

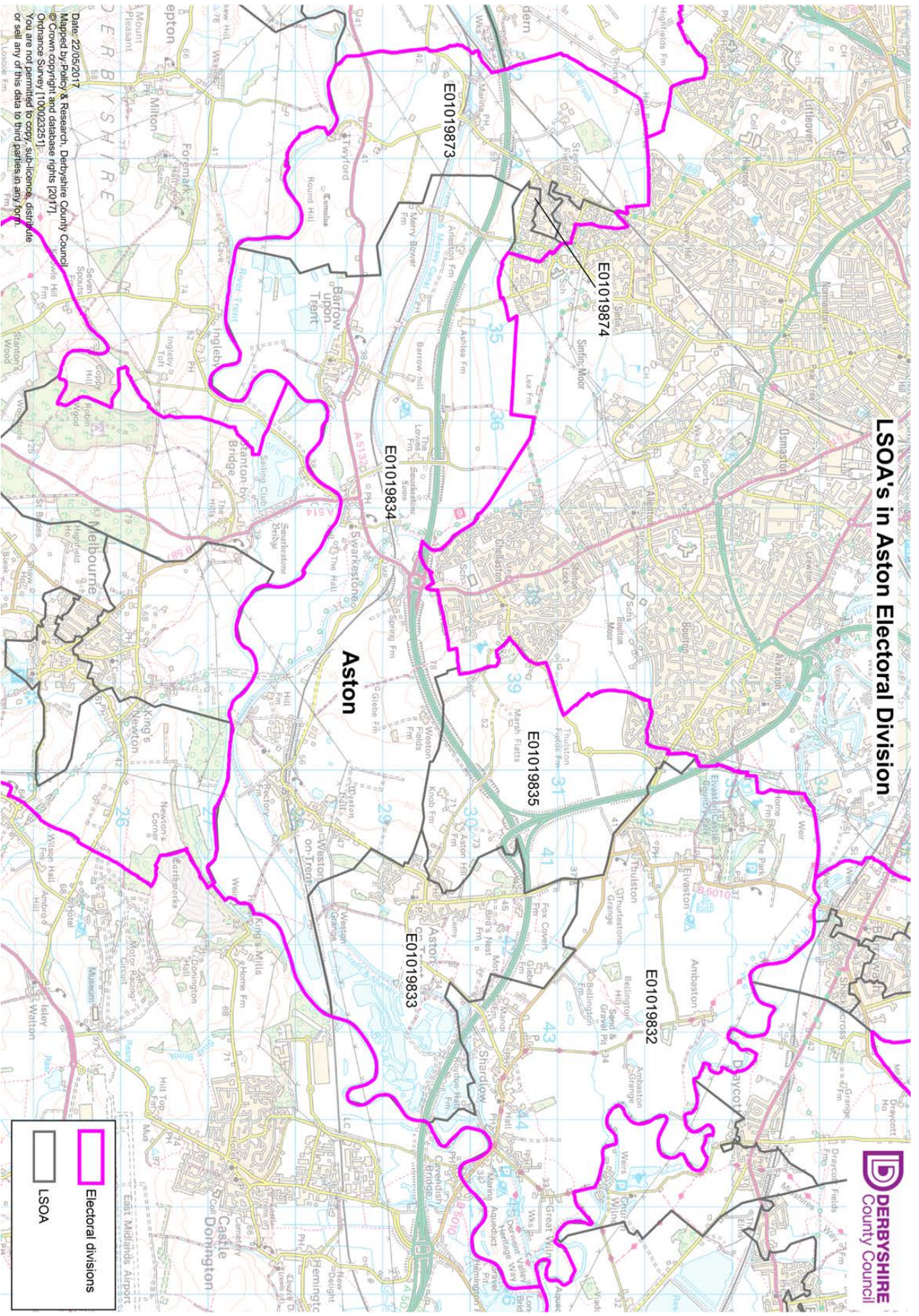
Electoral Division Update April 2020 – February 2021

South Derbyshire

Aston

Policy & Research

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Up-to-date area profiles, key information, statistics and additional maps for Aston are available in the [Derbyshire Observatory](#)

Aston

The update below summarises key projects and activities the Council has progressed from April 2020 – February 2021. Information has been sourced from publicly available information such as the Council's Newsroom and website and Cabinet and Cabinet Member Reports. Information is categorised by Portfolio with on-going COVID-19 actions identified separately.

Adult Care

Countywide

April 2020 – September 2020

- Approved the implementation of the Derbyshire Carers Strategy 2020-25.
- Commenced the implementation of the Older People's Housing and Accommodation Strategy 2019-35 and collaboratively worked alongside partners and developed Local Plans to ensure that housing for an ageing population is reflected as a key issue.
- Developed, published and commenced implementation of the Joint Dementia Strategy 2020-25.
- Approved the refurbishment of three Homes for Older People including; Briar Close, Borrowash; New Bassett House, Shirebrook and Rowthorne in Swanwick. The total estimated costs are £13.150 million.
- Helped, during 2019/20, 284 people through the Disability Employment Service achieve their work goals.
- Continued, through the Derbyshire 50+ Forum Network, to assist older people to help themselves, share information, take action on issues important to them and to connect and socialise. During 2019/20, 56 Open Forum events were supported which were attended by over 2,000 residents.

October 2020 – February 2021

- Published the Winter Plan setting out the plans in place across Adult Social Care and Health in Derbyshire to ensure services continue to be delivered during the winter.
- Continued to better support people to live at home longer and feel part of their local communities using the Thriving Communities approach.
- Maintained the Council's high performance in reducing delayed transfers of care from hospital and continued to progress The Better Lives Programme, supporting timely discharges and ensuring older people are fully supported to return home.
- The portfolio received the following additional budget allocations in 2020/21:
 - **Demographic Growth - £4.5 million ongoing.** To fund the additional costs due to the year-on-year increase in the number of clients supported.
 - **Winter Pressures - £3.627 million ongoing.** To fund the additional services put in place to help reduce hospital admissions and delays in hospital discharges.
 - **Transforming Care Programme - £800,000 ongoing.** To fund the additional care packages for clients discharged from long-term health provision.
 - **Implementation of Better Lives - £533,000 one-off.** This additional one-off budget will be used to fund the balance for the Better Lives project.
 - **Homes for Older People - £3 million one-off.** To meet some of the costs associated with the remedial work and additional staff required to meet safety standards across a number of homes.

