



TO COUNCILLOR:

R H Adams
N Alam
S S Athwal
L A Bentley
G A Boulter
L M Broadley
F S Broadley
M H Charlesworth
J K Chohan (Mayor)

H E Darling
M L Darr
J K Ford
D A Gamble
F S Ghattoraya
C S Gore
S Z Haq
G G Hunt
P Joshi

R V Joshi
J Kaufman
C D Kozlowski
K J Loydall
C J R Martin
R E R Morris
I K Ridley
C A M Walter (Deputy Mayor)

I summon you to attend the following meeting for the transaction of the business in the agenda below.

Meeting: Full Council

Date & Time: Tuesday, 9 December 2025, 7.00 pm

Venue: Civic Suite, Brocks Hill Council Offices, Washbrook Lane, Oadby, Leicester, LE2 5JJ

Contact: Democratic Services

t: (0116) 257 2775

e: democratic.services@oadby-wigston.gov.uk

Yours faithfully

Council Offices
Oadby
01 December 2025

Anne E Court
Chief Executive



Meeting ID: 2950

ITEM NO.

AGENDA

PAGE NO'S

Meeting Live Broadcast | Information and Link

This meeting will be broadcast live.

Press & Public Access:

A direct link to the live broadcast of the meeting's proceedings on the Council's Civico platform is below.

<https://civico.net/oadby-wigston/22978-Full-Council>

1. Calling to Order of the Meeting

The meeting of the Council will be called to order to receive Her Worship The Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

2. Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence from Members to determine the quorum of the meeting in accordance with Rule 7 of Part 4 of the Constitution.

3. Declarations of Interest

Members are reminded that any declaration of interest should be made having regard to the Members' Code of Conduct. In particular, Members must make clear the nature of the interest and whether it is 'pecuniary' or 'non-pecuniary'.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting(s) 5 - 7

To read, confirm and approve the minutes of the previous meeting in accordance with Rule 19 of Part 4 of the Constitution.

a. Tuesday, 28 October 2025 8 - 10

b. Wednesday, 19 November 2025 (Extraordinary) 11 - 13

5. Action List Arising from the Previous Meeting(s)

There was no Action List arising from the previous meeting(s).

6. Motions on Notice

To consider any Motions on Notice in accordance with Rule 14 of Part 4 of the Constitution.

a. Meadows Estate Public Bins 14

Proposed by Councillor Michael H Charlesworth

7. Petitions, Deputations and Questions

To receive any Petitions, Deputations and, or, to answer any Questions by Members or the Public in accordance with Rule(s) 11, 12, 13 and 10 of Part 4 of the Constitution and the Petitions Procedure Rules respectively.

8. Mayor's Announcements

To receive any announcements from the Mayor in accordance with Rule 2 of Part 4 of the Constitution.

a. Official Mayoral / Deputy Mayoral Engagements 15 - 18

9. Leader's Statement

To receive any statement from the Leader of the Council in accordance with Article 2.9.2(ii) of Part 2 of the Constitution.

10. Statement of Gambling Policy (2025-2028) 19 - 51

Report of the Senior Strategic Development Manager
Report of the Licensing Enforcement Officer

11. Biodiversity Duty Report (Winter 2025) 52 - 65

Report of the Senior Planning Policy Officer

Full Council

Tuesday, 9 December 2025, 7.00 pm

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and Wigston Borough Council, Brocks Hill Council
Offices, Washbrook Lane, Oadby, Leicester, LE2 5JJ*

12. Community Safety Partnership Reporting (Q1 & 2 2025/26)

66 - 105

Report of the Community Safety and Youth Officer

13. Exclusion of the Press & Public

The press and public are likely to be excluded from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (Exempt Information) during consideration of the item below on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in the respective paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and, in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exempt item(s) outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

14. Resolution to Extend Six-Month Meeting Attendance Rule (Exempt)

106 - 107

Report of the Legal & Democratic Services Manager / Monitoring Officer (Solicitor)

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Agenda Item 4

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD AT CIVIC SUITE, BROCKS HILL COUNCIL OFFICES, WASHBROOK LANE, OADBY, LEICESTER, LE2 5JJ ON WEDNESDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2025 COMMENCING AT 7.33 PM

PRESENT

J K Chohan Mayor



Meeting ID: 3019

COUNCILLORS

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| N Alam | Leader of the Opposition |
| S S Athwal | |
| L A Bentley | Deputy Leader of the Council |
| G A Boulter | |
| M H Charlesworth | |
| M L Darr | |
| F S Ghattoraya | |
| C S Gore | |
| S Z Haq | Leader of the Council |
| J Kaufman | |
| C D Kozlowski | |
| K J Loydall | |
| C J R Martin | |
| R E R Morris | |
| I K Ridley | |

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

| | |
|-------------|--|
| S J Ball | Legal & Democratic Services Manager / Monitoring Officer (Solicitor) |
| A E Court | Chief Executive / Head of Paid Service |
| T Neal | Strategic Director / Deputy Monitoring Officer |
| C Warren | Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer |
| S Wheeliker | Senior Democratic & Electoral Services Officer |

48. CALLING TO ORDER OF THE MEETING

The meeting of the Council was called to order to receive Her Worship The Mayor.

49. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillors R H Adams, F S Broadley, L M Broadley, H E Darling, J K Ford, D A Gamble, G G Hunt, P Joshi, R V Joshi and C A M Walter.

It was moved by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor M H Charlesworth and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

Councillor C D Kozlowski be appointed as an Assistant to the Mayor for the duration of this meeting only.

50. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Full Council

Wednesday, 19 November 2025, 7.30 pm

*Printed and published by Democratic Services, Oadby
and Wigston Borough Council, Brocks Hill Council
Offices, Washbrook Lane, Oadby, Leicester, LE2 5JJ
~ Page 4 ~*

None.

51. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION - FINAL PROPOSAL FOR LEICESTER, LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND (NOVEMBER 2025)

Council gave consideration to the report and appendices (as set out at pages 3 – 160 of the agenda reports pack and pages 3 – 11 of the agenda update) which sought approval for the final proposal.

In light of the technical difficulties Councillor I K Ridley queried how the meeting would be recorded. The Senior Democratic & Electoral Services Officer advised that a fuller version of the minutes would be produced.

The Chief Executive Officer presented the report, highlighting the fact the draft proposal was approved unanimously at the meeting on 28 October and summarising the amendments made to the proposal following feedback from each of the involved Councils' meetings, which were agreed by each of the Council's Leaders.

Councillor M H Charlesworth raised queries relating to an economic imbalance between the proposed North and South unitaries and the sustainability of the City unitary, including whether the final document will address the issue of the City's enlargement. Councillor M H Charlesworth stressed that if the issue is not addressed it would be a serious flaw and could affect the government's decision on whether to approve the proposal.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that in terms of the North/South divide, the Council Leaders were satisfied that there is balance in the proposal regarding financial sustainability, geography and partnerships. It was also advised that the issue raised regarding the City was addressed in section 2 of the proposal and the financial sustainability of the City at page 9, which sets out analysis of their finances and funding. The Chief Executive Officer also advised further work was being done to strengthen the proposal regarding the belief that the City would be sustainable.

The Leader of the Council also addressed the points made by Councillor M H Charlesworth, advising that the Section 151 Officers for each Council had done detailed work around the sustainability of all the proposed unitaries and that independent financial advisors had also looked into the issue around the City's sustainability and taking into account the deprivation in the city and the fairer funding formula, as well as the change in formula for the housing targets set out by government that the City will be sustainable. The Leader also reiterated the fact that this local government reorganisation was forced onto the Council, and that while the Council would prefer the status quo, it had a duty to work on creating a proposal that would be the best option for local residents.

The Leader went on to outline the proposal highlighting the fact that the North-City-Couth proposal was the closest to meeting the governments' aims for the reorganisation and that it received strong support from the public with over 6000 responses to the public consultation.

The Leader of the Opposition echoed the Leaders' sentiments and thanked Officers and Members for their hard work, stating that he was pleased with the alignment of all Councillors on this proposal whether Conservatives, Liberal Democrats or Independents. The Leader of the Opposition queried the population densities of the unitaries and whether the arguments against the City's expansion were robust enough to prevent it.

The Leader of the Council advised that the proposal has closely balanced the populations for the unitaries and that with the work of all the Section 151 Officers and independent advisors they were confident that the proposal was sound and that the City unitary was sustainable without expansion. It was also stated that the City Mayor had failed to effectively run the city and that expansion would not fix their problems and that instead they needed to focus on their own finances. It was also stated that the Councils had all met with all the Leicestershire MPs, excluding Neil O'Brien, and that they were all supportive of the proposal. The Leader expressed her disappointment in this constituency's MP and while they had spoken with him and he had expressed support for the proposal, he was still yet to give his official endorsement, so she again wished to urge him to send a letter of endorsement as this would help strengthen the case for this proposal.

The Deputy Leader of the Council echoed the sentiments of the Leader and that while they disagreed with the local government reform, it was not their choice and they had a responsibility to put forward this proposal. The Deputy Leader asked that all Members show unity and advised that it is not for the County to sort out the City's issues.

Both the Chief Executive Officer and the Leader of the Council's full statements are attached.

It was moved by the Leader of the Council, seconded by the Deputy Leader of the Council and

RESOLVED THAT:

- i) The final proposal for a three unitary model for local government reorganisation in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (North, City, South) attached at Appendix 2 be endorsed; and**
- ii) The authority to consider and agree any amendments to the final proposal prior to submission to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government by 28 November 2025 be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader.**

For 13
Against 0
Abstentions 1

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.59 pm

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD AT CIVIC SUITE, BROCKS HILL
COUNCIL OFFICES, WASHBROOK LANE, OADBY, LEICESTER, LE2 5JJ ON TUESDAY, 28
OCTOBER 2025 COMMENCING AT 7:00 PM**

PRESENT

J K Chohan Mayor



Meeting ID: 3013

COUNCILLORS

R H Adams
N Alam Leader of the Opposition
S S Athwal
L A Bentley Deputy Leader of the Council
G A Boulter
L M Broadley
F S Broadley
M H Charlesworth
M L Darr
J K Ford Deputy Leader of the Opposition
D A Gamble
F S Ghattoraya
C S Gore
S Z Haq Leader of the Council
R V Joshi
J Kaufman
C D Kozlowski
K J Loydall
C J R Martin

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

S J Ball Legal & Democratic Services Manager / Monitoring Officer (Solicitor)
A E Court Chief Executive / Head of Paid Service
D M Gill Legal Consultant
T Neal Strategic Director / Deputy Monitoring Officer
C Warren Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

A Wood Rutland County Council

36. CALLING TO ORDER OF THE MEETING

The meeting of the Council was called to order to receive Her Worship The Mayor.

37. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillors H E Darling, G G Hunt, P Joshi, R E R Morris, I K Ridley and C A M Walter.

38. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Full Council

Tuesday, 28 October 2025, 7.00 pm

None.

39. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 September 2025 be taken as read, confirmed and approved.

40. ACTION LIST ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

There was no Action List arising from the previous meeting.

41. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

None.

42. PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS AND QUESTIONS

None.

43. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

43a. OFFICIAL MAYORAL / DEPUTY MAYORAL ENGAGEMENTS

By affirmation of the meeting, it was:

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The list of Official Engagements attended by The Mayor and/or Deputy Mayor be noted.

44. LEADER'S STATEMENT

The Leader of the Council presented a statement outlining her recent work and meetings she has attended, the administration's plans and an overview of recent decisions taken since the previous meeting of the Council, together with fielding questions in relation to her statement. This included an update as to the position on Local Government Re-organisation.

45. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION - DRAFT OF CURRENT PROPOSAL (OCTOBER 2025)

The Council gave consideration to the report and appendices (as set out at pages 11-42 of the agenda reports pack) which outlined the work undertaken by the District and Borough Councils in Leicestershire and Rutland County Council to produce the draft final Local Government Reorganisation Proposal for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. It also details the public consultation that has been carried out and how this has informed the final submission.

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The content of the report and appendices be noted.

46. REVIEW OF POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY AND MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL BODIES (OCTOBER 2025)

The Council gave consideration to the report and appendix (as set out at pages 43 – 53 of the agenda reports pack) which outlined the review of political proportionality following changes in the Council's composition etc.

It was moved by the Deputy Leader of the Council, seconded by Councillor K J Loydall and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) That the Political Balance Procedure Rules (as set out in Appendix 1 to the report) be noted and approved;**
- (ii) That the new political composition of the Council, and revised proportionality arrangements in relation to the allocation of seats on Council bodies by political grouped Members and ungrouped Independent Members (as set out at section 2 of the report) be noted; and**
- (iii) That the revised number of seats on each affected Council body, and the necessary removals and appointments of Members from/to those affected Council bodies for the remainder of the municipal year 2025/26 (as set out at sections 2 and 3 of this report) as may be proposed and seconded at the meeting be resolved.**

47. APPOINTMENT OF REGULATOR OF SOCIAL HOUSING TASK & FINISH GROUP

The Council gave consideration to the report and appendix (as set out at pages 54 – 57 of the agenda reports pack) which proposed a politically balanced Task Group of five Members to monitor progress, guide improvements, and liaise with the Regulator during inspections.

It was moved by the Leader of the Council, seconded by Councillor G A Boulter and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) A Regulator of Social Housing Task & Finish Group be appointed and its Terms of Reference (as set out at Appendix 1) be approved; and**
- (ii) The Members of the Task Group (as set out section 3 of this report) be appointed accordingly.**

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8:53 PM

Agenda Item 4b.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD AT CIVIC SUITE, BROCKS HILL COUNCIL OFFICES, WASHBROOK LANE, OADBY, LEICESTER, LE2 5JJ ON WEDNESDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2025 COMMENCING AT 7.33 PM

PRESENT

J K Chohan Mayor



Meeting ID: 3019

COUNCILLORS

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| N Alam | Leader of the Opposition |
| S S Athwal | |
| L A Bentley | Deputy Leader of the Council |
| G A Boulter | |
| M H Charlesworth | |
| M L Darr | |
| F S Ghattoraya | |
| C S Gore | |
| S Z Haq | Leader of the Council |
| J Kaufman | |
| C D Kozlowski | |
| K J Loydall | |
| C J R Martin | |
| R E R Morris | |
| I K Ridley | |

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

| | |
|-------------|--|
| S J Ball | Legal & Democratic Services Manager / Monitoring Officer (Solicitor) |
| A E Court | Chief Executive / Head of Paid Service |
| T Neal | Strategic Director / Deputy Monitoring Officer |
| C Warren | Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer |
| S Wheeliker | Senior Democratic & Electoral Services Officer |

48. CALLING TO ORDER OF THE MEETING

The meeting of the Council was called to order to receive Her Worship The Mayor.

49. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillors R H Adams, F S Broadley, L M Broadley, H E Darling, J K Ford, D A Gamble, G G Hunt, P Joshi, R V Joshi and C A M Walter.

It was moved by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor M H Charlesworth and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

Councillor C D Kozlowski be appointed as an Assistant to the Mayor for the duration of this meeting only.

50. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Full Council

Wednesday, 19 November 2025, 7.30 pm

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and Wigston Borough Council, Brocks Hill Council
Offices, Washbrook Lane, Oadby, Leicester, LE2 5JJ
~ Page 10 ~*

None.

51. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION - FINAL PROPOSAL FOR LEICESTER, LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND (NOVEMBER 2025)

Council gave consideration to the report and appendices (as set out at pages 3 – 160 of the agenda reports pack and pages 3 – 11 of the agenda update) which sought approval for the final proposal.

In light of the technical difficulties Councillor I K Ridley queried how the meeting would be recorded. The Senior Democratic & Electoral Services Officer advised that a fuller version of the minutes would be produced.

The Chief Executive Officer presented the report, highlighting the fact the draft proposal was approved unanimously at the meeting on 28 October and summarising the amendments made to the proposal following feedback from each of the involved Councils' meetings, which were agreed by each of the Council's Leaders.

Councillor M H Charlesworth raised queries relating to an economic imbalance between the proposed North and South unitaries and the sustainability of the City unitary, including whether the final document will address the issue of the City's enlargement. Councillor M H Charlesworth stressed that if the issue is not addressed it would be a serious flaw and could affect the government's decision on whether to approve the proposal.

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The Leader of the Council also addressed the points made by Councillor M H Charlesworth, advising that the Section 151 Officers for each Council had done detailed work around the sustainability of all the proposed unitaries and that independent financial advisors had also looked into the issue around the City's sustainability and taking into account the deprivation in the city and the fairer funding formula, as well as the change in formula for the housing targets set out by government that the City will be sustainable. The Leader also reiterated the fact that this local government reorganisation was forced onto the Council, and that while the Council would prefer the status quo, it had a duty to work on creating a proposal that would be the best option for local residents.

The Leader went on to outline the proposal highlighting the fact that the North-City-Couth proposal was the closest to meeting the governments' aims for the reorganisation and that it received strong support from the public with over 6000 responses to the public consultation.

The Leader of the Opposition echoed the Leaders' sentiments and thanked Officers and Members for their hard work, stating that he was pleased with the alignment of all Councillors on this proposal whether Conservatives, Liberal Democrats or Independents. The Leader of the Opposition queried the population densities of the unitaries and whether the arguments against the City's expansion were robust enough to prevent it.

The Leader of the Council advised that the proposal has closely balanced the populations for the unitaries and that with the work of all the Section 151 Officers and independent advisors they were confident that the proposal was sound and that the City unitary was sustainable without expansion. It was also stated that the City Mayor had failed to effectively run the city and that expansion would not fix their problems and that instead they needed to focus on their own finances. It was also stated that the Councils had all met with all the Leicestershire MPs, excluding Neil O'Brien, and that they were all supportive of the proposal. The Leader expressed her disappointment in this constituency's MP and while they had spoken with him and he had expressed support for the proposal, he was still yet to give his official endorsement, so she again wished to urge him to send a letter of endorsement as this would help strengthen the case for this proposal.

The Deputy Leader of the Council echoed the sentiments of the Leader and that while they disagreed with the local government reform, it was not their choice and they had a responsibility to put forward this proposal. The Deputy Leader asked that all Members show unity and advised that it is not for the County to sort out the City's issues.

Both the Chief Executive Officer and the Leader of the Council's full statements are attached.

It was moved by the Leader of the Council, seconded by the Deputy Leader of the Council and

RESOLVED THAT:

- i) The final proposal for a three unitary model for local government reorganisation in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (North, City, South) attached at Appendix 2 be endorsed; and**
- ii) The authority to consider and agree any amendments to the final proposal prior to submission to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government by 28 November 2025 be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader.**

For 13
Against 0
Abstentions 1

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.59 pm

MOTION ON NOTICE

Full Council | Tuesday, 9 December 2025

Meadows Estate Public Bins

This Council recognises that all dwellings in the Borough are required to pay council tax.

This Council recognises that all payees of the council tax are entitled to the services provided by this Council.

This Council recognises that by denying some services to the above is both unfair and discriminatory.

That this Council has made a decision to not place litter/dog bins on the new Meadows Estate (I believe officers have made this decision but stand to be corrected).

The Council notes that residents on this new estate have a maintenance contract that covers the grass cutting/allotments and children's play areas – but not the provision of bins.

That Council notes that these residents are paying the same council tax as everyone else but getting fewer services.

That Council notes that in an ideal world everyone would take their litter home, but this is not the case. This means that hedgerows and other areas become dumping grounds for this litter.

That Council resolves to provide at least 6 litter/dog bins on the new Meadows estate.

Councillor Michael H Charlesworth

Proposer

The above motion was duly received by the Legal & Democratic Services Manager / Monitoring Officer on 9 November 2025 in accordance with Rule 14, Section 1 of Part 4 of the Constitution of the Council.

