

THE KNOWSLEY COUNCIL PLAN

2022-2025





CONTENTS

| | |
|----|---|
| 4 | FOREWORD |
| 6 | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY |
| 8 | CORPORATE PLAN 2017-2022 REVIEW |
| 12 | STRATEGIC CONTEXT |
| 13 | UNDERSTANDING KNOWSLEY'S CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES |
| 16 | THE KNOWSLEY COUNCIL PLAN 2022-25 - DEVELOPING OUR PRIORITIES |
| 18 | EFFECTIVE SUPPORT TO THOSE IN NEED |
| 20 | INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND SKILLS |
| 22 | CLIMATE EMERGENCY – ACHIEVING NET ZERO 2040 |
| 24 | ENABLERS |
| 26 | ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN 2022/23 |

FOREWORD

I am delighted to see the publication of the Knowsley Council Plan 2022-2025 which sets out how we will continue to do all we can in **Supporting Knowsley's people and communities to thrive**.

I am enormously proud of everything the Council has achieved since the publication of our previous Plan in 2016. We have continued to provide high quality services and support to Knowsley residents of all ages, and we are outperforming regional comparators in driving local economic growth to create new jobs and career opportunities. We have developed and – importantly - delivered ambitious plans to maintain and further transform our Borough through investment in parks, green spaces, town centres, and local neighbourhoods. This includes continuation of our accelerated housebuilding and supporting infrastructure programme across the Borough (including the large-scale East of Halewood and Halsnead Garden Village developments), a significantly improved retail and leisure offer in Kirkby Town Centre following the Council's acquisition of the Town Centre in 2019, the forthcoming opening of the Shakespeare North Playhouse and related regeneration in Prescott Town Centre, and the ongoing transformation of Huyton Village.

Importantly, all throughout this, we continue to make sure that the most vulnerable people in our communities remain protected by providing high quality support which responds to local needs and prioritising those who most need our help – including , in 2021, allocating £14.5m in additional Council funding for the Knowsley Better Together COVID-19 Recovery Programme.

Our achievements are nothing short of remarkable given the challenges which the Council and our communities have faced in recent years. From the continued cuts to local government funding which disproportionately impact

areas like Knowsley, to – most recently – the unprecedented loss, sacrifices, and ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Despite, at times, seeing some of the country's highest rates of COVID-19, Knowsley's communities stood shoulder-to-shoulder with each other throughout the pandemic with the Council proud to play a leading role in supporting local people by putting our Knowsley Better Together principles into action.

Looking ahead, those same principles will be even more important than ever – as we look to achieve the long-term aims which are set out in the Knowsley 2030 Strategy. In order to achieve those aims, the Knowsley Council Plan sets out a number of key priorities which will be the Council's focus between 2022 and 2025:



EFFECTIVE SUPPORT FOR THOSE IN NEED

– ensuring that all Knowsley residents are able to access the support and services they need



INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND SKILLS

– ensuring that all of Knowsley's communities are able to share in the opportunities from local economic growth



ACHIEVING NET ZERO 2040

– ensuring that the Council plays a leading role in local action to address the Climate Emergency

We know, however, that - much like our response to the COVID-19 pandemic - we will not be able to achieve this alone.

Our Knowsley Better Together approach – which is very much about us all “doing our bit” for the Borough – will continue to be vital as we deliver against this Plan. Knowsley has always been a place where people look out for each other – it is simply what we do here. Alongside our local communities, the Council has achieved a lot since our previous Plan was published. I am confident that the Knowsley Council Plan will allow us to achieve even more together for Knowsley's future.



Councillor Graham Morgan
Leader of Knowsley Council

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Knowsley Council has made clear progress against our previous Plan – continuing to provide high quality and wide-ranging services to Knowsley, whilst investing in and leading the significant improvements to Knowsley’s town centres, parks, green spaces, and neighbourhoods and supporting inclusive economic growth across the Borough.

