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Ribble Valley
Borough Council

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Dear Councillor

The next meeting of the **HEALTH AND HOUSING** will be held at 6.30 pm on **THURSDAY, 10 JUNE 2021** by Council Chamber, 13 Church Street, Clitheroe, BB7 2RA.

I do hope you can be there.

Yours sincerely

M. H. Scott

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** (Pages 3 - 6)
3. **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in respect of matters contained in the agenda.

4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

ITEMS FOR DECISION

5. **CAPITAL OUTTURN - 2020/21** (Pages 7 - 14)
Report of Director of Resources enclosed
6. **APPOINTMENT OF WORKING GROUPS** (Pages 15 - 16)
Report of Chief Executive enclosed.
7. **FIRST HOMES** (Pages 17 - 20)
Report of the Director of Economic Development and Planning enclosed

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

8. **FLY TIPPING - VERBAL UPDATE**
Verbal update for the Chief Executive
9. **REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2021/22** (Pages 21 - 22)
Report of the Chief Executive enclosed.
10. **EMPTY PROPERTIES** (Pages 23 - 28)
Report of the Director of Economic Development and Planning enclosed
11. **COVID-19 - UPDATE** (Pages 29 - 34)
Report of the Chief Executive enclosed
12. **REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**
None.
13. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

ITEMS FOR DECISION

None.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

14. **GRANTS UPDATE** (Pages 35 - 38)
1
Report of the Director of Economic Development and Planning enclosed

Electronic agendas sent to members of Health and Housing – Councillor Mark Hindle (Chair), Councillor Jan Alcock JP, Councillor Stephen Atkinson, Councillor Ian Brown, Councillor Rosemary (Rosie) Elms, Councillor Steve Farmer, Councillor Jonathan Hill, Councillor Brian Holden (Vice-Chair), Councillor Allan Knox, Councillor Ged Mirfin, Councillor Richard Newmark, Councillor Donna O'Rourke, Councillor Mary Robinson, Councillor Richard Sherras and Councillor Robin Walsh.

Contact: Democratic Services on 01200 414408 or committee.services@ribblevalley.gov.uk

Minutes of Health and Housing

Meeting Date: Thursday, 18 March 2021, starting at 6.30 am
Present: Councillor B Hilton (Chair)

Councillors:

J Alcock	B Holden
S Atkinson	A Knox
T Austin	R Newmark
D Birtwhistle	D O'Rourke
R Elms	D Peat
J Hill	M Robinson
M Hindle	R Sherras

In attendance: Chief Executive, Head of Regeneration and Housing, Acting Head of Environmental Health and Senior Accountant

Also in attendance: Councillors

1053 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

1054 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

1055 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS (IF ANY)

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

1056 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

1057 JOINERS ARMS - ROOF RENEWAL AND RENOVATION WORKS

The Director of Economic Development and Planning submitted a report seeking approval to bring forward the proposed roof renewal scheme at the Joiners Arms to 2021/22 and to recommend a new capital scheme in 2021/22 for renovation works to make two flats at Joiners Arms available for use again.

Members were reminded that the Joiners Arms Clitheroe is the Council's homeless hostel and provides a mix of self-contained and shared facility flats to provide emergency temporary accommodation for those in need.

Since being back in Council management in 2017, repairs, maintenance and refurbishments have been undertaken to keep the building compliant and operationally fit for purpose. However, the need to replace the roof and carry out other renovation works had been identified as significant capital projects Possible further work had also been identified in relation to the render of the rear of the building.

RESOLVED THAT COMMITTEE:

1. Approve the move of the Joiners Arms Roof Renewal capital scheme from the 2023/24 capital programme to the 2021/22 capital programme, with a revised budget of £42,200, and refer this to Policy and Finance Committee for final approval.
2. Approve a new capital scheme for the renovation of flats 1 and 2 at Joiners Arms, with a budget of £13,540 funded from the Flexible Homelessness Support Grant earmarked reserve and refer this to Policy and Finance Committee for final approval.
3. Agree that work to re-render the rear elevation is undertaken as part of the roof renewal project and included in the tender specification as an addition to the capital scheme in the interests of efficiency, subject to the costs returned from the tender process.

1058 CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021-2022

The Director of Resources submitted a report informing members of the schemes which have been approved for inclusion in this Committee's 2021/22 Capital Programme.

Members were reminded that at its meeting in January the Committee proposed a four-year capital programme for 2021/22 to 2024/25 to the Special Policy and Finance Committee. Following recommendations by the Special Policy and Finance Committee, on 2 March 2021 the Full Council approved the four-year capital programme.

This Committee had a capital programme for 2021/22 of five schemes, totalling £639,640.

It was highlighted that the Disabled Facilities Grants scheme budget is currently an indicative amount, so the actual scheme budget will be confirmed when the 2021/22 grant allocation from central government is notified to the Council.

1059 REVENUE MONITORING 2020-2021

The Director of Resources submitted a report informing members of the progress of the 2020/21 revised revenue budget as at the end of January 2021.

The comparison between actual expenditure and the revised estimate budget for this Committee at the end of January 2021 shows a net overspend of £33,340, after allowing for transfers to and from earmarked reserves.

The largest overspend to date is the Housing Benefits rent allowance net overspend of £65,680 which will be broadly funded by increased Housing Benefits subsidy grant income at year-end. Thus, no significant overspend is expected at year-end.

It was also noted that there is a high level of outstanding debt on invoiced income in some service areas as a result of Covid-19

1060 GREEN ENERGY GRANTS

The Director of Economic Development and Planning Resources submitted a report informing members of the current energy efficiency projects in the borough.

Members were reminded that the Government announced a Green Homes Energy Scheme as a package of support promoted to help with installing energy efficient improvements in residential homes.

The report noted that there have been two main elements to the scheme; one delivered by way of vouchers and independent installers and one known as the Local Authority Delivered Scheme (LAD) which the Council is more directly involved in.

1061 COVID-19 UPDATE

The Chief Executive submitted a report informing members of the current status of the COVID-19 pandemic as it relates to the Ribble Valley.