Events attended by the Mayor, May 13th 2025 – Present (as of 30 November 2025)

MAY

| | | |
|----|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 31 | OWBC – Raheema Caratella | St. Wistan's Day Festival |
| 31 | Rishu Walia, Brits Desi Society | Desi Pride in the United Kingdom |

JUNE

| | | |
|----|---|---|
| 08 | Oadby & Wigston Lions Club International | <i>We'll Meet Again</i> Concert |
| 11 | Leicestershire Lieutenancy Office | Meeting with the Lord Lieutenant & Leicestershire County Council Chairman |
| 18 | North Warwickshire & South Leicestershire College | Arts Exhibition & Fashion Show |
| 19 | Geoff Maltby, Strategic Lead, Active Together | Leicestershire & Rutland School Games Summer Festival |
| 21 | Langmoor Primary School | 70 th Anniversary Celebration |
| 23 | OWBC | Armed Forces Flag Raising |
| 29 | Punjabi Arts & Literary Academy (PALA) UK | International Punjabi Conference |

JULY

| | | |
|----|--|-----------------------------------|
| 03 | Leicester Grammar School | Annual Achievement of Celebration |
| 08 | The High Sheriff of Rutland & The High Sheriff of Leicestershire | Osprey Cruise |
| 15 | University of Leicester | Summer Graduations |
| 24 | OWBC | Green Flag Photograph |
| 28 | MHA Aigburth Residential Care Home | Opening of New Residential Lounge |

AUGUST

| | | |
|----|--|---|
| 09 | High Sheriff of Leicestershire | Garden Party |
| 14 | Leicestershire Lieutenancy Office | Service to Commemorate the 80 th Anniversary of VJ Day |
| 15 | OWBC | VJ 80 th Anniversary/Commemoration Flag Raising Ceremony |
| 15 | Angela Pitches, St Peter's Church, Oadby | VJ Afternoon Tea |
| 30 | OWBC – Raheema Caratella | Oadby Food Festival |

SEPTEMBER

13 Ms Martha Jones
27 Rupa Joshi – O&W Hindu Community
29 Framework Knitters Curry Night

Well-fest,, Blaby Park Road, Wigston
Navratri 2025
Cuisine of India

OCTOBER

02 Leicestershire Police
03 Nupur Arts
15 OWBC Comms
17 Leicester Cathedral
18 Leicestershire & Rutland British Legion
19 Melton Borough Council

Inter-cultural event 2025
Nartan Festival Launch
Launde Primary School Air Quality Project Photo op
A service in lament of homelessness
Festival of Remembrance
Mayor's Civic Service

NOVEMBER

01 Oadby & Wigston Borough AFVBC
07 University of Leicester @ DMH
09 Sikh War Memorial Committee
09 OWBC (Comms)
09 Oadby Church Rev. Steve Bailey
09 National Multi-faith Remembrance Day
11 OWBC (Comms)
15 Oadby Town Centre Traders
16 Brits Desi Society (UK)

28 The Lord-Lieutenant and the Chairman
28 OWBC (Comms)
29 Cllr Kevin Loydall
30 Mrs Mandy Penfold
30 Mr Onkar Singh

Standard Dedication Service
Leicester Medical School 50th Anniversary Celebration
Wreath laying at the Sikh Soldier Statue in Victoria Park
Wigston Remembrance Parade Sunday
Oadby Church Remembrance Wreath Laying and Reading
Brahma Kumaris, Harmony House
Wigston Remembrance Service Tuesday at PMP
Oadby Christmas Light Switch on
Invitation as Guest of Honor – Jassa Singh Ahluwalia International Memorial Day
Celebration, Leicester (UK)
Meeting with the LL and Chairman (Districts and Boroughs)
Volunteers Awards Event
Bell Street Light Switch On
Santa Fun Run, Brocks Hill Country Park
Shahidi Samagam at Gurdwara Gur Panth Parkash

DECEMBER

03 Warning Zone
04 Melton Borough Council
05 Toni Holland at Menphys
06 South Wigston Chamber of Trade
08 Senior Citizens Action Group

Christmas Wreath Making
Mayor's Christmas Carol Service
Catholic Schools' Carol Service
South Wigston Christmas Capers
Christmas Forum

08 NWLDC
11 Blaby District Council
12 Cllr. Kevin Loydall
12 Sikh Sports Association
13 Reverend Steve Bailey
17 Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council
18 Charnwood Borough Council

Chairman's Civic Carol Service
Chairman's Christmas Carol Service
Gateway Club for Special Needs Groups
Annual Dinner
Diocesan Global Carol Service
Civic Carol Service
Community Carol Service

Events attended by the Deputy Mayor, May 13th 2025 – Present (as of 30 November 2025)

JUNE

| | | |
|----|-------------------------|--|
| 21 | Langmoor Primary School | 70 th Anniversary Celebration |
|----|-------------------------|--|

AUGUST

| | | |
|----|---|---|
| 9 | Nigel Herbert, Chairman, Aylestone Lane Allotment Association | Aylestone Lane Allotment Day Event |
| 15 | OWBC | VJ 80 th Anniversary/Commemoration Flag Raising Ceremony |
| 30 | Amber Mason – Discovery Trust | Community Fun Day |

NOVEMBER

| | | |
|----|---------------|--|
| 09 | OWBC (Comms) | South Wigston – Remembrance Service & Act of Remembrance |
| 23 | South Wigston | South Wigston Awards |

Agenda Item 10



| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Full Council | Tuesday, 09 December 2025 | Matter for Information and Decision |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--|

Report Title: **Statement of Gambling Policy (2025-2028)**

Report Author(s): **Jon Wells (Senior Strategic Development Manager)
Stephen Eyre (Licensing Enforcement Officer)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Purpose of Report: | To consider and adopt the Statement of Gambling Policy (2025-2028) ("the Policy"). |
| Report Summary: | The current Policy expires in 2025, and it is essential that this is refreshed and updated to ensure the effective ongoing regulation of gambling. An updated draft version is attached at Appendix 1 which has been out to consultation. The policy gives a framework that applicants can use when formulating an application as well as giving an overview of how the Council will determine applications. |
| Recommendation(s): | A. That the Statement of Gambling Policy (2025- 2028) be approved and adopted; and B. That delegated authority be granted to the Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer to ensure that the policy is advertised and published in the correct manner. |
| Senior Leadership, Head of Service, Manager, Officer and Other Contact(s): | Colleen Warren (Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer) (0116) 257 2759 colleen.warren@oadby-wigston.gov.uk Jon Wells (Senior Strategic Development Manager) (0116) 257 2692 jon.wells@oadby-wigston.gov.uk Stephen Eyre (Licensing Enforcement Officer) (0116) 257 2646 stephen.eyre@oadby-wigston.gov.uk |
| Strategic Objectives: | Our Communities (SO2) Our Economy (SO3) |
| Vision and Values: | Customer & Community Focused (V1) |
| Report Implications:- | |
| Legal: | Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 imposes a statutory requirement on the Council (as the Licensing Authority) to prepare and publish a 'Statement of Principles' (known as a Policy) once every three years. Following public consultation, any amendments to the Policy are required to be considered and approved by Full Council. Section 349(2) of the Gambling Act 2005 allows the Licensing Authority to review its Statement/Policy from time to time. The Gambling Act 2005 (Licensing Authority Policy Statement) (England and Wales) Regulations 2006 sets out the legal requirement and procedure for drafting and preparing the Statement/Policy and any |

| | |
|--|--|
| | revisions to this which must be considered and adhered to. |
| Financial: | There are no implications directly arising from this report. |
| Corporate Risk Management: | Regulatory Governance (CR6) Reputation Damage (CR4) |
| Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA): | Gambling Act 2005 applications and notifications are not assessed based on the characteristics of the applicant; they are issued in accordance with the law and depend on the application being correctly submitted. |
| Human Rights: | There are no implications arising from this report. |
| Health and Safety: | There are no implications arising from this report. |
| Statutory Officers' Comments:- | |
| Head of Paid Service: | The report is satisfactory. |
| Chief Finance Officer: | The report is satisfactory. |
| Monitoring Officer: | The report is satisfactory. |
| Consultees: | As detailed in Appendix 2 of the draft Statement of Gambling Policy (2025-2028). |
| Background Papers: | None. |
| Appendices: | 1. Statement of Gambling Policy (2025-2028) |

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Under section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 (the Act), Licensing Authorities are required to prepare and publish a policy which they intend to apply when exercising their functions under the Act.

2. Policy Review

- 2.1 The Act requires the Council to review such policies every three years. The current policy has been reviewed and updated, and a draft is provided at **Appendix 1**.
- 2.2 There has been very little in the way of major reviews of the legislation since the start of the current policy and consequently the draft policy is fundamentally unchanged. The main changes are therefore focused on local information and the local area profile of gambling premises.
- 2.3 The Act requires that the proposed Policy is subject to wide consultation. Consultation commenced on 27 August 2025 for six weeks, ending on 10 October 2025. The list of consultees can be found at Appendix 2 of the attached draft policy. The Policy was presented to the Licensing and Regulatory Committee on 18 September 2025 as part of the consultation when it was recommended for approval by Full Council.
- 2.4 There have been no representations received.
- 2.5 Once approved there will be a four-week period when the policy must be published by

making it available on the Council's website and available for viewing at the Council offices. Prior to the 4-week period a notice will be published in the Leicester Mercury.

Statement of Gambling Policy (2025 – 2028)

Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| 1 Foreword | 4 |
| 2 Introduction..... | 4 |
| The Borough of Oadby & Wigston | 4 |
| 3 Declaration | 5 |
| 4 Licensing Objectives | 5 |
| 5 Responsible Authorities..... | 5 |
| 6 Interested Parties | 5 |
| 7 Information Exchange..... | 6 |
| 8 Licensing Authority Functions | 6 |
| 9 Local Risk Assessment | 6 |
| 10 Local Area Profile | 7 |
| 11 Registers | 9 |
| 12 General Statement of Principles..... | 9 |
| 13 Consultation | 10 |
| 14 Period of Validity and Review..... | 10 |
| 15 Conditions..... | 10 |
| 16 Legislation and Strategies..... | 10 |
| 17 Promotion of Equality..... | 11 |
| 18 Disabled Access | 11 |
| 19 Relationship with Planning | 12 |
| 20 Decision Making | 12 |
| 21 Promotion of Licensing Objectives | 13 |
| Preventing gambling from being a source of crime and disorder | 13 |
| Ensuring gambling is conducted in a fair and open way | 13 |
| Protecting children and other vulnerable people from gambling..... | 14 |
| 22 Types of Licence..... | 14 |
| Casinos | 14 |
| Adult Gaming Centres | 14 |
| Betting Premises (off-course) | 15 |
| Family Entertainment Centres (licensed)..... | 15 |
| Bingo Premises..... | 15 |
| Tracks | 16 |
| Access to premises and other parts of the track..... | 18 |
| Access by children – special dispensation for tracks..... | 19 |
| Betting on event and non-event days | 19 |
| Bet receipt terminals..... | 20 |

| | |
|---|----|
| Gaming machines..... | 20 |
| Track administration | 21 |
| The role of track premises licence holders | 21 |
| Acceptance of bets..... | 21 |
| Pool betting..... | 21 |
| Admission of betting operators | 21 |
| Removal of illegal betting operators..... | 22 |
| Display of rules..... | 22 |
| Approved betting areas..... | 22 |
| Multiple licences | 22 |
| Social responsibility considerations for tracks | 23 |
| Travelling Fairs | 23 |
| Premises Licences | 23 |
| 23 Reviews | 24 |
| 24 Permits and Registrations..... | 25 |
| Prize Gaming Permits..... | 25 |
| Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centres | 25 |
| Club Gaming Permits & Club Machine Permits..... | 25 |
| Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permits | 26 |
| Temporary Use Notices..... | 26 |
| Small Society Lotteries Registration | 26 |
| 25 Enforcement | 27 |
| 26 Complaints against Licensed Premises | 27 |
| 27 Further information..... | 28 |
| Appendix 1: Map of the Borough | 29 |
| Appendix 2: List of Bodies Consulted | 30 |

1 Foreword

The Gambling Act has been in force since 2006, and this is the 7th edition of Oadby and Wigston Borough Council's statement of Licensing Principles.

A Licensing Authority is required to prepare and publish a Statement of Licensing Policy. From the inception of the Act, the Policy has aided the promotion of the main licensing objectives, these are:

1. Preventing gambling from being a source of crime and disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime
2. Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way
3. Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling

The Licensing Authority has considered and evaluated the effectiveness of the previous policy and with partners has decided which elements of the Policy should be retained.

The Policy will be consulted on with stakeholders, and the intention is to formally adopt it from 2025.

2 Introduction

Oadby & Wigston Borough Council is the Licensing Authority under the Gambling Act 2005 ("the Act") and this Statement of Gambling Policy is intended to meet the Council's obligations under Section 349 of the Act. The Licensing Authority is responsible for granting a variety of permissions under the Act within the Oadby & Wigston Borough. The Licensing Authority also has a role alongside the Gambling Commission in regulating gambling within the area.

'Gambling' is defined in the Act as either gaming, betting or taking part in a lottery.

- **Gaming** means playing a game of chance for a prize
- **Betting** means making or accepting a bet on the outcome of a race, competition, or any other event; the likelihood of anything occurring or not occurring; or whether anything is true or not
- **A lottery** is where persons are required to pay in order to take part in an arrangement during the course of which one or more prizes are allocated by a process which relies wholly on chance

The Borough of Oadby & Wigston

Oadby and Wigston is a Borough Council based in Southeast Leicestershire which is one of the smallest in the Country in terms of both population and area. Despite this the area contains a wealth of activity and resource for people of all ages, ethnicity, and gender.

The Borough is principally a residential area which consists of 3 towns, Oadby, Wigston and South Wigston covering an area of 9 square miles (2,436 hectares). The 2022 population estimate of the Borough showed an estimated population of 58,341.

Residents are well provided for by a wide range of shopping facilities, leisure activities by both public and private facilities with Community Colleges offering extended access to educational resources to the public. Leicester University has various Halls of Residence and other educational facilities within the district.

The majority of factories and industrial buildings are located on industrial estates with a wide variety of manufacturing activity such as hosiery, footwear, general engineering, and printing and food products.

3 Declaration

In producing the statement of Gambling Policy, the Licensing Authority declares that it has regard to the licensing objectives of the Act, the guidance issued by the Gambling Commission, and any responses from those consulted on the policy statement.

It should be noted that this policy statement will not override the right of any person to make an application, make representations about an application, or apply for a review of a licence, as each will be considered on its own merits and according to the statutory requirements of the Act.

4 Licensing Objectives

In exercising most of their functions the Licensing Authority will have regard to the licensing objectives as set out in section 1 of the Act.

The licensing objectives are:

- Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime
- Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way
- Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

5 Responsible Authorities

These are generally public bodies that must be notified of applications and who are entitled to make representations to the Licensing Authority if they are relevant to the licensing objectives.

this the area contains a wealth of activity and resource for people of all ages, ethnicity, and gender. Section 157 of the Act defines those authorities as :-

- The Gambling Commission
- The Police
- The Fire Service
- The local planning authority
- Environmental health
- HM revenue and Customs
- A licensing authority in whose area the premises is situated
- The Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Children Board

In accordance with Section 157(h) the Licensing Authority designates the Leicestershire Police to advise the authority on child protection issues.

It should also be noted that applications for some types of permits will also need to be sent to some of the above authorities.

6 Interested Parties

An interested party can make representations about a licence application or apply for a review of an existing licence and is defined by Section 158 of the Act as someone who:

- lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities, or
- has business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities, or
- represents persons in either of the two groups above (see notes below)

In determining whether someone lives sufficiently close to a particular premise so as to be affected the Licensing Authority will take into account, among other things:

- the size of the premises
- the nature of the premises
- the distance of the premises from the person making the representation
- the nature of the complainant
- the potential impact of the premises

NB Interested parties can be persons who are democratically elected such as Councillors and MP's. Other than these persons, this authority will require written evidence that a person 'represents' someone who either lives sufficiently close to the premises, and/or has business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities. A letter from one of these persons requesting the representation is sufficient.

This authority will not generally view bodies such as trade associations and trade unions, and residents' and tenants' associations as interested parties unless they have a member who can be classed as one under the terms of the Gambling Act 2005 e.g. lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the activities being applied for.

Each case will be decided upon its merits. This authority will not apply a rigid rule to its decision making. It will consider the examples of considerations provided in the Gambling Commission's Guidance to local authorities.

7 Information Exchange

In fulfilling its functions and obligations under the Act the Licensing Authority will exchange relevant information with other regulatory bodies and will establish protocols in this respect. In exchanging such information, the Licensing Authority will conform to the requirements of data protection and freedom of information legislation in accordance with the Council's existing policies.

Details of those persons making representations will be made available to applicants to allow for negotiation and, in the event of a hearing being held, will form part of a public document. Anyone making representations or applying for the review of a premises licence will be informed that their details will be disclosed.

8 Licensing Authority Functions

The main functions of the Licensing Authority are to:

- License premises for gambling activities
- Grant permits for gambling and gaming machines in clubs
- Regulate gaming and gaming machines in alcohol licensed premises
- grant permits to family entertainment centres for the use of certain lower stake gaming machines
- grant permits for prize gaming
- consider notices given for the temporary use of premises for gaming
- consider occasional use notices for betting at tracks
- register small societies lotteries
- provide information to the Gambling Commission and HM Revenue and Customs
- maintain registers of licences, permits and registrations

9 Local Risk Assessment

The Gambling Commissions Licence Conditions and Codes of Practice (LCCP issued August 2025) requires

operators to consider local risks in their applications.

As part of the application process licensees are required to submit a local risk assessment when applying for a new premises licence. An exception to this may be Racing Tracks, as they are not required to have an operating licence unless they are providing facilities for betting themselves. An updated risk assessment must be submitted:

- When applying for a variation of a premises licence
- To take account of significant changes in local circumstances, including those identified in a licensing authority policy statement
- When there are significant changes at a licensee's premises that may affect their mitigation of local risks.

The Licensing Authority may require a licensee to share their risk assessment with the authority. The risk assessment will set out the measures the licensee has in place to address specific issues where concerns exist over new or existing risks. Adopting a proactive approach Licensing Authorities and licensees should be able to reduce the occasions on which a premises review is required.

10 Local Area Profile

Brief District Overview

Oadby & Wigston is made up of 3 localities – Oadby, Wigston and South Wigston -The following area profile has been included to facilitate operators being able to better understand the environment within Oadby & Wigston and therefore proactively mitigate risks to the licensing objectives. The information detailed below was correct at the time of publishing.

In Oadby and Wigston, the population size has increased by 3.5%, from around 56,200 in 2011 to 58,341 in 2022.

The population growth was somewhat lower than the East Midlands region (7.7%) and England (6.6%).

Gambling Harms

Gambling and the harms associated are increasingly considered a public health issue, not least due to the negative impact harmful gambling products can have on the individual's health, relationships, and their financial and social circumstances. Gambling at a harmful level is defined by the adverse consequences on the individual, families and communities and is considered a comorbidity with substance dependencies, such as alcohol and drug misuse. The [National Suicide Prevention Strategy](#) acknowledges harmful gambling as a risk factor for suicide, and includes an ambition to improve data and evidence on people experiencing harmful gambling.

GambleAware is a leading independent charity in Great Britain focused on tackling gambling harms. It acts as a [strategic commissioner](#), funding research, education, prevention, early intervention, and treatment services related to gambling.

GambleAware publish data and maps relating to the findings of the annual GB Treatments and Support Survey 2022 which can be found at the following link - [Annual GB Treatment and Support Survey 2020 published | BeGambleAware](#)

The PGSI (Problem Gambling Severity Index) measures levels of gambling behaviour which may cause harm to an individual from low risk gambling (score 1-2), moderate risk gambling (3-7), and problem gambling (8+).

GambleAware has the following statistics for gambling harms in Oadby & Wigston:

- It is estimated that 6% of people in Oadby & Wigston have a PGSI score of 1-2 compared to 13.4% across Great Britain.
- 3.7% of people in Oadby & Wigston have a PGSI score of 3-7 compared to 5.9% across Great Britain.
- 1.9% of people in Oadby & Wigston have a PGSI score of 8 or more compared to 2.9% across Great Britain

It is estimated that problem gambling costs the district £0.6 million annually. It is noted that the incidence of problem gambling in the district is somewhat lower than the national average.

(Source GambleAware Annual GB treatment and support survey 2022).

Breakdown of gambling premises by type and location

| Premises Type | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Adult Gaming Centres (AGCs) | 0 |
| Betting | 6 |
| Bingo | 0 |
| Track (Leicester Racecourse) | 1 |
| Location | |
| Oadby town centre | 2 betting |
| Oadby suburbs | 1 track |
| Wigston | 3 betting |
| South Wigston | 1 betting |

In Oadby Town Centre there is now only 1 betting premises (a reduction in 1 since the last policy edition) with 5 Primary Schools located within 5 miles.

Betting premises can also be found in Wigston and the smaller community of South Wigston.

Leicester Racecourse is situated alongside the A6 carriageway to Market Harborough, at Oadby, and is only open for gambling activities on race days. Although the venue is on the whole marketed as a family venue it goes without saying that the premises will attract a larger proportion of gamblers or customers that will consider a bet as part of their day out. It is considered that underage gambling would be a low risk as younger people are more likely to be present with their parents.

The district remains without any bingo premises and as there are only two bingo premises in the whole of greater Leicester it could be assumed that there isn't enough demand for further expansion in this form of gambling. Should a bingo hall be developed in the area during the lifetime of this document arrangements will be made to ensure that it has a low impact on the life of the district.

During the short term it is deemed that Oadby and Wigston Borough is low risk for underage and problem gambling and although the population of the borough is set to rise the focus of gambling as a leisure time

pursuit will always be the larger Leicester City district.

In relation to the use of B2 or Fixed Odds betting terminals (FOBT), by licensing enforcement officers have highlighted a high level of compliance by the industry and this is backed up by the historically low, almost nil, complaints received about individual premises. Oadby and Wigston Borough will endeavour and continue to monitor and ensure high compliance levels are maintained.

11 Registers

The Licensing Authority keeps registers of the premises licences it has issued. They can be viewed at the Council's offices during normal office hours 8.30am – 5pm. Copies of the register can be requested but a charge will be administered.

12 General Statement of Principles

The Act provides for three categories of licence

- Operating Licences
- Personal Licences
- Premises licences

In general terms, the Gambling Commission is responsible for issuing Operating Licences and Personal Licences. The Licensing Authority is responsible for issuing Premises Licences. In addition to Premises Licences the Licensing Authority is also responsible for granting permits, temporary and occasional use notices and registrations under the Act. In specific terms Oadby & Wigston Borough Council is the local Licensing Authority.

This Policy sets out principles that the Licensing Authority will apply when making decisions upon applications or notifications made for:-

- Premises Licences
- Temporary and Occasional Use Notices
- Permits as required under the Act
- Registrations as required under the Act

The Licensing Authority, when making decisions about Premises Licences, is required by Section 153 of the Act to aim to permit the use of premises for gambling in so far as it thinks it is:

- In accordance with any relevant code of practice issued by the Gambling Commission
- In accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Gambling Commission
- Reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives and
- In accordance with the authority's statement of licensing policy

The Licensing Authority recognises the wide variety of premises that will require a licence or a permit. These include casinos, bingo halls, betting shops, pubs, clubs and amusement arcades.

To ensure the licensing objectives are met the Licensing Authority will establish a close working relationship with the police, the Gambling Commission and, where appropriate other responsible authorities.

This Licensing Authority will not seek to use the Act to resolve matters more readily which can be dealt with under other legislation.

The overriding principle is that each application and the circumstances prevailing at each premises will be

considered on their own merits.

13 Consultation

In developing this Statement the Licensing Authority has consulted with the groups set out below,

- Leicestershire Constabulary
- Representatives of the holders of the various licences for premises within the Borough who will be affected by this policy
- Persons/bodies representing the interests of persons likely to be affected by this policy
- Other responsible authorities/groups that the Licensing Authority considers appropriate.

14 Period of Validity and Review

This statement of licensing policy will come into effect during 2025 and will be valid for three years.

The policy will be kept under review during the period of validity and if necessary amendments made.

Before a new policy is adopted or amendments made to the existing one the Licensing Authority will undertake consultation in accordance with Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005.

15 Conditions

The starting point in determining applications will be to grant the application without conditions. Conditions will only be considered where they are needed to meet the requirements of the licensing objectives. When considering any conditions to be attached to licences, the Licensing Authority will primarily focus on the direct impact of the activities taking place at licensed premises on members of the public living, working or engaged in normal activity in the area concerned. Premises licences are already subject to mandatory and default conditions provided by regulations issued by the Secretary of State.

Licensing authorities are able to exclude default conditions and also attach others, where it is believed to be appropriate.

Any conditions attached to licences will be proportionate and will be:

- relevant to the need to make the proposed building suitable as a gambling facility;
- directly related to the premises and the type of licence applied for;
- fairly and reasonably related to the scale and type of premises; and
- reasonable in all other respects.

Decisions upon individual conditions will be made on a case by case basis, although there will be a number of control measures this licensing authority will consider utilising should there be evidence of a risk to the licensing objectives, such as the use of door supervisors, supervision of adult gaming machines, appropriate signage for adult only areas and betting machines in licensed betting premises. The Council will not impose further conditions relating to door supervisors at a Betting Track, as they are already required by the Licensing Act 2003 and the Private Security Industry Act 2001 to provide licensed door supervisors in some roles.

The overriding principle is that each application and the circumstances prevailing at each premises will be considered on their own merits.

16 Legislation and Strategies

In undertaking its licensing function under the Gambling Act 2005, the Licensing Authority is also bound by

other legislation.

However, the policy is not intended to duplicate existing legislation and regulation regimes that already place obligations on employers and operators.

The Licensing Authority will seek to discharge its responsibilities identified by other national and local strategies and policies, in so far as they impact on the objectives of the licensing function. The licensing authority also recognises the importance of co-ordination and integration of the Gambling Policy with these strategies and policies.

The Licensing Authority, in undertaking its licensing function, will have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination and to promote equality and good relations between persons of different racial groups.

17 Promotion of Equality

In developing this strategy, the Licensing Authority has recognised its responsibility to consider the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination and to promote equal opportunities and inclusivity for all the different cultural groups in the district. This Licensing Policy therefore supports and is supported by the Licensing Authority's Multi-Cultural Aims.

