



Executive Committee

Date:	8th July 2020	a g e n d a
Time	6.00 pm	
Venue:	<p>This is a virtual meeting of the Executive Committee to be held using Zoom and live-streamed via YouTube</p> <p><i>To watch the live meeting on YouTube, please follow the instructions below:-</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Click or visit the following link www.kettering.gov.uk/youtube 2. Select the following video (located at the top of the list) – “Executive Committee 08/07/2020” <p>Committee Members, officers and previously-notified speakers will be sent Zoom meeting joining instructions separately.</p>	
Committee Administrator:	<p> Anne Ireson (01536) 534398</p> <p> anneireson@kettering.gov.uk</p>	
<p>HEADLINE ITEM:</p> <p>Private Rented Sector Access Scheme</p>		
<p>Occasionally, committees may have to consider some business in private and if this is the case the reason is indicated on the Order of Business.</p>		

Members of the Executive Committee:-






Councillor Russell Roberts (Chair); Councillor Lesley Thurland (Deputy Chair), Lloyd Bunday, Mark Dearing, Scott Edwards, David Howes, Ian Jelley and Mark Rowley

Executive Committee

Working with and on behalf of local people

Order of Business

Item	Item/ Report Title
1.	Apologies
2.	Declarations of Interest <i>(Members are asked to make any declarations of financial or other interests they may have in relation to items on this agenda. Members are reminded to make a declaration at any stage throughout the meeting if it becomes apparent that this may be required when a particular item or issue is considered.)</i> (a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (b) Personal Interests
3.	The minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 16 th June 2020 to be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair
4.	Any matters of urgency the Chair of the Committee decides should be considered
5.	<u>Issues referred from Scrutiny Committees</u> None.
6.	<u>Issues referred from Forums</u> None.
7.	<u>Issues referred from Council</u> None.
8.	<u>The Council's Draft Work Programme</u> <i>This plan gives at least 28 days' notice of any key decisions to be made. It also contains information on any meeting, or part of a meeting, that is likely to be held in private at least 28 days before the meeting is due to take place.</i>

Item		Work Prog Reference Number	Report Title	Officer Presenting Report
9.		A20/005	KBC Budget Update – July 2020	Mark Dickenson
10.		A20/008	Private Rented Sector Access Scheme	John Conway
11.		A20/012	Marking Kettering's Contribution to the Anti-Slavery Movement	Martin Hammond
12.		A20/006	Welland Wanderer Bus Service	Martin Hammond
13.		A20/007	Countywide Anti-social Behaviour Strategy	Martin Hammond
14.		A20/013	Seats on Streets - Pavement Licensing <i>(report to follow)</i>	Shirley Plenderleith

Private and Confidential Items

The press and members of the public can be excluded from business of the meeting on the grounds that it involves items of business which include the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Paragraphs 1-7 of the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 in respect of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. The reason for discussing the issue in private is indicated on the Order of Business and was advertised by way of a Public Notice in accordance with the provisions of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

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BOROUGH OF KETTERING

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

16th June 2020

(Meeting held virtually)

Present:-

Councillor Russell Roberts (Chair)
Councillors Lloyd Bunday, Mark Dearing, Scott Edwards,
David Howes, Ian Jelley, Mark Rowley and
Lesley Thurland

20.EX.01 APOLOGIES

None

20.EX.02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mark Rowley declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in Item 10 on the agenda, and indicated that he would leave the meeting during discussion and voting thereon.

20.EX.03 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 19th February 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

20.EX.04 URGENT BUSINESS

None.

20.EX.05 ISSUES REFERRED FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

None.

20.EX.06 ISSUES REFERRED FROM FORUMS

None.

20.EX.07 ISSUES REFERRED FROM COUNCIL

None.

20.EX.08 THE COUNCIL'S DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME

The draft Work Programme to be published on 18th June 2020 was noted, having been previously circulated by email.

20.EX.09 PROTOCOLS FOR REMOTE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

A report was submitted which sought adoption of temporary protocols to enable the committee to be held remotely, so that meetings could take place and properly function during the COVID-19 lockdown and any subsequent restrictions on meetings or gatherings.

Councillor Andrew Dutton addressed the Committee under the Right to Speak policy and welcomed the report. Cllr Dutton expressed some concern regarding transparency and public accessibility to remote meetings by disadvantaged members of the community, suggesting that the Council communicate with the public via free local publications, such as 4Locals, to make them aware of other ways of raising any concerns they may have.

RESOLVED that:-

- (i) it be noted that a notice providing details of proposed revised protocols and procedures for Members and the public to access remote meetings had been posted on the Council's website for 5 days prior to the meeting;
- (ii) the procedures and protocols set out in Appendices 1, 2 and 3 of the report, and the use of video-conferencing software be approved to enable Council Committees to be held remotely for the duration of the period set out in the Coronavirus Act 2020; and
- (iii) the temporary amendments to meeting procedures, as set out in Appendix 2 of the report, be approved to enable the provision of remote meetings.

(Voting: Unanimous)

(Having previously declared a disclosable pecuniary interest, Councillor Mark Rowley was placed in the virtual waiting room during consideration of the following item and voting thereon)

20.EX.10 COVID-19: BUDGET IMPLICATIONS AND MONITORING

A report was submitted which:

- Provided a high level analysis of the financial implications that the COVID-19 Pandemic had brought
- Considered a range of possible budget outcomes for the remainder of the current financial year, and into the medium term
- Appraised members of the Small Business Grants scheme(s) and sought delegated authority to amend the current scheme, if required.

Councillors Mick Scrimshaw, Anne Lee and Andrew Dutton addressed the Committee under the Right to Speak policy, raising the following points:-

- It was important for councillors to understand how criteria had been modelled and clarity was sought on national economic predictions
- The potential impact on council tax and commercial investment income
- The process for consideration of urgent items
- Unprecedented losses in the leisure services industry and the Council's long-term recovery plan to secure leisure services to residents
- Costs relating to additional work and PPE and cleaning items required in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic
- The measures that were being taken to support local businesses

In relation to the three scenarios outlined in the report, members noted it was difficult to formulate firm estimates, but the period of any national economic downturn was being reviewed on a monthly basis. There was no impact on the council tax base and business rates in 2020/21, but any impact would be evident in budgets for 2021/22. There were no current fundamental pressures on the commercial investment portfolio, but this would continue to be monitored and reports brought back to the Executive as appropriate.

Recovery of leisure services was a national issue and the government was looking at ways the leisure industry could be supported in the long-term. Kettering Borough Council were currently working closely with local leisure providers to support them through the difficult times

Costs due to Covid-19 were continuing to be met through existing budgets. The full impact of additional pressures would continue to be closely monitored as the Council progressed through the remainder of the financial year. Work was being undertaken with local businesses to support them through difficult times, including the availability of discretionary grants.

Although the report under consideration related specifically to Covid-19, the government was looking at how money borrowed could be used, and this would be a consideration for the new unitary authority as part of its deliberations. There was no need for the Council to dispose of its assets. The Council's financial model had been redrawn and was now focusing on the next few months.

The Portfolio Holder for Finance outlined the Council's achievements in responding to the pandemic. It was noted that Kettering had been rated in the top five Councils nationally for helping local businesses and was proud of its performance in preventing businesses from failing. As a result of good financial management in the past, Kettering was better placed than most local authorities to protect the Borough's residents in a variety of ways.

RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the potential range of financial implications resultant from the current COVID-19 Pandemic be noted; and
- (ii) the previous action of the Council regarding the criteria and processes for the administration of the Small Business Grant Schemes be endorsed, and delegated authority be delegated to the Executive Director, Lisa Hyde (in consultation with the Finance Portfolio Holder) to amend the current Discretionary Scheme to ensure that it continued to fit local circumstances.

(Voting: Unanimous)

(Councillor Mark Rowley rejoined the meeting)

20.EX.11 COVID-19: REVISIONS TO THE HRA CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2020/21

A report was submitted which sought approval for budget virements in respect of the 2020/21 HRA Capital Programme.

Councillors Anne Lee, Andrew Dutton, Clark Mitchell and Maggie Don addressed the Committee under the Right to Speak policy and raised the following points:-

- A request was made for the Adaptations budget to be maintained and go ahead as originally planned
- Some tenants had been waiting for replacement bathrooms and kitchens and these should be done if work could be safely carried out
- Changes to the HRA budget should be delayed until the autumn

(Executive Committee No. 4)

- Tenants' Forum should be involved in any decision to amend the HRA budget
- There should be an increase in testing of electrical installations to ensure they were safe, particularly those where work was planned to be deferred
- Information was sought on the number of people waiting for aids and adaptations to their homes

A note from Councillor Anne Lee regarding national regulations and health and safety requirements for tradespeople had been separately circulated.

Members noted that Adaptations covered by the HRA Capital Programme were major projects where remodelling of properties and intrusive work was required. This would result in tradespeople being present in people's homes for an extended period time, due to the restrictions imposed by the Coronavirus Regulations, and work was likely to be very disruptive. Such work was not being stopped, but would inevitably take longer to complete due to social distancing restrictions. Urgent work would continue. No information was readily to hand on the number of people on the waiting list for aids and adaptations, but this information would be sent to the speakers separately.

During debate, members of the Committee endorsed the contents of the report, noting that without revisions to the HRA Capital programme, residents could be without bathrooms and kitchens for a considerable amount of time. In addition, builders' merchants had either closed or were offering a reduced service and it would take time to recover to a full service. It was felt that it would be sensible to move funds to areas of work that could be completed without excessive disruption, and also to respect for residents' wishes where they had concerns.

It was stressed that the virements proposed in the report were cost neutral and aimed at maximising safety to both residents and tradespeople. The virements should not be seen as cutting costs. Emergency repairs would continue.

