

# Notice of Meeting

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# Executive

**Thursday 2 September 2021 at 5.00pm**

**in the Council Chamber, Council Offices,  
Market Street, Newbury**

**Note:** This meeting can be streamed live here: <https://www.westberks.gov.uk/executive/live>

Date of despatch of Agenda: Wednesday 24 August 2021

For further information about this Agenda, or to inspect any background documents referred to in Part I reports, please contact Democratic Services Team on (01635) 519462

e-mail: [executivecycle@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:executivecycle@westberks.gov.uk)

Further information and Minutes are also available on the Council's website at [www.westberks.gov.uk](http://www.westberks.gov.uk)



**WestBerkshire**  
C O U N C I L

<b>To:</b>	Councillors Steve Ardagh-Walter, Dominic Boeck, Graham Bridgman, Hilary Cole, Lynne Doherty, Ross Mackinnon, Richard Somner, Jo Stewart and Howard Woollaston
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# Agenda

## Part I

	<b>Pages</b>
1. <b>Apologies for Absence</b> To receive apologies for inability to attend the meeting (if any).	5 - 6
2. <b>Minutes</b> To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 15 July 2021.	7 - 12
3. <b>Declarations of Interest</b> To remind Members of the need to record the existence and nature of any personal, disclosable pecuniary or other registrable interests in items on the agenda, in accordance with the Members' <a href="#">Code of Conduct</a> .	13 - 14
4. <b>Public Questions</b> Members of the Executive to answer questions submitted by members of the public in accordance with the Executive Procedure Rules contained in the Council's Constitution.  Please note that the list of public questions is shown under item 4 in the agenda pack.	15 - 18
5. <b>Petitions</b> Councillors or Members of the public may present any petition which they have received. These will normally be referred to the appropriate Committee without discussion.	19 - 20

## Items as timetabled in the Forward Plan

	<b>Pages</b>
6. <b>Separate Food Waste Collection (EX4009)</b> Purpose: To agree a way forward in relation to separation of food waste.	21 - 22
7. <b>Revenue Financial Performance Report - Q1 of 2021/22 (EX4012)</b> Purpose: To inform Members of the latest financial performance of the Council.	23 - 40

## Agenda - Executive to be held on Thursday, 2 September 2021 (continued)

8. **Capital Financial Performance Report - Q1 of 2021/22 (EX4013)** 41 - 54  
Purpose: To present the Q1 capital financial performance for Members to note.
- 
9. **Key Accountable Performance 2021/22: Quarter One (EX4000)** 55 - 96  
Purpose: To report Q1 outturns for the Key Accountable Measures which monitor performance against the 2021/22 Council Performance Framework. To provide assurance that the objectives set out in the Council Strategy and other areas of significant activity are being managed effectively. To present, by exception, those measures that are predicted to be 'amber' or 'red' and provide information on any remedial action taken and the impact of that action. To recommend changes to measures/targets as requested by services.
- 
10. **Members' Questions** 97 - 100  
Members of the Executive to answer questions submitted by Councillors in accordance with the Executive Procedure Rules contained in the Council's Constitution.  
  
Please note that the list of Member questions is shown under item 10 in the agenda pack.
- 

Sarah Clarke  
Service Director: Strategy and Governance

### West Berkshire Council Strategy Priorities

#### Council Strategy Priorities:

**PC1: Ensure our vulnerable children and adults achieve better outcomes**

**PC2: Support everyone to reach their full potential**

**OFB1: Support businesses to start, develop and thrive in West Berkshire**

**GP1: Develop local infrastructure to support and grow the local economy**

**GP2: Maintain a green district**

**SIT1: Ensure sustainable services through innovation and partnerships**

If you require this information in a different format or translation, please contact Stephen Chard on telephone (01635) 519462.



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Executive – 2 September 2021

## **Item 1 – Apologies for absence**

Verbal Item

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## DRAFT

Note: These Minutes will remain DRAFT until approved at the next meeting of the Committee

## EXECUTIVE

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 15 JULY 2021

**Councillors Present:** Steve Ardagh-Walter, Dominic Boeck, Graham Bridgman, Hilary Cole, Lynne Doherty, Ross Mackinnon and Howard Woollaston

**Also Present:** Nick Carter (Chief Executive), Sarah Clarke (Service Director (Strategy and Governance)), Susan Halliwell (Executive Director - Place), Joseph Holmes (Executive Director - Resources), Andy Sharp (Executive Director (People)), Jake Thurman (Group Executive (Cons)), Councillor Adrian Abbs, Councillor Phil Barnett, Stephen Chard (Democratic Services Manager), Councillor Carolyn Culver, Councillor Lee Dillon, Councillor David Marsh, Councillor Steve Masters, Councillor Erik Pattenden and Councillor Martha Vickers

**Apologies for inability to attend the meeting:** Councillor Jeff Brooks, Councillor Alan Macro, Councillor Richard Somner and Councillor Joanne Stewart

## PART I

### 12. Minutes

It was noted that this was the last Executive meeting of Nick Carter, the Chief Executive, before his retirement. Councillor Lynne Doherty took the opportunity to thank Nick for all his hard work and service to the Council over many years, which was much appreciated.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10 June 2021 were approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Leader.

Councillor Doherty pointed out that the action on page ten of the minutes (to contact schools with regards to the tuition programme) had been completed.

### 13. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received.

### 14. Public Questions

A full transcription of the public and Member question and answer sessions are available from the following link: [Transcription of Q&As](#).

- (a) The question submitted by John Gotelee on the subject of planning permission for residential units on Faraday Road would receive a written response from the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport.
- (b) The question submitted by Jackie Paynter on the subject of the 11-storey block of flats proposed for the New Eagle Quarter would receive a written response from the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport.
- (c) The question submitted by Ian Hall on the subject of the provisional cost of construction and the acquiring of land for the new sports ground/football pitch would receive a written response from the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport.
- (d) The question submitted by Paul Morgan on the subject of who the security contractor was and what services they were providing at Faraday Road would receive a written response from the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport.

## EXECUTIVE - 15 JULY 2021 - MINUTES

- (e) The question submitted by Alan Pearce on the subject of planning permission expiration on the Faraday Plaza site on the London Road Industrial Estate would receive a written response from the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport.
- (f) The question submitted by Jackie Paynter on the subject of Climate Emergency and whether the wildflower verge project would be rolled out to more places next year to encourage bio diversity was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Waste.
- (g) The question submitted by Ian Hall on the subject of the Council's awareness of their requirement to balance its desire to be property developers and its legal obligations in areas such as planning, flood relief or sports fields provision would receive a written response from the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport.
- (h) The question submitted by Paul Morgan on the subject of whether there is a link where members of the public can view what tenders above £10,000 or more was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Development.
- (i) The question submitted by Ian Hall on the subject of what measures were in place to ensure that the Council's role as property developers was balanced by an impartial decision making process would receive a written response from the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport.
- (j) The question submitted by Ian Hall on the income generated and on the sporting activities that have taken place on the site since the closure of the football ground would receive a written response from the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Development.

### 15. Petitions

There were no petitions presented to the Executive.

### 16. Financial Year 2020/21 Annual Treasury Outturn (EX4099)

The Executive considered a report (Agenda Item 5) proposed by Councillor Ross Mackinnon which provided an overview of the treasury management activity for the financial year 2020/21.

Councillor Mackinnon explained that the Treasury function was responsible for the daily cash flow management of the Council. He stated that the Council's excess cash balances fluctuated throughout the year due to various factors and that investment decisions and the desire to maximise interest income was counterbalanced by the need to ensure adequate liquidity and cash flow to meet expected and unexpected cash outflows.

Councillor Mackinnon further stated that the other side of treasury management's work was managing the Council's borrowings and that the work of treasury management impacted the budget in two ways: generating income from the Council's excess cash balances and managing the interest in capital repayments on the Council's borrowings.

With such low risk comes low return and rates were lower than last year, they were also lower by comparable amounts; therefore, the Council had more borrowing than cash investments and the fallen rates were considered a net benefit to the revenue budget overall. Borrowing was £9 million lower at the year-end compared to March 2020; which further demonstrated the sustainability improvements of the Council's Financial Strategy.

A question followed on net borrowing levels and whether this was due to delays to capital projects as a result of Covid-19. Councillor Mackinnon explained that there were indeed delays to projects as a result of Covid-19 and as a result of cash income received from Government in the form of Covid support.



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A question was then asked on whether the Council should have assets in their portfolio, such as a petrol station, that was not felt to accord with the Council's declaration of a climate emergency. It was clarified that the petrol station was purely a commercial investment. This very point was considered at the time of the investment and the decision was based on the fact that, in future, it would be possible to charge electric vehicles as former petrol stations. Such investments would continue to achieve a financial return.

**RESOLVED** that the 2020/21 Annual Treasury Outturn be noted.

### 17. **Environment Strategy Delivery Plan (EX4053)**

The Executive considered a report (Agenda Item 7) proposed by Councillor Steve Ardagh-Walter. The report sought approval of the Environment Strategy Delivery Plan and agreement of the process for monitoring, updating and reporting the progress in relation to the Delivery Plan.

Councillor Ardagh-Walter stated that the plan itself would not deliver the key goal of carbon neutrality for the district automatically because the Council only represented a small proportion of the District's overall carbon footprint. However, the Council had a duty and they were in a position of leadership to set an example for residents, businesses and groups within the District.

Furthermore, there was an intention of transparency and openness over the coming years and the plan would be published on the Council website provided it was approved tonight and would be updated every month and every year including a high-level summary which would be presented to the Executive showing progress against a number of targets for the achievement of Carbon Neutrality. Targets were challenging and all possible efforts would be given to achieving them.

The high level of engagement was praised and recognition was given to Jenny Graham and her team for all their hard work.

Further comments were given in relation to the public environment alongside the plan and how, for example in the consideration of hedgerow overgrowth and the dangers of pedestrians needing to walk in the streets due to lack of pathway space, it was important for the Council to recognise that in the delivery of this plan it must also take into account the safety of its residents.

A suggestion was made of liaising with larger landowners, who were doing much for local wildlife, perhaps through a forum, to keep them informed and involved in creating a working synergy. It was confirmed that this engagement would happen.

Concerns over unclear timescales were raised and assurances were given that focus was being given to both precise and deliverable outcomes.

There were also comments given around some of the wording in the report and that a 'high standard' should not be the aim but rather a 'net zero' or 'carbon positive' should be the goal. There was also a suggestion of the creation of a simple measure such as a thermometer which would be updated quarterly to show progress on hitting the targets, as this would quantify the carbon footprint. Concern was also raised around actions in the plan having not been started yet, some of which would be short term gains. In response, it was agreed that the wording in the report would be updated to reflect some of the concerns and other suggestions would be looked into further including simplifying the message of carbon neutrality. The difficulty with a thermometer was in assessing the carbon footprint on a district wide basis.

Questions were asked around whether the addition of electrical charging points would be in dedicated bays rather than outside people's homes and regarding active travel

## EXECUTIVE - 15 JULY 2021 - MINUTES

promotion, whether there would be money in future budgets to advance those plans. In response, Councillor Ardagh-Walter advised that as demands increased for residential charging points there then would be a scheme put into place that enabled access to all those who required charging points. This would be strong consideration in terms of future budget setting.

**RESOLVED** that the Environment Strategy Delivery Plan, as included in Appendix C, be approved as a first version of the Plan and that the proposed process for monitoring, updating and reporting on the progress of the Plan be agreed as detailed in section 5 of the report.

### 18. **Timelord 2 Final Report (EX4011)**

The Executive considered a report (Agenda Item 8) proposed by Councillor Howard Woollaston which outlined how the Council intended to hold onto the new ways of working, introduced since March 2020, which enabled more Council services to be available digitally. In addition, there was a desire to address some of the challenges that had been presented. This final draft of the report had been developed following an extensive period of staff consultation earlier in the year. Consultation was ongoing.

Councillor Woollaston stated further that home working, which had increased since March 2020, could work efficiently but was more appropriate for some roles than others and that there would be a need to retain a corporate team working culture that included the mentoring of junior staff and the induction of new recruits. No staff member would be forced to work from home and would be free to work in the office if they chose to; however, it was anticipated that most staff would likely choose to work on a mixed basis.

Councillor Woollaston further maintained that the new way of working provided staff with a better work life balance and would allow for a reduction in office space that would make the Council more environmentally friendly by having reduced travel to work time. There would be a cost implication of revamping the building but those costs would be further offset by savings which would be derived from property disposals.

A number of questions and concerns were raised around the decisions and timescales, and whether plans should wait for the arrival of the new Chief Executive before being implemented. There was also concern that the document contained no reference or focus on the impact this could have on services to residents, and a greater focus was felt to be needed in that aspect.

The response indicated that waiting for the new Chief Executive was not necessary as it was a gradual process and that he would have input. It was agreed that the report required more work on continued focus on residents.

Further concern was raised over the lack of dedicated home office space and therefore a lack of guarantee of privacy for sensitive data. Other concerns were voiced over ensuring hours were covered due to flexibility within the new ways of working model, and therefore could residents contact the necessary officers during core office hours. Other questions were posed around practical coordination of new staff and ensuring there was enough space for everyone if it were decided that staff should be in the office more and Market Street was the only Council building remaining.

It was acknowledged and recognised that these were areas to work on further in varying degrees and would be part of the next process. This included work on office space. Councillor Woollaston explained that West Street House and West Point would not be disposed of until the effectiveness of the new proposals (subject to approval) had been reviewed.

## EXECUTIVE - 15 JULY 2021 - MINUTES

It was also recognised that there was mandatory training around data protection and that these systems had been tested due to home working during Covid.

Concerns were also raised over how increased home working could negatively impact the town of Newbury due to less workers travelling to work would could result in less footfall and trade; less time required in the office could also mean less local people would be employed and residents would be paying wages to other District's residents. The response suggested that further consultation with staff would help to form a better idea of the impacts and would allow for more planning.

A question was raised as to how this would affect the employment contracts of Council workers. In response, it was stated in the legal implications that no changes were proposed to existing terms and conditions of employment.

It was summarised that the Council did need to take a leadership role and be proactive on this and that what was needed was a hybrid model that was balanced and proactive with staff flexibility and certainty for staff. The Library Service was a positive example of how this could work for residents. Town centres were changing pre - Covid and there was not a perfect solution, but high streets were changing and that was why there was the masterplan for that.

### **RESOLVED that:**

- The Timelord 2 working model be approved as set out in the covering report.
- An ongoing allocation of funding from within existing budgets for a staff home working allowance totalling £150,000 per annum be approved.
- £50,000 of costs, from within existing budgets, be approved to fund the ongoing additional costs of the internal booking system, staff development and support costs in respect of Timelord 2 and a doubling of the Reasonable Adjustments Budget.
- The sum of £691,130 to be borrowed to fund the capital works required to support the goals of Timelord 2 be approved.
- The effectiveness of the new proposals would be reviewed six months after the Timelord 2 Programme had been implemented.
- Once this review has been completed, to approve the disposal of the West Street House and West Point buildings if appropriate.

### **19. West Berkshire Water Safety Partnership (EX4107)**

The Executive considered a report (Agenda Item 9) proposed by Councillor Steve Ardagh-Walter that sought to gain approval for West Berkshire Council to help create and enter into a Water Safety Partnership for West Berkshire with Emergency Service organisations and the Canal and River Trust.

Councillor Ardagh-Walter discussed how Officers had come together with the Canal and River Trust and Emergency Services after tragedy had struck with the drowning of a toddler in the canal. The Partnership would focus on communicating and highlighting the risks to residents around water safety and promotion of public awareness to share best practice both within the area and more widely across the country. This approach of a cross-agency partnership had been shown to work successfully in other parts of the country and was detailed in paragraph 5.7. At this stage the report was seeking approval for West Berkshire Council to be a lead member of the partnership and more details would be developed over the coming months.

Comments made were fully in support of the formation of the body. It was noted that the Terms of Reference would be worked on.

## EXECUTIVE - 15 JULY 2021 - MINUTES

**RESOLVED** that the Council's participation as a leading member organisation of the West Berkshire Water Safety Partnership be approved.

### 20. Members' Questions

*(Ahead of Member question (c), Councillor Lee Dillon declared a personal interest by virtue of the fact that his father was a major shareholder in a public house within West Berkshire. As his interest was personal and not prejudicial he was permitted to take part in the debate).*

A full transcription of the public and Member question and answer sessions are available from the following link: [Transcription of Q&As](#).

- a) The question submitted by Councillor Phil Barnett on the subject of identifying if the GATSO cameras would be updated or replaced would receive a written response from the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport.
- b) The question submitted by Councillor Martha Vickers on the subject of the Children's Commissioner's fourth annual report on the state of Children's mental health services in England 2020/21 was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Education.
- c) The question submitted by Councillor Lee Dillon on the subject of the relaxation of noise pollution in light of Covid restrictions was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Strategic Partnerships and Transformation.
- d) The question submitted by Councillor Steve Masters on the subject of how many residential properties West Berkshire Council owned was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Development.
- e) The question submitted by Councillor Steve Masters on the subject of how many people were in West Berkshire Council owned properties on an emergency basis was answered by the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Strategic Partnerships and Transformation
- f) The question submitted by Councillor Jeremy Cottam on the subject of whether the resurfacing of Floral Way would include mitigation of the road noise would receive a written response from the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport.

*(The meeting commenced at 5.00pm and closed at 6.55pm)*

**CHAIRMAN** .....

**Date of Signature** .....

Executive – 2 September 2021

## **Item 3 – Declarations of Interest**

Verbal Item

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## Item 4:

### **Public Questions to be answered at the Executive meeting on 2 September 2021.**

Members of the Executive to answer questions submitted by members of the public in accordance with the Executive Procedure Rules contained in the Council's Constitution.

(a) **Question submitted by Nigel Foot to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Education:**

*"Can West Berkshire Council say what measures they taking to provide free, or minimal cost, structured activities for the young people of Newbury?"*

(b) **Question submitted by Ian Hall to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport:**

*"Excluding the cost of land provision from Newbury Rugby Club , what figure has been allocated for construction of stands and facilities and do the councillors consider that this represents good value for money , when weighed against any CIL payments from the existing pitch?"*

(c) **Question submitted by William Beard to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Development:**

*"Government has changed public procurement to only place contracts with companies with a published carbon reduction plan. What plans do WBC have to do something similar?"*

(d) **Question submitted by Simon Pike to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport:**

*"Does the statutory duty of the Council under Section 41(1) of the Highways Act 1980 to maintain the highway still apply if works are carried out on a part of a highway by a contractor or under a Section 278 agreement?"*

(e) **Question submitted by Paul Morgan to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Development:**

*"If the council does set up its own housing development Company do you envisage that this would entail the sale or transfer of Council owned land to this Company?"*

(f) **Question submitted by Graham Storey to the Portfolio Holder for Internal Governance, Leisure and Culture:**

*"Following the council leader's comments about questions from the public (February), when will there be an improvement to the format of questions to the council or executive, or an alternative way for the public to question the strategies or decisions of the council."*

(g) **Question submitted by Vaughan Miller to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Waste:**

*"How much did the recycling centre permit scheme and booking system cost to create and what is the annual cost to administer it (including cost of officer hours)?"*

**(h) Question submitted by John Gotelee to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Development:**

*“Is there any reason for the difference in treatment of a formerly empty and now partially empty council investment building in Newbury park and that of an empty building in Faraday Rd?”*

**(i) Question submitted by Mrs.Sam Coppinger to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport:**

*“I am concerned regarding the unacceptable increase in traffic movements at night. Please can the council confirm the details of any hours of work planning restrictions for 20 ton aggregate tipper trucks operating out of Membury Airfield Industrial Estate (MAIE)?”*

**(j) Question submitted by Bridgette Jones to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Waste:**

*“Has WBC assessed the cumulative impact of the recent Western Area Planning Committee Decisions and developed a critical infrastructure master plan for Membury Airfield Industrial Estate (MAIE) that includes: road networks & traffic, all environmental issues-air, light and noise pollution, the localised flooding, drainage, power and connectivity to meet the council’s climate change and sustainability policies?”*

**(k) Question submitted by Nigel Foot to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Education:**

*“Can West Berkshire Council say what measures they have, or are, putting in place in schools to help teaching staff identify struggling students and whether they are training up volunteers to act as mental health support staff, to provide help for these students?”*

**(l) Question submitted by Ian Hall to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport:**

*“Why has there been no measuring of the water table on the existing football pitch?”*

**(m) Question submitted by Simon Pike to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport:**

*“Why have the works to install two sets of dropped kerbs on Henwick Lane in Thatcham not been completed in over a year, when there is no impediment to them being completed?”*

**(n) Question submitted by Mrs Sam Coppinger to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport:**

*“Is the council confident that planning officers have sufficient experience and relevant qualifications to give accurate screening opinions on the LRIE and Membury Airfield Industrial Estate (MAIE)?”*

**(o) Question submitted by Bridgette Jones to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport:**

*“Has the council any concerns on the Membury Airfield Industrial Estate (MAIE) that developers are avoiding the requirement for an EIA by salami slicing applications - for instance, the tarmac batching plant development?”*



- (p) **Question submitted by Simon Pike to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport:**

*“Which party is contractually responsible for arranging the moving of utility poles needed for the completion of the pavement on Henwick Lane to the north of Henwick Worthy field, which has also not been completed in over a year?”*

- (q) **Question submitted by Nigel Foot to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Waste:**

*“Could the Members of the Executive tell me which body is responsible for the removal of dead trees, branches and other debris, that has fallen into the River Kennet as it passes through Newbury from the Red Lock area in Northcroft to the west, through to the Newbury Marina area in the east?”*

- (r) **Question submitted by Simon Pike to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport:**

*“Does the Council have a written policy or standard for the assessment of the state of maintenance of pavements, and does the assessment include the Council's duty under the Equality Act 2010 to make reasonable adjustments for disabled people (including those using wheelchairs) as well as safety?”*

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## **Item 5 – Petitions**

Verbal Item

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Executive – 2 September 2021

## **Item 6 – Separate Food Waste Collection**

To Follow Item

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# 2021/22 Revenue Financial Performance Quarter One

<b>Committee considering report:</b>	Executive
<b>Date of Committee:</b>	2 September 2021
<b>Portfolio Member:</b>	Councillor Ross Mackinnon
<b>Date Portfolio Member agreed report:</b>	12 August 2021
<b>Report Author:</b>	Melanie Ellis
<b>Forward Plan Ref:</b>	EX4012

## 1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To report on the financial performance of the Council's revenue budgets and provide a year-end forecast. This report is Quarter One 2021/22.

## 2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The note the year-end forecast £0.3m under spend. The year-end forecast is after taking account of provision that was made in reserves for specific risks at the time of budget setting. Without this provision, the forecast would be an over spend of £0.5m.
- 2.2 To note the ongoing impact that Covid will have on the 2021/22 budget as the Council sees increased demand for some services, but continues to be supported by external funding.

## 3 Implications and Impact Assessment

Implication	Commentary
<b>Financial:</b>	£0.3m forecast under spend, after taking account of provision in reserves. Without this provision, £0.5m over spend.
<b>Human Resource:</b>	None
<b>Legal:</b>	None
<b>Risk Management:</b>	Risks to next years' budget are included where relevant in the report. Where identified these will form part of the budget build process for 2022/23.

<b>Property:</b>	Impact on income due to commercial property.			
<b>Policy:</b>	No			
	<b>Positive</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Negative</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
<b>Equalities Impact:</b>				
<b>A</b> Are there any aspects of the proposed decision, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could impact on inequality?		Y		
<b>B</b> Will the proposed decision have an impact upon the lives of people with protected characteristics, including employees and service users?		Y		
<b>Environmental Impact:</b>		Y		
<b>Health Impact:</b>		Y		
<b>ICT Impact:</b>		y		
<b>Digital Services Impact:</b>		y		
<b>Council Strategy Priorities:</b>		y		Business as usual
<b>Core Business:</b>		y		
<b>Data Impact:</b>		y		



<b>Consultation and Engagement:</b>	Budget holders, Heads of Service and Directors.
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## 4 Executive Summary

- 4.1 This report is to inform members of the financial performance of the Council's revenue budgets. This report is the forecast position for 2021/22 as at Quarter One.
- 4.2 The 2021/22 net revenue budget of £137m was set on 2nd March 2021. Since then the Council has continued to play a significant part in responding to the pandemic, from helping to coordinate the community response, supporting local businesses and working with schools. The overall forecast is interlinked to the impact of the pandemic and the use of Covid resources provided by central government and the Clinical Commissioning Group. The Council is seeing increased demand for some services which will have an impact on the 2021/22 financial position.
- 4.3 The year-end forecast is a £0.3m under spend, after taking account of provision that was made in reserves for specific risks at the time of budget setting. Without this provision, the forecast would be an over spend of £0.5m. If the over spend remains at year end and if the reserves were utilised, the resulting £0.3m under spend would be returned to reserves.

Directorate Summary	Current Net Budget	Forecast Outturn	(Under)/over spend					
			Quarter One	Quarter One	Quarter One	Quarter Two	Quarter Three	Quarter Four
			Forecast	Provided in Reserves	Year end forecast	Year end forecast	Year end forecast	Final
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
People	79,333	80,133	800	(740)	59	0	0	0
Place	30,181	30,411	231	0	231	0	0	0
Resources	14,684	15,189	505	(100)	405	0	0	0
Chief Executive	553	553	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Financing	12,431	11,431	(1,000)	0	(1,000)	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>137,182</b>	<b>137,717</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>(840)</b>	<b>(305)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

- 4.4 The People Directorate Quarter One forecast is an over spend of £0.8m. The Directorate is experiencing increased demand and higher level of care package requirements, which have been supported in-year by one off Covid grant funding. If the over spend remains at year end, it could be reduced to £59k by accessing specific reserves which were set aside for risks that have arisen.
- In Adult Social Care (ASC), the forecast over spend is £0.3m, after accounting for £2.3m of one-off Covid emergency grant, which was allocated to ASC in the 2021-22 budget setting process. The over spend could be further mitigated if required at year end by using some of the £940k identified as a risk against the General Fund during the budget build process.

Long term services are £2.1m over spent. There are higher client numbers than modelled; 1734 at June 2021 compared to 1689 modelled, with the rise attributable to

fewer deaths (51% decrease from same period last year), and the impact of clients being discharged from hospital earlier through the Covid Hospital Discharge Scheme and requiring more care and therefore increasing the number of clients moving onto a long term service. This is also increasing the cost of care packages due to the amount of care required.

There is lower than modelled occupancy within Council owned care homes, which may result in unmet savings. The budget was set at 95% occupancy across the three homes and is currently at 86%. As clients are discharged from hospital earlier, their needs are often too high for the provision available in Council owned care homes, and so they are placed externally, resulting in higher costs and a lower occupancy rate in our three homes.

The over spend is being mitigated through the use of Covid funding and discussions are being held with Health for additional funding due to the impact of the Covid Hospital Discharge Scheme.

The service continues to take action to suppress market demand such as use of technology enabled care, reinforcing the three conversations model suppressing the need for long term services, use of market management to offer better value for money, and maximising external funding streams. Market Management is working with local providers to ensure supply and demand are better aligned, although the saving associated with this is currently amber as work continues.

The long term impact of Covid is still not completely clear in the ASC budgets. It is not yet known if any Covid emergency funding will be provided beyond this financial year. The ASC model will continue to be updated monthly

- In Children & Family Services (CFS), the forecast over spend is £0.5m. The risk reserve for residential placements of £0.4m could be used if the over spend remains at year end, which would reduce the over spend to £67k.

There is a forecast £0.3m over spend in placements. The budget was set with a saving target of £0.25m in this area, which is now forecast not to be achieved. Residential placements are £0.65m over spent, and whilst the children in care population has generally been stable, we are seeing increasing complexity in the needs of children who have either recently entered care or have become unsettled after a period of relative stability in care. The issue most obvious is poor mental health and emotional wellbeing, with behaviours such as self-harm, aggression, and risk taking behaviours becoming more prevalent. As a consequence it is harder for these children to be cared for in a foster home, and a specialist residential facility becomes necessary. Care leavers has a forecast £0.15m over spend due to increased provision and demand. The remaining placements such as fostering services are showing under spends.

The Family Safeguarding Model had a saving target of £209k for income from partner agencies to support this model. The partner decision not to contribute has resulted in a pressure of £204k as this saving will not be met.

#### 4.5 The Place Directorate forecast over spend is £0.23m arising from:

- In Development & Planning, additional staffing for the Local Plan, ecological assessments at Sandleford and disputed additional water charges at Gypsy Sites.
- In Environment, Ash Dieback remedial work required to ensure safety on the highway. It was previously agreed to treat this is a risk, however, an investment will need to be made for 2022/23 and future years, unless funding becomes available to mitigate the costs.

4.6 The Resources Directorate forecast over spend is £0.4m arising from:

- A number of schools leaving the Council insurance in favour of cheaper Risk Protection Arrangements offered by the Department for Education. The self-insurance reserve requirement has been reduced by £100k to support this.
- Timing of office moves and demand for temporary storage has led to a pressure against the saving from rationalisation of office space.
- Temporary staff costs covering vacancies in the Financial Reporting Team, whilst permanent recruitment is ongoing.
- In CSI forecast over spends from covering staff absence, income shortfall from school buy back/print room and installing new circuits, although savings continue to be seen from postage costs.

4.7 Capital Financing is forecasting a £1m under spent due to utilisation of short term borrowing and cash flow as opposed to longer term financing, and savings from prepayment of pension contributions.

4.8 The 2021/22 savings and income generation programme of £3.6m is 61% Green.

### **Conclusion**

4.9 The 2021/22 financial year continues to present financial challenges for the Council in supporting our residents and business. Grant funding has helped the Council to cover additional costs and lost income and to enable us to continue to support a range of activities within our district.

4.10 The Quarter One forecast is interlinked to the impact of the pandemic and the use of Covid resources provided by central government. The Covid-19 grant funding received from Government to date, and the Council's level of general fund reserves mean that the Council is well placed to continue its efforts on response and recovery from Covid-19 during the financial year. The Covid-19 grant under spend from 2021/22 will be used in 2021/22 to fund the ongoing pandemic response. The Council continues to be supported by external funding but is now seeing increased demand for some services which will have an impact on 2021/22. The longer term position will require further analysis and announcements from Central Government on the funding position for Local Government, before the full impact on 2021/22 and beyond is known.

4.11 The £3.6m savings and income generation programme is 61% achieved to date, and will be reported on each quarter.

## 5 Supporting Information

### Introduction

- 5.2 The 2021/22 net revenue budget of £137m was set on 2nd March 2021. Since then the Council has continued to play a significant part in responding to the pandemic, from helping to coordinate the community response, supporting local businesses and working with schools.
- 5.3 The overall forecast is interlinked to the impact of the pandemic and the use of Covid resources provided by central government and the Clinical Commissioning Group.

### Quarter One 2021/22

- 5.4 The table below shows the year-end forecast of £0.3m under spend, after taking account of provision that was made in reserves for specific risks at the time of budget setting. Without this provision, the forecast would be a £0.5m over spend. If the over spend remains at year-end and if the reserves were utilised, the resulting £0.3m under spend would be returned to reserves.

Directorate Summary	Current Net Budget	Forecast Outturn	(Under)/over spend					
			Quarter One	Quarter One	Quarter One	Quarter Two	Quarter Three	Quarter Four
			Forecast	Provided in Reserves	Year end forecast	Year end forecast	Year end forecast	Final
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
People	79,333	80,133	800	(740)	59	0	0	0
Place	30,181	30,411	231	0	231	0	0	0
Resources	14,684	15,189	505	(100)	405	0	0	0
Chief Executive	553	553	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Financing	12,431	11,431	(1,000)	0	(1,000)	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>137,182</b>	<b>137,717</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>(840)</b>	<b>(305)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

- 5.5 Forecasting remains challenging this year due to the ongoing impact of Covid-19. The forecasts by service are shown in the following chart:

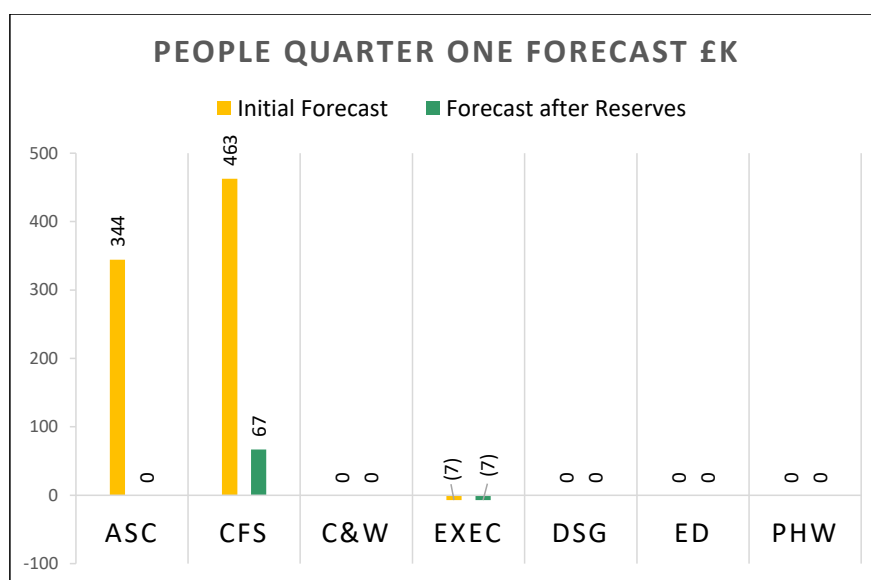
## 2021/22 Revenue Financial Performance Quarter One

			(Under)/over spend					
			Quarter One	Quarter One	Quarter One	Quarter Two	Quarter Three	Quarter Four
			Forecast	Provided in Reserves	Year end forecast	Year end forecast	Year end forecast	Final
	Current Net Budget	Net Forecast	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Adult Social Care	51,172	51,516	344	(344)	0	0	0	0
Children & Family Services	16,878	17,340	463	(396)	67	0	0	0
Communities & Wellbeing	2,353	2,353	0	0	0	0	0	0
Executive Director	320	313	(7)	0	(7)	0	0	0
Education DSG funded	(444)	(444)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Education	9,135	9,135	0	0	0	0	0	0
Public Health & Wellbeing	(80)	(80)	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>People</b>	<b>79,333</b>	<b>80,133</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>(740)</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Executive Director	198	198	0	0	0	0	0	0
Development & Planning	3,687	3,788	101	0	101	0	0	0
Public Protection	1,900	1,885	(15)	0	(15)	0	0	0
Environment	24,396	24,540	144	0	144	0	0	0
<b>Place</b>	<b>30,181</b>	<b>30,411</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Commissioning	802	762	(40)	0	(40)	0	0	0
Customer Services & ICT	2,163	2,227	64	0	64	0	0	0
Executive Director	199	200	1	0	1	0	0	0
Finance & Property	5,077	5,520	443	(100)	343	0	0	0
Strategy & Governance	6,442	6,479	36	0	36	0	0	0
<b>Resources</b>	<b>14,684</b>	<b>15,189</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>(100)</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Chief Executive</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Capital Financing	12,431	11,431	(1,000)	0	(1,000)	0	0	0
<b>Capital Financing</b>	<b>12,431</b>	<b>11,431</b>	<b>(1,000)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1,000)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>137,182</b>	<b>137,717</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>(840)</b>	<b>(305)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

NB: Rounding differences may apply to the nearest £k.

## People Directorate

5.6 The Directorate Quarter One forecast is an over spend of £0.8m. If the over spend remains at year end, it could be reduced to £59k by accessing specific reserves which were set aside for risks that have arisen.



- 5.7 In ASC, the forecast over spend of £0.3m, is net of £2.3m of one-off Covid emergency grant, which was allocated to ASC in the 2021-22 budget setting process, and is being used to support the in-year pressures as detailed below. The over spend could be further mitigated if required at year-end by using some of the £940k identified as a risk against the General Fund during the budget build process.

Long term services (LTS) are £2.1m over spent. There are higher client numbers than modelled, 1734 at June 2021 compared to 1689 modelled. The rise in clients is attributable to fewer deaths (51% decrease from same period last year), and the impact of clients being discharged from hospital earlier through the Covid Hospital Discharge Scheme and requiring more care and therefore increasing the number of clients moving onto a long term service. This is also increasing the cost of care packages due to the amount of care required, including an increase in double up care at home.

There is lower than modelled occupancy within Council owned care homes, which may result in unmet savings. The budget was set at 95% occupancy across the three homes and is currently at 86%. As clients are discharged from hospital earlier, their needs are often too high for the provision available in Council owned care homes, and so they are placed externally, resulting in higher costs and a lower occupancy rate in our three homes.

