

# Annual Report

## 2020/21



Photo © ConnectDerby



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# Introduction

2020/21 presented all public sector organisations with significant challenges and it is important that we reflect on our achievements with pride. We have worked together successfully with our #TeamDerby partners to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and moved quickly to support the city’s recovery.

Alongside this, we have continued to deliver services that meet the needs of the city and improve outcomes; working to make Derby a city with big ambitions, where our communities and residents are happy and healthy.

This document provides an overview of how we have delivered against the priorities in our Council Plan 2019-2023 and should be read alongside our Annual Performance Review.

We look back on 2020/21 with pride and look forward with optimism and hope.

Thank you to all our colleagues, partners, communities and residents for all that you have done for Derby over the last year.



**Paul Simpson**  
Chief Executive of  
Derby City Council



*“I’m really proud to live in Derby, and I’m determined that we deliver on a bold vision and strong plan that shows we care about our communities, and meets our residents’ and businesses’ needs in an open and transparent way, while providing value for money.”*

**Councillor Chris Poulter**  
Leader of Derby City Council



# Spotlight on COVID-19

## #TeamDerby

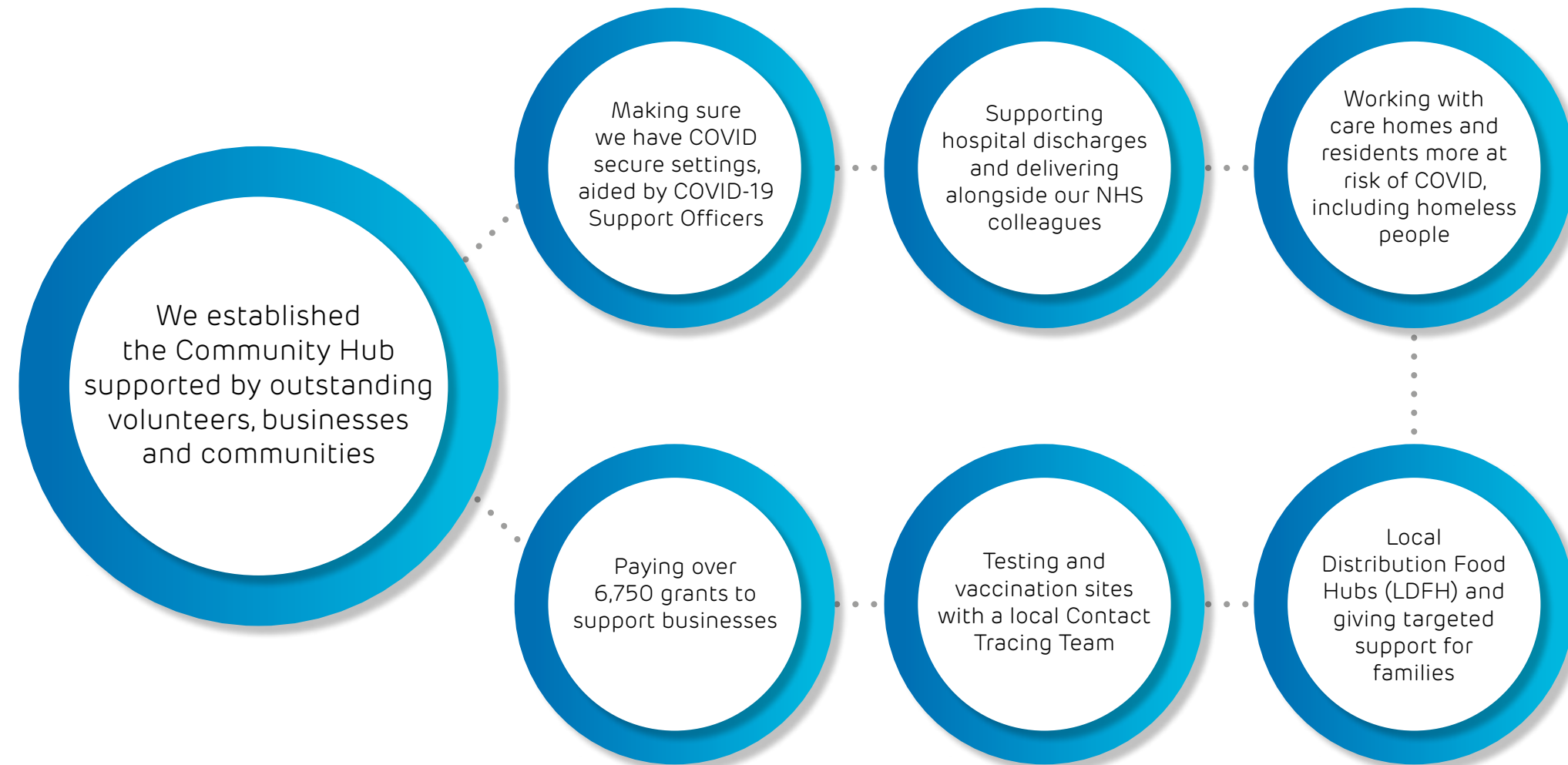
Responding to the impacts of Coronavirus (COVID-19) represents one of the greatest challenges we have ever faced. Our response to the pandemic has given us all a unique insight into what can be achieved when we work together, towards a shared goal.