RESOLVED that the budget virements to the 2020/21 HRA Capital Programme as set out in Table 1 of the report be approved.

(Voting: Unanimous)

20.EX.12 DOG CONTROL PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER (PSPO)

A report was submitted which sought agreement to continue the existing Public Spaces Protection Order (Kettering Borough Council) (Dog

(Executive Committee No. 5)

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Control) for a further three years as required by the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

Councillor Anne Lee addressed the Committee under the Right to Speak Policy stating that she was in favour of extending the PSPO, whilst commenting on the consultation carried out and drawing attention to residents' requests for greater enforcement. Cllr Lee also suggested launching a campaign to remind dog owners of their obligations.

In discussion, Members endorsed a suggestion that a publicity campaign be undertaken in August 2020 to increase public awareness through the Council's website and social media pages.

RESOLVED the existing Public Spaces Protection Order (Kettering Borough Council) (Dog Control) be continued for a further three years, renewing from 30th August 2020.

20.EX.13 MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES

A report was submitted which sought approval of a recommendation to Council for continuation of the current Members' Allowances Scheme, or approval of the appointment of an Independent Remuneration Panel to report back on a new scheme.

RECOMMENDED to Full Council that the existing index inflator to the Scheme of Members' Allowances be continued until 31st March 2021 or until the vesting day for the North Northamptonshire Council, whichever was the later.

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 7.20 pm)

Signed
Chair

AI

Agenda Item 9

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Report Originator	Strategic Management Team	<i>Fwd Plan Ref No: A20/005</i>	
Wards Affected	All	8 th July 2020	
Title	KBC BUDGET UPDATE – JULY 2020		

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Lloyd Bunday

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of the report is to:

- a) Provide an update to the budget monitoring figures that were presented to the Executive Committee last month;
- b) Provide draft outturn figures for last financial year (i.e. 2019/20) in relation to the General Fund / Housing Revenue Account / Capital Programme / Treasury Management;
- c) Approve a number of Capital Programme carry forwards from 2019/20.

2. BUDGET MONITORING - UPDATE

- 2.1. At the Executive Committee meeting of 16th June, members considered a report titled 'Covid-19 Budget Implications and Monitoring'. In that report the key financial pressures were outlined together with a range of possible budget outcomes for the remainder of the current financial year.
- 2.2. The information provided in last months report is not reproduced in this report – however the link to that report is provided below:

https://www.kettering.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/1839/executive_committee
- 2.3. There have been no major changes to the figures that were reported last month, owing to the short time period between meetings however members may wish to note the following;
 - Discussions regarding additional funding are ongoing across the sector with MHCLG and there are encouraging sounds that there could be 3rd payment in the coming weeks any updates on further financial support from the Government will be included in future budget reports.
 - The Government have provided Councils with a six-month extension to spend Right to Buy receipts – this recognises that COVID 19 has in some cases, halted or slowed down housing development.

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3. OUTTURN 2019/20

3.1 This section provides members with a summary of the financial outturn figures for the last financial year (2019/20). The analysis covers the Council's three main accounts (plus an update on Treasury Management) and is split as follows;

- ◆ General Fund
- ◆ Housing Revenue Account
- ◆ Capital Programme
- ◆ Treasury Management

3.2 The Council is required to produce a draft set of accounts by 31st May each year, however owing to COVID 19 the deadline was extended to 30th September. The Council's draft accounts were signed off on 29th June and are now complete and subject to external audit validation which is due to commence on 13th July. The audit deadline has been extended from 31st July to 30th November.

General Fund Revenue Account

3.3 Members are reminded that the General Fund account is the account that contains the majority of the Council's everyday service expenditure (excluding spending on council housing).

3.4 When the Council set the budget for 2019/20, the following 'efficiency' measures had been identified;

Framework		£'000
Commercial Investments	Income from Commercial Investments	500
Lobbying / Growth	Business Rates Income	400
Staff / Innovation	Treasury Management Income	280
Partnerships	Joint Working	110
Lobbying / Growth	Homelessness Grant	83
Lobbying / Growth	New Homes Bonus	67
Fees & Charges	Crematorium Income	28
Fees & Charges	Recycling Credits	22
Various	Minor Variations	72
Total		1,562

3.5 In addition to achieving the original efficiency savings target, the Council also delivered additional 'efficiency' savings of £462,000. The reasons for these variances are detailed in Table 2 – most of which relate to 'one-off' savings;

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Table 2 – General Fund Variances	£'000
Planning Fees	(369)
Salaries	(181)
Contingency	(150)
Recycling	127
Car Parking	48
Other	63
Total	(462)

- 3.6 After taking account of contributions to reserves and balances, the Council's General Fund working balance remained at £1.415m – this is still in line with the Council's Medium-Term Financial Strategy '*guiding principles*'.

Housing Revenue Account

- 3.7 Members are reminded that the Housing Revenue Account is a ring-fenced account for day to day income and expenditure relating to the Council's role as a Housing Landlord.
- 3.8 The Housing Revenue Account's budget for 2019/20 was £15.4m. The actual spend for 2019/20 was £138,000 lower than budget and has resulted in the HRA reserves being increased by £138,000.
- 3.9 The main reasons for the underspend relate to a lower contribution to the Bad Debts Provision (£68,000) and an underspend on the Contingency Budget (£47,000).
- 3.10 The Housing Revenue Account balance has remained unchanged at £850,000. This is in line with the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy which states the account must operate in a surplus position and this is achieved by adopting the principle that an agreed minimum balance of £300,000 should be the primary strategic aim over the medium to long term.

Capital Programme

- 3.11 Members are reminded that the Capital Programme is used for the acquisition, improvement and enhancement of the Council's assets.
- 3.12 Overall, the expenditure during 2019/20 was £18.27m compared to the working budget of £52.5m. The variance on the General Fund is around £34m and relates to commercial acquisitions which is showing an underspend of £31m against a budget of £41m.
- 3.13 Owing to the impending Unitary and there being a £20m budget in the 2020/21 Capital Programme for commercial acquisitions which would enable the revenue efficiencies for commercial investments to be delivered (subject to opportunities coming to the market) the 2019/20 underspend hasn't been carried forward to 2020/21.

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- 3.14 The capital budget for commercial investments is not like other capital budgets. It exists to make investments (in line with the council's commercial investment strategy) that will make a positive financial return to the Council (over the medium term and as part of a balanced portfolio). The returns must firstly offset all the costs of borrowing and secondly provide funding for the continued provision of core council services. As such, any unused budget is not available to be used on other non-commercial schemes.
- 3.15 Members will recall that in December 2017, Full Council approved a report that brought forward £20m of funding to enable the council to get ahead of the market with its commercial investments strategy. This was a sensible and effective approach. However, the current market conditions, and the impact of the Pandemic has effectively changed the investment market and the opportunities that are likely to be available over the coming year. Accordingly, whereas the council would normally carry forward all of the unused capital budget for commercial investments into the following year, this is not being recommended at the current time.
- 3.16 If a new investment opportunity arises during the remainder of 2020/21 that requires additional capital funding (in excess of the remaining 2020/21 capital budget) then that would need to be considered through the existing governance rules – i.e. Executive and Council (for any additional funding), and Asset Management Board (in consultation with the Shadow North Northants Executive) for the investment decision. The new North Northants Unitary Council will need to ascertain its own policies and preferences when it comes to the issue of commercial investments.
- 3.17 The remaining underspends which are a result of timing variations will subject to Executive approval be carried forward to 2020/21 with the exception of the Contingency and small capital works budget for which the underspend amounts £201,000 this approach is consistent with that taken in previous years. **Appendix 1** sets out capital budgets to be carried forward to 2020/21 and Table 3 provides a summary of the 2019/20 Capital Programme and the carry forwards.

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Table 3 - Capital Programme Outturn 2019/20	Revised Estimate	Actual	Variance	C/fwd	Real Variance
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Expenditure					
Council Home Improvement Programme	3,944	3,818	(126)	126	0
Town Centres Delivery Plan	870	327	(543)	543	0
Community Facilities	892	245	(647)	590	(57)
Supporting Service Delivery	4,880	3,138	(1,742)	1,598	(144)
Commercial Strategy	41,149	10,117	(31,032)	171	(30,861)
Private Sector Housing Improvement	773	625	(148)	148	0
Total Capital Expenditure	52,508	18,270	(34,238)	3,176	(31,062)

Treasury Management – Current Position

3.18 The Council's debt and investment position at the beginning and the end of the year is set at in Table 4:

Table 4	31st March 2019		31st March 2020	
	Principal	Rate / Return	Principal	Rate / Return
	£'000		£'000	
Total Investments	£27,978	0.90%	£67,917	1.45%
Total Debt	£109,330	2.70%	£134,166	2.52%

	Rate of Return
Council Portfolio	1.45%
Benchmark – 3 Month LIBID	0.67%

3.19 The Council as part of its Treasury Management strategy has for a number of years effectively used its cash reserves to finance General Fund borrowing instead of borrowing money externally. However during the summer of 2019 rates were at historically low levels and such market conditions enabled the Council to borrow externally - this is reflected in both the borrowing and investment lines in Table 4.

Compliance with Treasury Limits and Prudential Indicators

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3.20 During the financial year the Council operated within its treasury limits and Prudential Indicators set out in the Council's Treasury Policy Statement and Annual Treasury Strategy Statement. The outturn for the Prudential Indicators is shown in **Appendix 2**.

7 CONSULTATION AND CUSTOMER IMPACT

7.1 As outlined in the report.

8 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

8.1 As outlined in the report.

9 USE OF RESOURCES

9.1 As outlined in the report.

10. CLIMATE CHANGE

10.1 The Council remains committed to the climate change agenda as approved by Council in July and this remain a key consideration in any future decisions.

11. RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 That the Executive notes the draft out-turn position for 2019/20 for the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account, Capital Programme and Treasury Management;

11.2 That the Executive Approves the Capital Programme carry forwards from 2019/20 (as detailed in Appendix 1).

Background Papers:

Contact Officers: M Dickenson

Previous Reports/Minutes:

Monthly Durable Budget Reports

Scheme	Working Estimate	Brought Forwards	Latest Estimate
	£000	£000	£000
HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT			
<i>New Build / Major Refurbishment</i>			
<u>New Build</u>			
Scott Road	2,658	127	2,785
Albert Street	779	7	786
Stamford Road land acquisition Including pre contract	0	89	89
Housing Association Grant	332	0	332
<u>Homes for the Future</u>			
Montrose House	250	(93)	157
Desborough & Rothwell	900	(4)	896
Sub Total	4,919	126	5,045
<i>Pre-Planned Stock Investment</i>			
Decent Homes - Kitchen & Bathroom Renewal	500	0	500
Central Heating Renewal	550	0	550
Decent Homes - Electrical Upgrades	290	0	290
External Door Replacements	210	0	210
Roof Renewals	585	0	585
External Insulation	260	0	260
Sub Total	2,395	0	2,395
<i>Adaptations</i>			
Improving access for disabled people	300	0	300
Hidden Homes	150	0	150
Sub Total	450	0	450
<i>Health, Safety and Compliance</i>			
Door Entry Systems	255	0	255
Heath & Safety and Fire Precautions	250	0	250
Sub Total	505	0	505
<i>Enhancements</i>			
Sheltered Housing - "Sparkle" Programme	50	0	50
Sub Total	50	0	50
<i>Reactive Stock Investment</i>			
Voids Repairs and Improvements	400	0	400
Sub Total	400	0	400
HRA CAPITAL PROGRAMME	8,719	126	8,845

Scheme	Working Estimate	Brought Forwards	Latest Estimate
	£000	£000	£000
GENERAL FUND			
<u>Town Centres Delivery Plan</u>			
Meadow Road Urban Park	0	114	114
GLaM	100	0	100
Public Realm 5	0	74	74
Town Centre Improvements and Regeneration	55	162	217
Electric Vehicle Charging Points	30	49	79
Car Parking	20	13	33
Residential Zones / CPE	20	31	51
Conservation Area Enhancement Schemes	0	4	4
High Street - Heritage Action Zone	3,484	(2)	3,482
London Road Site Development - Pre Contract Works	50	0	50
CCTV	50	0	50
Improving access to FE/HE	0	98	98
Sub Total	3,809	543	4,352
<u>Community Facilities</u>	0		
Parkwood Leisure Renewal	30	46	76
Swimming Pool	0	100	100
Community Fund	40	6	46
Cemetery Works	0	46	46
Desborough / Rothwell Chapel	60	74	134
Desborough Leisure Centre Floor Replacement	0	20	20
Corn Market Hall Boiler Replacement	0	8	8
Health and Safety Improvements	40	17	57
Grants - Village Halls	32	4	36
Burton Latimer Football Provision	0	9	9
Churchill Way Public Realm	200	48	248
Burton Latimer Community Leisure	800	100	900
Community Centre Schemes	20	84	104
Warren Hill - Music & Database	20	0	20
Play Area : Thorpe Malsor	0	28	28
SCW - Small Capital Works	150	0	150
Sub Total	1,392	590	1,982

Scheme	Working Estimate	Brought Forwards	Latest Estimate
	£000	£000	£000
<i>Supporting Service Delivery</i>			
Borough Wide - Recycling Project	100	0	100
Municipal Offices - Major Works	250	30	280
Depot Improvements	0	9	9
Corporate Property - Stock Condition Works	0	100	100
Infrastructure / Flexi & Remote Working	220	69	289
Grounds Fleet	20	73	93
Stock Improvement & Compliance	720	0	720
Pre Contract Works	0	333	333
Housing and Homelessness Prevention	3,000	984	3,984
Sub Total	4,310	1,598	5,908
<i>Commercial Strategy</i>			
Chesham House - Major Works	0	121	121
Commercial Properties	20,000	0	20,000
Industrial Units - Energy Efficiency	0	50	50
Haylock House	160	0	160
Sub Total	20,160	171	20,331
<i>Private Sector Housing Improvement</i>			
Disabled Facilities Grants	648	62	710
Private Sector Decent Homes Project	0	73	73
Social Housing Grant	0	13	13
Sub Total	648	148	796
Contingency	300	0	300
Sub Total	300	0	300
GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME	30,619	3,050	33,669
CAPITAL PROGRAMME TOTAL	39,338	3,176	42,514

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Current Treasury Position

	31st March 2019		31st March 2020	
	Principal (£M)	Rate/Return	Principal (£M)	Rate/Return
Total Investments	£27.978	0.90%	£67.917	1.45%
Total Debt	£109.330	2.70%	£134.166	2.52%

	Rate of Return
Council Portfolio	1.45%
Benchmark – 3 Month LIBID	0.67%

Prudential and Treasury Indicators

Prudential Indicators

- a) The actual capital expenditure that was incurred in 2018/19 and 2019/20 together with the estimate of capital expenditure for 2019/20 :

	2018/19	2019/20	2019/20
Capital Expenditure	actual	Estimate	actual
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Town Centre Delivery Plan	171	870	327
Community Facilities	135	892	245
Supporting Service Delivery	4,374	4,880	3,138
Commercial Strategy	11,310	41,149	10,117
Private Sector Housing Improvement	722	773	625
HRA	3,677	3,944	3,818
Total Capital Programme	20,389	52,508	18,270
Leases	2,427	-	-
Total Capital Expenditure	22,816	52,508	18,270

- b) The actual capital expenditure that was incurred in 2018/19 and 2019/20 together with the estimate for 2019/20, including the financing of the programme :

	2018/19	2019/20	2019/20
Capital Expenditure	actual	Estimate	actual
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Non - HRA	5,402	7,415	4,335
Commercial activities / non-financial activities	11,310	41,149	10,117
HRA	3,677	3,944	3,818
Total Capital Programme	20,389	52,508	18,270
Leases	2,427	-	-
Total Capital Expenditure	22,816	52,508	18,270
Financed By			
Capital Grants	792	1,470	898
Capital Receipts	1,244	1,333	1,284
Revenue Contribution	2,589	2,738	2,771
Net financing need for the year	18,191	46,967	13,317

Appendix 2

- c) The actual capital financing requirement at 31 March for the authority for 2018/19 and 2019/20 together with the estimate for 2019/20 :

	2018/19	2019/20	2019/20
Capital Financing requirement as at 31 March	actual	Estimate	actual
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Non - HRA	66,516	110,828	77,251
HRA	57,926	54,749	54,677
TOTAL	124,442	165,577	131,928
Movement in CFR	13,569	41,135	7,486

- d) The actual change in capital financing requirement for the authority for 2018/19 and 2019/20 together with the estimated change in the capital financing requirement for 2019/20:

	2018/19	2019/20	2019/20
Movement in CFR represented by	actual	Estimate	actual
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Net financing need for the year	18,191	46,967	13,317
Less MRP and other financing movements	4,622	5,832	5,831
Movement in CFR	13,569	41,135	7,486

- e) Actual resources at 31 March for both 2018/19 and 2019/20 for the authority together with the estimate for 2019/20 :

	2018/19	2019/20	2019/20
Year End Resources	actual	Estimate	actual
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fund balances	2,265	2,265	2,265
Reserves	28,299	29,630	30,489
Capital receipts	4,749	4,211	5,799
Total core funds	35,313	36,106	38,553
Working Capital	5,578	5,578	25,501
Less: Internal borrowing	12,913	2,422	(3,863)
Expected Investments	27,978	39,262	67,917

- f) The actual ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream for 2018/19 and 2019/20 with the estimate for 2019/20 :

	2018/19	2019/20	2019/20
Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream	actual	Estimate	actual
	Non - HRA	17.04%	36.16%
HRA	11.37%	11.19%	10.86%

Appendix 2

- g) The actual treasury portfolio position at 31 March for both 2018/19 and 2019/20 together with the estimate for 2019/20 :

	2018/19	2019/20	2019/20
Current treasury portfolio position	actual	Estimate	actual
	£'000	£'000	£'000
External Debt			
Debt at 1 April	100,393	109,330	109,330
Expected Change in Debt	8,937	51,736	24,836
	109,330	161,066	134,166
Other long term liabilities (OLTL)	729	2,199	2,199
Expected Change in OLTL	1,470	(110)	(574)
	2,199	2,089	1,625
Actual debt at 31 March	111,529	163,155	135,791
The Capital Financing Requirement	124,442	165,577	131,928
Under / (over) borrowing	12,913	2,422	(3,863)
Total Investments at 31 March			
Investments	27,978	39,262	67,917
Net Debt	83,551	123,893	67,873

- h) This is the limit beyond which external debt is not normally expected to exceed. In most cases, this would be a similar figure to the CFR, but may be lower or higher depending on the levels of actual debt.

	2018/19	2019/20	2019/20
Operational Boundary for external debt -	actual	Estimate	actual
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Total	151,250	210,000	210,000

- i) A further key prudential indicator represents a control on the maximum level of debt. This represents a limit beyond which external debt is prohibited. It reflects the level of external debt which, while not desired, could be afforded in the short term, but is not sustainable in the longer term.