Members were reminded that following the Chief Executive's presentation to the Health and Housing Committee on 14 January 2021, it was considered important to provide regular updates to members and to highlight any Council initiatives.

The report set out details of a number key statistics; including the number of COVID-19 cases in the borough and the number of residents who had been vaccinated with at least 1 dose.

1062 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES (IF ANY)

There were no reports from representatives on outside bodies.

1063 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

That by virtue of the next item of business being exempt information under Paragraph(s) 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be now excluded from the meeting.

1064 REVIEW OF THE WORK OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TEAM

The Chief Executive submitted a report informing members of the work undertaken by the Environmental Health Team since the onset of the first lockdown on 23 March 2020. The report highlighted staffing level issues in the department, which has had a negative impact on the work undertaken by the Council.

RESOLVED THAT COMMITTEE:

1. Note the work that has been undertaken by the Environmental Health team during a difficult last 12 months, and to recognise that there are potential serious shortcomings in the service currently provided due to the lack of qualified EHO's in the team.
2. Authorise a full review of the Environmental Health team be undertaken as a priority following the Head of Service's anticipated return to work in May. This review will focus on vacant posts, retention of existing staff and consider all other options including a potential restructure of the team.
3. Refer to the Policy and Finance Committee to see if funds are available for the above review to be carried out by outside consultants.
4. Agree to appoint a dog fouling working group consisting of Councillors; Alcock (chair), Newmark, Birtwhistle, Austin and Robinson.

1065 CLITHEROE MARKET - RENTS UPDATE

The Chief Executive submitted a report for consideration by members as to whether the Council should provide a reduction in rent in the 2020/2021 financial year to any of the market traders because of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Members were reminded that the Market has been open throughout the various national lockdowns and local restrictions, however some of the cabins have had to close due to the nature of their business.

The report provided details of the support grants provided to each of the businesses and the amount of rental arrears owed by some of the businesses.

RESOLVED THAT COMMITTEE:

1. Agree not to offer rent reductions to any of our Market Traders.
2. Agree to progress the collection of rent arrears in a consistent and sympathetic manner.

1066

HOUSING GRANTS - UPDATE

The Director of Economic Development and Planning submitted a report informing Committee of recent grant approvals for the following schemes:

- Disabled Facilities Grants
- Landlord Tenant Grants
- Affordable Warmth Capital Grant
- Emergency Assistance Grant (COVID-19)
- Property Resilience Grants (Floods)

The meeting closed at 8.25 am

If you have any queries on these minutes please contact the committee clerk, Mike Hill mike.hill@ribblevalley.gov.uk.

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

meeting date: 10 JUNE 2021
title: CAPITAL OUTFURN 2020/21 AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22
UPDATE
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES
principal author: ANDREW COOK

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To report the 2020/21 capital programme outturn for this Committee and to seek member approval for the slippage of some capital scheme budgets from the 2020/21 financial year to the 2021/22 financial year.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives – none identified.
- Corporate Priorities - to continue to be a well-managed council providing efficient services based on identified customer need.
- Other Considerations – none identified.

2 2020/21 CAPITAL PROGRAMME BACKGROUND

2.1 Three capital schemes for this Committee's original estimate budget, totalling £513,940, were approved by the Special Policy and Finance Committee and Full Council at their meetings in February 2020 and March 2020 respectively. This included new annual budgets for two on-going grants schemes and also budget for two 2019/20 schemes that had been moved from the 2019/20 capital programme to the 2020/21 capital programme.

2.2 In addition to the original estimate budget above, the following budget changes were made:

- Five capital schemes were not completed by 31 March 2020 and had unspent budget available at that date. The total unspent budget of £658,890 on those schemes, known as slippage, was moved into the 2020/21 capital programme budget, after slippage requests from the budget holders were agreed by the Director of Resources.
- Following approval of the original estimate budget for this Committee, the Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) funding for 2020/21 from Central Government was confirmed as £346,368. The DFGs scheme budget was initially set at £347,000 on the basis that this would be changed to reflect the confirmed DFGs funding that was received. Therefore, the DFGs 2020/21 budget was decreased by £630 to £346,370.
- In June 2020, Onward Homes confirmed that they would contribute £90,655 towards the cost of disabled adaptations carried out in 2019/20 and 2020/21 on their properties under the DFGs regime. This funding is ring-fenced for disabled adaptations so the DFGs budget was increased by £90,650.

- In August 2020, the Emergency Committee approved an increase of £42,530 to the Chipping Community Housing Grant scheme budget from £115,000 to £157,530.
- In November 2020, Policy and Finance Committee approved a budget of £140,840 for the new Clitheroe Affordable Housing Scheme.

2.3 As a result of the above, the total approved budget for this Committee's capital programme of six schemes was £1,446,220. This is shown at Annex 1.

2.4 The revised capital programme budget of £1,277,520 for six schemes was then approved by the Special Policy and Finance Committee in February 2021, following a review of progress on all schemes in the capital programme. This included moving £215,340 of budget on two schemes into the 2021/22 financial year. The revised estimate budget is shown at Annex 1.

2.5 During the financial year this Committee has received reports monitoring the progress of schemes within the capital programme.

3 CAPITAL OUTTURN 2020/21

3.1 Annex 1 shows this Committee's capital programme outturn position by scheme, including budget approvals, actual expenditure in-year and requested slippage into 2021/22. The table below summarises the final outturn position.

Original Estimate 2020/21 £	Budget Moved from 2019/20 £	Slippage from 2019/20 £	Additional Approvals 2020/21 £	Total Approved Budget 2020/21 £	Revised Estimate 2020/21 £	Budget Moved to 2021/22 £	Actual Expenditure 2020/21 £	Requested Slippage into 2021/22 £
397,000	116,940	658,890	273,390	1,446,220	1,277,520	215,340	679,007	595,170

3.2 Actual expenditure on the capital programme was £679,007, which is 53.2% of the revised estimate budget.

3.3 Three of the six capital programme schemes were completed in-year.

3.4 Three schemes were not completed in-year, as follows:

- **Disabled Facilities Grants (-£567,499):** A significantly reduced number of schemes have been approved and completed in-year because non-urgent DFGs related works, occupational therapy assessments and technical assessments were put on-hold due to Covid-19 from late March 2020 onwards. From June 2020, there was some increase in DFGs work, mainly on minor adaptations and urgent high priority cases where possible, as lockdown restrictions were gradually eased. However, the rate of increase in DFGs work and grant payments made for the rest of 2020/21 was gradual because many vulnerable clients were shielding, social distancing rules made contractors' work in houses difficult and in some cases not possible and there were contractor and technical officer capacity issues re catching up on work later in-year.

