

Agenda for a meeting of the Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on Tuesday, 5 December 2023 at 5.00 pm in Committee Room 1 - City Hall, Bradford

Members of the Committee – Councillors

LABOUR	CONSERVATIVE	GREEN	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT
K Hussain Rowe Wheatley Kauser Mitchell Steele	Herd	Watson	R Ahmed

Alternates:

LABOUR	CONSERVATIVE	GREEN	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT
Mohammed Choudhry Dodds S Khan	Davies	Warnes	Griffiths

Notes:

- This agenda can be made available in Braille, large print or tape format on request by contacting the Agenda contact shown below.
- The taking of photographs, filming and sound recording of the meeting is allowed except if Councillors vote to exclude the public to discuss confidential matters covered by Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. Recording activity should be respectful to the conduct of the meeting and behaviour that disrupts the meeting (such as oral commentary) will not be permitted. Anyone attending the meeting who wishes to record or film the meeting's proceedings is advised to liaise with the Agenda Contact who will provide guidance and ensure that any necessary arrangements are in place. Those present who are invited to make spoken contributions to the meeting should be aware that they may be filmed or sound recorded.
- If any further information is required about any item on this agenda, please contact the officer named at the foot of that agenda item.

From:

Asif Ibrahim
Director of Legal and Governance
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To:

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A. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

1. ALTERNATE MEMBERS (Standing Order 34)

The Director of Legal and Governance will report the names of alternate Members who are attending the meeting in place of appointed Members.

2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Members Code of Conduct – Part 4A of the Constitution)

To receive disclosures of interests from members and co-opted members on matters to be considered at the meeting. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest.

An interest must also be disclosed in the meeting when it becomes apparent to the member during the meeting.

Notes:

(1) *Members must consider their interests, and act according to the following:*

Type of Interest	You must:
<i>Disclosable Pecuniary Interests</i>	<i>Disclose the interest; not participate in the discussion or vote; and leave the meeting <u>unless</u> you have a dispensation.</i>
<i>Other Registrable Interests (Directly Related)</i> OR <i>Non-Registrable Interests (Directly Related)</i>	<i>Disclose the interest; speak on the item <u>only</u> if the public are also allowed to speak but otherwise not participate in the discussion or vote; and leave the meeting <u>unless</u> you have a dispensation.</i>
<i>Other Registrable Interests (Affects)</i> OR <i>Non-Registrable Interests (Affects)</i>	<i>Disclose the interest; remain in the meeting, participate and vote <u>unless</u> the matter affects the financial interest or well-being</i> <i>(a) to a greater extent than it affects the financial interests of a majority of inhabitants of the affected ward, and</i> <i>(b) a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it</i>

would affect your view of the wider public interest; in which case speak on the item only if the public are also allowed to speak but otherwise not do not participate in the discussion or vote; and leave the meeting unless you have a dispensation.

- (2) *Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to the Member concerned or their spouse/partner.*
- (3) *Members in arrears of Council Tax by more than two months must not vote in decisions on, or which might affect, budget calculations, and must disclose at the meeting that this restriction applies to them. A failure to comply with these requirements is a criminal offence under section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.*
- (4) *Officers must disclose interests in accordance with Council Standing Order 44.*

3. REFERRALS TO THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Any referrals that have been made to this Committee up to and including the date of publication of this agenda will be reported at the meeting.

4. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

(Access to Information Procedure Rules – Part 3B of the Constitution)

Reports and background papers for agenda items may be inspected by contacting the person shown after each agenda item. Certain reports and background papers may be restricted.

Any request to remove the restriction on a report or background paper should be made to the relevant Strategic Director or Assistant Director whose name is shown on the front page of the report.

If that request is refused, there is a right of appeal to this meeting.

Please contact the officer shown below in advance of the meeting if you wish to appeal.

(Su Booth / Louis Kingdom – 07814 073884 / 07890 416570)

B. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ACTIVITIES

5. LIBRARIES UPDATE

1 - 18

The Strategic Director, Place will submit a report (**Document “U”**) which provides an update on developments across Bradford Libraries

service over the past 12 months, following the previous report to this Committee in December 2022.

Recommended –

Members are recommended to note and comment on the progress made by Bradford Libraries over the past year, on service recovery following the pandemic, and the implementation of the vision and model for the Service.

(Christine May – 07970 829265)

6. BRADFORD THEATRES 19 - 30

The Strategic Director, Place will submit a report (**Document “V”**) which updates members on the theatres service, current challenges, and opportunities as we work towards City of Culture 2025.

Recommended –

Members are invited to consider and comment upon the content of this report.

(Adam Renton – 01274 433618)

7. BRADFORD MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES SERVICE 31 - 44

The Strategic Director, Place will submit a report (**Document “W”**) which provides an update on progress within the District’s Museums and Galleries Service, forward plans, current challenges, and opportunities including an update on service development undertaken since the last report November 2022.

Recommended –

Members are asked to consider and comment on the updates provided in this report.

(James Steward – 07977 590336)

8. TRANSPORT DELIVERY PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT 2022-23 45 - 78

The Strategic Director, Place will submit a report (**Document “X”**) which updates the Committee on the outcome of the delivery programme for the Highways and Transportation teams’ capital work programmes during the 2022/23 financial year.

An indication of the forward programme of capital works is also provided against emerging and existing funding streams and Council

priorities including details of any funding bids which have been submitted.

Recommended –

That progress on the transport programmes across both the programmes described in this report be noted.

(John Davis – 07970 596213)

9. REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2023-24

79 - 84

The report of the Chair of the Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee (**Document “Y”**) will be submitted to Members and presents the Committee’s Work Programme for 2023/24.

Recommended –

That the Work programme 2023-24 continues to be regularly reviewed during the year.

(Caroline Coombes – 07970 413828)



Report of the Director of Place to the meeting of Regeneration & Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee to be held on 5 December 2023

U

Subject:

Libraries Update

Summary statement:

This report provides an update on developments across Bradford Libraries service over the past 12 months, following the previous report to this Committee in December 2022.

EQUALITY & DIVERSITY:

The Library Service follows the Council's Corporate Equality & Diversity policy and incorporates Equality, Diversity and Inclusion objectives in its Annual Service Plan. As part of the remodelling of the management structure earlier this year, a new part-time post of Access & Inclusion Officer was created to manage relevant services including the Home Library Service and services to the blind and partially sighted. Work is currently ongoing to prepare the Service for a bid to become '[Libraries of Sanctuary](#)' offering support to refugees and asylum seekers, as part of Bradford's status as a City of Sanctuary.

David Shepherd
Director of Place

Portfolio: Cllr Sarah Ferriby

Health & Wellbeing

Report Contact: Christine May, Head of
Libraries & Archives
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Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Regeneration & Environment

1. SUMMARY

This report provides an update on developments across Bradford Libraries service over the past 12 months, following the previous report to this Committee in December 2022. It provides an overview of service performance as well as service developments under the following themes:

- Delivering the vision and model for libraries
- Highlights from the past year
- City of Culture readiness
- Modernisation
- Green libraries

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The previous report to this Committee, in December 2022, set out how the Service was working to achieve the new vision and model for the Service (entitled *Building a Better Future*), agreed by the Council's Executive in March 2020. A summary of the vision and model is attached at Appendix A. This way of working is now embedded in the Service and considered to be business as usual, with work ongoing to continue to build on the support libraries provide and the impact this makes.

2.2 Beyond this, the Service follows a model of continuous improvement and modernisation, seeking to underpin an even wider range of Council priorities in partnership with others, and aiming to make the Service more sustainable.

3. PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

3.1 The table below provides an overview of Library Service Key Performance Indicators, showing comparisons between the last financial year, the previous financial year, and pre-pandemic levels. The final column shows the percentage recovery in 2022/3 compared to 2019/20.

	2019/20	2021/22	2022/23	% recovery
Visits	1,006,712	384,442	734,859	73%
Loans	945,432	495,154	601,347	64%
PC sessions	182,117	28,911	64,008	35%
New members	15,585	8,396	15,026	96%
Children's activity attendees	18,748	6,696	21,583	115%
Adult's activity attendees	15,446	8,314	20,193	131%

3.2 During 2022/3 the number of visitors to the service recovered significantly compared to pre-pandemic levels and improved markedly since the previous year, to nearly 75% of pre-pandemic levels. This is in line with the national picture for libraries. However, the recovery of loans is significantly lower than the national picture. Officers remain concerned at the very low level of funding for new stock for

libraries in Bradford compared to library services elsewhere, leading to a poorer offer which inevitably impacts on customer satisfaction and use.

- 3.3 The use of library computers has fallen dramatically since before the pandemic, and is in line with the national picture, although it is steadily increasing. It is likely that many people acquired their own devices and learned new skills during the pandemic, however the cost of living crisis now has a bearing on this picture due to the high costs of broadband, data and printing, and usage is starting to increase again.
- 3.4 The recovery in the number of new members last year to pre-pandemic levels is very positive, whilst the increase in engagement in events and activities significantly above pre-pandemic levels demonstrates the impact that the new vision and model has delivered.

4. DELIVERING THE VISION AND MODEL FOR LIBRARIES

- 4.1 The contribution of libraries to many of the key determinants of health and wellbeing has been further built upon over the last year. A remodelling of management staffing, which came into effect in February, included the appointment to a new part-time role of Development Officer for Health and Wellbeing. This post has already been instrumental in working with a wide range of partners to enhance what libraries offer. The post holder meets regularly with Public Health colleagues to update on progress and new initiatives. A summary of these developments and the huge range of partnerships and activities on offer in libraries can be seen in Appendix B.
- 4.2 The Library Development Plans drawn up for Wibsey and Keighley Libraries, which piloted the new model, are now being used as a template to create development plans for all Bradford Libraries; these will be in place by April 2024. They will also reflect the libraries' role in supporting locality plans drawn up for each Area and ward, which library managers are actively engaged in alongside the Council's neighbourhood teams.

5. HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST YEAR

5.1 150th anniversary book

2022 was the 150th anniversary year for Bradford Libraries, and was celebrated with special promotional materials, a children's library card design competition, and an anniversary event. Now, a new illustrated book telling the story of Bradford Libraries, *150 years of Bradford free libraries 1872-2022* by Bob Duckett (former librarian), has been published by Bradford Libraries and will be launched on 6th December 2023. Copies are available from Bradford libraries and for sale.

5.2 Summer Reading Challenge

The annual [Summer Reading Challenge](#) was a resounding success this year, with bumper figures for participation. 3,049 children took part (a 93% increase on last year), more than 72,645 books were borrowed during the Challenge (20,000 more than last year) and 837 children became new members of the library. 1,608 children

completed the challenge (an increase of 10% on last year) by reading six or more books over the summer period and received certificates and medals to celebrate.

5.3 Rhyme Challenge

More than 5000 children took part in our annual [Rhyme Challenge](#) in which parents are encouraged to teach their child to learn 5 rhymes. This received extremely positive feedback, with 98% of parents saying it had improved their child's speech and language. 240 childcare settings got involved, as well as libraries across the district. The Rhyme Challenge Awards took place on 7th November at City Hall, where presentations were made to the winners by the Lord Mayor.

5.4 Create Connect Make

The [Create Connect Make](#) project at Keighley Library, funded by the [LEAP](#), concluded this year and is currently being evaluated with a view to creating a toolkit for other libraries to follow. A video is available featuring the Create Connect Make Fest event and showing the impact of the project on the library and the local people: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pgf33raWV4Q>

5.5 Business Support

Libraries' business support offer, part of the Leeds City Region / British Library Business & Intellectual Property Centres network, has expanded over the past year to include not just City Library but now also Keighley and Shipley Libraries. Staff have been trained to support people with access to key business databases, specialist book stock, and support for start ups including bookable 1:1 advice sessions, workshops and streamed events. The latest addition, Shipley Enterprise Centre, was launched on 24th November 2023 and was funded by Shipley Towns Fund.

5.6 Special events

As well as an extensive range of regular activities in libraries (rhyme time, story time, book clubs, knit and natter, job clubs, Learn My Way IT training, drop-in advice sessions etc.) this year libraries have delivered a large number of special events attracting larger audiences. These include the Intercultured Festival, Sisterhood Festival, Family Learning Festival, Bradford Writes, Library Palooza (Keighley), Bradford Zine Fair, and Open Mic sessions. City library hosted the finalists of West Yorkshire's Young Poet Laureate with the National Literacy Trust, Mayor of West Yorkshire, Tracy Brabin, and Poet Laureate Simon Armitage. Local Studies and Archives have also delivered a number of events including Heritage Open Day and the Library Palooza in Keighley and a series of lunchtime lectures at Bradford, in association with the West Yorkshire Archive Service and the Friends of Bradford Archives & Local Studies. More information can be found on the libraries Facebook page and [Local Studies blog](#).

6. PREPARATION FOR CITY OF CULTURE 2025

- 6.1 Both the Library Service and the City of Culture team are keen to see libraries used to host City of Culture events and activities, and the Service is working to increase libraries' capacity to do this. Whilst the Library Service has not directly benefited from City of Culture funding, the status associated with being the UK City of Culture in 2025 means that funding bodies are keen to work with us and expect us to come

forward with funding bids.

- 6.2 The Library Service has already had success with a £200k funding bid to Arts Council England's *Libraries Improvement Fund*. This is enabling adaptations to 10 library buildings across the district, making them more flexible and usable by partner organisations and community groups, for meetings, activities and sessions of all kinds. The funding has allowed the introduction of small meeting pods for 1:1 advice sessions, small meeting rooms, and movable shelving in libraries to enable spaces to be used for larger meetings and events. The libraries have also benefited from digital screens, new meeting room equipment including tables, chairs and refreshment facilities, and key safes so that trusted partners can use library buildings outside library opening hours.
- 6.3 Community Infrastructure Levy contributions to the Library Service are adding to this, enabling wider refurbishments of some libraries. These combined resources will result in a range of improvements, increased accessibility and meeting room facilities in the following libraries: Ilkley, Manningham, Eccleshill, Keighley, Clayton, Laisterdyke, Bingley, Menston, Shipley and Wyke.
- 6.4 A range of exciting project ideas for libraries in 2025 and beyond is being developed in partnership with other organisations. In particular, we hope to build on the success of previous projects including the exciting [StoryTrails](https://story-trails.com/locations/bradford/) project (<https://story-trails.com/locations/bradford/>) which presented hidden Bradford stories in a unique way using cutting edge virtual and augmented reality (<https://player.bfi.org.uk/free/film/watch-storytrails-the-peoples-map-bradford-2022->) and saw 3000 people visit City Library for that event, and [Create Connect Make](https://createconnectmake.co.uk/) (<https://createconnectmake.co.uk/>) "a creative collaboration between Keighley Library, local creatives and Keighley people to grow, test and support new ideas for community-led creativity and culture".
- 6.5 A key priority is the development of City Library into a Central Library offer fit for a city and district the size of Bradford and in keeping with the aspirations of City of Culture. This would see the library space increased to include more meeting and events space, as well as new technology and facilities that will appeal to younger audiences. The Council has an opportunity to exercise a lease break on the current building at the end of 2026 and is currently considering a range of options for the future location of the library.

7. MODERNISATION

- 7.1 **Self-service technology:** Building on the IT and other developments reported last year, the Service is continuing to strive to make library systems and processes more modern, efficient and effective for customers to use. A new generation of self-service kiosks will be installed in Council libraries in December 2023, incorporating new features including promotional features on the screens, and chip and pin payment facilities. The latter will be important to enable payment for planned wi-fi enabled printing and could also be used for other Council payment transactions in future if required. A second bid to Arts Council England's *Libraries Improvement Fund* has been submitted for digital improvement to libraries, which if successful will enable the acquisition of wi-fi enabled self-service printing in all

Council libraries, and self-service in-library loans of digital tablets in two libraries. Successful projects will be announced in February 2024 for implementation from April onwards.

- 7.2 **Online services:** Managers have also worked closely with the Council’s Web Team to develop new online services for room bookings and local history research. These new services are expected to go live in January, and will enable upfront payment for services, as well as customer benefits such as self-service room bookings. All these improvements, along with the increase in spaces available for hire, should assist the Service in increasing much-needed income.
- 7.3 **Opening hours review:** A comprehensive review of opening hours for the 10 Council libraries was undertaken during August – October 2023. This was in response to an unprecedented level of ad hoc library closures, which revealed a lack of staff capacity to maintain advertised library opening hours since the restructure in 2019, combined with exceptionally generous evening opening hours. A public consultation was carried out during August – September on proposals to reduce the number of evening sessions, with an overall 76% response in favour of the proposals. The changes are planned to come into effect from 4th December, enabling a more reliable public service. This also means more evenings can be made available for community and partner hire of library buildings.
- 7.4 **Management restructure:** In Spring 2023, a revised management structure was implemented following staff and union consultation and engagement. The new structure is based on the 5 constituency areas of the district, aligning management of libraries with other area-based teams. This change added capacity to an overstretched operational management team, moving from 3 Team Leaders to 5 Area Managers, each responsible for a smaller number of Council libraries alongside community managed libraries in their area. It also created the opportunity to create a new part time post of Development Officer for Health & Wellbeing, to co-ordinate activity and projects aligned with the Public Health priorities embedded in the new model for the Library Service.

