

Section B: Update on actions from previous report

Action	Thrive Pledge	Service Area	Update
The Gateshead Regeneration Partnership (GRP) will provide local employment and supply chain opportunities for Gateshead businesses. In early 2019 GRP construction begins on three housing sites at Kelvin Grove, Rowlands Gill and Whitehills Drive which make best use of previously vacant land and supports, employment and local community development.	Economic Investment	Economic Development	GRP began development of three sites in 2019/20, while continuing to construct homes at Birtley Northside. The site on Kelvin Grove in Saltwell will provide 52 homes; the site on the former Rowlands Gill Primary School will provide 23 homes; and the site on Whitehills Drive in WIndy Nook will priovide 39 homes.
Delivery of new facilities and improved public spaces at Baltic Quarter for businesses and visitors will help to create a vibrant business destination and facilities will include a new café, new seating on the Boulevard and improved signage. The new facilities will encourage residents and employees into the area, improve local spending and promote the Gateshead area as a place to work and visit	Economic Investment	Economic Development	Awaiting update
The Council aim to improve the business environment to develop the capacity and accelerate the growth of key employment sectors. These include digital technology, advanced manufacturing, health and retail to support business expansion and retention, increasing the number and quality of jobs available to residents. Activities will include supporting business expansion and retention through account management, working with employer organisations, cluster and supply chain development	Economic Investment	Economic Development	During 2019/20 launched the Business Resilience Fund, a £120,000 European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) funded programme to provide grants to 40 SMEs to supprt business expansion, diversification, new ways of working and increase business resilience. Secured outline approval and submitted full business case for £4.67m ERDF to deliver an SME grant programme for businesses located in Gateshead, South Tyneside and Sunderland to create 252 jobs. The Council has continued to raise the profile of Gateshead as an investment location, coordinate responses to mobile investment enquiries and support local businesses expand. assisted 73 businesses to implement successful investment projects and 61 new start-ups; creating 715 Jobs and safeguarding 301 jobs in Gateshead. This included 22 inward investment projects. Managed six business incubation and innovation centres supporting activities to promote entrepreneurship and tech sector growth providing over 120 businesses access to affordable and flexible workspace in a supportive environment, supporting 750 jobs.
The Council will explore opportunities to secure wider social and economic benefits for growth in the tech sector including a fairer share and distribution of wealth, and greater stability for freelance and contract employees by supporting the development of a Tech co-operative, business owned and democratically controlled by its workers, or similar model. An ERDF grant application was made for £8m of funding, to support a £16m scheme to deliver sustainable energy and transport improvements to Chopwell. Unfortunately, the application was not successful however, the project scope is being reviewed and revised, and other funding sources explored	Economic Investment	Council Housing, Design and Technical Services	During 2019/20 the Council hosted Ignite, a 12-week pre-accelerator programme for immersive tech start-ups supporting 25 pre-revenue and early stage tech businesses with idea development, start-ups and business growth. Secured £495,000 Local Growth Funding to establish an dedicated Incubation Hub for emerging technology businesses at NDC. Piloted a 5-day full time programme for 12 people not in employment, education or training (NEET) to learn more about careers and business opportunities in tech/digital in Gateshead. The Work Inspiration Gateshead programme has provided over 300 young people with infomration about careers in tech, pathways to roles and the opportunities which the emerging technologies sector can offer. Code Operative, the Garheead based Tech coperative has gontinued t grwoth its membership expaning in to studio space at Baltic Quarter.

