

# DONCASTER DELIVERING TOGETHER

## 2022/23 Review



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# INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

The Team Doncaster partnership has been working hard for our residents and business community and each year we take time to recognise and showcase that activity and consider the impact it has had.

Our Borough Strategy, Doncaster Delivering Together (DDT), identified several agreed measures upon which to judge our performance and identified a list of impacts that residents would notice. It also identified a series of key areas of activity under each of the Great 8 priorities that would help achieve our wellbeing goals.

This annual report considers the key performance indicators (KPIs) and anticipated impacts for each theme as well as progress on the strategic actions for each priority.

It is important to note the scale of the challenge and the nature of the KPIs we have identified – some of these indicators tend to see gradual changes over many years, decades or sometimes generations. Similarly, some measures will see much greater impact from national policy or initiatives than from what can be done locally, and so significant changes are not always expected across shorter timescales.

When reviewing performance, consideration should be given to factors that have occurred since DDT was produced:

- **Covid19** – restrictions, reduced town/city centre footfall and spending power, impact and recovery; loss of workforce, supply chains and production capacity. Health and economic impacts, as well as indirect impact on the culture and leisure offer and the environment.
- **Inflation and Cost of Living** – The scale of inflationary pressures and squeeze on household and business budgets were not anticipated at that scale in developing DDT.
- **Starting point** – some areas of activity committed to in DDT are new, and so fundamental agreement and creation of governance structures, roles and responsibilities, and mobilisation of activity have been the initial focus.
- **Global stability – e.g., War in Ukraine** – reallocation of capacity to support those fleeing the war, fuel cost increases and greater emphasis on community integration.
- **National context:** change in Government leadership, change in policies, availability of funding, change in focus to new emergencies, increased NHS waiting lists.

Our short-term progress has been adversely affected by such events in several areas. We have acknowledged these difficulties in this report, and at the same time feel it is appropriate to consider the medium-term trend. ***This report therefore focuses on 2022/23 activity, but references progress since the Borough Strategy baseline (2020) and over the last 5 years.*** By being transparent about our progress, the challenges we are facing, and the opportunities available to us, we can better plan for future years and stand an improved chance of meeting our 2030 ambitions.

## Performance Indicators Summary

- Performance trends have been reviewed over the last 5 years – to account for major disrupting events such as Covid-19.
- Out of 37 KPIs, 14 are showing improving trends, 9 show worsening performance, and 8 show limited change.
- The remainder (6) are not being monitored yet, or no data or no recent data is available.
- All themes (except Fair and Inclusive) have at least one KPI showing improvement (Prosperous and Connected has 6, Skilled and Creative has 3).

- All themes (except Greener and Cleaner) have at least one KPI that is showing worsening performance.
- There are 3 KPIs where we are better than the national figure, 7 KPIs where we are similar, 19 KPIs where we are worse (10 of which show that gap to be widening).
- Of the 14 improving KPIs, 2 are already better than the national figure, 6 remain worse, 4 are similar; 7 are narrowing the gap.

## Performance Indicators Headlines

Getting Better (Improving)	Getting Worse (Needs Focus)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employment rate</li> <li>• Wage rates</li> <li>• Workforce productivity</li> <li>• Net new homes, per 1,000 population</li> <li>• Highly skilled occupations</li> <li>• Full fibre coverage</li> <li>• Level 3 qualifications by age 19</li> <li>• % working age population qualified to Level 3+</li> <li>• % 5-year-olds with a good level of development</li> <li>• % adults doing less than 30 mins of moderate intensity physical activity per week</li> <li>• Proportion of children in need per 10,000 population</li> <li>• Total recorded Anti-Social Behaviour</li> <li>• CO2 emissions per capita</li> <li>• Air quality: fine particulate matter per cu m</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Claimant count</li> <li>• Number and Quality of jobs</li> <li>• Apprenticeships</li> <li>• Healthy Life expectancy (female)</li> <li>• A&amp;E attendances</li> <li>• Total recorded crime per 1,000 population</li> <li>• Total Domestic Abuse incidents</li> <li>• Proportion of LSOAs in England's most deprived 10%</li> <li>• Child Poverty: % children under 16 in low-income families</li> </ul>

The KPIs and the Impact Statements included in DDT identify how we will measure progress but what is less clear is the scale of ambition associated with each theme or measure.

We have, for example, a clear measurable target associated with reducing our carbon emissions; and a clear target to plant a certain number of trees, but for many others there is no measurable target or scale of ambition identified for 2030.

The reason for this is that in many cases, although we knew that a theme or issue needed to be a priority, we still needed to analyse data, gather insight and opinions, and consider potential responses before we could set ourselves a measurable target for 2030.

Over the next year or so, Team Doncaster will explore setting out the scale of ambition associated with our priorities, themes, and performance measures – so that it is clear to all stakeholders the scale and rate of improvement that we are aiming for. These targets will be determined using the latest datasets and current trends, together with insight from key stakeholders on the level of expectation and what is achievable.

Whatever the scale of the ambition, either currently known or yet to be determined, we must remember that these are longer-term ambitions (i.e., for 2030), and so expected improvement at this stage should not necessarily be significant, and the rate of improvement will not necessarily be equally spread across the strategy period.

What is clear is that as a partnership, Team Doncaster has undertaken significant activity to improve our city and the lives of those that live, work, and visit here; and it is important to recognise and celebrate such efforts.

The following section gives an overview of some of the activity undertaken for each of the priorities we identified in DDT.

KPI's identified in DDT	Last 5 years	Data	cf. Nat. Avg	Gap
<b>PROSPEROUS AND CONNECTED</b>				
Employment Rate	Improved	2022	Similar	Narrowing
Wage rates	Improved	2022	Worse	Narrowing
Number of businesses	Limited change	2022	Worse	Limited change
Workforce productivity	Improved	2021	Worse	Widening
Claimant Count	Worsened	2023	Worse	Narrowing
Net new homes, per 1,000 population	Improved	2022	Worse	Narrowing
Number and Quality of Jobs	Worsened	2021	Worse	Widening
Highly Skilled Occupations	Improved	2021	Unknown	Unknown
NEW: Full fibre broadband coverage	Improved	2023	Similar	Narrowing
<b>SKILLED AND CREATIVE</b>				
% achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and maths at KS2	Limited change	2022	Worse	Narrowing
Level 3 qualifications by age 19	Improved	2022	Worse	Limited change
% working age population qualified to L3 and above	Improved	2021	Worse	Narrowing
Apprenticeships	Worsened	2021	Unknown	Unknown
% 5-Year-Olds with Good Development	Improved	2021	Better	Limited change
% residents economically active with no qualifications	Limited change	2021	Worse	Widening
<b>HEALTHY AND COMPASSIONATE</b>				
Healthy Life expectancy (female)	Worsened	2020	Worse	Widening
Healthy Life expectancy (male)	Limited change	2020	Worse	Widening
% adults doing less than 30 mins of moderate intensity physical activity per week	Improved	2022	Worse	Narrowing
Adult Social care users who have control over their daily lives	Limited change	2022	Similar	Widening
A&E Attendances	Worsened	2023	Worse	Widening
Personal Wellbeing: Life satisfaction	Limited change	2022	Similar	Limited change
Children in Need: Proportion of children in need per 10,000 population	Improved	2022	Similar	Narrowing
<b>SAFE AND RESILIENT</b>				
Personal Wellbeing Ratings	(Monitored under Heathy & Compassionate)			
Levels of Anti-Social Behaviour (Total recorded)	Improved	2022	Similar	Widening
Levels of Crime (Total recorded crime (exc Fraud) per 1,000 population)	Worsened	2022	Worse	Widening
Safeguarding Measure* NEW: Percentage of people feeling safer after a safeguarding intervention	Baseline only	2023	Unknown	Unknown
NEW: Total recorded incidents of Domestic Violence	Worsened	2021	Similar	Narrowing
<b>GREENER AND CLEANER</b>				
Target: Carbon neutral by 2040 – and achieve 85% of the reduction in emissions by 2030 i.e. CO2 emissions per capita	Improved	2021	Worse	Widening
Recycling rate for household waste	Limited change	2022	Better	Narrowing
Air quality/pollution: fine particulate matter per m <sup>3</sup>	Improved	2021	Better	Narrowing
Value of our natural capital	Baseline only	2021	Unknown	Unknown
<b>FAIR AND INCLUSIVE</b>				
Proportion of LSOAs in England's most deprived 10% compared to Y&H and England)	Worsened	2019	Worse	Widening
Child Poverty: % children U16 in low-income families	Worsened	2022	Worse	Narrowing
Indicators to monitor the impact of the Wellbeing Essentials on inequalities* NEW: % of all households in fuel poverty	Limited change	2021	Worse	Limited change

# WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING?

Focussing on 2022/23, this section provides an overview of our activity associated with the high-level actions from the borough strategy, grouped under the Great 8 Priorities.