The Licensing Authority also recognises that this policy should promote equality in a wider sense and has therefore assessed the potential impact on disadvantaged groups in general, as well as from a race equality perspective. It has considered and consulted with this in mind.

The following actions, which have been identified as being necessary to promote equality, and within the scope of the Act and supporting guidance, will be implemented by the Licensing Authority:

- The Licensing Policy and associated documents will be available on the internet, and in other formats upon request.
- The licensing objective of protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling will be promoted.
- Support will be offered to licence applicants, licence holders and potential objectors who are socially excluded.
- Account will be taken of the effect of specific applications on community cohesion, including the need to balance the benefits of cultural and community activities with limited local disturbance.
- Action will be taken to endeavour to ensure the safety of vulnerable people in licensed premises.
- Action will be taken to ensure that all applications, particularly those for disadvantaged groups, are dealt with fairly.

The Licensing Authority is aware that there may be particular sensitivities of certain buildings, for example religious buildings, to certain gambling activities taking place in close proximity. Where this proximity has an impact on the promotion of one of the licensing objectives this is a matter for the Licensing Authority. Where the impact does not affect the promotion of the licensing objectives, there may be other control mechanisms, such as the planning system, that could be applicable.

18 Disabled Access

The guidance supporting the Act advises that conditions relating to disabled access should not be attached to licences, as this would duplicate existing statutory requirements. The Licensing Authority therefore takes this opportunity to remind operators of premises of their duties under the Equality Act 2010. This includes a duty that any person who provides a service to the public must make reasonable adjustments to any physical feature that makes it impossible or unreasonably difficult for a disabled person to access a service, or to provide the service by a reasonable alternative means.

19 Relationship with Planning

When considering applications for premises licences the Licensing Authority cannot take into consideration “irrelevant matters” such as the expected ‘demand’ for facilities, the likelihood of planning permission being granted or building control approval.

An applicant can apply for a “provisional statement” if the building is not complete or if he does not yet have a right to occupy it. Such an application is however a separate and distinct process to the granting of planning permission or building control approval.

The lack of planning permission does not prevent an applicant from applying for a premises licence and does not preclude an application for a premises licence being granted. The Licensing Authority is required to consider each application on its merits.

The Gambling Commissions guidance to Licensing Authorities advises that when granting a licence the licensing authority must be satisfied that the premises are going to be ready to be used for gambling in the near future.

Where planning permission has not been obtained to use the premises for gambling the Licensing Authority must be satisfied as a matter of fact and degree in the particular circumstances of that case that the premises is not ready to be used for gaming. In such instances the Licensing Authority may feel that granting the licence would not promote the licensing objectives.

The Licensing Authority therefore recommends that when planning permission has not been obtained applicants apply for a provisional licence.

20 Decision Making

The Council’s Licensing Officers will deal with all licensing applications where either no representations have been received, or where representations have been received and it is agreed by the parties that a hearing is not necessary.

A Licensing Sub-Committee of three Councillors will sit to hear applications where representations have been received from interested parties and/or Responsible Authorities. Ward Councillors will not sit on a Sub-Committee involving an application within their ward.

Where a Councillor who is a member of the Licensing Committee is making or has made representations regarding a licence on behalf of an interested party, in the interests of good governance they will disqualify themselves from any involvement in the decision-making process affecting the licence in questions.

Decisions as to whether representations are irrelevant, frivolous or vexatious will be made by Council Officers, who will make the decision on whether representations or applications for licence review should be referred to the Licensing Sub-Committee. Where representations are rejected, the person making that representation will be given written reasons as to why that are the case. There is no right of appeal against a determination that representations are not admissible.

The current scheme of delegations in relation to the Gambling Act can be found in the Council’s Constitution.

21 Promotion of Licensing Objectives

Preventing gambling from being a source of crime and disorder

The Gambling Commission will play a leading role in preventing gambling from being a source of crime and will maintain rigorous licensing procedures that aim to prevent criminals from providing facilities for gambling.

The Council places a considerable importance on the prevention of crime and disorder, and will fulfil its duty under s17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to do all it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in the borough. A high standard of control is therefore expected to be exercised over licensed premises.

The Council will, when determining applications, consider whether the grant of a Premises Licence will result in an increase in crime and disorder.

Applicants are encouraged to discuss the crime prevention procedures in their premises with the Council's Licensing Officers and Leicestershire Constabulary before making a formal application.

Applicants for a premises licence will have to be granted an Operating Licence by the Gambling Commission before a premises licence can be issued. Operators will already have satisfied the Gambling Commission that they have policies in place that promote the licensing objectives.

The Licensing Authority would not intend to duplicate these policies as conditions on the premises licence, but they and the responsible authorities, may wish to know how such policies will be put in place at the premises.

Where concerns about a person's suitability arise the Council will bring those concerns to the attention of the Commission.

As far as disorder is concerned, there are already powers in existing anti-social behaviour and licensing legislation to deal with measures designed to prevent nuisance, whether it arises as a result of noise from a building or from general disturbance once people have left a building. The Council does not therefore intend to use the Act to deal with general nuisance issues

The Council will only seek to address issues of disorder under the Act if the disorder amounts to activity which is more serious and disruptive than mere nuisance. A disturbance could be serious enough to constitute disorder if police assistance was required to deal with it. Another factor the Council is likely to take into account is how threatening the behaviour was to those who could see or hear it, whether those people live sufficiently close to be affected or have business interests that might be affected.

When making decisions in this regard the Licensing Authority will give due weight to any comments made by the police.

Ensuring gambling is conducted in a fair and open way

The Gambling Commission does not expect licensing authorities to become concerned with ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way. This will be a matter for either the management

of the gambling business or will be in relation to the suitability and actions of an individual. Both issues will be addressed by the Commission through the operating and personal licensing regime.

Because betting track operators do not need an operating licence from the Commission the Licensing Authority may, in certain circumstances require conditions of licence to ensure that the environment in which betting takes place is suitable.

Protecting children and other vulnerable people from gambling

The access of children and young persons to those gambling premises which are adult only environments will not be permitted. The Gambling Commission has issued a number of Codes of Practices for each sector of the gaming industry in ensuring that children and young person's do not access adult only environments.

The Licensing Authority will consider whether any measures are necessary to protect children when considering whether to grant a premises licence or permit. The Licensing Authority may also wish to see evidence from the operator of how any code of practice will be complied with in respect of the premises in question.

In seeking to protect vulnerable people the licensing authority will include people who gamble more than they want to, people who gamble beyond their means, and people who may not be able to make informed or balanced decisions about gambling, perhaps due to a mental impairment, alcohol or drugs.

The Council will consult with the Leicestershire Police on any application that indicates there may be concerns over access for children or vulnerable persons

The Licensing Authority will always treat each case on its own individual merits and when considering whether specific measures are required to protect children and other vulnerable people will balance its considerations against the overall principle of aiming to permit the use of premises for gambling.

Applicants for premises licences are required to hold an operator's licence granted by the Gambling Commission before trading under a premises licence. All applicants for Premises Licences will be required to set out how they will promote the licensing objectives and what measures they intend to employ to ensure compliance with them.

22 Types of Licence

Casinos

There are currently no casinos operating within the Borough.

The Licensing Authority has not passed a 'no casino' resolution under Section 166 of the Gambling Act 2005, but is aware that it has the power to do so.

Should the licensing authority decide in the future to pass such a resolution, this will be a resolution of Full Council following a considered debate, and the reasons for making this resolution will be given.

There is no right of appeal against this resolution.

Adult Gaming Centres

Premises licensed as an Adult Gaming Centre are permitted to provide an unlimited amount of category D and C machines and up to 20 percent of the total machines can be category B machines. Persons under the age of 18 years old are not permitted to enter an Adult Gaming Centre. The need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm and/or being exploited by gambling is an important licensing objective. Before granting a premises licence the Licensing Authority will need to be satisfied that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18-year-olds do not have access to the premises.

The Licensing Authority recommends that any premises licensed for gambling purposes adopts a policy of requiring proof of age from any person where there is any doubt as to whether they are over 18. The authority would suggest as best practice, that proof of age could be in the form of a passport, photographic driving licence, or a proof of age card complying with the Proof of Age Standards Scheme

(PASS) launched in January 2003 by the British Retail Consortium.

As regards the protection of vulnerable persons, the licensing authority will consider measures such as the use of self-barring schemes, provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.

Betting Premises (off-course)

Off course betting premises are any premises licensed to accept bets that are not situated at a track.

Children and Young persons are not permitted to enter a Betting Premises, and the Authority would need to see appropriate measures in place to be satisfied that children and young persons will not gain access to the premises.

The Licensing Authority is aware of its power to restrict the number of betting machines, their nature and the circumstances in which they are made available by attaching a licence condition to a betting premises licence or to a casino premises licence (where betting is permitted in the casino)

In the event that the Authority considers whether to impose such a condition on any particular licence it may, among other things, take into account the size of the premises, the number of counter positions available for person to person transactions, and the ability of staff to monitor the use of the machines by children and young persons or by vulnerable persons.

As regards the protection of vulnerable persons, this licensing authority will consider measures such as the use of self-barring schemes, provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.

Family Entertainment Centres (licensed)

A family entertainment centre is permitted to provide any number of category C and category D machines. Category D machines can be played by children and young persons but not category C machines.

This licensing authority will specifically have regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling and will expect the applicant to satisfy the authority that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18-year-olds do not have access to the adult only gaming machine areas. It is a requirement that category C machines are segregated from D machines so that there is no access to them by children.

As regards the protection of vulnerable persons, this licensing authority will consider measures such as the use of self-barring schemes, provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.

This licensing authority will, refer to the Commission's website to see any conditions that apply to operator licences covering the way in which certain areas of the premises should be delineated. This licensing authority will also make itself aware of any mandatory or default conditions on these premises licences, when they have been published.

Bingo Premises

The primary purpose of a Bingo premises licence is to permit the premises to be used for the playing of Bingo. Bingo premises are permitted to make any number of C and D machines available for use and up to 20 percent of the total machines can be category B machines.

Where children and young persons are allowed to enter premises licensed for bingo the operator must ensure that they do not participate in any gambling other than on category D machines. Where category C

or above machines are available in premises to which children and young person are admitted the Licensing Authority will require that

- All such machines are located in an area of the premises separated from the remainder of the premises by a physical barrier which is effective to prevent access other than through a designated area;
- Only adults are admitted to the area where these machines are located;
- Access to the area where machines are located is supervised;
- The area where machines are located is arranged so that it can be observed by staff of the operator or the licence holder; and
- At the entrance to, and inside any such area there are prominently displayed notices indicating that access to the area is strictly prohibited to persons under 18.

The Licensing Authority will take into account guidance issued about the particular issues that licensing authorities should take into account in relation to the suitability and layout of bingo premises.

Tracks

Tracks are defined under the Act as “a horse racecourse, greyhound track or other premises on any part of which a race or other sporting event takes place or is intended to take place”. Examples of tracks include:

- A horse racecourse
- A greyhound track
- A point-to-point horse race meeting
- Football, cricket and rugby grounds
- An athletics stadium
- A golf course
- Venues hosting darts, bowls or snooker tournaments
- Premises staging boxing matches
- Sections of river hosting a fishing competition
- A motor racing event

This list is not exhaustive, but gives an example of the types of venue which could accommodate the provision of betting facilities.

There are three types of authorisation under which betting facilities may be made available at a sporting event:

- An occasional use notice
- A temporary use notice and
- A track premises licence.

Betting in relation to tracks may be provided either as on course, or off course betting. The different types of betting are explained in detail in the Guidance issued by the Gambling Commission, and an up to date excerpt of this guidance is published at www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk. As discussed previously Oadby & Wigston Borough Council is home to Leicester Racecourse which makes the provisions in the section of the policy more relevant.

A betting premises licence permits premises to be used for the provision of facilities for betting, whether by:

- Making or accepting bets
- Acting as a betting intermediary; or

- Providing other facilities for the making or accepting of bets.

Tracks are the only class of premises that may be subject to more than one premises licence, provided that each licence relates to a specific area of the track. This allows track venues to develop leisure facilities such as a casino and apply for a (casino) premises licence for that part of the track.

There is no special class of betting Premises Licence for a track, but the Act does contain rules which apply specifically to Premises Licences granted in respect of tracks.

Special rules apply to applicants for a Premises Licence in relation to a track. Most importantly the applicant need not hold an Operator licence. That is because, unless the occupier of the track wishes to offer pool betting (or general betting) facilities himself (for which he will need a licence) the betting that is provided upon the track will not be provided by him, but will be provided by other operators who come on-course. Since those people will require the necessary Operator Licences, the Act allows the track operator to obtain a Premises Licence without also having to hold an Operator Licence. This track Premises Licence then authorises anyone upon the premises with a valid Operator Licence to offer betting facilities.

Track premises licences are distinguished from all other premises licences because children and young persons are allowed to be present on the track while betting is taking place on those licensed premises.

Track premises that safeguard the achievement of the three licensing objectives may generally be considered fit for gambling. By using the following general principles licensing authorities can establish whether a track is fit for provision of gambling facilities:-

| Licensing objective | Issues to consider | Reason to consider a track premises unfit for gambling purposes? |
|--|---|---|
| The protection of children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling | Tracks permit access to children | No - Children are allowed access to tracks on race days |
| | Bet receipt terminals in areas where there is no supervision which would allow children or young persons to use machines undetected | No - It is a mandatory condition of the operating licence that operators ensure that bet receipt terminals are supervised. This is not an issue for the premises licence. |
| | Children are allowed access to areas holding category B and C gaming machines | It is a mandatory condition of the operating licence that operators ensure that children are not allowed access to areas where Category B and C gaming machines are provided. However, section 182 of the Act also creates a premises |
| | | licence condition that children and young persons must be excluded from areas where any gaming machines other than Category D are located. |
| | Betting areas adjacent to areas where children/young persons are present such as play areas | No - Children are allowed access to tracks on race days and so will be exposed to gambling areas. It is a mandatory condition of the operating licence that operators do not accept bets from children or young persons. |

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| | Betting areas adjacent to areas where children/young persons are present such as play areas | The Commission considers that the location of betting does not generally pose a risk to this licensing objective. Licensing authorities may impose their own local conditions there they perceive problems. |
| Ensure gambling is conducted in a fair and open way | The rules of betting are not displayed on the premises | No (not an issue at application stage) - it is a mandatory condition of the premises licence that the rules of betting are displayed. |
| | Unlicensed betting operators are allowed to operate on tracks | No (not an issue at application stage) - it is a mandatory condition of the premises licence that licence holders make arrangements to ensure that they only allow licensed operators on tracks. |
| | Betting takes place out of approved hours. | No (not an issue at application stage) - it is a mandatory condition of the premises licence that betting only takes place within the specified hours |
| Prevent gambling from being a source of crime and disorder | Betting is allowed in all parts of a track resulting in greater difficulties for track premises licence holders to identify instances of illegal Betting. | No - the Commission's view is that this does not generally pose a risk to this objective. Licensing authorities may impose their own conditions should they perceive a problem |
| | No formal exit/entry points allowing easy access for unapproved operators and customers | No - the Commission's view is that this does not generally pose a risk to this objective. Licensing authorities may impose their own conditions should they perceive a problem. |

The Licensing Authority will take any such guidance into consideration when determining an application for a track premises licence.

Access to premises and other parts of the track

Access between premises licensed for gambling and non-gambling areas is an important local licensing consideration, for reasons such as the following:

- to prevent operators from seeking to circumvent the Act by artificially subdividing a premises and securing separate premises licences for its composite parts;
- to ensure that operators do not circumvent regulations governing the maximum number of gaming machines applicable to specific premises;
- to ensure that people who have entered a premises for one type of gambling are not exposed to another, potentially harder, form of gambling;
- to ensure that there is no direct access between gambling premises to which children have access and those which they are prohibited from entering;
- to ensure that all gambling premises have publicly accessible entrances; and
- to ensure that gambling premises are not developed in the backrooms of other commercial premises.

Access by children – special dispensation for tracks

The Act forbids all persons under 18 years old to enter premises when betting facilities are being provided, other than at tracks. This dispensation allows families to attend premises such as greyhound tracks or racecourses on event days, and children to be permitted into areas where betting facilities are provided, such as the betting ring, where betting takes place. This dispensation does not, however, apply to:

- areas within a track where category C or above machines are provided; or
- other premises to which under 18-year-olds are specifically not permitted access.

Licensed betting operators at tracks are bound by their operating licence conditions which prevent them from accepting bets from persons who are under 18 years old. The track premises licence holder is also required through premises licence conditions to display a notice in a prominent place

at every public entrance stating that no person under the age of 18 is permitted to bet on the premises.

There may be some specific considerations with regard to the protection of children and vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling, the need to ensure entrances to each type of premises are distinct and that children are excluded from gambling or betting areas where they are not permitted to enter.

Children and young persons will by law be permitted to enter track areas where facilities for betting are provided on days when dog racing and/or horse racing takes place, although they are still prevented from entering areas where gaming machines (other than category D machines) are provided. The Licensing Authority will normally expect Premises Licence applicants to demonstrate suitable measures to ensure the children do not have access to adult only gambling facilities.

Appropriate measures may include:

- Proof of Age schemes
- CCTV
- Door Supervisors
- Supervision of entrances/machine areas
- Physical separation of areas
- Location of entry
- Notices/signage
- Specific opening hours
- The location of gaming machines
- Self-barring schemes
- Provision of information leaflets/helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare or Gamble Aware

This list is not mandatory, nor exhaustive, and is merely indicative of example measures.

Betting on event and non-event days

Hours of betting on event days

Premises licence holders will be expected to comply with the mandatory and default conditions applicable to them on both event and non-event days. The licensing authority will not generally expect to re-assess a licence application as a result of a change to the dates of sporting events, but would expect applicants and licence holders to make information about sporting fixtures available as part of the application.

Significant changes to the fixture/events listing have a bearing on the licence conditions in that track premises licence holders will be expected to comply with the mandatory and default conditions applicable to them on both event and non-event days. On days when no public sporting event is taking place on a track, gambling facilities may only be provided on the track between the hours of 7am and 10pm. Where the premises user intends to continue to offer facilities for gambling outside the proposed gambling hours on non-event days these facilities should be provided by virtue of an occasional use notice.

On non-event days, tracks become similar to licensed betting offices on the high street. Tracks may achieve this requirement by:

- locating all betting areas inside an area of the premises that is separated from the remainder of the premises by a physical barrier, thereby preventing access other than through a designated entrance;
- only admitting adults to the part of the track where betting areas are located, by establishing procedures for verifying customer ages and refusing entry to adult-only areas for those unable to produce an acceptable form of identification (and taking action where there are unlawful attempts to enter adult-only areas); and
- placing prominent notices in front of and inside each entrance stating that access to the area is prohibited to persons under 18. The Licensing authority may consider reducing the default gambling hours, providing any reduction is in line with the principles set out in section 153 of the Act.

Bet receipt terminals

Licensed operator may install bet receipt terminals on tracks. There is no restriction on the number of bet receipt terminals that may be in use, but operators must, by virtue of their operating licence conditions, supervise such terminals to prevent them being used by those under 18 years of age.

There is no formal requirement on track premises licence holders to involve themselves in the procedures used by betting operators to supervise their bet receipt terminals unless specific local conditions specifying supervisory arrangements are added to the track premises licence by the licensing authority terminals.

Gaming machines

A track premises licence does not of itself entitle the holder to provide gaming machines, as this type of premises licence can be held without any corresponding operating licence.

Where a track owner holds both a track premises licence and a pool betting operating licence issued by the Commission (in effect, greyhound tracks only), they may site up to four gaming machines within categories B2 to D on the track.

Some tracks may also hold a premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003. As such they will be automatically entitled under section 282 of the Act to two gaming machines of category C or D.

In such scenarios the operating licence entitlement does not take precedence, and each licence has its own requirements that must be complied with.

Applications for permits to allow additional gaming machines are not permitted where the premises is already covered by a track premises licence.

It is a condition of section 282 of the Act that alcohol-licensed premises licence holders (not necessarily the owners) must comply with any relevant provision of a code of practice under section 24 about the location and operation of a gaming machine. The gaming machine permits code of

practice can be found on the Commission's website.

Where track premises licence holders possess a pool betting operating licence, the Commission places a mandatory licence condition on such operators that they must:

- have and put into effect documented policies and procedures to
- prevent underage gambling; and
- monitor the effectiveness of these.

Track administration

Administration of betting

Administrative and quasi-regulatory arrangements in place to ensure that activities held on tracks run smoothly for paying customers, track operators and betting operators are considered to be outside the remit of the Act unless they affect the licensing objectives.

The role of track premises licence holders

The responsibilities of track premises licence holders are established by the mandatory and default licence conditions attaching to their premises licence.

The licensed betting operators authorised by track owners to provide betting facilities at tracks must comply with their operating licence conditions and codes of practice issued by the Commission.

Track premises licence holders have a responsibility to report regulatory breaches or potential breaches relating to the premises itself or to betting operators.

Acceptance of bets

Track premises licences for greyhound tracks and racecourses are subject to mandatory licence conditions requiring access to be offered at the trackside to betting operators generally. This prevents track premises licence holders who are also pool betting operators from becoming a monopoly supplier of betting on tracks. While this does not mean that there must be independent betting operators on tracks on event days, track premises licence holders cannot hold events days without at least making places available to licensed operators. This matter is the responsibility of the Gambling Commission and not the Licensing Authority.

Pool betting

Under the Act, holders of track premises licences on licensed greyhound tracks are given exclusivity to offer pool betting facilities on greyhound racing.

They may also authorise other people to conduct such pool betting on their behalf, although in all cases a relevant operating licence will be required to license this activity.

A totalisator on a licensed greyhound track will only be permitted while the public are admitted to the track for the purpose of attending greyhound races, and no other sporting events are taking place. A mandatory condition is attached to the premises licence to this effect.

Admission of betting operators

It is a mandatory premises licence condition of track premises licences that the licence holder makes arrangements to ensure that the betting operators they admit to their track operate under valid operating licences.

Track premises licence holders are responsible for determining their own arrangements for the verification of betting operators. As part of this process, the track premises licence holder should make arrangements for ensuring that the betting operator holds an operating licence. Additionally, both parties should agree a procedure for assessing that persons accepting bets on behalf of a betting operator either themselves hold operating licences in their own right, or are employed by the operator under a written contract of employment.

Removal of illegal betting operators

Track premises licence holders are required by a mandatory licence condition to take reasonable steps to remove from the racecourse anybody found to be providing facilities for gambling without authorisation. Failure to uphold this requirement could result in action being taken against the premises licence holder.

Track premises licence holders are not expected to have proactive policies and procedures for identifying illegal gambling other than the mandatory requirement to verify that betting operators offering betting facilities on their track hold suitable operating licences.

Display of rules

It is a mandatory condition of premises licences that clear and accessible information about the terms on which a bet may be placed must be displayed at betting premises, including tracks.