	2018/19	2019/20	2019/20
Authorised Limit for external debt -	actual	Estimate	actual
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Total	156,250	215,000	215,000

j) The Council's Treasury Indicators are detailed below:

	2018/19	2019/20	2019/20
Interest rate exposures	actual	Estimate	actual
Upper limit for fixed interest rate exposure based on net debt	100%	100%	100%
Upper limit for variable rate exposure based on net debt	100%	100%	100%

Maturity structure of fixed rate borrowing	Lower Limit	Upper Limit
under 12 Months	0%	100%
between 12 Months and 24 months	0%	100%
between 24 months and 5 years	0%	100%
between 5 and 10 years	0%	100%
more than 10 years	0%	100%

	2018/19	2019/20	2019/20
	actual	Latest Estimate	actual
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Principal sums invested for over 365 days	13,073	20,000	16,366

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Report Originator	John Conway – Head of Housing	<i>Fwd Plan Ref No:</i> A20/008	
Wards Affected	All	8 th July 2020	
Title	PRIVATE RENTED SECTOR ACCESS SCHEME		

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Mark Rowley

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek Executive Committee approval for the new Private Rented Sector Access Scheme and accompanying Private Rented Sector Offer policy which sets out how and when the Council will work alongside private landlords to prevent and relieve homelessness.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 With a shortage of affordable rented housing to meet local demand, it is imperative that the Council works to facilitate access to good quality privately rented accommodation in order to prevent and relieve homelessness.
- 2.2 The Council already provides financial support to customers who are homeless by funding rent-in-advance and deposits to aid access to privately rented properties. Such financial assistance is provided within the Spend to Save policy which operates on the basis that the support represents a comparative cost saving if it prevents a homelessness crisis and the need to provide temporary accommodation. Currently, financial assistance is usually a one-off payment with little or no ongoing intervention.
- 2.3 It is often challenging for our Housing Options team to access the private rented sector (PRS) for a number of reasons:
1. **Affordability** – Private rent levels have increased significantly in recent years, and the gap between rent and Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rates has grown. Until recently, average private rent levels in Kettering were 30% higher than LHA rates, however a recent increase in LHA has helped to alleviate this issue and means that we can sometimes identify affordable properties at the lower end of the market. Table 1, overleaf, compares rent levels for a selection of property types in Kettering with LHA rates:

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Table 1: **Average rent levels in Kettering compared to LHA rates**

Number of bedrooms	LHA Rates (£ p/w)	LHA Rates (£ p/m)	Average Rent (£ p/m)	Average Rent % higher than LHA
Shared	£80	£346.67	£400	15%
1 bed	£109.32	£473.72	£505	7%
2 bed	£138.08	£598.35	£658	10%
3 bed	£159.95	£693.12	£795	15%
4 bed	£205.97	£892.54	£990	11%

Source: www.homes.co.uk May 2020

2. **Reluctance to work with the Council** – Some landlords are wary of working with the Council as it provides support and advice to tenants and has an enforcement role in relation to the private rented sector.
 3. **Perceptions of homeless households** – There is a misconception amongst some landlords that all homeless households assisted by the council have complex and multiple support needs and are therefore less likely to make a success of their tenancies.
- 2.4 Working more closely with the private rented sector (PRS) would help the Council in preventing and relieving homelessness. The loss of a PRS assured shorthold tenancy is consistently the highest cause of homelessness locally. Whilst the Government has temporarily paused evictions due to Covid-19, we expect a surge in evictions once landlords are able to pursue possession action again. The Council is therefore keen to have additional tools at its disposal to negotiate new PRS tenancies and prevent evictions wherever possible. Our new PRS Access scheme aims to overcome challenges in both accessing and sustaining PRS tenancies.
- 2.5 The Council wants to reduce its reliance on the social rented sector to resolve homelessness and make more use of affordable, good quality privately rented properties to meet local housing needs. The Localism Act 2011 and Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 permit Kettering Borough Council to end some homeless duties by providing an offer of suitable accommodation of any tenure to a homeless household. This includes a suitable Private Rented Sector offer (PRSO). **Appendix 1** provides a proposed policy statement to accompany the new scheme which details when the Council will seek to make an offer of PRS accommodation to fully discharge a homelessness duty.
- 2.6 Utilising powers to offer more PRS tenancies to discharge homeless duties will provide an additional tool in our toolkit to address homelessness having regard to the shortage of affordable rented homes in the council and Housing Association sectors. It is calculated that PRSO's will account for around 7% of total lettings to discharge homeless duties in 2020/21.

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3. KETTERING LETTINGS PLUS

3.1 The proposed name for the new PRS Access scheme is 'Kettering Lettings Plus'.

3.2 The project is about building confidence amongst local PRS landlords and using the PRS to successfully accommodate more complex and vulnerable homeless households. In this respect Kettering Borough Council needs to invest in ensuring PRS tenancies are sustained by providing practical support and financial incentives to landlords and working towards the Council being a credible partner and low risk solution for PRS landlords to obtain tenants. The PRS Access project therefore has two components:

1. Practical support for vulnerable tenants and their landlords provided by specialist housing staff
2. Financial incentive package for landlords

3.3 This report seeks approval for the proposed financial incentive component of this project for 2020/21. Details of the draft incentive package are available at **Appendix 2** and have been developed further to a landlord consultation (detailed in section 4 of this report), alongside our need to ensure safe, suitable and affordable accommodation for our homeless customers.

3.4 Utilising financial resources detailed in section 5 of this report, a PRS Tenancy Support Worker post and a Landlord Liaison Officer post were recruited in Quarter 4 of 2019/20 on fixed term contracts for a pilot project to run until the end of 2020/21. So far, the two new officers have focused on developing links with the PRS and building the Council's profile as a reputable partner. There have been successful outcomes to date including positive homelessness prevention through mediation, financial advice, and tenancy support for tenants with complex health needs. Such activities have already been a contributory factor in significantly reducing our use of temporary accommodation.

3.5 The aims of the new 'Kettering Lettings Plus' scheme are:

- To contribute to a reduction in homelessness crises and the use and associated expenditure of temporary accommodation; and
- To increase successful homeless prevention and relief outcomes for customers who are homeless or at risk of homelessness; and
- To increase the supply of safe, good quality, affordable privately rented properties in Kettering borough.

3.6 Quantitatively, the scheme's targets for the remainder of 2020/21 will be to prevent / relieve homelessness for at least 36 households during the project term, specifically:

- **To access 24 new tenancies**, of which

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- at least half will be tenancies offered on an initial 12-month fixed term
 - at least 22 of are sustained past the initial fixed term period
 - **To prevent 12 tenancies failing** that were at risk of being brought to an end due to tenancy breaches, mainly through the provision of practical support
- 3.7 Kettering Lettings Plus has the potential to play a vital role in limiting the number of local families that are faced with a risk of homelessness. when the five month Covid-19 eviction ban ends on 23rd August 2020.
- 3.8 Whilst bringing additional challenges in relation to homelessness, the Covid-19 pandemic has also presented us with an opportunity as an increasing number of landlords have approached the Council in recent months seeking to work in partnership. This is likely due to emerging economic uncertainty. We have already utilised this opportunity to pilot our proposed PRS incentive scheme with landlords of five family houses within the existing terms of our Spend to Save homelessness prevention policy. Negotiations have secured five 12-month PRS tenancies in respect of five previously empty homes which have been offered to homeless households in discharge of our legal homeless duties, therefore saving the crisis of homelessness for these families and the associated temporary accommodation costs for the Council. Formalising and expanding this PRS Access scheme will enable the Housing Options team to capitalise on this opportunity at a time when we are expecting a significant increase in demand over the coming months and years.

4.0 CONSULTATION AND CUSTOMER IMPACT

- 4.1 Landlords themselves must be at the centre of designing any incentive scheme. In this respect, consultation was crucial. The covid-19 pandemic meant that we were unable to meet local landlords and agents face to face as originally planned but our Landlord Liaison Officer conducted a telephone survey instead to gauge the opinions of 15 local agents and several landlords. They were asked about their previous experiences of working with the Council and what would encourage them to work in partnership to accommodate homeless households.
- 4.2 Most landlords and letting agents expressed an interest in working together and stated that they would be particularly encouraged by guaranteed rent payments, assurance that their properties would be well looked after and reduced void periods. Areas of particular concern for the surveyed landlords were antisocial behaviour, property damage and rent arrears.
- 4.3 Landlord feedback, staff feedback and learning from the negotiations that took place for the pilot scheme of five properties were used to create the draft incentive scheme detailed in Appendix 2. In devising the scheme, we have also

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had regard to the remaining project term which is likely to be 9-12 months and what can realistically be mobilised and achieved in this period.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS & USE OF RESOURCES

- 5.1 Officers have considered a range of alternative incentives including loans to customers to fund the upfront rent in advance and deposit requirements in place of the proposed grants, however when loans were previously used they were found to compromise the simplicity of the scheme and hence reduce its attractiveness to landlords. In addition, loans were a significant administrative burden and can compromise the customer's financial ability to sustain the tenancy at a critical time in their lives after experiencing a homeless crisis.
- 5.2 Clearly the costs and outcomes of this scheme will be closely monitored to establish whether a cost saving case can be made to embed the posts into the establishment in the longer term within existing resources.
- 5.3 There is a need to make sure that the new unitary authority has a wide range of tools at its disposal to prevent and relieve homelessness. If this pilot scheme enables us to form new partnerships with PRS landlords, this will be of great benefit to the new unitary council and has the potential to inform North Northants operational processes and homeless prevention initiatives.