## Tackling climate change

Team Doncaster activity under this Priority will be coordinated and delivered via the implementation of the new **Environment and Sustainability strategy**. Specific policies aimed at preservation and enhancement have been adopted; and environmental implications are now included in all Cabinet decision reports.

A key target is to achieve an 85% **reduction in emissions** by 2030 (from our 2005 baseline). As of 2021, we had achieved a 34% reduction. This follows an increase in emissions in the year to 2021, which largely negated the reduction in emissions from 2019-2020.

Successful funding bids have generated £7.2m to spend in this area. Over 920 Council and privately owned homes have been fitted with **external wall insulation, loft insulation and new roofs** since 2021. The Council's current thermal improvement programme will insulate another 1,800 Council homes. We have also supported the shift to electric vehicles (EV) with around 100 new **EV charging points** installed since 2022 including a 129kw solar car port. Dozens of Council fleet vehicles have been replaced with **electric vehicles** since 2021.

In terms of **renewable energy generation**, Doncaster placed 15th out of all 406 UK Local Authorities for the number of solar photovoltaic installations, with 7,311 buildings using them. The recently approved solar farms in Dunsville (49MW) and Micklebring (45MW) are two of the largest in the north of England. Applications have also been submitted for what would be the largest solar farm in Europe, and the largest renewable energy storage site in the world.

Wind energy generation in Doncaster accounts for more than half of the South Yorkshire total. There is over 201,000 MWh of electricity generated from wind and solar alone, making up 16% from true renewables. There is 271,000 MWh of electricity generated from wind, solar, anaerobic digestion, sewage gas, landfill gas, municipal solid waste, and biomass, delivering 21% of the electricity fuel mix.

Business Doncaster administered **low carbon grants** to 118 small and medium enterprises and micro businesses in 2022/23 worth £327k, supporting them to decarbonise their operations; and 26 **energy audits** have been completed for schools and Council buildings to inform how carbon footprints and energy costs can be reduced.

Around 107,000 **trees are known to have been planted** so far (data is still being collected) – around 10% of our 2030 target, though many newly planted trees were lost in the 2022 heatwaves and wildfires. The figure for 2022/23 was around 45,000. We expect planting to increase as more private landowners are engaged in future years of the strategy period.

Over 1.6 million square metres of **land has been allowed to naturalise** to help with our biodiversity improvement ambitions; and £3 million of Nature for Climate funding has been secured for **habitat restoration** and associated works around Thorne and Hatfield Moors. The '**Great Yorkshire Fen**' draft masterplan is in development ready for community consultation.

A Local **Nature Recovery Strategy** for South Yorkshire is being published in 2024 – this will identify key activities required to protect and regenerate important habitats and ecosystems in Doncaster. The Council is working with schools to help realise the Department of Education objective to develop a national nature park using green space within the schools' estate, creating tiny forests and wildlife areas.



## Developing the skills to thrive in life and work

Team Doncaster activity under this Priority is being coordinated and delivered via the implementation of the **Education and Skills strategy**. Following our hosting the first ever UK-convening of the **Global Education Leaders' Partnership Conference** in late 2021, we have formed **a number of key foundational partnerships** which are now supporting to drive this.

Shaped by local education leaders, employers, and learners, a new **Doncaster Learner Profile** is in development – this will showcase the full remit of learner talents and abilities. Future planned activity will take this further by developing new kinds of assessment and credentials.

Work to transform the **Doncaster Learning Environment** through enhanced informal learning opportunities and professional development is well underway. In May 2023 we hosted the UK's first **Remake Learning Days festival**, which was a huge success with over 10,000 residents engaging in over 80 different events. A successful grants programme has enabled over 80 voluntary, community, creative and learning organisations to deliver a range of activities so far.

We are also delivering nationally funded programmes, with the **Priority Education Investment Area** providing targeted activity to improve areas such as attendance, the **Start for Life Trailblazer Programme** enhancing our Family Hub and 1001 days offer, and the **Multiply Programme** supporting those aged over 19 to develop their numeracy skills.

Academic performance against the national average is mixed. At **Key Stage 1**, Phonics, Writing and Maths are now in line with the national average, but all three have reduced since 2019. Reading has fallen in line with the national average, maintaining the 2 percentage points deficit. Reading Writing and Maths combined is in line with the national average at 54%. **Key Stage 2** and **Key Stage 4** results have closed the gap to the national average. KS2 Reading-Writing-Maths reduced the gap from 5 to 4 percentage points, whereas Reading improved 6 percentage points and is now only 1 percentage point lower. **Post-16 attainment** has improved with a Level 3 overall Average Point Score (APS) of 36.1 (B-), (better than 2019 (31.8, C+).

- A-levels: 37.3 APS (B-); 18% of entrants achieved AAB or better, (was 8% in 2019).
- Applied General: 36.6 APS (Distinction/B-), better than 2019 (34 APS (Distinction)).
- T level: 34.2 (Distinction/C+).

The **percentage of residents with a L3+ qualification** continues to increase and narrow the gap to the national average. In the last year, there has been a 5 percentage point increase in uptake of level 3 qualifications.

Organisations such as the Council, Doncaster Chamber of Commerce, South Yorkshire Careers Hub, local training providers, and local businesses collectively provide extensive **careers information, advice, and guidance**. This ensures learners have 'line of sight' to rewarding careers, from both traditional academic routes and vocational pathways. Our team of Enterprise Coordinators continue to build relationships between schools and employers and have recently launched a **Teacher Externships programme**.

A new **University Technical College** has been built in the city centre, focussing on Engineering and Creative & Digital. Following the success of this offer, we have also had **plans approved for a second UTC** which will focus on Health & Care and Green Tech.

Paid for by Community Renewal Funds, the **Space 2 Create** programme has provided 1:1 support with Creative Partner Wayne Hemingway; and includes grants of up to £10k.

A new Employment Support Worker works with employers and residents to **help people with additional needs and disabilities find employment**. A new **strategy** is in development which will improve our provision, early intervention and joined up support for people with Special Education Needs and disabilities; and a £1m grant has been secured to support this.



## **Making Doncaster the best place to do business and create good jobs**

Our post-Covid recovery continues with significant private investment (e.g., Lontra £17m at Gateway East) as well as via distribution of Economic Recovery Grants (£830k to 191 businesses). We have seen tens of millions of pounds of investment and hundreds of jobs created in the last year alone (investment and jobs supported by Business Doncaster stood at £49.7million and 642, respectively). This is particularly impressive given the struggles many businesses have experienced because of Covid and following the UK's exit from the EU.

2022/23 saw 201 new clients access the Chamber and Business Doncaster's **Launchpad programme**, with 73 grants totalling £80k provided to help set up new businesses. Business Doncaster delivered business support masterclasses to support SMEs to **improve their resilience, increase their productivity and accelerate their growth**. The ERDF **Productivity Programme** provided grant support to 46 SMEs, with private sector match funding totalling £488k. It saw 59 new jobs and 8 new products introduced across participating businesses.

Business Doncaster-assisted activity has **supported residents into work** with 642 jobs either created or safeguarded (narrowly below the target of 700), 117 of which had salaries of £31k or higher (target was 260 but was set prior to the economic slowdown caused by the Ukraine/Russia war). The **Advance Programme**, involving Business Doncaster and Job Centre Plus, and an all-sectors job fair in early 2023 ensures residents are more aware of new vacancies; and a second jobs fair is planned for late 2023. Several sector-specific job fairs are planned with the first one (hospitality and leisure sector) having taken place in July.

A new post has been created within Business Doncaster to improve the uptake of **innovation-based business support** and strengthen relationships with both Sheffield Universities and key government departments in support of our economic ambitions. Another new post has been created to lead the team's approach to creative, digital and technology (CDT) sectors, driving the attraction of CDT businesses to Doncaster and supporting the expansion of existing CDT businesses to deliver new investment and job creation.

Collaborative work is taking place with the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA), Sheffield Universities and South Yorkshire local authorities to develop new sub-regional business support programmes through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund that will **enable businesses to increase productivity, reduce energy costs and create new employment**.

We are developing the borough as a beacon for **good, inclusive employment, workforce equality and fair wages** that people can live on. The Doncaster Economic Strategy outlined work on a compassionate approach to employment support and ensuring employment opportunities are inclusive and support health & wellbeing. Work to develop this is planned but activity is already occurring with prison leavers, for example. Youth Hub 3 has also been launched, supporting 16-24 year old Universal Credit claimants into work.

Following analysis of our industry specialisms by various research partners, our economic strategy has outlined 4 **Sectors of Opportunity** that (in conjunction with Education & Skills) will be focused upon: Engineering & Manufacturing (Established), Creative & Digital (Aspirational), Health & Care (Foundational), and Culture (Aspirational/Foundational) – this also includes 4 **niches** (these may change over time): Rail, Green Technology, Future Mobility, and Advanced Materials. Work is outlined to develop the vision and prospectus for these Sectors and Niches in conjunction with Education & Skills stakeholders, with business support programmes to accompany this outlined within the strategy.