The track premises licence holder should make the necessary arrangements to ensure that betting rules are accessible to all customers, regardless of which area of the track they are in. If certain areas are restricted to certain customers (such as different stands within a football ground) then rules could be displayed at various parts of the track. Other measures could be taken to ensure that they are made available to the public, such as printing them in the racecard or programme. The requirement could also be met by making a copy of the rules available in leaflet form from the main track office, and customers could be given a copy if they request one.

Betting operators offering betting facilities on racecourses and at greyhound tracks are required through the conditions of their operating licence to clearly display any of their own rules that differ from those that the track premises licence holder elects to display, and their rules concerning voids, late bets, and maximum pay-outs. For racecourses and greyhound tracks, the maximum pay-out will vary according to the rules of individual on-course operators.

Approved betting areas

In considering applications, the licensing authority will take into account the licensing objectives and assess whether these objectives are compromised by proposed betting arrangements. The location of betting areas (other than those for gaming machines and bet receipt terminals) is not considered a threat to the licensing objectives and therefore no additional conditions would normally be imposed by licensing authorities, unless the circumstances are such that the Licensing Authority considers that the licensing objectives would be undermined.

Multiple licences

The Act permits a Licensing Authority to issue more than one premises licence for a track provided that each licence relates to a distinct specified area of the track (although there cannot be more than one premises licence covering the same area of the track).

This enables track owners to extend existing facilities to provide other gambling facilities such as a casino on their existing tracks, whereby these additional gambling activities are covered by separate premises licences.

Where an application is made for an additional premises licence, the Licensing Authority will consider the following matters when determining an application:

- access issues in particular whether access to the desired premises will be allowed directly from the track. Direct access between a track and other betting premises (other than a track betting shop) is not permitted. The track owner would need to make arrangements so that access to a casino or bingo hall would be via a street, not via the track itself.

Where a particular area of a track is already subject to a premises licence, and a person wishes to apply for a licence to offer another type of activity in that area, an application must be made to the licensing authority to vary the original premises licence. The new track premises licence can only be granted at the same time as, or after, the original licence has been varied.

Where the Licensing authority receives an application indicating separate betting areas that may not necessarily have clear physical boundaries, such as walls or fencing, it may grant the licence where it is satisfied that the area is clearly delineated, both in terms of making it clear to the public that they are entering a 'betting office', and to keep out persons aged under 18.

Where the licensing authority is not satisfied that a new activity in an existing area is clearly delineated, it may consider refusing the application.

Social responsibility considerations for tracks

The Act places a condition on the track premises licence that the licensee shall ensure that children and young persons are excluded from any area where facilities for betting are provided (unless on race days at racetracks and at greyhound tracks).

Travelling Fairs

A travelling fair is defined under the Act as a "fair consisting wholly or principally of the provision of amusements" and is provided "wholly or principally by persons who travel from place to place for the purpose of providing fairs".

A travelling fair meeting the statutory definition will be permitted to make one or more category D gaming machines available for use as no more than an ancillary amusement at the fair. A travelling fair can only be sited on a piece of land that has not been used for the purposes of a fair, for more than 27 days per calendar year.

The Licensing Authority will monitor pieces of land within the borough to ensure that 27-day statutory period is not exceeded in any one calendar year regardless as to whether it is the same or different travelling fairs occupying the land.

This Licensing Authority will ensure that the provision of category D machines, which are made available for use at a travelling fair, amount to no more than an ancillary amusement at the fair.

Premises Licences

In carrying out the licensing function under the Act the Licensing Authority will aim to permit the use of premises for Gambling as long as it is considered to be:-

- In accordance with any relevant Codes of Practice issued by the Gaming Commission
- In accordance with any relevant Guidance issued by the Gambling Commission
- In accordance with this Statement of Gambling Policy
- Consistent with the licensing objectives.

A premises licence can authorise the provision of facilities at the following:

- casino premises
- bingo premises
- betting premises, including betting tracks
- adult gaming centres
- family entertainment centres

Section 152 of the Gambling Act 2005 defines “Premises” to be “any place” but prevents more than one premises licence applying to any one place. A single building can be subject to more than one premises licence provided that the licences are for different parts of the building and those parts can be genuinely regarded as being different ‘premises’.

Due to concerns by the Gambling Commission that some operators may try to circumvent legislation by artificially sub-dividing premises in order to be granted separate premises licences for the same place, and thus be able to provide extra high pay-out machines, further guidance has been issued.

In order to ensure that operators do not attempt to circumvent the spirit of the Gambling Act the Licensing Authority will look carefully at any proposed breakdown of premises and consider the suitability of any such separation, its locations and whether it can comply with mandatory codes of practice.

The Gambling Act distinguishes between different types of premises, by doing so the intention is that the gambling activity authorised by that premises licence is the primary activity. A new operating licence conditions are now in place requiring that Casino, Bingo and Betting operators can only provide machines as an ancillary to the primary activity they are licensed for.

The Licensing Authority will consider very carefully whether applications for premises licence in respect of certain gambling premises located very close to a school, or a centre for gambling addicts should be granted in light of the third licensing objective. If an applicant for a premises licence can show how licensing objective concerns can be overcome, that will have to be taken into account.

Each case will be decided on its merits, and will depend to a large extent on the type of gambling that it is proposed will be offered on the premises.

23 Reviews

Once granted a premises licence may still be subject to Review proceedings if there are concerns that a premises is not promoting the licensing objectives. The Licensing Authority will carry out a review of a Premises Licence where it has received a formal application for review in accordance with the Act. Requests for a review of a premises licence can be made by interested parties or responsible authorities,

Due consideration will be given to all relevant representations. A representation will be relevant unless they fit the following:-

- The grounds are frivolous;
- The grounds are vexatious;
- The grounds will not cause the Licensing Authority to revoke or suspend a licence or to remove, amend or attach conditions on the premises licence;
- The grounds are substantially the same as the grounds cited in a previous application relating to the same premises; or
- The grounds are substantially the same as representations made at the time the application for a premises licence was considered.
- The licensing authority can also initiate a review of a licence on the basis of any reason which it thinks is appropriate.

24 Permits and Registrations

Prize Gaming Permits

An application can be made by anyone who occupies or plans to occupy relevant premises for a Prize Gaming Permit. In the case of an individual applicant the individual must be aged over 18 years of age.

There are a number of conditions within the Act that will apply to a prize gaming permit, but the licensing authority cannot attach any further conditions. .

The conditions in the Act are:

- The limits on participation fees, as set out in regulations, must be complied with;
- All chances to participate in the gaming must be allocated on the premises on which the gaming is taking place and on one day; the game must be played and completed on the day the chances are allocated; and the result of the game must be made public in the premises on the day that it is played;
- The prize for which the game is played must not exceed the amount set out in regulations (if a money prize), or the prescribed value (if non-monetary prize); and
- Participation in the gaming must not entitle the player to take part in any other gambling.

A permit can only be granted if the Licensing Authority has consulted with the chief officer of police. Any rejection will have to give the applicant an opportunity to respond both orally and in writing.

Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centres

An unlicensed family entertainment centre can provide category D machines only by virtue of a permit issued by the Licensing Authority. Children are permitted to play category D machines, and such premises may need to have stringent measures in place.

The Licensing Authority will expect the applicant to show that there are policies and procedures in place to protect children from harm. Harm in this context is not limited to harm from gambling but includes wider child protection considerations. The efficiency of such policies and procedures will each be considered on their merits; however, they may include CRB checks for staff, training covering how staff would deal with unsupervised very young children being on the premises, or children causing perceived problems on / around the premises.

Club Gaming Permits & Club Machine Permits

A Members' Club or Miners Welfare Institute may apply to the Licensing Authority for either a Club Gaming Permit or a Club Machine Permit. A commercial members club may apply for a Club Machine Permit only.

This Licensing Authority is aware that it may only refuse an application on the grounds that:

- the applicant does not fulfil the requirements for a members' club, commercial members club or miners' welfare institute and therefore is not entitled to receive the type of permit for which it has applied;
- the applicant's premises are used wholly or mainly by children and/or young persons;
- an offence under the Act or a breach of a permit has been committed by the applicant while providing gaming facilities;
- a permit held by the applicant has been cancelled in the previous ten years; or
- an objection has been lodged by the Commission or the police

Both permits allow for the premises to provide up to three gaming machines of either category B, C or D to be made available and a Club Gaming permit also permits the club to provide certain types of Gaming at the premises as may be prescribed by the Secretary of State. Currently this is Bridge and Whist.

Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permits

Premises licensed to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises without any conditions restricting the sale as an ancillary to food, are automatically entitled to have 2 gaming machines. Provided they notify the licensing authority in writing and pay the prescribed fee.

If a premises wishes to have more than 2 machines a Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permit must be applied for. The licensing authority must consider that application based upon the licensing objectives, any guidance issued by the Gambling Commission and any relevant matters.

This licensing authority considers that “matters” will be decided on a case by case basis but generally there will be regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling and will expect the applicant to satisfy the authority that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18 year olds do not have access to the adult only gaming machines. As regards to the protection of vulnerable persons the applicants may wish to consider the provision of information leaflets/helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.

Temporary Use Notices

Part 9 of the Gambling Act 2005 allows gambling to be carried out in specified circumstances on a temporary basis, subject to a temporary use notice being served on the Licensing Authority, the Gambling Commission, the Police and HM Revenue & Customs. All these persons can raise objections having regard to the licensing objectives.

A Temporary Use Notice can only be given by the holder of an operating licence and can only authorise gambling for which that operating licence authorises. A set of premises cannot be authorised for more than 21 days under Temporary Use Notices. A notice must be served not less than three months and one day before the day on which the event may begin.

The licensing authority will consider each application and the objections on their own individual merits.

Small Society Lotteries Registration

The Licensing Authority is responsible for registering small society lotteries. To be eligible to register the society must be established and conducted for charitable purposes, for the purpose of enabling participation in, or of supporting sport, athletics or a cultural activity or for any other non- commercial purpose other than that of private gain.

When receiving an application for a small lottery registration, as soon as practical it must:

- Enter the details on the register
- Notify the applicant of the registration and
- Notify the Gambling Commission of the registration

The Licensing Authority will exercise its functions under this Act in relation to lotteries in accordance with the guidance issued by the Gambling Commission, particularly the need to be satisfied that the organisation falls within the definition of a small society and may request a signed declaration from the organisation that they are bona fide non-commercial society.

25 Enforcement

The Gambling Commission will take the lead role in investigation and, where appropriate, the prosecution of illegal gambling.

The Licensing Authority intends to use appropriate enforcement to promote the licensing objectives. Once licensed, it is essential that premises are monitored to ensure that they are run in accordance with the provisions of the Gambling Act, codes of practice and in compliance with any licence conditions. It will also be important to monitor the Borough for unlicensed premises. The Licensing Authority will seek to work actively with the Gambling Commission, Leicestershire Police and other responsible authorities where appropriate in enforcing licensing legislation and intends to establish a protocol with Leicestershire Constabulary on enforcement issues to ensure an efficient deployment of police and council officers.

Enforcement activities will be targeted in terms of risk and so as best to promote the licensing objectives. In addition, account will be taken of the general enforcement policy of the licensing authority, which aims to ensure that enforcement is open, fair, reasonable and proportionate.

26 Complaints against Licensed Premises

The Licensing Authority will investigate complaints against licensed premises in relation to matters relating to the licensing objectives for which it has responsibility. In the first instance, complainants are encouraged to raise the complaint directly with the licence holder or business concerned to seek a local resolution.

Where an interested party has made either a valid representation about licensed premises or a valid application for a licence to be reviewed, the Licensing Authority may initially arrange a conciliation meeting to address and clarify the issues of concern.

This process will not override the right of any interested party to ask that the licensing committee consider their valid objections or for any licence holder to decline to participate in a conciliation meeting.

27 Further information

Further information about the Gambling Act 2005, this Statement of Licensing Policy, the application process, and fees, can be obtained from:-

Licensing Section
Oadby & Wigston Borough Council Brocks Hill Council Offices
Washbrook Lane
Oadby
Leicestershire
LE2 5JJ

Tel: 0116 288 8961

E-Mail: licensing@oadby-wigston.gov.uk

Information is also available at:

Gambling Commission Victoria Square House
Victoria Square
Birmingham
B2 4BP

Website: <https://www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk/contact-us>

Appendix 1: Map of the Borough



Appendix 2: List of Bodies Consulted

- Leicestershire Constabulary
- British Amusement Catering Trades Association
- Bingo Association
- British Horse Racing Authority
- Working Men's Club and Institute Union
- British Beer and Pub Association
- Gamcare
- Racecourse Association
- Salvation Army
- The local Citizens Advice Bureau
- Leicestershire Partnership NHS
- Leicestershire Fire Service
- Gambling Commission
- Betfred
- Gala Leisure (Caledonia Investments PLC)
- Ladbrokes (Entain Group)
- Mark Jarvis Ltd
- All Betting Premises within the Borough of Oadby and Wigston
- Oadby and Wigston Borough Council Environmental Health Department
- Oadby and Wigston Borough Council Planning Department
- All Oadby and Wigston Borough Council Councillors
- Leicester Racecourse
- GambleAware



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| Full Council | Tuesday, 09 December 2025 | Matter for Information and Decision |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--|

Report Title: **Biodiversity Duty Report (Winter 2025)**

Report Author(s): **Peter Heath (Senior Planning Policy Officer)**

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|---|---|
| Purpose of Report: | This report seeks Committee approval to publish the Biodiversity Duty Report on the Council's website and forward a copy of the report to the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA). |
| Report Summary: | <p>The adoption of the Environment Act 2021 increased the responsibilities on public bodies (such as Councils) to have regard to biodiversity in exercising their functions.</p> <p>Alongside implementing Biodiversity Net Gain through the land use planning system local authorities are now required to produce a report setting out how its corporate action and policies (Council-wide, not just as a local planning authority) will improve biodiversity – a biodiversity duty report. This report is attached as Appendix 1.</p> <p>This is the first biodiversity duty report the authority has been required to produce. An update will be required every five years.</p> <p>The Act requires that a copy of the report is submitted to DEFRA so central Government can assess how local progress is contributing to the national drive to boost biodiversity.</p> |
| Recommendation(s): | <p>That Council:</p> <p>A. Approves the publication of the Biodiversity Duty Report (attached as Appendix 1) on the Council website; and</p> <p>B. Agrees to forward a copy of the report to DEFRA in line with the requirements of the Environment Act 2021.</p> |
| Senior Leadership, Head of Service, Manager, Officer and Other Contact(s): | <p>Teresa Neal (Strategic Director) (0116) 257 2652 teresa.neal@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Adrian Thorpe (Head of Built Environment) (0116) 257 2645 adrian.thorpe@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Peter Heath (Senior Planning Policy Officer) (0116) 257 2732 peter.heath@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> |
| Strategic Objectives: | <p>Our Council (SO1)</p> <p>Our Communities (SO2)</p> <p>Our Partners (SO5)</p> |
| Vision and Values: | <p>"Our Borough - The Place To Be" (Vision)</p> <p>Customer & Community Focused (V1)</p> |

| | |
|--|---|
| | Collaborative & Creative (V3) Resourceful & Resilient (V4) |
| Report Implications:- | |
| Legal: | There are no implications directly arising from this report. |
| Financial: | There are no implications directly arising from this report. |
| Corporate Risk Management: | No corporate risk(s) identified. |
| Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA): | There are no implications directly arising from this report. |
| Human Rights: | There are no implications directly arising from this report. |
| Health and Safety: | There are no implications directly arising from this report. |
| Statutory Officers' Comments:- | |
| Head of Paid Service: | The report is satisfactory. |
| Chief Finance Officer: | The report is satisfactory. |
| Monitoring Officer: | The report is satisfactory. |
| Consultees: | None. |
| Background Papers: | None. |
| Appendices: | 1. Biodiversity Duty Report (Winter 2025) |

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The adoption of the Environment Act 2021 increased the responsibilities on public bodies (such as Councils) to have regard to biodiversity in exercising their functions.
- 1.2 The most obvious example of this is the requirement for local planning authorities to seek a 10% net gain in biodiversity from the planning applications they process.
- 1.3 In addition, it introduced a requirement to report on the actions the Council is taking corporately to promote biodiversity.
- 1.4 Alongside implementing Biodiversity Net Gain through the land use planning system local authorities are now required to produce a report setting out how its corporate action and policies (Council-wide, not just as a local planning authority) will improve biodiversity – a biodiversity duty report. This report is attached as **Appendix 1**.
- 1.5 That report, known as a Biodiversity Duty Report, must set out what actions a Council is currently taking to aid biodiversity and what actions it will undertake over the next five years, these are set out in Section Two of the attached Biodiversity Duty Report. This is the first biodiversity duty report the authority has been required to produce. An update will be required every five years.
- 1.6 Section Three deals with other strategies specifically the Local Nature Recovery Strategy

(produced by the County Council), any protected site strategies within the Borough (produced by Natural England) and any protected species strategies (part of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy).

1.7 Section Four deals with any future actions the Council will undertake that are separate from the strategies identified in Section Two.

1.8 In addition, the Council is required to submit a copy of the report to DEFRA by 31 December 2025 so they can monitor how local initiatives are contributing to the national drive to boost biodiversity.

2. Conclusion

2.1 Members approve the Council's first Biodiversity Duty Report for publication and agree that the report is sent to the Department for Environment and Rural Affairs by the end of this calendar year (31 December 2025).

Biodiversity Duty Report

Winter 2025

Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| 1. Introduction | 3 |
| 2. Policies, Objectives and Actions..... | 5 |
| 3. Other Strategies | 9 |
| 4. Future Actions | 11 |

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report relates to the Council's Corporate and Planning roles and responsibilities under the Environment Act 2021 for protecting and enhancing biodiversity across the Borough, and covers how the Council will: i. Respond to the new corporate Biodiversity Duty imposed on Local Planning Authorities under the Environment Act 2021 requiring Local Planning Authorities to propose and report on actions for biodiversity within a Biodiversity Report. ii. Deliver and monitor Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) as a mandatory requirement of new development which comes into force January 2024 and which must form part of the Biodiversity Report.
- 1.2 The Government published the 25 Year Environment Plan (25YEP) in 2018 signalling that they would strengthen the Biodiversity Duty and introduce a mandatory system for development of Biodiversity Net Gain (i.e. making sure that the habitats for wildlife associated with a development, are on completion of that development, in a better state than before the development took place).
- 1.3 The Environmental Improvement Plan (EIP23), published in January 2023, builds upon the foundation of the 25YEP and sets out government plans for significantly improving the natural environment by working with landowners, communities and businesses towards the joined vision.
- 1.4 The Environment Act 2021 received Royal Assent on 9 November 2021 and amended section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (duty to conserve biodiversity) so that there is now a general biodiversity objective which is the "conservation and enhancement of biodiversity". To comply with the duty Planning authorities must consider what action the authority can take "to further the general biodiversity objective".
- 1.5 The Planning authorities considerations, actions and reporting on those actions are required by the Environment Act to be set out in a Biodiversity Report and the legislation and accompanying guidance sets out the timescale and required content of the report.
- 1.6 This report is intended to set out what the Council currently does to deliver biodiversity and to set out how the Council will meet the new challenges posed by the Environment Act 2021 in respect of biodiversity building on its existing policies, partnerships and actions setting out a clear strategy for going forward that will maximise the benefits for biodiversity within the resources and influence available to the Council.
- 1.7 The Environment Act 2021 amends section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC Act). The original duty was "so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of [the public authority's] functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity" and this has been replaced by a more proactive duty (new section 40(1)) to "from time to time consider what action the authority can properly take, consistently with the proper exercise of its functions, to further the general biodiversity objective".
- 1.8 Public authorities must also under section 40A of the NERC Act evidence the action it takes by the publication of a Biodiversity Report which must also report on the outcomes of mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain.

1.9 This is a corporate responsibility that goes across all Council departments, actions and decision making. The Government guidance specifically requires Local Authorities to publish biodiversity reports which contain:

- a summary of action which the authority has taken over the period of the report
- a summary of the authority's plans for the 5 years following the report
- quantitative data and any other information the authority considers is appropriate is included in the report.

1.10 The report has three compulsory sections which are described in the Government guidance as follows:

Section 1: Your policies, objectives and actions. You must include this information in your report and explain:

- the policies and objectives you have set to meet your biodiversity duty;
- the actions you've completed, either alone or in partnership with others, that benefit biodiversity.

Section 2: How you have considered other strategies. You must include this information in your report and explain how you've taken into account:

- local nature recovery strategies
- protected site strategies
- species conservation strategies

For example, include information about how:

- you've advised or worked in a Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) partnership in your area
- these strategies influenced your policies, objectives or actions.

Section 3: Your future actions. You must include this information in your report and explain how your organisation plans to fulfil your biodiversity duty over the 5 years following the end of this reporting period.

1.11 The authority has taken the decision to publish data on the biodiversity duty in two reports. This report (Part 1) will address the issues raised in paragraph 1.10 above and covers the December 2025-December 2030. Part 2 will provide data on biodiversity net gain within the authority by the required deadline of the end of March 2026.

2. Policies, Objectives and Actions

Adopted Local Plan 2011-2031 (2019)

- Policy 8 – Green Infrastructure
- Policy 9 – Open Space
- Policy 37 – Biodiversity & Geodiversity
- Policy 42 – Green Wedges
- Policy 43 – Countryside
- Policy 44 – Landscape and character
- Policy 45 – Local Green Space

This suite of local plan policies are policies that seek to protect existing open spaces or encourage more open spaces, as well as linking open spaces, which will protect existing wildlife habitats and promote movement between them.

- Policy 2 – Spatial Strategy
- Policy 6 - High quality design
- Policy 15 – Urban Infill
- Policy 22 – Delivering Retail
- Policy 26 – Sustainable Transport
- Policy 34 – Car Parking
- Policy 35 – Taxis
- Policy 38 – Climate Change
- Policy 46 – Infrastructure and Developer Contributions

This suite of policies will help biodiversity by tackling climate change through promoting development in existing locations well served by public transport which should reduce vehicle emissions and / or promotion of energy efficiency to reduce building emissions.

Overall, the local plan policies are used to guide development proposals that are received by the authority on an ongoing basis.

Review Local Plan (January 2025)

The authority is in the process of replacing its existing local plan with an updated local plan which from adoption (likely to be 2027) would cover the period up to 2042.

- Policy 22 – Open Space
- Policy 25 – Landscape and Character
- Policy 30 – Green and Blue Infrastructure
- Policy 31 – Protecting Biodiversity
- Policy 32 – Local Green Space
- Policy 33 – Green Wedges
- Policy 34 – Countryside
- Policy 35 – Trees and Woodlands
- Policy 36 – Soils and Agriculture

This suite of local plan policies are policies that seek to protect existing open spaces or encourage more open spaces, as well as linking open spaces, which will protect existing wildlife habitats and promote movement between them. Policy 31 seeks to implement mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain at 10% within the authority.