Since early 2020, the global COVID-19 pandemic has meant that the Council has had to prioritise directly supporting Knowsley residents, businesses, and wider communities in the face of immediate and unique pressures. the Knowsley Council Plan 2022-2025 seeks to respond to the significant challenges and impact of the pandemic, whilst maintaining a focus on the longstanding ambitions for the Borough as set out in the Knowsley 2030 Strategy. the Knowsley Council Plan 2022-2025 has a clear vision of **Supporting Knowsley’s people and communities to thrive.**

In order to successfully deliver against these commitments, the plan sets out a number of key priority themes and enabling principles:

SUPPORTING KNOWSLEY’S PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES TO THRIVE



**SUPPORTING
THOSE MOST
IN NEED**



**INCLUSIVE SKILLS
AND GROWTH**



**CLIMATE
EMERGENCY -
ACHIEVING NET
ZERO**

Enabled by:

**ORGANISATIONAL RESILIENCE
EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE SERVICE DELIVERY**

**STRONGER COMMUNITIES
EARLY INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION**

KNOWSLEY BETTER TOGETHER PRINCIPLES

- Be a strong community leader and always champion Knowsley
- Build better partnerships and work with others co-operatively to improve Knowsley
- Spend locally, invest locally and recruit locally to build social value
- Help people to be independent, doing more for themselves and each other
- Prevent problems occurring or stop them getting worse
- Listen to the community when making decisions
- Use the best way of delivering services that leads to improved outcomes for Knowsley



2017-2022 REVIEW

KNOWSLEY COUNCIL'S PREVIOUS PLAN RAN FROM 2017-2021, AND WAS EXTENDED TO COVER 2021-22 TO ENABLE A FOCUS ON THE RESPONSE TO AND RECOVERY FROM COVID-19, WHILST MAINTAINING THE ONGOING PROGRESS AGAINST THE EXISTING PRIORITIES.

Accelerate Business Growth, New Jobs and New Housing

Knowsley Council has provided exceptional support to local businesses and partners in the private sector with over £78 million of public and private sector investment secured, enabling significant economic growth and developments throughout the Borough:

1. 4,005 new houses have been built – 1,000 of which are affordable – with more people both choosing to stay in the Borough and also moving into the Borough, and the population growing by an estimated 4.5% in the last 10 years (after years of population decline)
2. Over 1,360,000ft² of floor space (the equivalent of 21 football pitches) has been developed for employment across the Borough, supporting our long-term improvement in employment levels
3. 4,000 new jobs have been created, 3,316 unemployed residents have been supported into work, and 579 apprenticeships have been created. Knowsley's employment rate of 75.2% exceeds the national rate (74.4%) for the first time since the Borough was created in 1974
4. The Council has directly delivered significant regeneration and redevelopment to Knowsley's town centres, including:
 - A new retail development in Kirkby Town Centre, bringing a new supermarket, new retail units, a petrol station, and restaurants - creating 500 new jobs to date
 - Realising the vision of bringing the Shakespeare North Playhouse to the Borough, with its opening on target for summer 2022. Prescot has also seen considerable public realm improvements and private sector investment, with further infrastructure works completed in readiness for the opening of the Playhouse
 - Adoption of a Huyton Masterplan (which is forecast to create 1,500 jobs as a result of investment, and add a total economic benefit of £62m), with shopfront programmes and demolitions completed, leading to 14 shop frontages improved, and five vacant properties brought back into use
5. Knowsley's economy has grown by 6%, with the improved Kirkby Town Centre alone contributing an additional £15 million per year to the economy. There has been a 15% growth in the number of businesses located in the Borough, compared with 11% nationally



Maximise the Council's Contribution to Education in Knowsley

Knowsley Council has worked in partnership with schools, and provided specific support to help drive improvement in outcomes, including:

1. Investment in new teams and greater co-production with families to improve services for children with special educational needs and disabilities - all Knowsley Special Schools are rated at least "Good" by Ofsted
2. Improved primary school results across the Borough, with Key Stage Two results improving from 48% of children reaching the expected standard in 2016 to 63% by 2019. Particular improvements have been seen in schools supported through the Council-commissioned Pathway to Success programme, who improved at a faster rate than schools who did not participate
3. 84% of Knowsley schools are now rated as "Good" or "Outstanding" by Ofsted – an improvement from 78% as a result of targeted support from the Council's Education Improvement team