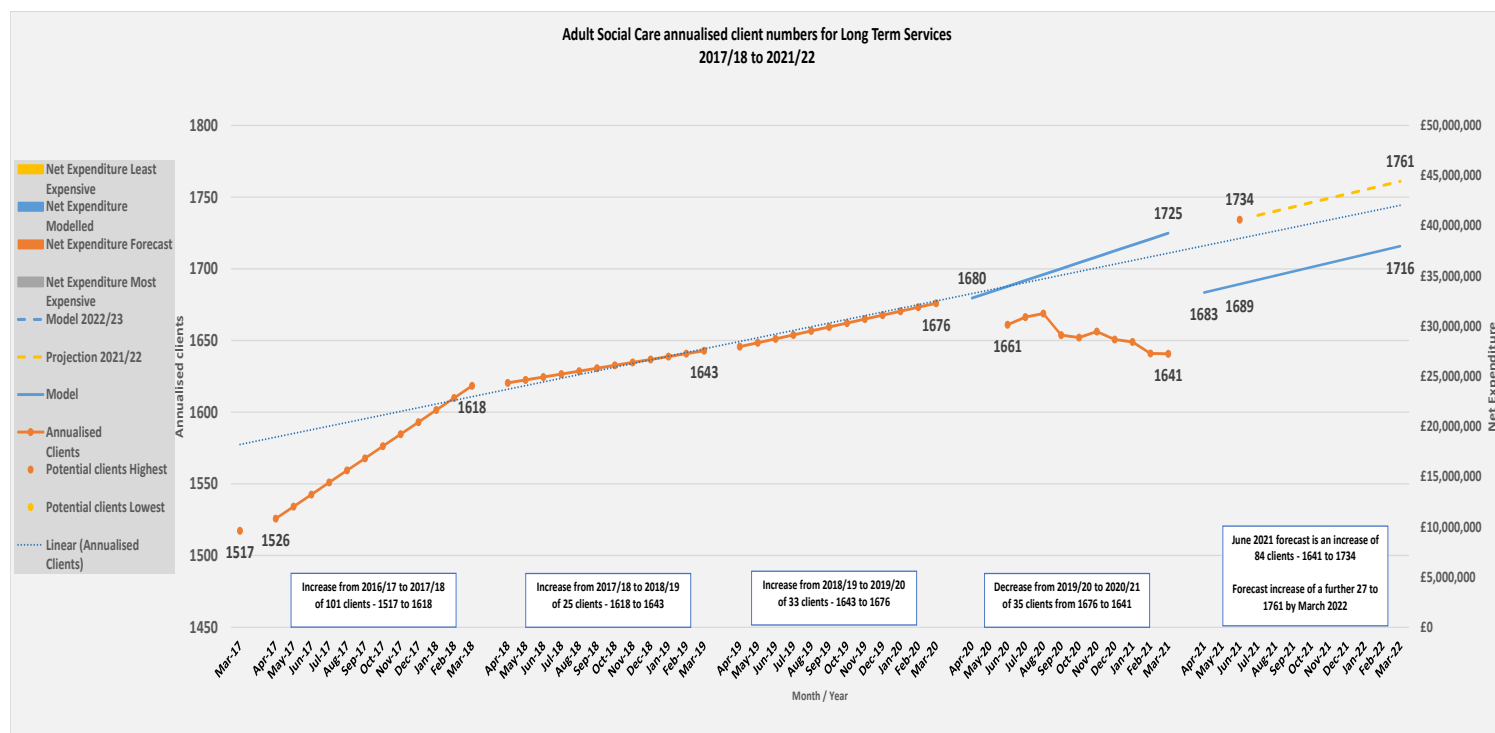
Short term services are £37k under spent and provider services £37k over spend due to agency costs.

The forecast over spend is being mitigated through the use of Covid funding and discussions are being held with Health for additional funding due to the impact of the Covid Hospital Discharge Scheme.

The service continues to take action to suppress market demand such as use of technology enabled care, reinforcing the three conversations model suppressing the need for long term services, use of market management to offer better value for money, and maximising external funding streams. Market Management is working with local providers to ensure supply and demand are better aligned, although the saving associated with this is currently amber as work continues.

The long term impact of Covid is still not completely clear in the ASC budgets. It is not yet known if any Covid emergency funding will be provided beyond this financial year. The ASC model will continue to be updated monthly.

## 2021/22 Revenue Financial Performance Quarter One



5.8 In CFS, the forecast is a £463k over spend. The risk reserve for residential placements of £396k could be used if the over spend remains at year end, which would reduce the over spend to £67k.

There is a forecast £301k over spend in placements. Whilst the children in care population has generally been stable, we are seeing increasing complexity in the needs of children who have either recently entered care or have become unsettled after a period of relative stability in care. The issue most obvious is poor mental health and emotional wellbeing, with behaviours such as self-harm, aggression, and risk taking behaviours becoming more prevalent. As a consequence it is harder for these children to be cared for in a foster home, and a specialist residential facility becomes necessary. The high cost of some of these placements is the cause of the projected over spend and has jeopardised the saving the service were hoping to achieve from the placements budget.

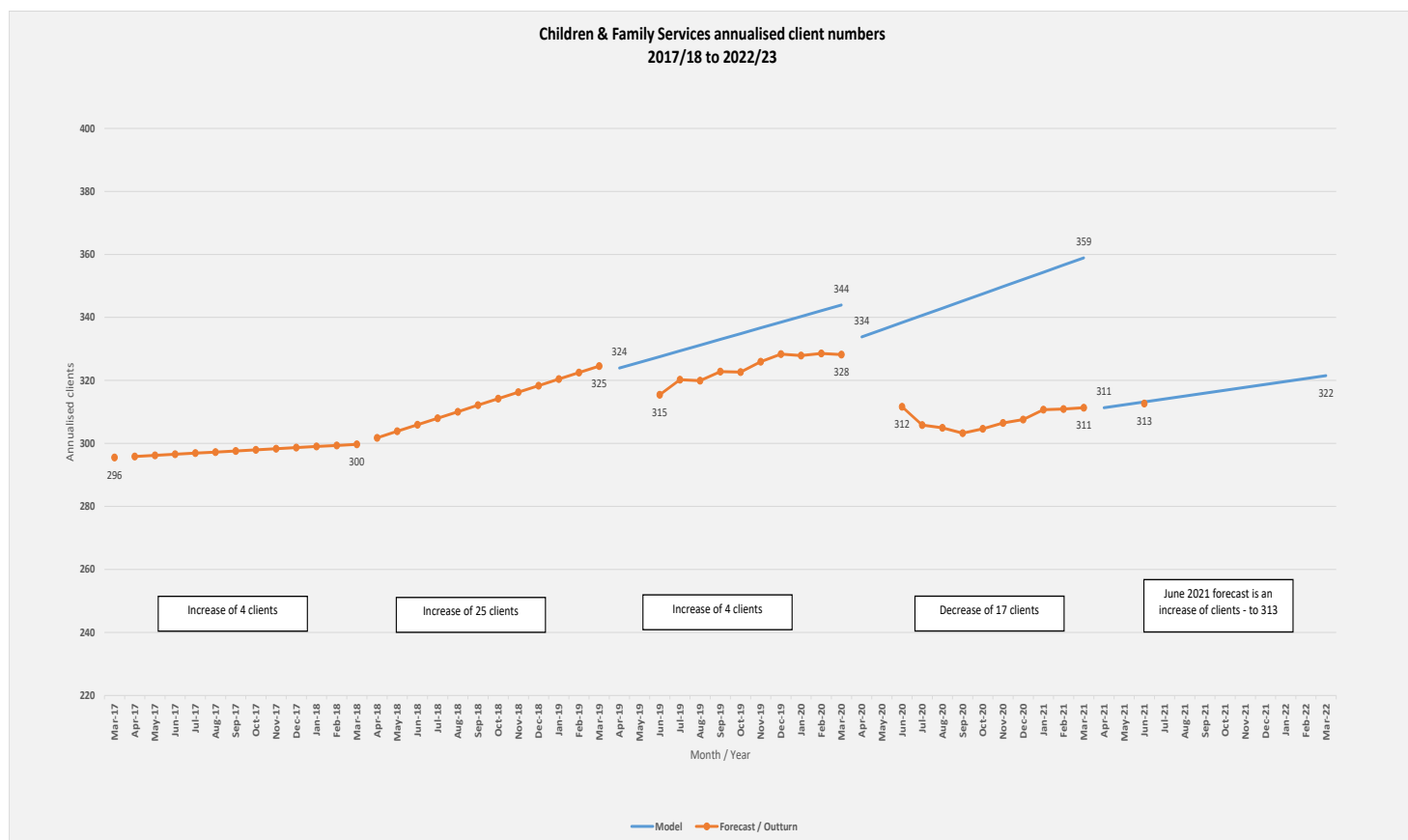
Care leavers is forecasting a £153k over spend due to increased provision and demand. The remaining placements such as fostering services are showing under spends.

The Family Safeguarding Model had a saving target of £209k for income from partner agencies to support this model. The partner decision not to contribute has resulted in a pressure of £204k as this saving will not be met.

The service is seeing staffing pressures from agency cover of vacancies. There has also been an increase to staffing levels following the recent Ofsted report, which has been funded from the non-ringfenced Covid grant.

The model for placements has been refined and will be updated monthly.

## 2021/22 Revenue Financial Performance Quarter One



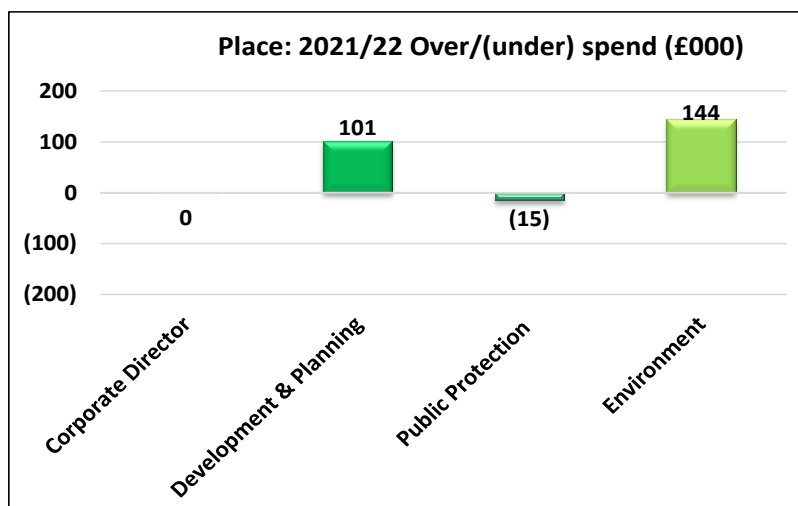
5.9 Communities and Wellbeing is currently reported online.

5.10 Education is reporting online at Quarter One. There is potential pressure in Home to School Transport, where there will be a clearer picture at Quarter Two.

5.11 The Public Health grant forecast is on line, and any variances to budget will be transferred to the Public Health Reserve at year end. There is currently an estimated £180k under spend which will transfer to the reserve.

### Place Directorate

5.12 The Place Directorate is forecasting an over spend of £0.2m against a budget of £30m.



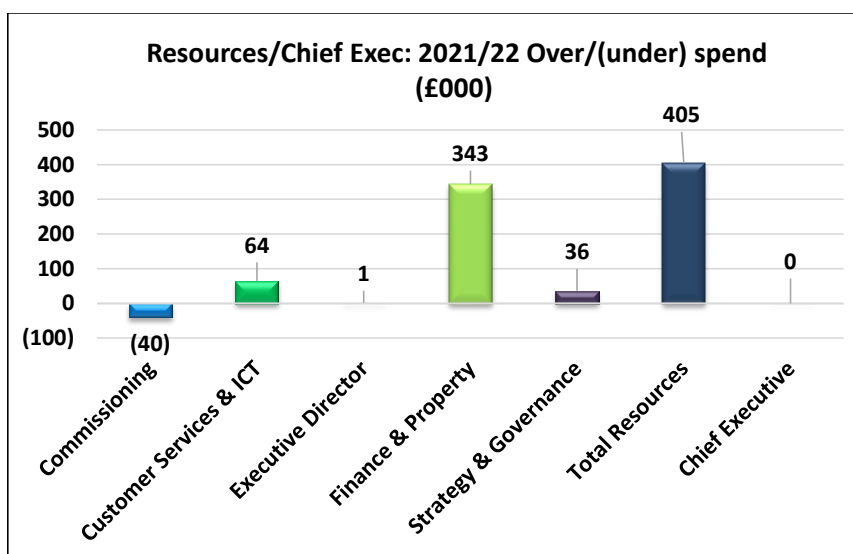


5.13 In Development and Planning, the £101k forecast over spend is from staffing to work on the Local Plan, ecological assessments at Sandleford Park and disputed additional water charges at Gypsy Sites.

5.14 In Environment, the £144k forecast over spend is largely due to Ash Dieback remedial work required to ensure safety on the highway. It was previously agreed to treat this is a risk, however, an investment will need to be made for 2022/23 and future years, unless funding becomes available to mitigate the costs.

## Resources Directorate/Chief Executive

5.15 The Directorate is forecasting an over spend of £0.4m against a budget of £15m.



5.16 In Finance and Property, the £343k forecast over spend has arisen as follows:

- A number of schools have left the Council insurance in favour of cheaper Risk Protection Arrangements offered by the Department for Education. This has resulted in loss of income of £265k, although a lower self-insurance reserve requirement has reduced this impact by £100k.
- A £158k saving was expected from rationalisation of office space, however, the timing of office moves and demand for temporary storage has led to a pressure of £79k against this saving.
- Temporary staff costs covering vacancies in the Financial Reporting Team is expected to lead to an over spend of up to £100k. Permanent recruitment is ongoing.

5.17 In CSI the forecast over spend of £64k is from covering staff absence, income shortfall from school buy back/print room and installing new circuits. Savings continue to be seen from postage costs.

5.18 In Commissioning, there is a £40k surplus income from the agency contract rebate, as a result of the increased agency usage for Covid cover during the year.

## Capital Financing

5.19 The Capital Financing forecast is an under spend of £1m. There have been savings on capital financing through utilisation of short term borrowing and cash flow as opposed to longer term financing. Savings have also been achieved through the prepayment of pension contributions.

## Covid-19 impact on the 2021/22 budget

5.20 In 2020/21, the Council was awarded £9.6m of un-ringfenced emergency expenditure grant from Central Government and claimed £2.8m of emergency funding for lost income. Overall emergency grant funding totalled £12.4m and losses totalled £9.5m, so the balance of £2.9m was put to an earmarked Covid reserve to use during 2021/22.

5.21 In 2021/22, the Council has received a further £3.2m emergency grant and is expecting to claim £1.7m in lost income. Forecasts in this report are after allocation of grant funding. The balance of unallocated general grant funding is forecast at £1.7m, which will be required to support the longer term recovery from Covid.

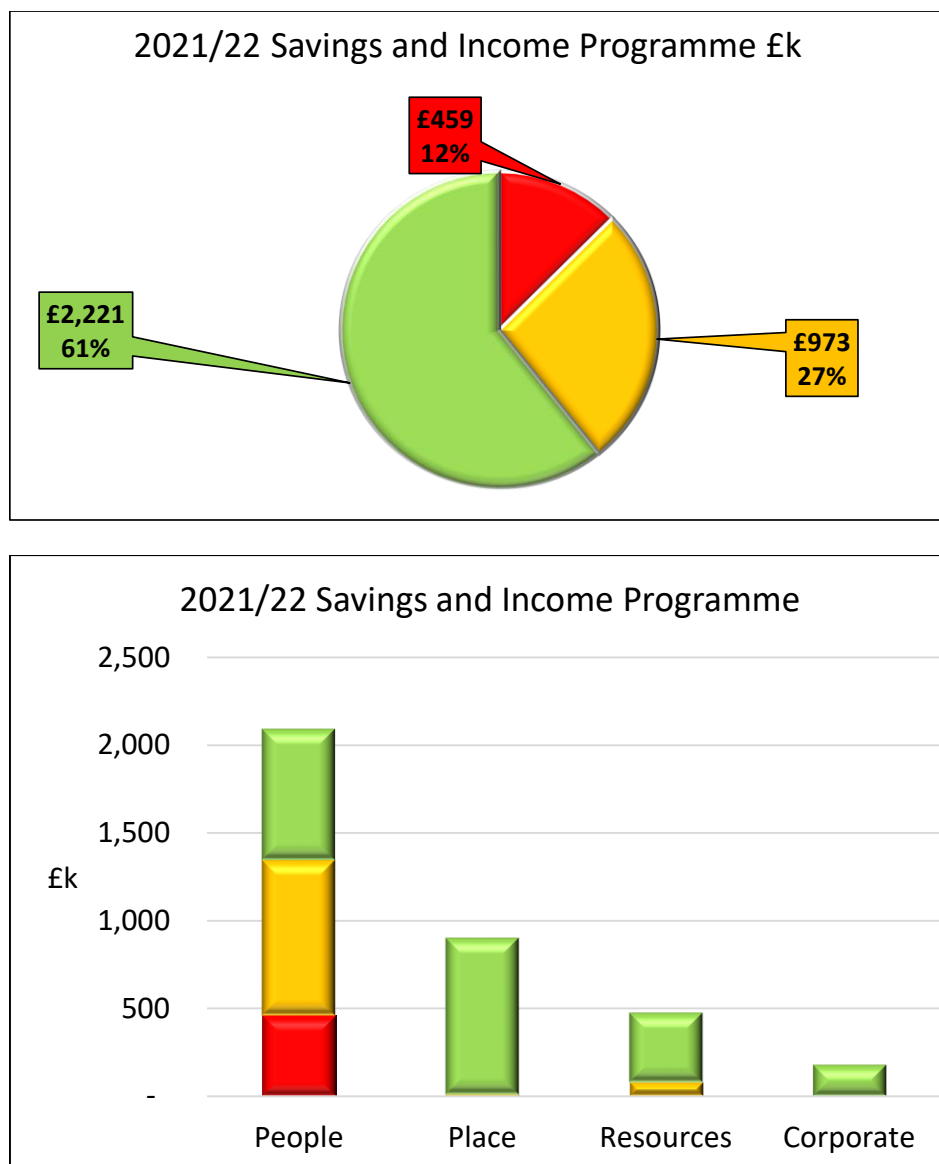
Covid Funding 2021/22	General Grants 2021/22		
	Emergency Expenditure Grant	Income compensation Scheme	Total General Grants
	£000	£000	£000
Grants brought forward	(2,947)		(2,947)
Grants 2021/22	(3,257)	(1,690)	(4,947)
<b>Total grants available</b>	<b>(6,204)</b>	<b>(1,690)</b>	<b>(7,894)</b>
<b>To be awarded to services:</b>			
Adult Social Care	2,016	284	2,300
Children & Family Services	529	0	529
Education	142	33	175
Communities & Wellbeing	258	353	611
<b>People</b>	<b>2,945</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>3,615</b>
Development & Planning	75	107	182
Public Protection	0	30	30
Environment	395	989	1,384
<b>Place</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>1,126</b>	<b>1,596</b>
Commissioning	0		0
Customer Services & ICT	258		258
Finance & Property	30	237	267
Strategy & Governance	85	11	96
<b>Resources</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>621</b>
<b>CEX</b>	<b>100</b>		<b>100</b>
<b>Recovery</b>	<b>291</b>		<b>291</b>
<b>Total to be awarded to services</b>	<b>4,179</b>	<b>2,044</b>	<b>6,223</b>
<b>Grant Remaining</b>	<b>(2,025)</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>(1,671)</b>

5.22 Further non-ringfenced grants were received during 2020/21 for New Burdens, Control Outbreak Management Fund (COMF), Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) and Test & Trace. At year end, £3.3m of this was put to the Covid reserve.

5.23 The funding received from Government to date, and the Council's level of general fund reserves mean that the Council is well placed to focus its efforts on response and recovery from the Covid-19 in the current financial year.

## 2021/22 Savings and income generation programme

5.24 In order to meet the funding available, the 2021/22 revenue budget was built with a £3.6m savings and income generation programme. The programme is monitored using the RAG traffic light system. The status is shown in the following charts:



5.25 Red items are as follows:

- £209k Family Safeguarding Model income from third parties who have indicated that they will not be contributing. This forms part of the forecast over spend in this area. The shortfall will be addressed as part of the 2022-23 budget.

5.26 Amber items are as follows:

- £400k from closure of Walnut Close care home due to occupancy levels not currently being achieved in other homes.
- £50k for Supported Accommodation unit for learning.
- £25k Resource Allocation System, which will be implemented with Care Director V6.

- £250k from Market Management.
- £9k from Hillcroft rent reduction.
- £150k from reduced legal costs as it is too early in the year to measure success.
- £250k placement savings. Currently placements are reporting an over spend.
- £10k from street naming and numbering. The policy document needs to be reviewed and amended before charging can commence, and extra resource is needed for this.
- £79k in Finance & Property from accommodation savings: Delay in vacating corporate buildings and possible need for temporary storage may dilute saving achievable in 2021-22.

## Proposals

5.27 To note the Quarter One forecast, including the use of Covid funding and amounts provided for in reserves.

## 6 Other options considered

6.1 None.

## 7 Conclusion

- 7.1 The 2021/22 financial year continues to present financial challenges for the Council in supporting our residents and business. Grant funding has helped the Council to cover additional costs and lost income and to enable us to support a range of activities within our district.
- 7.2 The Quarter One forecast is interlinked to the impact of the pandemic and the use of Covid resources provided by central government. The Covid-19 grant funding received from Government to date, and the Council's level of general fund reserves mean that the Council is well placed to focus its efforts on response and recovery from the Covid-19 during the financial year. The Covid-19 grant under spend from 2021/22 will be used in 2021/22 to fund the ongoing pandemic response. The Council continues to be supported by external funding but is now seeing increased demand for some services which will have an impact on 2021/22. The longer term position will require further analysis and announcements from Central Government on the funding position for Local Government, before the full impact on 2021/22 and beyond is known.
- 7.3 The £3.6m savings and income generation programme is 61% achieved to date, and will be reported on each quarter.

## 8 Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix A – Quarter One position
- 8.2 Appendix B – Budget changes

**Subject to Call-In:**Yes: ☐ No: ☒The item is due to be referred to Council for final approval ☐Delays in implementation could have serious financial implications for the Council ☐Delays in implementation could compromise the Council's position ☐Considered or reviewed by Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee or associated Task Groups within preceding six months ☐Item is Urgent Key Decision ☐Report is to note only ☒**Wards affected: All****Officer details:**

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Author:			
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**Change History**

Version	Date	Description	Change ID
1			
2			

## Appendix A – Quarter One position

	Budget				Forecasted Performance								
	Original Budget 2021/22 £	Changes in year 2021/22 £	Funding Released from Reserves 2021/22 £	Revised Budget 2021/22 £	Expenditure			Income			Net		
					Annual Expenditure Budget for 2021/22 £	Annual Expenditure Forecast for 2021/22 £	Expenditure Variance for 2021/22 £	Annual Income Budget for 2021/22 £	Annual Income Forecast for 2021/22 £	Income Variance for 2021/22 £	Initial Forecast £	Provided in Reserves £	Year End Forecast £
Adult Social Care	51,172,220	0	0	51,172,220	69,291,860	72,233,430	2,941,570	-18,119,640	-20,716,940	-2,597,300	344,270	-344,270	0
Childrens and Family Services	16,718,350	0	159,000	16,877,350	18,949,610	19,096,730	147,120	-2,072,260	-1,756,650	315,610	462,730	-396,000	66,730
Executive Director - People	320,270	0	0	320,270	320,270	312,970	-7,300	0	0	0	-7,300	0	-7,300
Education (DSG Funded)	-444,000	0	0	-444,000	116,105,930	104,239,350	-11,866,580	-116,549,930	-104,683,350	11,866,580	0	0	0
Education	9,026,100	0	108,570	9,134,670	12,857,120	12,766,260	-90,860	-3,722,450	-3,631,590	90,860	0	0	0
Public Health and Wellbeing	-80,000	0	0	-80,000	5,954,930	6,902,410	947,480	-6,034,930	-6,982,410	-947,480	0	0	0
Communities and Wellbeing	2,352,530	0	0	2,352,530	3,413,080	3,504,090	91,010	-1,060,550	-1,151,560	-91,010	0	0	0
<b>People</b>	<b>79,065,470</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>267,570</b>	<b>79,333,040</b>	<b>226,892,800</b>	<b>219,055,240</b>	<b>-7,837,560</b>	<b>-147,559,760</b>	<b>-138,922,500</b>	<b>8,637,260</b>	<b>799,700</b>	<b>-740,270</b>	<b>59,430</b>
Public Protection	1,873,200	0	26,680	1,899,880	6,298,050	6,813,580	515,530	-4,398,170	-4,928,500	-530,330	-14,800	0	-14,800
Executive Director - Place	197,790	0	0	197,790	197,790	197,790	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Development and Planning	3,686,980	0	0	3,686,980	6,068,670	6,177,070	108,400	-2,381,690	-2,388,710	-7,020	101,380	0	101,380
Environment	24,337,330	0	58,630	24,395,960	34,981,930	35,125,860	143,930	-10,585,970	-10,585,970	0	143,930	0	143,930
<b>Place</b>	<b>30,095,300</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>85,310</b>	<b>30,180,610</b>	<b>47,546,440</b>	<b>48,314,300</b>	<b>767,860</b>	<b>-17,365,830</b>	<b>-17,903,180</b>	<b>-537,350</b>	<b>230,510</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>230,510</b>
Executive Director - Resources	203,910	-5,000	0	198,910	198,910	199,930	1,020	0	0	0	1,020	0	1,020
Commissioning	802,460	0	0	802,460	10,283,490	1,153,620	-9,129,870	-9,481,030	-391,160	9,089,870	-40,000	0	-40,000
Customer Services and ICT	2,162,970	0	0	2,162,970	3,017,380	3,032,250	14,870	-854,410	-804,820	49,590	64,460	0	64,460
Finance and Property	5,077,040	0	0	5,077,040	49,169,690	49,330,990	161,300	-44,092,650	-43,810,820	281,830	443,130	-100,000	343,130
Strategy and Governance	6,437,480	5,000	0	6,442,480	7,538,050	7,604,380	66,330	-1,095,570	-1,125,690	-30,120	36,210	0	36,210
<b>Resources</b>	<b>14,683,860</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14,683,860</b>	<b>70,207,520</b>	<b>61,321,170</b>	<b>-8,886,350</b>	<b>-55,523,660</b>	<b>-46,132,490</b>	<b>9,391,170</b>	<b>504,820</b>	<b>-100,000</b>	<b>404,820</b>
Chief Executive	552,850	0	0	552,850	552,850	552,850	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Chief Executive</b>	<b>552,850</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>552,850</b>	<b>552,850</b>	<b>552,850</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Capital Financing & Management	12,430,960	0	0	12,430,960	12,550,960	11,567,060	-983,900	-120,000	-136,100	-16,100	-1,000,000	0	-1,000,000
<b>Capital Financing and Management</b>	<b>12,430,960</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12,430,960</b>	<b>12,550,960</b>	<b>11,567,060</b>	<b>-983,900</b>	<b>-120,000</b>	<b>-136,100</b>	<b>-16,100</b>	<b>-1,000,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-1,000,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>136,828,440</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>352,880</b>	<b>137,181,320</b>	<b>357,750,570</b>	<b>340,810,620</b>	<b>-16,939,950</b>	<b>-220,569,250</b>	<b>-203,094,270</b>	<b>17,474,980</b>	<b>535,030</b>	<b>-840,270</b>	<b>-305,240</b>

## Appendix B – Budget Changes

Service	Original Net Budget £000	Approved Budget B/F from 2020/21 £000	Budget changes not requiring approval £000	FAGG approved release from reserves £000	Approved by S151 & Portfolio Holder £000	Requiring Executive Approval £000	Budget C/F to 2022/23 £000	Final Net Budget £000	Explanation of Changes
Adult Social Care	51,172							51,172	
Children and Family Services	16,718			159				16,878	£159k Family Safeguarding Model
Communities & Wellbeing	2,353							2,353	
Executive Director	320							320	
Education DSG funded	(444)							(444)	
Education	9,026	109						9,135	£109k School Improvement grant
Public Health & Wellbeing	(80)							(80)	
<b>People</b>	<b>79,065</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>79,333</b>	
Executive Director	198							198	
Development & Planning	3,687							3,687	
Public Protection	1,873			27				1,900	£27k redeployment salary protection
Environment	24,337			59				24,396	£59k Draw down from commuted sums reserve
<b>Place</b>	<b>30,095</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>30,181</b>	
Commissioning	802							802	
Customer Services & ICT	2,163							2,163	
Executive Director	204		(5)					199	-£5k transfer
Finance & Property	5,077							5,077	
Strategy & Governance	6,437		5					6,442	£5k transfer
<b>Resources</b>	<b>14,684</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14,684</b>	
Chief Executive	553							553	
<b>Capital Financing</b>	<b>12,431</b>							<b>12,431</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>136,828</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>137,182</b>	
Quarter One		109	0	244	0	0	0		
Quarter Two									
Quarter Three									
Quarter Four									
<b>Total</b>	<b>136,828</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>137,182</b>	

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# Capital Financial Performance Report Quarter One 2021/22

<b>Committee considering report:</b>	Executive
<b>Date of Committee:</b>	2 September 2021
<b>Portfolio Member:</b>	Councillor Ross Mackinnon
<b>Date Portfolio Member agreed sent:</b>	3.8.2021
<b>Report Author:</b>	Shannon Coleman-Slaughter
<b>Forward Plan Ref:</b>	EX4013

## 1 Purpose of the Report

The financial performance report provided to Members reports on the forecast under or over spends against the Council's approved capital budget. This report presents the forecast outturn position for financial year 2021/22 as at Quarter One.

## 2 Recommendation

2.1 The following recommendation is made to members:

- (a) Approve the proposed reprofiling of £4.3 million of future expenditure from 2021/22 into financial year 2022/23.

## 3 Implications and Impact Assessment

Implication	Commentary
<b>Financial:</b>	At the end of Quarter One, expenditure of £56.5 million has been forecast against a revised budget of £60.2 million, an overall forecast underspend of £3.7 million.
<b>Human Resource:</b>	Not applicable
<b>Legal:</b>	Not applicable
<b>Risk Management:</b>	A key ongoing risk is the potential impact of engaged suppliers to default on contractual obligations through financial

	difficulties. Budget Managers and Capital Strategy Group are closely monitoring these risks to highlight projects with potential suppliers of concern and where there is an ongoing risk of default and/or the potential to retender agreed contracts at potentially higher cost.			
<b>Property:</b>	Not applicable			
<b>Policy:</b>	Not applicable			
	<b>Positive</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Negative</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
<b>Equalities Impact:</b>				
<b>A</b> Are there any aspects of the proposed decision, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could impact on inequality?		X		
<b>B</b> Will the proposed decision have an impact upon the lives of people with protected characteristics, including employees and service users?		X		
<b>Environmental Impact:</b>		X		
<b>Health Impact:</b>		X		
<b>ICT Impact:</b>		X		
<b>Digital Services Impact:</b>		X		

<b>Council Strategy Priorities:</b>		X		
<b>Core Business:</b>		X		
<b>Data Impact:</b>		X		
<b>Consultation and Engagement:</b>	Joseph Holmes, Executive Director for Resources, s151 Officer  Capital Strategy Group (CSG)			

## 4 Executive Summary

4.1 At Quarter One, expenditure of £56.5 million is forecast to be incurred during the financial year against a revised capital programme budget of £60.2 million, generating a forecast underspend position of £3.7 million.

Directorate	Quarter One Budget	Quarter One Forecast Expenditure	Forecast (Under)/Over spend at Quarter One
	£000s	£000s	£000s
People	<b>£17,831,450</b>	<b>£16,553,050</b>	<b>(£1,278,400)</b>
Place	<b>£32,235,890</b>	<b>£29,658,269</b>	<b>(£2,577,621)</b>
Resources	<b>£10,106,570</b>	<b>£10,258,501</b>	<b>£151,931</b>
Chief Executive	£	£	£
Total Council	<b>£60,173,910</b>	<b>£56,469,819</b>	<b>(£3,704,091)</b>

4.2 In respect of the overall programme forecast underspend, the main contributing factors are:

- (a) Education Services: i-College project. The lease negotiations recently concluded with a new lease agreement being achieved. The anticipated project commencement date (for works) is now scheduled for December 2022. There is a risk that the project is likely to exceed current budget built into the approved 2021/22 – 2023/24 capital programme, the Service and Capital Strategy group will continue to monitor progress against the project and take mitigating action where required.
- (b) Development & Planning: Four Houses Corner is forecasting a pressure of £159K. The project has been set with a number of delays. The site is now cleared and work is scheduled to commence with a revised completion date of 31st March 2023. An in year pressure bid has been submitted to Capital Strategy Group, additional financing will be Council funded.

- (c) Environment: The natural carbon reduction methods project has been delayed and is forecasting a £1 million underspend and the A4 Improvements and Robinhood Roundabout project is forecasting a £1.3 million underspend as a result of delays through project redesigns.
  - (d) Customer Services & ICT: The Corporate Replacement budget is forecasting a £170k overspend. The forecast position is due to increasing demand on the budget and an increased focus on the implementation of hybrid meeting technology.
- 4.3 As part of the forecast outturn position it is proposed that £4.3 million of future expenditure is re-profiled into financial year 2022/23, Appendix B provides a detailed breakdown of proposed re-profiling by project. The proposed reprofiling will result in an overall pressure of £647k against the approved capital programme based on Quarter One budget monitoring. It is anticipated that during the financial year further project underspends will be incurred to offset the identified pressure. Furthermore the Council has capital reserves of £41 million (based on the Council's draft 2020/21 Financial Statements) which are under review to ascertain if funding can be released to offset any realised pressure.

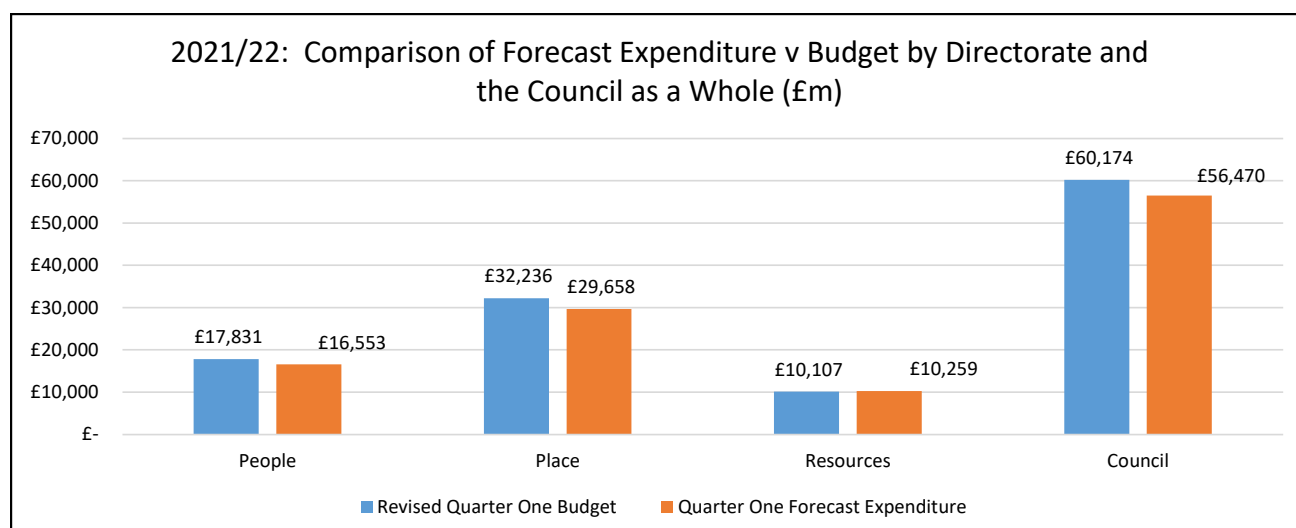
## 5 Supporting Information

### Introduction

- 5.1 A capital budget for 2020/21 of £47.8 million was set by Council in March 2021 with external funding of £24.6 million from a combination of external grants, section 106 contributions (s106) and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). £23.2 million of expenditure was planned to be funded from external borrowing. The repayment of principal sums and interest on loans used to fund capital expenditure are met from the revenue budget for capital financing and risk management. Forecast spend against this budget is reported in the Revenue Financial Performance Report.
- 5.2 During the financial year budget changes may occur, mainly as a result of budgets brought forward from prior financial years, additional grants, s106 and CIL allocations received in year and expenditure re-profiled in future financial years. Changes of less than £250k can be approved by the s151 Officer in conjunction with the portfolio holder, all other changes must be approved by Capital Strategy Group (CSG) and reported to Executive as set out in the Council's Financial Regulations. As part of the budget monitoring process, the forecast year end position of the capital projects is reviewed and proposals for unutilised budgets to be re-profiled into subsequent financial years is reviewed by Capital Strategy Group (CSG). Appendix A provides a breakdown of budget changes as at the year end.