- Policy 2 – Spatial Strategy
- Policy 3 – Infrastructure and Developer Contributions
- Policy 4 – Sustainable Development
- Policy 5 – Climate Change
- Policy 8 – Renewable and Low Carbon Energy
- Policy 13 – Urban Infill
- Policy 15 – Retail
- Policy 17 – Sustainable Transport
- Policy 18 – Active Transport
- Policy 20 – Car Parking and Electric Vehicles
- Policy 24 – High Quality Design
- Policy 28 – Sustainable Design & Construction
- Policy 46 – Infrastructure and Developer Contributions

This suite of policies will help biodiversity by tackling climate change through promoting development in existing locations well served by public transport which should reduce vehicle emissions or promotion of energy efficiency to reduce building emissions.

Overall, the emerging local plan policies will be used to guide development proposals that will be received by the authority on an ongoing basis.

Climate Change Strategy (2024)

The Strategy has a series of aims and objectives one of which is aimed at Biodiversity.

The Strategy aims to help protect and enhance natural landscape and wildlife to support biodiversity, carbon storage and climate resilience.

Tree cover and grassland has resulted in emission removals across the borough. Although the borough is net-gain in land use greenhouse gas emissions, this has decreased over time to 0.8 Kt CO₂e in 2021 due to changes in settlement land use. Nature recovery is vital in our efforts to tackle climate change. The borough is a compact and a predominately urban area but there are opportunities to increase tree planting and improve biodiversity to increase carbon storage, create connected green spaces and support climate resilience

Increasing tree cover is supported by four objectives;

- NL1 Work with others to deliver nature recovery actions including increased tree planting and carbon storage.
- NL2 Support planning policy to protect and enhance the natural environment securing the best possible net gain outcomes.
- NL3 Promote the use of nature based solutions and connected green spaces to secure wider benefits including increased biodiversity and climate resilience.

- NL4 Support local groups to engage with and improve nature and biodiversity.

The strategy also has other aims that will aid biodiversity.

- to support energy efficiency, low carbon heat and renewable energy actions; and help create a climate resilient built environment.
- to encourage and support sustainable and resilient transport alternatives.
- to work with businesses and partners to collectively reduce our environmental impact.
- to support action to move towards a more circular economy by using our resources better and reducing waste.
- to facilitate residents and communities to take local action to tackle climate change.

Reducing all sources of emissions will help tackle climate change. Climate change is one of the biggest threats to biodiversity.

Overall, the strategy will be reviewed annually and amended accordingly.

Corporate Strategy (2024-2027)

- To be a carbon conscious borough.
- To be seen to be green.

The Strategy has an explicit objective (SO4) 'To seek to improve biodiversity through the management of natural green spaces and implement biodiversity net gain.'

The Strategy will be reviewed to assess its effectiveness and amended accordingly.

Economic Regeneration Strategy (2023-2028)

- Promotion/regeneration of established town centres.

Town centres are the authority's most sustainable locations. Reducing vehicle emissions will help tackle climate change. Climate change is one of the biggest threats to biodiversity.

The Strategy will be reviewed to assess its effectiveness and amended accordingly.

Green Spaces Strategy (2025-2035)

Has a vision for green spaces that "They will be futureproofed to provide climate resilience and enhanced biodiversity while supporting the health and wellbeing of our communities."

To deliver this vision is a strategic priority to:

- Contribute to climate change and biodiversity targets and aims, through planting trees and managing sites for wildlife whilst improving flora and fauna.

This strategic priority is underpinned by a number of objectives.

- review maintenance regimes to ensure that our green spaces are maintained to a high standard, in an affordable and sustainable way, and make improvements to increase enhance biodiversity.
- plant more trees within our green spaces to help combat climate change (carbon storage) and increase canopy cover, providing future new habitats for wildlife and additional shade for our communities in periods of extreme heat.
- actively encourage community engagement and involvement in the protection, maintenance, development and positive environmental impacts of our green spaces.
- effectively manage internal budgets and attract external funding wherever possible towards the ongoing maintenance and the future development of our green spaces.

The Strategy will be reviewed to assess its effectiveness and amended accordingly.

Litter Strategy (2022-2027)

- Increased litter collections within town centres and quicker removal of fly -tipping.

Litter can poison / kill wildlife if not disposed of properly. Reducing litter will aid biodiversity.

The Strategy will be reviewed to assess its effectiveness and amended accordingly.

Car Park Strategy (2021-2026)

- Installation of electric vehicle charging points within Council car parks.
- Installation of additional bicycle racks within Council car parks.

Reducing vehicle emissions will help tackle climate change. Climate change is one of the biggest threats to biodiversity.

The Strategy will be reviewed to assess its effectiveness and amended accordingly.

3. Other Strategies

- 3.1 The Leicester and Leicestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) was adopted in August 2025. The County Council are the responsible authority for the strategy and Oadby & Wigston Borough Council as one of the local authorities within Leicestershire contributed to the production of the strategy. As the responsible authority the LNRS will be reviewed and updated by the County Council or depending on Local Government Re-organisation the relevant successor authority.
- 3.2 Given how recently the strategy was adopted it is considered too soon to make any meaningful comment on the implementation of the strategy within the Borough area.
- 3.3 Protected Site Strategies – Protected Sites are representative examples of important places for nature. They are defined areas of land, freshwater, or sea protected by law for the nature they support including important wildlife, landforms or rock types. They serve as indicators of healthy, naturally functioning landscapes.
- 3.4 Provision 110 – Protected Site Strategies (PSS) in the Environment Act 2021 grant Natural England statutory powers to convene local partnerships focused on addressing environmental issues that affect the conservation and management of Protected Sites, so that they remain healthy and resilient for years to come. The PSS legislation is framed so any matter that can help in this regard is in scope for the collective strategy. As a result, PSS are ambitious and innovative in their approach, operating at a large scale across the landscapes where the identified Protected Sites are located.
- 3.5 Natural England may prepare and publish a strategy for:
- improving the conservation and management of a protected site, and
 - managing the impact of plans, projects or other activities (wherever undertaken) on the conservation & management of the protected site.
- A strategy is called a “protected site strategy.” A “protected site” means: a European site, a site of special scientific interest or a marine conservation zone within England.
- 3.6 Within the Borough area there is one Site of Special Scientific Interest, the Kilby-Foxton Canal. Currently it is the responsibility of Natural England to produce the protected site strategy for this site. The site receives an element of protection through the planning system via adopted Plan policy 37 (Biodiversity) and would continue to enjoy protection through the review Plan draft policy 31 (Biodiversity).
- 3.7 Species Conservation Strategies - The LNRS sets out those species of importance within Leicester and Leicestershire. Priority species refer to species that are identified as being of principal importance for biodiversity conservation. These species are typically selected based on their conservation status, ecological importance, and vulnerability to habitat loss, climate change, and other environmental pressures. The designation of priority species helps focus conservation efforts and resources on those species most in need of protection and recovery.

- 3.8 While many priority species are identified at the national level, the Local Nature Recovery Strategy enables these species to be contextualised for local landscapes, ensuring that actions are relevant to the specific ecological needs of Leicestershire, Leicester, Rutland, or any other area under the strategy. In total 113 species were identified against the criteria. These are species which require bespoke action to protect and enhance their populations. The list is made up of 1 amphibian (Palmate Newt), 1 reptile (Adder), 12 birds (including Turtle Dove), 1 crustacean (White-clawed Crayfish), 6 invertebrates (including Glow worm), 3 fish (Including Brown Trout), 6 mammals (including Hedgehog), 77 rare vascular plants (including Lily-of-the valley) and 6 lichen (including *Lasallia pustulata*).
- 3.9 In summary, priority species within a LNRS are those species most in need of focused conservation action due to their ecological importance, vulnerability, and the role they play in maintaining local biodiversity. As noted above in paragraph 3.2 the LNRS is a very recent document and it is too soon to make any meaningful comment on the progress with priority species.

4. Future Actions

- 4.1 The authority has a number of strategies (as set out in Section 2) that have a series of ongoing commitments within them that will either directly or indirectly aid biodiversity.

The authority is one of many local authorities going through the process of Local Government Re-organisation. At the time of writing, the future spatial geography or the powers that those new authorities will have are unknown. Unless or until the authority is informed otherwise and revised Government guidance is issued on biodiversity duty reporting it will update this report in five years' time.



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|---------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Full Council | Tuesday, 09 December 2025 | Matter for Information |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|

Report Title: **Community Safety Partnership Reporting
(Q1 & 2 2025/26)**

Report Author(s): **Mark Smith (Community Safety & Youth Officer)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Purpose of Report: | To provide Members with an overview of the actions and work of the Borough's Community Safety Partnership ("The Partnership") in Q1 & Q2 2025/26, and on Crime and Disorder in the Borough for the same period. |
| Report Summary: | This report provides updates on the current status of the Borough's Community Safety Partnership, including current expenditure, and work undertaken to address emerging crime trends in the Borough. Crime and Disorder statistics for Q1 and Q2 2025-26 are included, alongside annual trend data. |
| Recommendation(s): | That the content of the report be noted. |
| Senior Leadership, Head of Service, Manager, Officer and Other Contact(s): | <p>Colleen Warren (Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer) (0116) 257 2759 colleen.warren@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Samuel Ball (Legal & Democratic Services Manager / Monitoring Officer) (Solicitor) (0116) 257 2643 samuel.ball@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Mark Smith (Community Safety & Youth Officer) (0116) 257 2675 mark.smith@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> |
| Strategic Objectives: | <p>Our Council (SO1)</p> <p>Our Communities (SO2)</p> <p>Our Economy (SO3)</p> <p>Our Environment (SO4)</p> <p>Our Partners (SO5)</p> |
| Vision and Values: | <p>Customer & Community Focused (V1)</p> <p>Proud of Everything We Do (V2)</p> <p>Collaborative & Creative (V3)</p> <p>Resourceful & Resilient (V4)</p> |
| Report Implications:- | |
| Legal: | There are no implications directly arising from this report. |
| Financial: | There are no implications directly arising from this report. |
| Corporate Risk Management: | <p>Political Dynamics (CR3)</p> <p>Reputation Damage (CR4)</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA): | There are no implications arising from this report. EA not applicable |
| Human Rights: | There are no implications directly arising from this report. |
| Health and Safety: | There are no implications directly arising from this report. |
| Statutory Officers' Comments:- | |
| Head of Paid Service: | The report is satisfactory. |
| Chief Finance Officer: | The report is satisfactory. |
| Monitoring Officer: | The report is satisfactory. |
| Consultees: | None. |
| Background Papers: | None. |
| Appendices: | 1. Community Safety Strategic Plan (2024 – 2027) |

1. The Community Safety Partnership ("The Partnership")

- 1.1 The Partnership was formed as a result of the *Crime and Disorder Act 1998* placing a statutory responsibility on named organisations to work together to reduce crime, disorder, and anti-social behaviour ("ASB") within their local authority area and ensure that partners are not working in isolation.
- 1.2 The key role of the Partnership is to identify and prioritise the concerns that affect our community, alongside discharging statutory duties, and develop and delivery plans to reduce the impact of these concerns upon it.
- 1.3 The organisations bound by *Section 5* of the *Crime and Disorder Act*, and subsequent legislation, to be represented within the Partnership are;
 - Oadby & Wigston Borough Council;
 - Leicestershire County Council;
 - Leicestershire Police;
 - Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service;
 - NHS Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Integrated Care Board; and
 - National Probation Service Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.
- 1.4 These organisations recognise that by combining resources, experience, and knowledge the Partnership can offer an enhanced approach to tackling issues and concerns in the Borough and offer a greater level of value for money within the work it undertakes or commissions.
- 1.5 The Partnership also engages with other local agencies, voluntary groups, housing providers, and businesses to make certain an inclusive, representative response to crime, disorder and ASB is achieved. This allows for the Partnership's resources to be targeted effectively to where they would have the greatest impact.
- 1.6 Since 2012 the work of the Partnership has taken place under the umbrella of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland ("OPCC"). This relationship, legislated in the *Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011*, places a renewed mutual duty upon the OPCC and named organisations to work together to reduce

crime, disorder, and reoffending.

- 1.7 The Partnership benefits from strong and well-established working relationships both within itself and with higher-tier authorities and bodies, allowing for proactive and timely reactive responses to both seasonal trends and emerging issues at local, county and national levels.
- 1.8 The Partnership meets bimonthly in a hybrid model allowing wider attendance from partners and is supported by monthly 'Joint Action Group' ("JAG") subgroup meetings reviewing high and medium-risk ASB cases in the Borough.

2. Strategic Plan 2024-2027

- 2.1 A copy of the Partnership's three-year Strategic Plan for 2024-2027 is included as **Appendix 1** to this report. The Strategic Plan provides a full overview of the Partnership's statutory duties, strategic priorities, structure, analytic approach, and funding and monitoring arrangements.
- 2.2 The Strategic Plan also provides details of the community profile and crime and disorder statistics utilised to develop the Partnership's strategic priorities, highlighting the requirement to balance the public perception of crime and disorder against the picture presented by statistical data.
- 2.3 The Strategic Plan is a public document published on the Council's website and demonstrates the Partnership's desire to show transparency and accountability in its work for the purposes of strengthening partnership working, and increasing the confidence of the community in the component partners.
- 2.4 The duration of the Partnership's Strategic Plan positions it well to see the conclusion of its current strategic priorities before devolution occurs. This will enable a more structured transition into the new local authority landscape, with time afforded to develop a new three-year Strategic Plan for any model of Community Safety Partnership that is adopted by the new authority covering the Borough.
- 2.5 An interim Strategic Plan for 2027-28, the pre-devolution period, will be developed upon further guidance from the PCC regarding where the duties of their office will transfer to at the end of the PCC role and new authority commencement, and on the level of funding and associated criteria to be made available to the Partnership at that time.

3. Funding and Expenditure

- 3.1 The Partnership receives funding from both the Council (**£21,000.00**) and the OPCC (**£32,554.58**) for a total 2025-26 budget of **£53,554.58**.
- 3.2 An additional **£30,000.00** is provided to the Council, as part of its core funding, to provide Domestic Abuse / Domestic Violence services in the Borough. This budget falls under the remit of the Council's Housing Team and is used to employ a Domestic Abuse Link Worker within Housing Options. The work of the Link Worker is reported on to the Partnership as Domestic Abuse forms one of its statutory duties, and the Partnership Chair represents the Borough on the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Domestic Abuse Strategy Board.
- 3.3 For 2025-26 a total of **£19,440.00** is committed, from the Council contribution to the Partnership, to the annual expenditure detailed below;

| Item | Description | Cost |
|---|--|------------------|
| Domestic Homicide Review ("DHR") | Oadby & Wigston contribution to the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland DHR budget. Each | £2,500.00 |

| | | |
|---|---|-------------------|
| Contribution | District and Borough contributes the same level of funding to this budget. DHRs are a process where local authorities and organisations examine how they responded to a case where a person died as a result of domestic violence, identifying lessons learned to prevent future homicides. | |
| ASB System Governance and Co-ordination Officer Contribution | Oadby & Wigston contribution to the salary of the named role overseeing the ASB Case Management System ('ECINS') on behalf of the combined Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland District, Borough and County Councils, and Leicestershire Police. | £2,000.00 |
| CCTV Airtime Renewals | The Partnership operates 25 redeployable CCTV units across the Borough, accessible by Council and Police officers. These cameras are accessible remotely via a 4G data connection, with an allowance of 150gb of data per month across the 25 units, allowing for footage download and live monitoring. | £14,940.00 |

3.4 Through Q1 and Q2 2025-26 the following expenditure has been proposed by partner organisations and committed by the Partnership;

| Item | Description | Cost |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| CCTV Structural Testing | A total of ten lampposts were structurally assessed in June/July to provide additional host locations for redeployable CCTV units, addressing shoplifting, fly-tipping, and racist graffiti in hot-spot locations across the Borough. Six columns passed this testing bringing the total number of available host columns to 48. | £3,042.00 |
| CCTV Electrical Conversions | Fitment of commando sockets and associated electrical works to the six lampposts that passed structural testing, enabling the columns to host CCTV units. | £2,124.00 |
| Graffiti Slush Fund | The Partnership has made available a slush fund to enable the removal of graffiti in the Borough. The support of the Community Payback Scheme means that this fund is only required to cover the purchase of materials used in the removal, with racist and offensive graffiti in Oadby removed from Windrush Drive in August at a cost of £65.68 . | £800.00 |
| Air Tags | Leicestershire Police have requested funding to purchase a number of Apple 'Air Tags' to address the theft of high value plant and farm equipment, power tools, and other desirable | £900.00 (approx.) |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--|----------------|
| | items. The Air Tags can be secreted inside of vehicles and objects providing real time tracking capabilities when a theft occurs. | |
| CSP Survey Promotion | A budget has been set aside to support the promotion of the Partnership's Community Safety Survey, planned to run in Q4. This survey provides a benchmark of the public perception of crime and disorder in the Borough, community priorities, and sense of community at Ward levels. A prize draw for Amazon vouchers is associated with this survey to increase participation and promote the Council's Community Safety Newsletter. | £500.00 |
| Community Event Support | A 'WellFest' community event will be taking place on Blaby Road Park, South Wigston on 13 September. The Partnership will be represented at the event and has committed funding to the cost of its insurance requirements. | £300.00 |

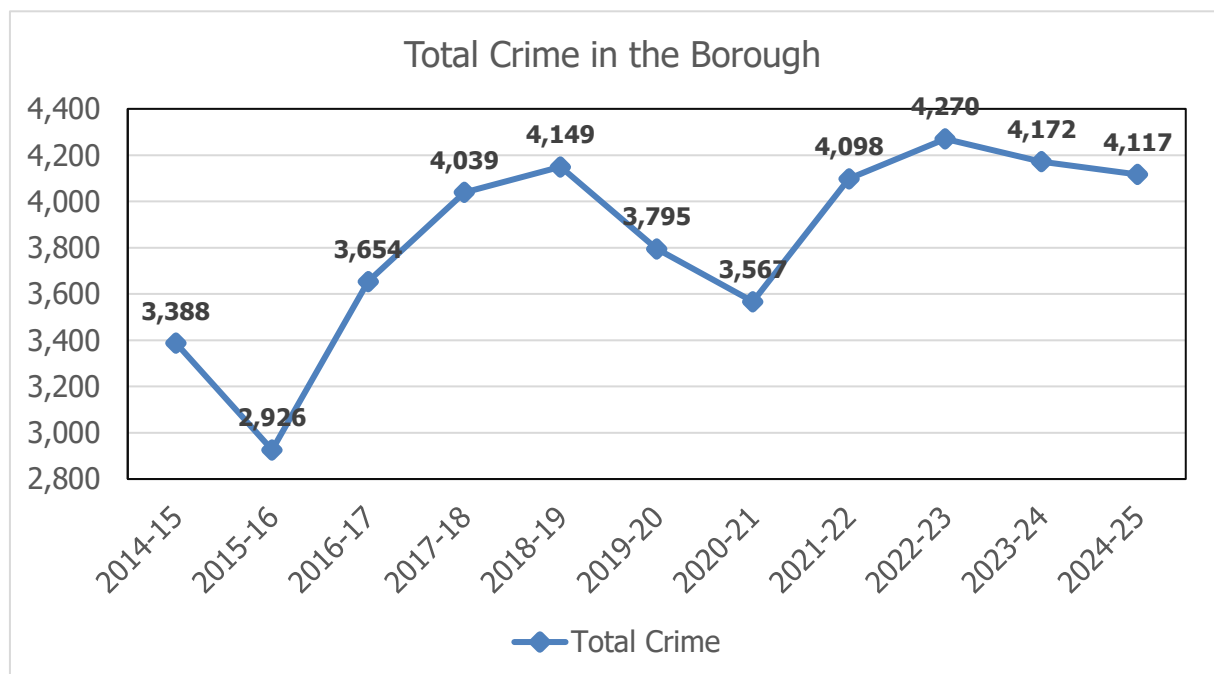
4. Crime and Disorder

- 4.1 The Partnership receives crime data from Leicestershire Police separated into 13 types of crime and disorder.
- 4.2 Crime data is received via three routes; in person at the Partnership's bi-monthly meetings via local Neighbourhood Policing Area ("NPA") Officers, via data packs (now known as 'problem profiles') collated by the OPCC's Data Analysts, and via data downloads from the police.uk website.
- 4.3 Data downloads via the police.uk website are the Partnership's preferred route for data analysis and monitoring, with full data sets for the Borough available within 6-8 weeks of the month's end. The availability of this resource has enabled the creation of an internal crime data tool, utilised to map crime trends across the Borough at both settlement and lower super output area ("LSOA") levels, employing data from 2014 to date in this process.
- 4.4 The mapping of crime trends not only allows for resources to be allocated to address known trends well in advance, such as an annual increase in ASB in the summer months or burglaries during the winter months but also highlights emerging trends enabling proactive responses and early interventions.
- 4.5 The table below compares the Borough's incident data by crime type for Q1 and Q2 2025-26 for the same periods in 2024-25.