- **Care Home and Home Care Fees - £8.787 million ongoing.** This funding is to meet the increase in independent sector fees.

COVID-19 Actions

April 2020 – September 2020

- Closed all DCC residential homes and Older Adults Day Centres and advised the independent sector homes of the Council's position and expectation.
- Distributed £9.741 million from the Infection Control Fund to home care and care home providers.
- Made plans to temporarily open the 'Florence Nightingale Home' to help support Derbyshire residents discharged from hospital who need to rest, recuperate and isolate after suffering from COVID-19.
- Launched a drive to recruit more care workers to support the county's most vulnerable residents during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Undertook regular reviews of people with a learning disability or autism, or who need respite care and where appropriate, adjusted care packages.
- Provided emergency day service provision at Parkwood Centre, Alfreton, for those whom it has been identified as being appropriate to do so.
- Followed national guidance and support allowing family members to visit loved ones at the end of life.
- Put in place temporary arrangements to enable short visits to take place by family members in homes with no identified cases of COVID-19.

October 2020 – February 2021

- Focused on supporting timely discharges from hospital through the Better Lives Programme and the creation of an enhanced reablement offer during the pandemic.
- Supported the allocation of Government grant funding of £336.03 per client per payment towards improved infection prevention and control procedures in care homes.

Corporate Services

Countywide

April 2020 – September 2020

- Established a Joint Venture with Public Sector Plc, focusing on improving, rationalising or developing the Council's surplus property.
- Announced that around 940 employees would transfer to joint venture companies, 900 to Vertas Derbyshire Ltd and 40 to Concertus Derbyshire Ltd. Vertas will continue to work for more than 200 schools and clean more than 253 other sites, including council offices, libraries, adult education sites, depots and children's centres.

October 2020 – February 2021

- Celebrated as the Council's Crisis Response Team were named the winner of the Best Council Services Team category at the MJ Local Government Achievement Awards 2020 ceremony.
- Transferred the Council's grounds maintenance service to a joint venture created with Suffolk County Council to allow the service to benefit from working in a commercial way and deliver better value for money.

- Approved the implementation of the Asset Optimisation (full Corporate Landlord) Model to create value and reduce costs by maximising the full life-cycle of the Councils' assets.

Strategic Leadership, Culture and Tourism

Countywide

April 2020 – September 2020

- Set the lowest Council Tax increase of all county councils for 2020/21, the increase was 2.00% compared to a national average across all county councils of 3.87%.
- Approved 'Vision Derbyshire' setting out ambitious plans for the future of local government in the county.
- Undertook, in accordance with the Enterprising Council approach, a range of service reviews across the Council to deliver more efficient, effective and value for money services. Initial reviews include Human Resources, Communications, Procurement, ICT and Occupational Health.
- Approved the revised Derbyshire County Council Customer Charter and Implementation Plan.
- Submitted the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site Management Plan to Central Government for adoption which sets out appropriate stewardship of the World Heritage Site for the next five years.
- Delivered, during 2019/20, over 370 group visits to libraries; reading engagement, services and products to over 27,600 children; and computer help sessions to over 12,000 people.
- Invited residents in Derbyshire to sign up for online writing workshops.
- Urged people to mark the anniversary of the end of the Second World War by holding events safely in their own homes/gardens and join in the national 2-minute silence.
- Approved £8,000 in award grants:
 - £500 to Cromford Community Centre Association.
 - £500 to The Darley Abbey Community Association.
 - £500 to The Fleet Centre.
 - £500 to The Friends of the Cromford Canal.
 - £500 to Guardians of Strutts.
 - £500 to Heage Windmill Society.
 - £500 to Number Twenty Eight Belper.
 - £500 to Sawmills Village Hall.
 - £4,000 COVID-19 re-opening equipment requirements for hygiene, social distancing and communications.

October 2020 – February 2021

- Approved the Council's contribution of £100,000 per year, over the period 2020/21 to 2022/23, to support Marketing Peak District and Derbyshire.
- Approved the grant award from the National Lottery Heritage Fund for the Great Place Scheme to:
 - Friends of Darley - £1,000 towards an open spaces sensory planting and works to enhance experience of historic garden area in Darley Park.
 - Derby City Council - £500 towards a mobility scooter charging point in Darley Park.
- Commenced the development of a Brexit transition support programme and communications package for businesses.

- Approved the allocation of additional resources to the Members' Community Leadership Scheme by providing an additional £1,000 to each Elected Member to support local projects and activities.
- Nominated for Best Arts Project for Necklace of Stars in the National Campaign for the Arts' Hearts for The Arts Awards 2021.
- Received funding from Arts Council England to take part in BBC 'Novels That Shaped Our World' – a programme that celebrates the novel and reading. Derbyshire Libraries are also offering two free on-line writing workshops.
- Set the budget for the year ahead and agreed a council tax increase of 2.5% which is just half that permitted by Central Government.

COVID-19 Actions

April 2020 – September 2020

- Continued to lobby for additional COVID-19 funding through special interest groups and worked closely with district/borough councils to monitor the financial sustainability on a county wide basis.
- Identified and reported that up to £10 million per month in extra costs and lost income due to the COVID-19 pandemic has been incurred.
- Continued to provide essential services during the pandemic and at the earliest opportunity, re-opened those services that had closed.
- Invited residents to join Full Council and Cabinet meetings online.
- Established the Community Response Unit, matching volunteers with residents in Derbyshire who are shielding, struggling, have tested positive and do not have friends or family to assist them.
- Doubled the amount of Community Leadership money available to Elected Members to help local groups in their areas, equating to a total allocation of £247,000.
- Ensured that online information, resources and contact details helping to keep residents safe during the pandemic were easily accessible and up to date.
- Supported on-line digital library resources which saw over 1,100 residents register for the first time during the pandemic.
- Reminded residents that they can download free daily newspapers and magazines from the online library service. More than 32,000 eMagazines and more than 17,000 eBooks and eAudiobooks were borrowed during the first lockdown.
- Ensured that a team of specialist librarians were available to support a non-digital enquiry service during the pandemic. Staff were on-hand to help with technical support, help with queries and research or signposting.
- Received £22,500 from the Arts Council England to commission artists and performers to develop work in response to the pandemic.
- Organised on-line children's story reading as part of the library service.
- Marked the bicentenary of the birth of Florence Nightingale by honouring nurses and care workers as they continue to work under difficult circumstances to care for people during the COVID-19 outbreak.