Slippage of £567,500 into 2021/22 is requested to fund on-going DFGs spend throughout 2021/22. *NOTE - The underspent budget is financed by ring-fenced funding from MHCLG and Onward Homes, so any underspend from 2020/21 must be allocated to Disabled Facilities Grants in 2021/22.*

- **Landlord/Tenant Grants (-£15,900):** The revised budget set was based on two approved schemes in progress in-year. One scheme was completed in-year but one was not completed by year-end. Slippage of £15,900 into 2021/22 is requested to fund the payment of grant in 2021/22 on the one approved scheme that was not complete at 2020/21 financial year-end.
- **Clitheroe Affordable Housing Scheme (-£11,773):** The property was purchased in-year and some of the planned refurbishment work was completed also. However, scheme completion was put on-hold in January 2021 whilst the property was temporarily used as a homeless let. The homeless let was on-going at 2020/21 financial year-end. Slippage of £11,770 into 2021/22 is requested to fund the final refurbishment works required in 2021/22.

4 SLIPPAGE

4.1 Where capital schemes are not complete at year-end and budget is requested to be moved into the next financial year, this is known as slippage. For this Committee slippage of £595,170 is requested into 2021/22 for three schemes:

- Disabled Facilities Grants, £567,500.
- Landlord/Tenant Grants, £15,900.
- Clitheroe Affordable Housing Scheme, £11,770.

4.2 Attached at Annex 2 are the individual “Request for slippage” forms. This Committee is asked to consider and approve these requests.

5 CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22 UPDATE

5.1 This Committee’s capital programme original estimate for 2021/22 included an indicative budget of £347,000 for Disabled Facilities Grants. As reported to this Committee in March 2021, the actual scheme budget for Disabled Facilities Grants was to be confirmed when the 2021/22 actual grant allocation was notified to the Council.

5.2 MHCLG notified the Council in May 2021 that the actual Disabled Facilities Grants 2021/22 allocation is £393,008. Thus, the Disabled Facilities Grants scheme original estimate budget 2021/22 is now confirmed as £393,010.

6 RISK ASSESSMENT

6.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – There are no additional financing requirements needed for this Committee’s 2020/21 capital programme. Capital resources are already in place to fund the £595,170 requested slippage to the 2021/22 financial year. The Council is required to use any ring-fenced funding received only for the specific purposes it is granted for. The slippage on the Disabled Facilities Grants scheme falls within this area.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – None.
- Political – None.
- Reputation – Sound financial planning for known capital commitments safeguards the reputation of the Council.
- Equality and Diversity – Equality and diversity issues are examined as part of the capital bid appraisal process.

7 CONCLUSION

- 7.1 Actual expenditure on the capital programme was £679,007, which is 53.2% of the revised estimate budget.
- 7.2 Three of the six capital programme schemes were completed in-year.
- 7.3 Three schemes were not completed in 2020/21. Slippage of £595,170 has been requested to fund expenditure on those schemes in 2021/22.
- 7.4 The Disabled Facilities Grants scheme original estimate budget 2021/22 is now confirmed as £393,010.

8 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

- 8.1 Approve the slippage of the following budgets into the 2021/22 capital programme:
- Disabled Facilities Grants, £567,500.
 - Landlord/Tenant Grants, £15,900.
 - Clitheroe Affordable Housing Scheme, £11,770.

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

HH6-19/AC/AC
28 May 2021

For further information please ask for Andrew Cook.

BACKGROUND PAPERS: None

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE – CAPITAL PROGRAMME OUTTURN 2020/21

Cost Centre	Scheme	Original Estimate 2020/21 £	Budget Moved from 2019/20 £	Slippage from 2019/20 £	Additional Approvals 2020/21 £	Total Approved Budget 2020/21 £	Revised Estimate 2020/21 £	Budget Moved to 2021/22 £	Actual Expenditure 2020/21 £	Requested Slippage into 2021/22 £
DISCP	Disabled Facilities Grants	347,000	0	329,960	90,020	766,980	813,620	0	246,121	567,500
LANGR	Landlord/Tenant Grants	50,000	59,940	58,300	0	168,240	26,500	136,740	10,600	15,900
CMIMP	Clitheroe Market Improvements	0	57,000	29,860	0	86,860	8,260	78,600	8,164	0
LONAH	Longridge Affordable Housing Scheme	0	0	125,770	0	125,770	130,770	0	127,523	0
CHCHG	Chipping Community Housing Grant	0	0	115,000	42,530	157,530	157,530	0	157,532	0
CLIAH	Clitheroe Affordable Housing Scheme	0	0	0	140,840	140,840	140,840	0	129,067	11,770
Total Health and Housing Committee		397,000	116,940	658,890	273,390	1,446,220	1,277,520	215,340	679,007	595,170

ANNEX 2

**HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE – CAPITAL PROGRAMME
OUTTURN 2020/21**

Request for slippage into 2021/22

Cost Centre and Scheme Title	DISCP: Disabled Facilities Grants
Scheme Description	Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) are grants delivered by the Council to assist people with disabilities to be able to stay in their own home.
Head of Service	Colin Hirst
Year Originally Approved	2020/21 (Annual Scheme)
Revised Estimate 2020/21 for the Scheme	£813,620
Actual Expenditure in the Year 2020/21	£246,121
Variance - (Underspend) or Overspend	(£567,499)
Please provide full reasons for the (under) or over spend variance shown above?	The 2020/21 underspend is due to the significantly reduced number of schemes approved and completed in-year because non-urgent DFGs related works, occupational therapy assessments and technical assessments were put on-hold due to Covid-19 from late March 2020 onwards (the grant recipients are in the most vulnerable categories of people). From June 2020, there was some increase in DFGs work, mainly on minor adaptations and urgent high priority cases where possible, as lockdown restrictions were gradually eased. However, the rate of increase in DFGs work and grant payments made for the rest of 2020/21 was gradual because many vulnerable clients were shielding, social distancing rules made contractors' work in houses difficult and in some cases not possible and there were contractor and technical officer capacity issues re catching up on work later in-year.