### Background

- 5.3 Total forecast expenditure against the approved capital programme of £60.2 million for financial year 2020/21 amounts to £56.5 million. The graph below details the forecast expenditure outturn position by directorate and the Council as a whole.



## The People Directorate

5.4 The directorate is forecasting total expenditure of £16.6 million against a budget of £17.8 million.

Directorate	Quarter One Budget	Quarter One Forecast Expenditure	Forecast (Under)/Over spend at Quarter One
	£000s	£000s	£000s
Adult Social Care	£2,445,690	£2,445,690	£
Childrens and Family Services	£20,000	£	(£20,000)
Education	£11,030,360	£9,771,960	(£1,258,400)
Communities and Wellbeing	£4,335,400	£4,335,400	(£)
Total Directorate	£17,831,450	£16,553,050	(£1,278,400)

5.5 The key contributing factor to the forecast directorate underspend is the i-College project (Education Services). The lease negotiations recently concluded with a new lease agreement being achieved. The anticipated project commencement date (for works) is now scheduled for December 2022. There is a risk that the project is likely to exceed current budget built into the approved 2021/22 – 2023/24 capital programme, the service and Capital Strategy group will continue to monitor progress against the project and take mitigating action where required.

5.6 Children & Family Services are forecasting a £20k underspend as a result of no adaptations to foster care residents having been requested. Adult Social Care and the Communities & Wellbeing Services are currently forecasting on line positions.

## The Place Directorate

5.7 The directorate is forecasting total expenditure of £29.6million against a budget of £32.2 million.

Directorate	Quarter One Budget	Quarter One Forecast Expenditure	Forecast (Under)/Over spend at Quarter One
	£000s	£000s	£000s
Development and Planning	£4,138,590	£4,297,550	£158,960
Public Protection	£75,820	£75,820	£
Environment	£28,021,480	£25,284,899	(£2,736,581)
Directorate Totals	£32,235,890	£29,658,269	(£2,577,621)

5.8 The main the contributing factors to the directorate forecast position are:

- (a) Development & Planning: Four Houses Corner is forecasting a pressure of £159K. The project has been set with a number of delays. The site is now cleared and work is scheduled to commence with a revised completion date of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023. An in year pressure bid has been submitted to Capital Strategy Group, additional financing will be Council funded.
- (b) Public Protection: There is only one capital project which was slipped from financial year 2020/21 into the current financial year. The project is the implementation of the Public Protection One System which is scheduled to be delivered on line with project completion expected within 2021/22.
- (c) Environment: The natural carbon reduction methods project has been delayed and is forecasting a £1 million underspend. The budget manager has confirmed that additional governance is to be placed around this project to ascertain if further expenditure potentially could be incurred in the current financial year.
- (d) Environment: The A4 Improvements and Robinhood Roundabout project is forecasting a £1.3 million underspend as a result of delays through project redesigns.
- (e) Environment: The Kings Road Link project is forecasting a £347k underspend due to third party delays resulting in the project being behind schedule.

## The Resources Directorate

5.9 The directorate is forecasting total expenditure of £29.6million against a budget of £32.2 million.

Directorate	Quarter One Budget	Quarter One Forecast Expenditure	Forecast (Under)/Over spend at Quarter One
	£000s	£000s	£000s
Customer Services and ICT	£4,994,380	£5,164,380	£170,000
Finance and Property	£4,666,730	£4,648,660	(£18,070)
Strategy and Governance	£445,460	£445,460	(£)
Directorate Totals	£10,106,570	£10,258,501	£151,931

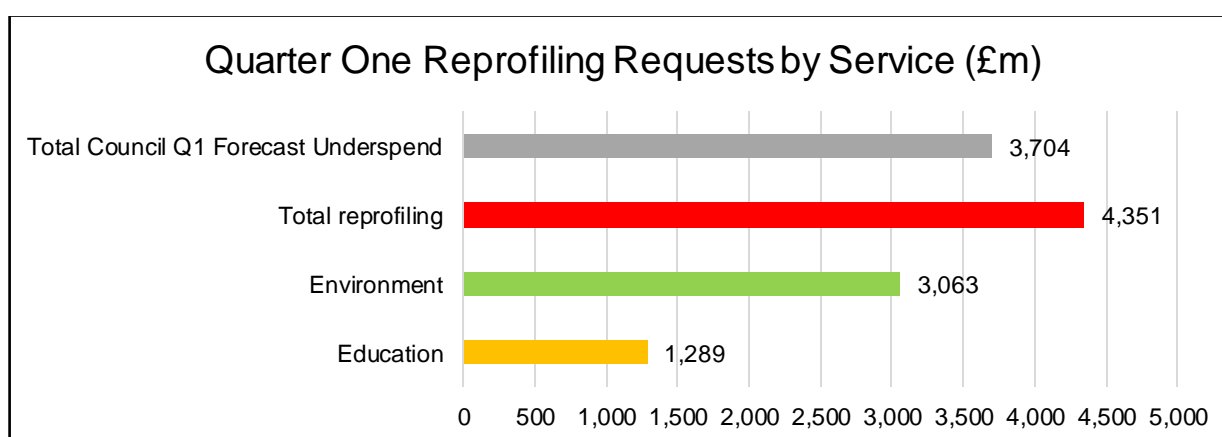
5.10 The main the contributing factors to the directorate forecast position are:

- (a) Customer Services & ICT: The Corporate Replacement budget is forecasting a £170k overspend. The forecast position is due to increasing demand on the budget and an increased focus on the implementation of hybrid meeting technology.
- (b) Finance & Property: The net underspend forecast is predominately the result of pressures against the demand led corporate condition survey budgets (£21k forecast overspend), a forecast underspend against the Agresso upgrade project (£75k) and a forecast overspend against the Income Manager implementation project (£40k). In respect of the Agresso and Income Manager implementation projects focus has moved from the Agresso upgrade (which has successfully resulted in a move from local servers to a cloud based platform), to the Income Manager implementation. Income Manager is designated a high risk project as the project focuses on migration of online payment functionality from the Civica Icon system into Agresso. Consultancy costs to facilitate the build of new interfaces and IT environments has been higher than anticipated leading to the forecast overspend.

## Proposals

5.11 As part of the Quarter One budget monitoring review, expenditure has been identified as unlikely to be incurred in the current financial year and is requested to be reprofiled into subsequent financial years.

5.12 £4.3 million of proposed reprofiling has been identified across the Education and Environment capital programmes, Appendix B provides a breakdown of project expenditure identified for reprofiling. The level of reprofiling identified is greater than the underspend forecast against the Council's capital programme. The graphic below shows the reprofiling requested, and total reprofiling against the current programme forecast position.



5.13 The funding of the proposed reprofiling is split between Council funding and external funding (i.e. external grants, s106 and Cil). £3 million of the reprofiling identified against the Environment Service and Education is externally funded. The balance of £1m in Environment is Council funded.

5.14 The proposed reprofiling will result in an overall pressure of £647k against the approved capital programme based on Quarter One budget monitoring. It is anticipated that during the financial year further project underspends will be incurred to offset the identified pressure. Furthermore the Council has capital reserves of £41 million (based on the Council's draft 2020/21 Financial Statements) which are under review to ascertain if funding can be released to offset any realised pressure.

## 6 Other options considered

No other options were considered.

## 7 Conclusion

7.1 In respect of the full programme at Quarter One there is a forecast underspend of £3.7 million. Total re-profiling of expenditure from 2021/22 into financial year 2022/23 amounts to £4.4 million. CSG will continue to closely monitor expenditure incurred against the re-profiled expenditure and approved programme in 2021/22.

## 8 Appendices

Appendix A – Budget Changes as at Quarter One

Appendix B – Re-profiling Proposal

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### Background Papers:

#### Subject to Call-In:

Yes: ☐ No: X

The item is due to be referred to Council for final approval	<input type="checkbox"/>
Delays in implementation could have serious financial implications for the Council	<input type="checkbox"/>
Delays in implementation could compromise the Council's position	<input type="checkbox"/>
Considered or reviewed by Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee or associated Task Groups within preceding six months	<input type="checkbox"/>
Item is Urgent Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Report is to note only	X



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**Officer details:**

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**Document Control**

Document Ref:		Date Created:	
Version:		Date Modified:	
Author:			
Owning Service			

**Change History**

Version	Date	Description	Change ID
1			
2			

## Budget Changes: As at Quarter One Financial Year 2021/22

Service Area	Original Budget 2021/22	Budget Agreed by CSG to be Re-profiled from 2020/21	Other Changes to 2020/21 Budget	Revised Budget for 2020 /21	Explanation of Other Agreed Changes	Approved by CSG
<b>PEOPLE DIRECTORATE</b>						
Adult Social Care	1,128,960	592,730	0	1,721,690		
Childrens and Family Services	20,000	0	0	20,000		
Education	4,059,300	950,800	0	5,010,100		
Communities and Wellbeing	2,861,290	732,540	0	3,593,830		
<b>Total for People Directorate</b>	<b>8,069,550</b>	<b>2,276,070</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,345,620</b>		
<b>PLACE DIRECTORATE</b>						
Development and Planning	587,330	2,351,260	0	2,938,590		
Public Protection	0	75,820	0	75,820		
Environment	8,154,160	1,183,090	450,000	9,787,250	£450k increase to the budget in light of agreed external LEP funding for Theale Rail Station Improvements	CSG 30.4.2021
<b>Total for Place Directorate</b>	<b>8,741,490</b>	<b>3,610,170</b>	<b>450,000</b>	<b>12,801,660</b>		
<b>RESOURCES DIRECTORATE</b>						
Customer Services and ICT	2,227,290	378,130	0	2,605,420		
Finance and Property	3,900,270	266,460	0	4,166,730		
Strategy and Governance	217,000	224,460	0	441,460		
<b>Total for Resources Directorate</b>	<b>6,344,560</b>	<b>869,050</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7,213,610</b>		
<b>CHIEF EXECUTIVE</b>						
Chief Executive	0	0	0	0		
<b>Total Capital Budget</b>	<b>23,155,600</b>	<b>6,755,290</b>	<b>450,000</b>	<b>30,360,890</b>		



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## Appendix B: Proposed Reprofiting at Quarter One

Directorate	Service	Projects	Expenditure Budget	Forecast Expenditure at Quarter One	Underspend at Quarter One	Re-profiling Request	Externally Funded Re-profiling	Council Funded Value
People	Education	i-college Alternative Education - East of Area	1,738,500	450,000	(1,288,500)	1,288,500	(1,288,500)	0
<b>People Directorate Reprofiting Proposal</b>			<b>1,738,500</b>	<b>450,000</b>	<b>(1,288,500)</b>	<b>1,288,500</b>	<b>(1,288,500)</b>	<b>0</b>
Place	Environment	Natural Carbon Reduction Measures	1,225,000	200,000	(1,025,000)	1,025,000	0	(1,025,000)
Place	Environment	Robin Hood Roundabout & A4	1,500,000	200,000	(1,300,000)	1,300,000	(1,300,000)	0
Place	Environment	Kings Road Link, Newbury	1,097,600	750,000	(347,600)	347,600	(347,600)	0
Place	Environment	A4 Faraday Road Improvements	320,000	0	(320,000)	320,000	(320,000)	0
Place	Environment	Kings Road Improvements	50,000	10,000	(40,000)	40,000	(40,000)	0
Place	Environment	Recreational Walk Rout	41,890	11,890	(30,000)	30,000	(30,000)	0
<b>Place Directorate Reprofiting Proposal</b>			<b>4,234,490</b>	<b>1,171,890</b>	<b>(3,062,600)</b>	<b>3,062,600</b>	<b>(2,037,600)</b>	<b>(1,025,000)</b>
<b>Total Reprofiting Proposal</b>			<b>5,972,990</b>	<b>1,621,890</b>	<b>(4,351,100)</b>	<b>4,351,100</b>	<b>(3,326,100)</b>	<b>(1,025,000)</b>

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## 2021/22 Performance Report Quarter One

<b>Committee considering report:</b>	Executive
<b>Date of Committee:</b>	2 September 2021
<b>Portfolio Member:</b>	Councillor Howard Woollaston
<b>Date Portfolio Member agreed report:</b>	12 August 2021
<b>Report Author:</b>	Jenny Legge/Catalin Bogos
<b>Forward Plan Ref:</b>	Ex.4000

### 1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide assurance that the core business and council priorities for improvement measures in the [Council Strategy 2019-2023](#) are being managed effectively. During Q1, strategic management and members of the Executive have identified additional outcomes to be included in the Council Strategy Delivery Plan and arrangements are being made to include them in the Q2 performance report.
- 1.2 To highlight successes and where performance has fallen below the expected level, present information on the remedial action taken, and the impact of that action.

### 2 Recommendation

To note the progress made in delivering the Council Strategy Delivery Plan 2019-2023, a maintained strong performance for the core business areas, good results for the majority of the measures relating to the council's priorities for improvement, and remedial actions taken where performance is below target.

### 3 Implications and Impact Assessment

Implication	Commentary
<b>Financial:</b>	To be highlighted and managed by individual services.
<b>Human Resource:</b>	To be highlighted and managed by individual services.
<b>Legal:</b>	To be highlighted and managed by individual services.
<b>Risk Management:</b>	To be highlighted and managed by individual services.
<b>Property:</b>	To be highlighted and managed by individual services.
<b>Policy:</b>	To be highlighted and managed by individual services.

	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Commentary
<b>Equalities Impact:</b>				
<b>A</b> Are there any aspects of the proposed decision, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could impact on inequality?		x		
<b>B</b> Will the proposed decision have an impact upon the lives of people with protected characteristics, including employees and service users?		x		
<b>Environmental Impact:</b>		x		
<b>Health Impact:</b>		x		
<b>ICT or Digital Services Impact:</b>		x		
<b>Council Strategy Priorities or Business as Usual:</b>	x x			Supports all priorities and core business of the Council Strategy 2019-2023.
<b>Data Impact:</b>		x		
<b>Consultation and Engagement:</b>	The information provided for this report, has been signed off by the relevant Head of Service/Service Director and Portfolio Holder.			

## 4 Executive Summary

4.1 This paper provides updates for each component of the Council Strategy Delivery Plan 2019-2023:

- Non-targeted influencer measures for context.
- Targeted measures for each core business area.
- Targeted measures for each priority for improvement.
- Corporate health measures for internal context.

4.2 The **Influencer measures** indicate that the district continued to cope better, compared with other parts of the country, in response to Covid-19 challenges. The Covid-19



infections peaked in quarter 3 2020/21, but the cumulative rate remained in the lowest (best) benchmarking quartile in England. In addition, the District had a high number of adults who have received their 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Covid-19 vaccinations (chart 3).

- 4.3 The economic indicators (economic activity, business rated properties, planning applications) continued to show strong resilience and good recovery. The car parking tickets sales and the weekly average footfall in Newbury have risen sharply from Q4 2020/21. An increase in unemployment locally in December 2020, followed the regional and national trends, but more recent national data shows that the rate subsequently reduced which is expected to be reflected at local level too.
- 4.4 Work with our communities to support local residents has continued. Social Care measures show that the adult social care cases managed through interim, short-term solutions due to Covid-19, are moving to long term support services. In addition, demand that was suppressed during the pandemic has increased during this quarter. This increase is replicated in Children's Social Care. Nevertheless, services are carefully monitoring the situation and adapting service delivery to ensure vulnerable residents are supported. The number of rough sleepers has been maintained very low.
- 4.5 The Council continues to ensure **core business** service delivery. This area achieved strong performance during quarter one, in particular with regards to the percentage of adult social care providers rated Good or better by the Care Quality Commission, timeliness of financial assessments and the timeliness of major and minor planning applications' determinations. Some of the areas impacted by Covid-19 are showing signs of recovery and further improvements have been achieved (e.g. face to face visits to children in care, and Council Tax and Business Rates collection). Three measures reported Amber are only marginally below expected levels.
- 4.6 Improvement activity through the Council Strategy **priorities for improvement** continued to progress. The majority of measures remained on track and delivery of outcomes continued this quarter. Areas of achievement to note include: accommodation offered to all rough sleepers, the approval of the refreshed Economic Development Strategy and a higher proportion of care leavers in employment, education or training (see Appendix C). There are some measures not reporting due to data availability impacted by Covid-19 (e.g. educational attainment and average traffic time).
- 4.7 The council's **corporate health indicators** highlight sound resource management, a budget underspend and stable workforce.
- 4.8 The improvement work taking place in the District is recognised nationally. The Council's innovative Community Municipal Investment bond, enabling residents to invest in greener solutions for the District, has been shortlisted for two prestigious national awards (Public Finance Awards and Room 151 Impact Awards). The Council and partner organisations won a Digital Innovation and Technology award for innovative projects addressing issues such as fall prevention or availability of a chatbot voice assistant available around the clock to support residents to log issues or receive answers about Council services.
- 4.9 In conclusion, the influencer measures evidence the socio-economic resilience of the district. The Council contributed to this by focusing resources to support the Covid-19

response and recovery activity, and to maintain strong core business delivery. The activities relating to the priorities for improvement are progressed too.

## 5 Supporting Information

### Influencer measures

*Refer to Appendix A for more detail*

- 5.1 Non-targeted measures of volume are monitored to provide context to the work being carried out across Council services.
- 5.2 The major influential factor during quarter one remained the work to mitigate the **impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, but with more focus on recovery and renewal**. The Government progressed the measures on the road map for lifting the restrictions and the Council coordinated the implications at local level for the way services are delivered. The cumulative rates of infections remained in the best (lowest) quartile nationally, helped by a strong local social and economic context and the local response to Covid-19. In addition, work to promote vaccinations, resulted in reaching top quartile vaccination rates compared to other districts in England.
- 5.3 Overall, the local **economy maintained the strong pre-Covid-19 levels**. Key indicators such as the economic activity rate (chart 5), business rated properties (chart 11) remained relatively stable and planning applications (chart 17) increased.
- 5.4 Latest available data (December 2020) shows a slight increase in the unemployment rate (chart 7), but at 3% remains better than South East (3.9) and England (4.6) rates. This increase followed regional and national trends. National data is available for Q1 and shows that, since December, the unemployment reduced, with the relaxation of many coronavirus restrictions, the labour market is continuing to recover. This is expected to be replicated at local level.
- 5.5 Enhancements to Universal Credit as part of the UK government's response to Covid-19 mean that an increasing number of people (charts 9 and 10) became eligible for unemployment-related benefit support, although still employed. However, as recovery is progressing, the latest data shows the total claimant count and the one for 16-24 year olds reducing to lowest level over the last 5 quarters, but still above pre-pandemic level.
- 5.6 In addition, footfall and the number of parking tickets sold have started to pick up as restrictions are eased, and we move into spring/summer (charts 13 and 14).
- 5.7 Since the start of the pandemic less properties have been sold and the house prices increased. The latest data shows that the pressure on the housing market seems to start to ease (charts 15 and 16).
- 5.8 Our Community [Municipal Investment](#), the UK's first ever local government green bond, has been shortlisted for two prestigious awards after offering residents and community groups a unique way to invest directly in a greener future for the district and reaching its £1 million target five days early in October 2020.

- 5.9 Firstly, the [Public Finance Awards](#) which places a premium on exceptional and original achievements by public finance, governance teams and individuals. Winners will be announced on 28 September 2021.
- 5.10 Secondly, the [Room 151 Impact Awards](#) which focusses on how local government finance makes a difference across society, to the environment, to the health and wellbeing of residents, to housing and regeneration, to our children's education, to the NHS, to fighting climate change and to our economic prosperity.
- 5.11 West Berkshire Council has outperformed other local authorities from across the country to win an award for Digital Innovation and Technology at the Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Places and Transport (ADEPT) President's Awards. The award, received at a ceremony on 27 May, was given to the authority and its partners in recognition of the success of the [Thames Valley Berkshire Smart Cities Cluster project](#).
- 5.12 The local **social indicators** are following the national trends. The number of crimes and recorded domestic abuse have risen (chart 19-21), however incidents of anti-social behaviour are lower than usual (chart 22). Through coproduction work with voluntary sector organisations, and the Housing Strategy Group, the extensive work carried out by the Rough Sleeping and Housing Operations Teams resulted in maintaining a low number of two rough sleepers at the end of quarter four (chart 40).
- 5.13 As part of the response to pandemic, arrangements have been made to ensure that vulnerable children, young people and adults continued to be identified and to receive support. Such arrangements included enhanced screening, closer joint working between different services, face to face visits for all child protection and high level child in need referrals. Following a few quarters with lower referrals to children's services, Q1 has seen an increase to record levels compared to the last two years. Relating to this there is also an increase in S47 (Child Protection enquiries) and the number of child protection plans which would suggest that some of the cases are identified at a stage requiring more critical intervention, rather than more early help type of support. However, the number of children in care remains stable which means that cases are supported in their families.
- 5.14 In adult social care, the number of long term service cases (chart 35), and the number of new adult safeguarding enquiries (chart 34) have increased during quarter one, after being lower than normal due to Covid-19 in the previous quarters, as those clients in interim Short Term solutions transitioned to long term support. The service has also noted increased demand from people who were reluctant to access help during the pandemic who are now coming forward.
- 5.15 Volunteers are returning to support culture, library and countryside activities (charts 42 and 43).
- 5.16 [Our refreshed Recovery and Renewal Strategy](#) was approved by the Executive in June 2021, with the aim to strengthen the council's focus on addressing inequalities, establish seven new priorities, and set out in greater detail the actions to minimise the negative effects of Covid-19 and to benefit of the opportunities emerging from the collective response to the pandemic.

## Core Business Activities

*Refer to Appendix B for Exception Reports*

Please note:

R (red): year-end target will not be met

A (amber): behind schedule, but expected to achieve year-end target

G (green): year-end target will be met.

DNA: Data not available

DNP: Data not provided

Category	Measure	RAG	Q1 RAG Outturn	2021/22	
				Target	Notes Q1
Protecting our children	Ofsted rating of at least Good for our Children and Family Service	G	Good	Good	Latest available inspection result. OFSTED Inspections are currently on hold due to Covid-19.
	% of Children in Care where the child has been visited in the past 6 weeks (or 12 weeks if this is the agreed visiting schedule)	A	78.1%	≥95%	This measure records face-to-face visits only. Due to Covid-19 visits were made virtually. As restrictions ease, it is believed that usual levels will be achieved.
Supporting education	% of maintained schools judged good or better by Ofsted	R	93.7%	≥95%	Performance status impacted by one maintained school, who were inspected in September 2019 and received requires improvement judgement. See exception report for details.
	% of applications receiving one of their three preferences for West Berkshire children (Primary Admissions)	G	99%	≥98%	Updated - target has been increased from 95% to 98%

Category	Measure	2021/22			
		RAG	Q1 RAG Outturn	Target	Notes Q1
	% of applications receiving one of their three preferences for West Berkshire children (Secondary Admissions)	Annual	Reports in Q4	≥95%	
	% of 16-17 year olds participating in education and training	dnp	Data not provided	Top 20%	
Ensuring the wellbeing of older people and vulnerable adults	% of WBC provider services inspected by Care Quality Commission (CQC) and rated as good or better	G	100%	=100%	
	% of financial assessments actioned within 3 weeks of referral to the Financial Assessment & Charging Team	G	99.6%	≥98%	Q1: 489 / 491
Maintaining our roads	% of the principal road network (A roads) in need of repair	Annual	Reports Q4	≤2%	
Collecting your bins and keeping the streets clean	% of household waste recycled, composted and reused	G	50.5% (E)	≥49.5% (≥ 2018/19 outturn)	Q1 data is an estimate. All results are subject to change once validated by DEFRA after Q4
	Maintain an acceptable level of litter, detritus and graffiti (as outlined in the Keep Britain Tidy local environmental indicators)	Annual	Reports from Q2	Good	

Category	Measure	RAG	2021/22		
			Q1 RAG Outturn	Target	Notes Q1
Providing benefits	Average number of days taken to make a full decision on new Housing Benefit claims	A	20	≤19 days	Increased demand due to Covid-19. See exception report for details.
Collecting Council Tax and Business rates	Council Tax collected as a percentage of Council Tax due	G	27.9%	≥98.8%	For comparison, Q1 2020/21 = (34,483,678/123,527,421) 27.9%
	Non domestic rates collected as a percentage of non domestic rates due	G	27.3%	≥99%	For comparison, Q1 2020/21 = (15,038,824/55,154,964) 27.3%
Planning and housing	% of planning appeals won	A	62.5%	≥65% (England average)	YTD: 10 / 16 Impacted by low numbers. It is expected that appeal decisions will balance out over the Year. See exception report for details.
	% of 'major' planning applications determined within 13 weeks or the agreed extended time	G	94.7%	≥90% (England average)	YTD: 18 / 19
	% of 'minor' planning applications determined within 8 weeks or the agreed extended time	G	95.4%	≥86% (England average)	YTD: 62 / 65
	% of 'other' planning applications determined within 8 weeks or the agreed extended time	A	89.9%	≥90% (England average)	YTD: 286 / 318 See exception report for details.
Economic development	Number of webinars and events held to engage with businesses to promote awareness and understanding of council activities	G	1	≥4	Welcome Back Business Grants webinar held on 9 June 2021

Please note:

R (red): year-end target will not be met

A (amber): behind schedule, but expected to achieve year-end target

G (green): year-end target will be met.

DNA: Data not available

DNP: Data not provided

*Refer to Appendix E for technical conventions*

5.17 Performance for the majority of core business activities reported has been on target.

5.18 Where Covid-19 restrictions have hindered statutory, face-to-face visits teams have offered the service in a different way e.g. closer partnership and interdisciplinary team working, video meetings or telephone calls, to ensure the safety of clients and staff. As restrictions are lifted, and people become more confident it is hoped that face-to-face visits will return. Q1 shows already an increase in face to face visits taking place.

5.19 Against a more ambitious target, the latest available data (reported previously) about the proportion of maintained schools judged good or better by Ofsted is now below target. There are five schools rated below Good and only one of these inspected under the new Ofsted inspections regime changed in 2019. A comprehensive programme of support for all schools has been undertaken since May 2019 resulting in 11 out of 12 schools inspected under this new framework securing a good judgement. It is therefore expected that performance will improve when the schools are inspected again.

5.20 Notable improvements have been achieved regarding all our care homes being rated good or better by the Care Quality Commission, the timelines of financial assessment, timeliness of face to face visits to children in care and determination of 'minor' planning applications.

### National Benchmarking for Core Business Measures (April 2018- March 2020)

5.21 Benchmarking data for 2019/20 has been published and reported last quarter. In the majority of services, we compare favourably with our peers and continue to maintain our position.

Category	Measure	2018/19 National Qtile/Rank	2019/20 National Qtile/Rank	2021/22 Target	2021/22	
					RAG	Q1 Outturn
Supporting education	% of maintained schools judged good or better by Ofsted	1st Qtile Rank 17/152 (August) (YE: 95.7%)	1st Qtile Rank 22/152 (YE: 95.7%)	≥95%	A	93.7%

					2021/22	
Category	Measure	2018/19 National Qtile/Rank	2019/20 National Qtile/Rank	2021/22 Target	RAG	Q1 Outturn
	% of applications receiving one of their three preferences for West Berkshire children (Primary Admissions)	2nd Qtile Rank 51/152 (YE: 98.4%)	1st Qtile Rank 12/152 (YE: 99.1%)	≥98%	G	99%
	% of applications receiving one of their three preferences for West Berkshire children (Secondary Admissions)	1st Qtile Rank 27/152 (YE: 97.9%)	1st Qtile Rank 36/152 (YE: 96.6%)	≥95%	dnp	Data not provided
	% of 16-17 year olds participating in education and training	2nd Qtile Rank 47/151 (YE: 93.8%)	2nd Qtile Rank 47/151 (YE: 93.8%)	Top 20%	dnp	Data not provided
Maintaining our roads	% of the principal road network (A roads) in need of repair	1st Qtile Rank 17/146 (YE: 2%)	Data not available	≤2%	Annual	Reports Q4
Collecting your bins and keeping the streets clean	% of household waste recycled, composted and reused	1st Qtile Rank 31/148 (YE: 50.7%)	1st Qtile Rank 32/149 (YE: 50.2%)	≥49.5% (≥2018/19 outturn)	dnp	Data not provided
Providing benefits	Average number of days taken to make a full decision on new Housing Benefit claims	3rd Qtile Rank 66/122 (YE Av 20.27)	3rd Qtile Rank 85/124 (YE Av 19.04)	≤19 days	A	Av. 20
Council Tax and Business rates	Council Tax collected as a percentage of Council Tax due	1st Qtile Rank 8/151 (YE: 98.5%)	1st Qtile Rank 8/151 (YE: 98.5%)	≥98.8%	G	27.9%
	Non domestic rates collected as a percentage of non domestic rates due	3rd Qtile Rank 82/151 (YE: 98.4%)	1st Qtile Rank 20/151 (YE: 98.9%)	≥99%	G	27.3%



Category	Measure	2018/19 National Qtile/Rank	2019/20 National Qtile/Rank	2021/22 Target	2021/22	
					RAG	Q1 Outturn
	% of 'major' planning applications determined within 13 weeks or the agreed extended time	4th Qtile Rank 108/122 (YE: 78.1%)	2nd Qtile Rank 36/125 (YE: 98.8%)	≥90% (England average)	G	94.7%
	% of 'minor' planning applications determined within 8 weeks or the agreed extended time	4th Qtile Rank 102/123 (YE: 77.5%)	2nd Qtile Rank 49/125 (YE: 90.4%)	≥86% (England average)	G	95.4%
	% of 'other' planning applications determined within 8 weeks or the agreed extended time	2nd Qtile Rank 46/123 (YE: 93%)	2nd Qtile Rank 37/125 (YE: 94.8%)	≥90% (England average)	A	89.9%

### Council Strategy Priorities for Improvement:

*Refer to Appendix B for Exception Reports*

Table 1. Number of measures by priority of improvement and performance status

Priority for Improvement	RAG Status			
	Red	Amber	Green	Other
Ensure our vulnerable children and adults achieve better outcomes	0	1	4	1
Support everyone to reach their full potential	0	1	3	6
Support businesses to start develop and thrive in West Berkshire	0	0	5	0
Develop local infrastructure including housing to support and grow the local economy	0	0	2	4
Maintain a green district	0	0	5	2
Ensure sustainable services through innovation and partnerships	0	0	5	0
	0	2	24	13

Note:

Red: year-end target will not be met

Amber: behind schedule, but expected to achieve year-end target

Green: year-end target will be met.

Other: includes Annual (reported once a year), data not available, data not provided and targets to be confirmed

### **Ensure our vulnerable children and adults achieve better outcomes**

- 5.22 Overall good results have continued to be achieved for this priority for improvement. Further improvements to note this quarter refer to 100% of rough sleepers receiving an accommodation offer when first identified and the increased proportion of care leavers in employment, education and training.
- 5.23 As lockdown restrictions started to ease, an increase of referral to children's services is reflected in a higher than expected increase of repeat referrals.
- 5.24 The recommendation to work from home where possible, impacted on the number of young people involved in work experience placements, but this is expected to achieve the end of year target.

### **Support everyone to reach their full potential**

- 5.25 Data availability is the key issues to report relating to this priority for improvement. Education attainment outturns for the academic year 2019/20 are not available, as exams have not taken place due to Covid-19. Support is being provided to pupils and schools to minimise the impact of the pandemic.
- 5.26 Work has started to develop an approach to measure community wellbeing. The number of residents supported by a Befriender continues to be better than the target.

### **Support businesses to start develop and thrive in West Berkshire**

- 5.27 During this quarter, the Executive has approved the refreshed Economic Development Strategy and a delivery plan, reflecting the Covid-19 impact. This will inform a review of the measures and targets included in the Council Strategy Delivery Plan.
- 5.28 Activities are on track to deliver the Newbury Town Centre Masterplan study by December 2021. The work continued with a public consultation on the draft Vision.

### **Develop local infrastructure including housing to support and grow the local economy**

- 5.29 The Regulation 19 consultation to inform the submission of a New Local Plan for examination (Strategic Goal) in November 2022 is on track and in line with the Local Development Scheme agreed in April 2020.
- 5.30 Results for 2020/21 for the number of residential units granted planning permission, the number of additional residential units completed, the number of affordable homes granted planning permission and the number of additional affordable homes completed are expected in Q3.
- 5.31 Work has started and is reported on track for connecting West Berkshire premises to Full Fibre. At the end of Q1 the percentage of premises connected reached 26.3%.

### **Maintain a green district**

- 5.32 Progress has been made towards ensuring that West Berkshire Council's public car parks have electric vehicle charging points.

5.33 Designs are being progressed to extend the cycle routes in the District, but even if no physical construction work took place this quarter, the target for the end of year is expected to be achieved.

5.34 Activities to complete feasibility studies for large scale afforestation and urban tree planting are reported on track against the revised targets of March 2022.

### **Ensure sustainable services through innovation and partnerships**

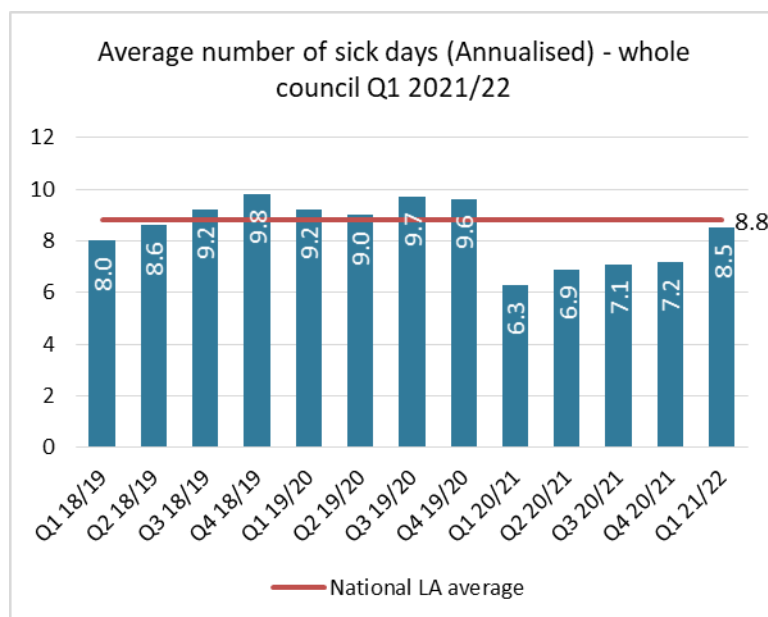
5.35 Work is progressing to support and enhance partnership working. A draft Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, produced following extensive engagement with partner organisations and residents, has reached the final stages of development and is out for public consultation over the summer.

5.36 The development of a community engagement framework, with our statutory partners and community and voluntary organisations, has started and an initial scoping activity has taken place. In addition, the review of how the Council engages with Town and Parish Councils has started with a survey due to close in Q2. In addition, community conversations are planned to take place during Q2 to continue these engagement activities.

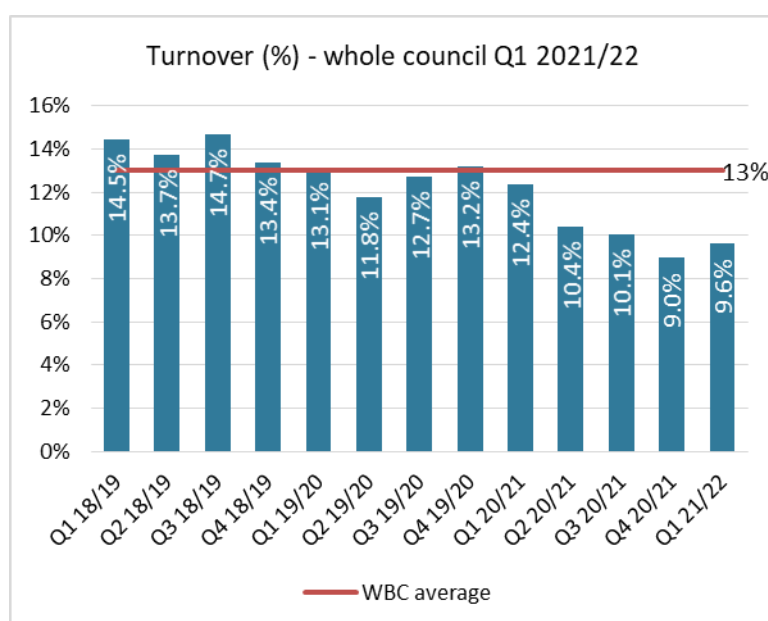
### **Corporate Health**

5.37 The year-end forecast is a £0.3m under spend, after taking account of provision that was made in reserves for specific risks at the time of budget setting. Without this provision, the forecast would be an over spend of £0.5m. If the over spend remains at year end and if the reserves were utilised, the resulting £0.3m under spend would be returned to reserves. Further details are available from the quarterly financial monitoring reports.