October 2020 – February 2021

- Organised for industry leaders to meet with MPs, the Leader of Derbyshire County Council and representatives from Marketing Peak District and Derbyshire to discuss the impact of COVID-19 on tourism in the county.
- Supported key visitor areas alongside 60 town and local centres to re-open after lockdowns ended.

Clean Growth and Regeneration

Countywide

April 2020 – September 2020

- Joined the Countryside Climate Network, a group of leaders committed to looking after nature, addressing climate change and making communities stronger.
- Commenced work on a countywide capacity and scoping study, to identify suitable sites for renewable energy generation along with battery storage.
- Commenced work to compile detailed climate projections which will provide information on the likely climate scenarios the county will experience over the next 60 years.
- Commenced the development of a low emission mobility and infrastructure pilot programme across the National Park, Peak Resort and Chesterfield Station.
- Urged Derbyshire residents to apply for a new Government Green Homes Grant and also reminded them to only use approved and checked traders to carry out work.
- Pledged to work with partners to support Rolls-Royce employees after the company announced that it was to shed 9,000 jobs.
- Reminded small and medium size businesses of the apprenticeship support which is available and funded by the County Council.

October 2020 – February 2021

- Commenced the development of low emission mobility and infrastructure pilot programmes across the National Park, Peak Resort and Chesterfield Station.
- Implemented the Carbon Reduction Plan to reduce emissions from Council owned buildings and operations, overall, a 55.3% reduction has been achieved between 2009/10 and 2019/20.
- Delivered measures to encourage more people to choose sustainable methods of travel, create healthier lifestyles and reduce carbon emissions.
- Supported communities to take action to tackle climate change within their local areas through our new Green Action Grants Programme.
- Approved a grant of £60,000 per annum for three years to the University of Derby to support the Green Entrepreneurs Programme.
- Secured £6,222 million of funding to support wider 'good growth' and regeneration ambitions; this is made up of £3.808 million for the A61 Corridor, £1 million for Ashbourne Airfield, £930,000 for helping sustain public transport, and £477,000 to aid the safe re-opening of town centres.
- Launched the National Kickstart Scheme providing engagement with 550 Derbyshire businesses to provide high quality work placement opportunities.
- Worked with economic partners to deliver almost 100 webinars to support local businesses.
- Started the development of a programme of work to address 'digital not spots', including interventions to support 5G roll out.
- Developed proposals, which will be supported by additional interventions for the medium to long term which include:
 - Sector deals – 'Green Enterprise Zone'.
 - International collaboration with Toyota City on living and moving sustainably.
 - Phase 3 of the Market Towns Renewal Programme.
 - Major Place Programme – Derwent Valley Corridor, Trent Valley Transformation, low carbon energy generation.
 - Skills development for green and new economies, new profiles.

- Delivered the Employment and Skills Strategy Action Plan in line with programmed timescales including improved co-ordination of Council activity, 72.1% of young people aged 16 and 17 were in education, employment and training (for the 3 months of September, October and November 2020).

COVID-19 Actions

April 2020 – September 2020

- Worked with Visit Britain to develop Industry Standards for safe re-opening of premises.
- Oversaw the reopening of 44 town centres and visitor hot spots.
- Welcomed the announcement of the Government's Small Business Grant Funding Scheme and gave businesses who rent Derbyshire County Council premises the chance to defer their monthly rent payments for up to three months.
- Set aside a fund of £15 million to help support communities and businesses to recover from the effects of coronavirus. The fund will focus on creating jobs and growth, supporting the green economy and entrepreneurs and business diversification, as well as apprenticeships and training for young people.
- Allocated £443,000 from the first stage of the emergency active travel fund to make changes to town centres. Funding will help create more space, offer safe cycling and walking routes and install signage to keep businesses and shoppers safe.
- Teamed up with district and borough councils and Derbyshire Police to ensure that businesses required to close during the pandemic remained closed.
- Provided 1,793 businesses with financial support from the Business Hardship Fund and/or guidance and information.
- Delivered 60 webinars with partner agencies including Peak Business, Chamber of Commerce and Marketing Peak District and Derbyshire.
- Held weekly meetings with the district and borough councils to manage discretionary grant funds, town centre openings and café licensing.

October 2020 – February 2021

- Developed and implemented a COVID-19 Economic Recovery Strategy to support business and sector renewal with 3,104 business and start-ups supported by the Council.
- Made significant progress implementing 'rescue and revive' actions in support of local businesses as part of the COVID-19 Economic Recovery Strategy.
- Allocated £2 million for the Green Entrepreneurs Programme from the Council's COVID-19 Recovery Fund to support delivery of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Action Plan and continued development of a low carbon economy in Derbyshire.
- Supported eight funding bids to Central Government for Reopening High Streets Safely including footfall monitoring and environmental improvements to town centres.
- Launched, in partnership with the county's district and borough councils ShopApply.com across all 27 market towns in the County. The scheme allows for local shops and services to display goods and services together in a single town page.
- Set aside £64,000 by Derbyshire Economic Partnership to pay for free unlimited use of the ShopApply.com website for local groups and businesses for 12 months.
- Issued test and trace advice to all Derbyshire businesses.
- Developed a support programme for visitor, culture, heritage and entertainment sectors to help the Derbyshire economy recover as quickly as possible after lockdown.

Health and Communities

Aston

- 32 local businesses within 10 miles of Trent Primary School have pledged to make healthy options available through the [Heart of Derbyshire Scheme](#) (32 were previously identified in March 2020).
- [Trusted Trader](#) has 285 members within 10 miles of Trent Primary School, (267 were previously identified in March 2020).