A new **Northern Innovation Accelerator initiative for Mental Health** has been launched in Doncaster, designed to spearhead innovation in mental health research and supercharge mental health innovation to address the UK's pressing mental health needs at scale. Partnership work involving Grounded Research, the research and innovation team at

Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Trust (RDaSH), the NIHR Clinical Research Network Yorkshire and Humber, and the Council's Business Doncaster team is underway.

**Tech Welcome grants** have been launched to encourage tech companies to relocate to our region with support towards their property costs for the first year. SYMCA loan funding has been secured for Hybrid Air Vehicles' **proposed green aerospace manufacturing project**, with work within the Council focussing on securing a suitable site for the facility in Doncaster.

Two key low carbon studies have been completed – one focused on maximising the impact and new jobs presented by the low carbon sector; the other exploring the feasibility of establishing a hydrogen refuelling hub in Doncaster to support the transition of HGVs to net zero.

Government and SYMCA funded programmes are being delivered throughout the city centre e.g., **Levelling Up Round 1** (Markets, Waterfront) and **Towns Deal** (city centre rail station gateway) to support the creation of new high-quality office space and associated public realm. Planning permission has also been secured for Phase 1 of Doncaster North, providing 2.3m sq. ft. of high-quality employment space.

Our city centre (including a corridor to NCATI), Unity, Gateway East (Airport), Unity, and Doncaster North have been identified as **Opportunity Sites within the South Yorkshire Investment Zone**, as announced by Government in July 2022.

Delivery of our **Stainforth Towns Deal** programme is underway and **additional masterplans** have been developed for Edlington, Thorne and Moorends, and Rossington; and one for Mexborough is in development. Submissions to the Levelling Up Fund Round 2, including elements of the Edlington, Moorends and Mexborough masterplans was unsuccessful. It is provisionally agreed that Edlington will form the basis of a Round 3 application to the Levelling Up Fund if permissible once updated criteria from Government is released.

We have established a **South Yorkshire Airport City (SAYC)** programme to reopen Doncaster Sheffield Airport (DSA) and develop a cluster of high value economic activity which complements traditional aerospace functions, including logistics. SYAC would incorporate employment, retail, leisure, and residential opportunities with excellent transport links, supporting new inward investment into Doncaster and South Yorkshire. Cross party agreement is in place to re-open DSA and informal market engagement has identified multiple private sector organisations interested in re-opening and operating the airport. The potential for a compulsory purchase order has been considered, but our initial focus is on acquiring agreement with the current owners through, for example, a lease agreement. Discussions with appropriate stakeholders is ongoing, with a procurement process underway for potential operators. Work will continue over the next few years, with updates to the public provided at appropriate times.

Development of our '**circular economy**' to minimise waste, help meet our net zero target and create good jobs continues via the Council's Decarbonisation Grant, with £282k paid out to 103 businesses to support them to decarbonise. The first steps to develop a Circular Economy and Circular Communities was outlined in the Doncaster Economic Strategy 2030. Engagement has been undertaken through the Yorkshire & Humber Council group focusing on climate change to help plan out key activity for Doncaster. Work will be undertaken to start this imminently.

Our ambition to **keep the Doncaster '£' circulating locally** has seen several business showcase events take place – hosted by both Business Doncaster and Doncaster Chamber. These raise local business awareness of each other and help identify collaborations and supply chain opportunities. Additional local supply chain spend facilitated by Business Doncaster stood at £1.48m during 2022/23 (vs £3m target) and a successful Doncaster Chamber construction supply chain exhibition event was held in 2022, with a series of further events planned across 2023/24. The Council spent 69% of its 2022/23 third party spend locally (approx. £176 million) and have social value commitments worth £21 million, of which £6 million has been delivered so far.



## **Building opportunities for healthier, happier, and longer lives for all**

A **Fairness and Wellbeing Commission**, led by Dame Rosie Winterton MP, is underway. It will recommend areas of focus to improve resident well-being which in turn will inform a new Health and Well-Being Strategy and wider equalities objectives. The Call for Evidence has been completed and a series of workshops held across 2023 to look at the three main life stages/cohorts: Children, Young People and Families; Working Age, and Older Age. It will report its findings and recommendations towards the end of 2023.

New **integrated health and care systems** arrangements came into place July 2022, with a refreshed governance structure, chaired by the Mayor of South Yorkshire, it will deliver the South Yorkshire strategy and will link into local Health and Wellbeing strategies. The ICS will bring together all four regional providers who will collectively deliver health and care services. A new Transfer of Care Hub has been established which ensures that all supported hospital discharges are managed by a single team, allowing for a more efficient process. Doncaster Children's Services Trust has been re-integrated back under the Council's control with a permanent leadership team fully recruited to, and achievable savings targets identified.

Our ambition to ensure that our approach to health and care is compassionate has prompted the creation of a **'Making it Real' board** – this enables user experience to shape our strategies and services to deliver personalised care and support. This has led to service improvement in the form of reduced waiting times for, and duration of, assessments for our services.

We continue to **support residents to live independent and rewarding lives in their own homes**. The number of people waiting for a review of their care and support has reduced. Focusing on those people already known to us, we have supported them to plan for the future and be prepared for unplanned events. We see them as unique people with strengths, abilities, and aspirations; and we listen carefully so we know what matters to them and how to support them to live the life they want. They are supported to make decisions by people who see things from their point of view, with concern for what matters to them, their wellbeing and health.

We have launched Doncaster's **All Age Carer's Strategy** 'We hear, we listen, we care, if you care' – outlining support to unpaid carers; and our **Social Care academy** and **Proud to Care** campaign continue to support adult social care recruitment having received of £130k of investment. Numerous partners have been engaged e.g., National careers service, Reed in Partnership, Free 2 Learn, Ambition Coaches, Youth Hub and DWP; and numerous recruitment and careers events have been held in community settings including colleges and schools.

We are working towards our vision to become an **Age Friendly City**. Our Ageing Well delivery plan work was established pre-covid and has continued with the exploration of opportunities through collaboration with key stakeholders. We are using the 8 domains identified by the Centre for Ageing Better to steer our work (Transportation, Housing, Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion, Civic Participation and Employment, Communication and Information, Community Support and Health Services, and Outdoor Spaces and Buildings).

We are developing a baseline assessment for our ageing population. This will provide valuable insight into how we best support people to age well and identify the priorities needed to become an Age Friendly Doncaster. This aligns with the development of the Integrated neighbourhood delivery model, focussing on the holistic wellbeing, fitness, and physical and mental health.

Our vision is for every person in Doncaster to live in the place they call home with the people and things that they love, in communities where they look out for one another, doing things that matter to them. Our new practice guidance ensures a **strength-based/person-centred approach** is at the heart of all interactions, focusing on the individual/family being supported to promote independence and achieve their aspirations, outcomes, and goals.

Significant partnership collaboration has taken place on the development a business case for a

**new hospital.** This would replace our existing Doncaster Royal Infirmary and help develop Doncaster as a Health Research and Innovation Centre. However, Government priorities currently lie elsewhere and so progress has slowed in recent months.

We have enhanced the borough's physical activity and leisure opportunities by investing over **£9million in leisure facility improvements** at Hatfield outdoor centre and campsite, the Dome cycle circuit, and Armthorpe, Askern, and Rossington leisure centres - and a further £5 million investment is forthcoming at Thorne leisure centre.

We have brought together over 60 primary schools to form a PE and Active schools network leading to **increased physical activity for Doncaster children** throughout the day; and over 1,700 residents engaged in shaping the development of the **Future Parks programmes** – which includes over £3 million of investment in parks in Denaby, Campsall, Town, Hexthorpe, Edlington and many others.

New 'Friends of' groups have formed as part of the Doncaster Greenspace Network. Five Get Doncaster Moving Community Connectors have been recruited to support residents to access opportunities close to where they live. Over 80 Active Communities Grants (total value £38k) have been awarded to individuals and groups to increase support, access, and opportunity for inactive people.



## **Creating safer, stronger, greener, and cleaner communities where everyone belongs**

The Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership (SSDP) has continued to address issues across the Crime and Disorder spectrum to ensure delivery against the **Community Safety Strategy 2022-25**. Our SSDP structure supports the activity of 6 thematic groups, governed by the Executive Board. These theme groups respond to current demand and identify future priorities across the key themes of Anti-Social Behaviour; Domestic and Sexual Abuse; Serious Organised Crime; Substance Misuse; Crime and Reoffending and Violent Crime. Each of these groups have a particular focus on early intervention and prevention, delivered through a wide range of partners.

