

City of Durham Parish Council action plan for 2022/23

Environment Committee

Council priorities 2022/23	Environment Committee priorities 2022/23	Looking Forwards initiative(s)	How will each objective be achieved?
<p>1. Being an ambitious voice for the city</p>	<p>Engaging with and responding to residents of all ages and backgrounds on environment-related work</p> <p>Mobilise volunteer groups</p> <p>Work with young people and respond to their concerns</p>	<p>Theme 6: A City with an enriched community life.</p>	<p>The Parish Council will be hosting an environmental consultation session with the local community in the Town Hall in June 2022 in order to identify their needs and desires for the year ahead and into the future is concerned. This will include planning where various planting will take place and where representations need to be made on bins, e.g. types, quantity, etc.</p> <p>The Parish Council will also be hosting quarterly meetings with its Youth Environment Committee (made up of representatives from all of the local schools in the parish area) in order to direct funding towards an agreed project led by young people.</p>
<p>2. Enhancing physical and mental wellbeing of our residents and addressing</p>	<p>Promote cleaner air, a cleaner river, green spaces, and streets for living across the city. Reduction in light pollution.</p>	<p>Theme 1: A City With A Sustainable Future</p> <p>Theme 5: A City With A Modern And</p>	<p>The Parish Council will continue its significant investment in Durham in Bloom this year, working together with the Clean and Green team at Durham County Council in order to achieve this.</p>

<p>inequalities in our parish</p>	<p>Reduction in night time noise. Sustainable travel</p>	<p>Sustainable Transport Infrastructure</p>	<p>The Parish Council will also look to re-new its SLA with DCC by July 2022 in order to provide an enhanced Neighbourhood Warden service for the City, in order to tackle environmental issues.</p> <p>The Parish Council will provide funding of £6,000 towards the work of the Wear Rivers Trust in order to support their WINNs project to improve the River Wear.</p> <p>The Parish Council will also continue to promote walking and cycling in the Parish and will respond to local consultations from DCC as the Highways Authority as and when relevant.</p>
<p>3. Upholding the neighbourhood plan and representing the parish on planning matters.</p>	<p>Work with all relevant committees to ensure the climate and ecological emergencies are considered in all planning matters. Sustainable housing</p>	<p>Theme 4: A City with attractive and affordable places to live</p>	<p>The Committee will continue to engage primarily with its Planning Committee to ensure that all new development in the parish is as close to net zero emissions as possible and to respond to new applications in accordance with both Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan Policies.</p>
<p>4. Creating a positive environment for businesses and encouraging tourism</p>	<p>Improve and protect the appearance of the city and its heritage.</p>	<p>Theme 2: A Beautiful And Historic City Theme 3: A City</p>	<p>The Committee will respond to the Council’s Signage Strategy by July 2022.</p> <p>The Committee will also fund new information boards promoting the heritage of our City.</p>

to improve prosperity of parish		with a diverse and resilient economy	The Committee will have delivered no fewer than 7 blue plaques as part of the Committees scheme to promote important people, buildings and events in the parish.
5. Taking action to combat the climate and ecological emergencies.	Be proactive and collaborate with all partners (including Parish Council committees, Durham County Council, residents, developers, landlords, and other businesses) to coordinate our impact on the climate and ecological emergencies and increase community resilience. Encourage sustainable Travel Increased awareness and action on climate change. Tackle the ecological emergency	Theme 1: A City With A Sustainable Future Theme 5: A City With A Modern And Sustainable Transport Infrastructure	The Environment Committee will continue to engage with all local partners to support key objectives and projects which improve the quality of life for our residents and support tackling carbon emissions, etc.