Provide High Quality and Sustainable Adult Social Care

1. Since 2018, 5,800 people have been supported by Knowsley Council's Adult Social Care service. The most recent user survey from 2020 placed Knowsley's service user satisfaction at joint 3rd nationally (out of 151 local authorities)
2. The Knowsley Network and Shared Lives scheme achieved an "Outstanding" assessment from the Care Quality Commission in May 2019. The Knowsley Reablement and Rapid Response service achieved a "Good" assessment rating in November 2019. These ratings have since been maintained
3. The quality of services within the community market has remained high with 92% of providers rated as "Good" or "Outstanding" by the Care Quality Commission despite the challenges across the market in relation to recruitment and retention, and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic





Maximise the Council's Contribution to the Health and Wellbeing of Knowsley Residents

While improvements to health outcomes occur over a longer time period and the response to COVID-19 has dominated attention, positive progress has been made in some areas, particularly in the years prior to the COVID-19 pandemic:

1. Healthy life expectancy has increased in Knowsley, from 55.6 years to 60 years for men, and from 58 years to 59 years for women in the last 10 years. Although below national averages, improvements in health were evident before the COVID-19 pandemic
2. Improvements have been made to maternal health, with more families starting healthier lives – there has been a sustained reduction in the numbers of mothers who smoke at the time of delivery (the rate has halved in the last decade from 26% to 13%), breastfeeding rates have increased from 18% to 22%, and the numbers of babies born at low weight are now below the national average (2.2% compared with 2.9%)
3. Approaches to managing demand into Adult Social Care continue to demonstrate positive results, with more people signposted to the right support and fewer people returning
4. Knowsley Council has worked with partner agencies to establish a new Integrated Care Partnership and refresh the Health and Wellbeing Board in preparation for health and care reforms

COVID-19 Response and Recovery

Whilst facing the most significant public health crisis in recent times, Knowsley Council has both prioritised the delivery of existing services and quickly created new services to respond to the demands of the pandemic:

1. New services were mobilised to support the response to COVID-19, including the creation of a COVID-19 Volunteer Hub service to support the Borough's most vulnerable residents
2. A responsive and agile approach to testing was developed through the creation of seven testing sites across Knowsley - support was provided for 136,700 asymptomatic COVID-19 tests on fixed and mobile sites from December 2020 to January 2022 and 40,800 test kits were distributed
3. Establishment of a "Knowsley Better Together Hardship Fund" of £2.5m, this has been used to pay for the provision of holiday activities and food for children, a Fuel Bank to help residents to stay warm, and bridging payments for residents moving from Universal Credit to employment





Create a Sustainable Borough

1. Through robust and effective financial management, Knowsley Council has achieved sustainable services, and has indeed been able to go further by investing in key services, even in such uncertain times
2. The Council has invested in direct support to communities, including the £8.3m “Knowsley Better Together Recovery Fund”, to ensure that services can respond to the needs of communities and manage increases in demand caused by the pandemic
3. The Council has delivered a programme of over £9m worth of improvements to the Borough’s parks and green spaces to protect and sustain these areas for future generations
4. Knowsley’s cultural heritage has been celebrated through the successful launch of the Liverpool City Region Borough of Culture programme for 2022. In the first weeks of Knowsley’s Borough of Culture year, thousands of visitors have taken part in and enjoyed a series of illuminating events across Knowsley, establishing a strong foundation for a whole year of cultural events and community participation



STRATEGIC CONTEXT

A new long-term strategy for the Borough – “Knowsley 2030” – was developed alongside local residents, businesses, and stakeholders. The Strategy sets out a long-term focus for the Council and its strategic partners to ensure that Knowsley will be a place...

- ...with welcoming, vibrant, well-connected neighbourhoods and town centres;
- ...with a thriving, inclusive economy, with opportunities for people and business;
- ...where people are active and healthy, and have access to the support they need;
- ...where people of all ages are confident and can achieve their full potential; and,
- ...where strong and safe communities can shape their future.