In relation to **crime and reoffending**, the most recent reporting period highlighted decreases in serious acquisitive crime (8.2%), vehicle crime (6.5%) and residential burglary (2.3%). **'Most Serious Violent' crime** has fallen over the course of the reporting year. **Knife crime** offences are also on a reducing trajectory since July 2022 and recording of offences classified under **violence against the person** has fallen over the year to Feb 2023. However, there remains work to do in this area to ensure that the reductions remain consistent. We have recently been successful in obtaining regular A&E data around instances of violence which will strengthen our understanding of violence happening across the district and support further reduction initiatives.

**Tackling organised crime groups** (OCGs) that are often involved in drug dealing, continues to be a high priority. Intensive monitoring of these groups is ongoing, and the Police continue to target known members with repeated success in recovering drugs and firearms. Arrests have also taken place after the discharge of firearms and individuals have been charged and court proceedings are pending. Arrests have taken place of individuals in connection with the spike in **vehicle thefts**, where there is a clear connection with organised crime. Officers from the SYP **Armed Crime** Team have been working in Doncaster alongside district-based resources and this has led to a reduction in incidents and the threat posed by firearms-enabled criminality.

We have seen a substantial increase in the number of partnership disruptions for OCG activity, which is a key indication of the strength of the partnership activity (with 93% being accepted) and the contribution of the OCG co-ordinator post funded by the partnership.

In relation to **anti-social behaviour**, the early intervention/prevention work undertaken by the

Communities Area Teams is having a positive impact, resulting in a reduced number of vulnerable victims. The increase in reports of issues concerning off-road bikes, quad bikes, and electric scooters (electric scooters predominantly in the city centre) presents a challenge. The Anti-social Behaviour Theme Group acknowledges this is a national issue and not unique to Doncaster and are therefore exploring what successful actions are being taken by colleagues across the country to combat this increasing issue.

**Deprivation** is becoming more of an issue in Doncaster. Census 2021 shows that 62% of the Doncaster population (191,000 people) live in the 40% most deprived LSOAs nationally. Over one third (41%, 125,000 people) live in the 20% most deprived LSOAs – this has increased from 25% in 2019. Almost a quarter (24%) live in the middle deciles of deprivation (75,000), with the remaining 14% (42,000) living in the least deprived LSOA.

To combat this, our **localities working model** has been established with 4 delivery areas, each with their own locality plan and dedicated lead officer. This model seeks to maximise and connect local strengths, heritage, and civic pride; whilst also identifying, understanding, and tackling area-specific problems. The **locality-specific plans and budgets** have been informed by over 30 community profiles and of course, on resident opinions and insights – ensuring that the voice of communities shape our priorities.

**Positive Action Groups (PAGs)** have been established for the more deprived areas, which are a vehicle for resident-led local leadership and decision-making where residents take positive action for themselves and their communities. They support and build community spaces, facilities and networks that enable local people to come together, shape their area and thrive. We are working with residents to develop **Wellbeing action plans** for the 20 most deprived areas, followed by the next 10 once completed; and we have initiated a Fairness and Wellbeing Commission who will consider the issues faced across Doncaster and report their findings and recommendations in late 2023. This work will inform the next iteration of our borough's Health and Wellbeing strategy.

Since 2021, we have worked with Doncaster people with lived experience of seeking and drawing on support to co-design our new approach to accessing care and support. An options appraisal, overseen by the Access Oversight Group, recommended that the new approach to access should consist of a locality-based approach with a very slim central access point

A review of **Safeguarding in Doncaster** has been completed. This review highlighted that the current arrangements for responding to Safeguarding concerns required change to ensure that Doncaster Council is meeting its legal obligations under the Care Act. A new approach to operational safeguarding responsibilities has been progressed following extensive development work involving service users and service delivery partners. The key changes will see the responsibilities aligning to the four locality teams and Learning Disability and Mental Health teams. This will support our locality-based approach to access and safeguarding, which aims to resolve urgent need, connect people to their local community, and get them local support. Undertaking these changes will mean that the person and their family are supported by a team based within that person's local community. This will enable us to understand what matters to the person, what a good life looks like for them, and to ensure that they have resources and support to live the life they choose and do the things that matter to them, as independently as possible, whilst embedding the principles of Making Safeguarding Personal

We have **refreshed our Equalities, Diversity, and Inclusion framework** to ensure it is an integrated consideration in all our decision-making processes and included 'Care Experience' as one of our **local protected characteristics**. The Council have received organisation awards such as **Trailblazer Status / Veterans Gold Award** and as a borough we have supported residents through the **cost-of-living crisis** through practical support (e.g., Household Support Fund) and better information/advice, and helped over 225 **Ukrainian refugees** settle in Doncaster.

**Total housing completions** have averaged 1,100 per year since 2018 meaning we are above target. Notable completions in the last year include over 50 dwellings being completed on each of: Manor Farm, Woodfield Way, Doncaster Road (Hatfield), Eden Grove and Hayfield Business Park. Short-term supply is forthcoming from recent permissions in Thorne, Lakeside, Wheatley and Scawthorpe – which all have permission for over 50 units. Long-term supply remains healthy with housing land allocated in the Local Plan sufficient to exceed our target.

Phase 1 of the **Council House build programme** has seen £8.2m of investment and the provision of 33 additional units over 3 sites (Toll Bar, Intake and Edenthorpe) – 26 of these were in 2022/23 with 7 since April 2023. Phase 2 is progressing with 6 out of 7 sites having been submitted for planning (c.123 homes in 2023/24 and 2024/25) plus an additional c.66 Council bungalows anticipated 2024-2026.

A significant **private sector housing** stock condition survey has been completed which identifies areas of private rented sector and privately owned housing that may benefit from targeted interventions regarding, for example, housing disrepair and energy efficiency.

The number of people presenting themselves as **homeless** or at risk of homelessness remains high, but the number of preventions has increased from 210 to 321. The number of households placed in hotels/bed & breakfast accommodation at year end has decreased from 75 (of which 24 were families) to 18 (none were children). Key services have been recommissioned on two-year contracts and 10 additional Housing First units are in place including five units funded via a successful DLUHC capital bid (Rough Sleeping accommodation programme).

The number of **rough sleepers** follows the same seasonal trend seen in previous years but the actual number of rough sleepers this year is higher, with a particular increase across quarter 4. We successfully implemented a robust winter plan December 2022 to March 2023 to ensure there was a warm space available 24 hours a day for those in need of shelter from the cold weather. We are also using the discretionary rough sleeper power to accommodate anyone rough sleeping that does not have a statutory homeless duty for a period of time that allows them to engage with services and seek alternative longer-term accommodation.

Deep dive analysis of all new rough sleepers is taking place to understand 'routes to the street' and opportunities for further prevention work. Plans are in place to mobilise an assessment hub later this year, which will provide an off the street offer of accommodation, which will target the most entrenched rough sleepers in the city. Outreach capacity is also being increased by two full time practitioners, which will provide a more robust outreach offer. A partnership workshop is planned to explore the themes from the deep dive analysis into new rough sleepers and increase in rough sleeping numbers to look at targeted actions to reduce rough sleeping, as per our Ending Rough Sleeping plan.

Reported **fly-tipping** cases increased from 11,000 (2019/20) to 13,000 (2020/21), but then fell significantly to 7,000 in 2021/22. The volume of waste also reduced from 2,300 to 1,700 tonnes. Littering cases reduced slightly over the same period (1,600 to 1,300). Fly-tipping in back alleyways is tackled proactively in the form of scheduled clearances, which will in turn reduce the number of reports from the public. £470k has been invested in the Fly-tip & Litter team to tackle backlog cases, improve response times, enable closer work with enforcement teams to investigate alleyway waste, and improve resident reporting options.

All 15 targeted **Future Parks** sites have been identified, the first four of which are Denaby Craggs, Campsall Country Park, Hexthorpe and Town Fields. Engagement with over 1,700 residents has shaped the programme which will include improvements to things like footpaths, signage and waymarking. Works is predominantly complete at Denaby, with the remaining three parks works expected to be completed by March 2024. The Doncaster Green Space Network has supported the development of new and existing voluntary groups through training and assistance to deliver community events and activities. In the autumn, we launched the

Doncaster Parks Corporate Volunteering pilot, helping business deliver their social corporate responsibility whilst helping restore our parks and green spaces through active work. The delivery of trails in partnership with Doncaster Mumbler also encourages children and families to visit and enjoy a free activity in their local parks.



## **Nurturing a child and family-friendly borough**

The **first '1001 Critical Days'** (from conception to aged two) has been a key part of the Family Hub service offer from the outset. Services are arranged to make the parents' journey of becoming or extending a family the best experience it can be, by improving access to a range of information, advice, and guidance on a wide variety of family and child-related themes. These include health and development, employment support and childcare, relationship support for family stability and supporting Families with Complex needs. The Early Days team based in Hexthorpe and Denaby is a pilot that began in September 2020 and continued until March 2023. The pilot brought together midwives, health visitors and a new role of key worker, who will stay with the family throughout the 1,001 critical days, offering continuity of care and additional support when needed.