Action	Thrive Pledge	Service Area	Update
In respect of the Gateshead Quays development, the key action over the next 6 months is to secure Agreement to Lease with the key tenant ASM Global (formerly SMG Europe) who will operate the new arena and conference centre	Economic Investment	Economic Development	The Agreement for lease with ASM Global was agreed by all parties on the 18th September 2019. A Development Framework for Gateshead Quays and surrounding infrastructure was adopted by the Council November 2019. The planning application for Gateshead Quays was submitted April 2020, and is due for determination late summer 2020. Sir Robert McCalpine have been appointed as contractors, with works due to start February 2021.
Improve the promotion of Gateshead and support its ambition to be recognised as a business investment location and the number one destination for companies developing cutting edge technology, software, and content through a digital marketing campaign and building on the success of PROTO. A company has been commissioned to deliver the campaign which will start imminently	Economic Investment	Economic Development	During 2019/20 the Council has continued to influence local and national partners ensuring Gateshead's unique assets and market opportunities position the borough as a leading destination for Foreign Direct Investment. continued to raise the profile of Gateshead as an investment location, coordinate responses to mobile investment 22 inward investment projects were secured in the period. Commissioned NGI to drive lead generation and attraction of inward investment in capital and businesses for 2020/21.
Civil bus lane enforcement was expected in late 2018 with three cameras at Gateshead High Street, the A184 (West Central Route, behind the bus station) and the A184 Felling Bypass (westbound). It is anticipated that lane enforcement will lead to a reduction in road traffic and pedestrian accidents. The outcome of improved road enforcement will be known at the end of 2018/19 and continue on into 2019/20	Supporting Communities	Development, Transport & Public Protection	The first phase of Bus Lane Enforcement has now been introduced at 3 locations - A694, A184 felling By-pass and the West Central Route. Extension to a second phase of sites is now in preparation.
A new housing development is under way through the Trading Company, with 22 apartments for sale being developed at the former Derwentside Sheltered Scheme in Swalwell, with completion expected late 2018. Construction activity also commenced on the former Lyndhurst Site in Beacon Lough. The development will see 36 new family homes being built with completion expected in summer 2019. Both of these developments are being progressed under the trading name Beacon Living	People and Families	Council Housing, Design and Technical Services	Woodhouse Mews is now complete and has been handed over. 12 sales are complete and a targeted sales campaign is underway with a view to securing the remaining 10 unit sales by October 2020. The former Lyndhurst site is being developed as Valley View. 11 units have completed and are occupied, a further 9 are sold and due to be handed over imminently, 7 are reserved the remaining 9 are available for sale. The construction completion date for the site is the 25th September 2020.
Council Housing is progressing with work to develop a core and cluster scheme of 14 supported living homes in Winlaton. The development will see a mix of bungalows and apartments, supported by an onsite concierge providing support for clients with Learning Disabilities. The development attracted external grant funding of over £0.5m from Homes England and completion is forecast to be early summer 2019	People and Families	Council Housing, Design and Technical Services	All of the supported living sites are complete and are occupied. Feedback from residents has been positive. The provision of this supported accommodation has enabled individuals to live independently and it is anticipated will enable care cost savings to the Council in the future.
The housing growth site at Clasper Village has been cleared and is ready for development of 191 homes plus a supermarket store to improve access to services for local residents. A planning application will be submitted in early 2019. This site recently attracted an offer of external funding offer to support remediation works on the site	People and Families	Council Housing, Design and Technical Services	The planning application has now been approved for the development of 191 (including 15% affordable) homes. External Homes England Grant of £1.8m has been secured to support site. Enabling works have commenced and discussions are underway with regard to securing the development contract. It is anticipated that the development works will commence in Autumn 2020.
A planning application for the housing growth site at Bleach Green in Blaydon will be submitted in January 2019 by Keepmoat Homes, for 183 homes. Funding from Homes England will help provide 15% affordable homes for the area with work starting on site in March 2019 and supporting local first-time buyers into home ownership	People and Families	Economic Development	Planning approval granted 6.12.18 for 183 homes and demolition of 4 homes, including 15% affordable provision (27 homes) which are to be purchased by Keelman homes. Construction commenced on site June 2019, with the first homes due to complete imminently,despite the impact of Covid 19.