8. GREEN LIBRARIES

- 8.1 Libraries are also making efforts to promote environmentally sustainability. There are plans to replace the two current service delivery vans with electric vehicles as soon as possible, which will see Bradford Libraries as one of the first library services in the country to operate using EVs.
- 8.2 Bradford Libraries was one of just 6 services across the country to win funding for a [Culture Nature](https://naturalengland.blog.gov.uk/2023/10/04/reconnecting-communities-with-nature-through-local-libraries/) project (<https://naturalengland.blog.gov.uk/2023/10/04/reconnecting-communities-with-nature-through-local-libraries/>) funded by Natural England to help local libraries “play a pivotal role in helping individuals rediscover nature, enhance their mental wellbeing, and contribute to nature's recovery in urban landscapes”. The project will take place at Manningham Library before April 2024 and will involve development of the library garden, nature walks and crafts. Partners in the project include Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, [JU:MP](#) (Join Us: Move Play), and local nature-inspired artists Sponge Tree.

- 8.3 Laisterdyke Library garden has also had an inspiring artist-led redevelopment with the installation of a [‘living wall of peace’](#) mural. Shipley Library’s garden is also being refurbished with the assistance of funding and support from Shipley Town Council and local organisations. The Library Service plans to find ways to upgrade all our library outdoor spaces where possible, and to invite local communities to make more use of them as civic spaces for relaxing and promoting health and wellbeing.

9. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

The Library Service gross budget is £2.232M in the 2023/4 financial year, including an income target of £177k. This budget is currently projected to overspend by £358k, representing an outstanding unachievable saving of £350k and additional pressures, particularly in terms of premises costs. Additional premises related costs are recharged at the end of the financial year, last year resulting in a total budget of £3.922M.

Efforts are being made to increase revenue income, as described above, from increased venue hire in libraries, upfront payment for room bookings and new local history research charges.

10. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

No significant issues have been identified.

11. LEGAL APPRAISAL

There is a statutory duty under the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964 on local authorities to provide a “comprehensive and efficient library service”.

12. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

12.1 TACKLING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY IMPLICATIONS

See section 8.1 above. The replacement of the two current library delivery vans with electric vehicles will serve to reduce carbon emissions and bring them into line with the Clean Air Zone.

13. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None

14. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are recommended to note and comment on the progress made by Bradford Libraries over the past year, on service recovery following the pandemic, and the implementation of the vision and model for the Service.

11. APPENDICES

Appendix A: Overview of the Vision and Model for Bradford Libraries

Appendix B: *Building a Better Future* Summary Update

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Previous report to this Committee in December 2022:

<https://bradford.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=402&MId=7903&Ver=4> see item 46.

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[Appendix A: Building a Better Future: the new vision and model for the Library Service](#)

On 24 March 2020, just before the first national lockdown, the Council's Executive agreed a new vision and model for the Library Service (see item 14 at the link below) : <https://bradford.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=143&MId=7327&Ver=4>

The **vision** for Bradford District library services for 2020 to 2025 is **to: 'develop a 21st century library service that continues to provide a core library service, that is flexible and enables us to enhance the quality of life of people and communities, is inclusive and vibrant, supports wider district priorities, enables all users to learn, engage and remain connected to their communities, and is outcomes focused at a local level'.**

This vision reflects a positive commitment from the Council to keep all 29 libraries open across the District, rather than making further savings. It also recognises the huge potential that libraries have to support the Council's priorities and deliver more services, working in partnership with others. This is in line with the national ambition for libraries to develop as hubs of their communities.

"The information gathered [from the public consultation on Bradford Libraries in 2019/20] highlighted that libraries are much more than traditional book lending facilities, as important as that is, there are a wider range of activities that are carried out. This led us to consider what more they could offer to help support outcomes for Health and Wellbeing generally and was central to decisions taken on what the future library service might look like.....Additional investment will be used to build on the work that libraries already do in this area, e.g. activities that support improvements in social isolation like "knit and natter" and "reading groups". Library services will be developed with a focus on enhancing the public Health offer with a **particular focus on improvements against four public health outcomes: tackling poverty, addressing social isolation, assisting people back into employment and helping with school readiness.**"

The vision is supported by a number of **principles** for the service:

- Be inclusive; offering a free safe space and a place to meet for all.
- Be at the heart of the community reflecting local need supporting improved outcomes.
- Retain a core library function in line with statutory requirements
- Connect with other services allowing access to information, advice and signposting to ensure we make every contact count.
- Be creative and mindful of wider cultural ambitions
- Adopt a partnership approach to working, which brings together a range of partner organisations, local groups and education institutions – working better together for greater outcomes.

This positive new vision for the Service, cemented with £700k annual funding from Public Health and a further £100k annual funding from Adult Services, is designed to maximise the use of the assets of the Library Service (its buildings, staff, IT and connectivity in communities) to support Council priorities rather than reducing or closing services.

Officers have implemented the new vision and model, now named *Building a Better Future*, reflecting our ambitions for the service to play a key role for the Council and our communities, and to be a thriving and successful service.

As well as defining a 'core library offer' that will be delivered in *all* libraries across the District (clearly focused on the essential reading and information role of the service and built on the national library 'universal offers'), we carried out pilot project in two libraries - Keighley and Wibsey– and their communities to explore what a 'tailored offer' could look like that is specific to the needs of each of these communities.

This work is now being rolled out to Council libraries across the district, with the creation of development plans for each of the libraries, linked to the priorities of Area Plans where possible. Discussions are ongoing with colleagues in Public Health, Adult Social Care, Skills for Work, Neighbourhood Team, Children Services, and many external organisations, to explore how we can work more in partnership with them.

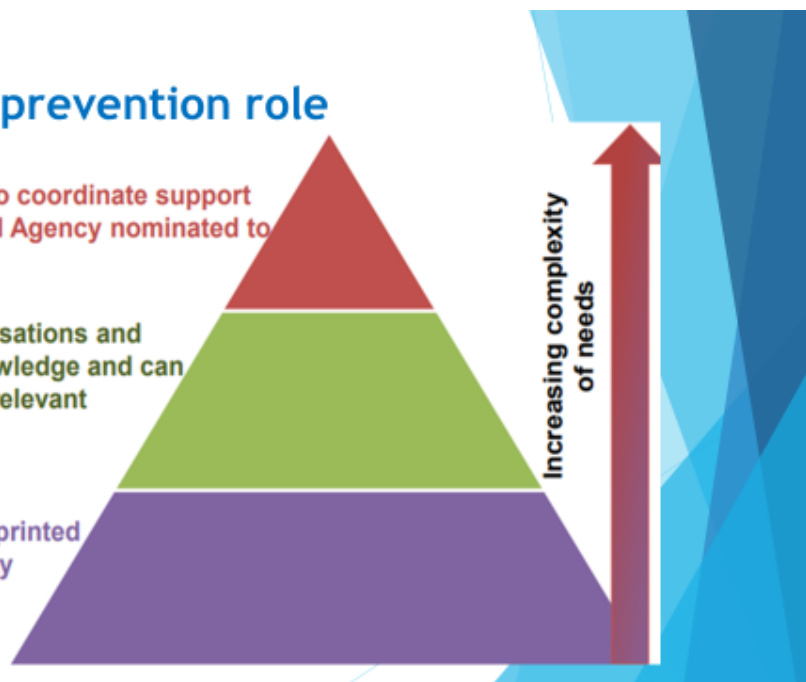
Libraries have great potential to fulfil an early help and prevention role for the Council and other public sector partners, providing online and printed information for people to self-help (bottom part of the pyramid below), as well as signposting and connecting into local community organisations and services that can provide more specialist support. They are ideal bases in communities for local groups, council staff and partners to meet, hold events and deliver customer facing services. The Library Service won £200k from Arts Council England to help progress this model by making library spaces more adaptable/flexible and introducing more meeting spaces.

Early help and prevention role

Multi-agency hub / panel to coordinate support around an individual. Lead Agency nominated to support and coordinate.

Local community organisations and partners have good knowledge and can signpost individuals to relevant organisations

Locality level online and printed information on community support for self help



Health & Wellbeing (general support)

Staff awareness and training

Objective: Train library staff in health literacy so they can recognise and promote health and wellbeing, and create a team of Health & Wellbeing Champions across the Library Service

- A range of health and wellbeing related training has / is being rolled out to frontline staff and managers to enable them to better support library visitors and refer them to specialist agencies as required, e.g.:
 - Level 1 + 2 RSPH Health Literacy training/MHFA Mental Health Awareness
 - Dementia Friendly training
 - Visual impairment awareness training (with RNIB)
- Two Health & Wellbeing Champions to be appointed from staff at Keighley Library (a Keighley Community Partnership initiative) who will be trained to give out consistent and safe health messaging, create a health information point, and host or signpost people to vaccination centres. Supported by Health & Wellbeing Development Officer
- 5 Digital Health Champions are being trained across the Library Service
- Development Officer Health & Wellbeing attends Wellbeing Champion meetings and cascades information to library staff

Promotion

Objective: Use the Library Service network and infrastructure to promote Living Well campaigns

The library service uses its physical space to promote posters / leaflets, and social media channels to support and promote health and wellbeing campaigns:

- Living Well campaigns including '20 minute movement',
- National NHS campaigns e.g. Stoptober
- Working in partnership with NHS health library locally – including sharing resources

Activities and events

Objective: Offer Library spaces for partners to do wellbeing-focused pop up activities advisor sessions

- Over 55s Dance Classes at Shipley (Aug-Sep) and at Manningham library weekly from June 2023 onwards
- Flex & Stretch Gentle Exercise for Men at Manningham Library starts weekly from November 2023
- BEEP advisors now run sessions in 4 libraries
- Independent advisor providing elderly advice & support in Ilkley library – new sessions held in July 2023
- Death Café up and running in City Library monthly
- Creative Journaling Club now being held at Keighley Library monthly
- Kooth/Qwell held pop up stalls at Manningham, Wyke and City libraries – July/August – for public awareness of their services.
 - Kooth is an online counselling & emotional wellbeing platform for children/young people.
 - Qwell provides free, safe and anonymous mental health support for adults
- Age UK held pop up stall at Shipley library – discussing “What makes a Good Life?”
- RNIB –Pop Up sessions for public awareness of services available, Sep/Oct 23

Partnership working

Objective: Build and develop the links with Community Partnerships

- Regular attendance at Keighley Area Community Partnership meetings, which have a strong health theme
- Worked with Affinity Care Community Partnership to provide health checks at Shipley Library
- Working with NEET and other organisations to make Shipley Library Garden space suitable for public use – Kirkgate centre gardening club weekly sessions since August 23 – further interest from Shipley in Bloom.
- Dementia Hubs – in discussion with Pro Active Care Team, BDCT in regard to holding Dementia Hubs in libraries. These are currently running in Bradford University as a pilot.
- Working with Natural England, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, Libraries Connected, JU:MP and SpongeTree, re Nature Culture project - to be run at Manningham Library – funding from Natural England/Libraries Connected - to develop Manningham Library as a 'green hub' for the community, with an intergenerational project that helps local people connect to nature and local green spaces.

Library adaptations

Objective: Make adaptations to library buildings to accommodate PH needs – e.g. utilising space in the libraries to host Living Well Advisor Service

- Meeting spaces are being introduced into libraries for use by partners for advice sessions etc., including 1:1 pods, small meeting rooms, and large flexible meeting spaces. This work is being supported by £200k grant funding from Arts Council England that is enabling adaptations in libraries across the District including Manningham, Eccleshill, Bingley, Ilkley, Clayton, Menston, Laisterdyke, Shipley, Wyke. CIL funding will also be used to enhance the flexibility and facilities on offer at these and other libraries. Adaptations have already been made at Bingley, Wyke, Eccleshill, Shipley, Laisterdyke and Menston libraries as part of this programme.
- Keighley Library will benefit from the introduction of a Changing Places Facility, with CIL funding used to improve meeting room and kitchenette facilities. 2 glass meeting pods have already been added to the library for partner use.
- A review of library signage with a view to being more Dementia/Autism friendly – adaptations to be tried & tested at Shipley Library

Supporting Employment & Skills

Objective: Develop joint action plan with Skills For Work for working together - Assisting people back into employment

- ESOL classes now available in City, Laisterdyke and Manningham libraries
- Employment Advisors are based in several libraries on set dates.
- Employment Support Hub sessions held at Wibsey Library from 18th May, 6-week trial initially, organised with support from the team at Skills House and the Ward Officer
- Further libraries being identified for delivery of SFW and Family Learning courses – ongoing.
- 1-2-1 IT sessions offered in Keighley Library with Keighley Healthy Living

Objective: Establish Business & Intellectual Property Centre in City Library, with smaller BIPC hubs in Shipley and Keighley Libraries

- BIPC in City Library now up and running
- Keighley BIPC starting May/June 2023
- Shipley Enterprise Hub launching 24th November 2023 – funded through Shipley Towns Fund

Objective: Learn My Way basic IT course to be reinstated in Council libraries

- A new version of Learn my Way has been launched and most libraries are now offering this.

School Readiness (separate school readiness plan and early years offer prepared, shared and agreed with Family Hubs colleagues – positively received)

Objective: Support for Children 0-5 and their parents / carers

- Rhyme times and Story times now running in most Council/hybrid libraries plus some Community Managed libraries.
- Rhyme time Challenge - Over 5,000 children and parents/carers took part in the Bradford Libraries Rhyme Challenge during 2022-23- 300 Rhyme Packs were sent out to over 240 childcare settings, toddler groups and libraries across the district. - 98% of parents said that the challenge had increased their child's speech and language skills.
- Story times and craft sessions in all our council led and community managed libraries.
- Story sacks now available for loan to general public and advertised to public and staff.
- Worked with Literacy Hub Stories Bus to promote Wibsey Library reopening. Day of activities on the bus at different stops in Wibsey with around 100 families taking part
- Stock of dual language picture books and board books reviewed and updated.
- Worked with BookTrust to implement the new BookTrust Library Offer - 19 libraries took part with activities and events at National tier in 2022 compared with 11 during 2021
- *Love Books Love Libraries* courses [4 visits to a library, one per week for four weeks with the same families. The families are chosen because they are not engaged with the library service. The sessions include rhymes, stories, crafts & refreshments and are used to encourage regular use of the library explain] undertaken with: City Library - Canterbury families; City Library - West Bowling families. Bolling Hall Library – St Johns Hub BD4 families
- Teddy Bears Picnics took place in 17 libraries over the Summer Holidays – July/August 2023
- Summer Reading Challenge took place in libraries across the district over the Summer Holidays – July/August 2023 – over 100 events and activities booked plus rewards for completing the challenge.
- Lego Club held monthly at Shipley Library from Sep 23 – run by volunteers from Kirkgate Centre
- Early Years Development Officer worked with *50 Things* to launch networking events in September and October (1 evening at Shipley and 1 at Keighley) for home educating families to meet/network and to promote library services including some guidance on using books and stories more holistically.
- Home Education Book Group at Shipley Library – Starts Wed 18th October – monthly – 2 groups will run for younger and older children.

Objective: Support for babies, re-natal to 24 months and their carers

- Automatic library membership for all new-borns now set in place with registration services.
- Baby Photo Booth sessions held to encourage use of new library card at City Library in May & July and Keighley Library in August

Objective: Support for babies, 25-60 months and their carers

- New BookTrust Targeted Offer for children living in low IMD areas:

- 1-2 years packs approx. 400 distributed through NHS Nursery Nurses who make home visits in the targeted postcodes. 600 gone out through settings, remainder through BUFA and EYA.
- 3-4 years gone out to approx. 100 settings in priority postcodes. 90% have gone out and feel confident that they will all be out within the next 2 months.

Tackling Social Isolation

Objective: Libraries offer a safe neutral space and provide a range of group activities that can appeal to people who feel socially isolated

- Knit and Natter & Craft groups run in 10 libraries.
- 112 reading groups (in libraries and other venues (pubs, care homes, schools and online). Looking to set up new reading groups for young people including teenagers with autism.
- Jigsaws and games available in libraries – additional purchased as part of Warm Libraries initiative
- Libraries offer discussion groups, space to meet, coffee morning, creative courses and workshops etc.
- Reading Well project for adults, teens and children (bibliotherapy)
- Shared performance and open mic sessions e.g. Poetry Open Mic July City Library, Sisterhood Festival City Library October
- Ilkley library has lendable Dementia friendly resources for those with Dementia and their carers. Dementia resources to be rolled out to other libraries – in discussion with Dementia Ilkley and Dementia Friendly Community Partnerships
- In discussions with Queer Saltire re ideas/suggestions for space for young people and teens to meet/share – LGBTQ+ - ongoing.
- Planning to hold Dungeons & Dragons gaming sessions in libraries
- Working towards *Libraries of Sanctuary* status for all Council libraries in 2024, reflecting support for refugees and asylum seekers

Reducing the Impact of Poverty

The Library Service provides community venues that host activities and provide information to reduce the impacts of poverty. Libraries provide free access to IT –used by people who lack It facilities at home and a free, warm place with no limit to dwell time during opening hours:

- Free and low-cost activities for adults and families
- Guidance and support with key online transactions – assisted digital support.
- Virtual welfare advice sessions using Teams piloted in Shipley Library
- All Council Libraries providing warm space, hot drinks, and activities as part of wintertime Warm Spaces initiative
- National Databank from the Good Things Foundation is supplying prepaid Sim cards for those who cannot afford data for their phones
- Working with foodbanks and community-led food initiatives - fruit is given out at some story time sessions. Fruit and refreshments provided at Health & Wellbeing events – funded by Asda, Shipley Town Council and Living Well – well received by attendees.
- Promoting Warm Homes, Healthy people energy and fuel poverty scheme
- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle .. REPLAY! – sessions within libraries for home ed families looking at environmental/nature themed stories and poems and a craft activity using household recycling (e.g. jars/packageing etc).
- Investigating Period Poverty project re free supply of products for libraries – ongoing research

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Report of the Strategic Director of Place to the meeting of Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on Tuesday 5th December 2023.