The Strategy provides a focus for the work of the Council and its partner agencies over the next eight years and acts as a “starting point” for the Knowsley Council Plan.

The Knowsley Council Plan has been developed within an increasingly complex context – there is an ongoing need to respond to the significant challenges and impact of the COVID-19 pandemic while not only adapting to an evolving and uncertain national Government policy agenda (including health and social care reforms) but also maintaining a focus on longstanding ambitions.

The impact of COVID-19 in the Borough has been far-reaching, with Knowsley’s overall level of positive cases being amongst the highest in England across the course of the pandemic (and indeed at times the highest level of any local authority area) as a consequence of a range of complex factors, including pre-existing inequalities, which exacerbated the scale of the local challenge. The pandemic means that this Plan has also been developed throughout a period of unprecedented national economic uncertainty, with the longer-term impacts on employment and household incomes likely only to become clear over the coming three years – alongside those of the UK’s exit from the European Union.

It will be crucial, therefore, that the work delivered through the Knowsley Council Plan maintains a specific focus on ensuring that the ongoing impact of the pandemic does not compound the existing (and, in some cases, longstanding) challenges and inequalities within the Borough.

UNDERSTANDING KNOWSLEY'S CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

POPULATION



Decades of population decline ended in 2011 - **year on year growth since**



Current population is estimated to be 152,452 = growth of **4.5%** in the last decade



ONS population projected population of 158,009 by 2030 - additional **5,500** new homes by 2030 means it is likely to be higher



Increases in demand for all services will grow as the population does

INEQUALITIES



The life expectancy gap in Knowsley between most deprived and least deprived areas is greater for women



Women
Lowest = 76.8
Highest = 84.4



Men
Lowest = 72.9
Highest = 79.6



Knowsley residents in the most deprived areas are twice as likely to die from cancer before they turn 75, as residents in the least deprived areas

TOWN CENTRE



500 new jobs, a new supermarket, retail, hospitality & leisure offer delivered in Kirkby town centre



Public realm and infrastructure improvements **completed** in Prescot ahead of the opening of Shakespeare North Playhouse in summer 2022



Huyton masterplan in place – shopfront programmes delivered and demolitions completed

COST OF LIVING



The energy cap increase to £2,000 in April 2022 may result in additional fuel costs of £723 per household. For the poorest of households (25%) **this may equate to at least 17% of household income**



For families in Knowsley the cost of living has the potential to create an increased pressure leading to greater financial hardships

The impact of the pandemic and the cut to Universal Credit means many people already had **less money in their pockets** now what they do have does not go as far as it used to



Weekly pay for residents in work has increased to **£572** in 2021, and the gap with England now just £41 per week



19,200 residents have been affected by the removal of the Universal Credit uplift in October 2021 – equating to a loss of £1,040 per resident per year

COMPLEX NEEDS AND VULNERABLE PEOPLE



17.5% of adult population prevalence of depression, Knowsley had the largest increase nationally of **2.7%** in 2020



83% increase in mental health referrals to Adult Social Care



26% Increased demand for child criminal exploitation services



26% Increased demand for domestic abuse services



4.9% of children in Knowsley schools require Education, Health and Care Plans



DEVELOPING OUR PRIORITIES

The Knowsley Council Plan 2022 – 2025 has a simple, strategic vision of *Supporting Knowsley's people and communities to thrive*.

The Plan sets out three long-term priority themes which will help ensure that the Council effectively realises this vision:

- **Effective Support for those in Need** – ensuring that all Knowsley residents are able to access the support and services they need
- **Inclusive Growth and Skills** - ensuring that all of Knowsley's communities are able to share in the opportunities from local economic growth
- **Achieving Net Zero 2040** – ensuring that the Council plays a leading role in local action to address the Climate Emergency

In alignment with the Knowsley Better Together principles, the aims of the Knowsley Council Plan can only be realised through local residents, businesses, and other stakeholders working alongside the Council to ensure that Knowsley remains a vibrant and attractive place and that those in greatest need are able to access necessary support.