*"We are stronger together, and at our best when we are working alongside the people of Derby."*





# A local area response to COVID-19



# Building back better

- We established an **Economic Taskforce and Community Board**, alongside a re-formed Partnership Board, as a platform for city collaboration and recovery.
- We launched a £500,000 **Culture Fund** to support culture and arts.
- We worked in partnership to create a **Poverty Commission** and **Youth Alliance** to address some of our 'wicked issues'.
- A £1.75million initiative was launched to encourage **more businesses** to locate in the heart of Derby, alongside the £5million **Ascend programme** to support business growth.
- **Brilliant Derby**, a unique city-wide mental health wellbeing programme was launched for the people of Derby.





# Delivering for Derby 2020/21

## Our place... A city with big ambitions

*Culture / Economy / Regeneration / Skills / Transport*

### Key achievements

- Positive progress has been made on some key **regeneration projects with significant investments into Derby** including **Becketwell, SmartParc and the Nuclear Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre**.
- We generated over **£26 million of private sector investments** in Derby as a result of our interventions, through the completion of 42 Derby Enterprise Growth Fund projects.
- The **A52 road improvement project** was completed.
- We co-produced and published our local area **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Strategy**.
- Working with partners, we hosted some **outdoor and virtual cultural events** over the summer months, recognising the importance of this to our local economy, alongside our health and wellbeing.







## Talk Derby

TALK Derby was a government funded project, run through the Derby Opportunity Area until the end of March 2021. It aimed to help local children develop the speech, language and communication skills they need to succeed in life.

A Derby mum reflects on the improvements in her daughter's communication and language skills thanks to courses for parents run by TALK Derby...

*"It melts my heart to hear her say new words. She talks much, much more now. I would recommend the course to any parent who has a child who they think is having problems communicating."*

# Our people... A city of health and happiness

Children and adults / Health and wellbeing / Housing / Leisure / Neighbourhoods

## Key achievements

- **Supporting the NHS** via the Winter Plan, hospital discharges and managing demand from within the community and primary care.
- Positive progress has been made on our **Moorways Sports Village** project.
- We have re-evaluated our work on **Race Equality**.
- Smart technology has been installed in 200 litter bins across the city, helping to **drive efficiency and reduce littering**.
- Targeted work through the **Disabled Facilities Grants, Healthy Housing Hub and Handyperson Teams** have helped our residents stay safely at home.
- We maintained performance **on 6–8-week Public Health Nursing Reviews** for babies, ensuring they have the best start.