Slippage Request

Please grant the amount of Budget Slippage from 2020/21 to 2021/22 requested.	£567,500
Please give detailed information on the reasons for any request for slippage. Please provide as much information as possible in order to allow the request to be fully considered.	Slippage will fund on-going DFGs spend in 2021/22. NOTE - The underspent budget is financed by ring-fenced funding from MHCLG and Onward Homes, so any underspend from 2020/21 must be allocated to Disabled Facilities Grants in 2021/22.
By what date would the work or services related to any requested slippage be completed, if it were to be approved.	On-going spend throughout 2021/22.

ANNEX 2

**HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE – CAPITAL PROGRAMME
OUTTURN 2020/21**

Request for slippage into 2021/22

Cost Centre and Scheme Title	LANGR: Landlord/Tenant Grants
Scheme Description	To offer grant aid for the renovation of private sector properties with the condition that the units are affordable on completion and the Council has nomination rights.
Head of Service	Colin Hirst
Year Originally Approved	2020/21 (Annual Scheme)
Revised Estimate 2020/21 for the Scheme	£26,500
Actual Expenditure in the Year 2020/21	£10,600
Variance - (Underspend) or Overspend	(£15,900)
Please provide full reasons for the (under) or over spend variance shown above?	The revised budget set was based on two approved schemes in progress in-year. One scheme was completed in-year but one was not completed by the grant applicant in-year. Thus, the grant was not paid in-year.

Slippage Request

Please grant the amount of Budget Slippage from 2020/21 to 2021/22 requested.	£15,900
Please give detailed information on the reasons for any request for slippage. Please provide as much information as possible in order to allow the request to be fully considered.	Slippage will fund the payment of grant in 2021/22 on the one approved scheme that was outstanding at 2020/21 financial year-end. The wider Landlord/Tenant Grants scheme is on-going and the slippage will be added to the £186,740 budget already approved for Landlord/Tenant Grants in 2021/22.
By what date would the work or services related to any requested slippage be completed, if it were to be approved.	On-going spend throughout 2021/22.

ANNEX 2

**HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE – CAPITAL PROGRAMME
OUTTURN 2020/21**

Request for slippage into 2021/22

Cost Centre and Scheme Title	CLIAH: Clitheroe Affordable Housing Scheme
Scheme Description	The purchase of one property in Clitheroe to be rented out as an affordable rental unit, utilising commuted sum monies. The property will be leased to a registered provider and the Council will have 100% nomination rights and the rent will be capped at LHA rate.
Head of Service	Colin Hirst
Year Originally Approved	2020/21
Revised Estimate 2020/21 for the Scheme	£140,840
Actual Expenditure in the Year 2020/21	£129,067
Variance - (Underspend) or Overspend	(£11,773)
Please provide full reasons for the (under) or over spend variance shown above?	The property was purchased in-year and some of the planned refurbishment work was completed also. However, scheme completion was put on-hold in January 2021 whilst the property was temporarily used as a homeless let. The homeless let was on-going at financial year-end.

Slippage Request

Please grant the amount of Budget Slippage from 2020/21 to 2021/22 requested.	£11,770
Please give detailed information on the reasons for any request for slippage. Please provide as much information as possible in order to allow the request to be fully considered.	The slippage requested will fund the final refurbishment works required in 2021/22.
By what date would the work or services related to any requested slippage be completed, if it were to be approved.	The refurbishment works are expected to be completed by September 2021, subject to contractor availability to complete the works.

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

DECISION

meeting date: 10 June 2021
 title: APPOINTMENT TO WORKING GROUPS 2021/22
 submitted by: Chief Executive
 principal author: Olwen Heap

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To appoint members to any working groups under the remit of the Health & Housing committee and their membership.
- 1.2 Relevance to the Council’s ambitions and priorities
- Community Objectives – to be a well managed council providing effective services.
 - Corporate Priorities - to protect and enhance the existing environmental quality of our area; to help make people’s lives healthier and safer.
 - Other Considerations – to work in partnership with other bodies in pursuit of the Council’s aims and objectives.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Working groups are set up by a parent committee to aid them in reaching a decision on specific aspects of their remit. Working groups have no powers and decisions are always made ultimately by the parent committee.
- 2.2 Working groups are usually made up of members from the parent committee unless another member has an expertise that could be useful to the group or in the case of a small political group availability is an issue.

3 ISSUES

- 3.1 The following working groups come under the remit of the Health & Housing committee and are active working groups. Officers recommend that they are re-established. The membership of these working groups for 2021/22 needs to be decided and committee may wish to consider if numbers need reviewing to approximate political balance on the Council.

Strategic Housing WG	3 Conservatives + 1 Lib Dem + Chair of Planning & Development
Health & Wellbeing Partnership	4 Conservatives + 1 Lib Dem + 1 Labour
Dog Fouling	3 Conservatives + 1 Lib Dem + 1 Independent

- 3.2 Working groups meet when there is a need to move an issue forward in between committee meetings. For some, this is on an annual basis and for others it can be as often as monthly.

3.3 Agendas, reports and minutes are done by the officers that serve on the working group. The minutes of each meeting are reported back to the parent committee once approved by the working group so that they are kept informed of progress.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications

- Resources – the costs associated with working groups is included in the budget for 2021/22.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – no significant risks identified
- Political - no significant risks identified
- Reputation – no significant risks identified
- Equality & Diversity - no significant risks identified

5 RECOMMENDED THAT

5.1 Committee approve the continuance of the working groups under the remit of this committee as suggested and decide upon their membership.