**Tackling child poverty** and ensuring that families have all the wellbeing essentials is a key priority in current times. There are around 30 food banks & food pantries operating in Doncaster and demand is at its highest level. We are developing more robust reporting methods & data collection to confirm the true scale of this need and provision. Food banks and pantries are supported with grants of £3k each, with future support from the Household Support Fund dependent on food banks helping people climb the 'food ladder' via the use of food pantries. Additional support comes in the form of the development of the South Yorkshire food pantry provision: 'The Bread & Butter Thing', with SYMCA providing £150k for four community hubs.

We have expanded our **domestic abuse services** to better meet the needs of victims. This has included the recruitment of additional staff, including a strategic lead officer, and the introduction of a pioneering survivor liaison scheme. We have improved awareness of domestic and sexual abuse, particularly amongst young people and we are continually developing and improving our partnership response to tackling violence against women and girls.

We set ourselves a target to get 10 services to achieve **child-friendly accreditation**. By the end of the year, 56 organisations had been involved in the child-friendly initiative, 43 having received training and 24 completed the initiative and were awarded accreditation.

Doncaster hosted the Samoan national team and three matches in the latest Rugby League world cup tournament. Our Get Doncaster Moving team coordinated an engagement and impact programme that included the Samoan team visiting local schools and clubs and over 350 children having match day opportunities (e.g., ball crew and half-time performances). £700k funding was secured for a purpose-built facility for a Doncaster amateur Rugby League club; and 11 community groups received micro grants to deliver World Cup themed activities.

We have continued the implementation of our **Healthy Learning, Healthy Lives programme** in schools which looks to improve diet, nutrition and increase physical activity. Since its launch in 2018, awards have been achieved by 35 KS1-5 providers and 13 KS0 providers; with around 50 KS1-5 and 10 KS0 providers signed up to complete the award. In September 2022, the School nursing service took over the programme as part of the new Zone 5-19 public health service and will work with all KS1-5 settings to complete School Health Profiles and help them achieve accreditation. We have also brought together over 60 primary schools to form a **PE and Active schools network** leading to increased physical activity for Doncaster children throughout the day – this includes the 'walk a mile each day' activity within schools.

Our Start for Life Programme/Family hubs are **increasing the availability and quality of**

**activities for children, young people, and families** across the City of Doncaster. The programme provides support to parents and carers so they can nurture their babies and children, improving health and education outcomes. It helps reduce inequalities in health and education by ensuring access to all, including those that are hardest to reach and/or those in most need.

The **Early Help** Self-Assessment and Implementation Plan evidence continuous improvement to embed whole family working across the partnership. The Early Help Outcomes Framework is now embedded in the practice framework, the Early Help Assessment, and in the integrated case management system. Sustained improvement can be evidenced.

DSCP have implemented Graded Care Profile 2 (GCP2) which helps professionals measure the quality of care provided by a parent or carer in meeting their child's needs, particularly where there are concerns about neglect.

2022/23 has seen increased promotion and capacity, and significant growth in delivery of our **Adult Family and Community Learning offer**, with an increase of 332 enrolments compared to 2021/22. We have delivered Essential Digital skills for the first time and linked with new partners such as Family Action and Barclays Lifeskills to create new programmes linked to getting into work, and strengthened links with the Family Hubs to create new programmes to support parents to better support their children – e.g., Time Out for Parents.



## **Building transport and digital connections fit for the future**

**Rail connectivity improvements** progress includes the development and approval of proposals for a new pedestrian footbridge and station access improvements at Hatfield and Stainforth as part of the Town Deal. Work is also underway to improve the loop road at Doncaster Station and increase capacity. A business case has been developed and submitted for the Restoring Your Railways fund to be spent at Askern railway station and the Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) programme of on-station improvements has commenced which includes walking and cycling route station access improvements undertaken by the Council.

Funding has been secured through TCF to deliver **improvements to lighting, signage, and cycle storage** at Mexborough, Conisbrough, and Bentley stations; and funding has been secured to deliver £8m of accessibility improvements at Thorne North. Conisbrough Station will benefit from £1m of secured funding to improve car parking and we have an allocation of £30m to deliver Gateway East Station at the airport – but the current work to support the re-opening of the airport will obviously affect this.

Our **road network** has seen improvement in the form of a major West Moor Link scheme (completed August 2022) to convert the road to dual carriageway standard and remove a key pinch point. Various network improvements to enhance traffic flow and pedestrian safety include new traffic signalling (e.g., Holmes Market) and 20mph zones. Traffic modelling in the city centre is being undertaken to identify further potential improvements in the Trafford Way area. An extensive programme of borough-wide **carriageway resurfacing and surface dressing** is underway and major works to remove Mexborough flyover has been completed. A masterplan to deliver new investment in the road network to improve public transport accessibility, cycling and access to the city centre is being progressed.

Dialogue with SYMCA and bus operators is ongoing regarding the significant challenge to provide viable and sustainable **bus services** across the region, which is also adding pressure to tendered services. These financial pressures are likely to result in reduced service frequency in several areas that could negatively impact some communities, although service punctuality and reliability is expected to improve. A cap on bus fares of £2 a journey has been introduced. Improved bus responsive signalling has been implemented on the Balby Road corridor to

prioritise bus flow where services are delayed. This technology is also being explored where it may benefit other key bus corridors.

Our **active travel network** has improved via our programme to develop **high quality cycle routes** including installation of new segregated cycle paths, for example: A630 Conisbrough to Warmsworth (£1m), Access to Adwick Station (£936k), Access to Bentley Station (£685k), Access to Kirk Sandall Station (£1.3m), and Edlington Greenway connector (£325k). Current 2023 projects include South Parade and other city centre routes and routes in Denaby and Balby. Recent data (from 18 sites in Doncaster) indicates a rise in cycling of 14% since 2020.

We have seen significant improvements to **digital connectivity** within Doncaster. Full Fibre availability has increased massively since the DDT baseline. It was 9% in 2020, 52% in 2022, and has reached 63% as at May 2023. Gigabit availability has also increased significantly reaching 75% compared to last year's 65%. There is now less than 2% of premises unable to receive 30Mbit/s broadband, and negligible percentages that are unable to receive less than 10Mbit/s. Ducting for future fibre broadband connections has been incorporated into city centre public realm improvement works to make future improvements easier and less costly.

Digital connectivity is not just about physical infrastructure – we also need to support residents and businesses to improve their **digital and technology skills**. We found out about people's needs via our 'How connected are you?' survey and responded with a range of Digital Skills Training with device incentives in all 4 localities in familiar and trusted locations such as community libraries. This will impact 800 learners this year, with 400 already enrolled. We also offer flexible support including NHS App drop-in sessions to help more people manage their health online.



## **Promoting the borough and its cultural, sporting and heritage opportunities**

A **partnership Culture Strategy** was approved in 2022, with multi-agency oversight and delivery groups established to identify and agree specific work streams, roles and responsibilities and drive implementation. Doncaster is taking a leading role within South Yorkshire to develop new strategic partnerships, e.g., regional Music Hub, and a pipeline cultural investment framework.

An extensive **publicity campaign** that showcased Doncaster's current and future offer was successful in achieving city status for the borough; and South Yorkshire was announced as the first Investment Zone in the country in July 2023.

Representatives from Business Doncaster and the Council's senior leadership team were at UKREiiF 2023, **promoting Doncaster as a place to invest and do business** and launching a new investment film aimed at attracting visitors. It has since been rolled out via LinkedIn and direct channels to target key decision makers; and we have also operated a 'Summer in the City' campaign for Summer 2023. These have successfully raised the profile of Doncaster and its investment opportunities, with several investor leads currently being progressed.

**Promotion of cultural, tourism and green assets** including parks and open spaces continues as part of Visit Doncaster's marketing to local communities and external visitors; and we have also used the Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation status to reach more people from diverse communities, and where need is greatest. Visit Doncaster hosts regular Visitor Economy Group meetings to share knowledge around the sector and support as required to attract new events to Doncaster.

**New inward investment** assisted by Business Doncaster stands at £109.1m for 2022/23 and the Council's capital investment in cultural assets in Doncaster across multiple programmes is over £20m. The Culture Strategy will aim to return on this funding through work with national funding agencies and regional/national leadership.

The strategy also prioritises the **promotion of careers and pathways to employment within cultural organisations** – the Culture Partnership will work together to assess, improve, and promote effective routes into employment within cultural organisations. This will include raising awareness of career opportunities and provision of training and skills development opportunities to enable residents to enter the workplace in this sector.

Embedding lifelong learning within local culture and heritage has been identified as a fundamental priority in both the Culture and Education/Skills strategies. Delivery groups and partners such as the Culture Education Partnership will identify specific activity in due course, with a focus on skills and learning for children and young people.