South Derbyshire

- Maintained the [Derbyshire Directory](#), an online list of community groups, sports clubs, charities and voluntary organisations based in Derbyshire. A total of 97 were identified across the South Derbyshire District.
- Identified 31 local businesses across South Derbyshire that have joined the [Gold Card Scheme](#).

Countywide

April 2020 – September 2020

- Completed, during 2019/20, 20,139 Health Checks, 1,347 people were identified as being at increased risk of heart and circulatory problems and received appropriate support, treatment and advice.
- Supported 4,902 people who have used the Live Life Better Derbyshire MOT Tool to identify how they can improve their health and wellbeing, 1,157 people have been helped to stop smoking and 718 people were supported to increase their levels of physical activity during 2019/20.
- Approved funding totalling £312,000 to help residents be more active and increase physical activity levels across Derbyshire.
- Continued to support residents through weight management programmes, over the last two years over 80% of participants lost weight.
- Approved funding of £43,000 to district and borough councils to continue to deliver existing physical activity programmes until August 2020.
- Approved funding of £633,000 to district and borough councils to continue the delivery of Exercise by Referral and Walk Derbyshire.
- Approved funding of £79,000 to SHIFT to continue to deliver Jog Derbyshire.
- Supported 44,056 people who attended the Sexual Health Service, the Sexual Health Promotion Team engaged with 9,822 individuals, the Your Sexual Health Matters website had 296,323 unique page views and 9,208 sexually transmitted infection tests were carried out during 2019/20.
- Awarded a grant of £524,000 to help increase the support for domestic abuse victims.
- Supported, during 2019/20, over 1,300 victims of domestic abuse with an estimated 10,000 calls taken by the countywide Domestic Abuse Support Line.
- Worked with partners across the county to launch a project that focuses on protecting residents who are fearful of being harmed in their own home by someone previously convicted or accused of domestic abuse.
- Supported a campaign run by the charity Crimestoppers which uses social media and radio adverts to appeal for information from people who are aware of domestic abuse happening to friends, family, work colleagues or neighbours.
- Highlighted new support services available aiming to help reduce the number of suicides in Derbyshire.

- Awarded grants to the value of £6,010 for Recovery Month activities to reduce the harm of substance misuse in Derbyshire.
- Approved a £310 grant to Derbyshire Veterans HQ to support Recovery Month 2020.
- Approved a grant extension of £35,802 to Derby County Community Trust to continue the delivery of the Active Choices Sport and Exercise Programme supporting people recovering from drug and alcohol misuse.
- Supported 3,631 clients during 2019/20 through the Adult Substance Misuse Treatment Service, issued 535,219 syringes by the pharmacy needle and syringe programme and 872 Hepatitis C tests were carried out.
- Completed, during 2019/20, 6,610 new birth reviews, 5,417 mothers received an antenatal appointment and 7,526 toddlers had a 2 - 2½ year review through the Public Health Nursing Service.
- Trained, during 2019/20, 27 champion midwives to talk about contraception choices, focusing on women with vulnerabilities - aiming to prevent unplanned pregnancies and/or repeat terminations.
- Increased the number of local businesses achieving the 'Breastfeeding Welcome Here Award' across the county.
- Approved funding of £150,000 to support continued delivery of the Food for Life programme.
- Expanded Time Swap, the community skill share scheme which, during 2019/20 had 603 members, 95 member organisations, and completed a total of 5,863 swaps/exchanges amounting to 15,048 hours of time.
- Celebrated 'true Derbyshire spirit' during Volunteer's Week, thanking all those residents who volunteer and make a difference to their local communities.
- Successfully brought about a prosecution of a Derbyshire man for making and selling fake military medals and supplying poppy pin badges. Trading standards officers, working with military medal experts, estimated that fake medals made in excess of £72,000 and the sale of fake poppy pin badges around £10,000.
- Supported over 1,100 businesses in Derbyshire with business advice through the Council's Trusted Trader Scheme.
- Warned residents about online adverts for free samples that contain hidden fees or subscriptions and helped a resident successfully get her money back.
- Completed proactive inspections of 287 businesses, seized counterfeit/illicit tobacco with a retail value of over £600,000 during 2019/20.
- Supported, during 2019/20, Derbyshire residents to gain £20.8 million in benefits to which they were entitled through the Welfare Rights Service.
- Awarded the Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group £3,500 in recognition of its work with Gypsies and Travellers in Derbyshire.
- Restated the Council's commitment to equality and diversity in light of the Black Lives Matter movement and continued to work hard to ensure true equality of opportunity exists for all people across Derbyshire and beyond.

October 2020 – February 2021

- Received £200,000 funding from NHS England to support a project aimed at raising mental health awareness within local organisations to help reduce self-harm and prevent suicides.
- Granted approval to increase the investment in the public health 5-19 nursing service to improve positive outcomes around mental health, reduce levels of obesity and support healthy lifestyles and ensure services are flexible and responsive to population need.

- Embedded our newly redesigned universal and targeted 0-5's offer through Health Visiting services and Children's Centres in partnership with the NHS.
- Embedded the 'Pause Project', an innovative programme to address the needs of women who have had multiple children removed from their care and to prevent this cycle recurring.
- Increased the number of people taking part in smoking cessation and weight management programmes to improve outcomes.
- Approved funding from the Recovery from Alcohol and Drug Dependence Grant of:
 - £39,955 to A-Spire Right: Chesterfield Football Club Community Trust
 - £37,098 to Rhubarb Recovery: Rhubarb Farm.
 - £36,682 to Growing Lives: Derventio Charitable Trust.
 - £35,150 to RISE: The Zink Project.
 - £47,736 to Derby County Community Trust.
- Supported Derbyshire primary schools doing their part to ensure the health and wellbeing of pupils by signing up to our SmokeFree School Gates initiative.
- Provided £20,000 to the local mental health organisation, Men Talk, to deliver a digital-based emotional health project aimed at 16 to 19 year-olds.
- Approved a grant of £82,500 towards the initiative 'No Second Night Out', a scheme to support the homelessness population, for the provision of a support worker.
- Backed a national campaign during Talk Money Week which is designed to increase people's sense of financial wellbeing and talk about personal finance.
- Urged Derbyshire residents thinking of buying a pet online to be extra cautious and do their research after receiving dozens of complaints that people are falling foul of dishonest traders.
- Backed a campaign urging residents to be on their guard against unscrupulous loan sharks, residents were offered guidance and information on how to protect themselves and report loan sharks operating in communities.
- Urged online shoppers to be extra vigilant following an increase in parcel delivery scams which have seen victims tricked in to giving their bank details to fraudsters.
- Urged residents, ahead of Black Friday and during Christmas shopping, to take caution when ordering online. Trading Standards Officers recommended residents check where traders are based, use websites of UK-based retailers and look out for well-known brands that are safe for children.
- Worked closely with colleagues at Derby City Council, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Animal and Plant Health Agency to control the outbreak of avian influenza confirmed in captive birds and poultry at premises in South Derbyshire.