6.0 FINANCIAL RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 At the end of 2018/19 Kettering Borough Council was awarded £129,000 in grant funding to support work in preventing homelessness:
 - £94,000 Flexible Homelessness Support Grant top up
 - £35,000 Homelessness Prevention top up

The grant conditions stipulated that the funding be spent to prevent homelessness and reduce the number of households in temporary accommodation. The allocation provided an opportunity to fund additional prevention initiatives to reduce temporary accommodation use and pressure on the General Fund.

- 6.2 The funding allocation was used to recruit two posts - a PRS Tenancy Support Worker post and a Landlord Liaison Officer, on fixed term contracts for a 15-month pilot project towards the end of 2019/20. A £50,000 revenue budget was earmarked to provide financial incentives to PRS landlords to accommodate homeless households.
- 6.3 The Council also has an existing Private Sector Decent Homes General Fund capital budget of £23,000 for 2020/21 which can also be utilised to incentivise

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landlords to work with the Council within the terms of the Landlord Improvement Grant detailed in the Private Sector Housing Grants Policy 2019. This scheme provides funding of up to £1,000 per property for works required to bring a PRS property to the prescribed standard in order that the council can discharge homelessness duties with PRS Offers (PRSO's).

- 6.4 In summary, the revenue and capital funding requirements to operate this scheme in 2020/21 have already been identified. The project is being funded in full utilising additional homeless prevention grants from MHCLG that were received at the end of 2018/19 and carried forward to bring additionality in 2019/20 and now into 2020/21.

7. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 None at this stage.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 None at this stage

9. RECOMMENDATION

- 9.1 It is recommended that the Executive Committee agrees to adopt the Private Rented Sector Access Scheme and accompanying PRSO policy statement with immediate effect

Background Papers:

Appendix 1: PRSO policy statement
Appendix 2: Private Rented Sector Access Scheme

Date: June 2020

Contact Officer: Carly Hohn Housing Strategy and Solutions Manager

Previous Reports/Minutes:

Ref:

Date:

Private Rented Sector Offer Policy for Homeless Households

Section 1: Introduction

1. The Localism Act 2011 (S148 and S149) introduced provisions which enable the council to bring its statutory housing duty under S193 of the Housing Act 1996 as amended (HA96) to an end, by making an offer of a private rented sector tenancy rather than a social housing tenancy.
2. Amendments under the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 (HRA17) extend the powers in the HA96 to encourage local authorities to embed an approach to use private sector accommodation to discharge its Prevention Duty (S195) to households threatened with homelessness and Relief Duty (S189B) to homeless households.
3. The aim of the HRA17 is to assist households with resolving their homelessness as early as possible. Households that reject a private rented sector offer (PRSO) during the Prevention Duty would still be owed a Relief Duty if they went on to become homeless. Households that reject a PRSO during Relief Duty or if owed the Main Housing Duty (S193) will not receive any further offers of accommodation (social or private rented housing) and the duty owed to them will be discharged.
4. This policy sets out the basis on which Kettering Borough Council will use these powers to discharge its statutory homeless duties via accommodation in the private rented sector.
5. This policy should be read in conjunction with:
 - a. The Temporary Accommodation Policy 2018 (currently undergoing review/update)
 - b. Keyways Housing Allocations Scheme (last updated in June 2019) specifically Section 8.2.2 regarding homeless duties

Section 2: Which households will receive a PRSO?

6. The council's policy is that a PRSO may be made to any homeless household where the law allows it.
7. Paragraphs 1 and 2 set out the legislative framework where this can be applied. The Council will use the powers set out in the HRA17 to make a PRSO to households owed the Prevention and Relief Duty. The Council will use the powers set out in the Localism Act 2011 to make a PRSO to households owed the Main Housing Duty.
8. The number of households that will be made a PRSO each year will depend on the supply of suitable private rented sector properties.

Private Rented Sector Offer – Policy Statement

9. The following groups will ordinarily be excluded from receiving a PRSO:

- a. households eligible for sheltered housing because it is unlikely that this type of housing can be provided in the private rented sector.
- b. households that need wheelchair adapted properties or other significant adaptations because these are especially difficult to procure in the private rented sector.
- c. any household which the Council determines would be unable to manage a private rented sector tenancy.

10. Exceptions may also be made for other households in respect of whom there is a compelling reason why a PRSO would not be appropriate. A decision will be taken after a consideration of each household's individual circumstances.

11. The following general principles will apply when making a PRSO:

- a. Prevention, Relief and the Main Housing Duty will be discharged if a household rejects a suitable PRSO.
- b. households owed the Prevention Duty who reject a PRSO will be eligible for the Relief Duty if they go on to become homeless.
- c. households owed the Relief Duty will not be eligible for a Main Housing Duty assessment.
- d. households owed the Relief or Main Housing Duty will not be made any further offers of accommodation, but the Council will continue to offer advice and other assistance in order to help them to resolve their homelessness.
- e. households will have the right to request a review of the decision that a PRSO is suitable.
- f. households will have the right to request a review that the Prevention, Relief or Main Housing Duty is discharged upon rejection of a PRSO.
- g. the Council will fund any deposits or rent in advance required by a landlord in order to secure a PRSO.
- h. the Council will only make a PRSO that is suitable considering the household's individual circumstances and relevant legislation, guidance and caselaw.
- i. PRSO's will be made within the borough only unless the household requests a move that is further away or if it is deemed unsafe for the household to remain in the borough.
- j. Practical support to enable a move may be offered and will be tailored to the individual needs of each household and may include help to: transfer any care

Private Rented Sector Offer – Policy Statement

and support packages, access employment support, enrol children in schools, register with a GP and help to access other local services.

Section 3: Reviewing and monitoring the policy

12. This policy is underpinned by a working procedure.
13. This policy will be reviewed after it has been in operation for twelve months

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Appendix 2

Private Rented Sector Access Scheme

Kettering Lettings Plus: Private Landlord Incentive Scheme

The table below sets out the proposed ‘menu’ of incentives that the Housing Options team can offer to private landlords during negotiations to prevent, relieve or resolve homelessness, thereby reducing the need for crisis intervention and costly temporary accommodation.

The Incentives

The level of assistance and incentive provided in each case will depend on the circumstances of the individual household and will be agreed through negotiation with the prospective landlord. The list below provides the full ‘menu’ of **new** incentives that would fall under the ‘Kettering Lettings Plus’ umbrella. It is not envisaged that every item will be provided in every case. The flexibility of the scheme has been designed to reflect the varied range of individual needs of both landlords and tenants. It also enables council officers to retain the flexibility to be able to respond quickly and effectively to changes in housing demand and strategic priorities.

Incentive	Detail
Single Point of Contact	All landlords that work with the council under this scheme will have direct access to our dedicated Landlord Liaison Officer. This officer can be contacted should any issues or concerns arise with specific tenancies, or if a landlord requires generic advice or support
Landlord mailing list	Partner landlords will have access to a landlord mailing list to receive periodic email bulletins providing information such as useful updates, key legislative change, events and training opportunities. The council is keen to build meaningful engagement with PRS landlords through an open dialogue and is hopeful that they can be represented on the Kettering Homelessness Action Partnership moving forward.
Rent in advance payments	The council proposes to offer a grant of up to one month’s rent in advance to facilitate access to new PRS properties to prevent / relieve or discharge homeless duties, where it is satisfied (through financial assessments) that a customer is unable to meet this liability
Deposits	The council proposes to offer a grant to fund a damage deposit (to the equivalent value of one month’s rent) to facilitate access to new PRS properties to prevent / relieve or discharge homeless duties, where it is satisfied (through financial assessments) that a customer is unable to meet this liability
Tenancy Support	Kettering Borough Council have a dedicated Private Rented Sector Tenancy Support Worker available to tenants living in the private rented sector. The Tenancy Support worker will support on a case to case basis from the initial stages of the tenancy but also ongoing throughout the tenancy as required to achieve a sustainable tenancy. Our Tenancy Support Worker is experienced in supporting

Private Rented Sector Access Scheme

	tenants to address their wider support needs including those related to health and finances – factors that are central to a successful tenancy.
Inventory	The Landlord Liaison Officer is available to visit the property prior to tenancy commencement and provide a written inventory free of charge for the landlord. This would include descriptions and photographs of the property.
Additional financial guarantee	For properties in particularly high demand from homeless households (currently 3 and 4 bed houses but subject to change), the council proposes to have the flexibility to offer an additional guarantee to landlords whereby a fixed sum (up to the value of 1.5 months' rent) is underwritten and provided in the event that there is unpaid rent or property damage over and above the deposit value at any point during the tenancy term. It is proposed that the full 1.5 months value guarantee will be reserved for landlords that agree to provide 12 month tenancies to reflect the additional risk that comes with this increased fixed tenancy term, and to reflect the fact that the council requires a 12 month tenancy to discharge the main rehousing duty to households accepted as statutory homeless. It provides additional reassurance to a prospective landlord that it is in the council's interest to prevent any tenancy issues arising.
One-off practical incentives	In addition to the fixed financial incentives already discussed, it is proposed that the package will also include the flexibility for council officers to utilise the revenue funding to remedy specific issues that are putting a PRS tenancy at risk, up to a maximum value of £500 per tenancy, and where it is evidenced that the tenant cannot fund to remedy the issue. Items that might be funded under this incentive include skip hire and arranging and funding repairs related to deliberate damage.