V

Subject:

Bradford Theatres

Summary statement:

The purpose of this report is to update members on the theatres service, current challenges, and opportunities as we work towards City of Culture 2025.

EQUALITY & DIVERSITY:

Bradford Theatres takes pride in its commitment to equality and diversity. We present a rich and diverse program that reflects the vibrant tapestry of our community. We strive to be inclusive, ensuring that all residents and visitors to the district feel welcome and represented, regardless of their background or identity.

David Shepherd
Strategic Director – Place

Portfolio:

Healthy People and Places

Report Contact: Adam Renton
General Manager – Bradford Theatres
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Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Regeneration and Environment

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to update members regarding progress made in the theatres service following reopening after the forced closure caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. The report aims to give an overview of the issues faced since reopening and the response to challenges ahead, as well as the opportunities that City of Culture 2025 will bring.
- 1.2. Bradford Council owns and runs four theatre venues: the Alhambra Theatre, the Alhambra Studio, St George's Hall (all city centre) and the King's Hall & Winter Gardens in Ilkley.
- 1.3. The venues are managed by Adam Renton, Theatres General Manager, reporting to Phil Barker, Assistant Director, Sport and Culture and David Shepherd, Director of Environment and Sport.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Bradford Theatres provides a wide-ranging theatre provision within the allocated financial resources available with the following aims:

- To provide a rich, well balanced theatre programme which gives a wide variety of product reflecting the needs and expectations of the local community.
- To raise the regional and national profile of Bradford as a City of Culture, enhancing tourism and attracting visitors.
- To develop and serve audiences of the future.
- To contribute to the artistic and social development of the district's communities.
- To build relationships with practitioners, theatre companies, agents and producers to become a first choice on the touring circuit.
- To provide and maintain an infrastructure of performance spaces which are available for hire.

The Alhambra Theatre has a capacity of 1395 seats and is one of Bradford's principal visitor attractions and is renowned throughout the region for bringing the biggest touring productions to Yorkshire, such as The Lion King, Aladdin, Jersey Boys, Wicked, Hamilton and Mary Poppins amongst others. The theatre has a varied programme which also includes international dance, ballet, comedy, drama from the National Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company and Yorkshire's biggest annual pantomime (by both scale of inventory and by production budget).

The Alhambra Studio is a versatile 200 seat small theatre / rehearsal space adjacent to the Alhambra main house. It has a wide range of uses including small scale theatre, music and comedy performances, rehearsals, meetings, conferences, and exhibitions. It is also used for workshops and educational activity and to facilitate ballet / dance and the large scale, long running productions in the Alhambra Theatre main house, which require an additional space.

St George's Hall is a traditional shoe box shaped Victorian venue with a flexible capacity of 1335 seated and 1534 standing. It was the first public building to be commissioned in what was to become Bradford City Centre and one of the oldest

purpose-built concert halls in Europe. The venue closed its doors in 2016 for major work to restore it to its former glory and make it fit for the future. The refurbishment was made possible with funding from Bradford Council and the National Lottery Heritage Fund reopening three years later in 2019.

The King's Hall and Winter Garden in Ilkley comprises a 472 capacity traditional theatre with an adjacent glass-roofed spa hall. The King's Hall and Winter Gardens host a wide range of events and community provision, from local amateur dramatic and performing arts companies, weddings and parties to lifestyle fairs and community events. The venue opened in 1908 and has had significant improvement work in the last decade, supported by the local fundraising group The Friends of Kings Hall.

2.2 Covid 19 Venue Closures

On the 18th of March 2020 Bradford Theatres issued a press release regarding the closure of our venues in response to Government advise on the COVID-19 pandemic.

Some short periods of social distanced performances were permitted in parts of the UK, however as Bradford's covid 19 rates remained high (scale 3) venues were not permitted to open for performances.

Instead, Bradford Theatres staff were outsourced to other Council departments (social services, waste management, the Covid team) and the venues were used for socially distanced alternative purposes, including an official enquiry (the Studio), Council meetings (St George's Hall and the Alhambra Theatre) and a Covid LFT centre (St George's Hall.)

2.3 Re-opening Post Covid

Theatres were permitted by central government to reopen from 17 May 2021 with social distancing and from 19 July 2021 with full seating capacities.

St Georges Hall opened with some socially distanced shows including 'Billy Pearce' on the 18th June 2021. The Alhambra Theatre was not financially viable to run with socially distanced seating and could not reopen until the week commencing 6th September 2021 with a performance of the musical '9 to 5'.

2.4 Post Covid Recovery and Current Challenges

The national picture for Theatres and performance venues has been challenging since re-opening post Covid 19, especially taking into account new challenges such as the cost of living crisis, fuel and travel price increases and high inflation.

These issues have had an impact on product availability, especially for the large-scale weekly events at the Alhambra Theatre and has resulted in less shows available which in turn has increased the cost of the shows from the producers. Certain product strands (such as orchestral music) have also been slower to recover, with lower audience numbers both locally and across the UK.

Reluctance for ticket bookers to commit in advance has been felt, with booking patterns shifting closer to the event date and fewer advance sales (which has the knock on effect of reduced producer confidence and programming risk). Theatres have mitigated this with the introduction of good value ticket insurance for online sales, which gives a no quibble refund in the event of cancellation for illness (including Covid 19) and for a range of other reasons (such as disrupted travel).

However there have also been many positives over the recovery period. Overall ticketed attendance is nearly back to pre-Covid levels, thanks to strong attendance at productions such as The Lion King, and with high profile productions (including regionally exclusive dates) in the pipeline.

For shows in the 2022-23 season, 24,379 children attended on either child or schools' tickets – however the actual number for children's attendance will be greater due to concessions not being available on all shows.

For shows in the 2022-23 season 14,284 patrons attended on either a disabled ticket, wheelchair user ticket or one of our access assisted performances and we gained 1,770 new access and carers scheme members.

The ticketed attendance at the venues over the past 5 years is as follows:

	Total Attendance	Alhambra	Studio	St Georges	Kings Hall
18/19	346,310	316,628	1,994	8,915 *	18,773
19/20	406,050	301,954	2,948	76,730	15,418
20/21	0	0	0	0	0
21/22 **	250,257	167,565	2,844	66,780	13,068
22/23	380,024	280,476	2,946	80,375	16,227

* There was limited trading at St Georges Hall in 2018-19 due to the refurbishment closure, the first event being the 15th February 2019 and 16 events only that year.

** 21/22 was a partial trading year after reopening post the COVID-19 pandemic

The following information was highlighted in a recent survey by The Audience Agency which analysed sales figures from 6 organisations across the Yorkshire district for a period of time from the 1st February 2022 – 1st January 2023.

Organisations	Bookers 2022/23	Bookers 2019
Bradford Theatres	80,552	85,616
Cast	17,225	19,048
Hull New Theatre	55,773	52,632
Hull Truck	12,841	17,632
Leeds Playhouse	27,080	21,709
Sheffield Theatres	71,989	73,503
Total	249,356	253,094

2.5 Current Challenges

The Cities Heat-pump works and transforming cities work surrounding the city centre venues are causing some challenges, particularly for disabled audiences.

Theatres are liaising closely with Council and colleagues and contractors to minimise disruption and ensure correct messaging reaches customers. However in the short-term this work could be creating a drop in audience numbers.

The long-awaited opening of Bradford Live is expected to have programming impact on St George's Hall (with some product expected to shift into the larger scale commercially operated venue.) Other programme strands and community events suitable for the 1200 seat auditorium is being developed but an initial income generation impact is expected.

Bradford Live will also bring large numbers of audience attendance to the West side of town, especially at peak arrival and closure times. Pressure for car parking facilities is expected and increased demands for late evening / night time public transport.

2.6 Bradford 2025 City of Culture

Theatres have embedded into our programming the opportunities brought by the award of City of Culture 2025. The Alhambra Theatre is almost fully programmed throughout the year, with a regional exclusive run of Hamilton announced and due to go on sale in the New Year. A number of other show announcements will be made in early 2024.

St George's Hall is proud to be hosting the finals of Leeds International Piano Competition in autumn 2024, including live broadcasts and legacy events for 2025.

A range of other showcase, broadcast and educational / participatory events are being planned across Bradford Theatres venues and will be announced in coordination with the 2025 team.

2.7 Education, Outreach and Inclusivity

Theatres run several education and outreach schemes with minimum core base budget. These are available free of charge to participants, including strands for schools, young people, older people, and diverse audiences.

Heritage Centre Stage is a National Heritage Lottery funded project focussing on the history of the city centre venues, the Alhambra Theatre and St George's Hall. Recent activities have included:

- The Big Sing, a Black History month participation project for Bradford primary schools, culminating with 1,100 children attending an event at the Hall to perform with a Gospel Band and hear a presentation from historian Joe Williams, with a VIP invite to African-Caribbean Elders;
- Reminiscence workshops with Asian Elders, working with Champak Kumar to provide arts and events participatory memory sessions;
- Come and Play with the Halle, a joint venture with the music service for 2,000 Bradford children to experience and participate with a full orchestral performance;
- 'Oh No It Isn't / Oh Yes It Is' Pantomime themed schools workshops at the Alhambra Theatre;

- A visual arts project with the Stroke Recovery Group;
- Venue tours and 'go and see' ticket opportunities for asylum seekers and refugee groups;
- Heritage Open Day event celebrating St George's Hall's 170th birthday (650 participants).

The Alhambra Theatre is an Associate Regional Theatre with the Royal Shakespeare Company and runs several outreach and education strands in association with them:

- The Associate Schools Programme, which promotes teaching Shakespeare on its feet in schools, with high literacy and confidence results for participants, offering INSET training, performance opportunities and theatre visits to primary and secondary schools / Bradford College;
- Shakespeare Nation, a participatory community project for adults which includes workshops, development and performance opportunities.
- 37 Plays, a new playwrighting scheme to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's first folio, which included script development workshops and will lead to two script in hand performances of commissioned works in the Alhambra Studio this autumn;
- First Encounters Shakespeare performances, specially developed as an introduction for young people aged 7-13 and their families;
- Main house theatre partner for regional touring.

The Alhambra Theatre is one of the leading venues in the country for the provision of access assisted performances for deaf and visually impaired theatre goers. The majority of main house productions offer signed, captioned and audio described performances and touch tours. Since 2015, a relaxed Performance for people with sensory and learning disabilities and their families has been offered each season at the pantomime. Lights are maintained on in the auditorium throughout the show and patrons may move around should they wish to; plus additional support is provided such as quiet areas and storyboard pre-show information.

For over 15 years, Theatres has worked with local volunteers to provide a community hub for older people, Open House. Reduced price catering is offered free room hire and self-funded fitness activities. This scheme is aimed at reducing isolation and loneliness and offering training services suitable to the over 60's, it also a welcoming 'warm space' during winter months and the warm space initiative is in operation at Kings Hall / Winter Gardens in Ilkley.

Bradford Theatres is a member of the Dance Consortium, bringing exclusive dates with high quality international dance companies to Bradford, and also works closely with the highly acclaimed Matthew Bourne / New Adventures dance company. This includes the provision of free post show Q&A events and participation events in the venue with the visiting companies, including workshops and open rehearsals.

2.8 Marketing, Digital and New Website

Bradford Theatres delivers a strong positive PR presence for Bradford and Bradford Council, running one of the most visited websites in the Yorkshire region, with more than 1.4 million site visits per year. Post Covid customer booking patterns have

dramatically changed to on average 79% online – with this in mind the website has been re-developed over the last 12 months to keep up to date with customer needs, security, platform stability across all devices (PC, tablet and mobile) and enhanced audio-visual features.

www.bradford-theatres.co.uk.

Recent figures from October 2023 show that 77% of website traffic is now via mobile devices and as little as 3% from a desktop. Traffic figures for October 2023 are shown below.

Website	<i>10-22 October 2023</i>
<i>(New site launched 10th October)</i>	
Traffic Analytics	
Users	205,004
Sessions	240,360
Engagement rate	52.48%
Page views	318,179

Adapting to the changes in the marketing industry we have recruited a new digital marketing officer, working on further developing and enhancing our social media presence, statistical reporting, tracking and analysis of spend and customer demographics.

Monthly social media stats as at 22 October are:

		Facebook	Instagram	X	YouTube
Followers	Total	40,705	4,143	13,222	5,332
Reach	Total	592,541	48,748	/	33.4k
	Profile visits	13,883	1,647	/	54 secs
	Impressions	/	157,395	114.2k	9.7%
Engagement (Posts)	Total	131,517	1,753	3k	

2.9 Theatres Initiatives & Partnership Working

At Bradford Theatres, we're deeply involved in diverse initiatives. We have in house-Wellbeing Champions, prioritising mental and emotional welfare, fostering a caring environment. As RESPECT Allies, we combat discrimination, promoting equality. Dementia Awareness efforts ensure a welcoming space for affected individuals. As Disability Confident advocates, we remove barriers for inclusivity. Our commitment to Neurodiversity Awareness celebrates unique strengths. These initiatives embody our mission: making theatre accessible to all, fostering respect, empathy, and diversity celebration.

Our key external partners include the West Yorkshire Police, WYAS (West Yorkshire Archive Service), Bradford BID (Business Improvement District), and Bradford at

Night. Collaborating closely with these entities enhances community safety. Internally, we value partnerships with Highways, Built Environment, Legal & Licensing, Emergency Planning, OSU (Operational Support Unit), OH & WB (Occupational Health & Wellbeing), and Procurement. This internal network ensures coordination, compliance, and efficiency in delivering our services.

Our staff have undergone comprehensive training in Martyn's Law, ensuring full compliance and earning recognition as an exemplar by Emergency Planning. As active participants in the NTE Safe Space, Ask for Angela Initiative, Snoop, and Student Safe Spot, we prioritise patron safety and well-being. Complemented by a robust lost-child policy for our venues, these initiatives reflect our commitment to creating secure environments. By integrating these practices, we not only meet regulatory standards but also actively contribute to initiatives that promote safety, inclusivity, and community well-being within our venues.

3. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

3.1 Overall controllable budget outturn over the last three financial years:

2022/23

	Budget	Actual	Variance
Theatres	486,400	165,984	(320,416)
Catering	(36,100)	(86,833)	(50,733)
Total	450,300	79,151	(371,149)

2021/22

	Budget	Actual	Variance
Theatres	363,000	230,733	(132,267)
Catering	(78,700)	15,004	93,704
Total	284,300	245,737	(38,563)

2020/21

	Budget	Actual	Variance
Theatres	320,900	(426,166)	(747,066)
Catering	(89,200)	573,885	663,085
Total	231,700	147,719	(83,981)

3.2 Bradford Theatres took advantage of the additional financial support made available from central government during the Covid 19 closures, applying for Arts Council support and also was eligible for the Council Covid 19 Income Loss scheme.

2020 / 21:

Arts Council Grants	£804,981
Covid19 Income Loss Scheme	£2,076,500
Total	£2,970,923

2021 / 22:

Arts Council Grant	£355,558
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Cultural Recovery fund	£89,442
Covid19 Income Loss Scheme	£282,500
Total	£727,500

3.3 Staffing Resources across all four venues:

Theatres Casual Staff	203	
Full Time Staff	51	(70 Total Permanent)
Part Time Staff	19	
Total Staff	273	

4. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

Bradford Theatres plays a significant role within the Council's cultural offerings and infrastructure. It stands as a vital stakeholder and contributor to the Council's 'Culture is Our Plan' and the City of Culture 2025 delivery plan.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

No implications arising from this report.

7.2 TACKLING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY IMPLICATIONS

Bradford Theatres has a Green Book detailing climate targets for all departments and is working with external stakeholders such as Julie's Bicycle to make further industry specific improvements. Working with the council's energy unit, theatres have been included in the majority of the Council's environmental and sustainability programmes.

A programme for reducing energy usage by installing light sensors in Front of House areas is currently being planned for the Alhambra Theatre. Energy reduction achievements have also been made through replacement of both internal and external lighting to LED, including the majority of stage lighting.

Use of single use plastics are being phased out across all venues, with suitable replacements found.

We prioritize sustainability by sourcing F&B from local producers and supply chains, reducing carbon footprint and supporting the community. Emphasizing social value, our commitment extends beyond products, fostering economic growth, fair labor practices, and community well-being. This approach aligns with our mission, creating a positive impact while delivering quality experiences.

Theatres uses a commercial waste management company for recycling of waste

including glass, paper, plastics and food.

7.3 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

No implications arising from this report.

7.4 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

No implications arising from this report.

7.5 TRADE UNION

No implications arising from this report.

7.6 WARD IMPLICATIONS

Bradford Theatres serve all Wards in the District.

7.7 AREA COMMITTEE LOCALITY PLAN IMPLICATIONS (for reports to Area Committees only)

No implications arising from this report.

7.8 IMPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Safeguarding for children and young people is a priority and recognised as part of the duty of all Council departments. Risk assessments are provided for school's visits. Theatres education / outreach staff are DBS checked and receive enhanced safeguarding training.

We prioritise arts access for children and young people, offering free theatre visits to care leavers and other groups as part of our commitment to education and inclusivity. Our work with looked after children, schools, and English as a Second Language (ESOL) students showcases the transformative power of the arts in young lives, fostering self-expression and personal growth. Through targeted outreach programs, we provide workshops and performances tailored to the needs and interests of looked after children, creating a safe and inspiring space for their creativity.

Furthermore, we focus on collaborating with schools, providing educational matinee performances and curriculum-aligned workshops that engage students with the performing arts, enhance their understanding of literature and drama, and cultivate a lifelong appreciation for culture. Similarly, our partnership with ESOL students offers an immersive English language experience through theatre, facilitating language skill development while immersing them in the enchantment of live performances.