## Beat the Street

Beat the Street encouraged people to walk, run and cycle more instead of taking the car. It helped people explore their local community and discover routes and areas they may not know. More than 26,000 people signed up, and together walked, cycled, wheeled, ran and scooted an incredible 192,100 miles.

*"Age UK Derby & Derbyshire has suffered badly during lockdown with our older people feeling vulnerable and isolated and all our fundraising being halted. We are so grateful to all of the people taking part in the Beat the Street challenge. After all of the months inside we now have the opportunity to get out and get fit, what a great way to do this and rack up the points. We wish everyone involved well."*

Angela Barnes, Fundraising Manager at Age UK Derby & Derbyshire

# Our organisation... Focused on the things that matter

*Delivering for Derby / Engaged / Modern and efficient / Value for money*

## Key achievements

- The **Derby Recovery Plan** 2021/22 was approved by Cabinet in February 2021, alongside the **Medium-Term Financial Plan** both setting out our priorities and spending plans going forward.
- Work has continued to mitigate **key strategic risks**, including records management and the risk of council properties falling below health and safety standards.
- We launched our **new website** in November 2020.
- Positive progress was made in the delivery of our '**Digital by Default**' and '**Digital Workforce**' projects, making sure services could effectively operate remotely and that our customers had access to services online.







## Virtual democracy

At the start of lockdown – like councils up and down the country – some meetings just had to be cancelled because they couldn't safely take place. In early April, the Government brought in new regulations which meant we could legally hold meetings, and vote on decisions, remotely.

Democratic Services and IT colleagues worked together with senior leaders and councillors to host all democratic meetings virtually, broadcast live over YouTube!

*"A fundamental requirement of local democracy is that almost all of the Council's decisions must be made in public – and during a time of crisis and uncertainty, it's even more important that our elected members are seen and heard by the city."*

Alex Hough, Head of Democracy



# Performance and Cabinet portfolio highlights



# Performance highlights

Over the last year, alongside responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have continued to deliver services and support our communities. Some key performance outcomes include:

- supporting **98%** of children, young people and their families to better outcomes through our early help services
- enabling **76%** of older people to stay at home 91 days after being discharged from hospital
- resolving **890** homelessness approaches under the Prevention Duty and **643** under the Relief Duty
- providing **540** new homes and **223** affordable homes
- reducing the percentage of children in care placed in an Independent Fostering Agency placement to **below 70%** for the first time since 2018
- reducing the average number of working days lost due to sickness absence to **10.5 days** per full-time equivalent
- improving the average time taken to complete Land Charge Searches to **14** days
- processing **78%** of invoices in target timescales, alongside the payment of grants.



# Cabinet portfolio highlights

## Strategy and Policy

- Our city-wide response to **COVID-19**, including public health, testing and enforcement activity.
- Working in partnership to attract investment to the city and hosting the **Secretary of State** Robert Jenrick on his visit in July 2020, including a review of our recovery plans.



**Councillor Chris Poulter**

Leader of Derby City Council and  
Cabinet Member for Strategy and Policy

## Finance and Procurement

- We delivered a balanced **Medium Term Financial Plan** for 2021/22.
- Delivering with the city, the work of the **Community Hub** and the **Alliances**, which are shaping how we will support our communities.



**Councillor Nicola Roulstone**

Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement

## Regeneration, Planning and Transportation

- Derby was awarded £15 million from **Future High Streets** to improve our city centre, including the Market Hall.
- The **Climate Change Commission** was launched.
- The East Midlands was named as one of eight new **Freeports**.



**Councillor Matthew Holmes**

Deputy Leader of Derby City Council and  
Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Planning  
and Transportation

## Governance and Licensing

- Working with Derby businesses we have retained **Purple Flag** status for seven consecutive years.
- Repairs to the **Market Hall Roof Coverings** have been completed, and the next steps for the project are to be agreed.