# PROGRESS MADE AND NEXT STEPS

As well as celebrating the breadth of activity undertaken, we also monitor the impact of the work done to ensure our future efforts are focussed on the right things. We have several key performance indicators for each DDT theme as well as a selection of ‘Impact you will notice’ statements.

The section looks at direction of travel and comparison to the national average; and uses a threshold of +/-5% to define a significant difference or change. Some KPIs were identified after the approval and publication of the DDT strategy (denoted as ‘NEW’).

This information is taken from the Team Doncaster data observatory dashboard ([www.teamdoncaster.org.uk/doncaster-data-observatory](http://www.teamdoncaster.org.uk/doncaster-data-observatory)).

We also consider our next steps – the things we will focus on in the next year or so to make further progress under each theme – these should be read as examples of activity, not a complete list.

## Prosperous and Connected

Wage rate	Last 5yrs	Data	cf Nat. Avg	Gap
Employment Rate	Improved	2022	Similar	Narrowing
Wage rates	Improved	2022	Worse	Narrowing
Number of businesses	Limited change	2022	Worse	Limited change
Workforce productivity	Improved	2021	Worse	Widening
Claimant Count	Worsened	2023	Worse	Narrowing
Net new homes, per 1,000 population	Improved	2022	Worse	Narrowing
Number and Quality of Jobs	Worsened	2021	Worse*	Widening*
Highly Skilled Occupations	Improved	2021	Unknown	Unknown
NEW: Full fibre broadband coverage	Improved	2023	Similar	Narrowing

\*Jobs density

- **Wage Rates**, **Employment Rate**, and **Net new homes per 1,000 population** have all improved over the last 5 years and have all closed the gap with the national average. Wage rates and net new homes rate remain worse than the national figures (£594 vs £646 and 3.9 vs 4.12, respectively), but Employment rate is now similar (74% vs 75.8%).
- **Workforce Productivity** has improved from £25.30 to £28.20 over 5 years; as has the number of **Highly Skilled Occupations**. The **Number of Businesses per 1,000 population** has improved but only slightly from 30.7 to 32. The gap to the national average for the number of businesses has seen limited change whilst the Workforce productivity gap has widened. To match regional and national densities, we would need an additional 1,300 and 4,000 businesses, respectively.
- The **Number of jobs** in Doncaster has decreased slightly over the 5 years to 2021 (139,000 to 138,000) and our Jobs Density has also reduced slightly from 0.73 to 0.72. We have not yet monitored **Quality of Jobs** – defining this measure and starting to monitor it will be a priority going forward.
- The **Claimant rate** has increased over the last 5 years from 3.2 to 4.7. However, this has increased at a slower rate than the national figure and so the gap has narrowed. Local, regional, and national figures are all higher than pre-Covid rates.
- An additional KPI identified after DDT approval is **Full Fibre Broadband Coverage**. From 2022, Full Fibre availability increased from 52% to 63% (May 2023). and Gigabit availability increased from 65% to 75%. There is now less than 2% of premises unable to receive 30Mbit/s broadband, and negligible percentages that are unable to receive less than 10Mbit/s.

### 'Impact you will notice'

- **More quality jobs & residents in work** – we have not yet defined or monitored 'quality' jobs, but Employment rate has risen from 72% to 74% since 2020 after seeing a reduction to 69% during/following Covid-19 pandemic. Doncaster is now in line with the regional rate and national rates.
- **Better public transport connections** – Dialogue with SYMCA and bus operators is ongoing regarding the challenges of providing the current bus services across the region, which may see significant reductions in services. Between 2017/18 and 2020/21, bus reliability increased from 98.5% to 99.8% but has since dropped back down to 97.4% in 2021/22. Punctuality has decreased from 85% to 81% and the percentage of journeys made by bus has reduced from 12.5% to 10.9% over the same period – rail journeys have also reduced from 4.3% to 1.9%.
- **Busier town centres with higher footfall** – Footfall reduced significantly following Covid-19 restrictions. A recovery occurred to early 2020 levels in early 2021, but then reduced and levelled off since then until now at around 85% of the early 2020 levels.
- **More thriving local businesses** – the number of businesses per 1,000 population has improved, but only slightly. We need to define what we classify as 'thriving' and consider how we can assess this.

### What's Next?

- Support the **re-opening of our international airport** in Finningley.
- Deliver on **city and town centre regeneration programmes** which will include work at the Waterfront site, St James' baths, the city gateway and in Stainforth at the Head stocks, rail station and the high street.
- Undertake **deep dive analysis** as part of the city centre Levelling up programme.
- Deliver **key projects as part of the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS)** which will work across the city and include active travel improvements.
- Facilitation of continued **housing delivery** by private developers.
- Develop our **Long-Term City Centre Plan** for Doncaster, following the recent Government announcement about additional funding allocated to Doncaster.
- Delivery of our **Investment Zone sites**, at various locations across the borough including Thorne, city centre, Carcroft, Hatfield/Stainforth.

### **Skilled and Creative**

KPI's identified in DDT	Last 5yrs	Data	cf Nat. Avg	Gap
% achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and maths at KS2	Limited change	2022	Worse	Narrowing
Level 3 qualifications by age 19	Improved	2022	Worse	Limited change
% working age population qualified to L3+	Improved	2021	Worse	Narrowing
Apprenticeships	Worsened	2021	Unknown	Unknown
5-Year-Olds with Good Development	Improved	2021	Better	Limited change
NEW: % of residents economically active with no qualifications	Limited change	2021	Worse	Widening

- The **Percentage Achieving the Expected Standard in Reading, Writing & Maths at KS2** has improved slightly over 5 years (54% to 56%) but has reduced since 2019 (61%). This increase and subsequent reduction mirrors regional and national trends. Doncaster is 1pp below the regional figure and 3pp below the national figure – which means the gap is closing to both.

- There has been an improvement in **Level 3 qualifications by age 19** each year since 2018, with an increase from 44.6% to 47.9% over 5 years. Doncaster is starting to close the gap to the national figure but remains significantly lower than the national rate (60.7%).
- The **Percentage of the working age population qualified to Level 3 or higher** has increased from 51.6% to 52.4% between 2020 and 2021, continuing an increasing trend over the last 5 years. We are narrowing the gap to the national figure.
- **Apprenticeship** Starts have declined over the 5 years from 2016/17 to 2020/21 (3,850 to 1,880). This reduction by around a half has been replicated across South Yorkshire.
- The **percentage of 5-year-olds with a good level of development** has increased at a similar rate to the regional and national figures, and Doncaster now has a better percentage than both (74.6% vs 73.9% and 74.2%).
- A new KPI, the **Percentage of Residents Economically Active with No Qualifications** has been added. This shows a small improvement from 4.8% to 4.6%. In the last 5 years, we have gone from being better than the regional rate and in line with the national rate, to worse than the national rate (3.9%) and in line with the regional rate.
- **Basic Adult skills** and **Impact of Arts & Culture on Wellbeing** are not currently being monitored. Both need to be defined so that progress can be assessed quantitatively.

#### 'Impact you will notice'

- **Improvements in educational attainment** – All 3 school-age KPIs have improved, but only 1 is narrowing the gap to the national average (% achieving expected standards in reading, writing and maths).
- **More options to gain the skills needed for good jobs and More work-based learning opportunities** – Provision of wider opportunities around skills, supported by business, is one of the key tenets of the Education and Skills Strategy. The success of the University Technical College undoubtedly provides a model for how business and education can work together, although it is too early to draw any data from their progress.
- **More opportunities to enjoy arts and culture** – Examples include the redesigned railway station forecourt and the mural on Trafford Way, the Mining Statue, the new Doncaster Gallery, Library and Museum and the new Archive building. We also have an ongoing programme of events, including Pride, Delicious Doncaster, music festivals, etc.

#### What's Next?

- Creation of another **University Technical College** focusing on Health Sciences and Green Technology to open in September 2025
- Deliver another **Remake Learning Festival** in May 2024, along with smaller scale 'pop-up' activity.
- Develop plans for a **new Higher Education offer** linked to our areas of industrial specialism.
- Launch a new skills and training offer at the former **NCATI site** at Lakeside.
- Develop an **All-age Careers Hub**, bringing together existing and new careers education, information, and guidance
- Deliver the next phase of the Doncaster Skills Profile activity including **employer-led learning challenges**.
- Develop **new metrics** to measure the impact of our developing ecosystems approach.