7.9 ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESMENT

No implications arising from this report.

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None.

9. OPTIONS

None.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are invited to consider and comment upon the content of this report.

11. APPENDICES

None.

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None.

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Report of the Strategic Director of Place to the meeting of Regeneration and environment overview and scrutiny Committee to be held on 5th December 2023.

W

Subject:

Bradford Museums and Galleries Service

Summary statement:

This report provides an update on progress within the District's Museums and Galleries Service, forward plans, current challenges, and opportunities including an update on service development undertaken since the last report November 2022.

EQUALITY & DIVERSITY:

Our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Plan will promote equality and diversity in all aspects of our workforce management and development. Bradford District Museums and Galleries Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan aligns with Bradford Council's four key equality objectives. 1: An equal, diverse, and inclusive workplace. Ensuring the workforce is diverse in relation to underrepresented groups and reflects Bradford's working age population. 2: Inclusive and accessible services. Developing a more robust understanding of the diverse communities we serve and the gaps in our provision. 3: An inclusive economy – Providing opportunities for equip young people with skills & confidence to succeed. 4: inclusive communities - Support district-wide campaigns for zero tolerance of discrimination.

David Shepherd
Strategic Director, Department of Place

Portfolio:

Healthy People and Places

Report Contact: James Steward /
Museums & Galleries Manager
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Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Regeneration and Environment

1. SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to update members on the progress made by Bradford District's Museums and Galleries during the period November 2022 – October 2023 and considerations for the development of this service area as part of the Council's wider cultural strategy and ambition.

2. BACKGROUND

In January 2022 Bradford Museums and Galleries launched a new ten-year strategy (2022-2032) with renewed vision and strategic priorities for the service. The strategy sets out the ambition for the next decade in line with the local authority's strategic priorities and the city's creative mission. Central to this strategy is the ambition to ensure that everyone in Bradford district has access to ambitious, world class art, heritage, and cultural experiences.

The Mission for the Service is,

“Our unique buildings and collections enable the people of Bradford District to tell their own stories. We work with our communities and partners to develop and care sustainably for our shared heritage so that everyone can learn, find their voice, create, be ambitious, connect with others and better understand their place in the world.”

In November 2022 Arts Council England announced the award of National Portfolio Organisation status to Bradford Museums & Galleries (application submitted May 2022).

3. REPORT ISSUES

3.1 Performance

The period, November 2022 – October 2023, has seen considerable progress with audience development across all venues, averaging over 3,000 visits per week, and evidences a steady recovery of visitors and school visits following the decline seen nationally following the Pandemic.

The number of general visits increased overall by + 7% with the largest increase in visits seen at Cliffe Castle Museum (+ 9%).

School visits increased overall by + 66% with the highest increase seen at Bradford Industrial Museum.

Performance figures for period November 2022 – October 2023

Venue – 2023-24	Industrial Museum	Cliffe Castle Museum	Cartwright Hall Gallery	Bolling Hall Museum	Total
General Visits	28,381	57,324	39,149	14,004	138,858
School visits (pupils)	7,124	5,154	5,074	1,179	18,531
Total	35,505	62,478	44,223	15,183	157,389

3.2 Museum Accreditation

Museum Accreditation was re-awarded to Bradford Museums and Galleries in April 2023. The Arts Council England Museum Accreditation scheme ensures that museums and galleries in the UK meet certain standards of quality and professionalism. It covers aspects such as governance, how we manage collections, and how we engage with our service users. By participating in the scheme, and gaining accreditation, we also needed to demonstrate that we are sustainable, focused and a trusted organisation. The scheme is reviewed and updated regularly to reflect the changing needs and expectations of the museum sector and the public. Accredited status will next be reviewed in 2028.

3.3 National Portfolio Organisation (NPO)

In November 2022 Arts Council England announced the award of National Portfolio Organisation status to Bradford Museums & Galleries (application submitted May 2022). The award of £1,145,310 for 3 years (£381,770 per annum) funds a three year (2023-26) development and activity plan that offers co-creation and engagement opportunities delivered in partnership and tailored to the needs of Bradford District communities.

Year one (2023-24) has focused on engagement across all strands of work, building on existing strengths, addressing proven need, and consolidating delivery partnerships. Delivery has focused on experimentation and testing, trying out innovative approaches, and implementation of evaluation framework.

The programme (Activity Plan) agreed with Arts Council England support's the service ambition to build a distinctive sense of place in Bradford District, based on our diverse heritage and culture, enable everyone to learn, develop skills, build confidence, and understand their place in the world whilst working in partnership to ensure that everyone in Bradford district has access to ambitious, world class art, heritage, and cultural experiences.

NPO funding has enabled the recruitment of fully funded personnel, including a Project Officer, Early Years & Family Learning specialists, Community content producer and a Volunteer Assistant who are working with museum staff to address audience development and engagement priorities that deliver against specific elements from the Creative People and Cultural Communities outcomes in Arts Council England's 'Let's Create' strategy.

3.4 Access

One of Bradford District Museums and Galleries strategic priorities is to work in partnership to ensure that everyone in Bradford district has access to ambitious, world class art, heritage, and cultural experiences.

The Bradford District Museums and Galleries EDI Action Plan has been written and drafts shared for comment with the Equalities & Engagement Lead Officer, CBMDC who will work with us to ensure the Museum Action Plan aligns with the Council's Equality and Diversity Strategy.

Site access audits have been completed for all venues and currently awaiting the final reports including the identification of areas where the service may not be currently compliant with accessibility requirements under the Equality Act 2010.

In addition, we have secured the services of the Inclusive Design for MIMA Group who are working with us to establish and run an Access Forum to ensure that as access improvements are undertaken, they are done alongside people with lived experiences of access needs.

3.5 Schools & Learning

Bradford Museums' schools service is supported by Arts Council England's 'Museums & Schools' programme which helps connect museums with school age children primarily targeting geographical areas with high levels of deprivation and low cultural engagement. The schools programme continues to grow despite ongoing concerns cited from schools around the ongoing rising costs of transport and the cost-of-living crisis. Museums and schools funding enables us to work with priority schools (based on pupil premium) and support the costs of their visits to the museums.

During the period 98 Primary schools (62%) from Bradford District visited at least one of our museums to attend workshops with a further forty-eight schools from outside of the district attending workshops. There has been growth at all sites but most significantly at Bradford Industrial Museum where capacity for further expansion of the schools' learning offer had been identified. Consequently, schools' income has increased, by 29% this year (£34,541.00) with approximately 50% of this income from school visits to Bradford Industrial Museum. The income does not exactly correlate to the increase in visits due to the school numbers target on the Museums and School programme and the increase in the numbers of school visits on self-led programmes. We are now introducing an option for self-led programmes which supports income generation by providing a structured programme and self-led learning resources.

Since 2022 Bradford Museums is one of six national partners with the Victoria & Albert Museum's national secondary schools programme, Design Lab Nation. Fifty-five students from Hanson Academy, Beckfoot School and Beckfoot Upper Heaton took part in an incredible programme of learning based at Bradford Museums and at the Victoria & Albert Museum. Inspired by Bradford's rich textile heritage they worked with Zahid Rauf, a bespoke bridal wear designer. During the visit to the V&A students from Beckfoot school were able to meet with architect Shahed Saleem who designed

the Ramadan Pavilion. All students also took part in a visit to industry partner Melrose Interiors, the UK's foremost manufacturer of rugs and flooring based in Bradford and where they learned about design, use of recycled fibres and designing textiles using state of the art software. Students' final textile pieces were displayed at Cartwright Hall with a celebration event held for family and friends. Due to the success of the partnership Design Lab Nation funding has now been extended for a further two academic years.

Family Learning Programme

Family Learning has taken a partnership approach to developing and delivering programmes of learning. This year we have developed a successful Family Learning programme with accessible activities provided for Easter, Spring Bank, Summer, and October Half Term schools holidays. During October half term 2023, we have for the first time, provided a differentiated programme of activity for families with children in early years (under 5).

The NPO Activity Plan set an ambitious target of reaching 5,000 family members this year and with only six months into the plan we have exceeded that target and have led facilitated learning programme activity with 6,480 local adults and children.

During the Summer we aligned the programme to the national 'Summer Reading Challenge' and led sessions across all our venues, as well as in libraries, across the district. We also worked with the National Science and Media Museum (NSMM) who delivered learning programmes at all museum venues and were able to trail new learning programmes with a wide range of families. For October half term, we were part of the National Family Learning Festival led by the 'Campaign for Learning' and have led a cross district programme with NSMM, libraries and other heritage partners.

Early Years programme

The Early Years programme is a new area of development. We have recruited a new Early Years Assistant who started with us in August 2023. We are working with the 'Birth to 19 Learning Alliance' and the '50 Things' team based at St Edmunds meeting early years providers and practitioners across the district. October half term saw a differentiated programme of family learning for families with children under 5 years old and we are in the process of developing a monthly drop-in session for each of the four museum sites for early years with learning linked to various aspects of the collection. We are also developing an offsite 'pop-up' programme that will introduce children in the early years to museum learning and experiences outside of the museum in places where they already feel safe and familiar. Onsite programmes will launch across museum venues from November and the offsite programme from early December 2023.

Foster care support

We now have quarterly meetings with Bradford Council's Foster Care team. At Easter and May Spring bank holiday family learning events were delivered with bespoke sessions for families with looked after children. During the summer, following evaluation, rather than offering bespoke sessions, we reviewed activities with the Foster Care team offering priority spaces for all booked events. We will continue to

offer this approach as the Foster Care team have advised this enables families to blend in with programmes and feel less singled out. The most recent meeting with team explored how museums can support the growing number of families with foster children under the age of three and the learning team are developing a dedicated Christmas programme for families at Bolling Hall Museum.

3.6 Community engagement

During the period we have developed and written a Partnership and Co Curation Framework. This document sets out a new way of working in partnership and develops our co curation practices as central to the whole service/organisational change we are committed to as part of the NPO Activity Plan. The focus for our partnership work and co curation is to strengthen links with diverse communities across Bradford, telling Bradford stories and engaging people in new ways that ensures we are developing enduring and mutually beneficial relationships. The Framework has been consulted on with staff and community groups with whom we are currently working, and they have found it a useful tool to support them to engage more fully with us.

The first co curated exhibition of the year was 'Don't Give Up.' In Partnership with Windrush Generations and Bradford's Hate Crime Alliance we worked with three young people from the Afro Caribbean community who were trained how to interview and capture the oral histories of the Elders Windrush Generation Elders who settled in Bradford. This led to an incredible exhibition showcasing many stories that most of the elders had shared for the first time. These were stories of upheaval, racism, and resilience. The title of the exhibition, 'Don't Give Up,' was suggested by one of the elders sharing her story. Within the exhibition were loaned objects from the people involved showing things brought with them. A Living Library event in partnership with Professor Udi Archibong from the University of Bradford highlighted how important these stories had been for the children of the elders. As a result of this work one of our community curators, Jill Iredale, has been shortlisted for a National 'Change Maker of the Year' award with the Museums Association which provides national profile for Bradford Museums and Galleries and pays testament to the innovative work with a wide range of communities where co curation and sharing stories is at the heart of our practice.

The second co curated exhibition which launched at the end of August 2023, is the Calm Gallery at Cartwright Hall. Developed in partnership with the Healthy Minds apprentices at All Star Ents, local young people decided that we needed to create a space at Cartwright Hall that actively promoted positive mental well-being. They visited a similar space at Manchester Museum and explored the art stores to select the works. In addition, they curated their own work and art commissions such as sensory boxes and soundscapes into the space and the result is an incredible new gallery which is receiving positive public feedback. A series of well-being events are now being planned to align with the new gallery's mission. Not all co curation activity is taking place within the museum walls. The community curators are also working with refugees and asylum seekers at the Anchor Project to develop an exhibition within St Clements Church. They are working with Bowling Park Primary School on the development of their new book written by pupils Bradford to Bradford and are working with the Ukrainian Club in Keighley to explore their archive and how the new to Keighley Ukrainian communities can add to the archival material the club's hold.

3.7 Volunteering

Bradford Museums & Galleries currently hosts 108 volunteers, 64% of whom have registered during the past two years. Volunteer roles range from visitor services, collection research and documentation, heritage gardeners, looms, printing and motive machinery demonstrators, catering, storytelling, supporting family activities, audience research and evaluation, and bringing historic characters to life as interpreters. Volunteers were recently surveyed and were asked to feedback about their experience of volunteering at our museums including about the skills, satisfaction levels, and wellbeing benefits they have gained. The findings were extremely positive, including 94% saying they feel more engaged with their local heritage, 90% have learnt new things, 88% said volunteering has made them feel part of a community and 85% have developed existing skills and knowledge. A significant contributor to high volunteer satisfaction in our museums is around the work carried out by museum staff who facilitate the day-to-day volunteering programme.

Volunteers have facilitated several events during the period including:

Volunteer Heritage Gardeners at Bolling Hall Museum held 5 Sunday Birdbox workshops for families in partnership with Bradford Trident and Better Start Bradford.

Volunteers Week (June 2023) with invited guests 'Bradford Stories', Bradford Literacy Bus. Over sixty volunteers and staff joined an event at Bradford Industrial Museum event with free books and story bus by Bradford Stories, limited edition hand printed bookmarks by volunteer printers.

Refugee Week Volunteer Taster Day with Stronger Communities. Over thirty refugees and staff from Keighley College and other community groups, aged 18 to 25 years, joined volunteers for an introduction to the museums.

Heritage Open Days 13th & 15th September – Volunteer led events at the Industrial Museum and Bolling Hall.

With support from the NPO activity programme we are now working with a wide range of community partners to develop new models of volunteering that will attract a more diverse range of volunteers that is reflective of the local community we serve. As the UK city with the largest growing youth population, we will also develop a young people's volunteering programme (Young Ambassadors) and will work with a wide range of youth led organisations to ensure 'youth voice' is built into our development plans. The focus for all opportunities will be on identifying volunteer needs, interests, skills development, and wellbeing as well as enhancing museum and gallery programmes.

Work experience

We are working with Bradford Council's 'Xperience Team' to ensure we have a regular offer of work experience opportunities for young people across the district aged 14-16. We currently have two work experience roles available: Visitor Services Assistant and Learning Assistant. These experiences are available three times every academic year and aligned to fit the needs of local schools. To date we have welcomed and worked with four Year 10 students who have worked welcoming visitors at Cartwright Hall, Cliffe Castle and Bradford Industrial Museum and who have also supported the school learning programme. In addition to work experience we are also developing our focus on careers and have attended careers events for Parkside school and Bradford College and are leading a Creative Skills Fair in March 2024 as part of National Careers week in partnership with the Councils Careers and Technical Education team.

Ten Industry Placements, BTEC Art, Shipley College completed their 6-month placement at Industrial Museum this year and worked with volunteer and staff teams in weaving, printing, historical home investigation, audience survey/customer services and schools/learning team. Three of these students were selected for nomination at the Skills House Careers and Technical Education Learner Industry Sector Award 2023 at Bradford University.

3.8 Exhibitions & Display

During the year, several exhibitions were opened across the venues following the 'Don't Give Up' Caribbean Elders exhibition at Cartwright Hall which closed in February 2023. Following this 'Asia' opened, an exhibition that displays items from the collection focusing on the four Asian countries that are best represented: China, Japan, Pakistan, and India. The exhibition displays artefacts that have either been donated to the museum, or that the museum has applied for funding grants to purchase. The exhibition has been designed to consult and create conversations with visitors with inbuilt devices for visitors to express their interests in various areas, themes, and approach to interpretation.

The de Brecey Tondo went on display at Cartwright Hall Gallery in July (until 3 January 2024). This is the first time anywhere in the world that the painting has been on public display. The mystery painting found to be 'undoubtedly' by Raphael has been the subject of research and debate for more than forty years thanks to its resemblance to Raphael's Sistine Madonna. Recent analysis using artificial intelligence-assisted computer-based facial recognition showed the faces in the paintings are identical to those in Raphael's famous altarpiece. Following his initial analysis, Professor Hassan Ugail, Director of the Centre of Visual Computing at the University of Bradford, has since developed a new AI model to recognise paintings by Old Masters.

Other exhibitions during the year include:

- Undercliffe Cemetery, *Great Garden Tribute to Bradford's Yorkshire Grit* (Industrial Museum, until January 2024)
- *Bradford Banquet*, an exhibition at Bolling Hall that takes visitors on a journey to explore how our diet has changed over the past thousand years, and the role that the Bradford district has played in this (until February 2024)
- Keighley Art Society Centenary (Cliffe Castle, until January 2024)
- Maurice Broomfield's photographs, '*Industrial Sublime*' (loan exhibition from V&A Museum, Industrial Museums, ends November 2023)

3.9 Collections

Continuing to improve documentation of the collections is integral to Accreditation and the service being able to increase and improve access to the collections including development of digital and online access.

During the reporting period 1634 new collection records have been created on the collections management system, Modes. This includes new acquisitions, retrospective accessions, and untraced finds. 2670 objects location records have been updated and over 4,000 digital images have been added to the collection's records. The collection team have been collaborating with a local company, Co-operative Innovations, to develop a digital immersive display of a collection that will be made publicly available for free. Additionally, they have been collaborating with a team of Ph.D. students at Leeds Beckett university on the gamification of museum collections, scanning several artefacts from the collections.

Partnership & Research

We have a partnership with the University of Bradford, as part of the Visualising Heritage project. The university has also been scanning items from our collection, a mummified foot and hawk, in their new cone CT scanner to improve our historical and forensic understanding of these objects.