In addition to the new package of incentives detailed above, partner landlords and/or their tenants will also be supported to access **existing** opportunities including:

Incentive	Detail
Landlord Improvement Grant	When a landlord has a property that requires minor works or property improvements required to ensure that the property meets the suitability requirements of Article 3 of the Homelessness (Suitability of Accommodation) (England) Order 2012, they are able to apply for a Landlord Improvement Grant to the maximum amount of £1000 per property. Terms and conditions apply as set out in the council's Private Sector Housing Grants policy 2019.
Access to discretionary payments	In the event that a change in tenant circumstances results in financial difficulties during the tenancy term (e.g. if a tenant loses their employment) our Landlord Liaison Officer or Housing Options team can assist with applications for Discretionary Housing

Private Rented Sector Access Scheme

	Payment (DHP) or a Spend to Save grant if there is an evidenced risk of homelessness.
Direct payments of housing benefits	This is something that our Landlord Liaison Officer can support landlords to explore subject to the status of the tenant. If the tenant is in arrears or perceived to be vulnerable, direct payments to landlords can be arranged. If direct payments cannot be established in order to prevent further arrears, our new dedicated PRS staff can intervene and make all attempts to resolve such issues as quickly as possible.

Points to note

The operational process documents (e.g. referral forms, financial assessment templates) associated with this PRS Access proposal have already been drafted, and will ensure a consistent approach is taken with regards to decision making within this scheme.

Full affordability assessments will be conducted with individual applicants but for those on benefits, it is envisaged that the council will be seeking to work within LHA rates + 5% as a maximum rental charge.

Under this scheme, there will be requirements of landlords to include evidence of all legal compliance documentation including gas safety certificates, EICR's, EPC's, and evidence of deposit protection.

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Report Originator	Martin Hammond	<i>Fwd Plan Ref No:</i> A20/012	
Wards Affected	William Knibb ward primarily	8 th July 2020	
Title	MARKING KETTERING'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE ANTI-SLAVERY MOVEMENT		

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Scott Edwards

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval to the commissioning of public art, marking the involvement of Kettering people to the anti-slavery movement in the early nineteenth century.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1. Members will be aware, that following the murder of George Floyd in America in May 2020, a world-wide campaign under the banner *Black Lives Matter*, has highlighted the legacies of slavery, the continuing perception by many that racism has not been adequately tackled in this country and others, and which has sought a more serious set of remedies. A large number of protest events, including a well-attended event in Kettering town centre on 12th June, has continued to keep the spotlight on this issue, and has, as a consequence focused attention across the UK on monuments and works of art which feature historical figures complicit in some way in the slave trade or slavery itself.
- 2.2. In Kettering, there are no such monuments and indeed, Kettering has a proud history as one of the crucibles of the anti-slavery movement in the early nineteenth century, associated with, amongst others, William Knibb. Their work is commemorated in the Borough Council's own Coat of Arms. It should be said that there are also voices that have questioned the priorities of William Knibb, and which argue that his contribution to the anti-slavery movement was coincident with other objectives, not a primary driver.
- 2.3. Following the *Black Lives Matter* protests, the Council received a number of approaches to mark the contribution of William Knibb, either by installing a statue or by some other form of public art which told his story. A petition containing 1358 names as at 30th June, (attached as Appendix 1) was received on 13th June, and individual members, as well as the Civic Society, also wrote on the merits of creating a permanent memorial.

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3. RESPONDING TO REQUESTS FOR A MONUMENT/PUBLIC ART

- 3.1. Whilst in many ways a straightforward request, a statue in itself rarely tells the full story about an individual and their contribution to society, and it may be that there are other ways in which William Knibb and related aspects of local history can be remembered and their work highlighted, if that is what the committee would like to do. The Council has no recent history of commissioning major public works of art although smaller features, such as in the Market Place, have been commissioned through a design competition.

- 3.2. If members are willing to explore the best way of marking this strand of local history, then a design competition could be run, with an upper financial limit, a suitable area(s) of town that the commission(s) would be located within, and a judging panel set up to agree the winning design.

- 3.3. At the same time as any such competition would be running, the Council will be engaged in the redesign of the public realm in Kettering Town Centre, as part of the High Street Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ). This also includes provision for public art to be commissioned which captures aspects of the area's local history. It would be appropriate to ensure that the two sets of activity are aligned. HSHAZ funding has been agreed in detail with Historic England and any re-alignment of that budget would need the agreement of Historic England.

- 3.4. Additionally, October is Black History Month and it might be possible to commission a programme of workshops and educational events, through our gallery and museum. This will enable people to develop an understanding of the anti-slavery movement through a number of different perspectives and lenses, be a more interactive learning experience and resource that schools and educational establishments can access and use as part of a longer-term legacy project.

- 3.5. Finally, the Kettering mosaic, currently in storage with the Civic Society, depicts a modernist abstract interpretation of Kettering's Coat of Arms and shows Kettering's rich religious, cultural and industrial heritage, including the links to the birth of the Baptist Missionary movement, and the abolition of slavery. There are plans to erect the mosaic on the Tresham College building in Windmill Avenue, but further fund raising is needed to achieve this. (Members will also be aware that the Borough Council made a loan to the civic society to enable them to remove it from its original location when the building it resided on was demolished in 2007.).

4. TERMS OF A COMMISSION

- 4.1. To ensure continuity it would make sense to align the commissioning of this proposed project within our plans for cultural-led regeneration within Kettering town centre, which includes street scene improvements – by aligning delivery and integrations of themes it will ensure aesthetic consistency throughout the town.

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- 4.2. It would be important to seek historical as well as technical expertise prior to launching any design competition to ensure it is robustly researched and the specification is suitable. Such expertise could be paid for within an overall design competition funding envelope.
- 4.3. As well as a physical manifestation, the opportunity should be taken to build in a educational element utilising both digital and traditional exhibition so that more in-depth stories and material can be sourced by those interested in the physical form.
- 4.3. There are a wide range of stakeholders who would need to be engaged in the commissioning process, including the Civic Society, Historic England, the cultural consortium, faith organisations, BAME community and of course this Council and its successor.

5. CONSULTATION AND CUSTOMER IMPACT

- 5.1. At this stage, no consultation has been carried out and this could be incorporated into the design and commissioning process. This report responds to community input to date. It will be important to enter into early discussions with Historic England.

6. POLICY AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. The initial cost of a design competition, including acquiring some historical and technical expertise, can be met from within existing budgets, and is estimated to be under £10,000.
- 6.2. It will be important to set an overall financial envelope for the work itself, to guide the design competition. A discussion is needed with Historic England about aligning, supplementing or utilising the HSHAZ resource to serve the objectives set out in this report.
- 6.3. An assumption has been made that any contribution from the Borough Council/the HSHAZ would sit alongside or match fund-raising from the community and interested groups, or via a crowdfunding exercise.

7. LEGAL AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1. The Council would be making a statement about area's history, advocacy for better treatment of BAME communities and therefore can make positive statements on issues of equality.

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8. CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

8.1. None particularly.

9. RECOMMENDATION

The Executive Committee is recommended:

- (i) to support the proposals from the community that some form of public art be commissioned to mark this area's historic contribution to the anti-slavery movement and to feature those local people who worked to abolish slavery;
- (ii) to seek to commission public / cultural art through a design competition, jointly determined with local stakeholders, and to provide funds of up to £10,000 to support the design competition process;
- (iii) to consider, with Historic England, how this project can best sit alongside the High Street Heritage Action Zone planning and delivery, and how work could be funded; and
- (iii) to celebrate Black History Month via a newly developed interactive digital presence which aligns to local history through different 'lenses' leading to a full exhibition and launch of the public art commission in Spring 2021, at an estimated cost of £30,000.

Background Papers: N/a

Date 25th June 2020
Contact Officers M Hammond/R Mathieson

change.org

Recipient: Philip Hollobone, Kettering Borough Council

Letter: Greetings,

A Statue Honouring the Life of William Knibb,
Abolitionist and Educator in Kettering

The town of Kettering, Northamptonshire bares in its coat of arms a depiction of a slave with broken manacles. However, many of the towns inhabitants don't realise what for and the significance of the Kettering man who helped bring slavery in the British Empire to an end.

William Knibb was a Minister and Abolitionist who, throughout his short life in Jamaica and England, materially and spiritually supported slaves and freedmen through his education, land buying and anti colonialist programs.

Not only this, it was Knibb, acting on the request of the Jamaican slaves, who was instrumental in the final abolishment of slavery in the British Empire. His arguments in both Houses of Parliament were recorded as being the most powerful witness testimonies which would contribute to end slavery.

This petition was inspired by the rightful destruction of the racist monument to Edward Colston in Bristol and the Black Lives Matter Movement throughout the world. With the destruction of a monument pardoning the slave trade and the brutal centuries of murder that it has brought, I thought that now would be the perfect time to erect a Statue to William Knibb.

His efforts to free slaves and help them to free themselves through education and the ability to create their own livelihoods should be commemorated and hasn't been in his home town for too long.

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Committee	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	Item 12	Page 1 of 3
Report Originator	Martin Hammond	<i>Fwd Plan Ref No:</i> A20/006	
Wards Affected	Welland Ward	8 th July 2020	
Title	WELLAND WANDERER BUS SERVICE		

Portfolio Holder: Cllr David Howes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek the Committee’s views on continuing support for the “Welland Wanderer” community bus service

2. INFORMATION

- 2.1. Following the withdrawal of bus subsidies to a number of routes in the county in 2018, 10 parish councils, mostly concentrated in the Welland ward and Corby rural ward, clubbed together to commission a replacement service which retained some connectivity for these villages into Market Harborough and Corby.
- 2.2. The service was funded by the parish councils and Kettering Borough Council provided some set up costs of £3,000. Corby Borough Council made a contribution of £2,660, and the parishes provided £1,650. The County Council was able to provide £3,900 which was the match funding from bus pass usage. The new service started up in November 2018 and has continued since, although clearly during the lockdown, it was effectively furloughed.
- 2.3. Currently the service consists of a “west” service running every Tuesday between Gretton and Market Harborough through villages on that route and an “east” service running every Friday between Stoke Albany and Corby, via Gretton.
- 2.4. The service provides a vital link for residents who do not drive and who cannot afford regular taxi trips. Many of the users are older people and the vast majority have a bus pass.
- 2.5. The service has been co-ordinated and led by Wilbarston Parish Council and members may wish to acknowledge the work that has been put in by the community, led by Nick Richards of Wilbarston Parish Council to keep it going.
- 2.6. In its first year, the service carried 2,400 passengers. The service effectively had a net cost of £150 per week (about £2.78 subsidy per user) which means that the service was able to run on its initial funding up to the end of March 2020.