COVID-19 Actions

April 2020 – September 2020

- Approved the funding allocation of £50,000 per annum for the financial years 2020/21 and 2021/22 to each district and borough council's Environmental Health Teams to support Derbyshire's response to COVID-19, including the implementation of the Derbyshire Local Outbreak Management Plan.
- Approved the establishment of a Public Health Emergency Fund of £50,000 to support the response of the community and voluntary sector to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Approved £50,000 to the County Shopping Service/Buddy system to develop a county wide approach helping vulnerable/shielding residents in the event of a second wave.
- Encouraged businesses to take advantage of the free resources available and make themselves aware of how the fraudsters were operating during lockdown.

- Worked with partners during Scams Awareness Fortnight to protect residents identified as particularly vulnerable to scams and fraud especially during the pandemic.
- Removed membership fees for over 1,000 Trusted Trader members for 12 months.
- Warned parents not to respond to scam emails asking for bank details in order to make sure they continue to receive free school meals while the schools were closed.
- Approved £150,000 for back to school learning grants to help remove financial barriers to attending school for families affected by COVID-19. Uniforms, school shoes, sports clothes, study materials, stationery, equipment for courses e.g. safety clothing etc has been allocated for 1,500 children at £100 each.
- Supported 200 schools to provide food hampers for eligible free school meals pupils. Other schools provided their eligible pupils with vouchers, or meals on site.
- Approved £100,000 grant to Foundation Derbyshire to support and strengthen food bank provision across Derbyshire. The donation was made from the £1 million fund to support local communities through the pandemic (announced 12 March 2020).
- Approved £40,000 to Rural Action Derbyshire to help feed vulnerable young people over the school holiday period helping mitigate against financial strain and hardship.
- Approved £100,000 to the Emergency Food (Wave 1) in order to relieve financial strain on those not yet already invoiced for food they have had during the emergency.
- Approved £58,000 to the Emergency Food (Wave 2) towards the distribution Centre set up costs, and emergency food parcels stock in preparation for another COVID-19 related emergency response.
- Established a countywide distribution centre at Markham Vale to enable delivery of food parcels and other essential household items to individuals shielding or socially isolating and with no other access to food provision.
- Approved £5,000 to purchase a stock of face masks/coverings for those in financial difficulty (e.g. to be included in food bank parcels).
- Approved £150,000 for emergency cash payments to strengthen support to those in financial difficulty and prepare for any potential second wave demand.
- Approved £20,000 to Derbyshire Healthy Homes to support those in fuel poverty as a result of the pandemic including fuel card top ups or portable heating for up to 400 people.
- Urged residents to contact the Welfare Rights Team should they be worried about money matters and struggling to pay bills or claim benefits during the lockdown restrictions.
- Provided approximately £250,000 match funding to secure and provide emergency accommodation for rough sleepers during the COVID-19 lockdown.
- Approved £125,000 funding from the Government's COVID-19 Emergency Support Fund to establish the recovery service 'Keeping Everyone In' to support Derbyshire's COVID-19 homelessness response.
- Approved £25,000 to NEDDC to help support the Homelessness Recovery Plan.
- Approved £51,000 to the Derbyshire Law Centre for additional court duty/eviction advice service capacity and prevention and mitigation against demand once eviction suspension was lifted.
- Highlighted the national partnership campaign message to respond to a potential increase in safeguarding and domestic abuse issues during lockdown and appealed to residents to 'say something if you see something'.
- Made available on-line information, advice and support for anyone struggling with mental health issues during the pandemic.
- Continued to support residents during the COVID-19 pandemic through on-line resources, phone and video-calls for those who wish to stop smoking, lose weight or

increase levels of physical activity. Smokers and clients with a BMI of over 40 were prioritised due to their increased risk of serious illness as a result of COVID-19.

- Provided Nicotine Replacement Therapy by mail.
- Launched a Weight Management digital offer allowing clients to access a range of online educational and communication options, available in conjunction with individual and group telephone calls with the Weight Management Health Improvement Advisors.
- Approved £143,000 grant contingency to respond to local outbreaks or other emerging needs not already considered.
- Published regular online figures detailing the number of weekly COVID-19 cases in Derbyshire, the number of cases in different age groups, and the rate of infection in each district.