Bradford Museums is a key partner in the Congruence Engine project. The project is a three-year research project that started in November 2021. It is investigating the potential of social and digital techniques (including AI) in connecting industrial heritage collections held by museums, archives, and heritage organisations across the UK. The project is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council's Towards a National Collection: Opening UK Heritage to the World fund. The project is trying to understand how people relate to their industrial heritage and how they can use digital tools to create their own stories and interpretations.

We are developing options for congruence engine activity in Bradford as part of City of Culture 2025 linking the project team to existing heritage organisations developing activity across the district.

Acquisition

Thirty-four offers of donation have been received and approved for acquisition since October 2022. These include items such as a Listers Astrakhan coat, Bradford City FA cup medal, Brown & Muffs dressing gown, Fountains Café signs and a photograph portrait of David Hockney.

566 items were retrospectively accessioned into the collections, predominantly items that were donated during Covid, which delayed the accessioning process.

The most significant acquisition this year is the Ian Beesley photographic collection. The renowned social documentary photographer has donated 200,000 items to the photographic archive held at Bradford Industrial Museum, close to where he was born. Beesley's photographic archive spans a 50-year career, includes negatives, notebooks, and press cuttings, is being donated to ensure that it can be freely available and accessible. Since the 1970s, his work has documented the changing social landscape of northern England with a particular focus on the Bradford district and its mills, industry, working people, pubs and sport including the Bradford Bulls and Bradford City AFC.

Loans

There have been fourteen outgoing loans since October 2022, with a further twelve loans approved to go out in 2024. The loans consist of works from the Fine Art, photographic and costume collections. Lenders include National organisations including the Heywood Gallery, MK Gallery, Kettles Yard, Tate Britain, and Laing Gallery, as well as international lenders Mostra Internazionale d'Arte & Hamburger Kunsthalle. Loans to local museums, such as the Thackray Medical Museum, and Henry Moore Institute.

Loaning of these works increases access of Bradford Museums' collections to local, national, and international audiences and highlight their significance, interest, and historical value.

Rationalisation

Six items have been approved for disposal from the collections. These consisted of social history items, such as crochet dollies and table clothes. They had limited provenance and have been transferred to the learning team for the handling collection.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

The service restructure in 2019 and consequent reduction in staff resource, has impacted on income generation and there continue to be several challenges affecting the business model. Allocated savings of £0.5m, from 2020/21, are currently being shown within the Service as pressures whilst plans are developed to either achieve or mitigate the required saving. Museums are therefore currently forecasting a pressure of £0.5m against a net budget of £1.4m. The saving was to reduce costs through service efficiencies and integration, remodelling of operational delivery and investigate commercial opportunities, which is being reviewed as part of the medium-

term recovery plan.

In 2021-22 £531,998 was received from the business rates re-evaluation (back dated to 2017-18). This resulted in BM&G forecasting a break-even position in 2022-23 due to a delay in VO notification and the rebate offsetting the unachieved savings dating back to 2018. In 2023-24 the combined rateable value for Bradford Museums & Galleries is £53,600 compared to £159,500 for the previous year.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

The Service is an important part of the Council's cultural offer and infrastructure and as such is a key stakeholder and contributor to the Council's 'Culture is Our Plan' and City of Culture 2025 delivery plan.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

Under the Equality Act 2010 there is a duty on the Council to make reasonable adjustments for disabled people to ensure accessibility to venues.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Bradford Museums and Galleries Strategy, the actions and investment as well as the day-to-day operations of the Service fundamentally supports the District Plan 2021-2025 and contributes to the wellbeing, resilience, and longer-term prosperity of the district. With a particular focus on key assets including the collections and flagship buildings, and their use, this is managed as a district-wide resource for present and future generations. The Mission and Vision ensures that our focus is on maximising the value of our buildings and collections to enable the people of Bradford District to tell their own stories; 'working with our communities and partners to develop and care sustainably for our shared heritage so that everyone can have fun, learn, find their voice, create, be ambitious, connect with others and better understand their place in the wider world.'

The Strategy and its six Priorities are structured to deliver on the District Plan and Council Plan 2021-25, connecting to Bradford2025 and specifically a shared focus on sustainability, clean growth, and long-term legacy.

7.2 TACKLING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY IMPLICATIONS

BDM&G has joined the Fit for the Future network, a sector environmental and sustainability network that will advise and support the development of an environmental action plan for the service.

7.3 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

No implications arising from this report

7.4 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

No implications arising from this report

7.5 TRADE UNION

No implications arising from this report

7.6 WARD IMPLICATIONS

Bradford Museums and Galleries serve all wards in the District

**7.7 AREA COMMITTEE LOCALITY PLAN IMPLICATIONS
(for reports to Area Committees only)**

No implications arising from this report

7.8 IMPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Early help and prevention to support people in their communities underpins our work with children and families in partnership with our colleagues in the public and charitable sectors. It also informs our approach to estate management across our museum and gallery properties, working with built environment colleagues to anticipate and address maintenance issues and prevent problems from escalating. Safeguarding is at the forefront of our work with children, young people and vulnerable adults. We recognise that safeguarding is part of everyone’s role across the authority.

(Bradford Museums & Galleries Strategy 2022-32, Core Principles)

7.9 ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESMENT

No implications arising from this report

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None

9. OPTIONS

None, this report is for information and comment

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to consider and comment on the updates provided in this report.

11. APPENDICES

None

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None



Report of the Strategic Director of Place to the meeting of the Regeneration and Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee to be held on 3 October 2023

X

Subject:

Transport Delivery Plan Performance Report 2022-23.

Summary Statement:

This report updates the committee on the outcome of the delivery programme for the Highways and Transportation teams' capital work programmes during the 2022/23 financial year.

An indication of the forward programme of capital works is also provided against emerging and existing funding streams and Council priorities including details of any funding bids which have been submitted.

EQUALITY & DIVERSITY:

The public sector equality duty in S149 of the Equalities Act applies to the Council in the exercise of its functions. Those functions will include most, if not all, of the proposals and other measures referred to in this report. The duty is to "have due regard to the need to (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited under [the 2010 Act], (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share relevant protected characteristics and persons who do not share it.". In summary, this includes the need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons that are connected to that relevant protected characteristic and taking steps to meet the needs of persons who do not share it and encouraging persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to take account of disabled person's disabilities and makes it clear that compliance with the duties 'may involve treating some persons more favourably than others'. It is evidence that all of the schemes and proposals referred to in this report have the potential to impact on persons who share one of more of the relevant protected characteristics. Some of these were identified in the Integrated Sustainability Assessment undertaken on LTP3 as identified in the report to Executive on 18 March 2011 – Transport Delivery Plan 2011/12 (paragraphs 9.1.2 to 9.1.7).

David Shepherd
Strategic Director of Place

Portfolio:

Regeneration, Planning & Transport

Report Contact: John Davis
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Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Regeneration and Environment

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report updates the committee on the outcome of the delivery programme for the Highways and Transportation teams' capital work programmes during the 2022/23 financial year.
- 1.2 An indication of the forward programme of capital works is also provided against emerging and existing funding streams and Council priorities including details of any funding bids which have been submitted.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Covid19 continued to have an impact on the service delivery of the Transportation and Highways function, albeit much less impact than the previous two years. Nonetheless, overhang from the pandemic affected some of its delivery of its capital works programmes for 2022/23.
- 2.2 Work has gone into submitting bids for funding from the Active Travel Fund tranche 4, Towns Fund and Levelling Up funds.
- 2.3 We have been developing a number of schemes and progressing them WYCA's assurance process.
- 2.4 Inflation is causing a significant issue, with programmes and schemes having to be reduced in scope to fit relevant funding envelopes.

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 Work has continued on developing and delivering the Local Transport Plan, the West Yorkshire + Transport Fund, Active Travel Funds, Transforming Cities Fund and City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement Fund schemes. A summary of these programmes is set out below, with further details of particular projects under these programmes provided in the related appendices.

4. CITY REGION SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT SETTLEMENT (APPENDIX 1)

Transforming Cities Fund (Appendix 2)

- 4.1 The Council have been awarded £89m from the Transforming Cities Fund to deliver an ambitious programme of four inter-related schemes for Bradford city centre following a successful bidding process undertaken by the Combined Authority to the Department for Transport. The four schemes comprising Bradford's element of the TCF programme are:
 - a) Bradford Interchange Station Access;
 - b) Bradford City Centre Cycling and Walking Improvements;
 - c) South Bradford Park and Ride and Bus Expressway; and
 - d) West Bradford Cycle Superhighway Extension.

West Yorkshire+ Transport Fund (Appendix 3)

4.2 Schemes within this programme include:

- a) Harrogate Road / New Line junction (complete);
- b) Bradford to Shipley Route Improvement Scheme;
- c) South East Bradford Access Road;
- d) A650 Tong Street Improvements;
- e) Bradford Interchange Station Gateway;
- f) Bradford Forster Square Station Gateway;
- g) Corridor Improvement Programme – Gt Horton Road / Horton Grange Road junction improvement;
- h) Corridor Improvement Programme – Thornton Road / Toller Lane junction improvement; and
- i) Corridor Improvement Programme 2 – Cutler Heights / Dick Lane.

4.3 In addition to the above named schemes there are a number of other Transport Fund schemes which have either been delivered or supported by the service which impact on Bradford's transport network. These schemes are either being managed by WYCA or led by other district Councils on behalf of Bradford and include:

- a) UTMC Computer system upgrade - which migrated all UTC and UTMC computer systems into the cloud across West Yorkshire establishing for the first time a common database solution across West Yorkshire;
- b) Traffic Signal Upgrades – A £600,000 investment in the Council's traffic signal asset removing life expired installations across the district; and
- c) A641 Corridor Improvement Scheme – A major corridor improvement programme to bring bus, cycling and walking improvements between Huddersfield and Bradford through Brighouse led by Calderdale MBC.

Those projects aligned to the upgrade of the Council's traffic signal assets (a) and (b) above have similarly been completed within the reporting period.

Active Travel Fund (ATF Tranche 1, 2,3 & 4) (Appendix 4)

4.4 As part of the Government's response to the pandemic two tranches of funding were announced nationally for active travel schemes at short notice. In response to these announcements the service was successful in securing funding of circa £2.5m for Bradford across the first two. The schemes in these programmes were particularly aimed at temporary road space reallocation schemes (with a view to making these permanent at a later stage). Examples of schemes implemented under ATF1 include:

- a) A650 Wakefield Road pop-up cycleway;
- b) Manchester Road cycle facilities;
- c) Hall Ings Cycle Lanes;
- d) Numerous parklets (e.g. North Street, Saltaire and Cavendish Street, Keighley);
- e) School Streets; and
- f) Pavement provision under a railway bridge at Ben Rhydding.

Local Transport Plan / Integrated Transport Block and Highway Maintenance Block (Appendix 5)

4.5 The Integrated Transport Block of the Local Transport Plan funds programmes of schemes including:

- a) Area committee integrated transport/road safety schemes;
- b) Network management (traffic signal) schemes;
- c) Healthy Streets;
- d) Bus Hotspots; and
- e) Major Projects Bid Development;

The funding allocation for these projects was £2.241m and £1.461m in 2022/23. Due to staff resources issues a number of projects were not delivered within year and a carry-over of £1.203m of projects was therefore necessary into the 2022/23 financial year

4.6 The funding for the Highway Maintenance Block in 2020/21 was £6.008m and £4.286m in 21/22. Due to additional Pothole funding this was increased by £3.869m in 20/21 and £3.429m in 21/22. A further £1.075m was received in year for the 20/21 Challenge Fund. This funding is allocated based on asset types to the on-going maintenance and repair of the highway network, including the following:

- a) Bridge strengthening, inspection and assessment;
- b) Road Maintenance;
- c) Street lighting maintenance;
- d) Retaining Walls repairs; and
- e) Pothole fund.

Work on highway maintenance programmes was not impacted during the pandemic

Smart Street Lighting Project (Appendix 6)

4.7 The Smart Street Lighting project is an invest to save scheme involving the replacement of approx. 59,000 existing street lighting luminaires with energy efficient LED units, as part of the project a survey of the entire street lighting column assets has been undertaken and their structural condition assessed, based on this assessment around 19,000 columns will be replaced. The project also includes the installation of a LoRAWAN network on which a Central Management System (CMS) will be hosted giving dynamic control of the street lighting and providing real time data collection from the street lights to determine faults, power consumption and the facility to install other LoRAWAN sensors to capture other data, not only for the Council but the private sector and public as well. These could include air quality, road surface temperature, river level sensors and many other applications.

4.8 To alleviate installation issues the project is split in to 'in scope' and 'out of scope work', the 'in scope' to be carried out by the contractor (Amey OW Ltd.) and the 'out of scope' work which is predominantly, heritage assets, back streets, wall brackets, pole brackets and public realm decorative equipment to be carried out by the in house operational teams or passed to Amey dependent upon workload.

Mass Rapid Transit (Appendix 7)

- 4.9 WYCA are leading a programme to introduce a new Mass Rapid Transit system to West Yorkshire. This will be a new low-carbon mode of transportation such as light rail or tram to complement existing bus and rail services. It will be developed in phases, the first phase of which is currently anticipated to be a line linking Bradford city centre with Leeds. Future links could extend this core backbone with links from Bradford southwards (possibly to Dewsbury), northeastwards (possibly to Leeds Bradford International Airport), northwestwards to Heaton) and west/southwest (possibly to Halifax). There would be numerous intermediate stops on the system to enable public transport-led regeneration and new housing.
- 4.10 A Mass Transit Vision document has been published and the prospective plans have been consulted on as part of the West Yorkshire Connectivity Plan. The Mass Transit Vision document was consulted on in early 2023.
- 4.11 WYCA and Bradford Council are in discussions over potential route alignments and are pushing for the Leeds to Bradford route to be delivered first. Construction is hoped to start in the late 2020s with the first route potentially opened within a decade.

Northern Powerhouse Rail (Appendix 8)

- 4.12 Subsequent to the publication of the Integrated Rail Plan (IRP) in November 2021, the NPR programme has transferred from TfN to DfT ownership, which means that local communities get much less say and involvement in the development of NPR plans.
- 4.13 While previous plans for NPR would have seen a new high-speed line being built between Manchester and Leeds via a new city centre station in Bradford, the 2019 Government decided in the IRP that they did not want to invest in Bradford's connectivity in this way. The IRP indicated there would be funding for a new line between Manchester and Marsden only.
- 4.14 DfT updated their position on Bradford in June 2023. Work is being undertaken by DfT and Network Rail to look again at the case for a new through station in Bradford and links towards Huddersfield and Manchester. A decision on the option to pursue is not expected until 2024.
- 4.15 The programme is still several years away from the start of construction which could start from the mid-2020s. A new Bradford through station to support NPR could though open in the early 2030s.

Electric Vehicle Charging Points

- 4.16 The electric vehicle charge point schemes sit outside the Highways & Transport departments Capital budget, but an update has been provided as it relates to travel.

Neighbourhood Charge Points

- a) During 2022/23, 38 Bradford owned Neighbourhood Charge points were installed across 14 locations, these are available for the public to use on the Blink Charging network at a cost of 39p/kWh.

- b) These were funded by a grant of £330,850 from the Government's On-Street Residential Charge Point Scheme. The grant covered 75% of the funding the other 25% was funded via Community Infrastructure Levy and reinvestment of income from previous charging infrastructure projects.
- c) Public charge points have also been installed at Ashlands Primary School, Ilkley and Bowling Swimming Pools.
- d) Our older charge points have also been upgraded (e.g. the charger at the Crown Court car park) to be on the same network as those recently installed, to allow easier customer use and a uniform network across the council's estate.
- e) For a full list of locations where these have been installed see <https://www.bradford.gov.uk/environment/climate-change/electric-vehicle-charging-points/>

Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) Bid

- a) WYCA and the 5 district councils successfully applied for £1.5m of grant funding from LEVI pilot fund, which will look to also leverage between £1.5m and £4.5m of private investment to deliver 150 - 520 chargepoints.
- b) In addition, West Yorkshire Combined Authority has been provisionally allocated up to £14,326,000 capital and £1,079,120 capability funding under the UK Government's Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) Fund.
- c) The LEVI capability funding is further to that awarded in financial year 2022/23 and is available across financial years 2023/24 and 2024/25. The LEVI capital funding will be delivered in two tranches and is available in either financial year 2023/24 or 2024/25. Funding is dependent on suitable delivery plans agreed by the Department for Transport. The LEVI Fund will help local authorities in England significantly scale up the delivery of local chargepoints, enabling more residents, especially those without off- street parking, to switch to EVs. As a critical enabler, capability funding will ensure local authorities have dedicated staff to undertake the planning and delivery of charging infrastructure, while capital funding will support chargepoint purchase and installation costs.
- d) The full allocation of LEVI funding is due to be received later in 2023 with project implementation to start soon after. A West Yorkshire Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy has been drafted and a procurement framework developed to support the delivery of the LEVI project which should see several thousand charge points installed across the region and lever in a significant amount of private investment.

Planning requirements

- e) Recently, Heaton Crematorium has had 6 charge points installed as a result of planning requirements. Updated Building Regulation state any new building project will have charge points incorporated into the building design as part of the planning conditions.
- f) Charge points are in the process of being installed at Darley Street Market although these will be restricted to traders and delivery vehicles.