## Healthy and Compassionate

KPI's identified in DDT	Last 5yrs	Data	cf Nat. Avg	Gap
Healthy Life expectancy (female)	Worsened	2020	Worse	Widening
Healthy Life expectancy (male)	Limited change	2020	Worse	Widening
% adults doing less than 30 mins of moderate intensity physical activity per week	Improved	2022	Worse	Narrowing
Adult Social care users who have control over their daily lives	Limited change	2022	Similar	Widening
A&E Attendances	Worsened	2023	Worse*	Widening*
Personal Wellbeing NEW: Life satisfaction	Limited change	2022	Similar	Limited change
NEW: Children in Need: Proportion of children in need per 10,000 population	Improved	2022	Similar	Narrowing

\*Comparison is to regional figure (South Yorkshire)

- **Life expectancy** has worsened for females (from 61 to 56.1 years), and to a lesser degree, males (59.7 to 57.4 years). We remain worse than national averages (63.9 and 63.1 years, respectively), with widening gaps for both.
- **Physical activity (percentage of adults doing less than 30min per week)** has improved over the year to 2022 (from 34.8% to 33.2%). Over the medium term, since the first Active Lives survey was undertaken, inactivity levels have reduced from 35.7% (2016) – showing improving direction of travel. The current figure is worse than both the regional (27.2%) and national (25.8%) averages, but the gaps have narrowed.
- The **proportion of people that use our care services who have control over their daily lives** (75.2%, for 2022) is similar to what it was 5 years ago (76.9%), although it is much lower than the 81.7% peak in 2018. Our worsening medium-term trend to 2020 (same as regional) has levelled off since 2020, but since then the regional figure has improved and slightly bettered the national figure (77.2% and 76.9%, respectively). We remain similar to the national figure.
- **A&E attendances** (by place of residence) have increased from around 121,000 to 131,000 (+8%) in the 5 years to March 2023. This compares to +2% for Barnsley, -4% for Rotherham, and +4% for Sheffield. The A&E attendance rate per 1,000 population show the same patterns and percentage increases. Doncaster rate is 424, compared to 421 (Barnsley), 391 (Rotherham), 387 (Sheffield).
- The **Children in need rate** has improved over the last 5 years (to 337 per 10,000, from 404). We are better than the regional figure (354) and in line with the national figure (334).

### 'Impact you will notice'

- **More opportunities for walking and cycling** – Further investment in the active travel network. Active Travel Social Prescribing pilot scheme in place using £665k grant from DfT - offering cycle lessons, bike loans, and support to help people to join walking groups and use parks and open spaces. 13 additional community-led walking groups supported via Active Communities grants. GDM/Mumbler provide walking adventure trails in high inactivity areas, and resident-led campaigns encouraging walking included as part of National Walking month.
- **More support for physical and mental health** – Refreshed Get Doncaster Moving strategy agreed (Sep 2022). 60+ primary schools have joined the PE and Active schools network, sharing good practice, learning and opportunities. 13 primary schools have joined the Creating Active School Framework (CASF). 'Dance On!' classes held in community venues for over 55s, and in Care Homes, as well as free online/at home classes and radio classes.
- **A new hospital** – Significant partnership collaboration is taking place on developing a business case for this – however, Government priorities currently lie elsewhere and so progress has slowed.

- **More opportunities for great careers in health and care** – Proud to Care Campaign launched Nov 2021 to support adult social care recruitment; this works alongside the Social Care academy. Recruitment events (x25) have been held in various community settings and 8 careers events in colleges and secondary schools. Numerous partners engaged e.g., National careers service, Reed in Partnership, Free 2 Learn, Ambition Coaches, Youth Hub and DWP.

### What's Next?

- Launch the **Doncaster Choose Kindness campaign** – encouraging closer community bonds and strengthening community cohesion.
- **Expand the growing network of local people** with experience of care that are paid for their time to help our services develop and they will be routinely part of recruitment decisions for senior adult social care posts.
- Make **information and advice** about care and support available how, when and where people need it; enabling people to get **quick access to preventative support and equipment** to help them stay safe and independent.
- **Additional funding** for local community groups to help increase **physical activity**, and further work to support **Walking groups** and our **Active Schools Framework**.
- Ensure the **effective delivery of our recently launched All Age Carer's strategy**, called 'We hear, we listen, we care, if you care' – ensuring unpaid carers are supported to access whatever help is available to deliver this critical and much appreciated role.
- Develop and enhance our early intervention support services through the creation of a new **Community Prevention Service**.
- Continue to deliver **supported hospital discharges** to free up bed space whilst providing people with the support they need.

### **Safe and Resilient**

KPI's identified in DDT	Last 5yrs	Data	cf Nat. Avg	Gap
Levels of Anti-Social Behaviour (Total recorded ASB)	Improved	2022	Similar	Widening
Levels of Crime (Total recorded crime (exc Fraud) per 1,000 population)	Worsened	2022	Worse	Widening
Safeguarding Measure* NEW: Percentage of people feeling safer after a safeguarding intervention	Baseline only	2023	Unknown	Unknown
NEW: Total recorded incidents of Domestic Violence	Worsened	2021	Similar	Narrowing

- **Total recorded ASB per 1,000 population** has decreased from 2.23 in April 2021 to 1.29 in September 2022. Regional figure is 0.93 and national is 1.08. Local, regional, and national data follow similar trends, but the gap to the national figure has widened slightly.
- **All Crime per 1,000 population** has increased between 2020 and 2022 from 116.0 to 138.0. This is significantly higher than the regional (112.5) and national figures (90.1) – though all three rates of increase are quite similar. Increased reporting may not mean increased crime though. Willingness to report crime is something we want to increase.
- Several **Safeguarding measures** have been identified and monitored. The **percentage of people feeling safer after a safeguarding intervention** shows an oscillating trend from 2021. In Q3 2021/22, the figure was 72%, reducing to 54% in Q4, and then increasing 7pp to 61% in 2022/23 Q1. Two new measures are now being monitored from Q1 2022/23: **Safeguarding: Duration (Average days - Referral to Completed S42):** 133 days (Target: 100days) and **Percentage of Safeguarding concerns and enquiries that are repeats in a 12-month period** 35% at Q1 2022/23.

- A KPI monitoring one specific element of crime (**Domestic violence**) has been added. Total Domestic Abuse has increased by 4.6% in the year to August 2022 (Domestic Abuse crime up 9%, Domestic Abuse non-crimes down 3%). Our rate of increase is slightly lower than the regional and national increases.

#### ‘Impact you will notice’

- **£100m invested in new Council homes** – £8.2m spent on Phase 1 of our build programme (33 units). High-quality homes built with sustainability in mind, with features such as solar panels and EV charging as standard. Flood protection measures are included in site design and each home is built for lifetime living – design features that allow easier adaptations in response to the need for age, disability, or illness related support features.
- **Less crime and anti-social behaviour** – Although overall recorded crime is increasing, we are making progress on certain types of crime such as serious acquisitive crime (down 8%), vehicle crime (down 7%) and residential burglary (down 2%). ASB has decreased significantly between 2021 to 2022.
- **Local services and support closer to communities** – New locality working model introduced, which is a preventative and responsive operating model, bringing partners and communities together to identify and respond to needs and vulnerability at a local level. Domestic Abuse service has been expanded, and there’s improved awareness of domestic and sexual abuse, particularly amongst young people. A Partnership response is being developed to tackle violence against women and girls.
- **Clear plans to improve your neighbourhood** – £750k Home Office funding secured for projects to include new CCTV cameras, solar lighting in parks and open spaces, and a youth coaching programme to tackle ASB. Sustainable, fit-for-purpose CCTV network has been developed, and a CCTV Position Statement published.

#### What’s Next?

- Significant **investments in homecare and supported living** to increase capacity to support people in their own homes and facilitate quicker hospital discharges.
- **More resources into targeted activity in certain neighbourhoods** – to tackle things like antisocial behaviour, as well as to support access to parks, and leisure and cultural opportunities for the more vulnerable members of our communities that need support to do so. Locality-specific data analysis will inform locality-specific interventions.
- Work with private sector housing landlords to **ensure standards in the private rented sector improve**.

#### **Greener and Cleaner**

KPI’s identified in DDT	Last 5yrs	Data	cf Nat. Avg	Gap
Target: Carbon neutral by 2040 – and achieve 85% of the reduction in emissions by 2030 i.e., CO2 emissions per capita	Improved	2021	Worse	Widening
Environmental Safeguards* NEW: Recycling rate for household waste	Limited change	2022	Better	Narrowing (remains better)
Environmental Safeguards* NEW: Air quality/pollution: fine particulate matter per cu m	Improved	2021	Similar	Narrowing
Value of our natural capital	Baseline only	2021	Unknown	Unknown

- Our **CO2 emissions per capita** is reducing, though we saw an increase in the year to 2021. This increase largely negated the reduction from 2019-2020. We currently stand at a 34% reduction (from the base year) against the 2030 ambition of 85% reduction.
- **Recycling rate** and **Air Quality** KPIs were identified to monitor environmental standards. Air quality has improved over the 5yrs to 2021, despite a slight increase since 2020. We have similar but slightly better air quality than the national average (6.2mg/cu m vs 6.9mg per cu m). Recycling rate has seen limited change over 5 years. We saw year-on-year reductions from 2017-2021 but saw an increase in 2022 to 44.8%. We remain better than regional and national levels.
- A 2021 baseline assessment of the **Value of our Natural capital** shows an annual value of £131m. This considers the value of e.g., air quality regulation, recreation, and flood reduction from woodland. There is a need for a means by which changes or improvements in Natural Capital Value can be identified through regular updating of data.
- **Perception of borough cleanliness** has not yet been monitored/assessed.