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3. FUTURE PROVISION

- 3.1. Projecting forward into the next year, the organisers calculate that they need a net £7,800 to run the service for the next twelve months. They have proposed that this is met by continued funding from the parishes, and both Corby and Kettering Councils.
- 3.2. Corby Borough Council had decided to make a contribution of £2,660 in 2020/21, provided that this is matched by contributions from Kettering Borough Council and the parishes. This means that Kettering Borough Council is being asked for £2,660 in the coming year.
- 3.3. When the Borough Council provided its funding in 2019/20, it was on the basis that this was one off funding. This was to avoid a conflict with the financial golden rules which prevent the Council back-filling a service previously provided by another agency which has withdrawn its funding. At the time, it was thought that the service could function through to the start date of the unitary authority in 2020, but this clearly is no longer true, given the start date is 2021.
- 3.4. Elsewhere in the Borough, other parish councils have contemplated replicating the service set up in the Welland Valley and Rothwell Town Council and parishes in Slade ward are considering setting up a similar service. Informally, Kettering Borough Council has indicated that they would be prepared to support this service in the way that the Welland service was helped.

4. CONSULTATION AND CUSTOMER IMPACT

- 4.1. The Council has been in contact with the service providers and Corby Borough Council during these discussions.

5. POLICY AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. The Council has a £20,000 budget for subsidising bus services. This was primarily focused on providing help with services which helped residents get to work, so serving an economic development purpose rather than a general social purpose, which was the function of Northamptonshire County Council. Because some of those subsidised services are now performing fairly well, there is scope within that budget to provide help to other services, but this would require a widening of the scope of the budget.
- 5.2. It would be financially possible to provide support for the Welland service and at least one other community funded bus service in the Borough from this provision in the rest of 2020/21. As mentioned above, this would require a policy change to deal with the requirements of the financial golden rules.

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6. LEGAL AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. The provision of a bus service helps tackle social isolation, provides a service for a predominately elderly population and for those without private access to a car.

7. CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1. Bus usage is a more sustainable form of transport than most other vehicle options.

8. RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is recommended to approve that:-

- (i) the budgetary provision for bus subsidies be redefined to enable the co-funding, with parish and other councils, of bus services linking otherwise isolated communities to nearby towns and service centres, alongside the existing purpose of enabling access to work; and
- (ii) a grant of £2,660 be provided to the Welland Wanderer service for 2020/21

Background Papers:

Welland Wanderer bus service background paper and accounts
Corby BC minutes February 2020
Email correspondence.

Date March 2020
Contact Officer M Hammond

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Committee	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	Item 13	Page 1 of 2
Report Originator	Martin Hammond	<i>Fwd Plan Ref No: A20/007</i>	
Wards Affected	All	8 th July 2020	
Title	COUNTYWIDE ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR STRATEGY		

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Scott Edwards

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To seek approval to adopt the Countywide strategy to tackle anti-social behaviour

2. INFORMATION

2.1. The Borough Council has previously been a signatory to countywide strategies aiming to tackle various types of crime and incidents. This strategy deals with anti-social behaviour (ASB) and replaces an earlier strategy first adopted in 2015/16. It is a sister document to the strategies on hate crime and domestic abuse which were agreed by this committee in October 2019.

2.2. The attached strategy has been drawn up and adopted by the Northamptonshire Community Safety Board (CSB) which is the community safety partnership for Northamptonshire and on which the Council is represented by an Executive Director. Each agency member of the CSB has been asked to adopt the strategy. Normally, this would have been submitted to this committee in March 2020, but the cancellation of meetings has delayed its submission until now. Whilst the Borough Council has less than a year to go, it was still felt important to adopt the strategy so that all the component parts of the new unitary council would be working to a common platform, with non-local government partners, up to and beyond the transition next April.

2.3. The attached strategy (Appendix 1) represents more than a refresh of the old strategy and in particular, looks at:

- early intervention and prevention
- victim and witness support
- dealing with offenders
- community engagement and problem solving
- intelligence gathering and understanding local problems

2.5 ASB is one of the four priority areas that the CSB partnership has agreed. The CSB regular monitors and manages the strategy and a delivery group reporting to the CSB is accountable for identifying areas which need further work and for implementing agreed interventions where these are needed on a cross county basis.

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The strategy also informs the nature and spread of police initiatives in communities around the county at a neighbourhood level.

- 2.4. This Council makes use already of a range of powers and interventions to deal with ASB, ranging from a suite of public space protection orders, through to targeted community protection notices, Criminal behaviour notices and closure orders. There is a dedicated ASB team within housing and a resource within public services dealing with complaints, incidents and preventative work, and they have a strong working relationship with the police and other agencies. ASB shades into criminal activity on a number of fronts and the relationship of this strategy and the action plans underpinning it with other crime strategies is key.

3. CONSULTATION AND CUSTOMER IMPACT

- 3.1. Partners and stakeholder groups have been fully engaged in the development of the strategy.

4. POLICY AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. The new strategy will influence and guide both this Council's and the new council's operational community safety work and affect most service units, especially public services and housing.

5. LEGAL AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. The strategy aims to combat social harm which disproportionately affects minority groups, less prosperous communities and vulnerable individuals.

6. CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. There are no direct climate change implications.

7. RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 The Committee is recommended to adopt the strategy.

Background Papers:

1. Attached;
2. Minutes and reports to the CSB

Date: 10th March 2020

Contact Officer: M Hammond



Who is this document for?

The Northamptonshire Community Safety Board represents all the public services within Northamptonshire responsible for community safety.

This document is produced at the request of the Community Safety Board, and outlines how we will tackle hate crime and incidents across Northamptonshire.

Through the delivery of this strategy we will work in partnership and focus on prevention, early intervention and robust enforcement of hate crime and incidents.

We will provide an excellent service to victims and witnesses of hate.

We will empower communities to report incidents of hate and will work alongside communities to encourage community cohesion and tolerance.

Reducing incidents of hate is the responsibility of us all, and in delivering the strategy we will work closely with the communities of Northamptonshire and those services who are able to help and support the coordination of local activity to tackle hate crime and hate incidents.

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1. Foreword

Northamptonshire is a diverse County, in which we can take pride.

This strategy seeks to deal with those offenders who decide to personally attack, or commit crime against someone because of the very things that make them who they are.

We know that hate crime is under-reported, and we want to empower victims to come forward and report incidents when they occur. We will provide and promote different routes for people to report, and we will develop our offers of support for victims of hate crimes and hate incidents.

Through working closely in partnership we seek to have greater recognition of hate crime, correctly identifying when incidents of ASB or Crime are in fact motivated by hate, ensuring that the victims' voice is heard.

We will listen to victims and communities and address local concerns often impacted on by national events, and as partners responsible for community safety will take all opportunities to bring communities together, and to coordinate work on the ground to tackle hate crime.

Through education and engagement we will make it clear that hatred and crimes motivated by hate have no place in Northamptonshire, and instead instil an ethos of mutual tolerance and respect.

Martin Hammond

Executive Director

Kettering Borough Council

Chair Community Safety Board

Our ambition for Northamptonshire is that everyone can live without fear of prejudice, and that through education and community engagement tolerance and acceptance can replace hate

2. What do we mean by ‘hate crime’ and ‘hate incident’?

Both hate crime and hate incidents are motivated by hatred of a personal characteristic or perceived characteristic of the victim. Characteristics recognised and recorded by central government are

- Race or perceived race
- Religion or perceived religion (or no religion)
- Sexuality or perceived sexuality
- Transgender or perceived transgender
- Disability or perceived disability

The two locally recognised characteristics are:

- Individual characteristics (alternative lifestyles, dress style, physical appearance, culture)
- Gender based hostility

Definition of a Hate Incident

A hate incident is any non-crime (anything which is not a criminal offence, and for which a person cannot be prosecuted) which is perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated by a hostility or prejudice based on a person’s race or perceived race, religion or perceived religion, sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation, person’s disability or perceived disability, or against a person who is transgender or perceived to be transgender.¹

Definition of a Hate Crime

The police and the Crown Prosecution Service have agreed the following definition for identifying and flagging hate crimes:

¹ Hate Crime Operational Guidance – College of Policing 2014

"Any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice, based on a person's disability or perceived disability; race or perceived race; or religion or perceived religion; or sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation or transgender identity or perceived transgender identity."²

Legislation³ allows prosecutors to apply for an uplift in sentences for those convicted of hate crime.

² <https://www.cps.gov.uk/hate-crime>

³ sections 28-32 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and sections 145 and 146 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003

3. Who are the victims of Hate Crime and Incidents

Anyone of any age or gender can become victims of hate crime or incidents, and similarly anyone can be an offender.

Whether male or female, old or young, victims are targeted because of something which is part of who they are. Through the National Crime Survey for England and Wales race related hate crime accounted for over 50% of hate crime, with higher rates of victimisation found amongst younger, male, non-white persons⁴.

Local police data⁵, where information on the victim is known, show that there are higher percentage of victims aged 25-44, victims are more likely to be BAME, and similar levels of male and female victims were seen.