Planning Committee

Council priorities 2022/23	Planning Committee priorities 2022/23	Looking Forwards initiative(s)	How will each objective be achieved?
1. Being an ambitious voice for the city	Representing the Parish as a consultee on planning matters	Theme 1: A City With A Sustainable Future	The Planning Committee will meet once every two weeks to consider any and all new planning applications which are submitted within or effecting the parish area. The

		<p>Theme 2: A Beautiful And Historic City</p> <p>Theme 4: A City With Attractive And Affordable Places To Live</p>	<p>Committee will proactively respond to each application, ensuring that local development plan policies are being upheld and the views of local residents are being considered in consultations.</p>
	Consulting the Parish on planning matters	Theme 1: A City With A Sustainable Future	The Committee will make all of its meetings open to the public and ensure that any relevant public comments are included in application responses.
2. Enhancing physical and mental wellbeing of our residents and addressing inequalities in our parish	Ensuring schemes deliver the required levels of affordable housing and adapted housing for the disabled and elderly.	Theme 4. A City With Attractive And Affordable Places To Live	The Parish Council will ensure that all applications are in accordance with development plan Policy 15 of the County Durham Plan which sets a legal requirement on developers to ensure that appropriate housing for the future is being built.
	Promoting the creation and adoption of new Public Rights of Way and ensuring that they are accessible to all.	<p>Theme 2: A Beautiful And Historic City</p> <p>Theme 5: A City With A Modern And Sustainable</p>	<p>The Parish Council has already submitted applications to the County Council – 300 in total (almost all for bridleways or restricted byways).</p> <p>The Parish Council will work proactively with DCC this year to ensure that they are properly assessed, consulted on and determined. The first few of those are now</p>

		Transport Infrastructure	<p>starting to complete the legal process and be added to the Definitive Map. There are also a few footpath applications, mainly based on user evidence.</p> <p>Note: The Government has just scrapped the 2026 cut-off date to have historic rights of way registered.</p>
	Protecting our green infrastructure and assets within our parish boundary and ensuring that they are used to the best possible public benefit.	<p>Theme 1: A City With A Sustainable Future</p> <p>Theme 2: A Beautiful And Historic City</p>	<p>The Planning Committee will work to ensure that the green infrastructure in the parish is protected for all to enjoy. This involves considering each new scheme and making sure that any adverse impact on green infrastructure is mitigated against.</p>
3. Upholding the neighbourhood plan and representing the parish on planning matters.	Upholding the development plans for the area i.e. Neighbourhood Plan and County Durham Plan.	Theme 1: A City With A Sustainable Future	<p>The Committee will respond to each new scheme in accordance with the development plans for the area.</p> <p>As part of the adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan, the Parish Council has also agreed to keep its Neighbourhood Plan</p>

		<p>Theme 2: A Beautiful And Historic City</p> <p>Theme 4: A City With Attractive And Affordable Places To Live</p>	<p>under annual review. The next date for review will be in September 2022.</p>
	<p>To maintain and develop an evidence-base to update the Neighbourhood Plan and comment on planning applications.</p>	<p>Theme 1: A City With A Sustainable Future</p> <p>Theme 2: A Beautiful And Historic City</p> <p>Theme 4: A City With Attractive And Affordable Places To Live</p>	<p>As part of the adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan, the Parish Council has also agreed to keep its Neighbourhood Plan under annual review. The next date for review will be in September 2022.</p>
	<p>Protecting our World Heritage Site, Conservation Areas and</p>	<p>Theme 2: A Beautiful And Historic City</p>	<p>The Parish Council will ensure that all new development proposals are in accordance</p>

	designated and non-designated heritage assets.		with CDP Policies 44 and 45 and DCNP Policies H1 and H2. The Parish Council will also play an active role in seeking to make Durham Redhills site a UNESCO World Heritage Site this year.
	Delivering a Conservation Area Management Plan	Theme 2: A Beautiful And Historic City	The Parish Council, together with the other funding partners already identified, will recruit a Conservation Officer by December 2022 with a 12-month delivery plan towards the production and adoption of a Conservation Area Management Plan.
	Protecting against overdevelopment	Theme 1: A City With A Sustainable Future Theme 2: A Beautiful And Historic City Theme 4: A City With Attractive And Affordable Places To Live	The Committee will respond to each new development proposal within the Parish and ensure that overdevelopment is mitigated.
	Delivering an enhanced planning enforcement service for the parish	Theme 1: A City With A	The Parish Council will provide funding to the local planning authority of £10,000 towards