5.38 Absence levels have been below the norm since quarter one 2020/21, however this quarter they have risen to return a more usual level. This is not due to Covid-19 self-isolation days lost as they are not included in the sickness figures. These are days where staff are not working due to self-isolation and can not be recorded as sickness as this would trigger sick pay entitlements, which is not permissible under the Green Book and National Joint Council (NJC) for local government services guidance during Covid-19.



5.39 Staff turnover is stable at around 10%.



## Proposals

5.40 To note the progress made in delivering the Council Strategy Delivery Plan, a maintained strong performance for the core business areas, good results for the majority of the measures relating to the Council's priorities for improvement and remedial actions taken where performance is below target, which is mostly due to Covid-19.

## 6 Other options considered

None considered.

## 7 Conclusion

- 7.1 Quarter one results show that strong performance levels have been maintained and key services delivered to residents as part of the activities in the Core Business category.
- 7.2 The District continued to cope better than other areas with the Covid-19 challenges. As the restrictions are eased, there are strong signs of recovery for the local, resilient economy. However, as expected, pressure increased this quarter regarding demand for children and adult social care services.
- 7.3 The Council is focusing more on recovery and renewal, and approved a strategy to address pandemic challenges and benefit of emerging opportunities. In this context, improvement work and key outcomes continue to be delivered, e.g. accommodation offered to all rough sleepers, approval of a new Economic Development Strategy, more care leavers in employment, education and training etc. Only a few measures, mainly impacted by Covid-19, have been delayed or are below targets.
- 7.4 Action plans are in place to address performance measures rated “Amber” and the Executive is asked to note these actions and the overall performance reported.

## 8 Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix A – Influencer Measures
- 8.2 Appendix B – Exception Reports
- 8.3 Appendix C – Infographics
- 8.4 Appendix D – Technical Conventions
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### Subject to Call-In:

Yes: ☒ No: ☐

- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| The item is due to be referred to Council for final approval   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Delays in implementation could have serious financial implications for the Council   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Delays in implementation could compromise the Council's position   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Considered or reviewed by Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee or associated Task Groups within preceding six months | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Item is Urgent Key Decision  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Report is to note only   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
-

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**Wards affected:** All

**Officer details:**

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Job Title: Performance, Research and Risk Manager  
Tel No: (01635) 519102  
E-mail: [Catalin.Bogos@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:Catalin.Bogos@westberks.gov.uk)

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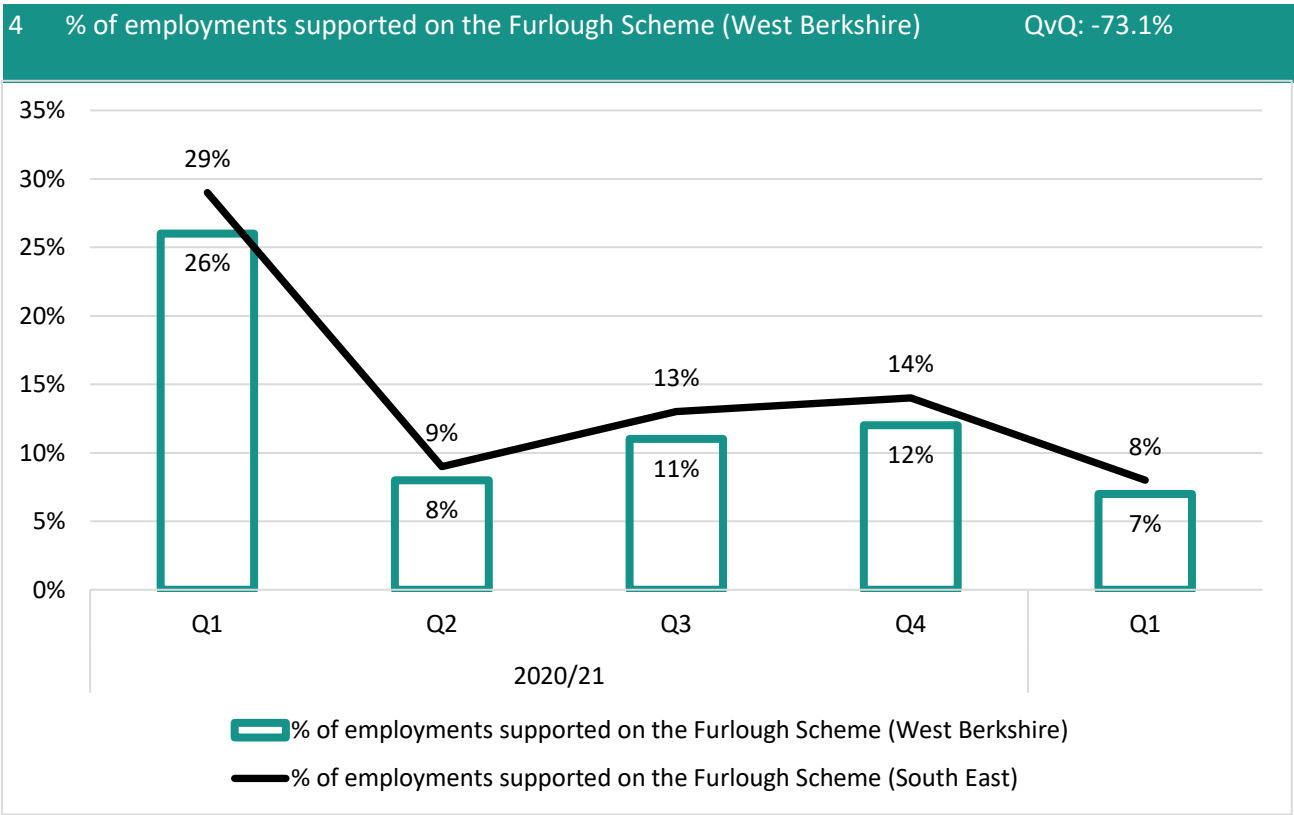
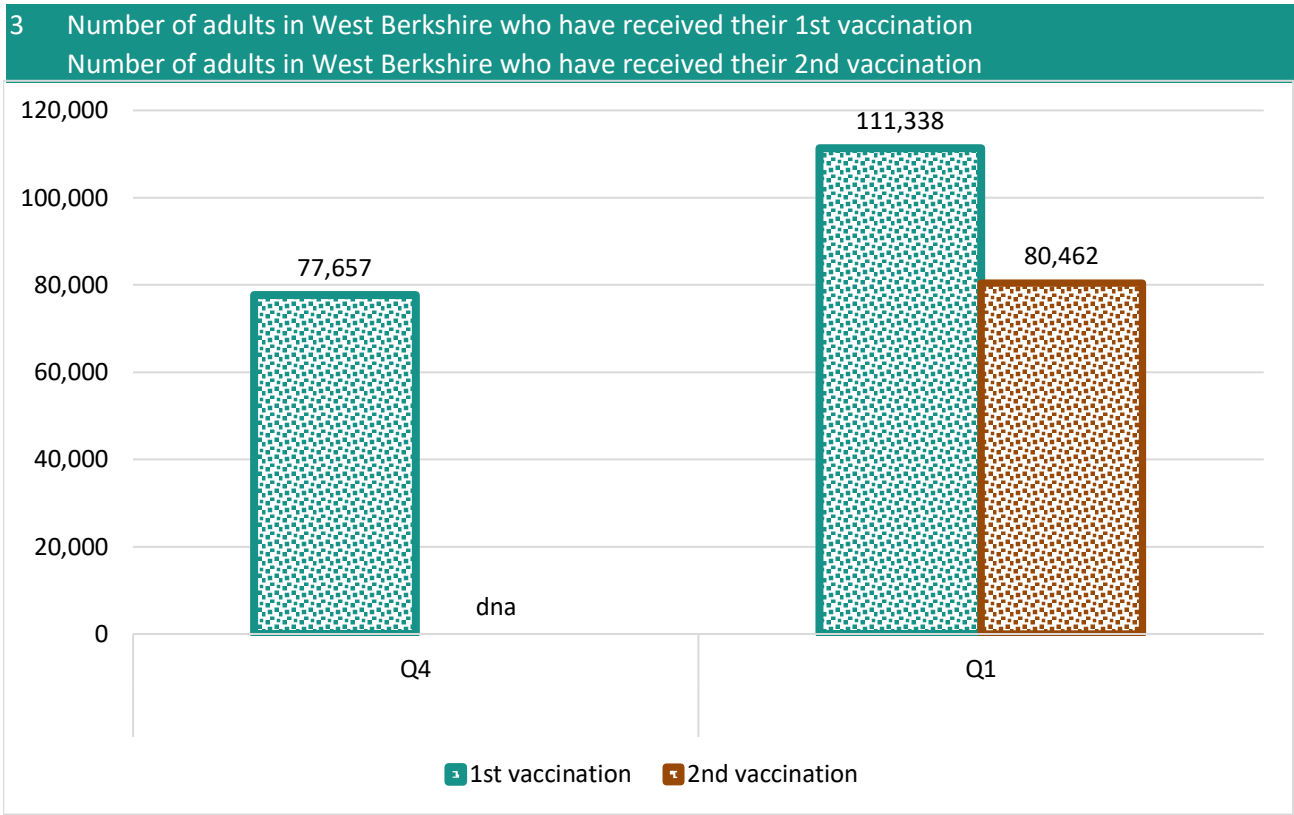
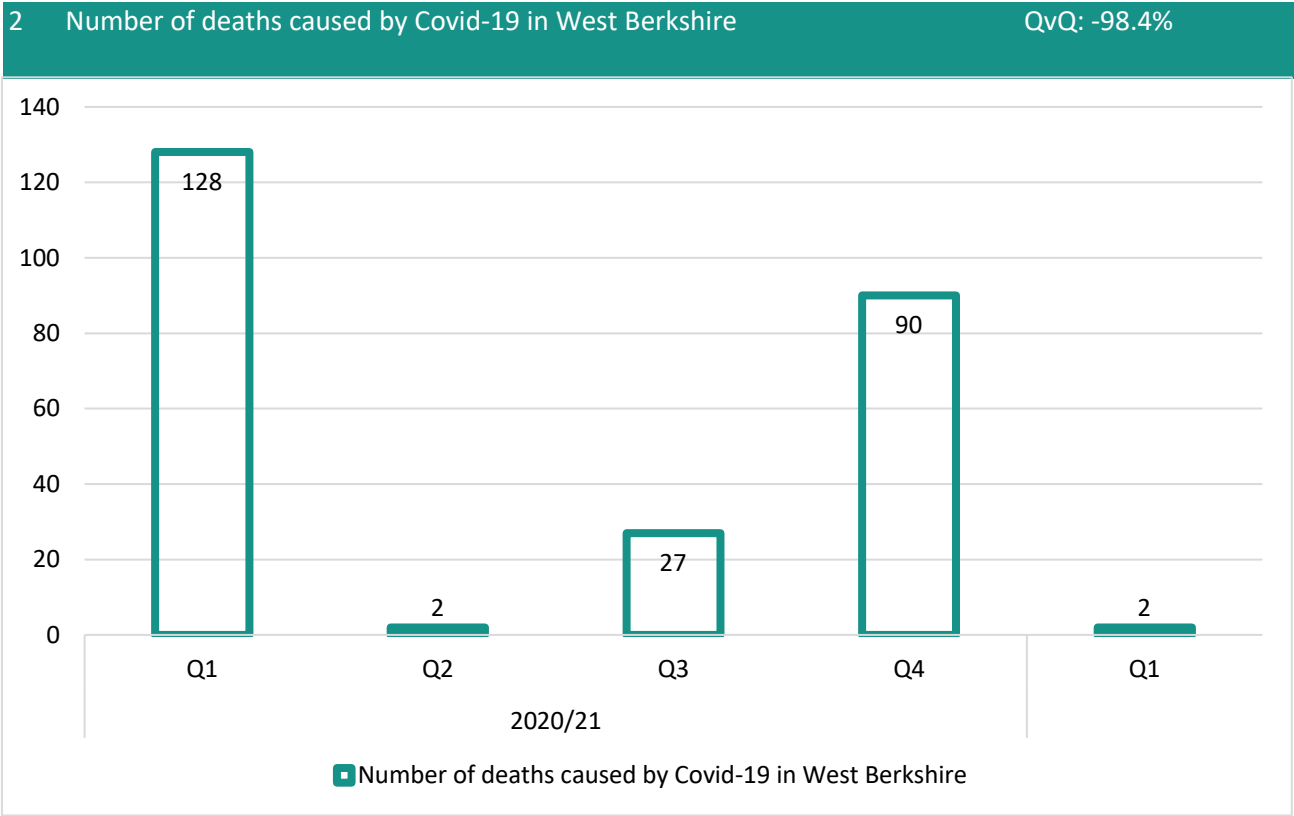
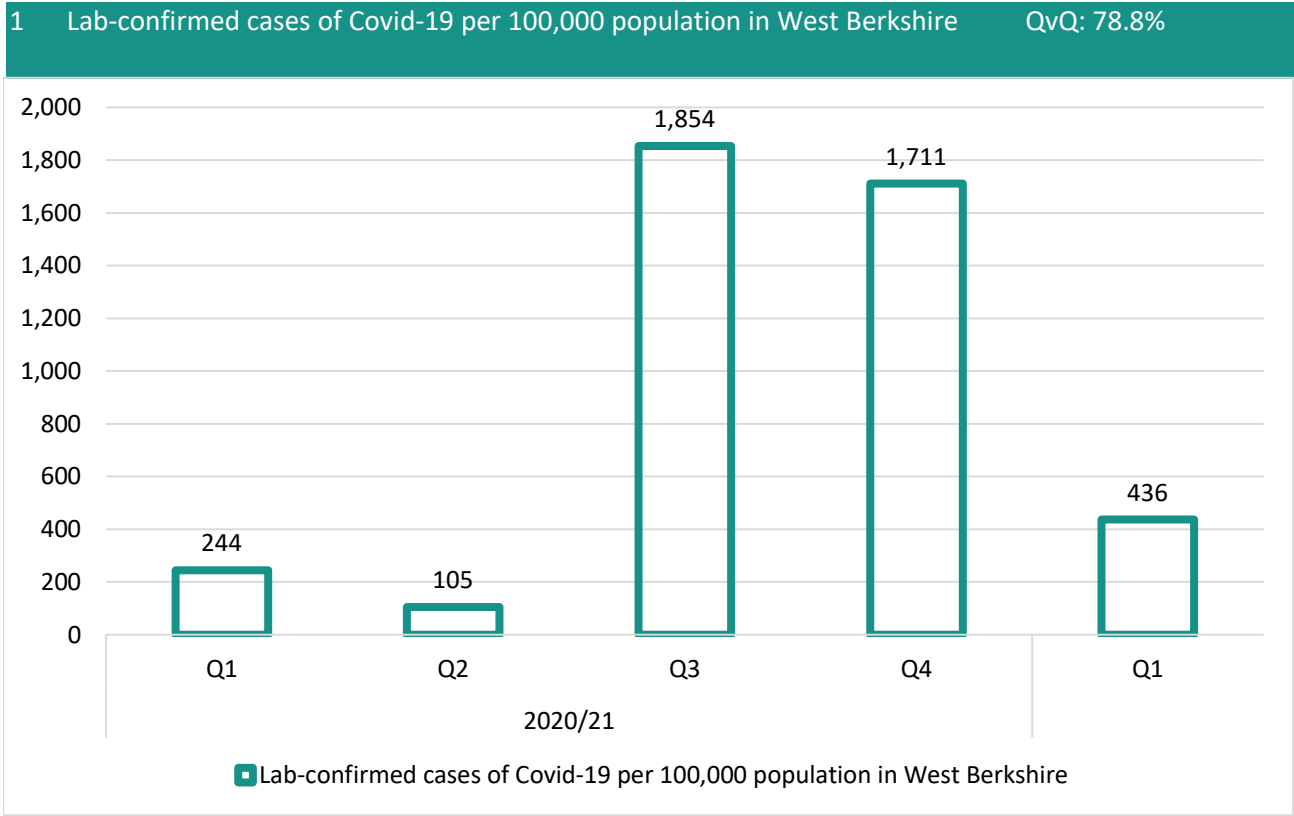
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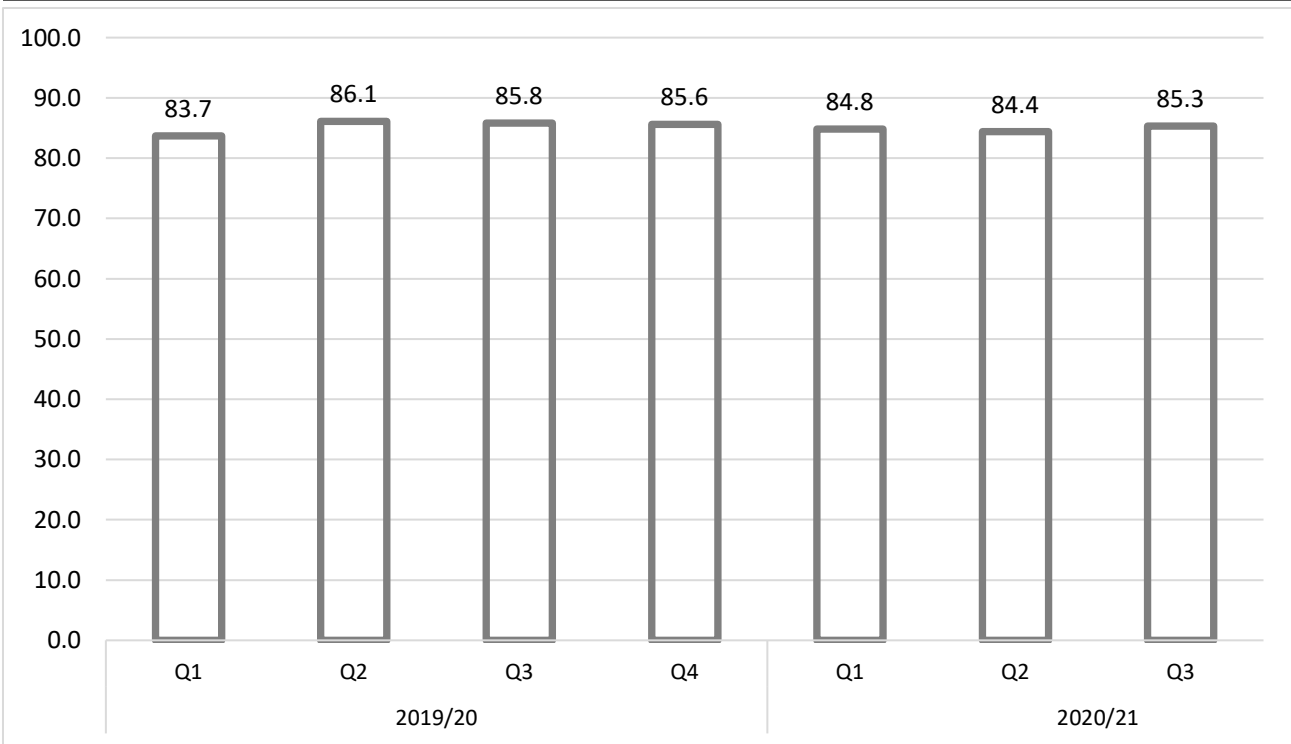
Appendix A: Influencer Measures Dashboard 2020/21 (current qtr v same qtr last year)  
Covid-19 (Teal) | Economy (Grey) | Social Care (blue) | Environment (Green)



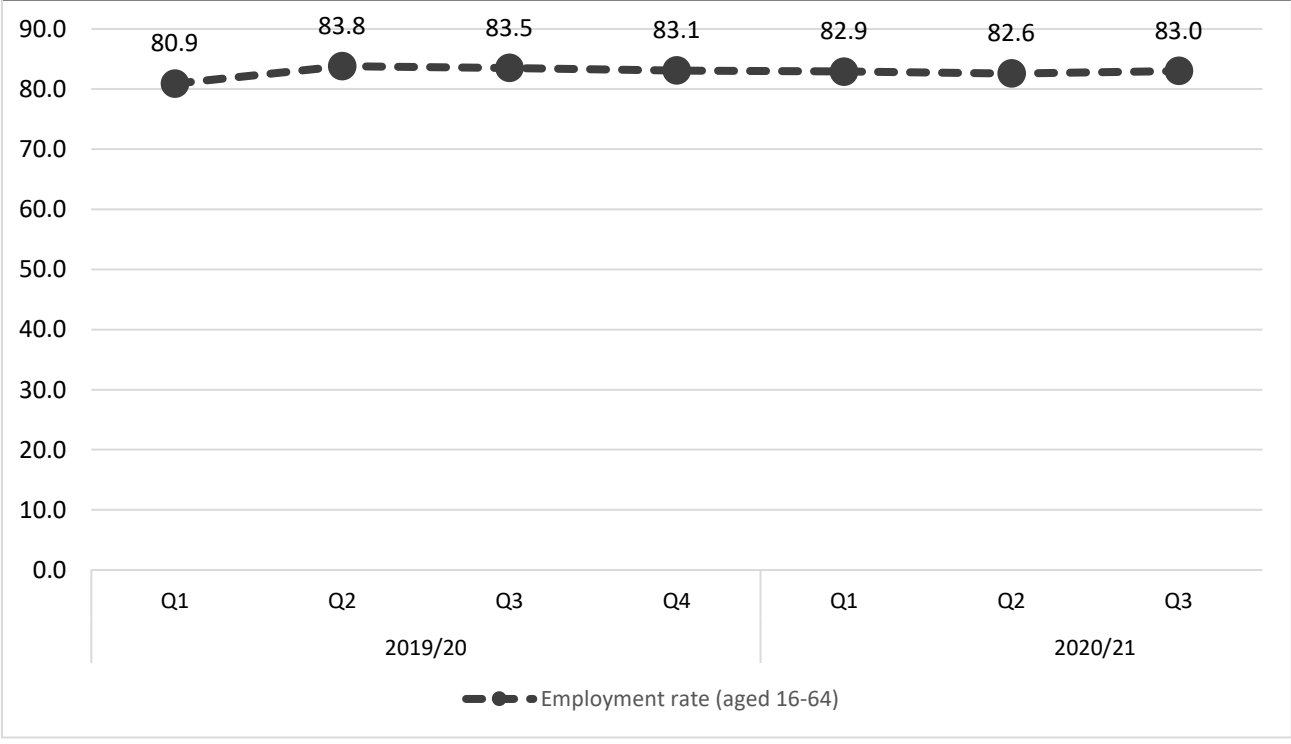
Appendix A: Influencer Measures Dashboard 2020/21 (current qtr v same qtr last year)

Covid-19 (Teal) | Economy (Grey) | Social Care (blue) | Environment (Green)

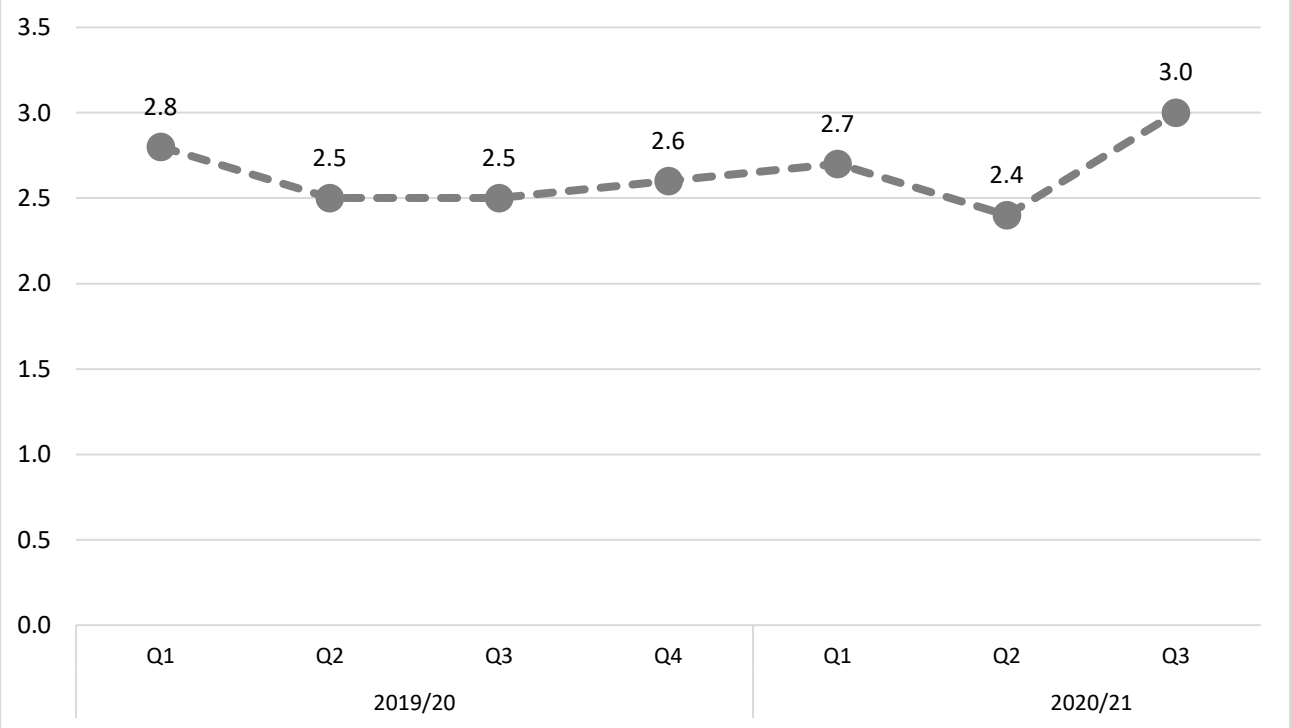
5 Economic activity rate (aged 16-64) (12 months ending) QvQ: -0.6%  
(Latest data available is for December 2020)



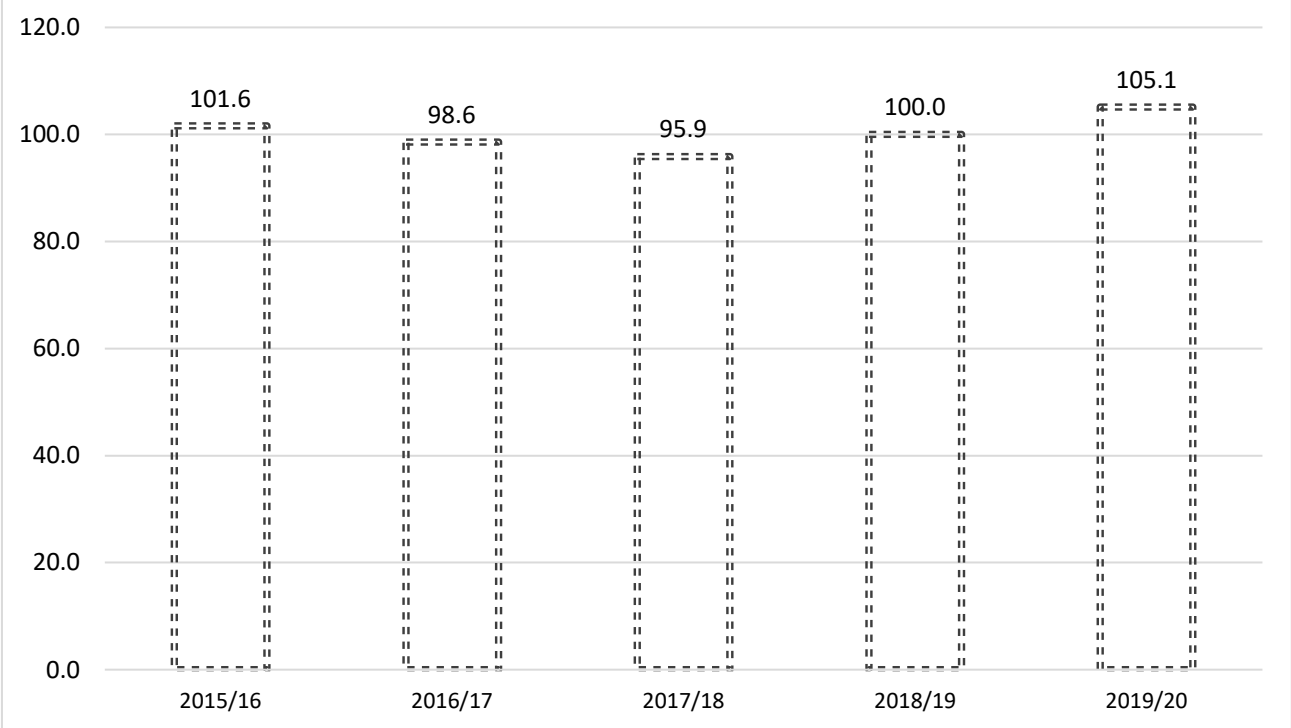
6 Employment rate (aged 16-64) QvQ: -0.6%  
(Latest data available is for December 2020)



7 Unemployment rate (model based estimate) QvQ: 20.0%  
(Latest data available is for December 2020)



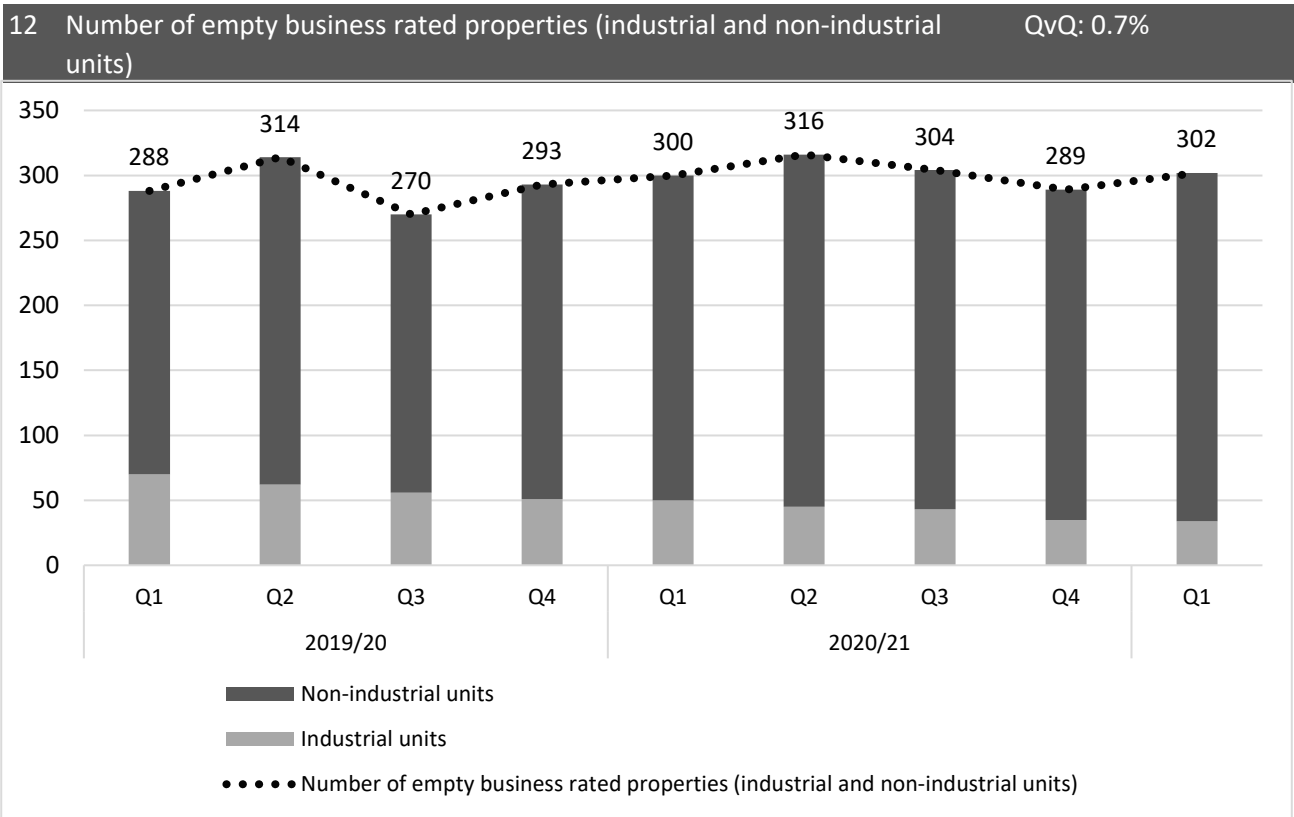
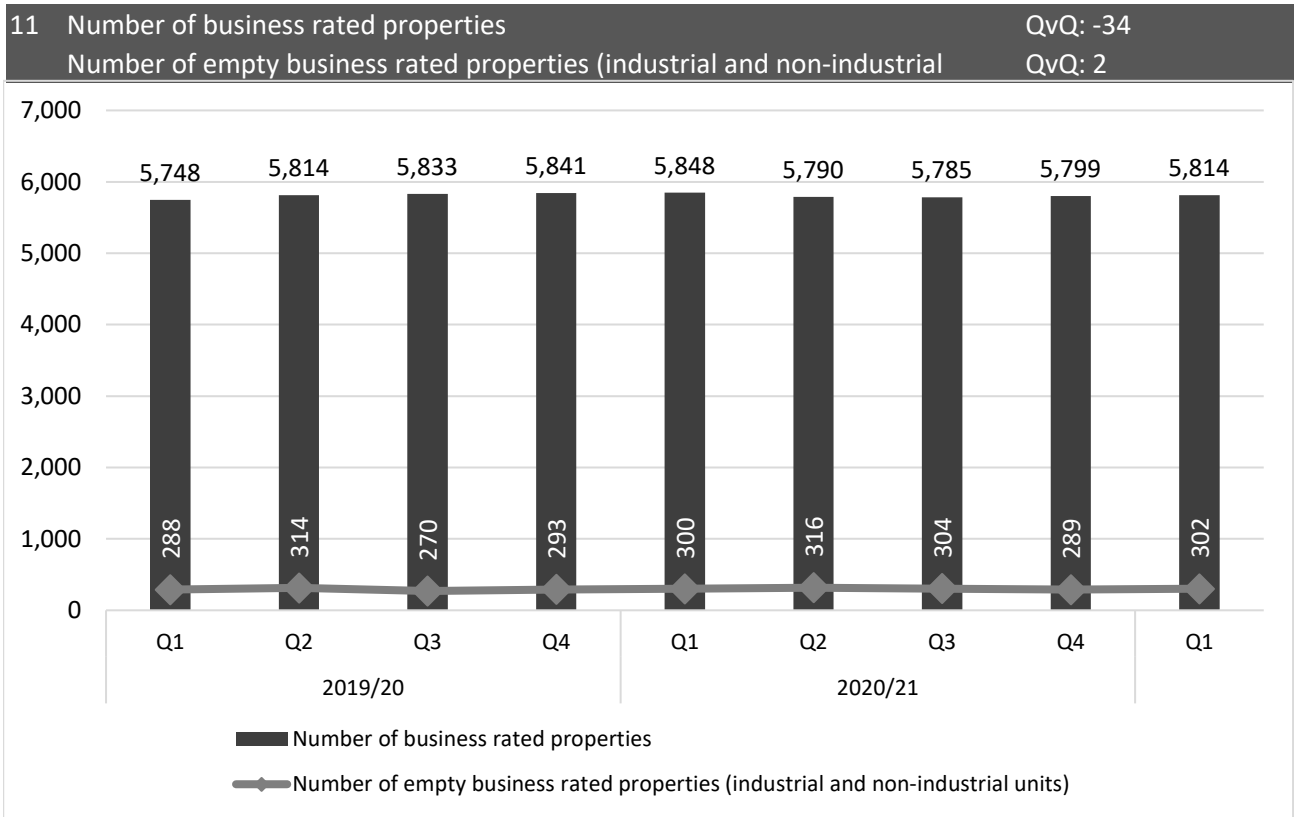
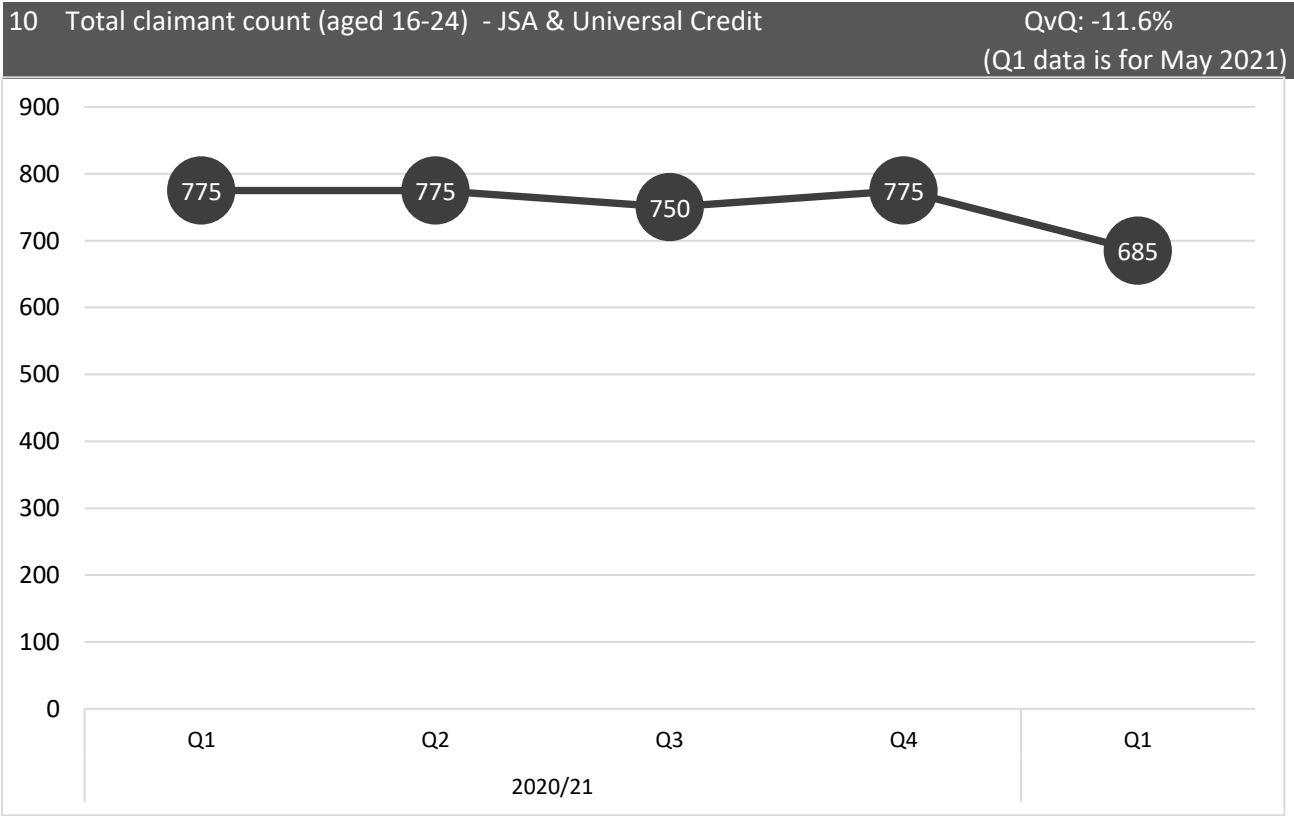
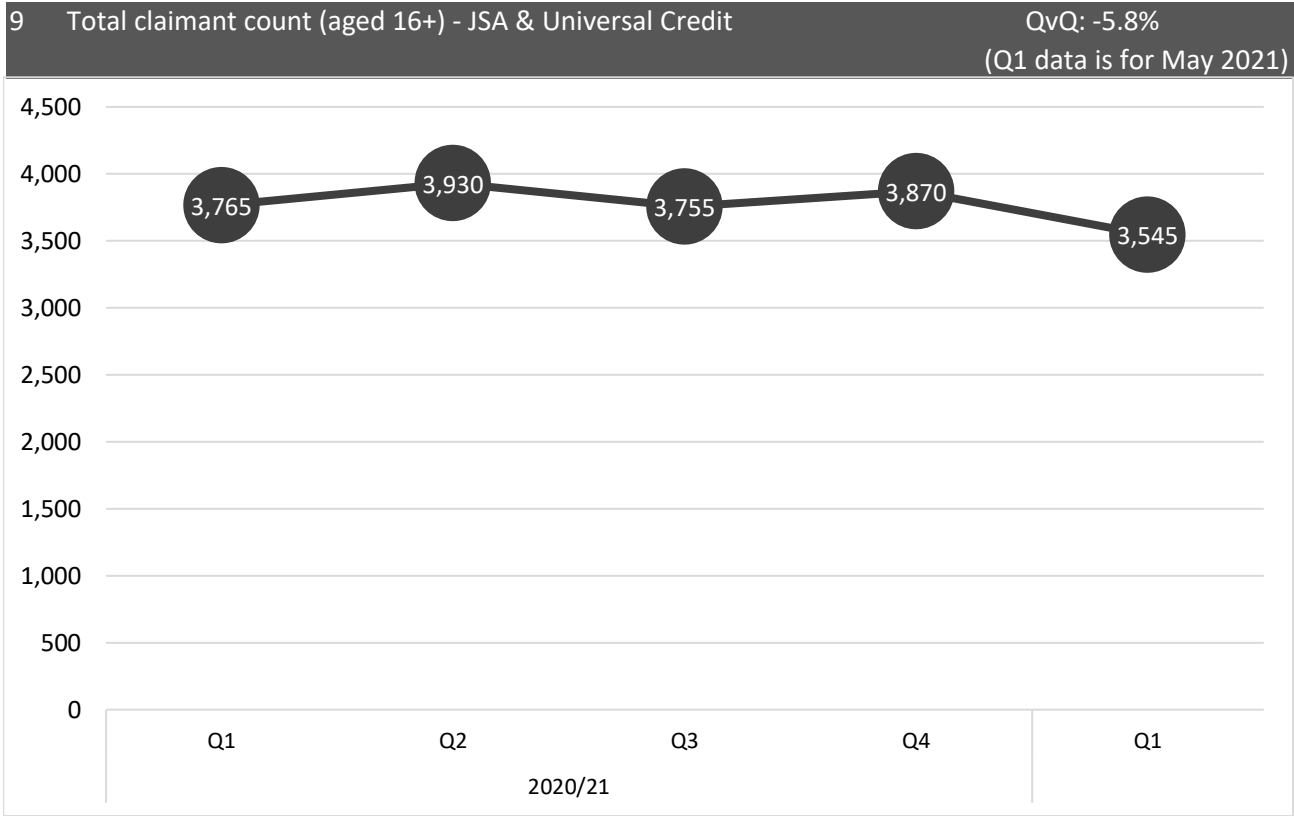
8 Gross value added (balanced) (GVA) (Latest data published May 2021)