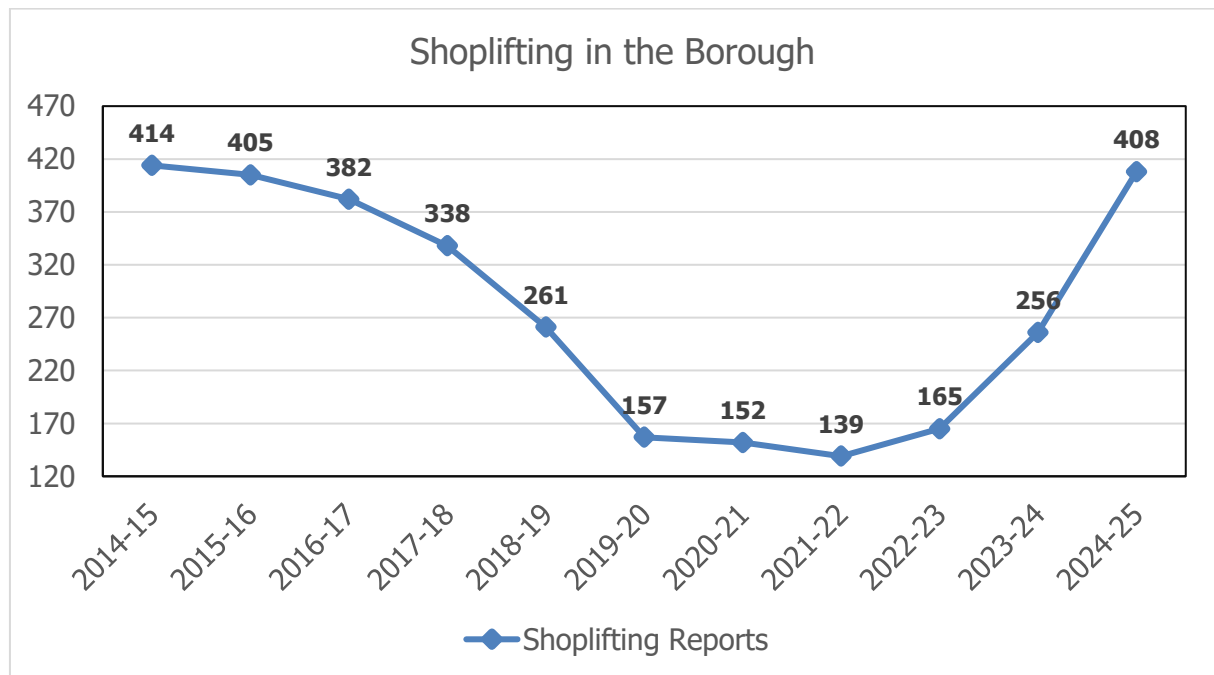
| Crime Type | Q1 & Q2 2024-25 | Q1 & Q2 2025-26 | Change (%) |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Anti-Social Behaviour | 264 | 248 | -6% |
| Bicycle Theft | 19 | 35 | +84% |
| Burglary | 109 | 109 | No Change |
| Criminal Damage and Arson | 168 | 134 | -20% |

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Drugs | 31 | 52 | +67% |
| Other Crime | 42 | 26 | -38% |
| Other Theft | 136 | 114 | -16% |
| Possession of Weapons | 11 | 10 | -9% |
| Public Order | 211 | 184 | -12% |
| Robbery | 11 | 6 | -45% |
| Shoplifting | 202 | 207 | +2% |
| Theft from the Person | 10 | 10 | No Change |
| Vehicle Crime | 109 | 83 | -23% |
| Violence and Sexual Offences | 802 | 727 | -9% |
| Total Crime | 2,125 | 1,945 | -8% |

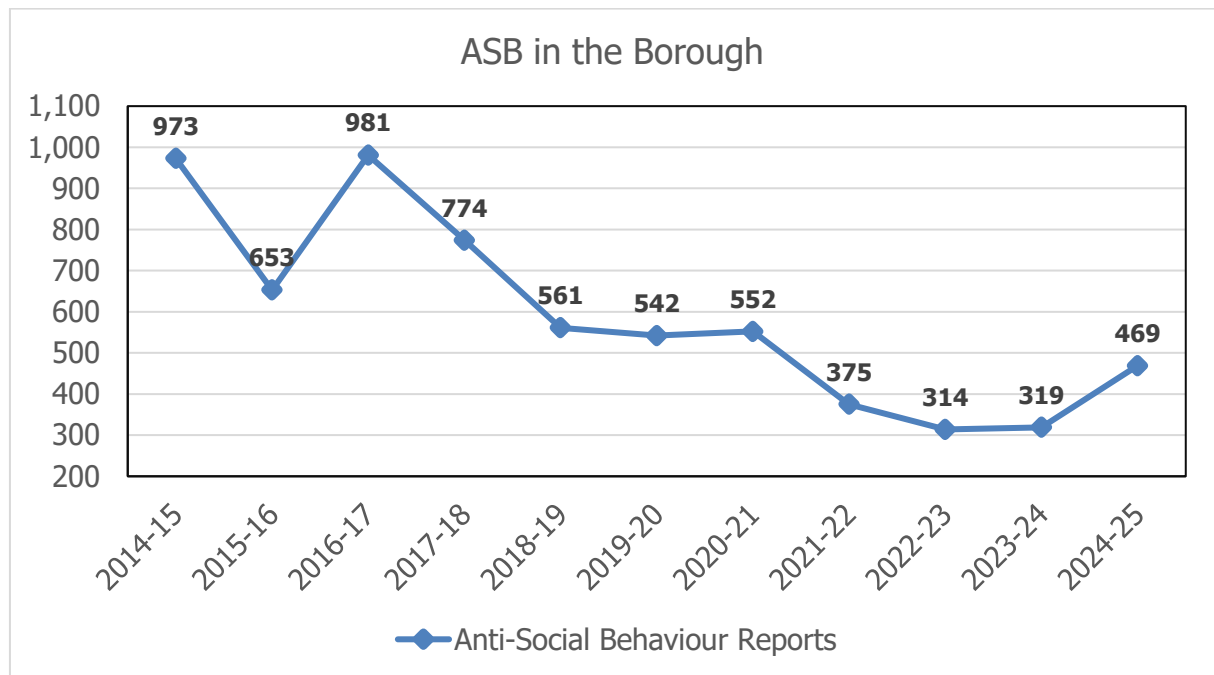
- 4.6 The total level of crime within the Borough has been falling since 2022-23 as shown below, although specific crime types have seen increases within this trend, with shoplifting and ASB being examples of this. The level of total crime in the Borough tends to track with national statistics.



- 4.7 Shoplifting is the most significant emerging crime type in the Borough, with a 59% annual increase between 2023-24 and 2024-25. Current data for 2025-26 shows that shoplifting is continuing to become a more frequent occurrence in the Borough.



- 4.8 The increase in shoplifting has been attributed to increased reporting by businesses and is in line with national trends regarding the cost-of-living increases.
- 4.9 To address shoplifting in the Borough the Police enacted Op Detect, placing a focus on overt and covert detection of shoplifting in the Borough, which saw 3 males charged with 9 offences linked to the One Stop on Gloucester Crescent, South Wigston.
- 4.10 Alongside Op Detect the Partnership liaised closely with the One Stop to deploy CCTV units around the store's location and applied to the Police and Crime Commissioner's shop theft initiative for 10 body worn video ("BWV") units. This bid was successful with the BWV units having been delivered to the Council, and the required software and training for their use being organised in conjunction with the OPCC and other successful authorities.
- 4.11 The BWV units will be made available to smaller retailers in the Borough with a focus, as per the OPCC's bid criteria, on independent retailers across the three settlement areas. Retailers will be identified by crime data analysis weighted against seasonal trends, e.g. where there is a spike in shoplifting in the summer months retailers in afflicted areas will be prioritised to ensure familiarity with the BWV units and their operation.
- 4.12 From year two onwards of their operation the BWV units will be subject to an annual cost of **£114.00** per unit for cloud access and software licensing. Discussions are currently taking place with the OPCC to ascertain whether the Partnership will be responsible for these costs, or if they can be charged to the businesses in receipt of the BWV units. The BWV units will remain the property of the Partnership.
- 4.13 Anti-Social Behaviour reports have also begun to increase following a sustained period of decline in the Borough, as shown on the following graph. Please note that this data is not inclusive of ASB reported to the Council directly at this time due to the transfer from Sentinel to the ECINS Case Management System, with data from the Council's Housing Team and Community Safety and Wellbeing Manager to be incorporated into future reports.



- 4.14 This increase is believed to be due to increased awareness of reporting routes into the Police for ASB, alongside an increase in reports of the anti-social use of e-scooters and similar modes of transport. Media coverage of the actions of Leicestershire Police addressing e-scooters within Leicester city centre is believed to be a driving factor in this.
- 4.15 Promotion of ASB reporting routes will continue across the Partnership which means further increases in ASB reports are expected. Police and Council data will be collated to identify themes and hotspots within these reports, and the resulting information will be used to develop workstreams to address ASB in the Borough further.
- 4.16 Additional analysis of received ASB reports will also be taking place to identify how many incidents are linked to young people in the Borough. This supports the established work of the Partnership to prevent and deter young people from entering the criminal justice system, alongside supporting other workstreams within the Council such as the Community Health and Wellbeing Partnership who have a priority focussing on risky behaviours within young people.

5. Rural Crime Considerations

- 5.1 The PCC has added a new priority to his Police and Crime Plan for 2025-26 addressing rural crime and has instructed Leicestershire's Community Safety Partnership's to incorporate this into their work this financial year.
- 5.2 Rural crime in the Borough is minimal, being predominantly an urban area. Resources made available within other NPA's, such as dedicated vehicles and officer tasking within the Police, are not applicable within the Borough. Both of these factors limit the scope in which the Partnership can address the PCC's priority.
- 5.3 One option that is being explored by the Partnership is the rural crime subheading of heritage crime, with early discussions in place around the Partnership supporting the site security of St. Wistan's Church, Wigston.
- 5.4 The current condition of the building, and its listed status, means that there is an increased risk of individuals gaining access to the grounds, placing themselves at risk from an unsafe structure as well as potentially causing damage to the building itself.
- 5.5 Initial contact has been made by the Community Safety & Youth Officer with the Diocese

and relevant officers within Leicestershire Police and the County Council to explore this workstream. The Partnership financially contributing toward the installation of heras fencing around the site, and potentially new signage, is seen as a viable option at this time.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 The Community Safety & Youth Officer recommends that the content of this report be noted.

Community Safety Strategic Plan 2024 - 2027

Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| Introduction..... | 2 |
| The Community Safety Partnership..... | 3 |
| Our Vision, Mission, and Principles | 3 |
| Community Engagement | 4 |
| Community Profile..... | 6 |
| Ethnicity..... | 7 |
| Age Structure and Young People..... | 8 |
| What is a Strategic Plan? | 10 |
| Strategic Assessment..... | 12 |
| Statutory Duties..... | 12 |
| Crime and Disorder..... | 14 |
| Public Perception..... | 16 |
| Horizon Scanning Event | 20 |
| Strategic Areas and Priorities 2024-25 through 2026-27..... | 21 |
| Strategic Priorities | 22 |
| Performance Management and Funding..... | 23 |
| Performance Management | 23 |
| Funding | 24 |
| Equalities Statement..... | 26 |
| Appendix A – Population Data..... | 27 |
| Appendix B – Crime and ASB Heat Maps..... | 29 |

Introduction

Teamwork is the ability to work together towards a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments towards organisational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results.

At Oadby & Wigston Borough Council we have an overall vision for the future. At an operational level the focus has been to work across and between the key priorities to ensure a comprehensive, cross cutting approach is delivered.

The Community Safety Partnership has agreed a set of principles upon which it intends to conduct itself, ensuring that successful outcomes are delivered. These are based upon the values of co-operation, transparency, integrity, equality, accountability, and sustainability.

We recognise that successful partnership working is based upon trust and co-operation between partners and the community they serve, and we will encourage such an approach in addressing issues of crime and disorder.

Our aim is to consistently provide a clear and transparent picture of activity so as to strengthen partnership working and increase the confidence of our community in those partners.

We will constantly monitor the impact of the Partnership's tactics and activity to always maintain a high level of integrity.

We will look towards providing fair and equal access to services and support irrespective of race, religion, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability.

We will be visible and accountable to our community for the decisions and actions we take on its behalf, ensuring that all aspects of action against identified community safety priorities are sustainable.

We will strive to make our Borough a safe place to be, a safe place work, a safe place to play, and a safe place to live.



Cllr. Kevin Loydall

Chair, Oadby & Wigston Community Safety Partnership

The Community Safety Partnership

The Oadby & Wigston Community Safety Partnership (“The Partnership”) was formed as a result of the *Crime and Disorder Act* (1998) placing a statutory responsibility on named organisations to work together to reduce crime, disorder, and anti-social behaviour (“ASB”) within their local authority area, and ensure that Partners are not working in isolation.

The key role of the Partnership is to identify and prioritise the concerns that affect our community, alongside discharging statutory duties, and develop and deliver plans to reduce the impact of these concerns upon it.

The organisations bound by Section 5 of the *Crime and Disorder Act*, and subsequent legislation, to be represented within the Partnership are;

- Oadby & Wigston Borough Council (“The Council”)
- Leicestershire County Council
- Leicestershire Police
- Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service
- NHS Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Integrated Care Board, and
- National Probation Service Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland

These organisations recognise that by combining resources, experience, and knowledge the Partnership can offer an enhanced approach to tackling issues and concerns in the Borough, and offer a greater level of value for money within the work it undertakes or commissions.

The Partnership also engages with other local agencies, voluntary groups, housing providers, and businesses to make certain an inclusive, representative response to crime, disorder and ASB is achieved. This allows for the Partnership’s resources to be targeted effectively to where they would have the greatest impact.

Since 2012 the work of the Partnership has taken place under the umbrella of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (“OPCC”). This relationship, legislated in the *Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act* (2011), places a renewed mutual duty upon the OPCC and named organisations to work together to reduce crime, disorder, and reoffending.

Our Vision, Mission, and Principles

Our **Vision** is to work together in making the Borough of Oadby and Wigston a safer place in which to live, work, and visit.

As a Partnership of statutory, non-statutory, voluntary, and other organisations, with links to local people throughout our Community, our **Mission** is to work collectively together to tackle those issues of crime and disorder of most concern. Our work together is driven by a desire to help local people feel safer, become

more involved with reducing crime and the fear of crime, especially amongst the most vulnerable people within our community, and to engage with those most at risk of offending in a manner that compliments the work of agencies that have individual responsibilities in tackling crime and disorder.

The members of the Partnership have agreed a set of **Principles**, outlined below, upon which it will conduct itself in ensuring that successful outcomes are delivered;

- **Cooperation** – The Partnership recognises that successful partnership working is based upon trust and cooperation between Partners and the Community they serve, and encourages such an approach in addressing issues of crime and disorder.
- **Transparency** – The Partnership will aim to consistently provide a clear and transparent picture of activity so as to strengthen partnership working, and increase the confidence of the Community.
- **Integrity** – The Partnership will constantly monitor the impact of its tactics and activity in order to maintain a high level of integrity at all times.
- **Equality** – Fair and equal access to services and support irrespective of race, religion, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability will be provided by the Partnership within its activities.
- **Accountability** – The Partnership will be visible and accountable to the Community for the decisions and actions it takes on their behalf.

Community Engagement

The Partnership is committed to ensuring that the work it undertakes is informed by engagement with the community, enabling those with a local connection to the Borough, either personal or professional, to be directly involved in decisions that affect them.

Engagement covers a range of activities including promoting, and communicating about, the work of the Partnership, offering opportunities for people to query actions and activities, reporting on progress, and involving people in priority setting.

The Partnership will be visible in its engagement, being present at community events whether directly or indirectly involved in their planning, and actively seek out new routes through which the community can be canvassed. Surveys will be undertaken in a manner through which no barriers to participation are presented, including making allowances for accessibility to the internet or personal computers / mobile devices.

Oadby & Wigston Community Safety Partnership – Strategic Plan 2024-27

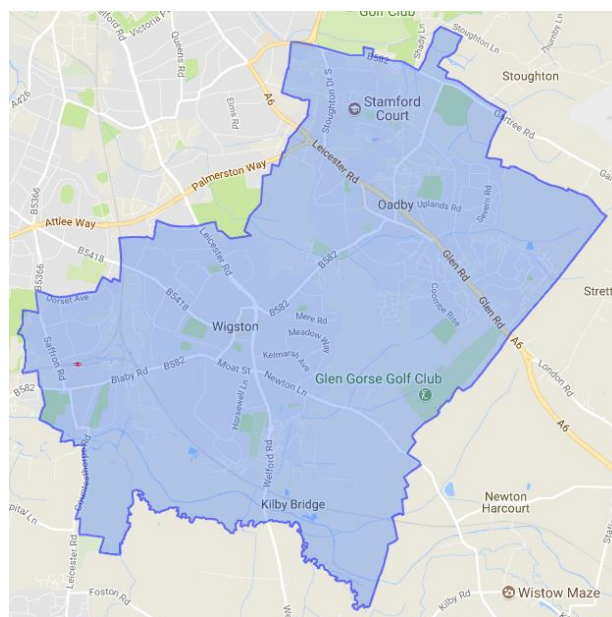
Additionally the Partnership will actively support and promote any surveys or community safety initiatives undertaken by partner members which align to the Partnership's own Tactical Actions, or Strategic Priorities.

Community Profile

The Partnership acknowledges that to enable the delivery of effective work to the benefit of the community it serves there's a vital need to hold an up to date understanding of how the community is comprised, and how a number of factors influence opportunities and risks locally.

The Borough of Oadby & Wigston is a relatively compact Borough that lies directly adjacent to, and shares boundaries with, the City of Leicester – a unitary authority. It also shares boundaries with both Harborough and Blaby District Councils.

Approximately two thirds of the Borough is urban in nature, with these areas falling entirely within the Leicester Principal Urban Area; this results in a strong spatial relationship between the Borough and Leicester City.



The Borough of Oadby & Wigston (highlighted) in South Leicestershire
Image © Google 2017

As of the 2021 Census, the Borough has a total population of 57,764 individuals settled within an area of around 9.3 square miles; this results in a population density nearly five times greater than the Leicestershire average (6,233/Mi² vs the Leicestershire average of 1,320/Mi²), and nearly nine times greater than the UK average of 720/Mi².

Of the Borough's three distinct settlement areas Wigston has the lowest population density at 6,027/Mi² and South Wigston the highest at 7,013/Mi². Oadby has a population density of 6,227/Mi², although this varies annually due to a high level of student accommodation addressed later in this section. Each settlement area has very different perceived levels of affluence, as well as levels of social deprivation, which are shown by the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) rankings¹.

As a whole the Borough is ranked 249 out of 317 local authorities in England, where first place is the most deprived authority, by the IMD rankings. The IMD rankings are based upon the following nine factors;

- Income Deprivation
- Employment Deprivation

¹ Data collected via http://dclgapps.communities.gov.uk/imd/ioid_index.html

- Education, Skills, and Training
- Health Deprivation and Disability
- Crime
- Barriers to Housing and Services
- Living Environment Deprivation
- Income Deprivation Affecting Children, and
- Income Deprivation Affecting Older People.

The Borough has gained seven places since its last IMD ranking of 242 in 2015, showing that deprivation is, on average, decreasing within the Borough.

The IMD rankings also measure deprivation for each Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA), ranking 32,844 LSOAs in England. Across the Borough's ten Electoral Wards there are 36 separately indexed LSOAs. On a settlement basis South Wigston has the highest average levels of social deprivation within its LSOAs, Wigston has lower levels than South Wigston, and Oadby the lowest average levels overall.

In terms of individual IMD ranking, Wigston has both the lowest ranked LSOA ('Oadby and Wigston 005C', within Wigston Fields Ward, placing 6,709) and the highest ranked LSOA ('Oadby and Wigston 008C', within Wigston St Wolstan's Ward, placing 31,582) in the Borough area.

Ethnicity

The ethnic and cultural composition of the Borough is diverse. The overall Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) population, i.e. residents in categories other than White British², is 40% (22,731 individuals). This figure is 2.5 times the Leicestershire average of 16% seen in the 2021 Census.

| Ethnicity | Leicestershire* | | Oadby & Wigston | | Variance |
|---------------|-----------------|-----|-----------------|-----|----------|
| White British | 595,796 | 84% | 33,786 | 60% | 24% |
| BAME | 116,570 | 16% | 22,731 | 40% | |

* Excluding Leicester City and Rutland.

The ethnic composition of the Borough's three distinct settlement areas is highlighted overleaf. Oadby in particular has a significantly higher percentage of BAME residents than Wigston or South Wigston, with the second highest BAME population in the East Midlands next to Leicester City.

² Comprised of individuals identifying as English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish, or British.

| Ethnicity | Oadby | | Wigston | | South Wigston | | Totals | |
|---------------|--------|-----|---------|-----|---------------|-----|--------|-----|
| White British | 7,749 | 34% | 19,252 | 75% | 6,785 | 84% | 33,786 | 60% |
| BAME | 15,051 | 66% | 6,355 | 25% | 1,325 | 16% | 22,731 | 40% |

Age Structure and Young People

The 2021 Census found that 24% (14,069 individuals) of the Borough's total population of 57,762 were aged 19 years or under, with 7,703 individuals (14% of the total population) falling within the 10 - 19 age range³.

It should be noted, however, that a disproportionate number of 18 - 19 year olds reside in the Oadby area due to the University of Leicester student accommodation found within the Oadby Grange Ward. The figures stated above, therefore, are not a true reflection of the 10 - 19 population residing full time in the area. This statistic also skews the Borough's total population figures by a variable amount annually.

A conservative estimate of the true figures, arrived at by removing the Oadby Grange Ward's 2021 Census data from the calculations (1,247 individuals aged 18 - 19), provides the table below.

| Age | Oadby | | Wigston | | South Wigston | | Total Population | |
|----------------|--------|-----|---------|-----|---------------|-----|------------------|------|
| Total 0 - 9 | 2,592 | 11% | 2,760 | 11% | 1,014 | 12% | 6,366 | 11% |
| Total 10 - 19* | 2,728 | 12% | 2,857 | 11% | 871 | 11% | 6,456 | 11% |
| Total 20 - 64 | 12,722 | 56% | 13,929 | 54% | 4,727 | 58% | 31,378 | 56% |
| Total 65+ | 4,752 | 21% | 6,052 | 24% | 1,511 | 19% | 12,315 | 22% |
| Borough Total | 22,794 | 40% | 25,598 | 45% | 8,123 | 14% | 56,515 | 100% |

* Amended.

This revision means that 22% (12,822 individuals) of the Borough's total population (revised to 56,515 individuals) is now aged 19 years or under, with 6,456 individuals (11% of the total population) falling within the 10 - 19 age range. This statistic is marginally lower than Leicestershire⁴ (12%) and the East Midlands (12%).

³ All data sourced via www.nomisweb.co.uk Census 2021 interrogation tools.

⁴ Excluding Leicester City and Rutland.

Across the Borough's ten Wards, with the above noted amendments, most populations average between 10% - 13% aged 10 - 19 years. Oadby Brocks Hill, Oadby Uplands, Oadby Woodlands and Wigston Fields have, on average, the highest 10 – 19 years populations at 13%.

This dataset is the basis for any additional statistics presented throughout this document.

By compiling available Ethnicity by Age by Ward data collected through the 2021 Census, and incorporating the population amendment for the Oadby Grange Ward as noted in this section, the following table is produced showing the ethnic composition of the Borough by age bracket.

| Age | White British | | BAME | | Total Population | |
|----------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|------------------|-------------|
| Total 0 - 9 | 2,984 | 9% | 3,390 | 15% | 6,374 | 11% |
| Total 10 - 19 | 3,171 | 9% | 3,289 | 14% | 6,460 | 11% |
| Total 20 - 64 | 17,667 | 52% | 13,704 | 60% | 31,371 | 56% |
| Total 65+ | 9,964 | 29% | 2,348 | 10% | 12,312 | 22% |
| Borough Total | 33,786 | 60% | 22,731 | 40% | 56,517 | 100% |

The ethnic composition informed by the population changes within the 10 - 19 age range now shows 49% (3,171 individuals) identifying as White British, and 51% (3,289 individuals) identifying as BAME. Again, for the commissioning of future diversionary activities for young people through this Strategic Plan this will be the population data set referred to.

A full overview of the Borough's population by age, settlement area, and ethnicity can be found in *Appendix A*.

What is a Strategic Plan?

Every three years the Partnership is required by law to produce a Strategic Plan setting out its community safety priorities for the following three years, and the approaches it will take in achieving them. Each year the Partnership will also undertake a Strategic Assessment against the priorities identified in the Plan, identifying any required revisions, which incorporates the following;

- An audit of current crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour levels in the Borough,
- An assessment of crime and disorder trends at a County and National level, and
- The findings of the annual Community Safety Survey, highlighting the matters that the Community would like to see prioritised by the Partnership.

The Strategic Assessment allows the Partnership to develop its annual Delivery Plan, alongside the front line staff responsible for delivering against the Strategic Plan, which is then published every year alongside the Strategic Plan's priorities. This results in viable partnership working, encouraging appropriate referrals for victims and perpetrators requiring support to be made in a timely manner.