Fleet Charge Points

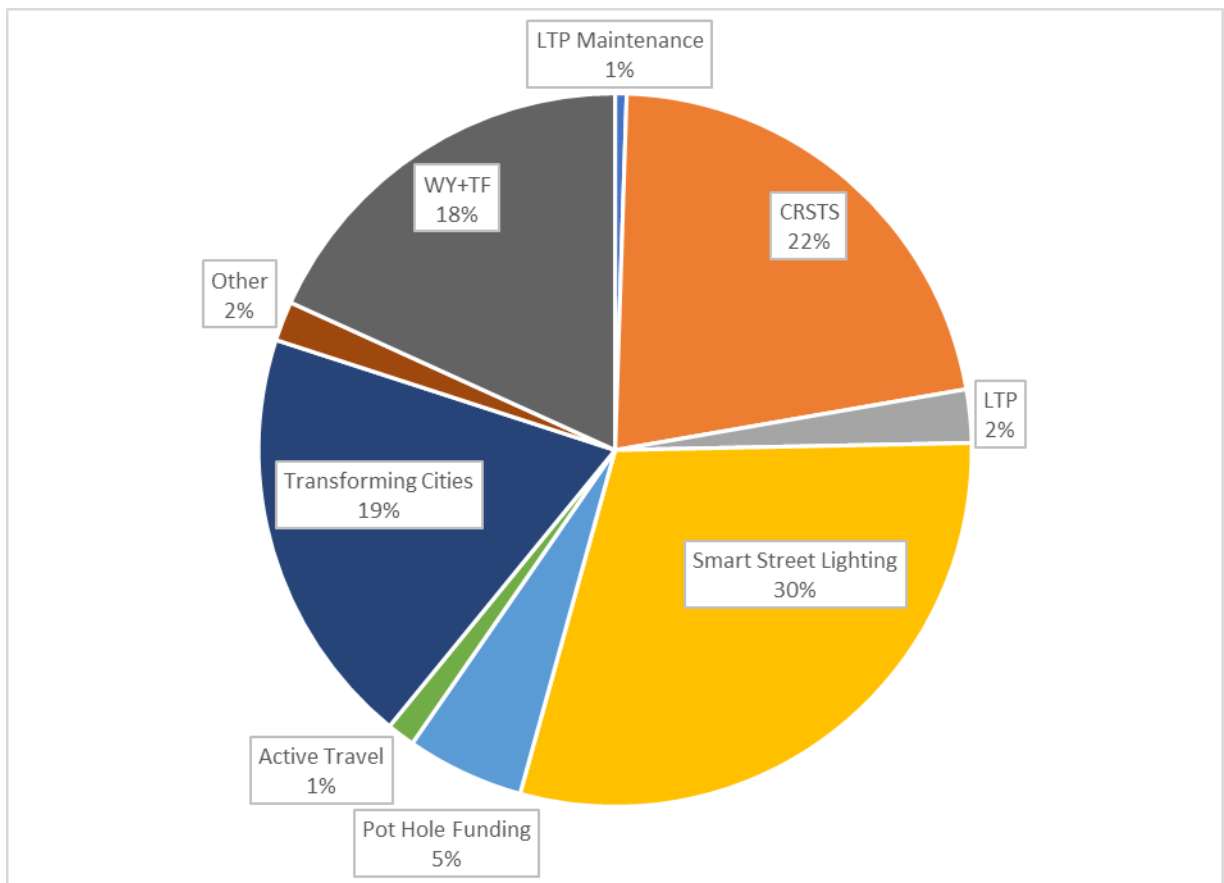
- g) In 2022/23 PAG has released £300,000 to enable charging infrastructure to be installed at our sites to enable our fleet vehicles below 3.5 tonnes (cars & small vans) to be replaced with electric vehicles. As vehicle are replaced with electric models, charging infrastructure is being installed to support this transition, to date 19 twin charge points have been installed at our depots / office locations.

Funding Bids

We have also been successful with two funding bids, including ATF4 and the Capability Fund. Although we were disappointed with the amount of money we received for ATF4.

5. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

- a) The measures being undertaken by the Council and its partners through these funding streams are being delivered through a range of specific capital grants and revenue budgets. In 2022/23 the service managed to deliver a programme of works of circa £36.816m across its portfolio of programmes comprised as shown below:



- b) With the introduction of major capital programmes, such as Transforming Cities, the service has had to procure additional support for delivery of its programmes to supplement its own internal resources. As the intensity of delivery for these

programmes ramps up over the next couple of years this is likely to be a maintaining trend.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT & GOVERNANCE ISSUES

- c) The programmes of schemes described in this report are subject to robust risk management and governance arrangements to ensure their delivery is effectively managed at both WYCA and Council levels. Individual programme boards, comprising representatives of the Council and their WYCA counterparts meet on a monthly basis to review progress of individual schemes; this arrangement operates for the TCF, NPR, MRT, WY+TF and ATF portfolios. A rigorous risk management process is applied to these projects and programmes with comprehensive risk registers being developed and maintained at both project and programme levels.
- d) Highway Maintenance Block and Integrated Transport Block schemes are delivered by individual teams and programmes within these funding streams are reported to the appropriate Area Committee for determination and management.

7. LEGAL APPRAISAL

- e) The programmes of work identified in this report are being implemented through the Council's role as Highway and Traffic Regulation Authority and the WYCA's role as Transport Authority.

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

8.1 Sustainability Implications

During the pandemic the Government released a number of new policies related to infrastructure schemes including LTN1/20 (Cycle Infrastructure Design) and Bus Back Better, National Bus Strategy for England which place specific requirements on all future transport schemes to include enhanced measures to support sustainable transport. The requirements of these policies have been adopted as far as possible across all schemes which are at an advance stage of delivery (Outline Business Case or later) within the Highways and Transportation delivery programme and are fully adopted in schemes which are in the early stages of development.

8.2 TACKLING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY IMPLICATIONS

In the context of the Climate Emergency declared by the Council in January 2019, reducing greenhouse gas emissions - particularly carbon emissions from transport – is a priority for the district. The Local Transport Plan's ISA suggested that there would be a reduction of CO₂ of 19% by 2025 across West Yorkshire with WYTS proposals when compared to the 'do minimum' scenario, but since WYTS was adopted, WYCA have stated their ambition of becoming a net zero carbon city region by 2038. WYCA and the Council are working to identify pathways for carbon reduction to meet these ambitions. Therefore, more recent programmes, such as Transforming Cities or Active Travel have seen greater emphasis placed on measures to reduce carbon emissions from transport. A fuller understanding of carbon pathways is being developed including a standardised carbon assessment tool which will be used to assess all future transport infrastructure projects once it is available.

In the meantime, the Council is acting to reduce carbon from transport through the installation of EV charging points, promotion of cycling and walking measures, upgrading street lighting to LED luminaires and implementing a Clean Air Zone which will help reduce carbon dioxide and nitrogen dioxide emissions, as well as planning for a range of interventions to boost sustainable transport options.

8.3 Community Safety Implications

Safety and security of the transport network is a key consideration of the WYTS. One of the key objectives is to 'deliver and integrated, reliable transport system that would enable people and goods to move around as efficiently and safely as possible. The ISA concluded that there would be benefits from the WYTS in terms of reducing deaths and injuries from collisions. The WYTS therefore includes projects and schemes to improve safety and reduce casualties on the highway network as well as improving personal safety on public transport.

8.4 Human Rights Act

Any Human Rights implications arising from schemes described in this report are taken into account in the development of that scheme.

8.5 Trade Union

There are no trade union implications associated with this report.

8.6 Ward Implications

The wards in which the measures described in this report are implemented will generally benefit from the improvements. Appropriate consultation has, and will continue, to take place with Ward Members and local communities during the development of individual projects.

8.7 IMPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

There are no implications arising as a consequence of this report.

8.9 Issues Arising from Privacy Impact Assessment

Not applicable.

9. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None.

10. OPTIONS

None

11. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 That progress on the transport programmes across both the programmes described in this report be noted.

12. APPENDICES

- 12.1 Appendix 1 – City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement including Transforming Cities Fund.
- 12.2 Appendix 2 – Transforming Cities Fund Portfolio Update.
- 12.3 Appendix 3 – WY+TF Portfolio Update.
- 12.4 Appendix 4 – Active Travel Fund.
- 12.5 Appendix 5 – LTP / Integrated Transport Block & Highways Maintenance Block.
- 12.6 Appendix 6 – Smart Street Lighting Programme.
- 12.7 Appendix 7 – Mass Rapid Transit.
- 12.8 Appendix 8 – Northern Powerhouse Rail (NPR).
- 12.9 Appendix 9 – Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations.

13. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 13.1 'My Journey' – West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan 2011-2026
- 13.2 West Yorkshire Transport Strategy
<https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/media/2664/transport-strategy-2040.pdf>
- 13.3 West Yorkshire Transport Strategy Integrated Sustainability Appraisal
<https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/media/2554/issue-wyca-isa-report-final-130716-v20.pdf>
- 13.4 West Yorkshire Transport Strategy Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Technical Appendices
<https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/media/2555/issue-wyca-isa-report-appendices-final-130716-rev20.pdf><https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/media/2555/issue-wyca-isa-report-appendices-final-130716-rev20.pdf>
- 13.5 Bus Back Better, National Bus Strategy for England
[Bus back better - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/bus-back-better)
- 13.6 LTN1/20 Cycle Infrastructure Design
[Cycle infrastructure design \(LTN 1/20\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/cycle-infrastructure-design-ltn-1-20)
- 13.7 Planning, Transportation & Highways Service Capital Monitor 2020-21

APPENDIX 1 – CITY REGION SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT SETTLEMENT

1. KINGS ROAD SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT CORRIDOR

- 1.1 Funding has been secured through the City Regional Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) and the scheme will comprise of a 2-mile route from the Morrisons roundabout at the Enterprise 5 Retail Park along Bradford Road, Swain House Road, Kings Road onto the A6037 Canal Road south as far as the junction of the A6181/A650. The project is at the very early stages of development of a Strategic Outline business (SOC), so the full scope is yet to be determined. The scheme aims to realise inclusive growth; tackle the Climate Emergency; and deliver a high-quality and attractive sustainable transport corridor which puts pedestrians, cyclists, and bus users at the core. In doing so, the scheme will boost economic regeneration, housing growth and connectivity of a highly deprived area of Bradford to employment, education, and training opportunities, as well as two key retail employment areas, for the people living and/or travelling within or to/from the area. Approval of the SOC by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) is expected early 2024.

2. WAKEFIELD ROAD SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT CORRIDOR

- 2.1 The scheme has been developed through the Strategic Assessment stage (SA) which proposes options for improvements to sustainable transport along the corridor. The corridor currently has poor sustainable transport and high dependency on private vehicles. The scheme aims to improve journey time and reliability of buses along the corridor to provide a competitive alternative to private car use, and provide sustainable, safe, and convenient infrastructure to support walking and cycling along and along the corridor.
- 2.2 A scope has been produced for the next stage (SOC) of the design development, and a design consultant is to be appointed in Q3 2023. Funding to develop the SOC, OBC, FBC and delivery has been provided by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and identified through the City Regional Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS).

3. BRADFORD BUS HOTSPOTS

- 3.1 The Bradford Bus Hotspots package sets out barriers to achieving the ambition for better buses in the region and opportunities for improvements to address these. These include:
- Improvements to accessing buses and improving bus user safety – including safer and more attractive bus stops
 - Ensuring communities have good access to services to allow fair access to employment, education and leisure opportunities – through a more comprehensive and better integrated bus network

APPENDIX 1 – CITY REGION SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT SETTLEMENT

- Enhancing the bus offer to contribute to modal shift and meet carbon targets for the region creating a more reliable bus network
- 3.2 These schemes are being developed in response to assessment work commissioned by local bus operators which identify key locations where the existing layout and delay contributes to unattractive journey times for buses across the Bradford District. The package will deliver two schemes that will reduce delay to buses at these key locations.
- 3.3 Westgate / Drewton Road / Lumb Lane
This scheme realigns traffic lanes and re-allocates road space within the existing boundary to provide smoother journeys through this key junction for buses during the evening peak. An inbound bus lane could potentially be accommodated in this location through road space re-allocation and subject to further design work
- 3.4 Leeds Road Gyratory
A heavily trafficked junction to access the city centre from the east, a number of options have been identified for minimising delay and enhancing the quality of bus journeys through this node. These include bus gates and a potential bus lane for inbound services. This scheme is currently being investigated further given the key strategic nature of the gyratory to both buses and general traffic.
- 3.5 The highway improvements will include measures such as junction improvements, signal changes and addressing parking that will prioritise bus movements in Bradford.
- 3.6 The scheme has been developed to Strategic Appraisal (SA) with further funding approved to develop a Programme Strategic Outline Case (SOC). The assurance pathway confirmed at SA approval will be continuation on to Outline Business Case (OBC) and Full Business Case (FBC).
- 3.7 Outputs relating to bus highways improvements are based on issues identified by bus operators and the schemes have been considered for viability by the Council. Engagement with the bus operators has been fundamental from conception and planned for effective communication through the stages of development.

4. STEETON AND SILSDEN CYCLING AND WALKING IMPROVEMENTS

- 4.1 Full funding for the Steeton and Silsden Cycling and Walking project was granted by the government in 2022 as part of the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) programme which is administered by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) and goes through the Combined Authority's Assurance Framework. The scheme is to address the issues of severance caused by the A629 dual carriageway where it passes between the two settlements of Steeton and Silsden.
- 4.2 Work on developing the Outline Business Case (OBC) for this project must now be revisited to align with the output requirements of the CRSTS funding and recent UK

APPENDIX 1 – CITY REGION SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT SETTLEMENT

Government policies such as LTN 1/20. Connectivity improvements are proposed to improve active travel beyond the A629 roundabout linking a new bridge over the A629 to key destinations such as the rail station and Airedale Hospital. Approval of the refined OBC by WYCA is expected early 2024.

APPENDIX 2 – TRANSFORMING CITIES FUND

1. BRADFORD INTERCHANGE

Scheme Aims:

- New high-quality pedestrian access to the Interchange which would dramatically improve how it connects with and ties into the heart of the city centre.
- New open and landscaped pedestrian approach to the Interchange, transforming the arrival in the city centre for visitors to City Park, Broadway and the emerging Cultural Quarter.
- Better links and improved connectivity between the bus services and train platforms within the interchange to allow people to transfer between modes of transport more easily.

13.8 As a key destination and transport hub in the city centre, Bradford Interchange is integral to the plans for the city centre. Through the scheme Bradford Council and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority plan to deliver a series of improvements at the Interchange, including:

- a) A new station approach: The new approach will begin from a newly pedestrianised Hall Ings (see below) and expanded Norfolk Gardens green space and will make it far more convenient for visitors to access the Interchange. The landscaped approach will feature new planting and greenery to improve the whole look and feel of the area, delivering a new sense of vibrancy and opening up views of the iconic Town Hall for people arriving in the area.

13.9 Complementary improvements to the Interchange interior are being developed by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and a programme of works that will provide new and upgraded facilities at the Interchange to improve the overall user experience. Wider improvements include:

- a) a new modern Travel Centre which will be located on the upper concourse with improved facilities to make information more accessible and reduce waiting times
- b) a new public address system
- c) new and repaired tactile signage
- d) safety and security improvements, such as a new help point, pedestrian barriers, and warning beacons
- e) improvements to help the Interchange run more efficiently with new, reduced flush toilets and an EV charge point for maintenance vehicles

13.10 Once complete users of the Interchange will benefit from an improved customer offering through the provision of new, modern facilities that also serve to make the Interchange safer, more accessible, and a more efficient facility to run.

APPENDIX 2 – TRANSFORMING CITIES FUND

14. CITY CENTRE CYCLING AND WALKING IMPROVEMENTS

Scheme Aims:

- A transformation of Bradford’s civic centre to create a greener, more people-focused civic centre – providing better areas of public realm and maximising the city’s incredible architectural legacy. These changes would help to attract new employers and investors to the city, leading to the creation of new jobs and drawing more people to live and work in the city centre.
- A more vibrant city-centre cultural scene by improving links to between the city centre and schemes such as Bradford Live, One City Park and Darley Street Market together, increasing the vibrancy of the city centre supporting the Council’s bid to be the UK City of Culture 2025. The plans would improve the environment between the Interchange and Forster Square Station, providing a better welcome for those travelling to Bradford to visit its fantastic cultural offer.
- Improved access to the city centre via walking, cycling and public transport - Bradford city centre currently lacks high-quality cycling and walking infrastructure, with safety and a lack of convenience currently preventing people from opting to get about this way. The proposals would address this, creating a walking and cycle-friendly city centre that is easy to get around and better for health, without adding to pollution and congestion.
- A reduction in carbon emissions - Bradford Council has committed to becoming the UK’s leading ‘clean growth’ district. By encouraging greater use of public transport, walking and cycling through the Bradford City Centre scheme, we can enable the economy to grow while reducing carbon emissions and tackling air pollution to complement the city’s Clean Air Zone.

New Green Public Spaces

- 14.1 Under the Bradford City Centre Cycling and Walking Improvements proposals, new green public spaces would be formed in the city centre – complementing the city’s rich heritage while creating attractive and relaxing areas where people can rest and spend time with friends and family. To facilitate the formation of these spaces, a number of streets would be pedestrianised, removing through traffic to create a pleasant and pollution-free environment.
- 14.2 Norfolk Gardens would be expanded out to create a major new green space, and Hall Ings would be pedestrianised from Jacobs Well roundabout to Bridge Street. Sunbridge Road, Bridge Street, Broadway and Market Street would also be closed to through traffic. Vehicular access would still be available for deliveries within restricted times.
- 14.3 Incorporated within these new areas of public realm would be enhanced paving, street trees, greenery, and plenty of seating. Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) would also be applied to prevent flooding and mitigate against climate change while improving biodiversity.