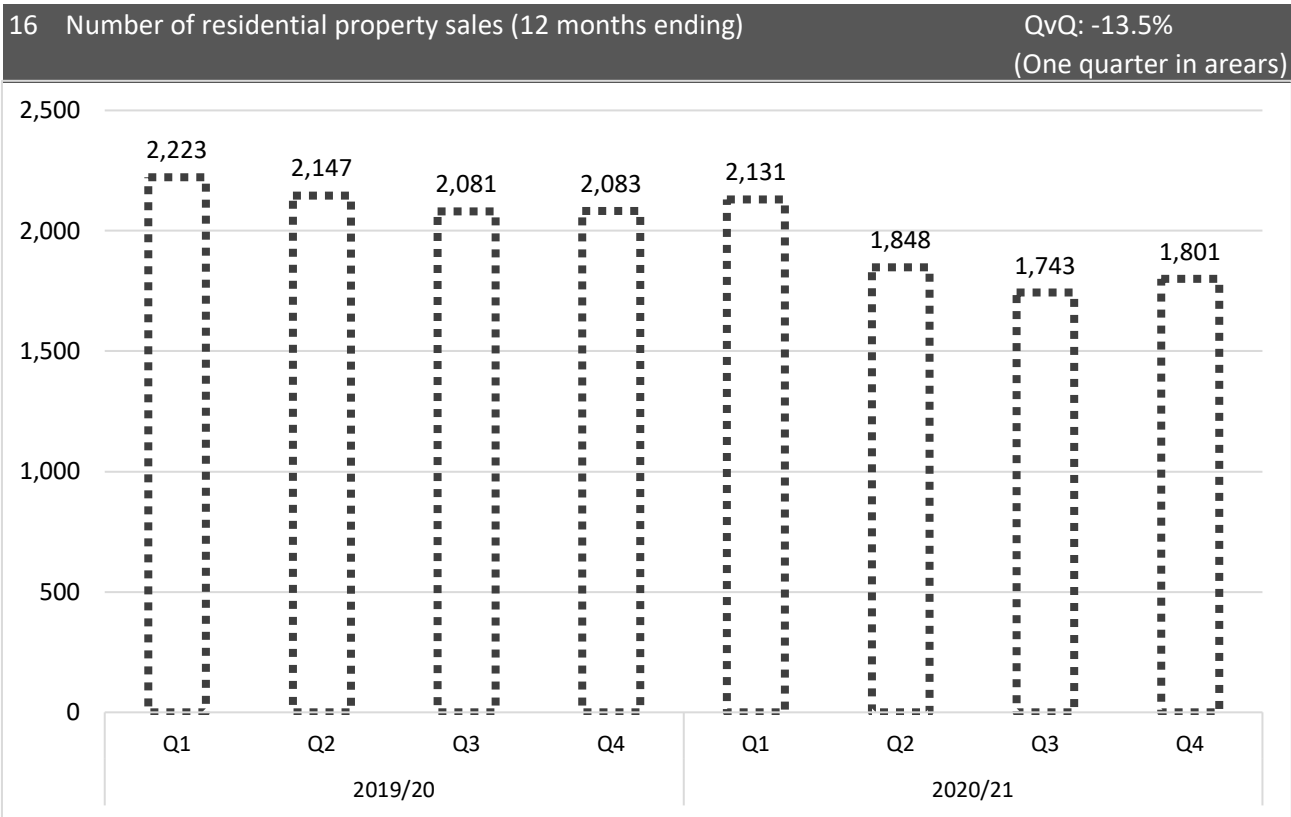
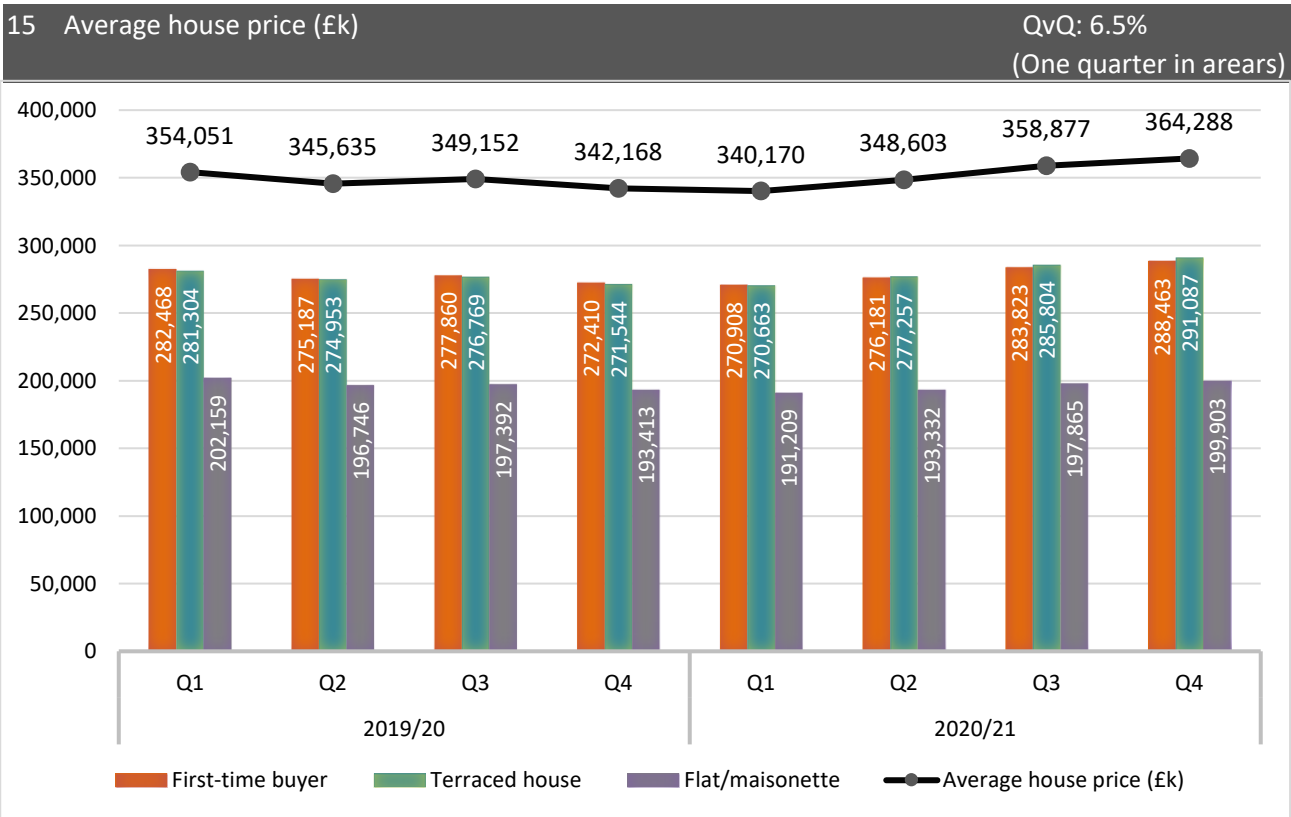
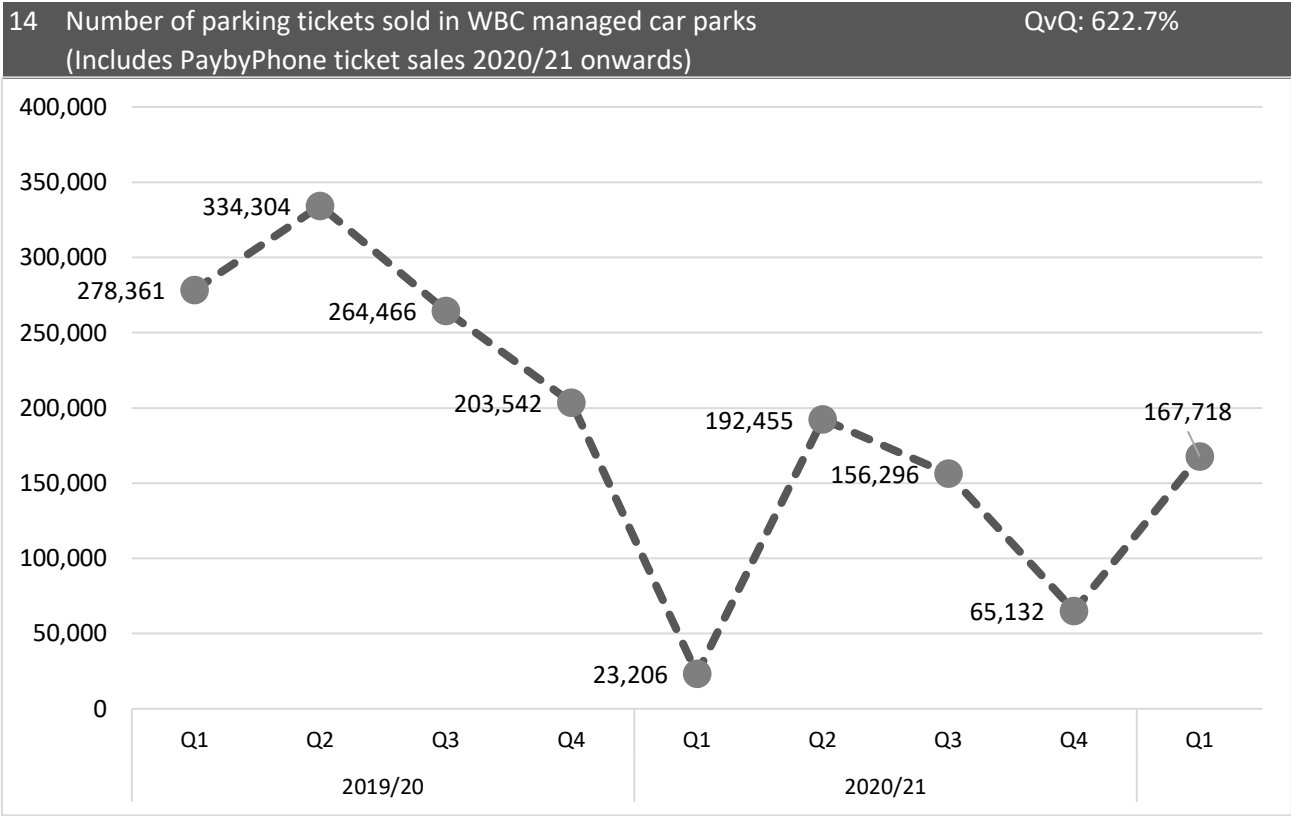
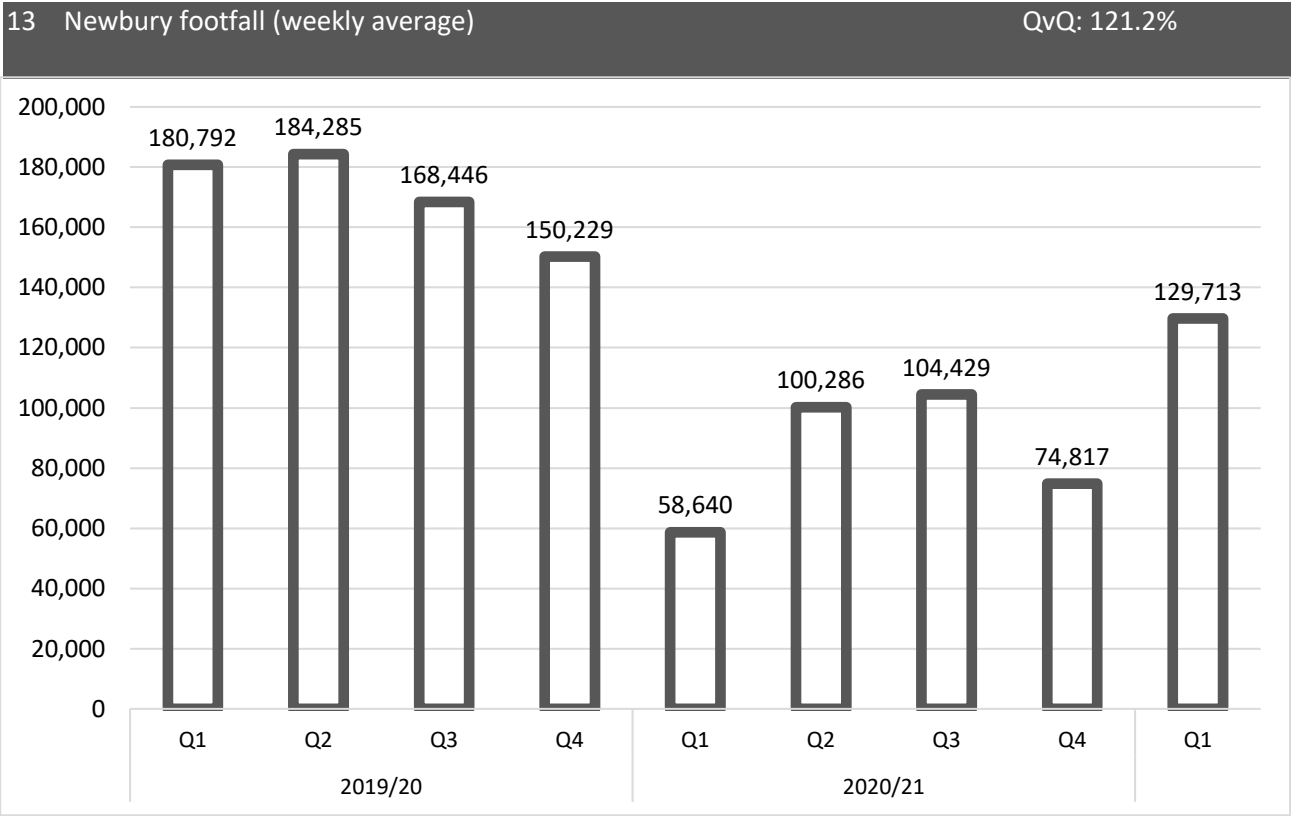


Appendix A: Influencer Measures Dashboard 2020/21 (current qtr v same qtr last year)

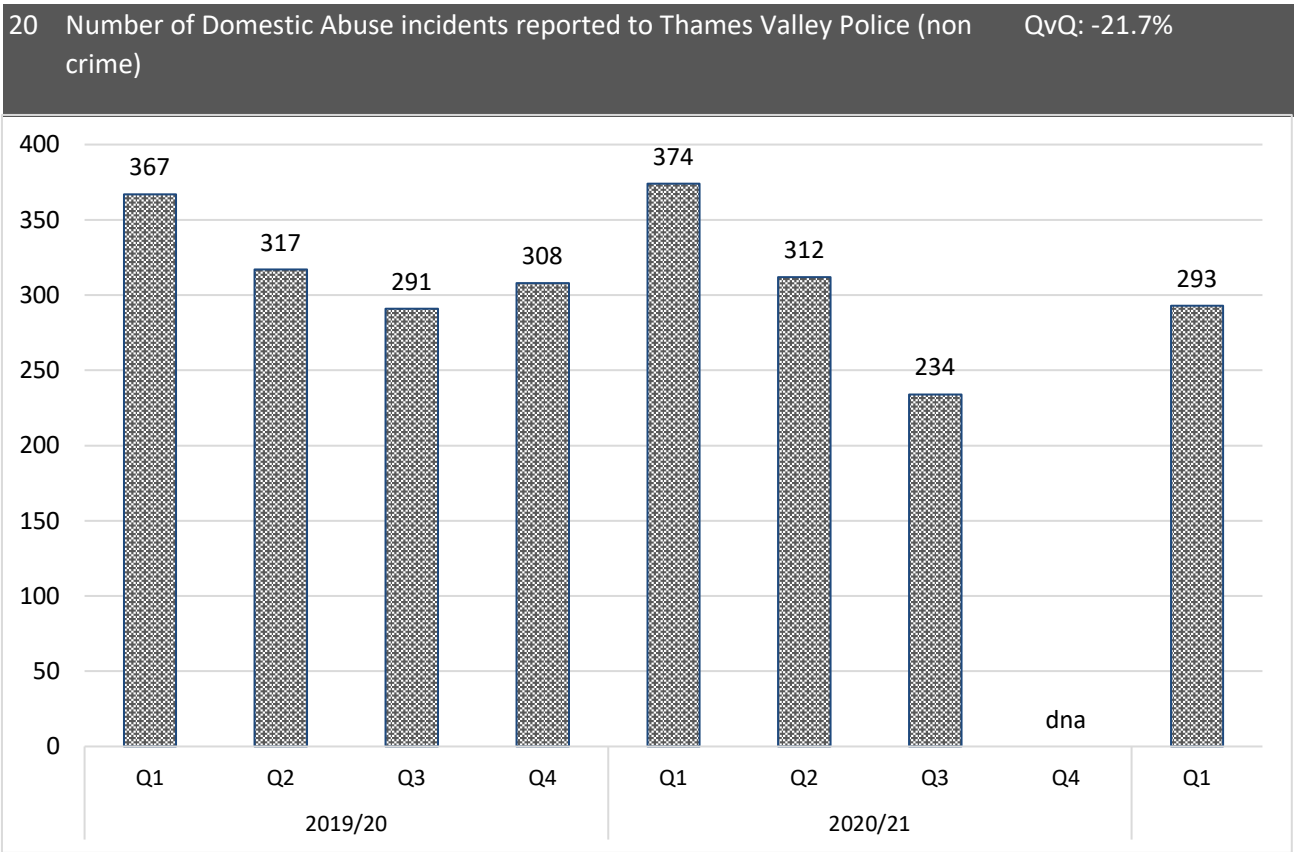
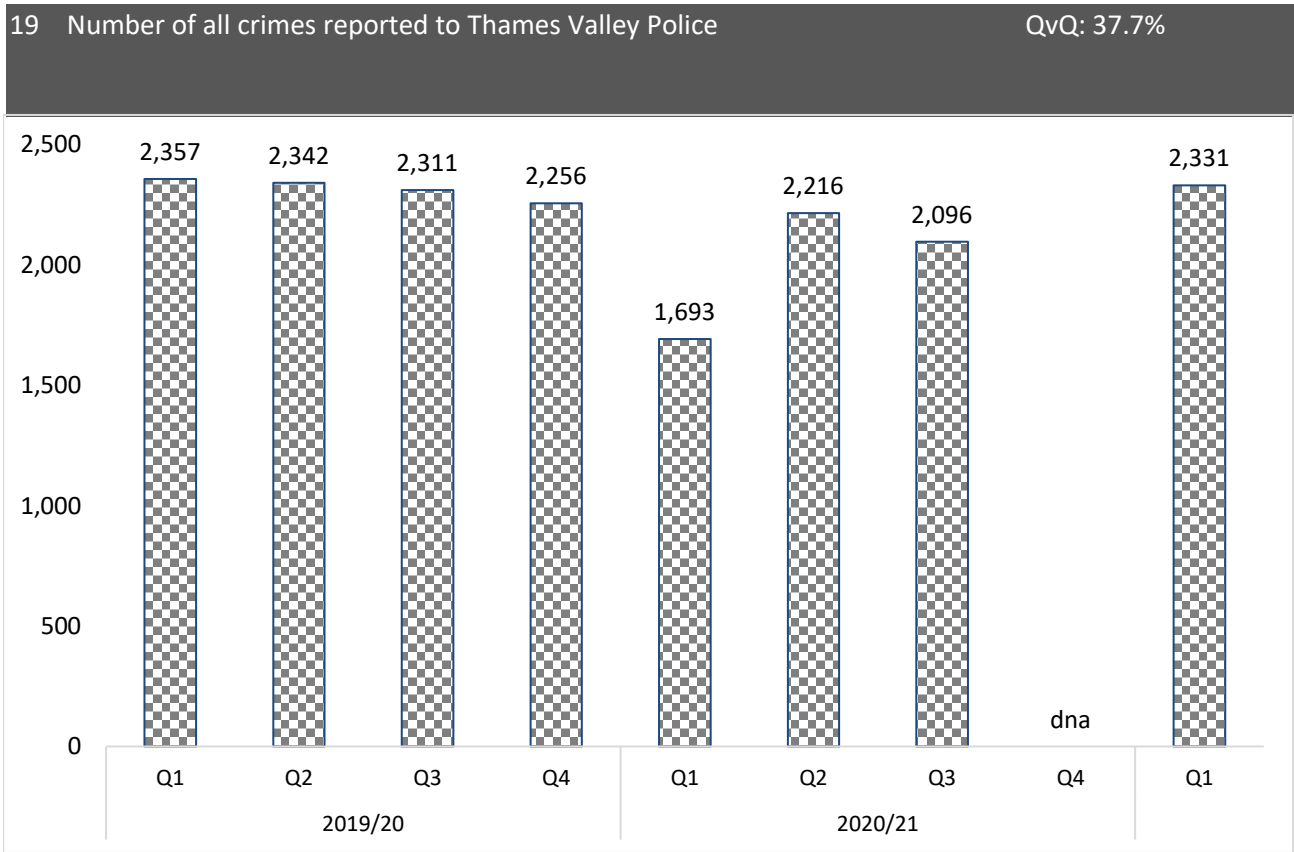
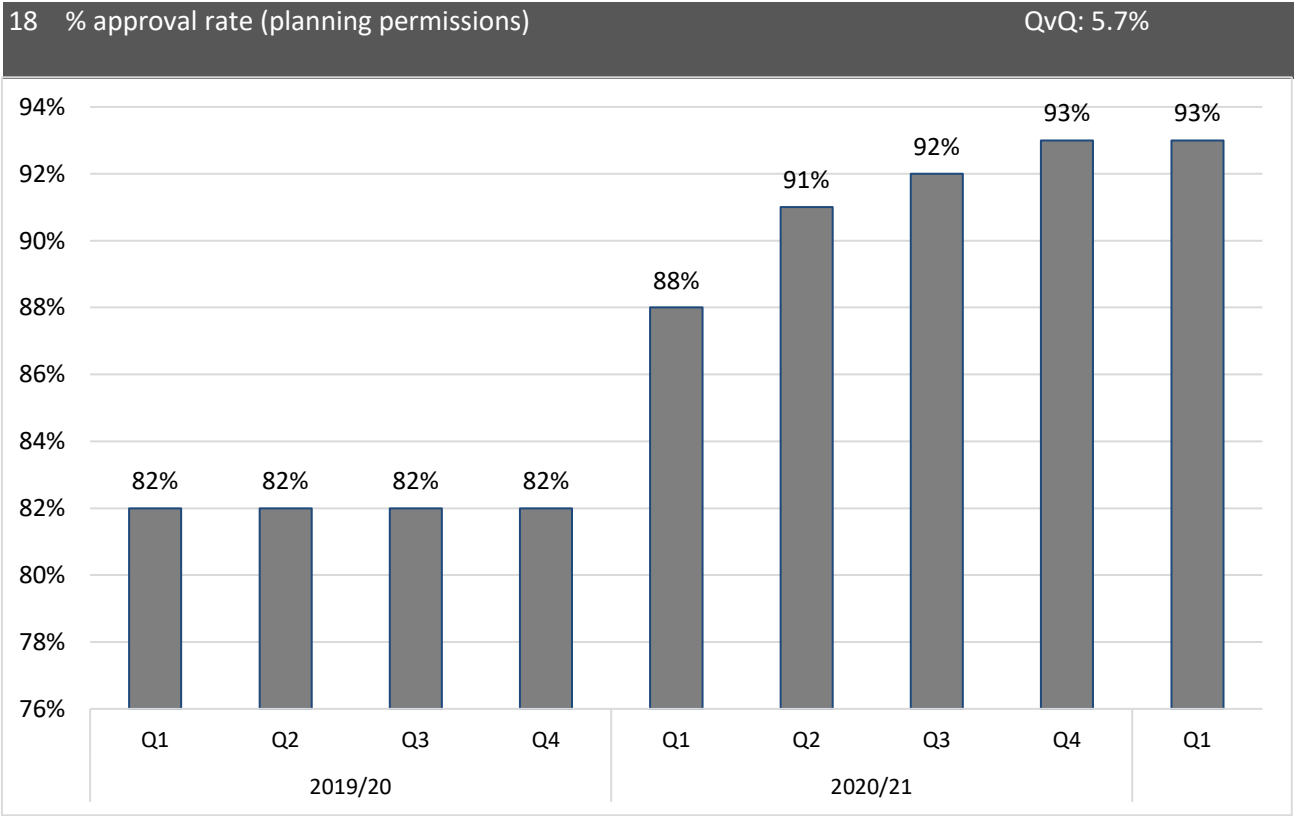
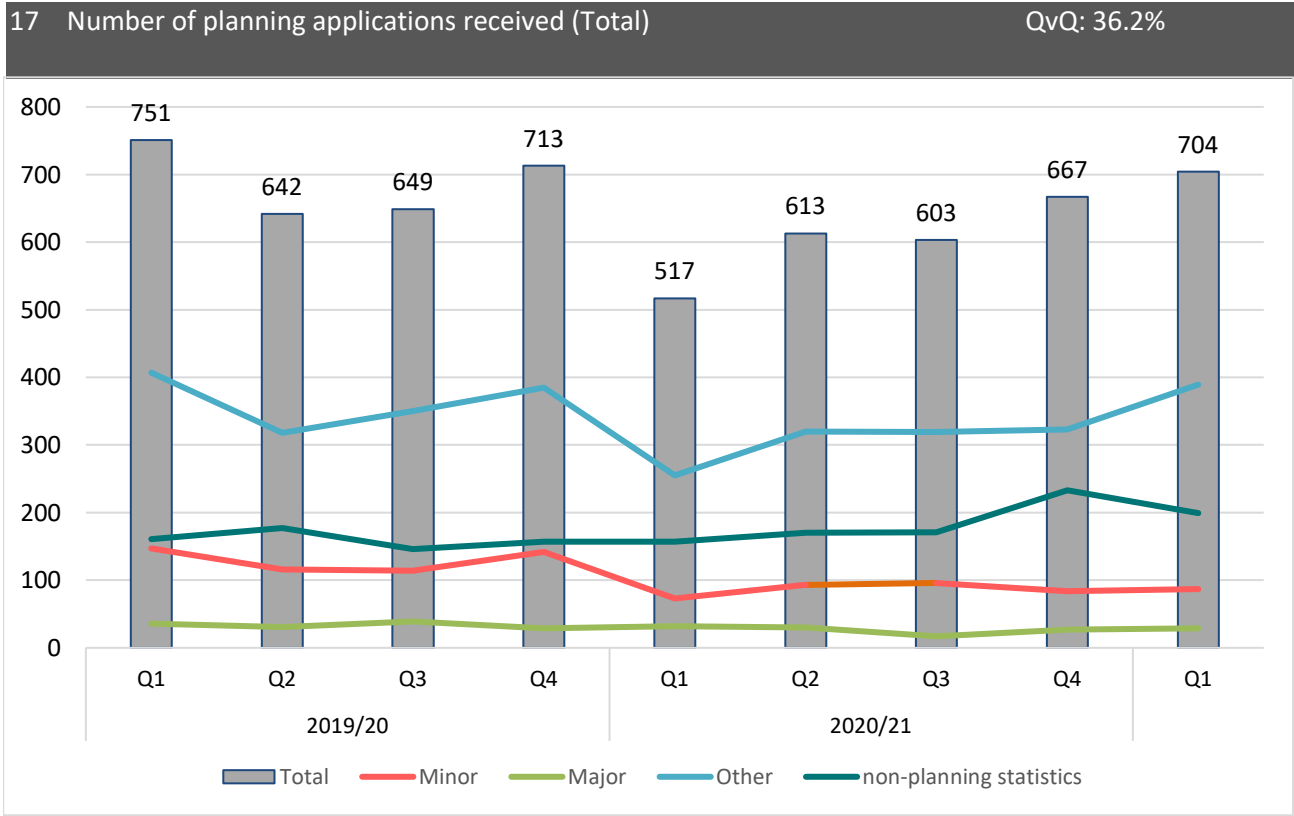
Covid-19 (Teal) | Economy (Grey) | Social Care (blue) | Environment (Green)



Appendix A: Influencer Measures Dashboard 2020/21 (current qtr v same qtr last year)  
Covid-19 (Teal) | Economy (Grey) | Social Care (blue) | Environment (Green)