**Councillor Mick Barker**

Cabinet Member for Governance and Licensing

*"Working to make Derby a city with big ambitions, where our communities and residents are happy and healthy."*

### Adults, Health and Housing

- We continued to work with NHS providers to support improved **health outcomes** for residents.
- We reduced **rough sleepers** in the city by working in partnership.
- **Local Area Coordinators** have supported our most vulnerable, across all wards this year.



**Councillor Roy Webb**

Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Housing

### Communities, Neighbourhoods and Streetpride

- **We maintained essential services**, including emptying 99.9% of bins, as scheduled.
- We **improved 171 dwellings and shared houses** to acceptable standards, after statutory or informal action.



**Councillor Jonathan Smale**

Cabinet Member for Communities, Neighbourhoods and Streetpride

### Children and Young People

- By working with schools we **reduced exclusions**.
- We approved **14** new foster carers by moving recruitment online.
- We completed **COVID risk assessments** for all children and families we support.



**Councillor Evonne Williams**

Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

### Leisure, Culture and Tourism

- We launched the **Market Place alfresco dining space**, to support local business and attract visitors.
- Our **eLibrary** made sure books were available for residents during the pandemic.



**Councillor Robin Wood**

Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism

Priorities  
for 2021  
and beyond





# Recovery Plan

Our Recovery Plan was approved by Cabinet in February 2021. It sets our priorities for the next 12-months and the outcomes that we will be working to achieve by working WITH the city. Key actions we will be taking include:

- publishing an updated City Centre Master Plan, to build confidence and diversify
- publishing our new Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Plan, including Race Equality actions
- launching our Better Together programme to create resilient neighbourhoods
- completing a review of our data and systems to make sure we are making intelligence led decisions.



**Collaborative**



**Pace**



**Creativity**



**Community First**



**Outcome focused**



**With the City**



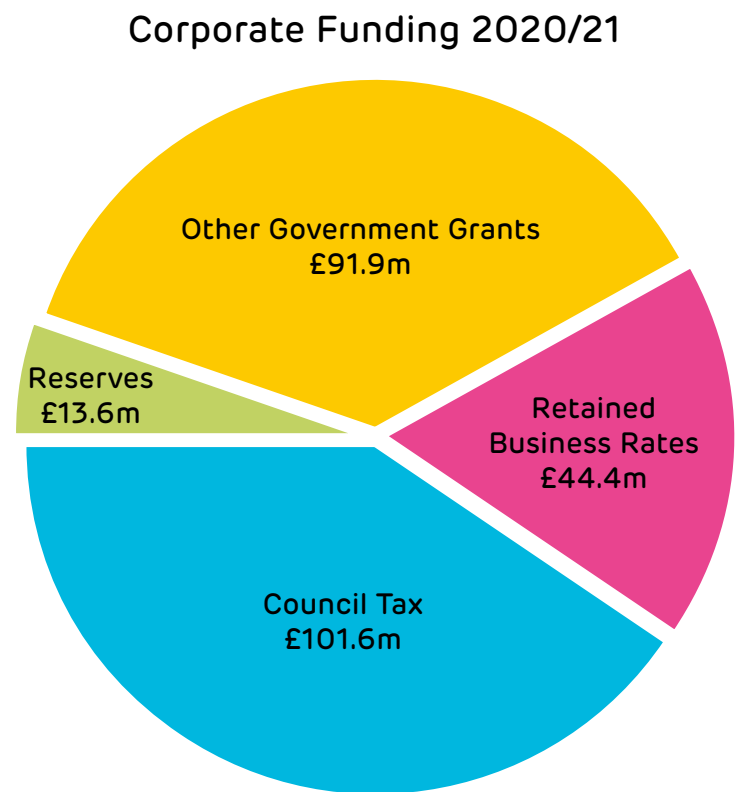
Please visit our website for more information on our **Recovery Plan**



## Our finances

# | Our funding

Our revenue budget represents what we spend each year to run the Council and provide our day-to-day services.

