive Director - Adults, Communities & Wellbeing	
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October							
Subject of the Decision:	Decision Maker	Is it a key decision?	Will it contain exempt information? /Reasons for exemption, if any	Consultation undertaken	Anticipated Date of Decision:	Report Author	Support documents (if any)
Budget Forecast Update 2021/22	Executive	Yes	No		28 Oct 2021	Executive Director - Finance	
Capital Programme Update 20 <del>21</del> /22	Executive	Yes	No		28 Oct 2021	Executive Director - Finance	

age 42

November							
Subject of the Decision:	Decision Maker	Is it a key decision?	Will it contain exempt information? /Reasons for exemption, if any	Consultation undertaken	Anticipated Date of Decision:	Report Author	Support documents (if any)
Budget Forecast Update 2021/22	Executive	Yes	No		25 Nov 2021	Executive Director - Finance	
Capital Programme Update 2021/22	Executive	Yes	No		25 Nov 2021	Executive Director - Finance	

Page 43

December 2021							
Subject of the Decision:	Decision Maker	Is it a key decision?	Will it contain exempt information? /Reasons for exemption, if any	Consultation undertaken	Anticipated Date of Decision:	Report Author	Support documents (if any)
The Corporate Plan	Council	Yes	No	Executive; Executive Advisory Panels and external stakeholders	1 Dec 2021	Assistant Chief Executive	
or Kettering	Council	Yes	No	Undertaken in compliance with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement & Local Plan Regulations.	1 Dec 2021	Executive Director – Place and Economy	
Youth Justice Plan 2021/22	Council	Yes	No		1 Dec 2021	Executive Director – Children's Services	
Budget Forecast Update 2021/22	Executive	Yes	No		16 Dec 2021	Executive Director - Finance	
Capital Programme Update 2021/22	Executive	Yes	No		16 Dec 2021	Executive Director - Finance	



#### Executive Advisory Panel Health Wellbeing & Vulnerable People Work Programme 2021 - 2022

	Oct	ober	
Item	Objective	Lead Officer	Partner Organisations
Whole System Approach - Weight Management	To ensure work is aligned to projects within the Council and identify key stakeholders for further involvement	Lucy Wightman, Director of Public Health	
Afghan Refugee Resettlement	To update members on the Council's commitment to and support for Afghan refugees.	David Watts, Executive Director, Adult's, Communities and Wellbeing	
Bealth & Wellbeing Papers (Dipdate)	To receive a presentation on the initial feedback from the Health & Wellbeing Board.	David Watts, Executive Director, Adult's, Communities and Wellbeing	Health & Wellbeing Board
Flu prevention & Covid-19 boosters – (update item)	To receive updates on the rollout of the winter flu prevention programme and Covid-19 booster vaccines.	Lucy Wightman, Director of Public Health	
	Nove	ember	
Item	Objective	Lead Officer	Partner Organisations
Social Prescribing		Lucy Wightman, Director of Public Health	

Future agenda items for consideration

- Left behind communities workshop item
- Better Care Fund
- Supporting independence
- Encouraging an active & healthy lifestyle within the community

Version 3 21/09/21

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