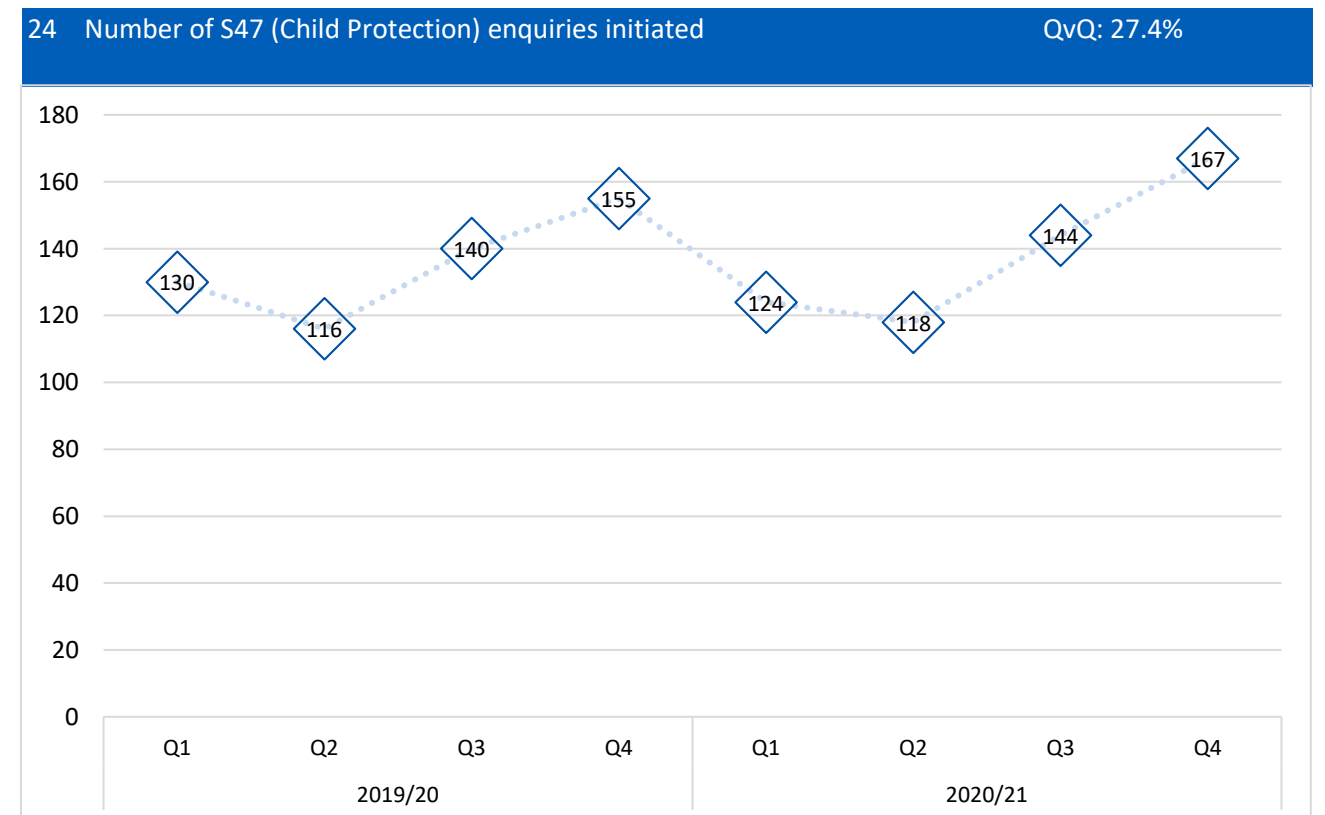
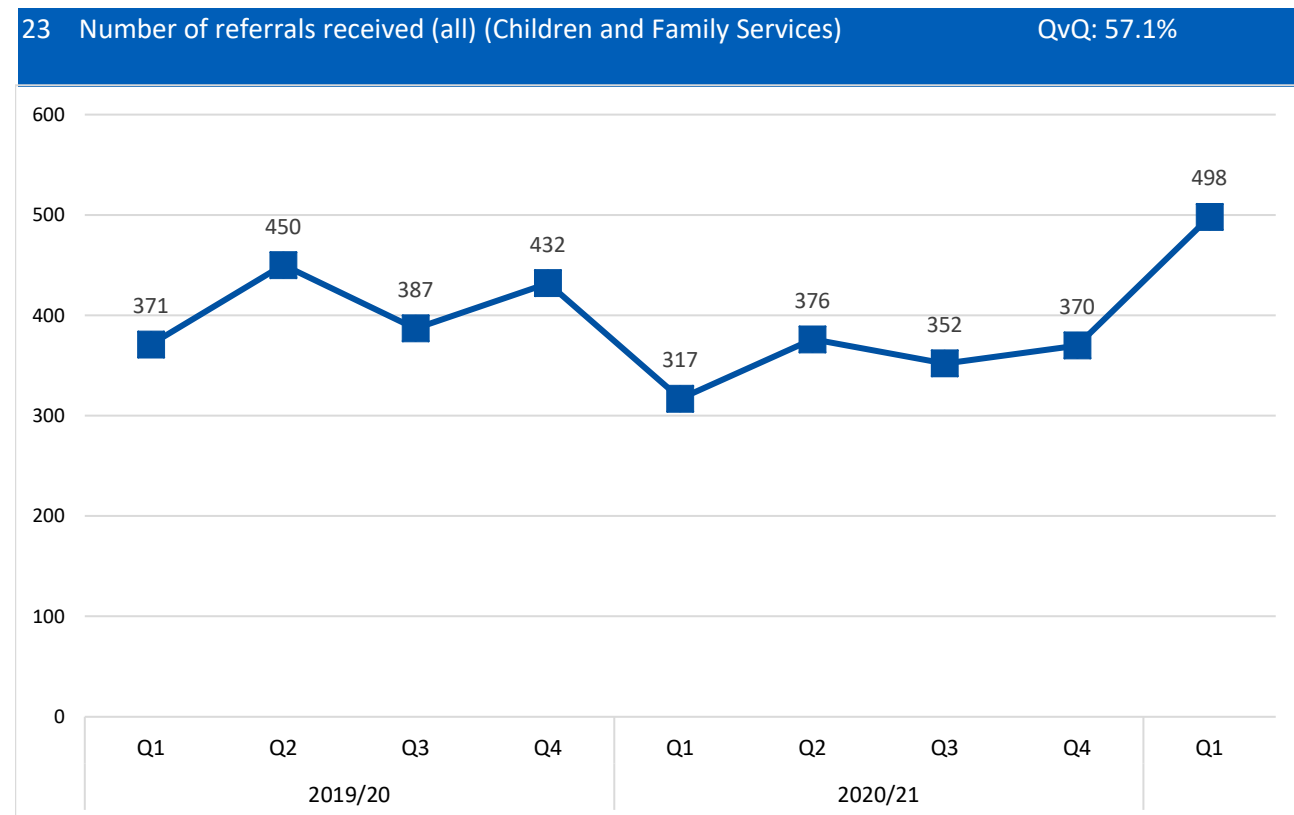
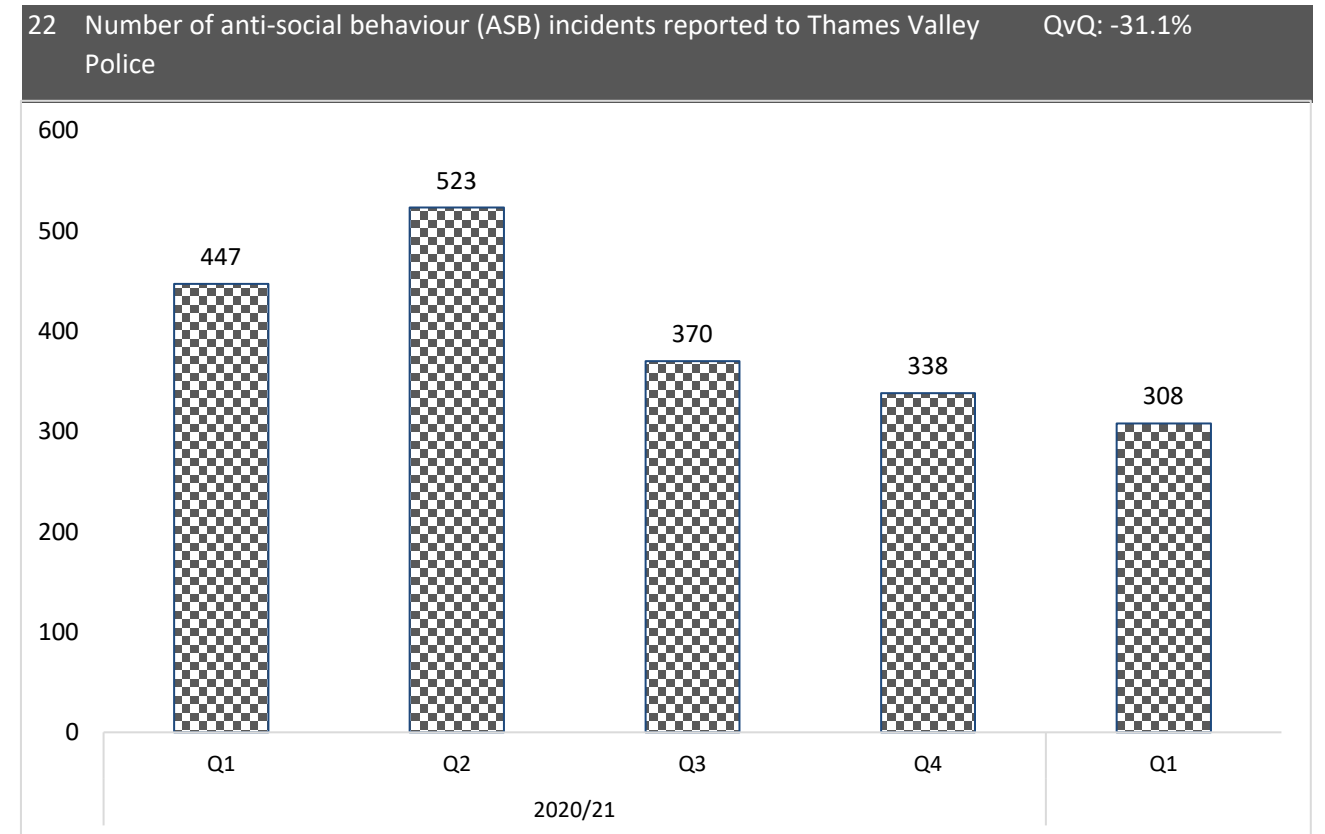
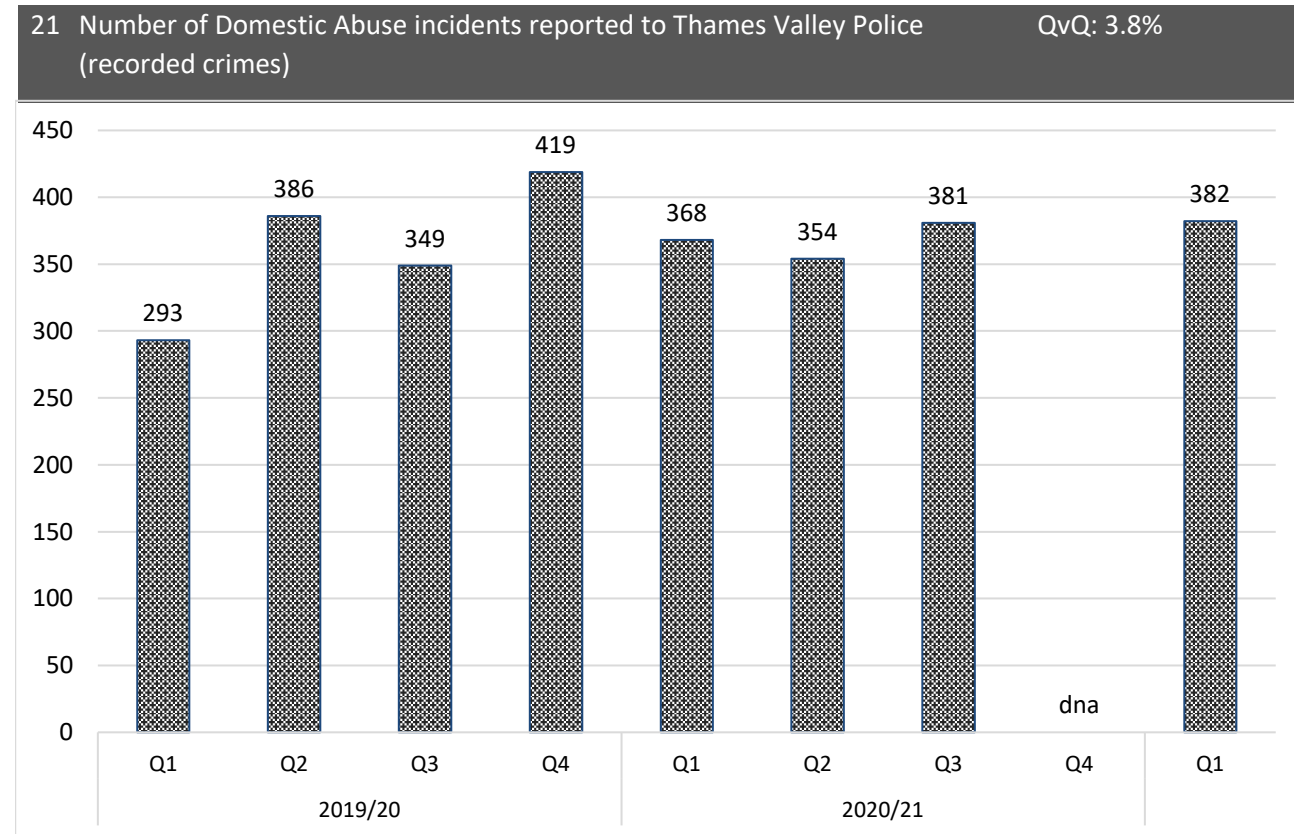


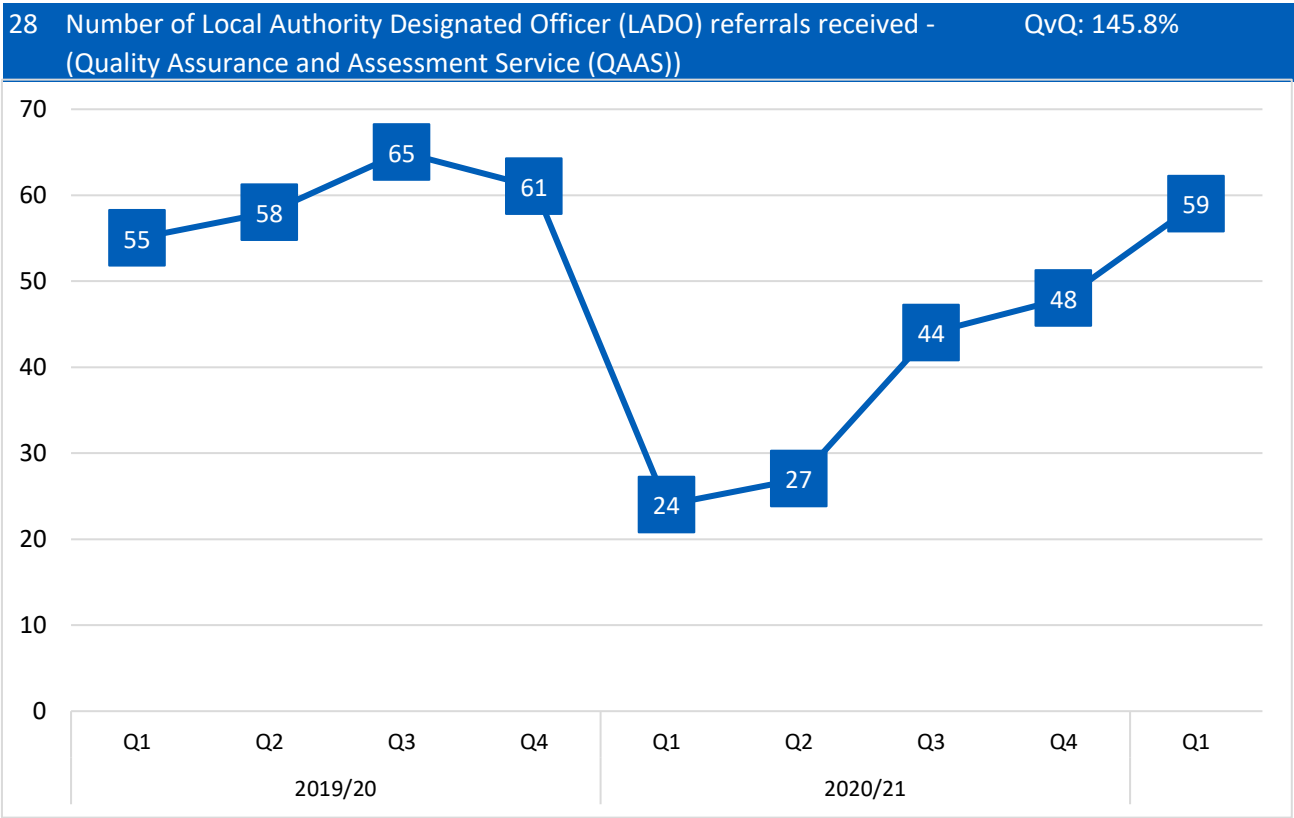
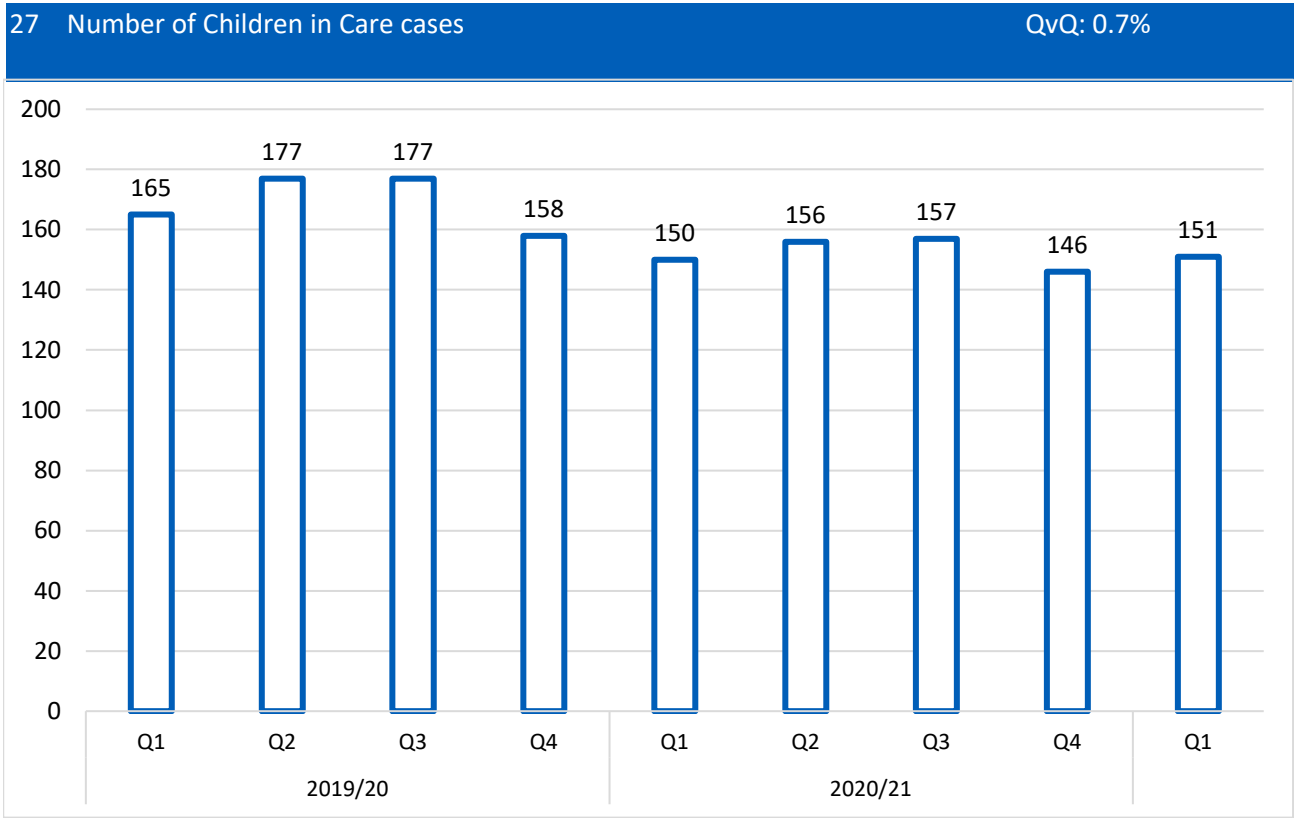
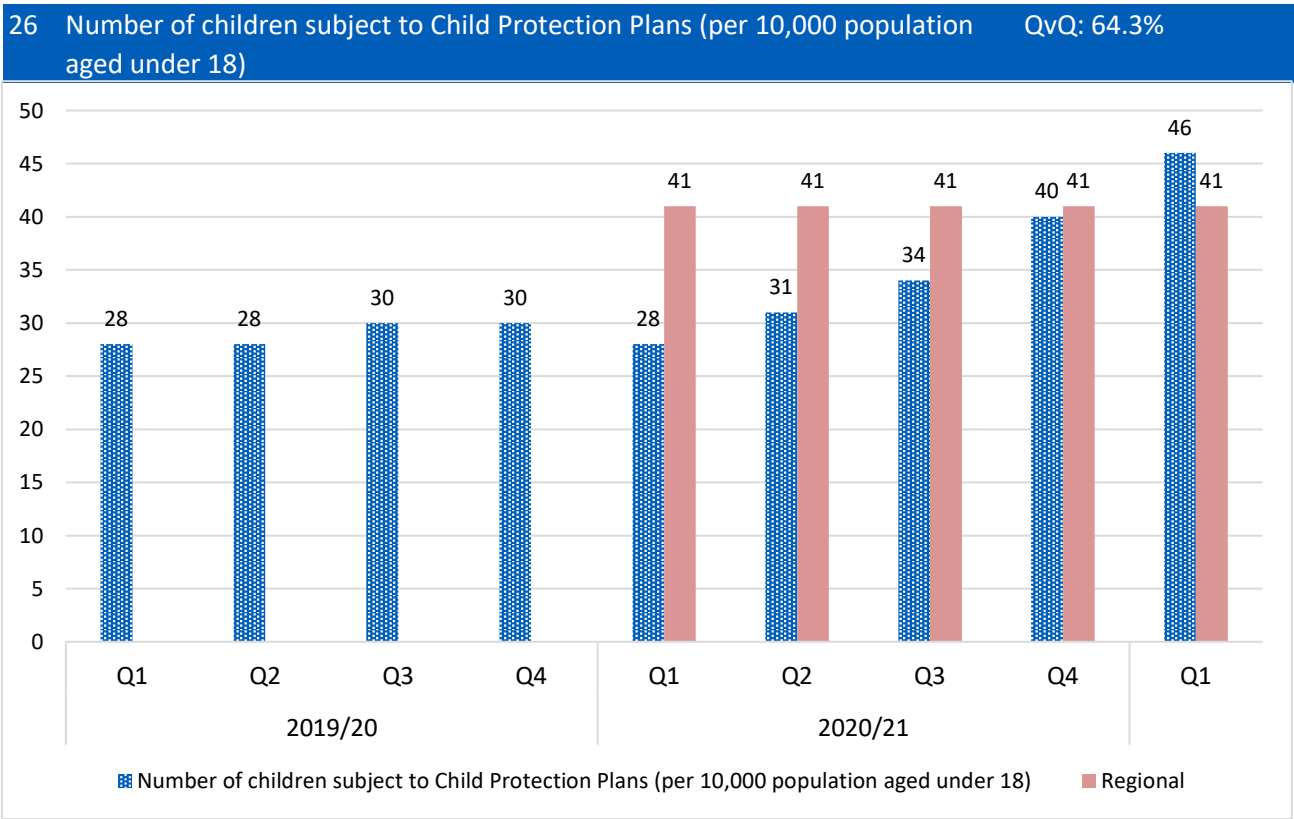
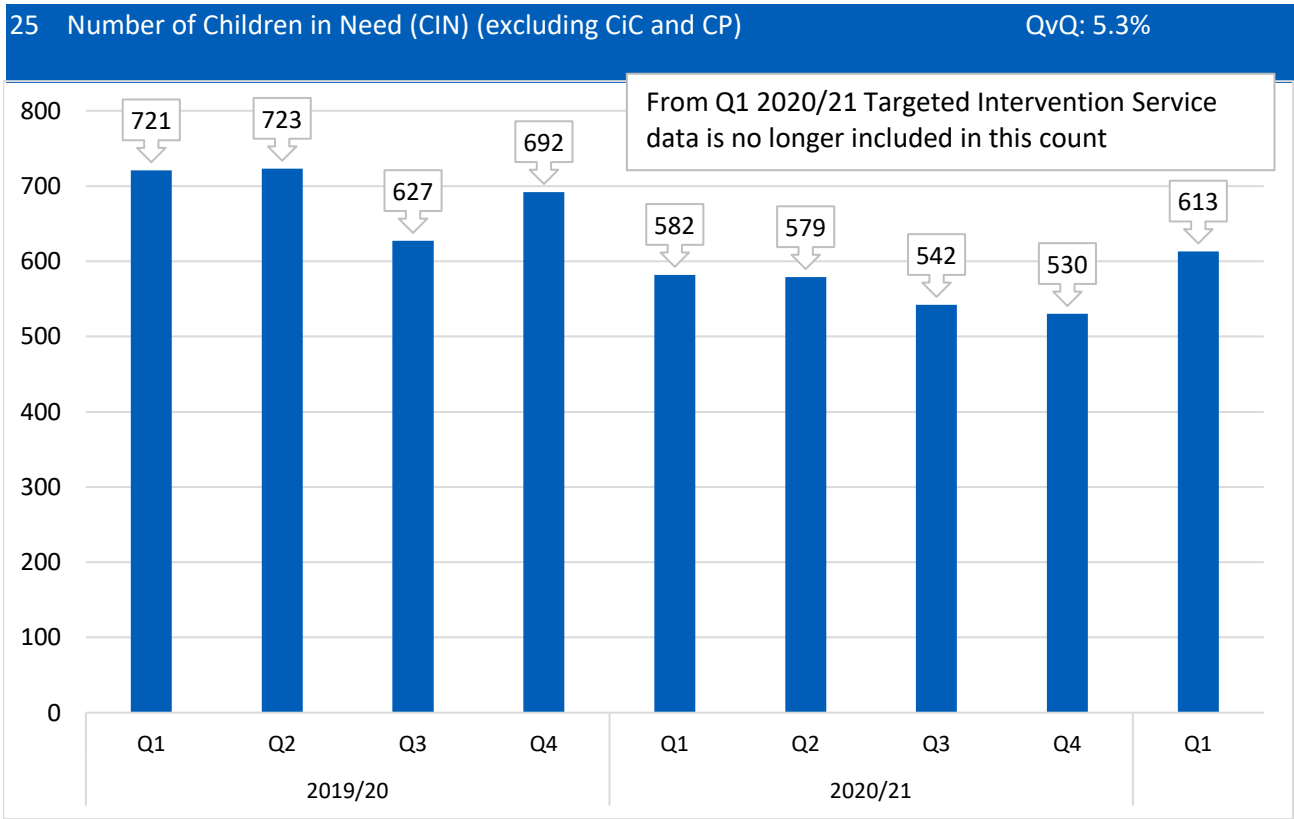
Appendix A: Influencer Measures Dashboard 2020/21 (current qtr v same qtr last year)  
Covid-19 (Teal) | Economy (Grey) | Social Care (blue) | Environment (Green)



## Appendix A: Influencer Measures Dashboard 2020/21 (current qtr v same qtr last year)

Covid-19 (Teal) | Economy (Grey) | Social Care (blue) | Environment (Green)





## Appendix A: Influencer Measures Dashboard 2020/21 (current qtr v same qtr last year)

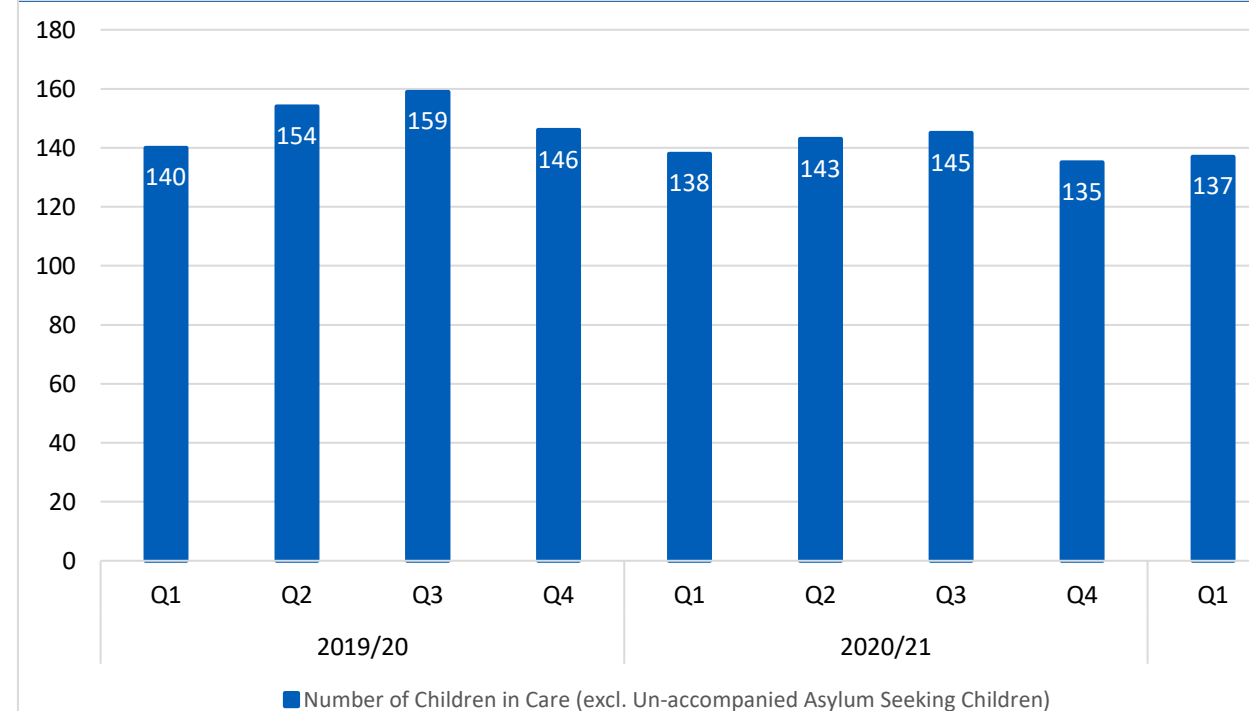
Covid-19 (Teal) | Economy (Grey) | Social Care (blue) | Environment (Green)

### 29 Level of first time entrants into the Youth Justice System (per 100,000 under 10 to 17 year olds) (12 month rolling)

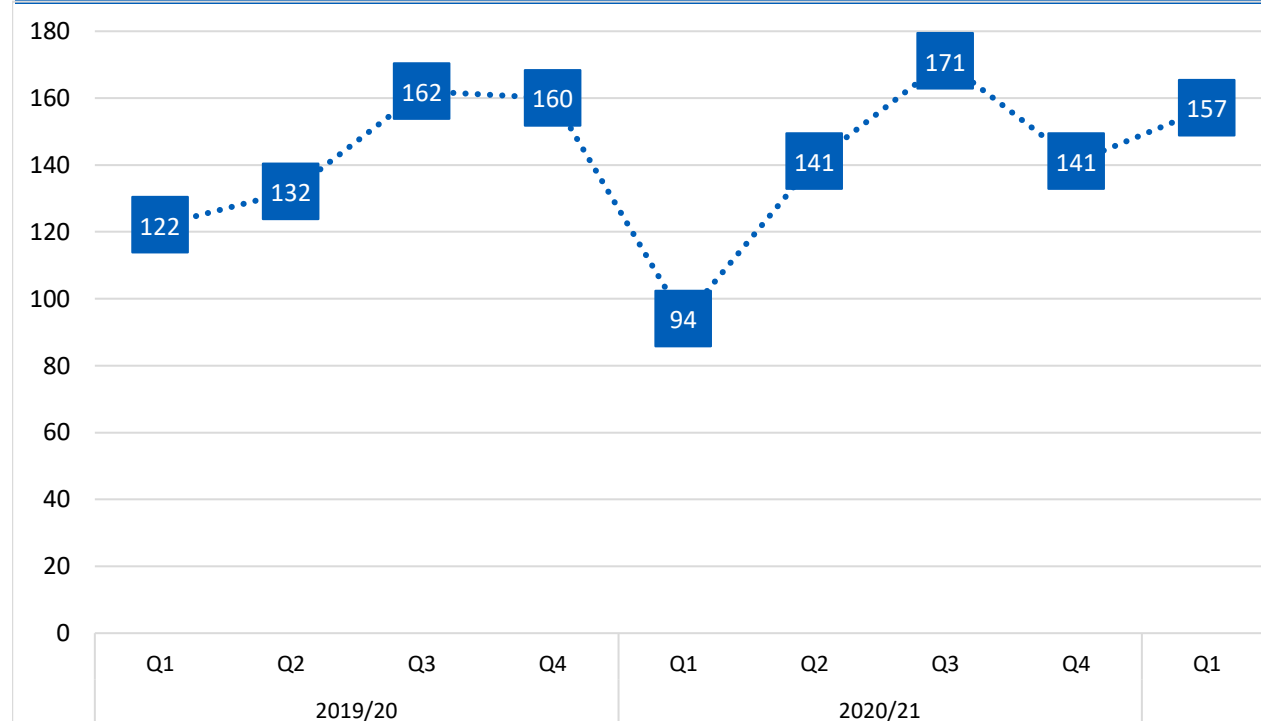
\*\*No data currently available as the PNC computers are not currently accessible at the Ministry of Justice.

Last available data was 139 for January 2019 - December 2019.

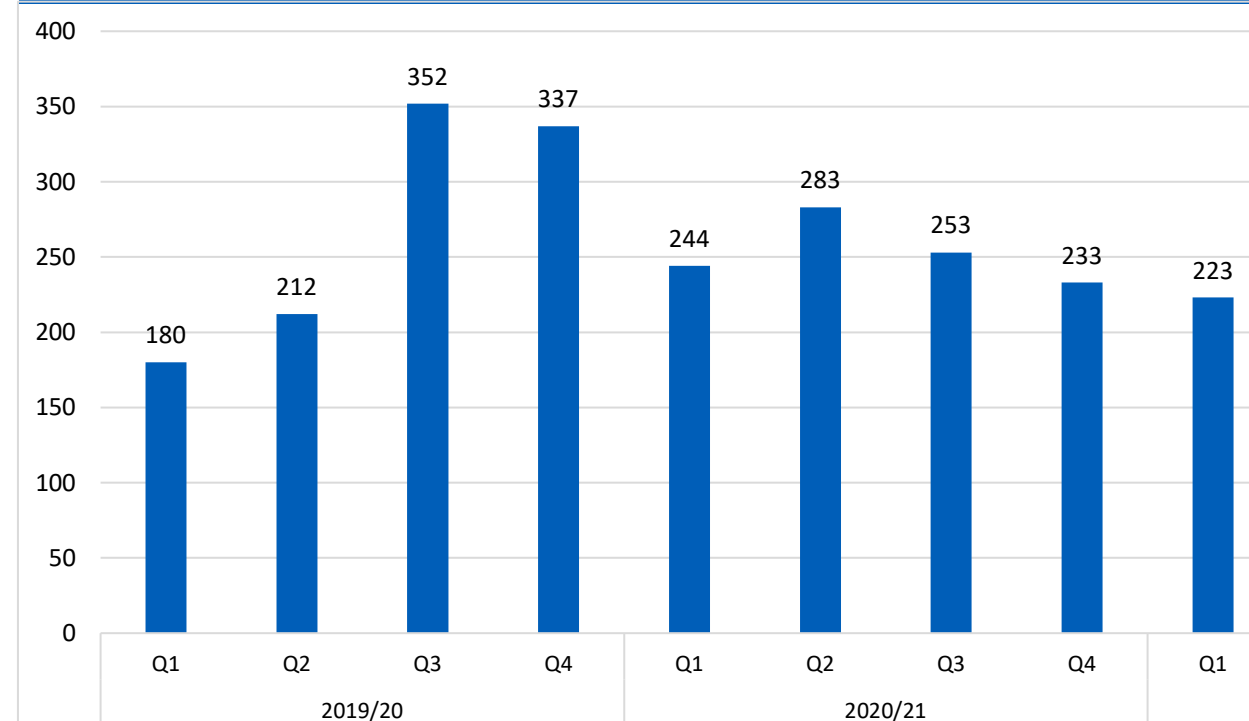
### 30 Number of Children in Care (excl. Un-accompanied Asylum Seeking Children) QvQ: -0.7%



### 31 Number of referrals to the Emotional Health Triage (EHT) QvQ: 67.0%



### 32 Number of active involvements receiving intervention from the Emotional health Academy (EHA)(Total CYP) QvQ: -8.6%

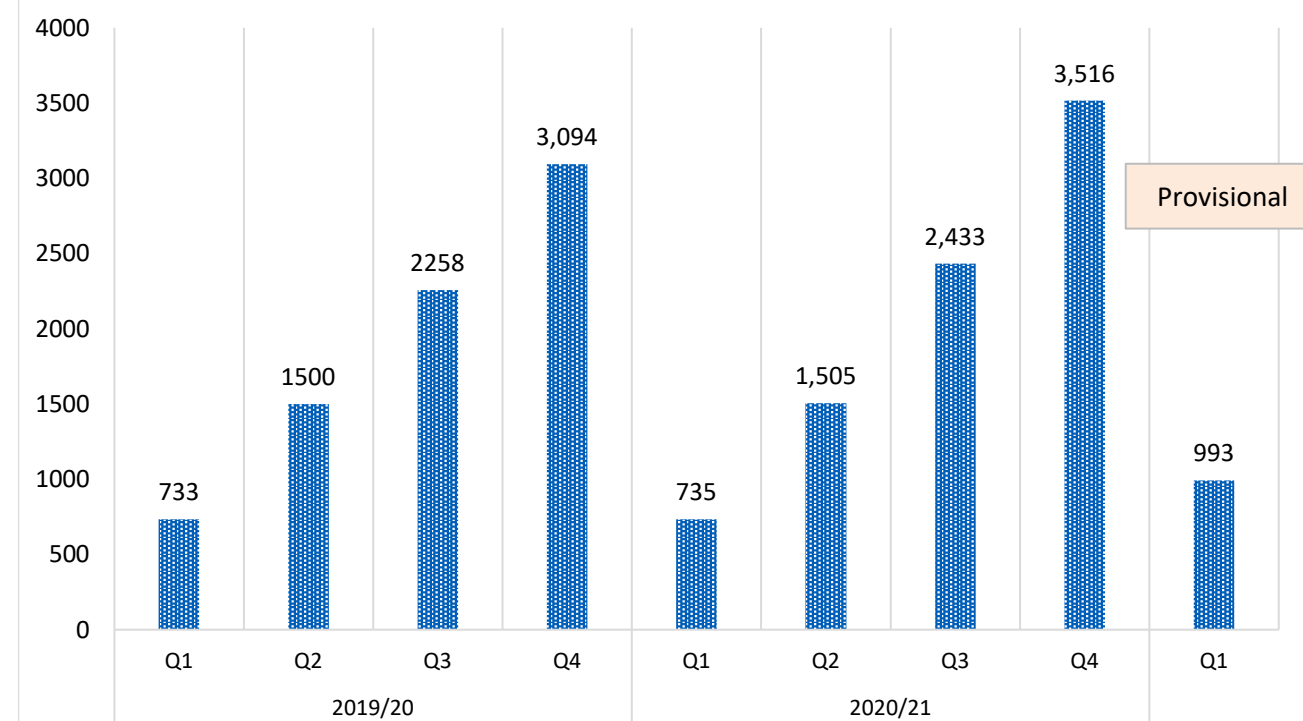


## Appendix A: Influencer Measures Dashboard 2020/21 (current qtr v same qtr last year)

Covid-19 (Teal) | Economy (Grey) | Social Care (blue) | Environment (Green)