		<p>Sustainable Future</p> <p>Theme 2: A Beautiful And Historic City</p> <p>Theme 4: A City With Attractive And Affordable Places To Live</p>	<p>an enhanced 10hour/ week enforcement service. There will be an expectation that this will support clearing the 6-month backlog on enforcement cases within 12 months.</p>
<p>4. Creating a positive environment for businesses and encouraging tourism to improve prosperity of parish</p>	<p>Supporting accommodation above retail units in the City centre.</p>	<p>Theme 1: A City With A Sustainable Future</p> <p>Theme 4: A City With Attractive And Affordable Places To Live</p>	<p>The Parish Council will support all planning applications which provide accommodation to the upper floors of high street business premises where it can be evidenced that the rent from the accommodation helps to support the rent to the ground floor businesses premises and that the business operation is retained.</p>
	<p>Supporting tourist attractions and transport infrastructure for the visitor economy</p>	<p>Theme 1: A City With A Sustainable Future</p>	<p>The Committee will support all new proposals which are aimed at promoting the City to visitors.</p>

5. Taking action to combat the climate and ecological emergencies.	Putting green future at the heart of planning considerations	Theme 1: A City With A Sustainable Future Theme 2: A Beautiful And Historic City	The Committee will establish a model for assessing new applications are meeting the criteria for near net zero by December 2022. This will ensure that all new development is having minimal impact on the City.
	Resisting schemes which do not deliver net zero by 2030 and supporting those which do.	Theme 1: A City With A Sustainable Future	The Committee will ensure that all schemes include renewable energy resources such as PV cells, ground source heat pumps, electric vehicle charging points, etc.

Business Committee

Council priorities	Business Committee Priorities	Looking Forwards initiative(s)	How will each objective be achieved?
1. Being an ambitious voice for the city	Engaging with local businesses	Theme 3: A City with a diverse and resilient economy	The Committee will establish a WhatsApp group of all local businesses in order to improve communications and engagement with local businesses.

			The Committee will also host quarterly meetings with business owners in the parish area.
2. Enhancing physical and mental wellbeing of our residents and addressing inequalities in our parish	Promoting responsible businesses	Theme 3: A City with a diverse and resilient economy	The Committee will work together with its Environment Committee to introduce its "celebrating plastic-free businesses" awards by November 2022.
3. Upholding the neighbourhood plan and representing the parish on planning matters.	Supporting new businesses in empty units across the city	Theme 3: A City with a diverse and resilient economy	The Parish Council will support all planning applications which provide accommodation to the upper floors of high street business premises where it can be evidenced that the rent from the accommodation helps to support the rent to the ground floor businesses premises and that the business operation is retained.
4. Creating a positive environment for businesses and encouraging tourism to improve prosperity of parish	Marketing Durham as a place to visit	Theme 3: A City with a diverse and resilient economy Theme 5: A City with a modern and sustainable transport infrastructure	The Committee has established a new e-commerce website to promote the independent offer in Durham City. The aim by December 2022 is to have 120 businesses signed up to the Totally Locally brand.
	Contracting professional support for local businesses in the city	Theme 3: A City with a diverse and resilient economy	The Parish Council will continue with its contrary with local retail expert Graham Sault in order to provide support to all independent local businesses in the City.

	Promoting businesses in the city centre and encouraging a variety of businesses to ensure wide range of choice for visitors	Theme 3: A City with a diverse and resilient economy	<p>The Committee will provide additional funding to Visit County Durham in order to help promote the retail and independent offer which exists in the City.</p> <p>The Committee will also host a series of events throughout this year in order to drive extra footfall to the City.</p>
5. Taking action to combat the climate and ecological emergencies.	Reducing food miles by encouraging the use of local suppliers	<p>Theme 3: A City with a diverse and resilient economy</p> <p>Theme 6: A City with an enriched community life</p>	The Committee will host a series of engagement events in order to put retailers together with local suppliers to help promote the local offer.