The annual Delivery Plan, before it is approved by the Partnership, is also checked for compliance against the strategic priorities and plans of the Partnership's component organisations, and some additional plans with

joint interests. These currently comprise of the following at the time of writing, but are subject to change as responsible organisations review their plans and strategies in line with national guidance and legislation;

- The Police and Crime Commissioner’s *Police and Crime Plan 2021-2024*,
- Oadby & Wigston Borough Council’s *Corporate Strategy 2024-2027*,
- Leicestershire County Council’s *Strategic Plan 2024-2026*,
- Leicestershire Police’s *Annual Force Management Statement*,
- Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service’s *Community Risk Management Plan 2024-2028*,
- *Leicestershire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2032*,
- The Leicestershire Strategic Partnership Board’s Annual Community Safety and Criminal Justice Priorities, and
- The Youth Charter’s *Youth Manifesto 2019*.

The documents noted above sit behind this Strategic Plan as an additional means to check that the Partnership is offering a suitable, and effective, service to the Community whilst equally complimenting the aims and objectives of its component organisations within the Borough. Compliance with these strategic priorities also ensures that statutory Partners are able to provide mainstream resources to assist in the delivery of the Partnership’s Tactical Actions.

Other Community Safety Partnerships across the County also work in this manner, and to the same requirements, to ensure that a consistent standard of service is available to any Leicestershire resident.

Strategic Assessment

The Partnership has a duty to undertake a strategic assessment of the levels of crime and ASB being experienced in the Borough. This enables us to identify any emerging threats, risks or community tensions, review any factors impacting upon community cohesion, and identify how our resources are best utilised through the development of our Strategic Objectives.

The Assessment takes into account the strategic duties of the Partnership, crime and disorder data collated by our Partners, and the public perception of crime, disorder and community safety in the Borough. These components are outlined below and directly inform our Strategic Objectives over the coming three-year period.

Statutory Duties

In the Partnership's discharge of its statutory duties due regard is given to the following legislation to ensure compliance and effectiveness;

Domestic Homicide Reviews

Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) were established on a statutory basis under Section 9 of the *Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act (2004)*. The Act places a responsibility on Community Safety Partnerships to establish the necessity for reviews. This provision came into force in April 2011, requiring Local Authorities and partner agencies to devise a process underpinned by the statutory guidance provided.

The rationale for the Domestic Homicide Review process is to ensure Agencies are responding appropriately to victims of domestic violence/abuse by offering and putting in place appropriate support mechanisms, procedures, resources and interventions with an aim to avoid future incidents of domestic homicide, violence and abuse.

The Leicestershire Safer Communities Strategy Board, on behalf of local Community Safety Partnerships, the Leicestershire and Rutland Local Safeguarding Children Board and Safeguarding Adults Board, and the Safer Rutland Community Partnership have all agreed that DHR's will be conducted across Leicestershire and Rutland as part of the Serious Case Review arrangements.

Anti-Social Behaviour Case Reviews (Community Triggers)

ASB Case Reviews (formally known as Community Triggers) were introduced within the *Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act (2014)*. They give victims and communities the right to request a review of their ASB complaints and brings agencies together to take a joined-up, problem-solving approach to find a solution.

The statutory duty within the Act placed upon the Partnership is to undertake case reviews on the grounds that a victim states they are dissatisfied with the response they have received to their reported ASB and on the grounds that the threshold for such a review is duly met.

The noted threshold for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland has been set as;

- An individual has complained to the Council, Police, or a Registered Housing Provider (Social Landlord) about three separate incidents of ASB in the last six months,
- Three individuals in the local community have complained separately to the Council, Police, or a Registered Housing Provider (Social Landlord) about the same incident of ASB in the last six months, or
- An individual has been a victim of a single hate crime or incident in the last six months, and
- That the initial complaint of the above was made within one calendar month of the incident occurring.

Once the agreed threshold has been met there is a duty on the Partnership to appoint the most appropriate agency to lead on the case review.

Prevent and Protect

The *Counter-Terrorism and Security Act (2015)* contains a duty on specified authorities to have due regard to the need to prevent individuals from being drawn into terrorism or supporting terrorist activities. This is widely known as the Prevent Duty. The Partnership will support all local initiatives taken by the Council and its specified Partners to discharge this duty.

Serious Violence Duty

The *Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill (2021)* has amended the statutory duties of the Partnership to require it to implement a localised plan focusing on reducing serious violence in the Borough. The Partnership works closely with the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Violence Reduction Network, as the lead organisation and one of 20 VRN's set up in the UK since 2019, to discharge this duty effectively in Oadby and Wigston and a risk assessment / needs analysis for the Borough has now taken place to support this activity.

Tackling Substance Misuse

The Government's new Drugs Strategy '*From Harm to Hope*' was published in December 2021 and sets out a 10-year plan to cut crime and save lives through three strategic priorities;

1. Breaking drug supply chains
2. Delivering a world-class treatment and recovery system, and

3. Achieving a generational shift in the demand for drugs.

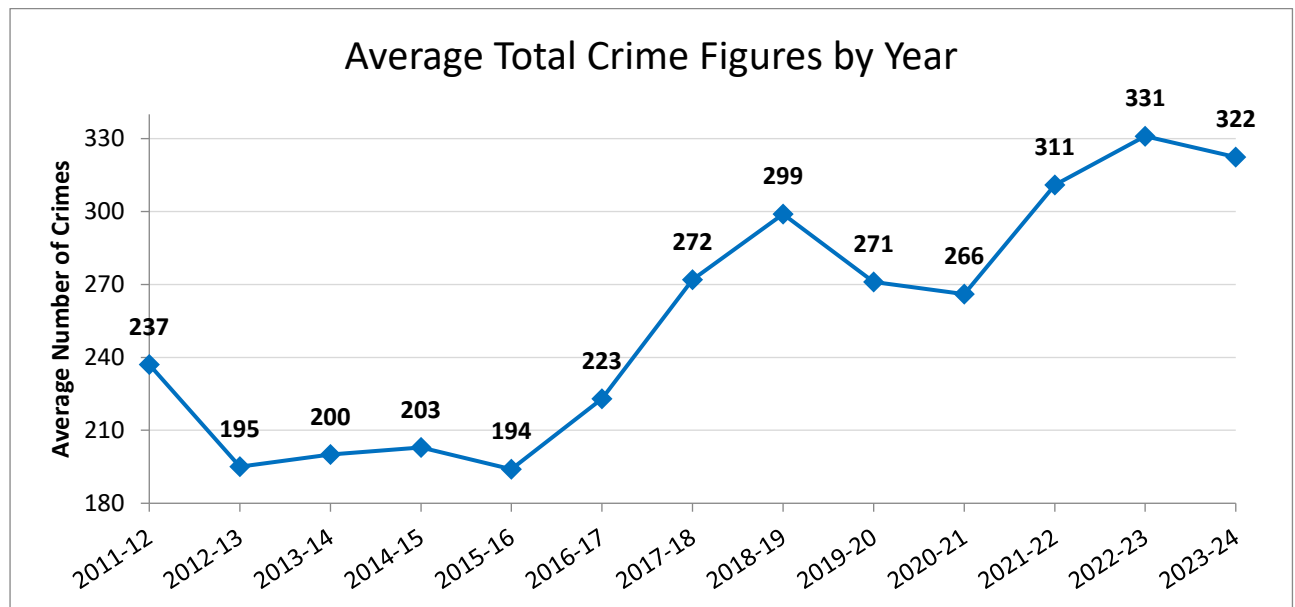
Within this strategy localities have been asked to form a Combating Drugs Partnership (“CDP”) to oversee and provide accountability for the strategic priorities listed above. For Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland a Substance Misuse Community Safety Partnership already exists which will transition into a CDP and work to increase involvement from health partners, with the current partnership weighing in favour of criminal justice partners.

The evolution of the CDP will likely impact on the work of our Partnership and influence this strategic plan throughout its duration. The Partnership will engage with the CDP and amend its focus as required by potential future guidance.

Crime and Disorder

Since 2020-21 the average number of reported or detected crimes in the Borough per year, calculated using monthly ‘total crime’ figures minus anti-social behaviour⁵, has increased following a marked decline between 2018-19 to 2020-21. The data is now showing a period of renewed decline from 2022-23 however.

The average figures do not differentiate between specific crime types, which will be detailed in this section, but instead comprise of crimes reported to, or detected by, Leicestershire Police within Oadby, Wigston, and South Wigston.



⁵ Data collated from www.police.uk via ‘the ‘Your Area’ ‘Crime Maps’ function.

According to data held by Leicestershire Police⁶ the most prevalent types of crime and disorder reported or detected in the Borough, at the time of finalising this Strategic Plan (July 2024), are;

- Violence without Injury (1,039 offences)
- Violence with Injury (505 offences)
- Public Disorder (396 offences)
- Criminal Damage (363 offences), and
- Burglary (272 offences)

The OPCC's Data Analysts provide quarterly reports to the Partnership which detail changes and trends in reported and detected crime and disorder across the three Police Beats within the Borough, and enable the Partnership to address them proactively. Delivery Plans developed annually in support of this Strategic Plan are done so in an agile, quarterly basis to ensure that resources remain available to be committed to emerging risks throughout the financial year.

In addition to addressing crime and disorder in the Borough the Partnership also considers the impact of socio-economic inequalities as a driving factor for offending or exploitation. These factors can include;

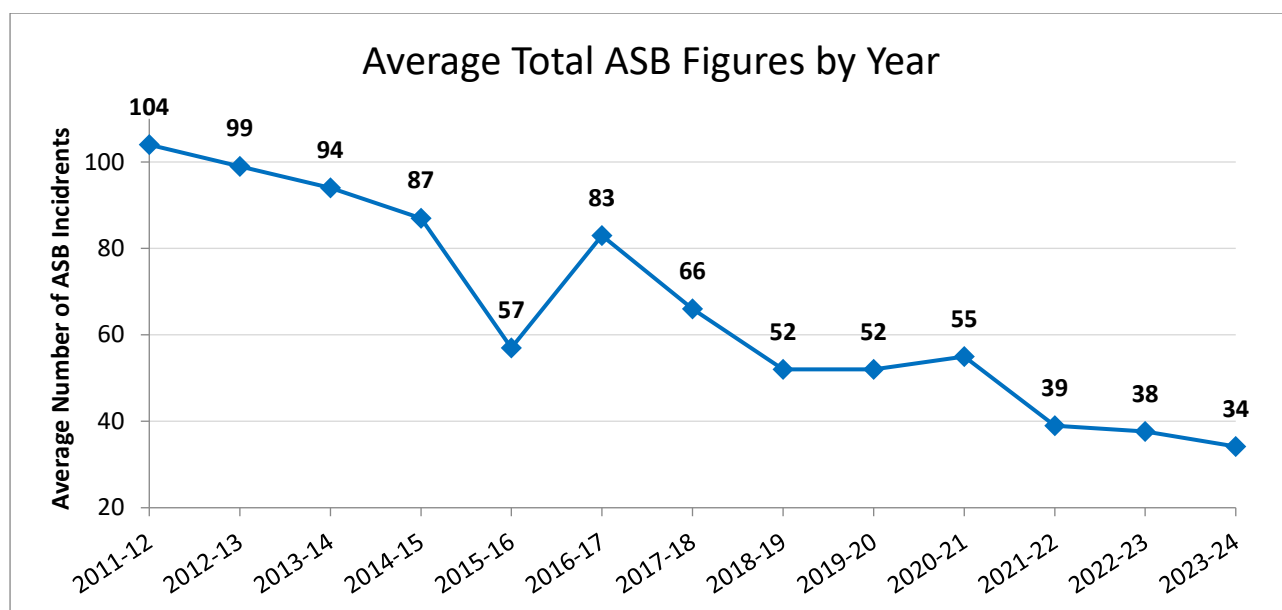
- Neighbourhood Deprivation
- The Cost of Living
- Housing and Homelessness, and
- Mental Health and Vulnerability

Tactical Actions in support of non-crime and disorder related projects in the Borough may be created by the Partnership as an 'early intervention' or 'diversionary' approach to addressing crime and disorder. These projects, in addressing socio-economic inequalities, often have a significant impact on both community cohesion and offending and exploitation and support is seen as being cost effective in this regard.

Reports of anti-social behaviour (ASB) in the Borough are currently at their lowest average levels since 2015-16⁷, and have been steadily decreasing since 2016-17 (see overleaf). There is a concern amongst partner agencies however that incidents of ASB in the Borough are historically under-reported, and that the decrease shown by available data is masking a higher number of incidents. The concern arises from both quantitative and qualitative data collected via the annual community safety survey, discussed later in this strategy document.

⁶ Data collated from Q1-Q4 2023-24 by the OPCC Performance Analyst

⁷ Calculated by combining ASB data from the 'Your Area' 'Crime Maps' function and Council datasets.



It should be noted that Covid-19 (Coronavirus) had a large impact on the final 2020-21 crime and disorder statistics, creating a significant shift in reported and detected crime types; e.g. a reduction in shoplifting offences, but an increase in ASB, such as noise nuisance, due to individuals spending extended periods of time within their homes.

The changes seen locally for crime and disorder are broadly in line with national trends, and do not represent the evolving nature of crime where the most prevalent types of crime often change based on a number of factors including, but not limited to, proactive work to address certain types of crime, target hardening, and public awareness campaigns.

‘Appendix B – Crime and ASB Heat Maps’ collates the monthly crime and ASB figures from 2011-12 through to March 2024, used to calculate the averages seen in the previous graphs, and provides evidence as to which months the Borough, on average, sees increased crime and disorder. This data will be used to support and guide the commissioning of services, activities, and promotions within the Borough to address seasonal crime, disorder, and community safety priorities.

Public Perception

The Partnership understands that, through a number of factors, the public perception of crime and disorder does not always align with the picture presented by statistical data. Frequently the areas of focus the public would like to see the Partnership address fall outside of the statutory duties or data-led concerns, but should be afforded proportional weighting from a community cohesion standpoint.

To support this approach the Partnership undertakes an annual community safety survey to canvass the Borough’s residents, and regular visitors, on their own perception of crime and disorder, their sense of community and sense of safety within the Oadby, Wigston, and South Wigston settlement areas.

Oadby & Wigston Community Safety Partnership – Strategic Plan 2024-27

From 2017-18 onwards the survey has only seen minimal changes, notably minor additions to the questions presented, in order to provide the opportunity for direct comparison of responses year on year. The survey's findings have been utilised annually to influence the Partnership's annual delivery plans which sit beneath this Strategic Plan.

Within the survey respondents are asked to highlight, from a list of the 12 most frequent issues reported to the Council, the nature of any concerns they have relating to crime, anti-social behaviour, or community safety within their Council Wards. From the last survey, which took place at the end of 2022-23, the concerns presented were ranked as follows across the Borough by 161 respondents;

| Priority | % | Concern |
|----------|-----|------------------------------------|
| 1 | 56% | Littering and Fly-Tipping |
| 2 | 46% | Motor Vehicle and Traffic Concerns |
| 3 | 41% | Burglaries and Distraction Thefts |
| 4 | 39% | Drugs or Drug Related Issues |
| 5 | 30% | Groups causing Nuisance |
| 6 | 27% | Noise Nuisance |
| 7 | 26% | Vandalism or Graffiti |
| 8 | 16% | Drunk or Rowdy Behaviour |
| 9 | 13% | Other |
| 10 | 9% | Hate Crime |
| 11 | 6% | Deliberate Fires |
| 12 | 5% | Domestic Abuse |

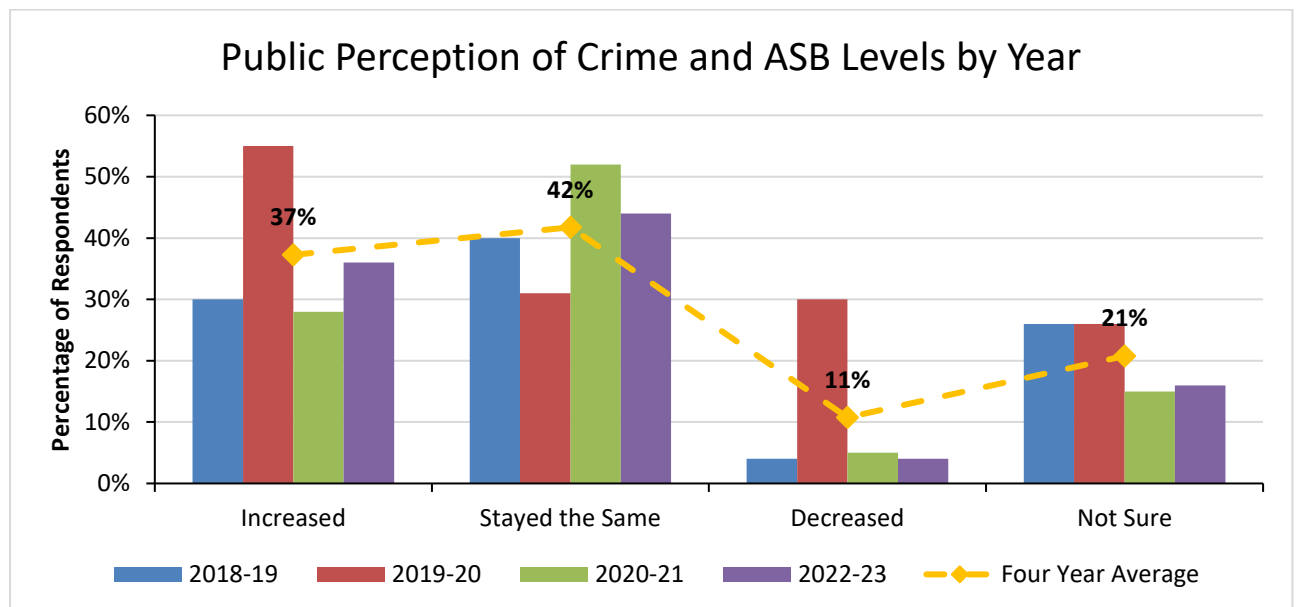
'Other' has been detailed by respondents as including concerns such as the use of eScooters, the switching off of street lighting late at night, and the lack of a visible presence of Police and Parking Wardens.

This ranking provides the Partnership with a steer as to specific types of crime and disorder that should be addressed through its annual Delivery Plan, enabling a focus to be placed on specific themes in addition to the Partnership's statutory responsibilities. This information also enables our partner agencies to direct their

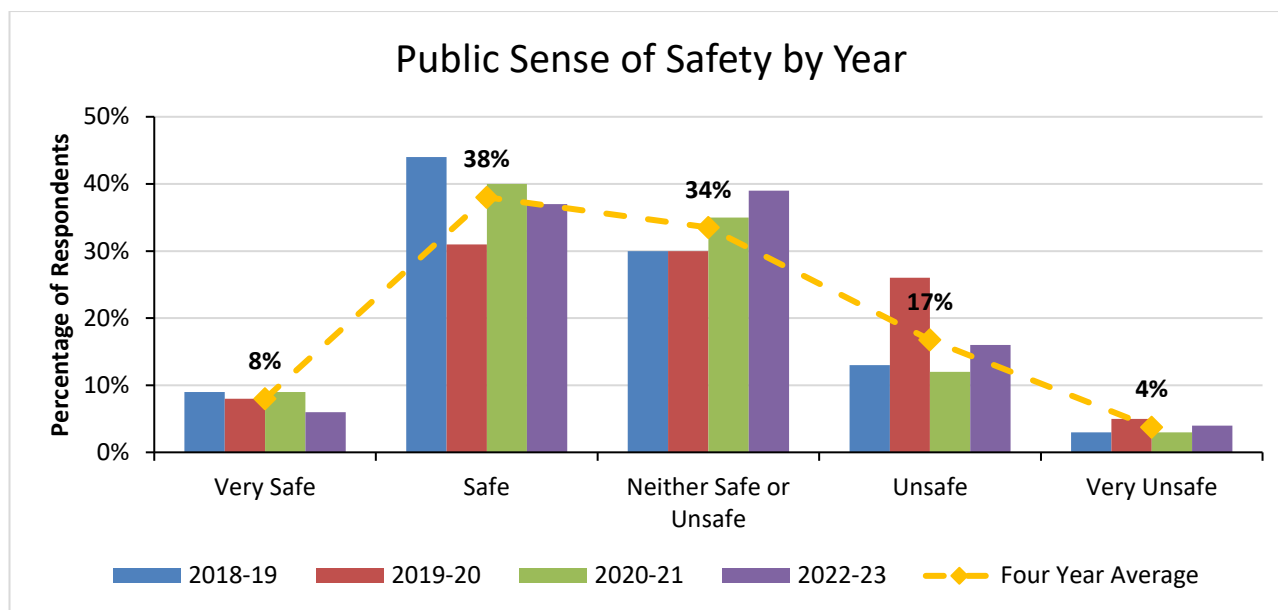
own work, away from the Partnership’s plans, in ways that prove more successful, impactful, and beneficial to our community.

The collated findings of the survey can also be ‘drilled down’ to individual Council Ward level. This enables the Partnership to target resources and workstreams across the Borough’s ten wards more effectively, and address concerns that may be more prevalent within the vicinity of specific locations. This approach, when coupled with data from other sources as referenced in the Community Profile section of this strategy, provides opportunities for uniquely tailored and / or targeted approaches to crime and disorder in the Borough.

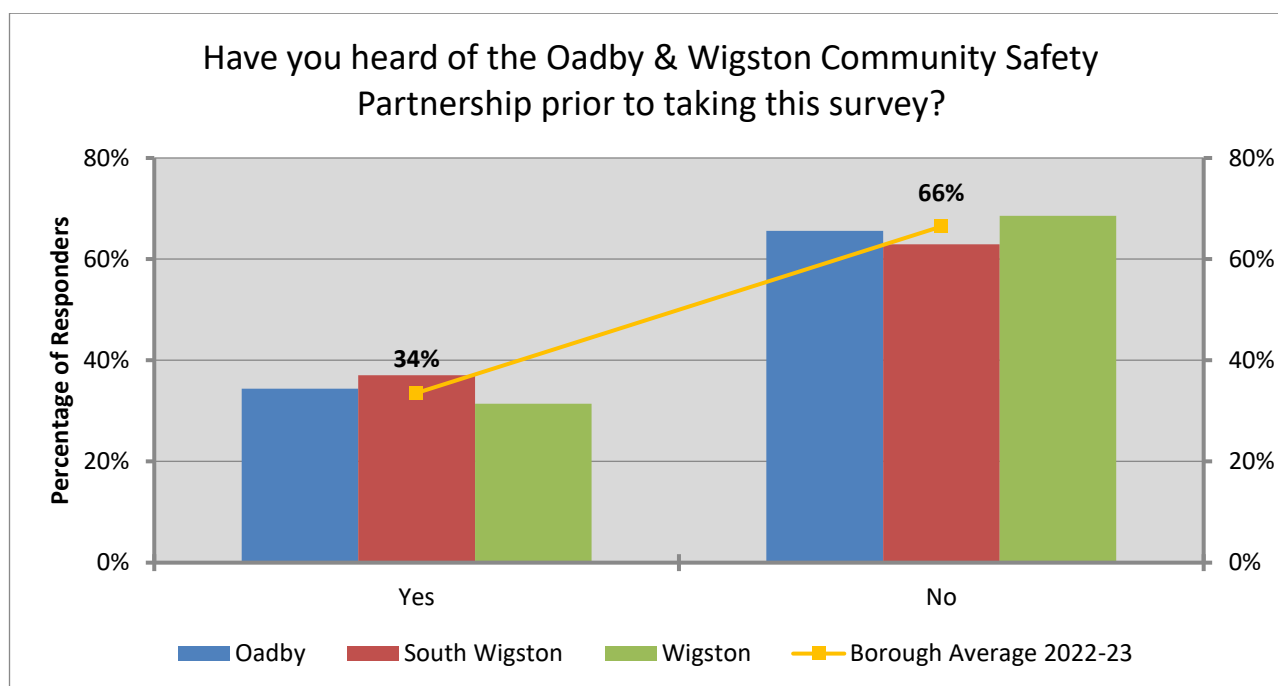
Public consultation through the annual survey revealed that most respondents felt that the level of crime and anti-social behaviour in the Borough has either increased or remained the same over the last survey period. On average however most respondents believe that crime and anti-social behaviour levels have stayed the same year on year, although there is an upwards shift in the number of respondents stating that they feel the level of crime and anti-social behaviour has increased, rising from 28% to 36% between survey periods.