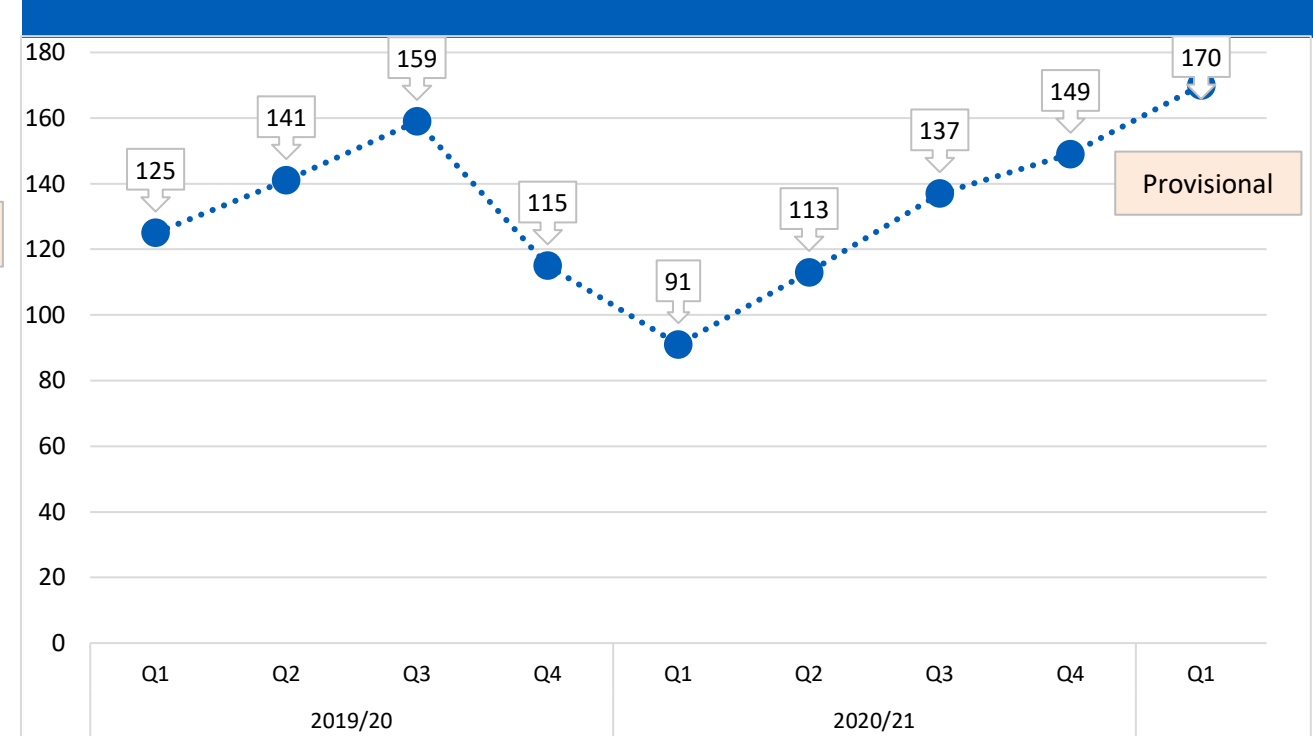
**33 Overall number of new requests for support (ASC)**  
(Total activity measure aligned to STS001 (excludes Blue Badges))

QvQ: 35.1%



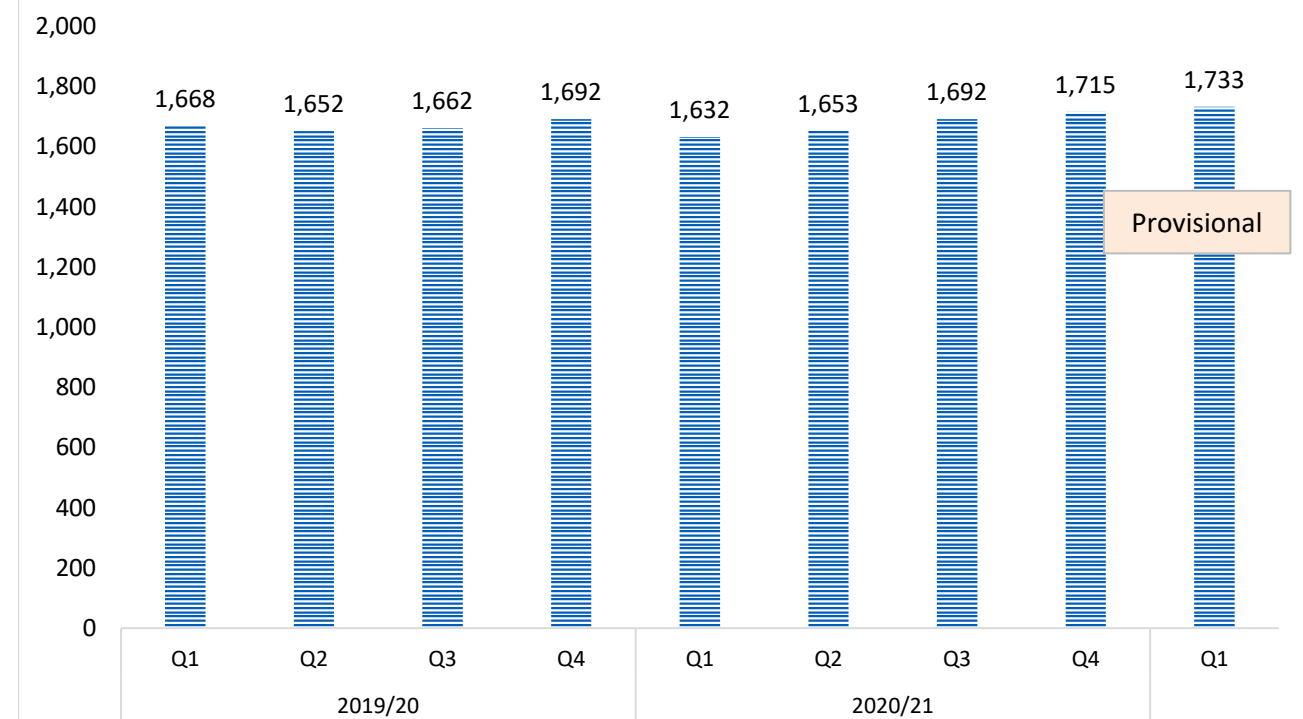
**34 Number of adult safeguarding enquiries (S42) opened**

QvQ: 86.8%



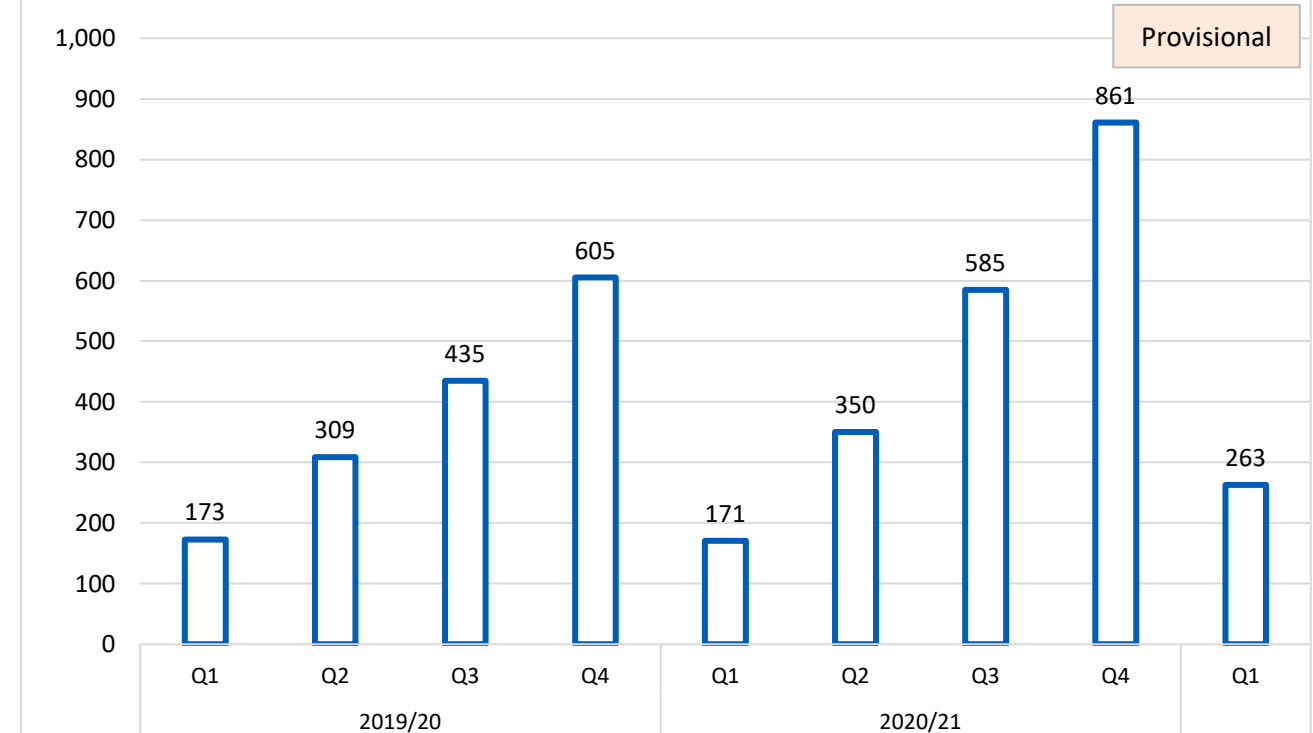
**35 Current Long Term Support client (LTS All Ages)**  
(incl. community, residential & nursing care)

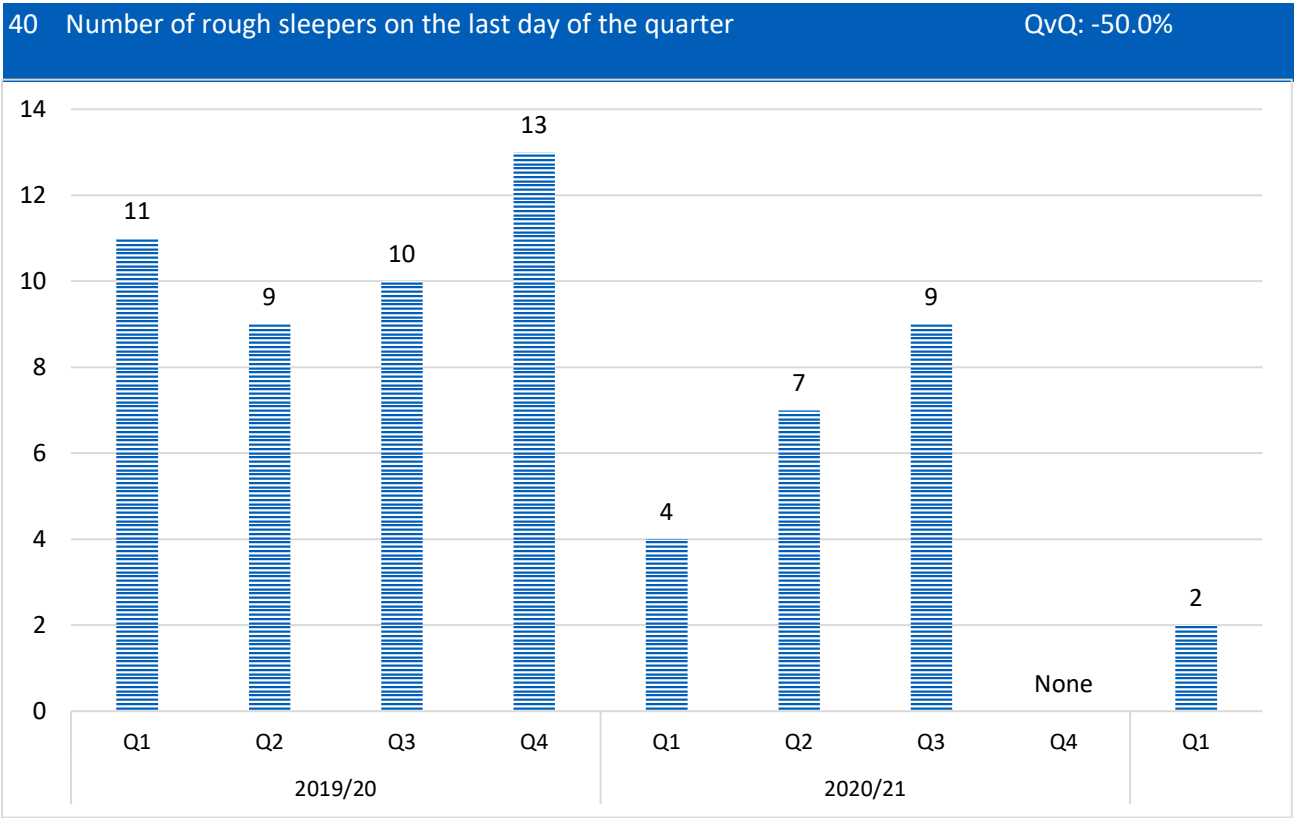
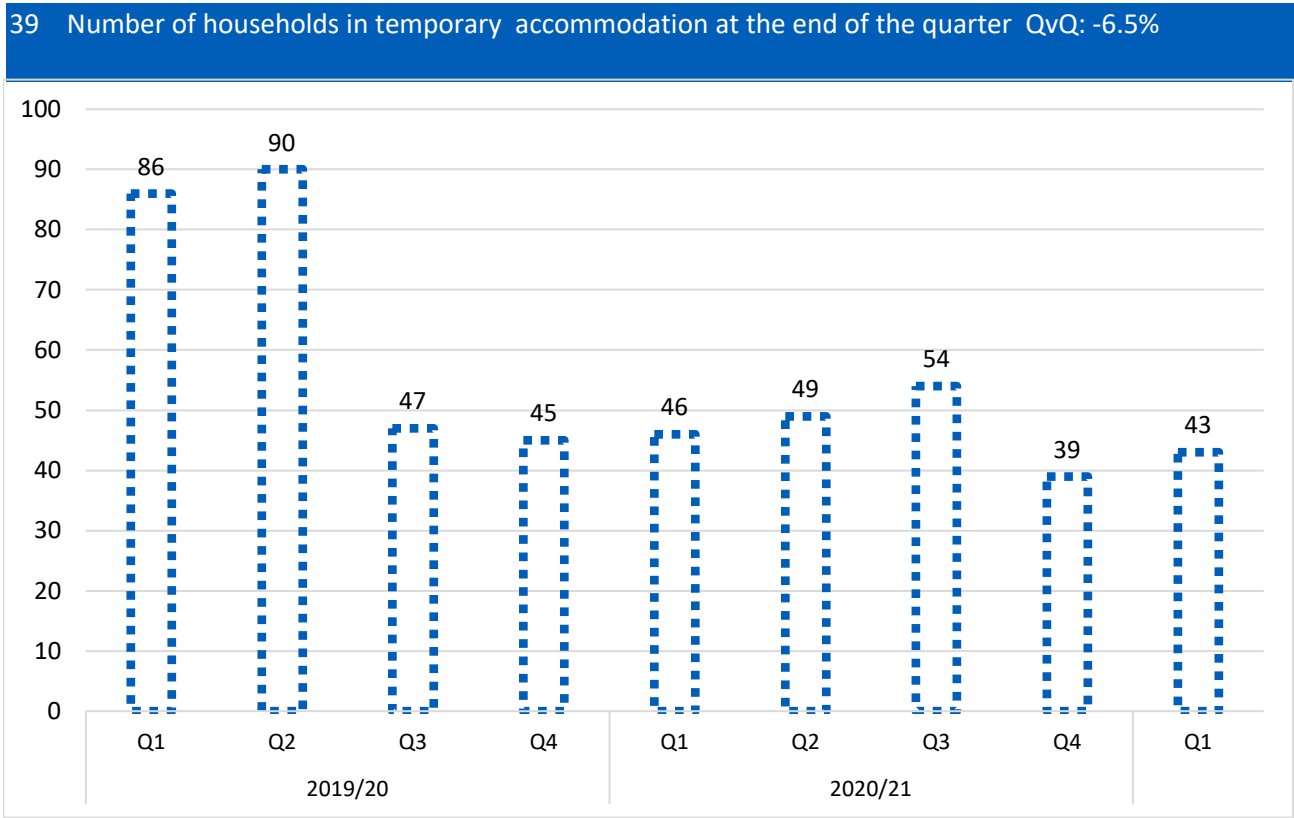
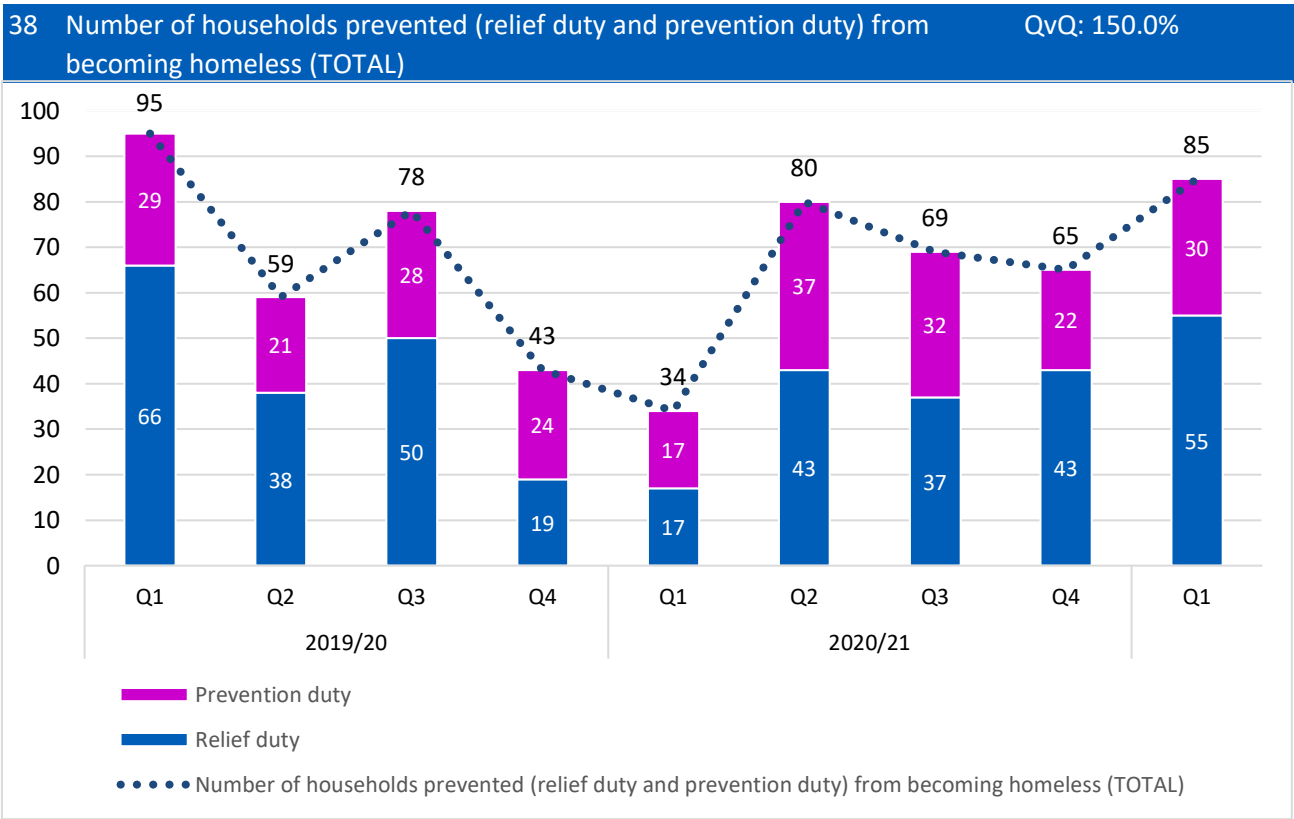
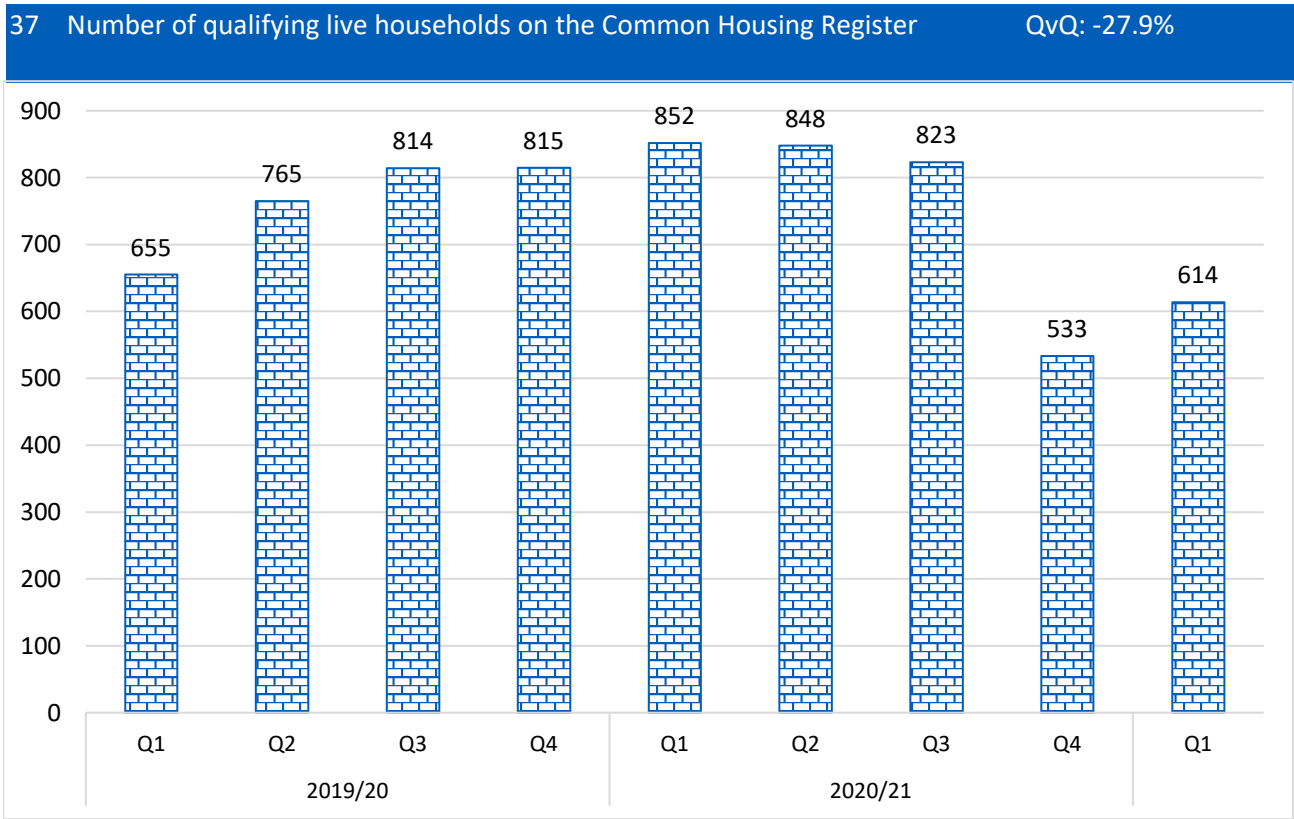
QvQ: 6.2%



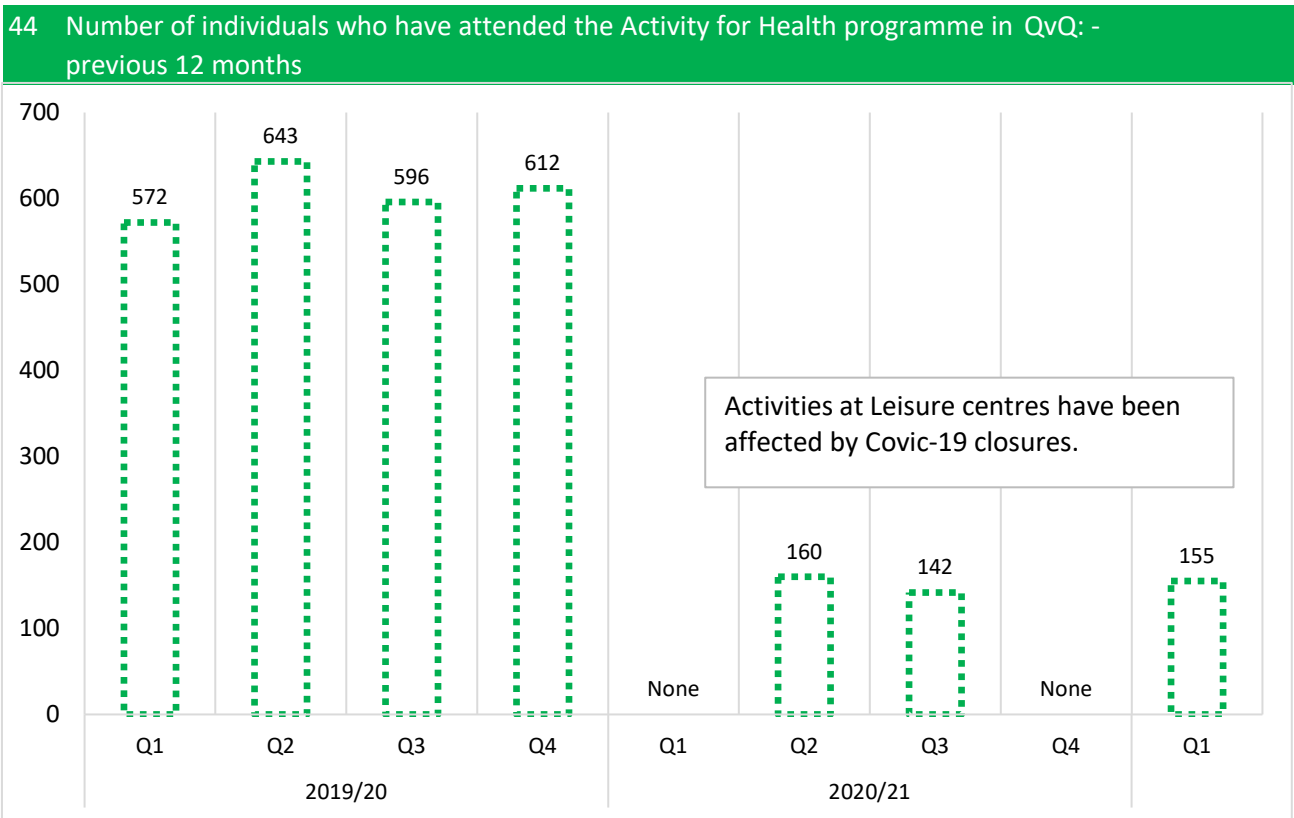
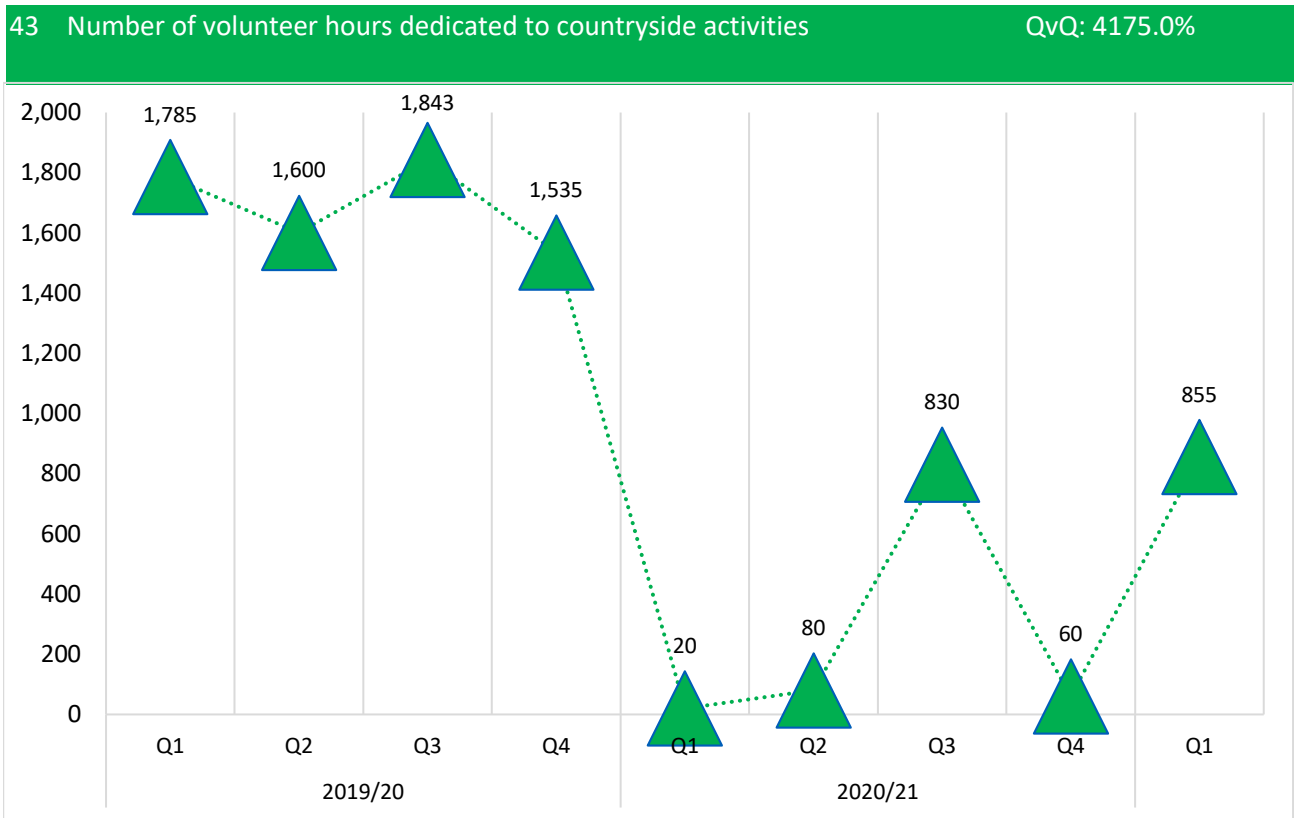
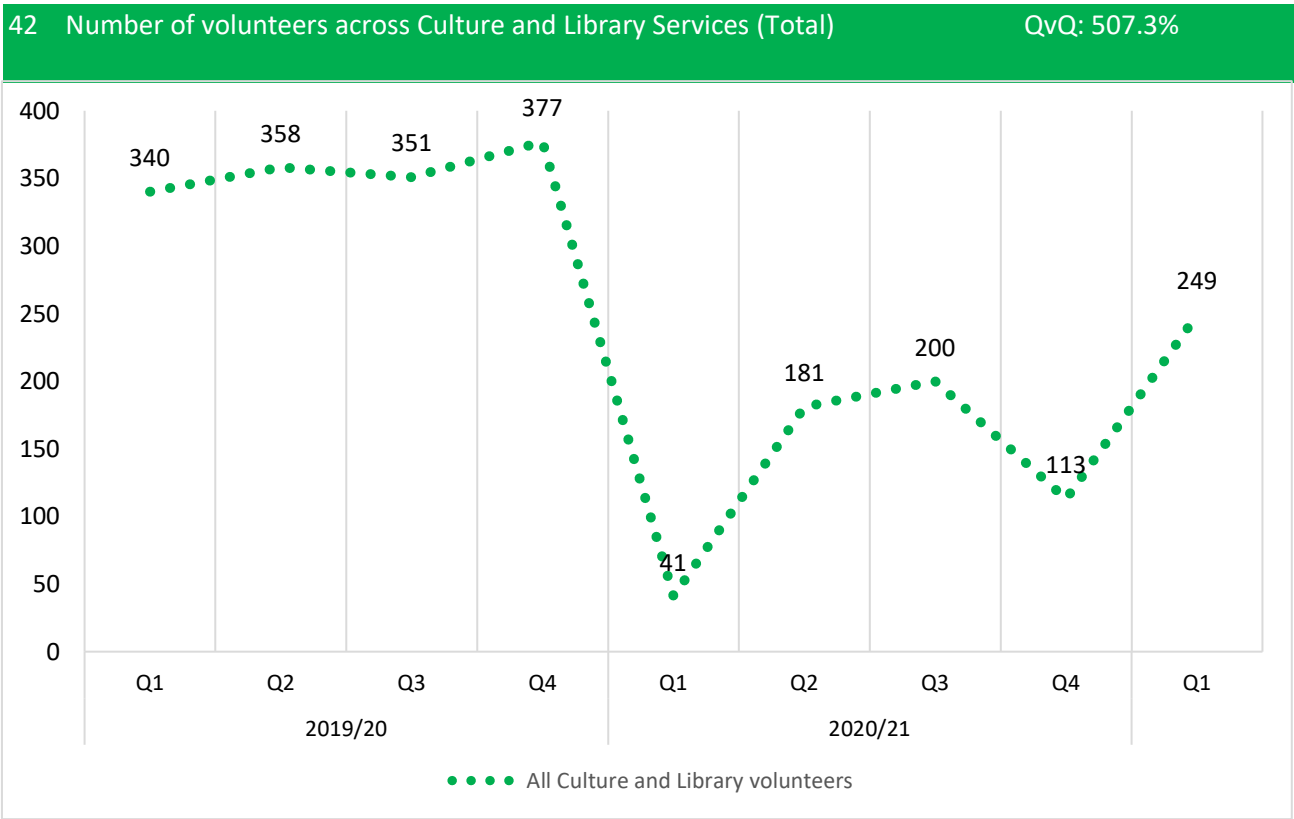
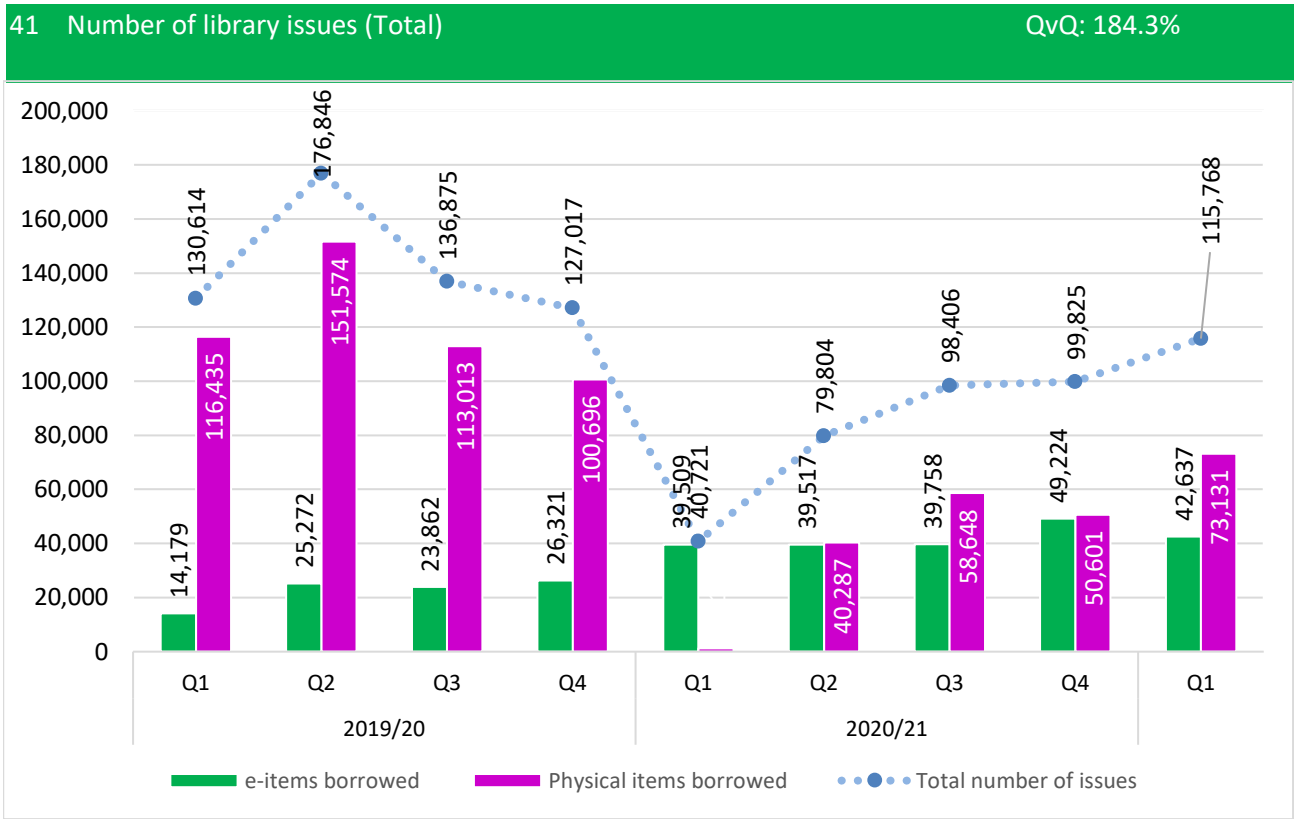
**36 Number of people accessing reablement (Short Term support to maximise independence) (cumulative ytd)**