Offenders of hate crime are often not always known to the victim, and in many incidents hate incidents and crimes occur where the offender is a stranger. Victims can become repeat victims, especially where the offender is known to them as an acquaintance, e.g. neighbour, colleague.

Being a victim of hate crime can have a lasting impact on victims due to the personal nature for which the victim is targeted.

Where close community links are present, the wider impact of hate crime is felt amongst the broader community. Where national and local media report of hate crime or incidents, the effect of this can be felt amongst local communities.

⁴ HM Government Against Action Hate The UK Government's plan for tackling hate crime – 'two years on' October 2018

⁵ Northamptonshire Police Profile on Hate Crime and Hate Incidents November 2018

4. Understanding the national and local context

National Context

Statistics from the Home Office⁶ show a 17% rise in reported hate crime between 2016/17 – 2017/18. Year on year increases in recorded hate crime have been seen with figures doubling from 42,255 in 2012/13 to 94,098 in 2017/18. It is thought the increase is due to improvements in police recording, however spike in hate crime follow national events such as the EU referendum and the terrorist attacks in 2017. The Crime Survey England and Wales would suggest that there is an increase in willingness to report to the police, with 53% of hate crime incidents coming to the attention of the police, which is above the all crime figure of 40%.

Nationally Race continues to be the most common motivator for hate crime, with 71,251 offences nationally in 2017/18. The greatest % increase in hate Crime from 2016/17 to 2017/2018 was seen within the Religion hate crime strand showing an increase nationally of 40%.

The National reports from the government make four key points:

- Hate Crime is increasing.
- Hate Crime is under reported.
- Hate Crime victims are more likely to be emotionally affected.
- Hate Crime victim police satisfaction levels are lower than other crime types nationally

Local Context

A local profile of hate crime and hate incidents was produced by Northamptonshire Police in November 2018.

⁶ : https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/748598/hate-crime-1718-hosb2018.pdf

This shows that in 2017/2018 Northamptonshire saw a 27.6% increase in hate crime, which is above the National average. In line with national statistics nearly 75% of hate crimes were motivated by Race. The volume of occurrences locally in Northamptonshire for 2017/2018 are provided in the table below.

	Volume of Occurrences	Percentage
Racial	2075	72.3%
Disability	302	10.5%
Sexual Orientation	283	9.9%
Religious	186	6.5%
Other	126	4.4%
Transgender	65	2.3%

The most common offence type recorded, where it was motivated by hate, was public order offence – accounting for 39.1%, followed by violence without injury, accounting for 23.2%.

Consideration should also be given to the transient and settled Gypsy, Roma or Traveller communities within the County as victims of hate crime and incidents. As Northamptonshire follows a national trend in an increase in unauthorised encampments, from 209 in 2016 to 242 in 2018, it is believed that hate crime and incidents amongst GRT communities are under-reported.

5. Our strategic objectives.

Strategic Aim

Hate crime and incidents cause significant harm to those who are directly victimised and to the wider community. They effect community cohesion, and have the ability to impact on wider community tensions. It is widely accepted that incidents of hate, and hate crime are nationally and locally under reported.

Our strategic aims are in line with the five themes contained within the HM Governments plan for tackling hate⁷ and are contained within the following objectives. Through adopting a problem solving approach and placing significant emphasis on community engagement;

- We will focus on preventing hate crime –through education, early intervention and challenging behaviour.
- We will increase the reporting of hate crime – by working with our communities, encouraging cohesion.
- We will work in partnership and focus on early intervention and robust enforcement of hate crime and incidents.
- We will improve our service to victims and witnesses of hate.
- We will improve our understanding of hate crime in the County in order to respond appropriately to hate crime within our communities.

The strategy will demonstrate improved outcomes for our:-

Local communities – we will work with communities to identify victims of hate at the earliest opportunity, understand their needs and provide efficient and effective services that meet their needs. We will hold perpetrators to account for their behaviour and offer them opportunities to change their behaviour.

Local partner agencies – we will be able to understand and have a clear direction on how we support victims of hate including the emphasis on taking action as early as possible and how to deal efficiently with those responsible for hate in their neighbourhoods.

⁷ HM Government Against Action Hate The UK Government’s plan for tackling hate crime – ‘two years on’ October 2018

Partners need to develop some baseline measures that evidence changes brought about as a result of the strategy.

6. Northamptonshire Action Against Hate Plan

In order to achieve the strategic aims the following activity has been identified.

Prevention and Early Intervention

Ensuring a holistic approach to tackling hate which emphasises prevention and changing behaviour. Early intervention, and problem solving must be considered as a core theme throughout all of these objectives.

Early intervention involves taking action as soon as possible to tackle problems that have already emerged, with the aim of preventing them from developing. We want to focus our efforts on preventing hate incidents or tackling them at an early stage, through a number of key activities:

1. We will pro-actively engage communities in an effort to build community cohesion across all races, faiths, disabilities, sexual orientation, gender identities and lifestyles. Enabling and supporting local communities to develop relationships to gain greater awareness and understanding of different cultures, beliefs, abilities and lifestyles, therefore improving tolerance. We will focus on community engagement to better understand the County's diverse make up, to enable services to support community cohesion at local level by understanding difference.
2. We will provide recreational, sporting and cultural projects to enable positive engagement opportunities to encourage integration. Activities should be developed locally and in conjunction with potential participants. Local residents and volunteers should be used where possible to help embed activities within communities and sustain engagement through incentivising them to lead or coach groups in their activities.

3. We will work with children and young people (0-19yrs or up to 25yrs with special educational needs), as well as local universities to encourage positive attitudes and behaviour towards all members of the community. Discouraging discrimination at a young age is essential. Engagement with schools, higher education and youth services through, for example appropriate PSHE curriculum or life skills work is key to building tolerance and developing respectful citizens.
4. We will encourage education establishments to accurately record hate incidents and establish mechanism to share this information.
5. We will work with educational establishments in ensuring they have appropriate procedures in place to deal with hate.
6. We will actively promote and encourage online safety and raise awareness of the impact of cyber bullying. Many hate incidents and crimes occur online but the impact can be equally as harmful and should therefore be dealt with, with the same level of response.
7. We will utilise early help services available within the County to support the diversion of hate offenders away from future offending.
8. We will ensure appropriate pathways are put in place, and identify any commissioning gaps.
9. We will work in partnership with our communities to understand community tensions following any local or national events which have the potential to increase hate crime locally. We will ensure communications focus on containing and reducing tensions and local incidents.
10. We will coordinate the work of the Northamptonshire Action Against Hate Strategy with the Northamptonshire County Partnership preventing radicalisation and extremism strategy.

Case Management

The Partnership has previously invested in a case management system, E-CINS. This system enables multiple agencies to use one hub for case management and the sharing of information around hate incidents/crime, as well as other areas of community safety work. The partnership recognises the important of multiagency case management and the technology to support this.

1. A review will be conducted as to continued investment including resources around training, and sharing of best practice for its use.
2. In delivering the strategy, the partnership commits to utilising existing case management processes, (Hate and ASB action Groups- HASBAGs) in the County for managing more complex multi-agency hate cases, and will ensure that these processes are reflected across the County. Adopting partnership problem solving is key to this.

Support services for victims

Voice for Victims and Witnesses is a locally commissioned service, commissioned from Northamptonshire Office of Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner. Voice offers a range of practical and emotional support to both adult and child victims and witnesses of crime. As of the 1 April 2019 VOICE is commissioned to provide these services to all hate crime victims and to hate incident victims where there are high risk, vulnerability or repeat factors.

1. We will ensure support services for victims of hate crime are designed to provide long term, quality service that meets their needs, particularly in relation to emotional support, confidence-building and onward support.
2. The delivery of this strategy will include ensuring that the victim service commissioned meets local needs.
3. We will provide a victim focused service that has a robust approach to assessing the support needs of victims and addressing any safeguarding issues.

Dealing with perpetrators

1. We will utilise all available powers in a timely fashion to ensure effective management of perpetrators of hate crime and incidents.

2. We will ensure that agencies are aware of their powers, and will promote successful prosecutions to build public confidence in reporting.
3. We will build a library of support services for offenders to address underlying problems affecting offending behaviour. This will be available to those involved in the management of offenders, to ensure support services are appropriately considered alongside enforcement
4. We will proactively promote positive enforcement stories, to deter offenders and demonstrate to communities that hate crime and incidents will be taken seriously.

Collaborative working

1. We will use national best practice to better understand causal factors of hateful behaviour, to inform local responses, and make best use of national resources.
2. We will work to a set of common service standards agreed by the Community Safety Board and will devise mechanism to access compliance.
3. We will work with communities to empower reporting of hate crime and incidents to the police. It is recognised that we should enable alternative reporting mechanism and we will promote third party reporting venues across the County to local communities.
4. We will undertake satisfaction surveys of victim of hate crime and incidents and put processes in place to address and improve service delivery and satisfaction levels.
5. We will have information sharing agreements and protocols in place to ensure appropriate flow of information to tackle hate crime and incidents.

6. We will undertake a knowledge and skills audit around hate crime to assess and partnership training requirements for front line staff.
7. We will coordinate partnership media campaigns to raise awareness of hate crime, its impact and how to report it.
8. We will utilise opportunities to work with academic establishments to evaluate partnership activity relating to hate crime/incidents.
9. We will ensure that all partner agencies have a hate crime single point of contact for coordinating activity across the Partnership.
10. We will make best use of resources by joining up approaches to national weeks / days of action and opportunities to bring services and different communities together.

7. Governance

Northamptonshire Community Safety Board currently identifies hate crime as being one of its priorities. There is an expectation that the Community Safety Board will take lead on the governance for the Action Against Hate Strategy for Northamptonshire 2019-2022.