Marshal Scott
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Olwen Heap
ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

BACKGROUND PAPERS

REF: CE/OMH/H&H/10.6.21

For further information please ask for Olwen Heap, extension 4408

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

DECISION

meeting date: THURSDAY, 10 JUNE 2021
title: FIRST HOMES PROGRAMME
submitted by: NICOLA HOPKINS - DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING
principal author: RACHAEL STOTT - HOUSING STRATEGY OFFICER

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To inform Members of Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) announcing a new affordable housing tenure, 'First Homes' that will be required on all new housing sites and of the opportunity to be part of the pilot scheme for delivery in 2021-22.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives – To address the housing needs of the borough and meet identified need.
- Corporate Priorities – To demonstrate that we are a well-run authority.
- Other Considerations – None.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 In Ribble Valley discount sale units have been delivered since 1990 when a discount of 15% was applied. Over the years this discount increased to 25% and then to a current position of 40% discount in all rural areas and 30% in market towns of Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley.

2.2 The product has always been very popular and therefore we have continued to deliver and established a waiting list for households interested. The delivery, approval process and eligibility mirrors that of this new First Homes scheme which has just been announced. Therefore, the Council are well placed to be able to deliver the scheme.

3 FIRST HOMES PILOT

3.1 The pilot scheme, for the first year only, would allow developers in our area to bid for the grant funding. This would enable them to deliver First Homes units on their sites which would be in addition to existing affordable contribution they are already delivering.

3.2 An initial meeting with Homes England was held to discuss the programme. The grant funding, which will be available, will enable the delivery of additional affordable home ownership units on site which will be in addition to the affordable dwellings already secured at planning stage or may enable delivery on small sites where there is currently no affordable contribution.

3.3 Central Government's plan is to establish First Homes as a new affordable housing tenure in the housing market with a 1,500 homes pilot through the Affordable Homes Programme. This is due to be released June 2021. This first year of a pilot for delivery will offer grant funding to enable provision. Going forward the tenure will be an affordable homes ownership product delivered through Section 106 contributions.

3.4 The pilot scheme is reliant on the developer bidding for the funding as the grant is aimed at housing delivery bodies. As such Ribble Valley Council would not bid into the fund however we would need to offer support to developers who wanted to deliver

First Homes as part of the pilot project within our Borough (a separate legal agreement may be required for delivery).

4 WAY FORWARD

- 4.1 The new First Homes tenure which will be introduced as a requirement of on-site affordable housing delivery is designed to make homes for ownership available for first time buyers at a 30% discount from open market value. We will be required to consider the new First Homes requirement from 28 June 2021. However, the First Homes Written Ministerial Statement does give local authorities and neighbourhood planning groups the discretion to require a higher minimum discount of either 40% or 50% if they can demonstrate a need for this. As part of their plan-making process, local planning authorities should undertake a housing need assessment to consider the need for a range of housing types and tenures, including various affordable housing tenures (such as First Homes).
- 4.2 This is a replica of the discount sale product Ribble Valley have been delivering since 1990. However, this has a fixed percentage discount of 30% in perpetuity.
- 4.3 The target is to deliver 10,000 new homes per year as first homes through the planning system. There will be transitional arrangements to allow introduction of delivery and for any site with outline consent there will be no requirement. Details are set out in the link to the MHCLG guidance to First Homes and implementation.
- 4.4 There is clear emphasis that delivery of First homes should not affect numbers of rental units being provided. The requirement is for 25% of the affordable housing units to be delivered as First Homes.

For example a site in Ribble Valley site of 40 units:

30% of the site is affordable as per our standard request = 12 units

Our current approach is 50% affordable rent and 50% shared ownership:

- 6 affordable rental
- 6 shared ownership

Using the same example and including the new First Homes proposal:

30% affordable – 12 units

- 6 affordable rent
- 3 shared ownership
- 3 discount sale

- 4.5 First Homes exception sites can come forward on unallocated land outside of a development plan. They cannot come forward in areas designated as Green Belt or designated rural areas and therefore for most of the rural parishes a First Homes exception site will be an option.

Eligibility

- 4.6 Local connection will be a requirement to be eligible for the scheme; the scheme is aimed at first time buyers. This can be set at the LA's discretion and the standard template is as we current set out in Section 106 agreements.
- 4.7 Approval of eligibility to procurement a First Home will be the Local Housing Authority's responsibility.

- 4.8 Price caps are set at £250,000 across England and an income cap of £80,000 across England.
- 4.9 There will be a restrictive covenant against the title of the property to ensure the percentage discount is passed on to future purchasers.
- 4.10 There will be standard documents produced which will include Section 106 Agreements, applicable forms and approval forms etc.

5 RISK ASSESSMENT

5.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – There will be an implication on staff time approving eligibility and managing the sales, the amount of time will depend on the number of units delivered.

There will be additional funding investment in affordable housing in the borough in addition to developer contributions if RV decide to be part of the pilot and developers take up this option.

- Technical, Environmental and Legal – There will be an implication in terms of the legal work required registering the charge on each property and approval of sales.
- Political – Delivering additional affordable homeownership units is fully supported and importantly this should not impact on rental delivery.
- Reputation – RVBC already has an established reputation for the delivery of discount sale units.
- Equality & Diversity – We will seek to support delivery of First Homes across all house types to ensure this option is an option for all households.

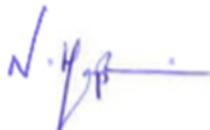
6 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

- 6.1 Note the new tenure First Homes that will become part of the standard affordable housing offer on all new build sites and the affordable housing policy will be amended to reflect this policy change.
- 6.2 Support opportunities across the Borough to deliver additional First Homes affordable units as part of the pilot scheme.



pp

RACHAEL STOTT
HOUSING STRATEGY OFFICER



NICOLA HOPKINS
DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

For further information please see the guidance at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/first-homes>

For further information please ask for Rachael Stott, extension 3235.