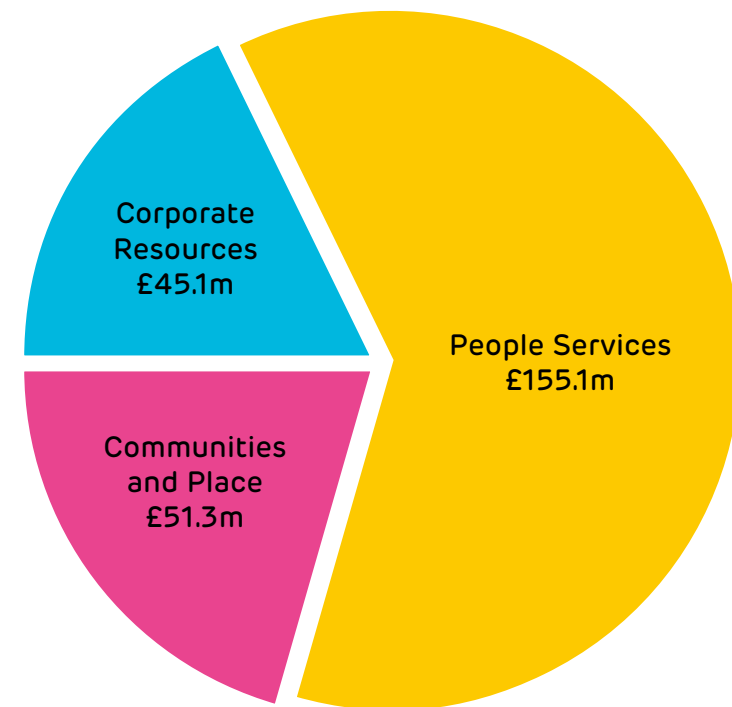


Please visit our website for more information on our **Statement of Accounts**

# | Our spending

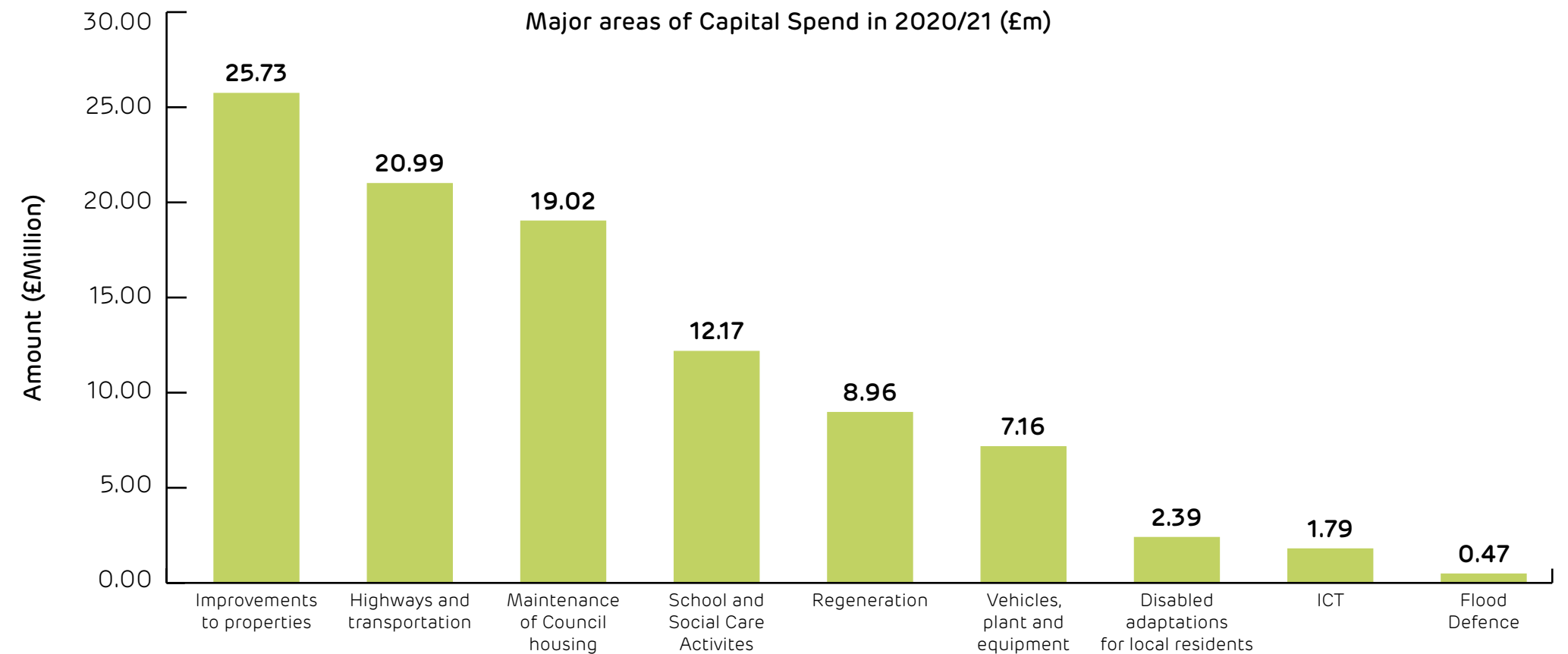
The Council's actual spending during 2020/21 was £251.520 million prior to movements in reserves. The final outturn is a balanced position after transferring £1.892m back to the budget risk reserve.