The Knowsley Council Plan will be monitored on a bi-annual basis. This monitoring process will focus on the progress of the annual delivery plan within the Knowsley Council Plan, aligned with the Council's ongoing monitoring of individual departmental and service performance.

EFFECTIVE SUPPORT TO THOSE IN NEED



The Council remains committed to reducing local inequalities and ensuring that Knowsley residents are able to access necessary support. The COVID-19 pandemic placed increased pressures on households in Knowsley, increasing the risk that existing challenges and inequalities could widen for more vulnerable residents and meaning that those who already experienced disadvantage were disproportionately impacted. Without a long-term commitment to mitigating and reducing inequalities, these disadvantages could grow further over the next decade.

Providing effective support to those who need it is a fundamental part of delivering the Knowsley Council Plan, focusing on ensuring that all households are protected against uncertainties. This includes significant and emerging national challenges regarding the cost of living and ensuring that the Council continues to protect the most vulnerable children and families through effective early help and high-quality practice, particularly in Children's Social Care.

Improving the health and wellbeing of Knowsley residents is a long-term commitment in both the Knowsley Council Plan, and the Knowsley 2030 Strategy. Whilst progress has been made in improving health outcomes over the last decade, there is still more to do. Knowsley Council has shown effective leadership in the management of the COVID-19 pandemic, and will collaborate with local partner agencies and communities to understand and reduce inequalities in Knowsley over the life of this Plan.

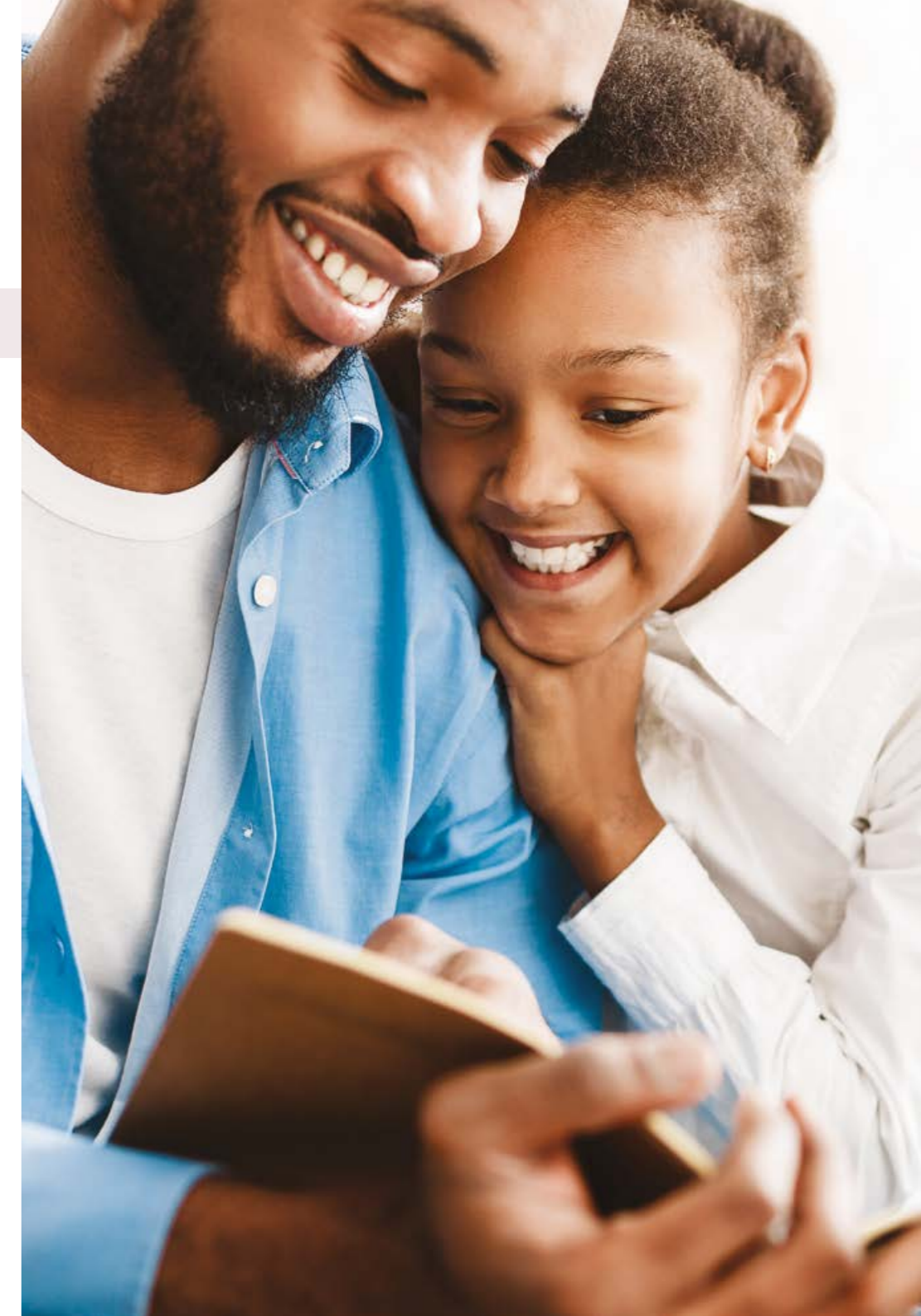
THEME OBJECTIVES:

- Supporting hardship – providing a safety net for Knowsley residents who require support in unpredictable and changing circumstances
- Targeted support for the most vulnerable – ensuring that high quality services are available at the right time to protect and empower vulnerable residents and their families
- Improving people's health and wellbeing and reducing health inequalities – focusing on preventative and early intervention approaches which are person-centred and rooted in communities. Acting as an effective leader, the Council will work with its strategic partner agencies (including, but not limited to, health and care providers) to collectively improve health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities

LONG-TERM COMMITMENTS:

- Ensuring that effective support is provided for Knowsley communities facing hardship, and that the most vulnerable are protected
- Financial Inclusion – supporting residents during times of crisis to have a good standard of life
- Housing – making sure that residents can access and afford suitable housing which provides a firm foundation for their wellbeing
- Community Safety – enabling residents to feel safe in their communities and their homes

- Meeting Complex Need – ensuring that residents who have complex needs receive effective support which empowers them throughout their lives
- Localised Family Support – meeting essential needs and establishing Family Hubs (set within communities) to provide joined-up support for families in Knowsley



INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND SKILLS



The Council has a longstanding commitment to ensure that all local communities are able to share in opportunities from local economic growth. The Council continues to provide targeted employment support and advice for residents who are looking to get back to work or progress within their careers. The Council works in close partnership with Knowsley Chamber of Commerce, local employers, and others to maximise investment and employment opportunities.

Knowsley has seen significant levels of economic growth in recent years – continuing to establish the Borough as a place where people choose to live, visit, invest, and do business. The Borough’s prime location and sectoral strengths in existing and future growth industries have led to significant growth in jobs since 2016, with 70,000 jobs currently in Knowsley – an increase of approximately 4,000 jobs.

Between 2022 and 2025, ongoing investment in Knowsley’s parks and greens spaces and major regeneration across all of Knowsley’s town centres will see the Borough continue to transform and grow. An ongoing accelerated housebuilding and related infrastructure programme alongside a significantly improved retail and leisure offer will ensure that the Borough continues to have “something for everyone”.

By bringing new jobs and delivering physical improvements, these ambitious developments present significant opportunities for the Borough’s communities. There remains, however, an important opportunity to reduce existing barriers to employment and career progression for local residents – helping to further reduce the “earnings gap” compared to national averages.

To fully address this and other inequalities, it will be crucial to build on improvements in educational attainment and adult skills levels to reduce the longstanding resident skills gap in the Borough. Reducing the significant skills gap compared to national averages and ensuring that young people continue to have access to high quality provision and independent support to make informed decisions about their futures are crucial elements of this Plan.