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RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

INFORMATION

meeting date: 10 June 2021
 title: REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2021/22
 submitted by: Chief Executive
 principal author: Olwen Heap

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To inform members of the outside bodies that are under the remit of the Health & Housing committee and their membership.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities

- Community Objectives – to be a well-managed council providing effective services.
- Corporate Priorities - to protect and enhance the existing environmental quality of our area; to help make people's lives healthier and safer.
- Other Considerations – to work in partnership with other bodies in pursuit of the Council's aims and objectives.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 At the annual meeting each year the Council makes nominations to various outside bodies.

2.2 Members attend meetings of the outside body and report back to the relevant parent committee.

3 ISSUES

3.1 The following outside bodies come under the remit of the Health & Housing committee. The membership of these outside bodies was decided at the annual meeting of the council on 18 May 2021.

Carer's Link	Cllr Jan Alcock
Calderstones NHS Partnership (MerseyCare)	Cllr David Peat
Environment Agency Liaison Committee	Cllr Stewart Fletcher and Cllr Bob Buller
Hanson Cement Liaison Committee	Cllrs Richard Sherras, Ian Brown, Stewart Fletcher and Simon O'Rourke
East Lancashire Health & Well Being Partnership	Cllr Mark Hindle
Pendle Club, Clitheroe	Cllrs Ian Brown and Jenni Schumann
Tarmac Liaison committee	Cllrs Ian Brown, Stewart Fletcher, Jonathan Hill and Simon O'Rourke

3.2 Representatives are encouraged to provide reports back giving committee an update on the work of the body and drawing attention to any current issues.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications

- Resources – the costs associated with members attending meetings of outside bodies is included in the budget for 2021/22.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – no significant risks identified
- Political - no significant risks identified
- Reputation – no significant risks identified
- Equality & Diversity - no significant risks identified

5 CONCLUSION

5.1 Members note the outside bodies under the remit of this committee and their membership.

Marshal Scott
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Olwen Heap
ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Report on Representatives on Outside Bodies – Annual Council 18.5.21

REF: CE/OMH/H&H/10.6.21

For further information please ask for Olwen Heap, extension 4408

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

INFORMATION

meeting date: THURSDAY, 10 JUNE 2021
title: EMPTY PROPERTIES
submitted by: NICOLA HOPKINS – DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING
principal author: COLIN HIRST – HEAD OF REGENERATION AND HOUSING

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To provide information on the Council's approach to responding to reports on empty homes.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives – To help address housing needs in the borough and to keep people healthier and safer.
- Corporate Priorities – To demonstrate the Council is a well-run authority.
- Other Considerations – Empty properties can present a range of issues including the risk of environmental detriment and community concerns from a safety viewpoint.

2 INFORMATION

2.1 Empty homes have a number of negative impacts on a neighbourhood, not least the fact that a home that could be occupied is not in use, which is a particular concern when the need for accommodation is so pressing.

2.2 Empty homes are at risk of progressing into disrepair, can be subject to vandalism and a lack of upkeep and maintenance can give rise to problems for neighbouring properties through environmental detriment, pests and vermin or damage to properties through damp for example. Often it is the impact upon a neighbourhood that leads to a property being reported to the Council as a concern.

2.3 Many empty properties do exist which are typically unoccupied due to the owner being in a care home and there is a reluctance to sell the property, either with a desire that the person may be able to return or a reluctance on the part of the family to dispose of the property in the person's absence. Houses can be empty following bereavement, can be awaiting sale or the owners are working away for long periods. Some properties are left empty whilst they are being refurbished over a long period which can give rise to concerns for the neighbours. These properties can sometimes be investments or simply a "hobby" renovation project.

2.4 The home may not be empty but can be subject to dilapidation if the owner is not maintaining the property (through whatever reason); where these properties are reported to the Council, the circumstances would be investigated and the Council will take appropriate action within the relevant legislative powers and duties, with a view to trying to resolve the situation with the resident.

2.5 In the case of empty homes where there is no person resident, these are recognised as a priority area for the Council and the information set out at Appendix 1 to this report

provides more detail on the general approach the Council will take when a property is reported. As Members will appreciate there are differing areas of legislation that may be relevant depending upon the circumstances and this can involve different sections of the Council but the broad approach when a property is reported that across the relevant teams, the properties are discussed and an appropriate course of action set out.

- 2.6 It is also important to bear in mind that the Council must of course operate within the framework that the relevant legislation allows and the threshold at which the Council can take direct action is comparatively high. Professional judgments will be taken about the condition of an empty property which can vary from needing some maintenance (which can be subjective) to action being needed urgently because the building is dangerous or causing damage to its neighbours.
- 2.7 Often where a building needs of maintenance there can be very subjective views on the level of the problem and it is clearly recognised that that this can be a very emotive issue, particularly for neighbours who are having to live with the property in these conditions. However, the Council's assessment may be that the condition of the property does not meet the requirements for direct intervention, but nevertheless action will be taken to encourage the owners to remedy the situation. Any issues relating to health concerns from an environmental health viewpoint such as pests and vermin or rubbish will always be investigated and appropriate action taken, which could take the form of a statutory notice being served on the owner where encouragement to remedy the situation is proving unsuccessful. In many cases contact with the owner usually results in action being undertaken to improve the situation.
- 2.8 Action can be undertaken through powers under planning legislation and enforcement action in relation to untidy land/gardens can be used to resolve issues of significantly overgrown gardens or properties where significant materials are being kept on the site. There are also measures that can be taken through the Building Acts implemented by Building Control to pursue the completion of building works where a project has been ongoing for a considerable amount of time.
- 2.9 The Council's approach is to seek to contact the owner and establish the relevant circumstances. In practice where a problem property is raised with the authority there is often a cross-authority approach depending upon the circumstances which can involve the housing team, environmental health, building control and planning enforcement and if necessary, legal action depending on the nature of contact with the owner and the relevant investigations.
- 2.10 In addition to the relevant enforcement legislation, the ultimate recourse available to the Council would be to seek to compulsory purchase (CPO) the property. There are significant tests that the Council must demonstrate have been met before the Secretary of State will authorise the use of CPO powers and in most cases the situation is resolved by joint departmental working with the owners. For more information in relation to CPO powers please see the Government guidance using the following link:

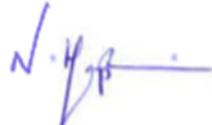
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/964686/CPO_guidance_-_with_2019_update.pdf

- 2.11 Where a property is identified as empty and notified to the housing team, the housing team will contact the owner to establish their plans for the property and will liaise with other departments, encouraging the owner to take steps to get the property back in to use. The Council does have its grant funding scheme available to work with owners

to bring properties back in to use as an affordable rental property using the Landlord Tenant Grant Scheme. Where this is taken up, it is a condition of the grant that the Council has nomination rights to the property for period of 5 years and that the rental levels are set at local affordable rents. There has, in recent years been less take up of this grant offer as the value of properties in the area being relatively high and the relevant private rental market being strong, this option is proving less attractive to owners where they chose to bring the property back in to use. However, it remains an opportunity to assist homeowners to return houses in to use and is always offered as an incentive.



COLIN HIRST
HEAD OF REGENERATION & HOUSING



NICOLA HOPKINS
DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
& PLANNING

For further information please ask for Colin Hirst, extension 4503.

REF: CH/CMS/H&H/10 June 2021

Empty Properties

Empty properties in Ribble Valley are a priority for the council. Housing is in high demand and empty houses are a valuable wasted resource. We work with owners of long-term empty properties to:

- offer advice and assistance;
- encourage renovation or sale;
- enforce use or sale of property through Compulsory Purchase Orders or Empty Dwelling Management Orders.

Help for Owners

We offer **free independent advice** to owners of empty properties on ways of bringing their properties back into use. If you own an empty property and are not sure what to do with it the following are some of the options available:

- **Letting** the property - you could use a managing agent or become a landlord and let the property yourself. See [Grants for Landlords](#).
- **Selling** the property - either through an estate agent, at auction or by yourself.
- **Refurbishing** the property for you to live or to make the property available for letting. You May be able to take advantage of potential money saving ideas. Visit the [HM Revenue and Customs website](#).

Reporting an Empty Property Problem

The council is able to deal with the following problems which empty properties create:

- Rubbish which has been dumped.
- Vermin (e.g. rats)
- Unsafe parts of properties, for example loose slates and gutters.
- Properties which are not secure and need boarding up.
- Properties which are an eyesore
- Hedges which are overgrowing onto footpaths.
- Dampness to adjacent properties.

As empty properties can have a serious negative effect on a neighbourhood we can use powers of Compulsory Purchase to take a property from the existing owner and transfer it to a housing association or sell it on the open market. Whilst the owner would be compensated for the market value of the property, it is only used as a last resort where the owner is not showing satisfactory progress on renovation or occupation.

Buying an Empty Property

If you are interested in buying an empty property you will need to contact the current owner and negotiate a sale. We cannot arrange the sale of privately owned properties.

We may hold information on the owner but are unable to release this due to the Data Protection Act.

To trace the owner of an empty property you could take the following steps:

- Write a letter addressed to 'The Owner' and put it through the letter box of the property, as the owners of many empty properties do visit and collect the post.

APPENDIX 1

- Contact Land Registry to find out the name and address of the registered owner. This is public information which anyone is entitled to obtain (there is usually a charge for this service and not all properties are registered).
- A named person can often be located in the same way as people investigating a family tree using telephone directories and electoral register.
- Talk to the neighbours of the empty property as they often know useful information about the owner or their relatives.

For further information or to discuss a property please contact the Housing Team:

Email: housing@ribblevalley.gov.uk

Telephone: [01200 425111](tel:01200425111)

In writing to: **The Housing Team**
 Council Offices
 Ribble Valley Borough Council
 Church Walk
 Clitheroe BB7 2RA

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RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO HEALTH & HOUSING COMMITTEE

INFORMATION

meeting date: THURSDAY, 10 JUNE 2021
 title: UPDATE ON COVID-19 PANDEMIC
 submitted by: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
 principal author: MATTHEW RIDING – PART TIME HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To inform Committee of the current status of the Covid-19 pandemic in the Ribble Valley.

1.2 Relevance to the Council’s ambitions and priorities

- Community Objectives – None.
- Corporate Priorities - To help make people’s lives safer and healthier.
- Other Considerations – None.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Following the report submitted to Health and Housing Committee on 18 March 2021, it was considered important to provide a regular update to members on the current level of infection in the Ribble Valley and to also highlight a couple of recent initiatives.

3 ISSUES

3.1 Numbers of Covid-19 Cases in the Ribble Valley

Week Ending	Daily incidence per 100,000 (7-day Moving Average)	Confirmed Cases (last 7 days)
8/1/21	627	381
27/2/21	79	48
6/3/21	90	55
13/3/21	85	52
27/3/21	51	31
3/4/21	39	24
10/4/21	23	14
17/4/21	8	5
24/4/21	11	7
1/5/21	11	7
8/5/21	21	13
15/5/21	13	8
22/5/21	30	18
27/5/21	130	79

The table shows that the daily incidence and number of confirmed cases declined throughout March and April, although the numbers started to rise again at the beginning of May. This can be attributed to the increased prevalence of the

Indian/Delta variant of concern (VOC) in the neighbouring authorities to the east of the borough.

Since the beginning of March, there have been four minor outbreaks in the Ribble Valley affecting three schools (15 staff and 6 pupils) and a workplace (2 employees).

The mortality rate in the Ribble Valley has continued to be lower than the national mortality rate and since the beginning of March, there have been 2 deaths of Ribble Valley residents (those residents who have died within 28 days of the first positive test result for Covid-19).