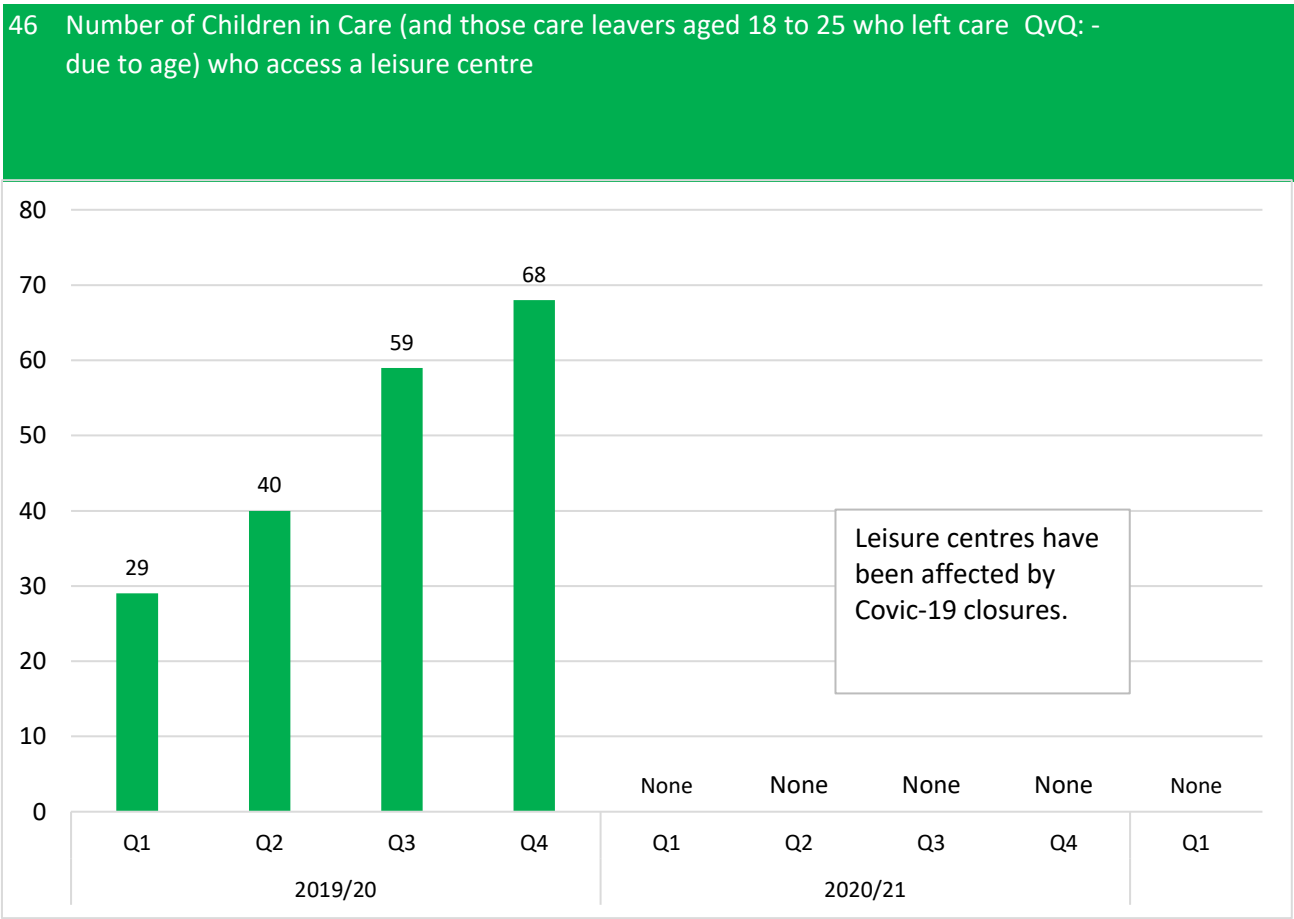
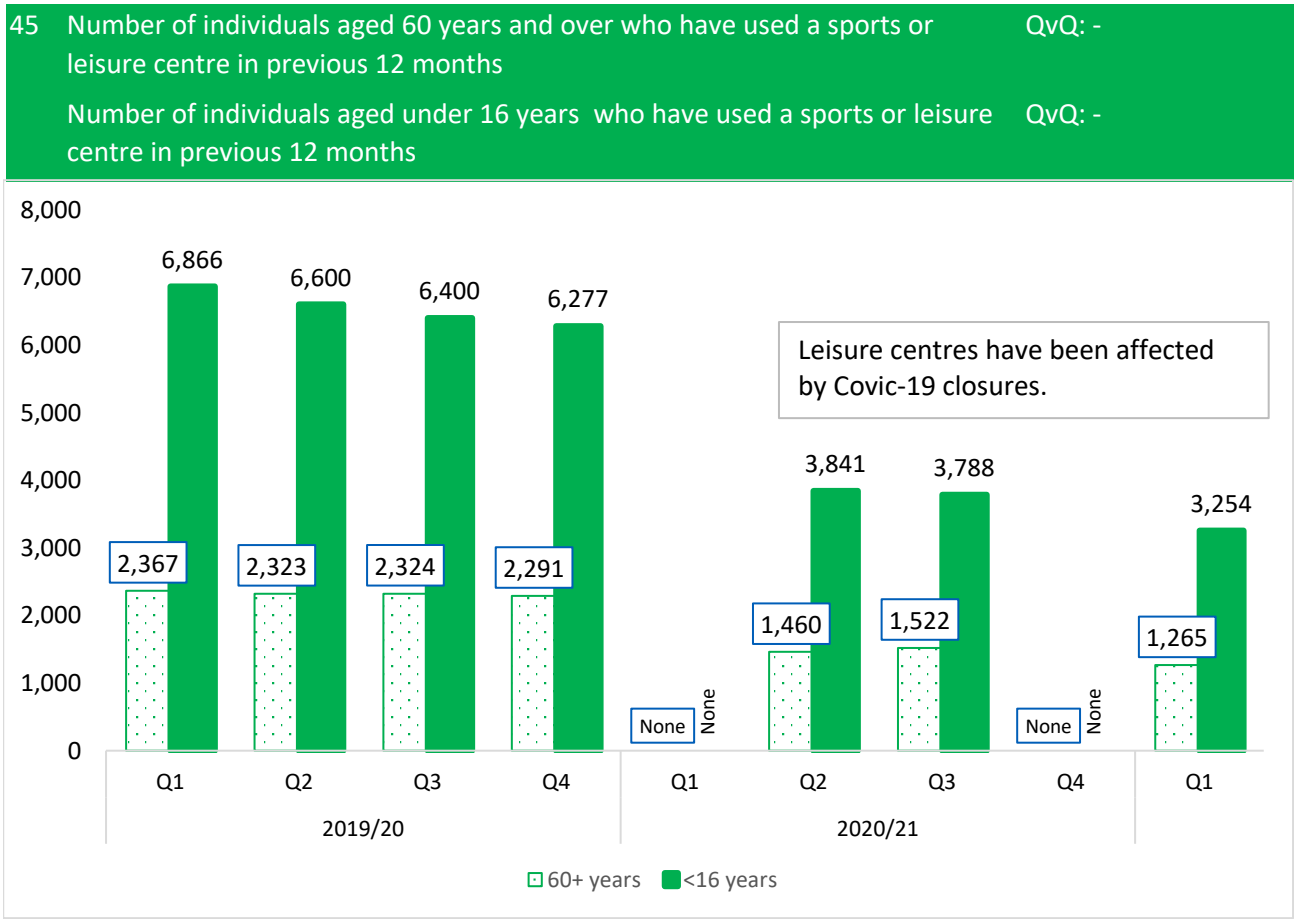
QvQ: 53.8%

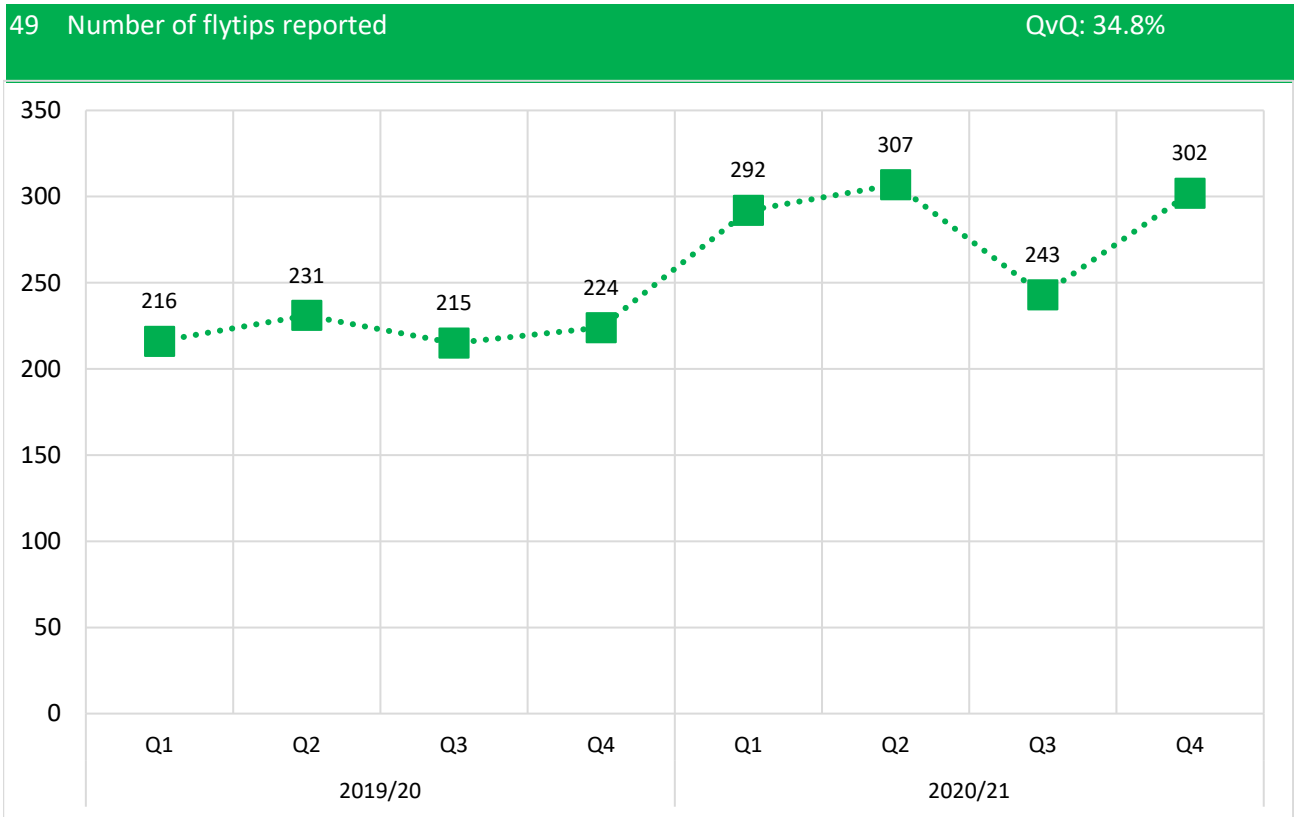
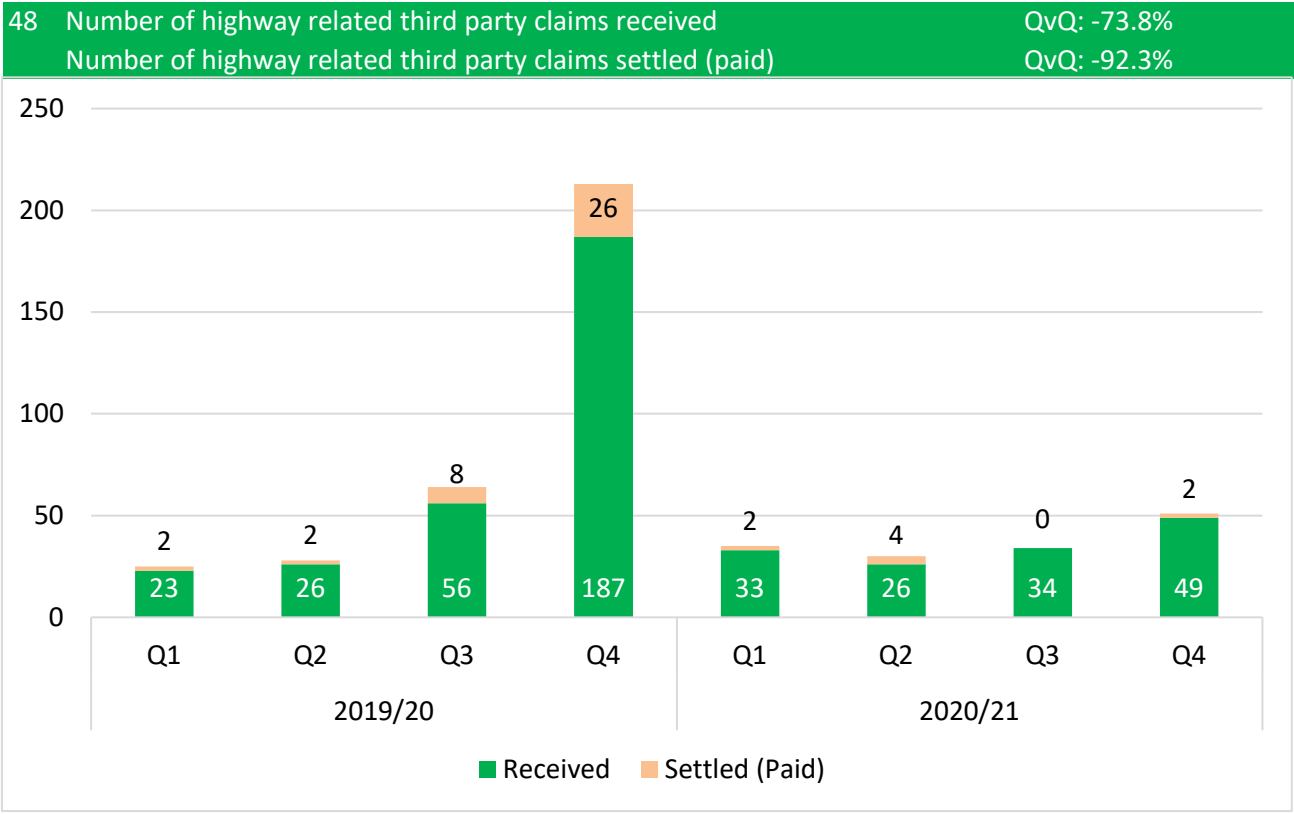
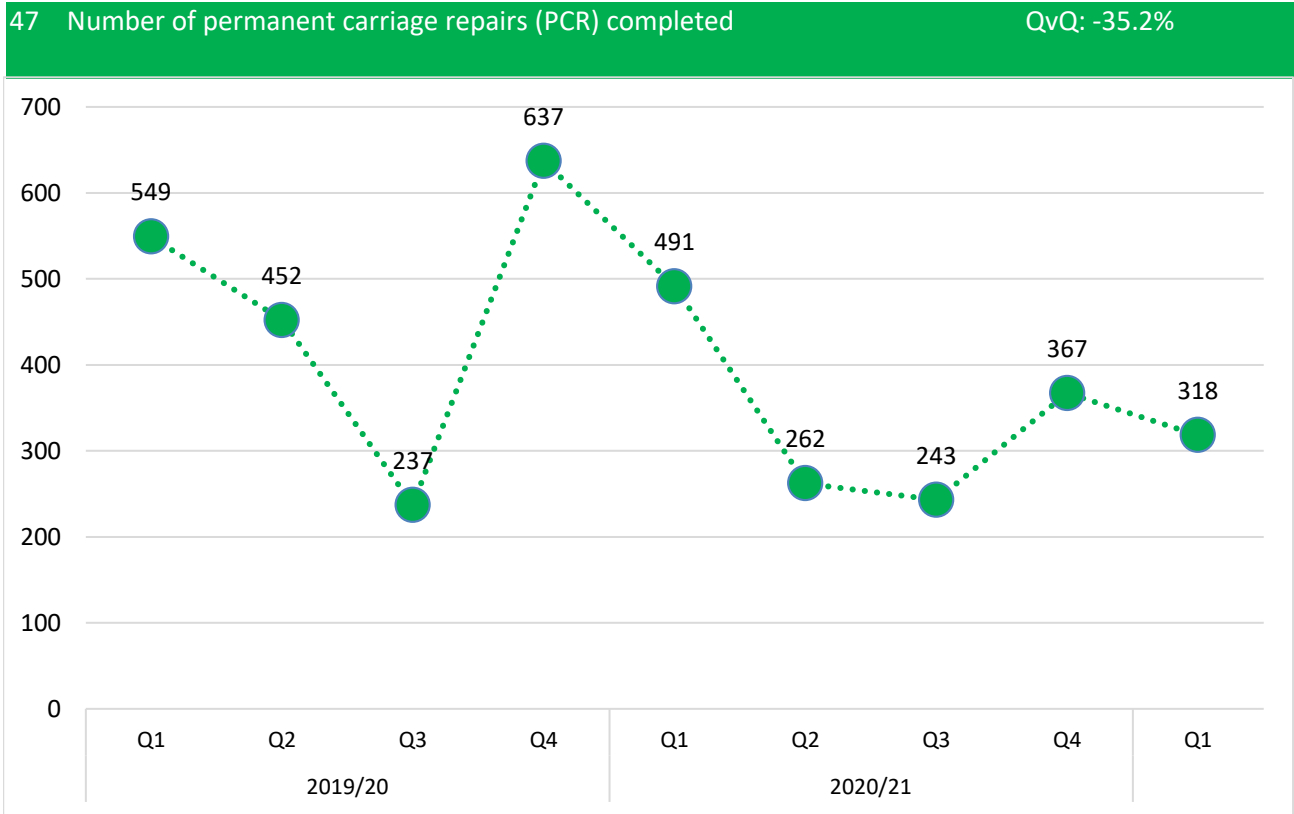












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Andy Sharp / Pete Campbell			Children and Family Services				Q1 2021/22	AMBER
Indicator Ref: CBacfs15			% of Children in Care where the child has been visited in the past 6 weeks (or 12 weeks if this is the agreed visiting schedule)				Type: Snapshot %	
Executive	2019/20 Year End	2020/21 Year End	2021/22				Target	Polarity
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
RAG	■	■	◆				≥95%	Higher is better
Qrtly outturn	-	-	-					
YTD outturn	91.8% (145/158)	60.3% (88/146)	78.1% (118/151)					
<b>REASON FOR AMBER:</b>  During this period of Covid disruption we have chosen to only record ‘face to face’ visits Briefly describe what has happened: Describe / outline the factors which have led to this measure / activity at risk of not being achieved, e.g. system failure / lack of staff resource / outside our control / the weather / contractors in this measure. We also have regular contact with children using virtual means, and when this measure is included we are close to 100%.  <b>REMEDIAL MANAGEMENT ACTION BEING UNDERTAKEN, ALTERNATIVE PLANS AND EXPECTED IMPROVEMENT:</b>  As restrictions gradually ease, and vulnerable people (staff and service users and residential homes) become more confident with face to face contact, so this measure will increase back to typical levels.  <b>IMPACT ON OTHER MEASURES:</b>  We are alert to safeguarding concerns and face to face will always be prioritised and insisted on where this is felt to be necessary.  <b>STRATEGIC ACTIONS REQUIRED:</b>  None.								

Andy Sharp / Ian Pearson			Education Service				Q1 2021/22	AMBER
Indicator Ref: CBbes12			% of maintained schools judged good or better by Ofsted				Type: Snapshot	
Executive	2019/20 Year End	2020/21 Year End	2021/22				Target	Polarity
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
RAG	★	★	◆				≥95%	Higher is better
Qrtly outturn	-	-	-					
YTD outturn	95.7% (66/69)	93.7% (74/79)	93.7% (74/79)					
REASON FOR AMBER:								
This relates to one maintained school, who were inspected in September 2019 and received requires improvement judgement. The Ofsted framework changed significantly from 1 September 2019 and the school did not meet the rigorous requirements.								
REMEDIAL MANAGEMENT ACTION BEING UNDERTAKEN, ALTERNATIVE PLANS AND EXPECTED IMPROVEMENT:								
A comprehensive programme of support for all schools has been undertaken since May 2019. This has meant that 11/12 schools inspected under this new framework have secured a good judgement. There has been a robust programme of school improvement support for Aldermaston school since their “requires improvement” judgement. The school and LA are confident that the progress made will secure a GOOD judgement at the next inspection.								
IMPACT ON OTHER MEASURES:								
None								
STRATEGIC ACTIONS REQUIRED:								
None								

Joseph Holmes / Andy Walker			Finance and Property				Q1 2021/22	AMBER
Indicator Ref: CBffp10			Average number of days taken to make a full decision on new Housing Benefit claims				Type: Snapshot/Nos+	
Executive	2019/20 Year End	2020/21 Year End	2021/22				Target	Polarity
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
RAG	★	★	◆				≤19 days	Higher is better
Qrtly outturn	-	-	-					
YTD outturn	19.04 days	18.27 days	20 days					
<b>REASON FOR AMBER:</b>  Main reason relates to COVID matters.  Self-Isolation (Track & Trace) grant applications & payments have seen an increase over the past weeks/months. Processing has also taken place in relation to the 2021/22 COVID hardship payments for 1300 working age benefit claimants where they have each been awarded an extra £150 in Council Tax Reduction or Benefit. Staff are having to cover these areas of work.  We have also seen a significant increase in the amount of correspondence compared to last year being received especially from the DWP. This appears to relate to changes of circumstances, for example changes in income. This will generate more claims and changes in claims.  The team is also 1 member of staff down the vacancy for which is currently being advertised.  <b>REMEDIAL MANAGEMENT ACTION BEING UNDERTAKEN, ALTERNATIVE PLANS AND EXPECTED IMPROVEMENT:</b>  Self-Isolation grants are due to end in September and we are currently recruiting for an additional member of staff  <b>IMPACT ON OTHER MEASURES:</b>  There is a balance between dealing with changes in circumstances and new claims. If more focus is placed on one measure then it could affect the other  <b>STRATEGIC ACTIONS REQUIRED:</b>  None								

Susan Halliwell / Gary Lugg			Development and Planning				Q1 2021/22	AMBER
Indicator Ref: CBhdp35			% of planning appeals won				Type: %+	
Executive	2019/20 Year End	2020/21 Year End	2021/22				Target	Polarity
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
RAG	-	★	◆				65% (England Average)	Higher is better
Qrtly outturn	-	-	10 / 16 62.5%					
YTD outturn	-	51 / 63 81%	10 / 16 62.5%					
<b>REASON FOR AMBER:</b> <p>There is no particular change in circumstances within the Service that has caused this outcome for Q1. Which appeals are submitted, when those appeals are made, and also when those appeals are determined, are outside the control of the Service. These decisions within Q1 all relate to appeals lodged between April 2020 and March 2021 and it is worth noting that one of the decisions on an appeal lodged in April 2020 did not come through until April 2021 thereby demonstrating the potential for sometimes lengthy lags in decision making from the Planning Inspectorate which we cannot account for nor control. Throughout the year, the number of appeals is relatively low overall and therefore greater percentage swings are likely over the short Quarterly reporting periods as opposed to the full Year End outcome. It is expected that appeal decisions can balance out over the Year.</p> <p>In order to provide some context and accountability for the appeal decisions in Q1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Of the 10 appeals won (appeals dismissed): these were all following a delegated decision of refusal.</li> <li>Of the 6 appeals lost (appeals allowed): these were all following a delegated decision of refusal.</li> </ul> <p>The appeal decisions have been justified in all cases by the relative Inspectors having looked at the specific merits of the particular cases. Decisions are monitored within the Service and there are no repetitive or predominant aspects to the decisions at this time.</p> <p><b>REMEDIAL MANAGEMENT ACTION BEING UNDERTAKEN, ALTERNATIVE PLANS AND EXPECTED IMPROVEMENT:</b></p> <p>Monitoring of the Planning Inspectorate's appeal decisions and the comments made in them about the original decisions that were made by the LPA (which lead to the need to appeal) are monitored after the receipt of each decision. A Quarterly report is prepared within the Service to summarise the appeal decisions and to provide feedback on some of the key findings. This report is presented at the Portfolio Holder Briefings. There is currently no identifiable adverse pattern in respect of appeal decisions. If such a pattern were to emerge, any necessary remedial management action would be identified and implemented.</p> <p><b>IMPACT ON OTHER MEASURES:</b> None</p> <p><b>STRATEGIC ACTIONS REQUIRED:</b> None</p>								



Susan Halliwell / Gary Lugg			Development and Planning				Q1 2021/22	AMBER
Indicator Ref: CBhdp34			% of 'other' planning applications determined within 8 weeks or the agreed extended time				Type: %+	
Executive	2019/20 Year End	2020/21 Year End	2021/22				Target	Polarity
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
RAG	★	■	◆				90% (England Average)	Higher is better
Qrtly outturn	-	-	286 / 318 89.9%					
YTD outturn	1,069 / 1,150 93%	919 / 1,083 84.9%	286 / 318 89.9%					
REASON FOR AMBER: At only 0.1% down for Q1, performance in this category is essentially on target. REMEDIAL MANAGEMENT ACTION BEING UNDERTAKEN, ALTERNATIVE PLANS AND EXPECTED IMPROVEMENT: Performance will continue to be monitored and it is expected that performance in this category will be on target for the rest of the Year. IMPACT ON OTHER MEASURES: None STRATEGIC ACTIONS REQUIRED: None								

Andy Sharp / Pete Campbell			Children and Family Services				Q1 2021/22	AMBER
Indicator Ref: PC1cfs6			% of repeat referrals to Children's Services within 12 months of a previous referral				Type: Cumulative %	
Executive	2019/20 Year End	2020/21 Year End	2021/22				Target	Polarity
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
RAG	■	★	◆				≤20%	Lower is better
Qrtly outturn	-	-	-					
YTD outturn	26.7% (437/1636)	19.3% (274/1423)	22.7% (114/503)					
<p><b>REASON FOR AMBER:</b></p> <p>This figure will vary over the course of a year, and referral rates since March 2020 have been anything but typical nationally. As partner agencies and services come out of lockdown so referrals have increased, or repeat referrals been made where some months earlier a full service could not be provided by the partner agency.</p> <p><b>REMEDIAL MANAGEMENT ACTION BEING UNDERTAKEN, ALTERNATIVE PLANS AND EXPECTED IMPROVEMENT:</b></p> <p>We continue to monitor this figure closely. We audit the repeat referrals to ensure significant welfare concerns are not missed due to process or capacity.</p> <p><b>IMPACT ON OTHER MEASURES:</b></p> <p>Minimal, although we want to have partner and public confidence in getting assessment correct the first time.</p> <p><b>STRATEGIC ACTIONS REQUIRED:</b></p> <p>None.</p>								

Andy Sharp / Matt Pearce			Communities and Wellbeing				Q1 2021/22	AMBER
Indicator Ref: PC2bct2			Develop an approach to measure community wellbeing (including community resilience) based on proxy indicators (Strategic Goal)				Type: text	
Executive	2019/20 Year End	2020/21 Year End	2021/22				Target	Polarity
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
RAG	-	■	◆				Complete by July 2021	Project
Qrtly outturn	-	Delayed	Delayed					
YTD outturn	-	Delayed	Delayed					
<b>REASON FOR RED:</b>  This was originally a new measure in 2020/21 during which, the impact of Covid-19 meant resources were redeployed for response work. Subsequently the protracted appointment of a Programme Manager to take forward the work, delayed activity further. A re-start meeting was held (in Q4 2020/21) to progress a ‘Community Resilience Index’, where it was agreed that the work would better align with the measurement of health inequalities and community emergency planning to provide a holistic picture around community well-being. This work will progress as part of the Engaging and Enabling Communities Programme for 2021/22 with the above amended description.  <b>REMEDIAL MANAGEMENT ACTION BEING UNDERTAKEN, ALTERNATIVE PLANS AND EXPECTED IMPROVEMENT:</b>  Initial scoping of the measures and availability of data has been undertaken. A set of 42 measures have been identified but there are some significant issues with obtaining some of the data. The issues are related to currency because much of it is census from 2011 and where the data is more current, it is not of sufficient granularity to help determine local-level community wellbeing.  Updates will be provided as this project progresses and reported on as part of the BCT Team KPI and MoV quarterly return.  <b>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:</b>  None								

**IMPACT ON OTHER MEASURES:**

Other KPIs are dependent on the development of the measurement of community wellbeing:-

*Pilot the measurement of community wellbeing to identify where community led projects could add value*

This is due to take place by March 2022 and is therefore considered to be unaffected by the delay of identification of measures.

**SERVICE PLAN UPDATES REQUIRED:**

The service requested a new description and target date for this indicators, which was agreed so no further action needed.

**STRATEGIC ACTIONS REQUIRED:**

None identified


2021/22  
April – June



100%

of eligible rough  
sleepers offered  
accommodation when  
first identified

Children in one  
of their top 3  
choices of school

 99%

100% 

of Common Housing  
Register applications  
assessed within 20 days

Adult social care  
financial assessments  
completed on time



99.6%

100% 

West Berkshire Council  
provider services rated  
as good or better  
by Care Quality  
Commission (CQC)



Falls Prevention and  
Chatbot Assistant  
projects won a  
Digital Innovation  
and Technology award

Among the top  
English local authorities  
for the % of care  
leavers in employment,  
education or training



72.2%

**CMI**



Community Municipal  
Investment Scheme  
shortlisted for 2 awards

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## Technical Conventions

This report sets out the Council's progress against its Priorities for Improvement set out in the [Council Strategy](#). Performance is presented by priority and augmented with Influencer measures to further describe the operating environment and / or challenges.

Activities are monitored within the council priorities and RAG rated by projected year end performance, e.g. a prediction of whether the target or activity will be achieved by the end of the financial year (or, for projects, by the target date):

Red (R )	Indicates that we have either not achieved (or do not expect to achieve) the activity or target by year end, or the specified target date.
Amber (A)	Means we are behind schedule, but still expect to achieve or complete the measure or activity by year end, or the specified target date.
Green (G)	Means we have either achieved or exceeded (or expect to achieve or exceed) what we set out to do.
Annual	Indicates that the measure that can only be reported against at a particular point in time e.g. at quarter 4.
Baseline	Means that the measure is not targeted and the results are provided as a baseline for future monitoring.
Data not available (dna)	Indicates that the quarterly data is not yet available and will be updated at a later date, usually the following quarter.
Data not provided (dnp)	Means that data has not been provided and will be updated at a later date, usually the following quarter
(E)	Indicates a result is an estimate and will be updated during the year, as and when data becomes available.
(P)	Means a result is provisional and subject to further validation e.g. from an external body, and will be updated during the year, as and when data becomes available.

Where a measure is reported as 'amber' or 'red', an exception report is provided. This identifies the reasons for this assessment and shows what remedial action has been put in place to either bring the measure back on target or to mitigate the consequence of it not being achieved; and whether any Strategic action is required.

### Benchmarking

Where possible our progress is compared to all English single tier and county councils, where available, by quartile and rank. Due to the timescales involved in central government publication these are usually available 6-12 months in arrears.

### Influencer Measures

Non-targeted measures are reported to either illustrate the demand on a service or provide context for the demand, e.g. economic activity.

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## Item 10:

### **Member Questions to be answered at the Executive meeting on 2 September 2021.**

Members of the Executive to answer questions submitted by Councillors in accordance with the Executive Procedure Rules contained in the Council's Constitution.

(a) **Question submitted by Councillor Adrian Abbs to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Development:**

*"What are the additional costs, given the fire at Faraday Road, as contractors have needed to secure and make safe the area?"*

(b) **Question submitted by Councillor Phil Barnett to the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Strategic Partnerships and Transformation:**

*"Drones have become part of society during the past few years. They come in various shapes and sizes and although of great benefit in surveillance, the noise generated by some and intrusion above properties have not gone unnoticed recently during the weekends of Newbury races. Therefore, can the Executive Member for Highways and the Environment establish whether these drones were operating legally and whether there is any mechanism in place for residents to report incidents such as those that have happened during these recent events."*

(c) **Question submitted by Councillor Martha Vickers to the Portfolio Holder for Planning Transport:**

*"What were the reasons behind taking the contract for the Council's Car Club away from Co-Wheels?"*

(d) **Question submitted by Councillor Tony Vickers to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport:**

*"How much money has been collected from developers since the start of the Newbury Car Club and how much of that was unallocated at the time the Council changed its service provider from Co-wheels to Enterprise this month?"*

(e) **Question submitted by Councillor Jeremy Cottam to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport:**

*"Can the portfolio holder provide details of West Berkshire Council's highways maintenance programme and policy for cutting back over grown shrubs and trees on urban roads e.g. Floral Way, Thatcham?"*

(f) **Question submitted by Councillor Alan Macro to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Waste:**

*"Has any consultation been undertaken regarding the effectiveness and popularity of the booking system at our two HWRCs OUTSIDE of the centres themselves?"*

(g) **Question submitted by Councillor Royce Longton to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Waste:**

*"How do people make a booking to visit our HWRCs if they do not have Internet access?"*

(h) **Question submitted by Councillor Erik Pattenden to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Waste:**

*"What decision path was taken in deciding to maintain the HWRC's booking system and restrict residents to one visit per week until the change to the once per week restriction was lifted recently?"*

(i) **Question submitted by Councillor Owen Jeffery to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Waste:**

*"Why have the HWRCs not extended their hours this spring and summer as they have done for many, many years?"*

(j) **Question submitted by Councillor Lee Dillon to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Waste:**

*"Why is it considered to be unfair on other users if a resident visits the HWRCs more than once a week?"*

(k) **Question submitted by Councillor Jeff Brooks to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Development:**

*"What communications have taken place with Vodafone regarding Vodafone's retrenchment of their office space at their Head Quarters?"*

(l) **Question submitted by Councillor Adrian Abbs to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Waste:**

*"Wiltshire Council has confirmed that the booking system for its HWRCs ended on 19 July and, from this date, people are now able to visit a site without booking in advance – why then is the Portfolio Holder for Waste intent on maintaining it here, as people were used to tending to their garden and then heading to the HWRC immediately, but his booking system is a barrier to doing so and is thus more likely to lead to fly tipping or burning of waste?"*

(m) **Question submitted by Councillor Phil Barnett to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Waste:**

*"How did the Portfolio Holder's Officers know that one visit per week to the HWRCs was enough per household, particularly in the spring and summer, as they have stated?"*

(n) **Question submitted by Councillor Jeremy Cottam to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport:**

*"Can the portfolio holder provide details of West Berkshire Council's footpaths maintenance programme and policy for cutting back over grown shrubs and trees on urban paths owned and managed by West Berkshire Council?"*

(o) **Question submitted by Councillor Martha Vickers to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Waste:**

*"Could the portfolio holder explain why the Waste Department is making it difficult for residents to pay for the annual Green Bin tax by methods such as BACS, cheque and phone payments, rather than Direct Debit?"*

(p) **Question submitted by Councillor Tony Vickers to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport:**

*“What, if any, Member involvement or public consultation of Car Club members took place before the decision was made under delegated powers to change the Car Club contract to a significantly more expensive company for the existing Car Club members?”*

- (q) **Question submitted by Councillor Jeremy Cottam to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Waste:**

*“Is the Direct Debit payment process for the Green Bin Tax being implemented for other services?”*

- (r) **Question submitted by Councillor Jeff Brooks to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Waste:**

*“Has the Portfolio Holder negotiated reductions in payment to Veolia as a result of the restricted service that has, until recently, been provided and if so, how much has been saved?”*

- (s) **Question submitted by Councillor Tony Vickers to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Waste:**

*“Is it not the case that it is mainly commercial operators who the Portfolio Holder for waste was trying to restrict from using the HWRCs more than once a week, rather than residents who were principally affected by this restriction?”*

- (t) **Question submitted by Councillor Jeff Brooks to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Waste:**

*“What has been the cost and effort of providing a telephone contact within the Waste Department in order for a resident to try to book extra visits to our HWRCs in a week?”*

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