APPENDIX 2 – TRANSFORMING CITIES FUND

- 14.4 The new public spaces and pedestrianised areas would create more space for people and make it easier for people to walk and cycle between shopping and entertainment areas, while providing room for pavement cafes and dining as well as pop up events, creating a sense of vibrancy and activity. Access will be maintained to enable loading for businesses, and provision for taxis and disabled parking will be included in the final design of the scheme.

Improved cycling and walking infrastructure

- 14.5 The removal of Jacobs Well roundabout and the pedestrianisation of key streets within the city centre would allow for easy crossing from the east of the city centre to the west, linking key cultural destinations to the city's core.
- 14.6 New cycle routes and cycle parking would also be provided across the city centre, connecting into existing cycle routes such as [Route 66](#), which forms part of the National Cycle Network (NCN). The city centre cycle routes would also connect into the new cycle routes being brought forward by other Bradford Transforming Cities Fund schemes, helping more people to easily and affordably access the city centre.
- 14.7 Pedestrian access to Bradford Interchange would also be improved through accompanying plans to improve the approach to the Interchange and make it more connected to the heart of the city.

New public transport corridor

- 14.8 To increase bus service reliability across the city centre, a new public transport corridor would be introduced along Well Street and Vicar Lane. This would allow bus services to travel through the city centre efficiently without incurring delays. The corridor would also help to facilitate the plans to create pedestrianised green areas of public realm while ensuring buses are still able to drop people off at key locations.
- 14.9 The public transport corridor would run from Forster Square along Valley Road, Well Street, Vicar Lane and Bridge Street down to the Interchange. Well Street would be reopened for public transport use, ensuring bus services are connected directly with the Broadway Shopping Centre.
- 14.10 Seven new bus hubs – where it would be easy to change between buses – are also proposed around the civic core of the city. The new hubs would feature improved facilities for waiting passengers, including features such as seating, real time bus information and ticket purchasing services. The planned hubs would be located at Forster Square, Rawson Square, Goitside, City Park/Entertainment Quarter, Market Street, Cathedral and Little Germany/Broadway.
- 14.11 Works are due to be completed by the end of November 2024.

APPENDIX 2 – TRANSFORMING CITIES FUND

15. SOUTH BRADFORD PARK & RIDE AND BUS EXPRESSWAY

Scheme Aims:

- Reduce the number of car trips made along Manchester Road, helping to decrease pollution and accidents, as well as improve congestion and journey times along the route
- Provide residents in the south of Bradford with a safe, direct and green alternative to travelling into the city centre
- Increase cyclist safety along the Manchester Road corridor, providing those who have previously not felt safe cycling on an arterial route a safer, segregated cycling option
- Help create a transport network fit for the 21st century, addressing the key challenges around capacity, connectivity, sustainability and air quality
- Deliver better health outcomes for residents living in the south of Bradford by providing people with the opportunity to lead more active lives and reduce pollution in the area.

- 15.1 The South Bradford Park & Ride and Expressway scheme will deliver a high-quality, high frequency dedicated bus service between Bradford city centre and the M606 motorway, via Manchester Road. The proposed improvements include:
- a) A minimum of 500 car parking spaces alongside a terminal building with waiting amenities, plentiful secure cycle parking and provision for electric bus and car charging;
 - b) Targeted bus improvements along the length of Manchester Road that have been developed alongside public transport operators in order to maximise the efficiency of bus flows along the corridor.
 - c) Improvements to cycling connectivity to compliment National Cycle Route 66 as it passes through West Bowling and Little Horton in to the City Centre
 - d) A requirement for any buses used in the Park & Ride scheme to be low emission Euro 6 vehicles as a minimum, limiting noise and air pollution and supporting the cities clean growth targets; and
 - e) Improvements to the Croft Street Gyratory helping to facilitate quicker bus movements through the area.
- 15.2 Further complementary improvements are also being made to the nearby A641 (led by Calderdale Council), which acts as a key route between Brighouse and Bradford. The scheme is currently at Outline Business Case and public consultation closed on 8th September.
- 15.3 The scheme will be split into two phases – Phase 1 will include the ‘ride’ elements of public transport and active travel improvements and Phase 2 will include the ‘park’ elements and operation of the full park and ride service.
- 15.4 Phase 1 works are due to be completed by the end of November 2024.

APPENDIX 2 – TRANSFORMING CITIES FUND

16. WEST BRADFORD CYCLE SUPERHIGHWAY EXTENSION

Scheme Aims:

- Provide greater transport choices and make it easier and safer for residents living in the west of Bradford to make short, local journeys, as well as journeys into the city centre via cycling
- Reduce the number of car trips in the area by providing a safer, attractive alternative to the private car, helping to reduce our carbon emissions, congestion and journey times for public transport
- Help create a transport network fit for the 21st century, addressing key challenges around capacity, connectivity, sustainability and air quality
- Support residents living in the west of Bradford to live healthier lives by providing people with the opportunity to be more active, whilst helping to reduce air and noise pollution in the area.

- 16.1 The scheme would deliver a direct, largely segregated cycle route to provide cyclists with a safe, secure space to travel easily and conveniently between the city centre and areas to the west of the city. The proposed improvements include:
- a) A largely segregated cycle route running along the length of Thornton Road between the city centre and Thornton village, passing the University of Bradford and Bradford College as well as a number of areas along the way, including Girington, Crossley Hall and Lower Grange
 - b) Cyclist priority at major junctions along Thornton Road to enable quick and safe passage between the city centre and Thornton
- 16.2 The new cycle route along Thornton Road will form an extension of the existing Bradford Leeds Cycle Superhighway. Complementary improvements are also planned at the junction of Thornton Road and Cemetery Road Junction through the Thornton Road / Toller Lane Corridor Improvement Programme project of the WY+TF.
- 16.3 The scheme is to be constructed in two phases- Phase 1 will incorporate the length of route between the City Centre and Allerton Road, while Phase 2 will consist of the remainder of the route out to Thornton Village.
- 16.4 Phase 1 works are due to be completed by the end of November 2024.

APPENDIX 3 – WEST YORKSHIRE+ TRANSPORT FUND

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In July 2014 the Government announced that WYCA had uniquely secured funding to establish a £1bn West Yorkshire+ Transport Fund. This fund was to be used to develop and deliver schemes designed to target reducing congestion, improving the flow of freight and making it easier for people to commute to and from expected major growth areas. Within the total programme Bradford was indicatively awarded funding for a package of nine schemes.

2. HARROGATE ROAD / NEW LINE JUNCTION IMPROVEMENT (HRNL)

- 2.1 Construction of the Harrogate Road / New Line junction improvement project was completed at the end of May 2022. Initial observations and feedback are that the junction is performing successfully. The Monitoring and Evaluation for one year after opening has commenced and we are awaiting the results and analysis of the data collected. It is anticipated the report will be completed in Q3 of 2023. Further monitoring and Evaluation will take place 5 years after opening to assess the performance against the scheme's objectives.

3. BRADFORD TO SHIPLEY ROUTE IMPROVEMENT SCHEME (BSRIS)

- 3.1 This project consists of a number of junction improvements along the Canal Road corridor which are proposed to reduce traffic congestion on the Canal Road / Valley Road corridor to improve journey time reliability for all modes. Improvements to the access of Frizinghall station as well as the re-naturalisation of Bradford beck complements the improvements to this corridor which will support housing and employment opportunities with 5-years of the scheme opening.
- 3.2 As part of this scheme the improvements to Canal Road / Valley Road will facilitate all non-local traffic being taken off the A650, Manningham Lane which will be repurposed to become a Sustainable Transport Corridor with improvements for buses, pedestrians and cyclists which, when combined with the modifications to Canal Road are expected to mitigate the overall net carbon contribution of this scheme.
- 3.3 Improvements to the main routes between Bradford and Shipley are being revised following talks between Bradford Council and WYCA so they better meet Bradford's Clean Growth ambitions and keep pace with the latest thinking around sustainability and climate change. Development of new options for a revised OBC is currently ongoing for submission in 2024.

4. SOUTH EAST BRADFORD ACCESS ROAD (SEBAR)

- 4.1 The South East Bradford Access Route (SEBAR) project is a route development scheme which was originally proposed to improve access and transport links between the south of Bradford and Leeds.
- 4.2 A review of the scheme is taking place following a Local plan review and feedback from Leeds City Council. The development of the OBC is currently on hold. A separate review has also been completed by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) as part of a construction inflation review. CBMDC have been informed by WYCA that

APPENDIX 3 – WEST YORKSHIRE+ TRANSPORT FUND

the SEBAR scheme is now a “pipeline” project which means that it will only funded to be taken to the end of the next stage, in this case the OBC and then paused.

4.3 A decision on the way forward is yet to be confirmed.

5. A650 TONG STREET IMPROVEMENTS

5.1 This scheme is being funded via two funding streams, the West Yorkshire+ Transport Fund and the Department for Transport’s Large Local Majors (LLM) fund. The LLM provides the majority funding. Faithful & Gould have been appointed initially for the development of a revised Outline Business Case.

5.2 The development includes a review of the scheme objectives and updating these as necessary to ensure they are in line with the latest national and local policy / strategy changes including sustainable transport and active travel. It is anticipated that the scheme will have more emphasis on public transport and active travel improvements and less emphasis on improving car journey times and congestion. There is also now much more emphasis on climate change, air quality and carbon reduction that need to be factored into the need for the scheme. This will be followed by the optioneering and evaluation process to select the preferred option. Stakeholder engagement is planned to commence in Q3/Q4 2023.

5.3 The aim is to seamlessly deliver this scheme in conjunction with the Wakefield Road CRSTS scheme.

6. BRADFORD INTERCHANGE STATION GATEWAY

6.1 The scope of this project involves the relocation of the existing taxi rank and car park from the Bridge Street access. This project is currently being reviewed in light of the Transforming Cities Fund proposals for the Interchange to see if there are efficiencies in delivery which can be achieved through the TCF contractor carrying out both schemes.

6.2 Balfour Beatty are working closely with WYCA and Bradford in designing a new station access scheme, that will relocate the taxi rank onto Bridge Street and create a new public space. This new Welcome Square will compliment the demolition of the NCP car park on Hall Ings and create a direct passenger access onto Centenary Square complete with landscaping and planting.

7. BRADFORD FORSTER SQUARE STATION GATEWAY

7.1 The proposal for Forster Square station include works to address the aims of providing a new, high quality, modern station facility which enhances the user experience of arriving in Bradford city centre, creating an attractive and welcoming gateway. Proposals which are being considered include providing dedicated ticket office / information centre with ticket vending machines, seating on the main concourse and better lift access from School Street.

APPENDIX 3 – WEST YORKSHIRE+ TRANSPORT FUND

8. CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME – GT HORTON ROAD / HORTON GRANGE ROAD JUNCTION IMPROVEMENT

- 8.1 This project is part of the Council's strategic programme of junction improvements on the outer ring road which are designed to help facilitate the removal of traffic from the city centre by making journeys on the outer ring road more reliable. Designs which have been developed for this junction have previously been shared with this committee and include the provision of a new link road between the junction at Horton Park Avenue / Cecil Avenue and the junctions at All Saints Road/Dirkhill Road junction.
- 8.2 Construction commenced on the scheme in March 2023 and is progressing well with the new link road now largely complete and 50% of the underground service diversions now complete. Construction is anticipated to be completed around February 2024, providing there are no unforeseen delays.

9. CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME – THORNTON ROAD / TOLLER LANE JUNCTION IMPROVEMENT

- 9.1 As with the Great Horton Road / Horton Grange Road scheme this project is part of the strategic programme of junction improvements on the outer ring road. The scheme aims to improve two junctions at Thornton Road / Cemetery Road and Toller Lane / Carlisle road, with the aim of improving the local environment and air quality by reducing congestion as well as bringing cycling and walking enhancements to this area.
- 9.2 The development of this project was impacted by the proposals for the West Bradford Cycle superhighway extension which passes through this junction. As this scheme was developed in advance of the TCF proposals there was a need to ensure that both schemes are compatible with each other to avoid any unnecessary redevelopment of the works.
- 9.3 As such it was decided to deliver the scheme in a phased approach, with the business case for the Thornton Road / Cemetery Road junction programme to be submitted in October 2023 and to be constructed simultaneously with the TCF Cycleway scheme, anticipated to commence construction in March 2024.
- 9.4 Due to the current economic climate and rising inflation costs, the affordability of delivering both junctions has been put into question. As such, a review is being done on the overall costs to ascertain whether one or both can be delivered with the existing approved funding. The Thornton Road scheme is being prioritised due to the interrelationship with the TCF cycleway scheme.

10. CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME 2 – CUTLER HEIGHTS / DICK LANE.

- 10.1 The original proposals for this scheme were to improve journey time reliability and enhance provision for cycling and walking at Dudley Hill roundabout and along Cutler Heights Lane / Dick Lane. Replacement of the existing pedestrian / cycling underpass with a new bridge to the south and at-grade signalised crossings across the A6177 to the east and west will provide a more secure route for commuters using these modes of transport.

APPENDIX 3 – WEST YORKSHIRE+ TRANSPORT FUND

- 10.2 Following a region-wide inflation review, carried out by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority in 2022, the scheme was identified as one which is to be progressed to the next decision point (Outline Business Case) and then pipelined, where it will need to wait for another funding stream to progress.
- 10.3 This scheme is currently working towards the re-submission of its Outline Business Case following the initial proposal being rejected on various grounds. A revised option has now been developed, which meets budget and objectives, with consultation with West Yorkshire Combined Authority to follow.

INTRODUCTION

- 10.4 Work on the Active Travel Fund schemes was introduced to the Services' workload during 2019/20 as a result of the Government's announcement of funding to provide measures to support social distancing on public transport. Tranche 1 measures were developed rapidly within a tight delivery envelope, were generally temporary in nature and could, if necessary, be removed rapidly. Tranches 2 and 3 programmes were not delivered at such pace and therefore included more permanent installations in their programmes. For examples of schemes delivered under Tranches 1 and 2 see last year's "Transport Delivery Plan Performance Report 2022-23."

APPENDIX 4 – ACTIVE TRAVEL FUND

11. TRANCHE 2 INTERVENTIONS

- 11.1 A number of schemes originally proposed as part of Tranche 2 were removed from the programmed, these included
- a) Barkerend Active Travel Neighbourhood (ATN) – didn't meet funders requirements and lack of political support
 - b) Ivanhoe to Great Horton Road footway improvement and lighting (delivered using alternative funding)
- 11.2 The Cottingley Mercure to Bingley Cycleway is currently on site and due for completion by early October.
- 11.3 The Fenby Avenue scheme is currently being refined to meet funders requirements and needs to go out to consultation. It is due to be on site by the end of the 2023/24 financial year.
- 11.4 The Saltaire ATN scheme was successfully implemented and is currently being reviewed to see whether or not it will be retained, modified or removed.
- 11.5 The total value of this programme of works is £2.1m.

12. TRANCHE 3 INTERVENTIONS

1. We received £1.195m of Active Travel Fund (ATF) 3 money in October 2021 and have been developing the schemes below during 2022/23
- a) £600k for Darley Street - Footway widening and parking removal on Darley Street between Godwin St and North Parade
 - b) £525k for a further three ATNs (Keighley Central, Manningham and Holmewood)
 - c) £70k for at least 5 school streets
2. The schemes should have been completed by 31st March 2023 all schemes, or as a minimum, funding committed with consultation complete and delivery plans in place for delivery as soon as possible in 2023/24. Unfortunately, we haven't managed to deliver these schemes due to ongoing discussions with the funders (WYCA and Active Travel England) and the requirement for ongoing public consultation and engagement (particularly with regards to the ATNs).

13. ZZ) TRANCHE 4 INTERVENTIONS

- a. We received £1.045m of ATF4 money in May 2023 and we have been developing the schemes below:
- a. £475,000 Access to Schools
 - 1. Baildon Green footpath
 - 2. Cottingley Park Footpath improvements
 - 3. Oldfield Lane
 - 4. Langford Lane
 - 5. ASA Briggs Park Footpath improvements

APPENDIX 4 – ACTIVE TRAVEL FUND

6. Redburn Road
 7. St Stephens Road Footpath improvement
 8. Barnard Road – new pavement under bridge
 9. Shirley Manor Footpath improvement
 10. Green Lane
 11. Brownroyd Hill footpath
 12. Tewitt Hill point closure
 13. Silverhill Road point closure
- b. £570,282 Access to Hospitals
1. Airedale Hospital Bridleway Improvements
 2. Improvements to the promoted walking routes between the city centre and St Luke's Hospital

ACTIVE TRAVEL SOCIAL PRESCRIBING (ATSP)

2. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Bradford is one of 11 successful local authorities to receiving funding from Department for Transport/Active Travel England to deliver a 2.5 year pilot study to explore how Social Prescribing can support and encourage people to build physical activity into their daily lives. by switching some of their short everyday journeys to walking, cycling, wheeling or scooting. Being more active can support both our mental health and physical health. We have been working closely with the Public Health Team, Bradford and Craven District Health and Care Partnership (HCP) and Living Well, to deliver the initial successful Expression of Interest and secure the full Pilot funding. The funding sits within the Planning Transportation and Highways.
- 1.2. Social prescribing is an additional or alternative approach when a medical prescription is not the only answer, social prescribers or health link workers are based in primary care and some community settings, and support people to connect with community support and a wide range of local services including sport and leisure.
- 1.3. We are focussing the delivery of the pilot in 3 areas that are based on the footprint of a Primary Care Network (PCN – a group of surgeries) and that align with the Active Travel Neighbourhoods that we are delivering. The PCNs, selected in consultation with the Bradford and Craven Health and Care Partnership, are in areas with significant health inequalities, high levels of deprivation, and where we will be delivering Active Travel Schemes and initiatives. The areas identified were:
 1. Keighley
 2. Manningham/Girlington
 3. Bradford Moor / Barkerend

PROGRESS

- 1.4. The funding has enabled the recruitment of a Project Manager and 2 Officers to develop and lead the study. The team are already engaging with the social prescribing and active travel sectors, with a particular focus on Keighley as the first area. The proposed governance is to be through a new Active Travel Strategic Group to be established for this and other projects. As this project aims to improve health and wellbeing we will then report into the Living Well Board, which reports to the Wellbeing Board.