Coinciding with the opening of the unique Shakespeare North Playhouse, 2022 is Knowsley’s year as the Liverpool City Region’s Borough of Culture. This wide-ranging programme of public events and activities will increase visitor numbers to the Borough, whilst acting as an ongoing driver for future local economic growth and community engagement.

THEME OBJECTIVES:

As the Borough emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic and following the UK’s exit from the European Union, the Council’s commitment to ensuring that all Knowsley residents can benefit from the Borough’s economic growth is more important than ever and will play a crucial role in reducing local inequalities:-

- Harnessing opportunities to drive growth – continuing to ensure that Knowsley remains a fantastic place to live, visit, invest, and do business
- Ensuring that people of all ages can achieve their full potential - working with strategic partner agencies and local communities to ensure that residents can take advantage of future opportunities in the Borough and beyond

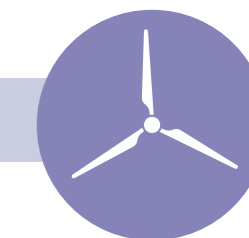
LONG-TERM COMMITMENTS:

- Delivering an ambitious housing, retail, and leisure offer - to ensure Knowsley continues to have “something for everyone”
- Ensuring that residents are equipped with the required skills, advice, and guidance to take advantage of existing and future job opportunities, including key and emerging growth sectors (e.g. advanced manufacturing, low carbon)





CLIMATE EMERGENCY – ACHIEVING NET ZERO 2040



Changes to the environment caused by climate change, and the impact on how we live and our health, are among the biggest global challenges.

In declaring a “Climate Emergency” in January 2020, Knowsley Council recognised that current and predicted levels of global warming require immediate local responses, alongside continued long-term local leadership. Whilst all local authorities are operating in a context often determined by national Government policy and investment in infrastructure, Knowsley Council also has an opportunity to lead significant local efforts. The Council has responsibilities both in terms of achieving its target of producing “Net Zero” carbon emissions as an organisation by 2040, and also continuing to play its role as a community leader to influence local communities and organisations to play their roles in achieving the overall target for the Borough.

The Council is committed to supporting inclusive and sustainable growth which considers decarbonisation and the impact on the environment. There are opportunities for growth in the green economy and low carbon sectors which will also support economic growth and opportunities to ensure that local residents can participate in a Net Zero economy. Knowsley Council recognises the importance of supporting a “just transition” to Net Zero, whereby considerations of equity and fairness are embedded in this work, to ensure that residents and businesses are not disproportionately disadvantaged by the changes.

THEME OBJECTIVES:

- Delivering the Council’s own commitments to achieve Net Zero – remaining accountable for how Council services impact on climate change and taking action to achieve Net Zero by 2040
- Leading the way - working with partner organisations in the public and private sectors to ensure that all stakeholders play their full roles in helping Knowsley to achieve its Net Zero target
- Communities – working with communities in their crucial role to achieve Net Zero through making adaptations to residents’ homes, supporting changes in the use of transport, and influencing how all businesses and organisations contribute to Net Zero

LONG-TERM COMMITMENTS:

- Embed Net Zero in all that the Council does – including by managing the consumption of energy in buildings, in the delivery of Council services, in the Council’s vehicle fleet, and in how staff travel to work
- Developing a clear plan for the whole of the Borough – working with partner agencies to develop and implement a plan which identifies the measures which can be taken to stem climate change and achieve Net Zero



ENABLERS

To achieve Knowsley Council's vision and deliver the priorities within the Knowsley Council Plan, there is a need to focus on how the Council works, and how the organisation uses its resources to meet challenges and opportunities.

The Knowsley Council Plan is clearly underpinned by the Knowsley Better Together principles which include a focus on working alongside communities to co-produce solutions. Building further on the practical examples of Knowsley Better Together in action during the COVID-19 pandemic. It will be increasingly important for the Council to work proactively with partner organisations and others in the community and voluntary sector to address local challenges and achieve its ambitions for the organisation and the wider Borough of Knowsley.