October 2020 – February 2021

- Approved the allocation of funding up to a total value of £89,064 for the implementation of Microsoft Dynamics software package to support the delivery of Test and Trace activities in response to COVID-19.
- Became one of the first areas in the country to roll out community testing.
- Made calls to residents who have either tested positive or been instructed to self-isolate through the Test and Trace Programme.
- Urged residents to follow the Government's lockdown measures and advice in order to stay safe.
- Allocated a further £50,000 to groups in Derbyshire who are supporting local communities during the pandemic. The original £50,000 from the Public Health COVID-19 fund helped 30 groups across the county, the extra funding will allow more work to be carried out.
- Reminded residents that the Community Response Unit offers support and can arrange deliveries for food and prescriptions for residents who have no friends or family to call on. The Unit can also put residents in touch with someone who can have a chat over the phone should they feel lonely through the Befriending Scheme.
- Launched the online postcode checker for Derbyshire so Residents can find out restrictions for their area.
- Approved funding allocations from the 'Coronavirus (COVID-19): Local Authority Emergency Assistance Grant' for food and essential supplies of:
 - £22,000 to DHA/ Derby Law Centre for eviction advice service and help support people 'out of scope' for legal aid who face eviction or a threat to their rented or mortgaged housing.
 - £13,000 to Derbyshire Wish, The Elm Foundation, Crossroads Derbyshire, Glow IDVa services supporting victims of domestic abuse.
 - £32,000 to Marches Energy Advice to work with food banks across Derbyshire providing emergency support on energy use to a minimum of 250 householders at a time of crisis.
 - £3,000 to Rural Action Derbyshire to purchase 'Quids In' magazine as a resource for Feeding Derbyshire activities and foodbanks.
- Reviewed and agreed funding allocations to deliver a range of combination prevention interventions to support the ongoing response to COVID-19 including:
 - £1 million towards additional digital and hard copy communications materials and campaigns, including advertising infrastructure in town centres to promote key messages to inform the public what actions they need to take in relation to their wellbeing.
 - £2.5 million towards Test and Trace as part of a Local Health Protection response.

- £200,000 additional investment in clinical psychologist capacity across the COVID-19 response.
- £1.35 million to ensure that there is a robust mechanism to allow community facing partners to support residents with the development and dissemination of consistent messaging and reach beyond existing communication routes.
- £250,000 additional funding to secure further input and support from Trading Standards and Environmental Health Officers to undertake specific COVID-19 related activity.
- £500,000 to support residents who are self-isolating.
- £150,000 additional funding targeted at specific care homes to help staff to travel safely to and from work and help deliver a range of activities that promote resident wellbeing whilst visiting restrictions and social distancing are in place.
- £500,000 to support to homeless populations and provide face coverings, hand sanitiser, and cleaning products to foodbanks across Derbyshire to distribute to individuals who are not able to afford these critical items.

Highways, Transport and Infrastructure

South Derbyshire

- Started work on a £13.4 million project to build a new road linking Woodville and Swadlincote paving the way for regeneration in South Derbyshire. The project has been designed to unlock land for redevelopment along the route opening up opportunities for new housing and business development.

Countywide

April 2020 – September 2020

- Celebrated as the Council was ranked 3rd out of 28 participating councils for satisfaction in relation to Highways and Transportation.
- Identified that 88% of road defects were completed within target timescales.
- Continued to make good progress increasing fibre enabled broadband. It is anticipated that over 112,000 premises will have access to 'faster' broadband of which, over 106,000 premises will be able to access 'superfast' broadband by the end of the year.
- Invested £500,000 to 'top-up' the Government's existing Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme.
- Saved, during 2019/20 4.6 million kWh of electricity and 2,000 tonnes of CO₂ emissions through the LED Invest to Save Project. This equates to £690,000 at today's energy prices. Since the project started, energy consumption has reduced by 13.3 million kWh and 6,000 tonnes of CO₂ emissions which equates to a £2 million saving.
- Reduced emissions from street lighting by 74% between 2009-10 and 2019-20.
- Purchased eight electric cars and three electric bikes, in addition to three existing folding bikes, for pool vehicles for business travel.
- Installed five dual fast charge points at County Hall for staff and visitor use.
- Installed multiple new electric car charging sites across the county as part of the push to increase the number of charge points available.
- Approved a detailed report which sets out recent flooding across large parts of the county and recommends a series of actions that the Council and partner agencies should undertake.

- Administered a scheme giving eligible properties a £5,000 grant to install flood prevention measures including flood doors, sealing brick work and external walls, replacing air bricks with flood air bricks, flood barriers and re-siting electrical sockets.
- Submitted a report outlining a £35 million investment programme to make Elvaston Castle Country Park a sustainable visitor attraction.
- Urged visitors to take their litter home with them following a significant increase in the amount of litter being left at countryside sites and parks.
- Urged school pupils to apply for a free b_line card, so they can take advantage of the travel discount scheme.

October 2020 – February 2021

- Approved £40 million to be spent on improving roads and pavements across the county over the next 18 months. More than £3 million will be spent on vital maintenance work on bridges and retaining walls and £1 million will be spent on road safety schemes.
- Increased the fibre enabled broadband coverage across Derbyshire for homes and businesses.
- Put together a £40 million programme of highway improvements with 77.5% of road defects completed within target.
- Completed the development and started the implementation of The Derbyshire Infrastructure Investment Plan to support growth.
- Achieved 4th place out of the 29 County Councils (and 109 authorities) participating in the National Highways and Transportation Survey.
- Approved the use of an existing reserve to create a fund of £100,000 to support the Derbyshire Floods Business Hardship Fund and a further £10,000 to the Derbyshire Discretionary Fund to support those residents affected by the flooding following Storm Christoph.
- Published a consultation draft of a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.
- Secured £443,000 to help get people moving on active (sustainable) travel.

COVID-19 Actions

April 2020 – September 2020

- Took advantage of the quiet roads during the lockdown period to fix thousands of potholes and clear and fix damaged drains and gullies following the previous winter storms.
- Re-opened the nine waste recycling sites after the first lockdown and supported more than 60,000 vehicles who passed through the centres in the first four weeks.
- Re-opened countryside car parks in line with Government guidelines.

October 2020 – February 2021

- Approved £10 million funding to support bus services, £5.5 million to contracted bus services.
- Made available grant payments to make up shortfall in bus fare.
- Secured £838,000 in Better Deal for Buses to support further action.
- Commenced work on a critical support programme for public transport to help the Derbyshire economy recover as quickly as possible after lockdown.
- Developed proposals, which will be supported by additional interventions for the medium to long-term (mid-2021 onwards) which include:
 - Mobility infrastructure – demonstrator transport projects, major transport (CSRR, Woodville, Manufacturing Corridor A50/A500).
 - HS2 – connectivity implementation, development corporation, freeports.

- Connectivity implementation – e.g. WIFI enablement across Derbyshire.