**Net expenditure by Directorate 2020/21**



# | Capital spending

Alongside our day-to-day costs, the Council spends money on capital assets such as buildings, roads, major maintenance, vehicles and ICT. During 2020/21, the Council spent £98.668 million on capital schemes.



Property improvements made to buildings includes museums, libraries, leisure facilities, cemeteries and the Council House. It should be noted that £20million of the 2020/21 spend relates to our Moorway's Sports Village project.





# Mitigating risks and maximising opportunities

## Key achievements

Key achievements in risk management over the last 12-months include:

- the continued monitoring and reporting of risk registers to senior leaders and Cabinet
- hosting two councillor-led risk surgeries and an officer-led deep-dive risk review
- publishing an approved refreshed Risk Management Strategy and Handbook
- presenting Audit and Accounts with our first risk assurance report
- hosting a risk appetite workshop and a training session for Risk Champions and Project Managers.





# Working with the city

We are proud of our city and all that we have achieved by working together.

Over the last year, our colleagues and partners have responded to the COVID-19 pandemic alongside continuing to deliver the services that we all provide.

By working together we have delivered for Derby.



We can give you this information in any other way, style or language that will help you access it. Please contact us on **01332 640767** or **derby.gov.uk/signing-service**

## Punjabi

ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਅਸੀਂ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਹੋਰ ਤਰੀਕੇ ਨਾਲ, ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਬੋਲੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਦੇ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਾਂ, ਜਿਹੜੀ ਇਸ ਤੱਕ ਪਹੁੰਚ ਕਰਨ ਵਿੱਚ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੋਵੇ। ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਇੱਥੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ: **01332 640767** ਜਾਂ **derby.gov.uk/signing-service**

## Polish

Aby ułatwić Państwu dostęp do tych informacji, możemy je Państwu przekazać w innym formacie, stylu lub języku. Prosimy o kontakt: **01332 640767** lub **derby.gov.uk/signing-service**

## Slovak

Túto informáciu vám môžeme poskytnúť iným spôsobom, štýlom alebo v inom jazyku, ktorý vám pomôže k jej sprístupneniu. Prosím, kontaktujte nás na tel. č.: **01332 640767** alebo na stránke **derby.gov.uk/signing-service**

## Urdu

یہ معلومات ہم آپ کو کسی دیگر ایسے طریقے، انداز اور زبان میں مہیا کر سکتے ہیں جو اس تک رسائی میں آپ کی مدد کرے۔ براہ کرم **640767 01332** یا **derby.gov.uk/signing-service** پر ہم سے رابطہ کریں



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