Action	Thrive Pledge	Service Area	Update
The Council will market land in the Baltic Business Quarter in early 2019. Expressions of interest will be requested from developers for schemes containing a mix of housing and employment developments. Mixed use developments increase population density, encourage more affordable housing (smaller units), allows for the creation of plazas, reduce distance between housing and employment, encourage walking and cycling, reduce road congestion and encourage retail opportunities. All of these elements will support the Gateshead area into future sustainability	Economic Investment	Economic Development	The marketing exercise for Baltic Quarter, conducted by the Council's agent, concluded that there was no individual or consortium of developers willing to acquire and develop the site without Council or public sector investment. Therefore, following advice, the marketing process was halted in February 2020, and alternative approached will be considered, focusing on procurement of a partner to work with the Council. A preferred approach will be identified by November 2020. The Council's first speculative office building (Riga) has been completed at Baltic and has been completely let.
Local Energy Advice Programme (LEAP) - the Council will support the LEAP programme, which provides free home visits, and advice to vulnerable residents, to improve energy efficiency and reduce fuel poverty. The scheme also signposts to the ECCO scheme, to provide emergency central heating works to the most vulnerable private households, where systems are not working.	Tackle Inequality	Council Housing, Design and Technical Services	As a result of Covid-19, the LEAP home visits were stopped completely. The providers Agility Eco have reviewed the service so it is now a desk based telephone advice service, with the potential to provide home visits where this would be beneficial (e.g. to install small energy efficiency measures). Agility Eco have 1000 lockdown referrals to work through before accepting new referrals. The ECHO programme will resume from September. GC will share an update with all referees in the coming week.
A Sustainable Future for Chopwell - The Council is developing a £20m investment scheme, to improve energy efficiency of homes in Chopwell, and to install low carbon, low cost heating systems to up to 800 homes, which aims to also tackle housing market failure in the area.	People and Families	Council Housing, Design and Technical Services	In February 2020, the Council was not able to progress to a full ERDF for this scheme, due to affordability issues. The pilot scheme to test installs in up to 6 Council Homes then had to be aborted, due to Covid 19, which prevented the works taking place during lockdown. In its place, the Council revised the scheme and for later resubmission to ERDF for a smaller £6.6m scheme, aiming to install solid wall insulation to 750 homes, which was due to be considering in 2020/21
Gateshead HEIGHTs - the Gateshead HEIGHTs project has installed energy efficiency measures and new, lower cost, lower carbon heating systems to 620 high rise homes across 7 tower blocks in Gateshead.	Tackle Inequality	Council Housing, Design and Technical Services	Heating upgrade complete in 2018/19. 2019/20 saw the migration of 100 domestic customers to the Council's own lower cost, lower carbon domestic private wire electricity supply. This is one of the first projects to migrate large numbers of domestic customers to a private wire electricity network in the country.
Gateshead District Energy Scheme. The scheme provides low carbon, low cost heat and power to homes, public and commercial buildings in Gateshead Town Centre, from Gateshead Energy Centre.	Economic Investment	Council Housing, Design and Technical Services	In March 2020, the first commercial new build office, RIGA, was connected to the heat and power network. Work continues to with the developer of the new Quays arena and conference centre, which includes commitment to taking heat and power from the district energy scheme. And in March 2020, the Council secured a £5.9m grant to extend the heat network a further 5km, including Freight Depot housing site, as well as installing a 6MW minewater heat pump system
Secure major events as part of a sporting and cultural event programme designed to put Gateshead on the global map, improving the economy and engaging local people in world class events.	Economic Investment	Go Gateshead Sport & Leisure	Agreement has been secured for the hosting of International Athletics for 2020, 2021, and 2024, however the event in 2020 has been cancelled as a result of Covid-19
Secure investment into the Gateshead International Stadium to improve the commercial performance of the facility, attract international events and engage local communities.	Economic Investment/Tackle Inequality	Go Gateshead Sport & Leisure	The upgrading of the gym facilities was completed in December 2019, with the new facilities officially opened in January 2020. The refurbishment of the track facility was delayed due to COVID19 and as such will not be delivered in 2020 and will be considered again at a later date.
Devise a delivery plan to enable local communities to self manage local sporting facilities (playing pitches and bowling greens) to improve the sustainability of the sport, with the aim of developing local community hubs.	Supporting Communities	Go Gateshead Sport & Leisure	These facilities have been closed only recently re-opened due to COVID 19 and the Council's project team will re-engage with local clubs and review the delivery programme.

Action	Thrive Pledge	Service Area	Update
Deliver capital improvements to Blaydon Leisure Centre including the development of external sports facilities (Track and 3G pitch) to improve access to sport and physical activity for local residents.	People and Families	Go Gateshead Sport & Leisure	This project is now complete however is non-operational due to COVID19.