3.2 Testing for Covid-19

Symptomatic Testing

Site Location	Number of Tests										
	7-13 January	25 Feb - 3 March	4-10 March	11-17 March	25-31 March	1-7 April	8-14 April	15-21 April	22-29 April	30 April - 6 May	7-13 May
Edisford Road Car Park	481	82	74	122	78	49	54	37	63	59	88
	Number of Tests (number of days on site)										
Ribchester Car Park	92 (3)	-	-	-	-	3 (1)	-	-	-	4 (1)	-
Longridge Civic Hall Car Park	-	-	33 (3)	26 (3)	24 (3)	35 (3)	4 (3)	4 (2)	7 (2)	12 (2)	15 (2)
Weekly % individuals test positive	17.3	4.5%	4.9%	4.7%	2.7%	3.5%	1.1%	0.5%	0.6%	0.4%	0.7%
Home testing kits registered	244	126	60	45	51	50	34	13	34	59	73
Care Home testing kits registered	659	358	379	385	358	342	418	376	470	438	501

Since November 2020, a Local Testing Site (LTS) has been located at Edisford Road Car Park, Clitheroe, for testing those residents with Covid-19 symptoms. Two Mobile Testing Units have also been provided from the beginning of 2021, at Longridge Civic Hall Car Park and Ribchester Car Park.

The number of tests has declined considerably from the beginning of January, although the number of individuals tested has recently increased at both Edisford LTS and the Mobile Testing Unit in Longridge.

The Council is currently negotiating an extension of the lease agreement with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), in order for them to continue to use Edisford Road Car Park as a Local Testing Site for a further six months.

Asymptomatic Testing

Lateral flow tests (LFT's) are used to identify positive cases in the community that show no symptoms (asymptomatic). These tests are extremely useful as results are provided within half an hour of testing.

A lateral flow testing centre was established in the Council Chamber at the beginning of February and was relocated to a portacabin on the Council Offices' car park, on 26 April. It is scheduled to remain on site until the end of October.

During the first five weeks following the relocation of the Clitheroe testing centre, 303 staff tests were undertaken and 224 tests were completed on external employees and the general public. The total number of tests (146) increased significantly during the week commencing Monday, 24 May due to a combination of increased publicity and the relaxation of the requirement to pre-book a test.

On 18 May, the Council also opened two pop-up lateral flow testing centres, at Longridge Civic Hall (Tuesday and Friday afternoon) and Whalley Village Hall (Tuesday). In addition to providing free on-site lateral flow testing, the testing centres are also collection points for lateral flow home testing kits (residents can collect up to two boxes of seven kits for free). All three testing centres are currently operated by Lancashire County Council employees.

Surge Testing

All local authorities in Lancashire have been asked to plan for concentrated local surge testing due to the increased number of cases of the Indian/Delta variant of concern (VOC).

Surge testing may typically last between one and two weeks and can involve a number of deployment methods including Mobile Testing Units, door to door drop off and collections, pop up testing, community collect pick ups and postal deliveries.

It is anticipated that any Surge Testing amongst the community will be labour intensive and the Council has been advised that approximately 20 staff may be required for its operation.

3.3 Local Contact Tracing

Dates	Number of cases received	Average days from test to receipt by RVBC	% of cases received where contact tracing has commenced within 24 hours of receipt	% of cases which are 'completed' within 48 hours	Returned to Tier 2 NT&T
					Number
1-7 Mar	5	4.6	100%	100%	0
8-14 Mar	7	3.14	100%	71.4%	0
15-21 Mar	5	3.8	100%	100%	0
22 Mar-28 Mar	4	4.5	100%	75%	0
29 Mar-4 Apr	4	4.0	100%	100%	0
5-11 Apr	0	n/a	100%	n/a	0
12-18 Apr	2	5.0	100%	50%	0
19-25 Apr	2	4.0	100%	50%	0
26 Apr-2 May	2	2.0	100%	50%	0
3-9 May	3	4.67	100%	100%	0
10-16 May	1	3.0	100%	100%	0
17-23 May	3	3.33	100%	100%	0
24-30 May	6	2.33	100%	100%	0

Two full-time and one part-time members of staff are currently employed in the combined role of Local Contact Tracer and Community Hub advisor. There is also a team leader who is responsible for overseeing their work.

Their main role is to contact those positive Covid-19 cases who have failed to either complete contact tracing details online or respond to telephone calls from the National Test and Trace system. They must ensure that all cases are self-isolating and identify the 'Close Contacts' of these cases. These details are then passed back to the National system for them to follow-up.

The table helps to illustrate their excellent work during the period 1 March to 30 May 2021, when they received a total of 40 cases from the National Test and Trace System (in comparison to the 239 cases received from 11 December to 28 February).

48% of cases received were successfully contacted. 34% of cases were closed with no contact possible and this was due to many different reasons including incorrect details provided, the case not answering their phone and cases being in hospital. 14% of cases were contacted but refused to cooperate.

Local Contact Tracing will continue for the foreseeable future, with improvements being made to the system which will allow us to take on cases much earlier in the process. It is recognised that local authorities are more successful at contacting 'hard to reach' cases and the system clearly has a much greater chance of success if delays in contact tracing are reduced.

'Enhanced Contact Tracing' is being used in cases identified as having a variant of concern (VOC). This enables the investigation to focus on where the positive case has been in the previous 14 days before testing positive, which may help to identify when and where the person became infected (especially as this information will be cross referenced with other positive cases).

3.4 Enforcement Action

Since the beginning of March, the Council have received 53 complaints about premises that are allegedly breaking the lockdown rules and two informal notices have been issued. 31 of these complaints were regarding hospitality venues (including food takeaways).

Officers have visited a total of 284 premises, the majority of which were to give advice.

330 Covid advice letters have been sent to licensed premises throughout the borough.

3.5 Vaccination

Number of people vaccinated with at least 1 Dose										
Under 40	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80+	TOTAL
5854	2735	3487	4662	4856	4418	3710	3962	2955	3848	40487

Number of people vaccinated with 2 Doses										
Under 40	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80+	TOTAL
2187	815	1087	1700	1964	2862	3574	3894	2924	3727	24734

The weekly data published on 27 May recorded a total of 40487 Ribble Valley residents had been vaccinated with at least one dose, whilst 24734 residents had received two doses.

4 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 That Committee note the work being undertaken by the Council in addressing the Covid-19 pandemic.

MATTHEW RIDING
PART TIME HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

For further information please ask for Matthew Riding, extension 4470

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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