THEME OBJECTIVES:

- **High quality services and improved outcomes** – ensuring effective high-quality delivery of Council services, and ensuring that new and increased demand is met and that improved outcomes are achieved where required
- **Responding effectively to new and emerging challenges** – ensuring that the Council remains fit for purpose in unpredictable times and continues to provide key services which respond to the changing needs of local communities
- **Stronger Communities** – working to further empower Knowsley's communities and address long-term inequalities through early intervention, strengthening locality working, and the co-production of preventative solutions

LONG-TERM COMMITMENTS:

- **Organisational Resilience** – ensuring that Knowsley Council is a sustainable organisation which can meet the standards and the needs of the communities who it serves. This will include ongoing financial stability and a focus on the recruitment and retention of staff within crucial technical roles alongside a broader workforce development programme
- **Efficient Service Delivery** – the Council will continuously improve service delivery to meet need effectively, with a particular focus on appropriate, customer-centred access to services
- **Community Asset Building** – further developing and supporting community capacity and maximising opportunities to address issues as early as possible (and before they escalate)
- **Integrated Health and Care System** – the establishment of the Knowsley Integrated Care Partnership (as part the new Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Partnership) will enable the Council to further strengthen its partnerships with local health and care providers so that the ongoing commissioning of health and care provision for local communities improves outcomes for Knowsley residents and plays a significant role in addressing the Borough's substantial health inequalities

ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN 2022/23

| Priority | Outcome | Actions |
|--|--|---|
| Effective Support to those in Need | | |
| | |  |
| Priority Financial Exclusion Support | Outcome Cost of living support for residents facing financial difficulties or crisis | Actions Deliver the Knowsley Better Together Hardship Fund |
| Priority Improvements in Children's Services | Outcome Children get the best start in life, and thrive towards adulthood | Actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the quality of practice in Children's Social Care • Improve support to families affected by domestic abuse • Improve support given to Care Leavers |
| Priority Reducing Health Inequalities | Outcome Improved health partnerships which focus on need and reducing health inequalities in Knowsley | Actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the Knowsley Integrated Care Partnership • Work with partner agencies to develop early intervention and preventative approaches to begin to reduce health inequalities |
| Priority Responding to and Recovering from COVID-19 | Outcome Residents are protected from the worst effects of COVID-19, and recovery is prioritised in all work | Actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide sustainable COVID-19 testing and vaccination programmes • Provide appropriate support and guidance to residents and organisations affected by COVID-19 |
| Inclusive Growth and Skills | | |
| | |  |
| Priority Borough of Culture | Outcome Communities are brought together to celebrate Knowsley's cultural assets | Actions Deliver the Borough of Culture programme in 2022, including a focus on legacy for future years |
| Priority Major Developments | Outcome Delivery of existing ambitious plans to transform the Borough | Actions Deliver the Shakespeare North Playhouse, the Halsnead Garden Village and East of Halewood housing developments, and continued town centre improvements |
| Priority Learning and Skills Strategy | Outcome Residents have access to all of the learning provision and guidance needed to thrive | Actions Develop a Learning and Skills Strategy and Action Plan |
| Priority Targeted Support for Employment | Outcome Employers and employees have targeted support which meets their needs in a changing economy | Actions Deliver the Knowsley Works, Business Growth, Inward Investment, and Family and Community Learning programmes |
| Climate Emergency and Achieving Net Zero | | |
| | |  |
| Priority Climate Emergency and Achieving Net Zero | Outcome Refreshed plans for the Council and the Borough to respond to the Climate Emergency | Actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake a complete stocktake of plans responding to the Climate Emergency and Net Zero delivery, and develop refreshed plans for the Council and the Borough • Deliver the initial decarbonisation of Council buildings, and flood mitigation programme and sustainable travel plans |
| Enablers | | |
| Priority Stronger Communities | Outcome Residents who are better able to help themselves and each other and more community capacity | Actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish the Stronger Communities Partnership to provide effective leadership • Develop a "Year One" delivery plan with partner agencies with a particular focus on community capacity building and behaviour change |



Knowsley Council