Young People

Countywide

April 2020 – September 2020

- Launched the annual 'Foster Care Fortnight' campaign designed to raise awareness, recruit more foster carers and appreciate the essential work carers do to look after children in care.
- Approved, for young people who have been in the Council's care, help with their council tax until they are aged 25, even if they no longer live in the county.
- Reminded parents to apply for infant, junior, primary and secondary school places for September 2021.
- Invited children to sign up to the 'silly squad' as part of the summer reading challenge.
- Approved for 25 Derbyshire primary schools to benefit from over £3 million worth of funding for repair and maintenance works.
- Celebrated as Inspectors from Ofsted praised the Adult Community Education Service for supporting some of Derbyshire's most vulnerable residents to learn.
- Invited residents to take part in a wide range of free online courses.
- Opened the new Highfields Spencer Academy School near Littleover.
- Invited community groups, clubs and charities working with young people to apply for a Youth Activity Grant.

October 2020 – February 2021

- Appealed to residents to join the Supported Lodgings Scheme helping young people leaving care become fully independent.
- Offered careers advice and support, either over the phone or by video call, for people looking to find a new job or training.
- Extended the Raising Aspirations programme to help young people in need engage fully with their education across the county. Since 2015, the programme has reached in excess of 7,500 learners, with all Year 11 targeted participants moving onto positive Post-16 destinations in education, employment and training.
- Allocated an additional £245,000 to the Space4U project for its work in supporting children and young people in Derbyshire affected by someone else's substance misuse.
- Offered a full range of countywide adult education courses and taster sessions, both on-line and in a COVID secure safe environment, for residents wanting to learn a new skill, gain a qualification or learn a new hobby.
- Recommended that Children's services work in partnership with district and borough councils to identify an approach that would enable a care leaver to make an 'expression of interest' for a property in sufficient time to allow them to move in when they reach the age of 18.
- Provide £30 food vouchers over the Christmas period to families of children who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals.
- Urged families whose circumstances have recently changed to apply for free school meals.
- Welcomed Government support to build a primary school in Wingerworth, near Chesterfield, and a new secondary school at Infinity Park, South Derbyshire. Funding

for building work at Somerlea Park Junior in Somercotes and Wilsthorpe School in South Derbyshire was also announced.

COVID-19 Actions

April 2020 – September 2020

- Supported the wider opening of schools on 1 June to 'primary' priority year groups and 15 June for 'secondary' priority year groups.
- Received and distributed computers for vulnerable children to improve digital inclusion and remote learning.
- Organised 'essentials hampers' to be distributed to DCC Foster Carers during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Carried out risk assessments at school crossing patrol sites to ensure that social distancing can be safely implemented for staff, children and their parents/carers.
- Pulled together lots of activities to support home-learning, keep young minds busy and help children get the most out of time at home.
- Ensured Careers Coaches remained available to students and their parents to give advice about future employment, education and training during the lockdown period.
- Extended employment and careers advice to groups affected during the COVID-19 pandemic including students, those who have lost their jobs or been furloughed and employers who need to recruit workers for essential jobs.

October 2020 – February 2021

- Organised free online training specifically for school staff helping support their students who may be dealing with the emotional impact of the coronavirus pandemic. The training covers a range of topics including loss, bereavement, trauma, neuroscience, anxiety and low mood.
- Commenced work on proposals for immediate education support, specifically key GCSE, A-level and graduate cohorts.
- Received the COVID Winter Grant Scheme allocation from Central Government of £2,181,024. In Derbyshire it is proposed that:
 - Approximately £1.66 million will be spent of the provision to families meeting local criteria of vulnerabilities and those families where children are in receipt of free school meals due to low income of the household across the Christmas and February half-term breaks.
 - Approximately £420,000 will be spent on vulnerable adults partially through voucher scheme for care-leavers and via the Derbyshire Discretionary Fund to cover the Christmas and February half-term breaks but also on application throughout the term of the grant scheme.
 - Approximately £100,000 will be set aside for administrative costs but will be reallocated as the scheme matures should this figure prove to be excessive.

Payments to Voluntary and Community Organisations

South Derbyshire - Policy and Research Voluntary Sector Grants

- South Derbyshire CVS to support its core activities in developing local voluntary and community groups and strengthening the capacity of the sector as a whole within the county. This includes development, liaison, representation, providing services and strategic partnership working £15,378

- Specialist Advice South Derbyshire CAB to support its core costs in providing specialist employment advice in South Derbyshire £10,400

South Derbyshire – Adult Care Grants

- South Derbyshire CVS to contribute towards the cost of providing the following services:
 - To support its core activities in developing local voluntary and community groups and strengthening the capacity of the sector as a whole within the county £36,884
 - Provision of a social car scheme £7,406
 - Provision of a volunteer befriending service for all adults in South Derbyshire (known as The Connect Befriending Service) £33,848
- Mencap - Swadlincote Gateway Club, everyone who attends is an adult with learning disability. A range of activities are provided that meet people's interests and support their wellbeing e.g. sports and crafts activities £2,676

Arts Service Grants

- People Express to carry out participatory arts work with disadvantaged groups £16,322

Countywide - Policy and Research Voluntary Sector Grants

- The Chinese Welfare Association supporting the provision of a variety of functions and activities across their communities of interest £2,186
- The Derbyshire Law Centre supporting the cost of providing specialist legal advice, assistance and representation £90,124
- The Rural Action Derbyshire supporting the provision of activities to develop local voluntary and community groups £15,378
- Derbyshire Voluntary Action to support core activities £2,653
- BME Infrastructure support £13,226
- Provide a corporate approach to engagement with BME groups across the county. It supports the two BME Forums operating in the north and the south of the county and engages with hard to reach communities in developing and shaping the authority's services in a coherent way. £15,400

Countywide - Adult Care Grants

- The Derbyshire Autism Services Group supporting vulnerable adults with complex needs within the autism spectrum £26,084
- Age UK to contribute towards the delivery of a Countywide Mobile Information Service/Information Road Show £19,548
- Derbyshire Voluntary Action To support its core activities in developing local voluntary and community groups and strengthening the capacity of the sector as a whole within the county £18,166

Countywide - Arts Service Grants

- Live and Local to carry out participatory arts work with disadvantaged groups £16,028
- Orchestras Live to carry out participatory arts work with disadvantaged groups £24,926