In line with the public perception of crime and ASB increasing the number of individuals who state that they feel safe in the Borough has decreased. The majority of respondents, on average, still state that they feel ‘Very Safe’ or ‘Safe’ in the Borough but there have been corresponding increases in respondents who feel ‘Neither Safe or Unsafe’, ‘Unsafe’, and ‘Very Unsafe’. The number of individuals stating that they feel ‘Very Unsafe’ in the Borough however remains consistently low by comparison.



For the 2022-23 survey an additional question was asked in regard to whether respondents had heard of the Community Safety Partnership prior to taking the survey; this was intended to gauge the reach of the Partnership in respect of promoting its work and successes. As it was the first time this question had been asked there is no baseline for comparison but it does show that the majority of respondents (66%) across the three settlement areas have no knowledge of the Partnership. This highlights a need to improve communications both directly from the Partnership and its component organisations over the three-year period covered by this strategy, and likely ties into the public perception of crime and ASB levels and their sense of safety in the Borough.



Horizon Scanning Event

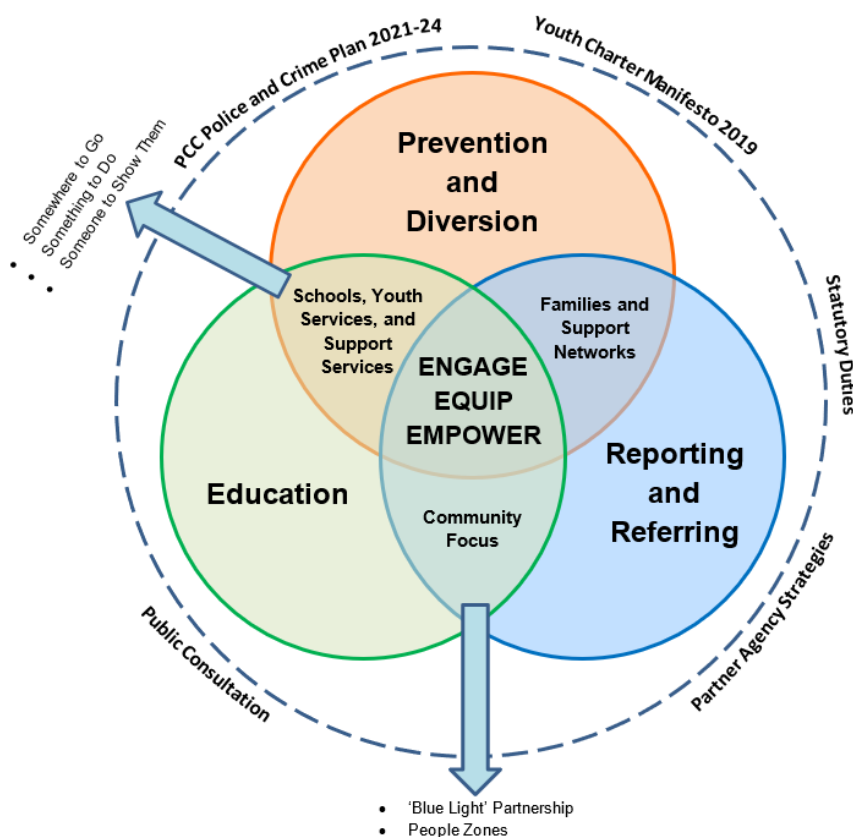
In addition to the above assessment routes the Partnership now hosts an annual 'Horizon Scanning Event' prior to the start of the new financial year. The purpose of this event is for Partners to share updates on the workstreams, events, and barriers they are anticipating in the coming financial year, including seasonal trends for their services, enabling the development of a master calendar for the Partnership and a more proactive approach to how the Partnership discharges its duties.

For the event Partners are encouraged to develop presentations highlighting their organisations' focus, wants, and needs through the coming financial year and to consider where support from other agencies would be beneficial to achieving their individual objectives. Opportunities for match funding / added value are a key consideration for this event as well as any National or Local 'weeks of action / awareness' Partners may participate in or promote annually.

The Horizon Scanning Event directly influences the Delivery Plan and Tactical Actions for the coming financial year, and promotes a greater level of partnership working and awareness within the Partnership.

Strategic Areas and Priorities 2024-25 through 2026-27

The Partnership’s work will focus on three key areas throughout the period covered by this Strategic Plan, with an underlying theme of ‘Engage, Equip, and Empower’, as explained in this section and demonstrated on the below diagram;



All Tactical Actions incorporated into the Partnership’s annual Delivery Plans, providing the mechanism through which the strategic priorities are met, will be required to address one or more of these key areas, as well as evidencing local need or links to wider, overarching strategies and statutory responsibilities.

Engage will see the Partnership strive to enhance its ability to consult with the community on its work, particularly around the reasoning behind workstreams and the promotion of its outcomes and achievements. The visible presence of the Partnership will be increased through the period covered by this Strategic Plan, with a growth in physical and virtual presence sought. It is intended that the Partnership’s work is as transparent as possible, with the public able to clearly see the influence their actions, and interactions, have on the allocation of the Partnership’s resources, and by extension the level of crime and disorder across Oadby, Wigston, and South Wigston.

Across 2024-27 the Partnership will endeavour to **Equip** its community with skills, knowledge, and resources intended to raise the sense of safety individuals and businesses have in the Borough. This can include, for example, the commissioning of publicly accessible seminars on subjects such as cyber-crime or doorstep

sales fraud, the ability to access funding to ‘target harden’ domestic or business premises, the distribution of personal safety items where applicable, and the promotion of appropriate reporting routes / schemes for specific crime and disorder types.

The Partnership will also work to **Empower** the community to affect change within their local areas. This could include, for example, providing support for residents to launch a speed monitoring programme, offering access to training for ‘Community Champions’, or facilitating the formation of Neighbourhood Watch groups. The Partnership will also actively support schemes or initiatives that allow disenfranchised groups, such as ‘disengaged’ young people or minority groups, the opportunity to have their voice heard in the Borough.

These three key areas will in turn be based on the three supporting pillars of Education, Prevention and Diversion, and Reporting and Referring, with all Tactical Actions sitting within at least one of these structures.

Strategic Priorities

The Partnership will strive toward the following priorities across Oadby, Wigston, and South Wigston for the 2024 – 2027 period;

1. Reducing the harm caused by Crime, Disorder and ASB
2. Protecting Vulnerable People in our Community
3. Safeguarding against Abuse and Violent Offences
4. Increasing Community Cohesion
5. Improving the Sense of Community Safety

Work with young people will also form a significant part of each Delivery Plan under this Strategic Plan, drawing together all of the above to work holistically with young people, and their support networks, to ensure the following;

- A. The number of young people who offend or are victimised is reduced,
- B. Youth provision in the Borough is of an appropriate level, and style, to actively engage young people,
- C. Family units, and other support networks, are engaged to support young people at risk of harm or offending where appropriate, and
- D. Schools and other youth services have greater integration, and networking, in order to provide all young people with;
 - i. Somewhere to Go
 - ii. Something to Do, and
 - iii. Someone to Show Them

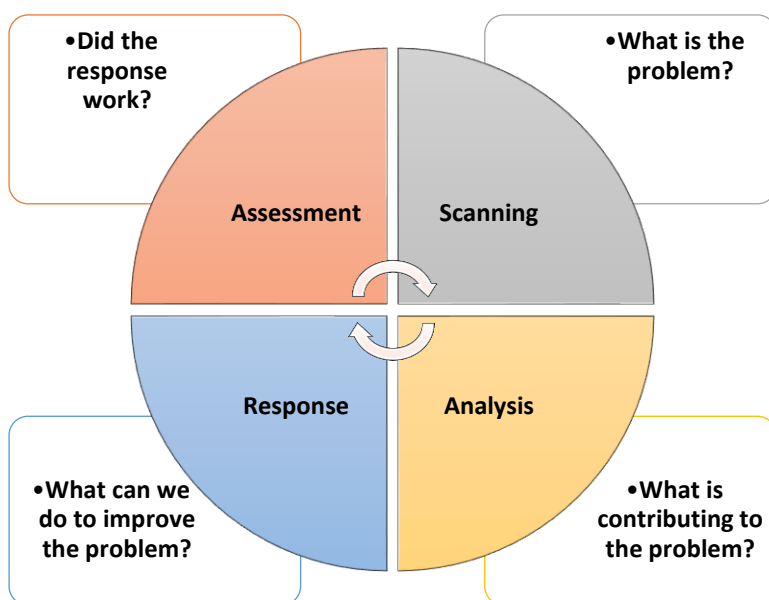
Performance Management and Funding

Performance Management

Each Tactical Action presented in the Partnership’s annual Delivery Plan is accompanied by a number of Performance Measures against which progress will be monitored. In setting performance measures the Partnership will employ the ‘SMART’ principles (Smart, Measurable, Appropriate, Relevant, Timescales) to all Tactical Actions to ensure consistency and achievability.

Each Performance Measure will provide either quantitative and / or qualitative data highlighting the impact each Tactical Action is having within its relevant Strategic Priority; these are a strong indicator as to whether an Action is on track, or requires further resources, intervention, or assessment by the Partnership.

The Partnership will take a structured approach to performance measure setting, and problem solving, by utilising an acceptable method. Primarily this will be the ‘SARA’ model, as shown below;



The Chair of the Partnership is responsible for maintaining an overview of performance in respect to agreed Tactical Actions, and addressing potential barriers to successful outcomes, as well as providing updates to the Leicestershire Safer Communities Strategy Board (see accountability structure overleaf).

The Leicestershire County Council lead Safer Communities Strategy Board is responsible for the delivery of the Safer Communities objectives of Leicestershire's Local Area Agreement, and the priorities found within Leicestershire’s Safer Communities Agreement.



At their discretion, the Chair of the Partnership may form any number of Task and Finish Delivery Groups focussing on specific Tactical Actions, or other required work such as the development of Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs). These Delivery Groups can consist of any number of partner agencies and hold their own meetings in addition to the bi-monthly Partnership meetings. Delivery Groups will report directly to the Partnership itself.

The Oadby & Wigston Joint Action Group (JAG) dynamically addresses the most difficult anti-social behaviour cases in a structured and effective manner, and incorporates a ‘People and Places’ agenda focussing on both individual and Community needs. JAG membership is formed of all named organisations in the *Crime and Disorder Act* as well as other appropriate agencies, such as schools and voluntary organisations. JAG members are able to share knowledge, expertise and information in order to understand and tackle the issues brought to its attention, and deliver justified and proper outcomes.

At a quarterly interval, or at shorter intervals where required, the Partnership will provide a complete monitoring return against each Tactical Action to the OPCC for review.

Funding

The work of the Partnership is supported through funding received from the Police and Crime Commissioner, and Oadby & Wigston Borough Council. This funding is utilised by the Partnership to address the Strategic Priorities found within this plan, and is subsequently allocated against the Tactical Actions that sit under each Strategic Priority where related expenditure is required.

All expenditure relating to this funding, regardless of which partner agency is ultimately responsible for its use, must be accounted for to the Partnership and the OPCC via regular monitoring returns.

Where an outside agency is commissioned to deliver work in relation to a Tactical Action, a Service Level Agreement (SLA) detailing the purpose of any funding released to them will be drafted and agreed prior to any expenditure taking place. SLA's will also incorporate the Service Objectives and Specification for commissioned services, including monitoring arrangements, and will be strictly enforced.

Equalities Statement

The Oadby & Wigston Community Safety Partnership is committed to serving all residents of the Borough effectively, and considers equalities and diversity carefully during the Strategic Assessment process as well as in all of its undertaken and commissioned work. This commitment complies with the obligations of the *Equality Act* (2010), through which the Partnership takes its duties very seriously.

The Partnership will pay due regard to ensure people are not excluded or disadvantaged from or through any of its projects or commissioned work because of their protected characteristics including Race, Disability, Gender, Age, Religion or Belief, or Sexual Orientation. Through the progression of its Delivery Plans the Partnership will seek to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, or other unlawful conduct identified in the *Equality Act*.

In order to develop a better understanding of the Community it serves, and ensure that any negative consequences for a particular group or section of the Community are eliminated, minimised or counterbalanced by other measures, the Partnership will use relevant information from its Partners to produce an Equality Impact Assessment for this Strategic Plan and its accompanying Delivery Plans.

The Partnership will also seek to advance equality of opportunity between people who share one or more of the above noted protected characteristics, as well as foster good relations between people who share one or more of the above noted protected characteristics and those who do not.

Appendix A – Population Data

Table A: Population by Age by Settlement Area (Census 2021)

| Age | Oadby | | Wigston | | South Wigston | | Whole Borough | |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| 0 - 4 years | 1,109 | 4.9% | 1,247 | 4.9% | 509 | 6.3% | 2,865 | 5.1% |
| 5 - 7 years | 859 | 3.8% | 894 | 3.5% | 299 | 3.7% | 2,052 | 3.6% |
| 8 - 9 years | 624 | 2.7% | 619 | 2.4% | 206 | 2.5% | 1,449 | 2.6% |
| 0 - 9 years | 2,592 | 11.4% | 2,760 | 10.8% | 1,014 | 12.5% | 6,366 | 11.3% |
| 10 - 14 years | 1,539 | 6.8% | 1,471 | 5.7% | 468 | 5.8% | 3,478 | 6.2% |
| 15 years | 291 | 1.3% | 295 | 1.2% | 102 | 1.3% | 688 | 1.2% |
| 16 - 17 years | 576 | 2.5% | 602 | 2.4% | 158 | 1.9% | 1,336 | 2.4% |
| 18 - 19 years* | 322 | 1.4% | 489 | 1.9% | 143 | 1.8% | 954 | 1.7% |
| 10 - 19 years | 2,728 | 12.0% | 2,857 | 11.2% | 871 | 10.7% | 6,456 | 11.4% |
| 20 - 24 years | 1,291 | 5.7% | 1,182 | 4.6% | 448 | 5.5% | 2,921 | 5.2% |
| 25 - 29 years | 1,189 | 5.2% | 1,391 | 5.4% | 582 | 7.2% | 3,162 | 5.6% |
| 30 - 44 years | 4,252 | 18.7% | 4,656 | 18.2% | 1,627 | 20.0% | 10,535 | 18.6% |
| 45 - 59 years | 4,520 | 19.8% | 5,091 | 19.9% | 1,627 | 20.0% | 11,238 | 19.9% |
| 60 - 64 years | 1,470 | 6.4% | 1,609 | 6.3% | 443 | 5.5% | 3,522 | 6.2% |
| 20 - 64 years | 12,722 | 55.8% | 13,929 | 54.4% | 4,727 | 58.2% | 31,378 | 55.5% |
| 65 - 74 years | 2,336 | 10.2% | 2,982 | 11.6% | 724 | 8.9% | 6,042 | 10.7% |
| 75 - 84 years | 1,579 | 6.9% | 2,085 | 8.1% | 574 | 7.1% | 4,238 | 7.5% |
| 85+ years | 837 | 3.7% | 985 | 3.9% | 213 | 2.6% | 2,035 | 3.6% |
| 65+ years | 4,752 | 20.8% | 6,052 | 23.6% | 1,511 | 18.6% | 12,315 | 21.8% |
| Total Population | 22,794 | 40.3% | 25,598 | 45.3% | 8,123 | 14.4% | 56,515 | 100.0% |

* Amended (1,247 individuals removed, see 'About Young People in Oadby & Wigston').

Table B: Population by Age by Ethnicity (Census 2021)

| Age | White British* | | BAME | | Total Population | |
|-------------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|
| 0 - 4 years | 1,324 | 3.9% | 1,541 | 6.8% | 2,865 | 5.1% |
| 5 - 7 years | 973 | 2.9% | 1,084 | 4.8% | 2,057 | 3.6% |
| 8 - 9 years | 687 | 2.0% | 765 | 3.4% | 1,452 | 2.6% |
| 0 - 9 Years | 2,984 | 8.8% | 3,390 | 14.9% | 6,374 | 11.3% |
| 10 - 14 years | 1,654 | 4.9% | 1,821 | 8.0% | 3,475 | 6.1% |
| 15 years | 323 | 1.0% | 365 | 1.6% | 688 | 1.2% |
| 16 - 17 years | 657 | 1.9% | 685 | 3.0% | 1,342 | 2.4% |
| 18 - 19 years** | 537 | 1.6% | 418 | 1.8% | 955 | 1.7% |
| 10 - 19 Years | 3,171 | 9.4% | 3,289 | 14.5% | 6,460 | 11.4% |
| 20 - 24 years | 1,682 | 5.0% | 1,244 | 5.5% | 2,926 | 5.2% |
| 25 - 29 years | 1,787 | 5.3% | 1,376 | 6.1% | 3,163 | 5.6% |
| 30 - 44 years | 5,026 | 14.9% | 5,497 | 24.2% | 10,523 | 18.6% |
| 45 - 59 years | 6,774 | 20.0% | 4,461 | 19.6% | 11,235 | 19.9% |
| 60 - 64 years | 2,398 | 7.1% | 1,126 | 5.0% | 3,524 | 6.2% |
| 20 - 64 Years | 17,667 | 52.3% | 13,704 | 60.3% | 31,371 | 55.5% |
| 65 - 74 years | 4,587 | 13.6% | 1,449 | 6.4% | 6,036 | 10.7% |
| 75 - 84 years | 3,570 | 10.6% | 672 | 3.0% | 4,242 | 7.5% |
| 85+ years | 1,807 | 5.3% | 227 | 1.0% | 2,034 | 3.6% |
| 65+ Years | 9,964 | 29.5% | 2,348 | 10.3% | 12,312 | 21.8% |
| Total Population | 33,786 | 59.8% | 22,731 | 40.2% | 56,517 | 100.0% |

* Comprised of Individuals identifying as English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish, or British.

** Amended (1,247 individuals removed, see 'About Young People in Oadby & Wigston').

Appendix B – Crime and ASB Heat Maps

| Monthly Reported & Detected Crime Heat Map | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar |
| 2011-12 | 284 | 266 | 250 | 249 | 262 | 233 | 217 | 227 | 208 | 226 | 218 | 204 |
| 2012-13 | 168 | 187 | 173 | 262 | 177 | 195 | 202 | 234 | 179 | 192 | 180 | 192 |
| 2013-14 | 189 | 194 | 227 | 255 | 241 | 188 | 227 | 221 | 176 | 167 | 155 | 159 |
| 2014-15 | 207 | 206 | 214 | 211 | 214 | 215 | 227 | 181 | 191 | 198 | 155 | 221 |
| 2015-16 | 157 | 162 | 199 | 171 | 270 | 176 | 206 | 212 | 171 | 216 | 219 | 167 |
| 2016-17 | 183 | 206 | 194 | 218 | 206 | 217 | 213 | 281 | 220 | 254 | 228 | 256 |
| 2017-18 | 286 | 259 | 230 | 237 | 273 | 266 | 331 | 288 | 256 | 309 | 286 | 247 |
| 2018-19 | 286 | 331 | 319 | 267 | 326 | 327 | 332 | 304 | 275 | 277 | 258 | 289 |
| 2019-20 | 322 | 323 | 291 | 292 | 260 | 308 | 288 | 305 | 288 | 299 | 275 | 6 |
| 2020-21 | 233 | 236 | 265 | 252 | 272 | 273 | 250 | 345 | 279 | 244 | 260 | 286 |
| 2021-22 | 271 | 269 | 356 | 285 | 313 | 325 | 287 | 333 | 306 | 309 | 351 | 331 |
| 2022-23 | 322 | 358 | 301 | 357 | 320 | 340 | 326 | 344 | 267 | 344 | 345 | 348 |
| 2023-24 | 341 | 362 | 356 | 320 | 276 | 312 | 306 | 307 | 335 | 324 | 303 | 326 |
| Average | 247 | 258 | 260 | 261 | 262 | 262 | 266 | 280 | 245 | 261 | 251 | 236 |

| Monthly Reported Anti-Social Behaviour Heat Map | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar |
| 2011-12 | 129 | 98 | 109 | 132 | 126 | 115 | 97 | 79 | 76 | 74 | 114 | 96 |
| 2012-13 | 78 | 86 | 97 | 102 | 122 | 92 | 122 | 99 | 60 | 117 | 86 | 126 |
| 2013-14 | 101 | 84 | 95 | 164 | 136 | 79 | 68 | 86 | 57 | 81 | 68 | 114 |
| 2014-15 | 87 | 99 | 77 | 111 | 107 | 100 | 99 | 78 | 16 | 55 | 60 | 92 |
| 2015-16 | 58 | 66 | 64 | 73 | 73 | 61 | 48 | 48 | 55 | 49 | 44 | 49 |
| 2016-17 | 62 | 66 | 82 | 110 | 93 | 93 | 110 | 89 | 75 | 76 | 66 | 74 |
| 2017-18 | 79 | 68 | 80 | 90 | 94 | 59 | 62 | 54 | 70 | 59 | 34 | 43 |
| 2018-19 | 39 | 66 | 60 | 72 | 64 | 54 | 54 | 40 | 39 | 46 | 43 | 46 |
| 2019-20 | 48 | 53 | 53 | 55 | 45 | 68 | 71 | 54 | 36 | 56 | 38 | 41 |
| 2020-21 | 86 | 44 | 65 | 72 | 65 | 69 | 31 | 42 | 41 | 41 | 45 | 54 |
| 2021-22 | 44 | 45 | 50 | 62 | 42 | 37 | 29 | 34 | 27 | 43 | 37 | 19 |
| 2022-23 | 35 | 52 | 46 | 44 | 52 | 51 | 36 | 23 | 22 | 33 | 25 | 33 |
| 2023-24 | 50 | 47 | 48 | 40 | 38 | 40 | 26 | 34 | 17 | 23 | 15 | 32 |
| Average | 69 | 67 | 71 | 87 | 81 | 71 | 66 | 58 | 45 | 58 | 52 | 63 |

(Document is Restricted)