#### 'Impact you will notice'

- **Cleaner neighbourhoods and less fly-tipping** – reported fly-tipping cases increased from 11,000 (2019/20) to 13,000 (2020/21), but then fell significantly to 7,000 in 2021/22. The volume of waste also dropped from 2,300 to 1,700 tonnes. Littering cases reduced slightly over the same period (1,600 to 1,300). Fly-tipping in back alleyways is tackled proactively via scheduled clearances, which will in turn reduce the number of reports from the public.
- **More places to enjoy nature and recreation** – Significant engagement with communities completed around 4 of the future parks sites on what will improve aesthetics and stimulate activity. Investment will focus on increasing accessibility and engagement will look at perception of safety. The programme supports 'Friends of' and community groups through the Doncaster Greenspace Network to develop activity across parks and open spaces and embed them as key partners. The Council Communications team is working on a definitive style guide for all parks and open spaces across Doncaster so all parks will become an identifiable and relatable community asset, including information on the role of the natural environment on the doorstep.
- **1 million trees planted** – There is a long way to go, and this is a 2030 target, but greater delivery is expected in later years with the engagement of private landowners. Total so far is 107,000. However, newly planted trees suffered in the abnormal heatwaves this summer, and the fire on Bullcroft is likely to have destroyed thousands – so greater consideration needs to be given to survival rates beyond the number planted.
- **Improved air quality** – improving trend over the long and medium term, with a slight increase in air pollution in the year to 2022. Ten years ago, we had worse air quality than the regional and national levels, in 2022 we have better air quality than both.

#### What's Next?

- Work with private landowners to facilitate the **planting of more trees** and further **naturalisation of greenspace**.
- Continue the replacement of petrol/diesel fleet vehicles with **electric vehicles**.
- Increase the provision of **electric vehicle charging facilities**.
- Over **£3million of investment planned as part of our parks improvement programmes** - which includes work in Denaby, Campsall, Town, Hexthorpe, Edlington and many others.
- **Property-level resilience to residential homes**
- Push the **Council to recycle more**, and **support residents and businesses to do so too**.
- **Maximise the energy efficiency of Council homes and buildings** and **support private owners and businesses to do likewise** with theirs – supporting residents and businesses

to reduce both their impact on the environment as well as help reduce the impact of the current cost of living crisis.

- Produce **Carbon reduction plans**, setting out how we will reduce our emission by 2030.

## Fair and Inclusive

KPI's identified in DDT	Last 5yrs	Data	cf Nat. Avg	Gap
TARGET: Doncaster aims to reduce the areas across the borough in England's 10% most deprived (Proportion of LSOAs in England's most deprived 10% compared to Y&H and England)	Worsened	2019	Worse	Widening
Child Poverty: % children U16 in low-income families	Worsened	2022	Worse	Narrowing
Indicators to monitor the impact of the Wellbeing Essentials on inequalities* NEW: % of all households in fuel poverty	Limited change	2021	Worse	Limited change

- **Proportion of LSOAs in 10% most deprived** has increased in the 4 years to 2019. We remain worse than national averages and the gap has widened. The next scheduled data release within the strategy period is 2023. Mid-year estimates for 2020 are available – they show 62% of the Doncaster population live in the 40% most deprived LSOAs, (c195,000 people, almost two thirds of all residents). Over one third (41%, c129,000 people) live in the 20% most deprived LSOA. Almost a quarter live in the middle deciles of deprivation (76,000), with the remaining 13% (c42,000) living in the least deprived LSOA.
- **Fuel Poverty** saw an increase from 2019 to 2020 by 1 percentage point, and then a subsequent 1pp reduction back down to 17.6% in 2021. This pattern mirrors the regional pattern, which remains at 1pp lower than Doncaster; with the national rate showing a steady value of around 13% since 2019.
- **Child poverty** has seen limited change from 2020 to 2021. It is worse than and tracking the regional average, and is significantly worse than the national rate, but with a decreasing gap.

### 'Impact you will notice'

- **A reduction in poverty** – poverty and deprivation are all getting worse, and we remain worse than national averages. Fuel poverty has reduced slightly, but not significantly
- **More support for the most deprived communities** – Our support has focussed on **Prevention** of poverty & inequalities, **Mitigation** of the effects of poverty & inequalities, and **exit** from poverty. We took an intelligence-led, targeted approach and provided: Universal & targeted debt & money advice campaigns; Additional funding, e.g. to Citizens Advice outreach services; Enhanced training & employment provision using the Community Renewal Fund; Grants to food banks & support to the Food Network; Household Support Fund including free school meals in holidays, additional fuel payments, food & hygiene bank grants; Advice on affordable warmth schemes & 'boilers on prescription' and energy efficiency and cheaper utility tariffs; and St Leger Homes tenancy support.
- **A greater voice in shaping your community** – Positive Action Groups (PAGs) established for the more deprived areas. These are a vehicle for resident-led local leadership and decision-making where residents take positive action for themselves and their communities. They support and build community spaces, facilities and networks that enable local people to come together, shape their area and thrive.
- **More local social opportunities and places to meet** – The Your Life Doncaster website is a new way of sharing information and raising awareness to residents about what is available in their area. It includes community news, events, and things to do as well as advice and

support for families on things like childcare, community safety, tackling the cost-of-living crisis, as well as locality and community plans.

### What's Next?

- A **Fairness and Wellbeing commission** will report later this year their recommendations as to how we can go further to ensure equality and equity across our borough – which will inform a new Health and Well-being Strategy for Doncaster.
- Ensure that **young people in care or leaving care are afforded the same opportunities** for learning and employment as everyone else – endeavouring to provide their care as local as possible to their families and communities.
- Over the next two years add **over 250 new Council homes** – these will come from both our new build programme and our acquisitions programme.
- **Ensure supported housing for vulnerable people is up to standard**

# A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

The residents and businesses of Doncaster have faced yet another challenging year, with high inflation, the continuing cost of living crisis and the threat of recession on the horizon. As a partnership we are not immune from this, as rising costs and increased demand for key services means that difficult choices will have to be made to ensure we have a balanced budget.

Doncaster Delivering Together involves the whole Team Doncaster Partnership; when we work together in the interests of Doncaster, we can achieve great things. For example, our University Technical College, which we were granted thanks to our partnership approach and incredible bid, this has been further strengthened with the successful bid for a second UTC for Doncaster.



My number one priority is to see our great airport reopened. It has the potential to be a key economic stimulus for Doncaster and South Yorkshire. We have launched a procurement exercise to obtain an airport operator which will run through until March 2024. The market engagement we conducted over the summer has shown that there is keen interest in Doncaster Sheffield Airport from the aviation industry. Our airport has incredible potential, to operate both freight and passenger flights alongside other aviation related industry. I know there is significant public interest, who like me want to see our great airport reopen.

Deprivation is sadly becoming more of an issue in Doncaster, over the last thirteen years of austerity and funding cuts we have seen the wealth gap widen, especially in places like Doncaster. To combat this, we have established our localities working model with 4 delivery areas, each with their own locality plan and dedicated lead officer. This model seeks to maximise and connect local strengths, heritage, and civic pride; whilst also identifying, understanding, and tackling area-specific problems. The locality-specific plans and budgets will continue to be developed over the next couple of years – ensuring that the voices of communities shape local priorities.

Doncaster has a number of great opportunities on the horizon, despite the challenging economic environment and government funding cuts we have several regeneration schemes in motion including our Doncaster Town Deal, Stainforth Town Deal and the Levelling Up Fund for Doncaster City centre. In 2019 Government committed to Levelling Up places like Doncaster, we have the ambition and the potential, we just need government to provide us with the long-term funding and support necessary to enable Doncaster to thrive.

I have been the Mayor of Doncaster for over ten years. When I first became Mayor in 2013, I inherited a council in special measures that had been branded by government as dysfunctional. We have turned the ship around and are now an exemplar council in several areas, this is down to our partnership working and our incredibly hard-working public servants.

There is still a lot of work to do to create a Safer, Stronger, Cleaner and Greener Doncaster for all. The flooding experienced in Doncaster in 2019 & 2023 highlights our need to push forward with our climate commitments, to plant more trees, reduce emissions, improve biodiversity and encourage clean, green economic growth across this great borough now City of Doncaster.

We are on a journey, it is up to us as Team Doncaster partners to work with government to create the necessary conditions for the residents and businesses of Doncaster to thrive, an economy and society where no one is left behind!

*Ros Jones*