Public Health Covid 19 Fund

The Public Health COVID19 fund was approved to support voluntary and community sector organisations in mitigating the impact of COVID19 on local communities, and work to improve the health and wellbeing of local populations. In the period up to 5 October approval was given to award the following organisations who are supporting the residents across the South Derbyshire Area:

Organisation	Application details	Funding approved
Emmanuel Church (South Derbyshire)	Replacement and purchasing of new kitchen equipment to support community food project	£2,000
Rural Action Derbyshire (Countywide)	Extension of Rural Hardship Fund	£2,000
Derbyshire Autism Services (Countywide)	Request for PPE and materials to develop support resources for autistic students as they return to educational settings	£2,000
Parenting Additional Needs (Countywide)	Support to siblings of disabled children – updating website and delivery of art therapy and outdoor activity programme	£2,000

Approved (4 Feb 2021) the extension of the Public Health COVID-19 Emergency Fund by an additional £100,000 and made further allocations:

Organisation	Application details	Funding approved
Safe and Sound Charity (South Derbyshire)	Additional provision of 1-1 support to young people at risk of sexual exploitation adopting a prevention and early intervention approach that focuses on healthy relationships, grooming, online safety, building confidence and resilience	£2,000
Direct Help and Advice (Countywide)	Additional staffing hours for Rapid response advice support service – providing information and advice on a range of matters including housing debt information, and guidance, careers guidance, employment and skills support and mental health support	£2,000
Stand To Project (Countywide)	IT equipment to support homeworking and continue contact within clients	£1,963
First Steps (Countywide)	Pilot of Stand Up to Mental Health recovery through comedy programme to support young people aged 14 to 25 with mental health conditions	£2,000
Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice (Countywide)	IT equipment for volunteers to support families, and provision of information and resources (including hand gel, and mental health and wellbeing resources)	£1,950
East Midlands Intermediate Care Scheme (Countywide)	Ongoing emergency care personal protective equipment	£2,000

Mental Health Motorbike (Countywide)	Develop an online chat function on the group's website so members can reach a qualified mental health first aider.	£250
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Action Grants

The Council's £1.5 million Action Grants Scheme provides grants for groups, clubs, local charities and other non-profit organisations working in communities across the county.

South Derbyshire (Round 8)

Group name	Activity	Type of Action Grant	Amount received
South Derbyshire Road Runners	To fund run leader training	Physical activity and sport	£420
Findern Parish Council	To fund pump track for bikes/skate park	Physical activity and sport	£10,000
Repton Joint Organisation for Guides and Scouts	Improving the acoustics of their building	Youth	£3,728

Countywide/projects covering more than one district

Group name	Activity	Type of Action Grant	Amount received
24 Fit C.I.C.	To buy equipment for online classes	Physical activity and sport	£500
Derbyshire Autism Services (DAS)	To fund training and activity for physical activity for autistic people	Physical activity and sport	£9,644
Safe and Sound Group and Outreach Pilot – South Derbyshire and Erewash	Developing a pilot outreach project in South Derbyshire and Erewash to reach vulnerable children and young people at risk of exploitation in these areas	Community Safety	£8,980
Brassington Guides and Rangers	Stationery materials, equipment and resources for post COVID-19 lockdown support group	Youth	£492
Adverse Camber	Mentoring, support and staffing for their 'Sky Full of Stories' project aimed at looked after young people	Youth	£4,500
Derbyshire Duke of Edinburgh Award Group	Provision of resources for their virtual Duke of Edinburgh award scheme	Youth	£6,487
Big Theatre	Writing, recording, editing and distribution of a radio play written for and performed by young people in the summer holidays 2020	Youth	£8,200
Parenting Additional Needs	Funding of youth clubs for children with additional needs	Youth	£9,080

Consultations

Consultations inviting views through Derbyshire's [Have Your Say](#) online facility include:

How are your revised bus services?	9 April 2020 - 30 June 2020
Proposed disposal and change of use of former Bennerley school playing fields and a replacement residential care home	14 May 2020 - 2 July 2020
Smokefree Derbyshire School Gates pilot feedback	9 July 2020 - 24 July 2020
School travel survey	15 July 2020 - 31 July 2020
Derbyshire Pension Fund exit credit policy	22 July 2020 – 16 Aug 2020
Culture and heritage businesses and the impact of COVID-19 on Derbyshire festivals and events	27 July 2020 – 31 Aug 2020
Donut Creative Arts Centre (DCAS) Chesterfield service user (young people) survey	14 Sept 2020 - 26 Oct 2020
Donut Creative Arts Centre (DCAS) Chesterfield survey	14 Sept 2020 - 26 Oct 2020
Your Council Your Voice 2020	21 Sept 2020 - 2 Nov 2020
Derbyshire Pension Fund Investment Strategy Statement, Responsible Investment Framework and Climate Strategy	23 Sept 2020 - 14 Oct 2020
Budget online focus groups	25 Sept 2020 - 27 Oct 2020
Derbyshire People's Voice Coronavirus (COVID-19) Survey	29 Sept 2020 - 6 Nov 2020
Derbyshire and Derby Minerals Local Plan - Sand and Gravel Consultation	20 Oct 2020 – 13 Dec 2020
Your Council Your Voice 2020	2 Nov 2020 – 13 Dec 2020
Engagement on occupational therapy remote assessment client survey	2 Nov 2020 – 30 Nov 2020
Budget online focus groups	19 Nov 2020 – 4 Dec 2020
Ashbourne bypass	24 Nov 2020 – 18 Dec 2020
Employee survey 2020	1 Dec 2020 – 20 Dec 2020
East West Chesterfield cycle route	4 Jan 2021 – 15 Feb 2021
Council Plan 2021 to 2025	18 Dec 2020 - 29 Jan 2021
Special educational needs and disabilities increasing educational provision: Call for views	4 Jan 2021 - 29 Jan 2021
Engagement on Mental Health Act assessment service receiver/supporter survey	11 Jan 2021 - 8 Mar 2021
Developing care and accommodation in Derbyshire engagement survey	25 Jan 2021 - 8 Feb 2021
Trusted Trader Scheme member satisfaction survey 2021	1 Feb 2021 - 28 Feb 2021