Licensing Committee

Council priorities	Licensing Committee Priorities	Looking Forwards initiative(s)	How will each objective be achieved?
1. Being an ambitious voice for the city	Representing the Parish on licensing matters	<p>Theme 1: A City With A Sustainable Future</p> <p>Theme 2: A Beautiful And Historic City</p>	<p>The Committee will meet once every two weeks to consider all new licensing applications in the parish area.</p> <p>The Committee will also contact residents within a 100-metre radius of each new application site to ensure that they are aware of any and all new applications in their area.</p>

<p>2. Enhancing physical and mental wellbeing of our residents and addressing inequalities in our parish</p>	<p>Ensuring that all new licensing applications and existing premises promote the four licensing objectives.</p>	<p>Theme 1: A City With A Sustainable Future</p> <p>Theme 2: A Beautiful And Historic City</p>	<p>The Committee will assess each new application against the four licensing objectives and the County Council’s adopted Statement of Licensing Policy 2019-2024.</p>
	<p>Empowering our residents to make informed representations on licensing matters.</p>	<p>Theme 1: A City With A Sustainable Future</p> <p>Theme 2: A Beautiful And Historic City</p> <p>Theme 3: A City with a diverse and resilient economy</p>	<p>The Committee will also contact residents within a 100-metre radius of each new application site to ensure that they are aware of any and all new applications in their area.</p> <p>The Committee will also host its usual annual licensing training event for local residents in the Town Hall in February 2023.</p>
	<p>Supporting a cumulative impact policy for the Parish</p>	<p>Theme 1: A City With A Sustainable Future</p> <p>Theme 2: A Beautiful And Historic City</p> <p>Theme 3: A City with a diverse and resilient economy</p>	<p>The Committee will submit a body of evidence to DCC by August 2022 in order to support the introduction of the CIP to the City. This will involve contracting the services of a specialist consultant by June 2022.</p>
	<p>Making licensing as open as possible through hosting an online licensing map</p>	<p>Theme 1: A City With A Sustainable Future</p> <p>Theme 2: A Beautiful And Historic City</p>	<p>The Parish Council will continue to host an online map of where licensed premises are located within the parish area.</p>

	Making the City more accessible to all by representing the needs of all users in relation to pavement and outdoor seating applications.	<p>Theme 1: A City With A Sustainable Future</p> <p>Theme 2: A Beautiful And Historic City</p> <p>Theme 3: A City with a diverse and resilient economy</p>	The Committee will respond to each new highways licensing application to ensure that the City is made more accessible to all by representing the needs of all users.
3. Upholding the neighbourhood plan and representing the parish on planning matters.	Ensuring that the objectives of licensing and planning are aligned.	<p>Theme 1: A City With A Sustainable Future</p> <p>Theme 2: A Beautiful And Historic City</p> <p>Theme 3: A City with a diverse and resilient economy</p>	The Licensing and Planning Committees will merge by August 2022 to ensure that there is a more joined-up approach to these types of application.
4. Creating a positive environment for businesses and encouraging tourism to improve prosperity of parish	Promoting the early evening economy to families and tourists	<p>Theme 1: A City With A Sustainable Future</p> <p>Theme 2: A Beautiful And Historic City</p> <p>Theme 3: A City with a diverse and resilient economy</p>	The Committee will continue with its successful "best run licensed premises" award this year.
5. Taking action to combat the climate	To encourage all new taxi licenses granted by DCC to be for low emissions/ electrical vehicles only.	Theme 3: A City with a diverse and resilient economy	The Committee will respond to the amended Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicle licensing policy by

and ecological emergencies.		Theme 6: A City with an enriched community life	July 2022, seeking to ensure that all renewal and new applications are for Euro emissions 6 or electric vehicles only.
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