APPENDIX 4 – ACTIVE TRAVEL FUND

- 1.5. A short feasibility phase was carried out prior to the final bid, and from this Autumn will be extended through Community Readiness work, using a model developed at the University of Bradford/Bradford Institute of Health research. A local Voluntary Community Sector (VCS) organisation with prior experience of the approach has been commissioned to work with and community organisations, to understand how interested and aware people are of local paths, walking routes and cycleways, what support they would like to get more active and where they would want to see future schemes.
- 1.6. The aim of the pilot is to add another option for social prescribers to offer the people referred to them by GPs and other health professionals. Discussions are underway to link this pilot into an established local exercise referral scheme, already well-used by local GPs and health professionals as a safe route to refer people who wish to get more active for assessment.

APPENDIX 5 - LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN – INTEGRATED TRANSPORT BLOCK (ITB) AND HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE BLOCK (HMB)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Local Transport Block funding is provided under two core Blocks – highway maintenance and integrated transport. The Highway Maintenance Block funding is used to carry out highway repairs to the Council's assets (roads, bridges, retaining walls etc), whilst the Integrated Transport Block is used to deliver enhancements to the existing asset under a series of funding themes. During 2022/23 the predominant use of the ITB funding was delivery of the Council's Safer Roads programme.

2. SAFER ROADS PROJECTS

- 2.1 The 5 Constituency Area Committees promote Safer Roads schemes at a local level to tackle priorities with a primarily evidence led approach based on casualty rates. The Traffic & Road Safety teams also work with local communities through forums, community groups and day-to-day contact with local ward members and residents to assist the Area Committees in determining where the problems and community priorities are. In addition to Traffic Measures and Casualty Reduction schemes, the Area Committees also have responsibility for Blue Badge Parking Places, access improvement schemes (e.g. dropped kerbs etc.), local public transport infrastructure (e.g. raised kerbs at bus stops, bus build-outs), safer routes to schools and cycling initiatives.
- 2.2 The Safe Roads schemes therefore not only seek to reduce the incidence of road traffic collisions and thereby the occurrence and severity of associated casualties, but to improve accessibility and encourage sustainable transport i.e. walking, cycling and public transport use. Examples of schemes delivered through this programme in 2022/23 include: -
- a) Highfield Road, Idle – traffic calming and 20mph speed limit;
 - b) Reevy Road West – zebra crossing;
 - c) Lumb Lane – Traffic Calming
 - d) Shipley and Keighley constituencies - area-wide Traffic Regulation Orders for waiting restrictions at various to improve safety and/or access.
- 2.3 In addition to the locally-determined Safer Roads priorities, the Council has also developed a Strategic Schemes programme. In 2022/23 this included the promotion of significant 20mph zones around schools (prioritised using ward-based child casualty rates).

3. LTP EXPENDITURE BY SPENDING THEME

- 3.1 The table opposite summarises the level of investment from the Local Transport Plan.

**APPENDIX 5 - LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN – INTEGRATED TRANSPORT BLOCK (ITB)
AND HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE BLOCK (HMB)**

Highway Maintenance Block	£'000 22/23
CRSTS Highway Maintenance – North	3,737
CRSTS Highway Maintenance – South	4,908
Bridges, structures and retaining wall repairs	1,700
Street Lighting	170
SUB TOTAL	10,515
Integrated Transport Block	
Area Committee Safer Roads and Locally Determined schemes	1,165
Network Management & Enhancements	1,150
Active Travel/PROW	142
Bus Hot Spots	263
Kings Road and Wakefield Road Sustainable Transport Corridors	50
SUB TOTAL	2,770
TOTAL LTP FUNDING	13,285

APPENDIX 6 – SMART STREET LIGHTING PROJECT

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Smart Street Lighting project is an “invest to save” scheme involving the replacement of approx. 59,000 existing street lighting luminaires with energy efficient LED units, as part of the project a survey of the entire street lighting column assets has been undertaken and their structural condition assessed, based on this assessment around 19,000 columns will be replaced.
- 1.2 The project also includes the installation of a LoRAWAN network on which a Central Management System (CMS) will be hosted giving dynamic control of the street lighting and providing real time data collection from the street lights to determine faults and power consumption.

2. SCHEME AIMS

- 2.1 By replacing the Council's aging SOX lighting asset this project will reduce the Council's on-going energy bills associated with street lighting through the use of more energy efficient luminaires (LED). The project is financed through a combination of Salix Energy Efficiency Loans (£19.1m) and prudential borrowing (£26.5m). Through undertaking this investment, the Council is projected to save £165.5m on energy over the next 50 years with an equivalent maintenance saving of £23.5m.
- 2.2 The scheme also includes technology to allow control of street lighting columns on a zone, street or individual basis to adjust illumination levels and provide enhanced fault reporting as well as supporting a wider range of developing sensors for the 'Internet of things (IoT)' these could include air quality, road surface temperature, river level sensors and many other applications.

3. PROGRESS

- 3.1 The project comprises three essential deliverables:
 - a) An asset survey of existing street lights to determine the optimum street lighting design and identify those street lighting columns which have reached the end of their serviceable life and hence require replacement.
 - b) Design of the replacement street lighting installation to ensure that optimum illumination levels, compliant with the latest standards, are achieved through LEDs.
 - c) Installation of replacement street lighting.
- 3.2 The survey phase was completed in March 2022 providing the information regarding the assets that required column replacements based on their structural stability and provided the project team to plan the work type for each asset.
- 3.3 The design phase is now virtually complete except for around 1000 assets that relate to where overhead cables are currently utilised to feed the lighting, these designs are being undertaken by the project team within the Council.
- 3.4 In terms of the Installation phase, this is broken down into different operations for Lantern Change (LC), Lantern Change and Sleeve (LCS) and Column Replacement (CR). The Column Replacements were delayed by 16 weeks due to global materials shortages but are now progressing well with 8,673 units replaced. The number of

APPENDIX 6 – SMART STREET LIGHTING PROJECT

Lantern Changes from CR, LCS and LC's stands at 37,383 against a milestone of 36,018 so slightly ahead of programme as at 08/09/2023.

3.5 Based on the contractors programme the expected completion is due in August 2024

APPENDIX 7 – MASS RAPID TRANSIT (MRT)

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Proposals for the creation of a mass-rapid transit system for West Yorkshire are currently being developed by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and a consortium of consultancy firms. This system would provide a new low-carbon mode of transport (such as light rail or tram) across West Yorkshire to complement the existing bus and rail networks.
- 1.2 As part of the CRSTS settlement, up to £200M has been set aside to develop a West Yorkshire Mass Transit system, which will enable preparatory stages of the programme to be undertaken.

2. PROPOSALS

- 2.1 Scheme proposals are currently in development. It is anticipated that the deployment of the full Mass Transit network will be phased.
- 2.2 Mass Transit routes are anticipated to bring high quality, fast, frequent and reliable public transport to major corridors. Infrastructure works are anticipated to be complemented with place-making programmes and parallel segregated cycle facilities.
- 2.3 In Bradford, Mass Transit would serve the city centre and link both city centre railway stations, as well as having numerous other stops to serve communities on the route.
- 2.4 An initial phase is anticipated to include the following Bradford routes:
 - a) Bradford-Leeds
 - b) Bradford-to the south (possibly to Dewsbury)
- 2.5 Future links could extend this core backbone with links from Bradford southwards (possibly to Dewsbury), northeastwards (possibly to Leeds Bradford International Airport), northwestwards to Heaton) and west/southwest (possibly to Halifax).

3. PROGRAMME

- 3.1 It is currently anticipated that the Strategic Outline Business Case for MRT would be completed by the end of 2023
- 3.2 More detailed proposals for Mass Transit routes are being developed by a consortium of consultants led by Jacobs. Bradford Council has partnered with WYCA in the scheme development and will continue to do so.
- 3.3 The development of a new rail or other guided transport system brings both legal and regulatory implications, which take time to be dealt with in full. It is anticipated that the first phase of the project would start on site in the late-2020's, completing several years later.

APPENDIX 8 – NORTHERN POWERHOUSE RAIL (NPR)

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Proposals for NPR have been in development for several years following the announcement of the Government's HS2 programme. Under the auspices of Transport for the North (TfN), a programme of new lines and line upgrades was planned, to boost the economic productivity of the north of England. TfN's preferred option in 2021 was for a new line between Manchester and Leeds via Bradford, with options for stations in Bradford including a new station at St James' Market
- 1.2 Since the publication of the Integrated Rail Plan (IRP) in November 2021, this programme is being managed directly by the Department for Transport, with significantly less input from both WYCA and local authorities and thus less external oversight of the programme.
- 1.3 In the IRP, the Government announced that options for a new line via Bradford would not be progressed, despite strong local demands for this. However, the IRP did contain commitments to electrify the line between Bradford Interchange and Leeds.
- 1.4 Subsequent to a report by the Parliamentary Transport Select Committee into the IRP, the DfT updated their position to be more supportive of a new through station in Bradford, connected into the Calder Valley route, which could later link into TRU and NPR.

2. SCHEME PROPOSALS

- 2.1 At the current time, the proposals include:
 - a) Creation of new sections of high-speed line between Leeds and Manchester, not including Bradford
 - b) Electrification and upgrade of the line between Leeds and Bradford Interchange, aiming for a 12min journey time.
 - c) Works to accommodate the new services at Bradford Interchange or a new station, noting that a new station is not at present supported by DfT. A new through station to replace the current turnback station would cut journey times and make the rail network more efficient, as well as unlocking regeneration opportunities.
- 2.2 Additionally, DfT and Network Rail are investigating:
 - a) The case for a new through station in Bradford city centre to replace Bradford Interchange
 - b) The case for better links from Bradford towards Huddersfield and thence Manchester via NPR.

3. PROGRAMME

- 3.1 Scheme development is being undertaken by DfT for the sections of new line, with the Strategic Outline Case to be submitted in the coming months – but this will not be seen by the Council.
- 3.2 Network Rail is progressing work separately on the development of options for the electrification and upgrade of the line between Leeds and Bradford Interchange, under

APPENDIX 8 – NORTHERN POWERHOUSE RAIL (NPR)

its SPEED programme for delivering enhancements quicker. This will ensure that the upgrade is delivered by the early 2030s at the latest.

- 3.3 CBMDC have been working with Network Rail on the project timescales for a new station to be built to replace Bradford Interchange. This could be completed by 2030 if a decision was rapidly

APPENDIX 9 – GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ACRONYM	DEFINITION
ATF (1) / (2) / (3) / (4)	Active Travel Fund. Number indicated funding tranche.
Bike It	Cycling encouragement programme delivered by Sustrans in schools
CO₂	Carbon Dioxide
CMS	Central Management System
Common Database	A 'live' database containing a wide range of traffic and transport data which provides information to websites, Variable Message Signs, UTC systems etc.
CRSTS	City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DfT	Department for Transport
EV	Electric Vehicle.
FBC	Full Business Case
HS2	High Speed 2 Rail Link between London and Manchester / Leeds
Hub	A location where there is a focus on transport movements and where improvements are being implemented to enhance facilities
ISA	Integrated Sustainability Assessment – an assessment of the extent to which a strategic plan will help achieve relevant environmental, economic and social objectives.
IRP	Integrated Rail Plan
KSI	Killed and Seriously Injured Road Casualties
LED	Light Emitting Diode Lighting – energy efficient lighting equipment.
LES	Low Emission Strategy
LoRAWAN	Low power wide area network designed to connect low powered sensors to the internet in regional, national or global networks and supports bi-direction communication.
LSTF	Local Sustainable Transport Fund
LTP / IP3 / IP4	Local Transport Plan / Implementation Plan 3 / Implementation Plan 4

APPENDIX 9 – GLOSSARY OF TERMS

LUF	Levelling Up Fund
MOVA	Micro Processor Optimised Vehicle Actuation – a sophisticated traffic signal operating system that responds to changes in traffic flow by altering green light durations and signal cycle times.
NPIF	National Productivity Investment Fund – A £23bn fund established to invest in areas that are key to boosting productivity: transport, digital communications, research and development and housing.
NPR	Northern Powerhouse Rail
NPRN	Non-Principal Road Network – typical estate roads not serving the strategic needs of the nation.
OBC	Outline Business Case
OLEV	Office for Low Emission Vehicles
PRN	Principal Road Network – highways identified as serving the strategic needs of the nation.
RailPlan7	The current rail planning document for West Yorkshire
SOBC	Strategic Outline Business Case
TCF	Transforming Cities Fund
TfN	Transport for the North
TLP	Traffic Light Priority for Buses – a system that uses GPS positioning to trigger extended or advanced green signals for buses.
Urban Traffic Management Control / UTMC / UTC	The traffic management and control systems that lie behind traffic signals, variable message signs, TLP etc.
WYCA	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
WY+TF	West Yorkshire Plus Transport Fund.
WYTS	West Yorkshire Transport Strategy



Report of the Chair of the Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee to the meeting to be held on 5 December 2023

Y

Subject:

Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2023-24

Summary statement:

This report presents the Committee's Work Programme 2023-24

Cllr Kamran Hussain
Chair – Regeneration and
Environment O&S Committee

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Portfolios:
Regeneration, Planning & Transport
Education, Employment and Skills
Healthy People and Places



1. SUMMARY

1.1 This report presents the Committee's Work Programme 2023-24

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Each Overview and Scrutiny Committee is required by the Constitution of the Council to prepare a work programme (Part 3E – Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, Para 1.1). The Committee adopted its work programme at its meeting of 18 July 2023.

2.2 Appendix A of this report presents the Work Programme for 2023-24.

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 The Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee has the responsibility for “the strategies, plans, policies, functions and services directly relevant to the corporate priorities about Better skills, more jobs and a growing economy, Safe, clean and active communities and Decent homes that people can afford to live in (Constitution of the Council Part 2, Article 6, para 6.5.1).

3.2 Best practice published by the Centre for Public Scrutiny suggests that ‘work programming should be a continuous process’. It is important to regularly review work programmes so that important or urgent issues that come up during the year are able to be scrutinised. In addition, at a time of limited resources, it should also be possible to remove projects which have become less relevant or timely. For this reason, it is proposed that the Committee's work programme be regularly reviewed by Members throughout the municipal year.

3.3 The Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2023/24 reflects the priority outcomes of the Council Plan in particular: ‘better skills, more good jobs and a growing economy’, ‘decent homes’, ‘better health, better lives’, ‘safe, strong and active lives’, ‘and ‘a sustainable district’ (Our Council Plan: Priorities and Principles 2021-25).

3.4 The work programme as adopted by the Committee on 18 July 2023 forms the basis for the Committee's work during the year but will be regularly reviewed and amended as issues arise.

4. FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE APPRAISAL

None

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

None

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

None

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

None

7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

None

7.3 TACKLING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY IMPLICATIONS

None

7.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

None

7.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

None

7.6 TRADE UNION

None

7.7 IMPLICATIONS FOR CORPORATE PARENTING

None

7.8 ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY ASSESSMENT

None

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 That the Work programme 2023-24 continues to be regularly reviewed during the year

10. APPENDICES

10.1 Appendix A – Regeneration & Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2023-24

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Bradford Council Constitution

Democratic Services - Overview and Scrutiny

Appendix A

Regeneration and Environment O&S Committee

Scrutiny Lead: Caroline Coombes tel - 432313

Work Programme

Agenda Items	Description	Report Author	Comments
Tuesday, 30th January 2024 at City Hall, Bradford Chair's briefing 08/01/24. Report deadline 17/01/24			
1) Waste Services Performance	Update	Richard Galthen	Resolution of 17 Jan 2023
2) Mass Transit Programme Update	Presentation from Combined Authority	Simon Warburton / Luke Albanese / Sima Alavi	
3) Climate and environment / sustainable green growth	Update	Andrew Whittles	Resolution of 15 Nov 2022
Tuesday, 13th February 2024 at City Hall, Bradford Report deadline 31/01/24			
1) Active Bradford JU:MP programme	Update	Zuby Hamard	Resolution of 21 Feb 2023
2) Squire Lane Health and Wellbeing facility	Progress update	Ian Smart	Resolution of 21 Feb 2023
3) Towns Fund Update	Update	Angela Blake	Added to work programme 18 July 2023
Tuesday, 19th March 2024 at City Hall, Bradford Report deadline 07/03/24			
1) Fly-tipping in Bradford District	Update	Amjad Ishaq	Resolution of 21 Mar 2023
2) Housing Standards	Update on the work of the Team	David North / Ruth Hudson / Shonu Miah	Resolution of 21 Mar 2023
3) Use of glyphosate for weed control within Bradford MDC	Update to include info on the trails in Shipley parks and learning from other councils.	Damian Fisher	Resolution of 31 Jan 2023
4) Biodiversity and Environment Act	Update to include an update on the Local Nature Recovery Strategy	Danny Jackson	Resolution of 17 Jan 2023

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