

Public Document Pack

Executive Board

Thursday, 11 August 2022

Time: 6.00 pm

Venue: Meeting Room A

Address: Blackburn Town Hall

AGENDA

Information may be provided by each Executive Member relating to their area of responsibility

1. **Welcome and Apologies**
2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**
Executive Board Minutes July 2022 4 - 11
3. **Declarations of Interest**
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FORM 12
4. **Equality Implications**
The Chair will ask Members to confirm that they have considered and understood any Equality Impact Assessments associated with reports on this agenda ahead of making any decisions.
5. **Public Forum**
To receive written questions or statements submitted by members of the public no later than 4pm on the day prior to the meeting.
6. **Questions by Non-Executive Members**
To receive written questions submitted by Non-Executive Members no later than 4pm on the day prior to the meeting.
7. **Youth MPs Update**
To receive an update from the Youth MPs along with any issues they would like to raise.
8. **Executive Member Reports**
Verbal updates may be given by each Executive Member.

Leader

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Date Published: Wednesday, 03 August 2022
Denise Park, Chief Executive

EXECUTIVE BOARD Thursday 14th July 2022

PRESENT

COUNCILLOR:

Councillor Phil Riley
Councillor Mustafa Desai
Councillor Julie Gunn
Councillor Jim Smith
Councillor Mahfooz Hussain
Councillor Damian Talbot
Councillor Quesir Mahmood

PORTFOLIO:

Leader of the Council
Adults, Social Care and Health
Children, Young People and Education
Environment and Operations
Digital and Customer Services
Public Health, Prevention & Wellbeing
Growth & Development

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Muhammed Bapu

Youth MP

	Item	Action						
1	<u>Welcome and Apologies</u> The Leader of the Council, Councillor Phil Riley, welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from Councillors Vicky McGurk and John Slater and the Deputy Youth MPs, Hasti Jahanghiri and Isabelle Crawford.							
2	<u>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</u> The Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 th June 2022 were agreed as a correct record.	Agreed						
3	<u>Declarations of Interest</u> There were no Declarations of Interest submitted.							
4	<u>Equality Implications</u> The Chair asked Members to confirm that they had considered and understood any Equality Impact Assessments associated with reports on the agenda ahead of making any decisions.	Confirmed						
5	<u>Public Forum</u> In accordance with Part 3 of the Executive Board Procedure Rules for questions/statements by members of the public, the following questions/statements have been received, details of which are set out below:- <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Name of Person asking the Question</u></th><th><u>Subject Area</u></th><th><u>Response by</u></th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Linda Corban</td><td>Environmental Assessment Plan</td><td>Quesir Mahmood, Growth and</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Name of Person asking the Question</u>	<u>Subject Area</u>	<u>Response by</u>	Linda Corban	Environmental Assessment Plan	Quesir Mahmood, Growth and	
<u>Name of Person asking the Question</u>	<u>Subject Area</u>	<u>Response by</u>						
Linda Corban	Environmental Assessment Plan	Quesir Mahmood, Growth and						

	Item			Action						
		Kingswood Homes Green Hills Development	Development							
	Councillor Mahmood gave a response to the question and supplementary question arising, advising that an Environmental Statement was not required, advising however he would check back with the Department following Ms Corban’s comments that according to her research an Environmental Assessment was required on a site of this size, and respond in writing.									
6	<p><u>Questions by Non-Executive Members</u></p> <p>In accordance with Part 4 of the Executive Board Procedure Rules for questions/statements by Non-Executive Members, the following questions/statements had been received, details of which are set out below:-</p> <table><tr><th>Name of Non-Executive Member asking the Question</th><th>Subject Area</th><th>Executive Member and Portfolio</th></tr><tr><td>Councillor Paul Marrow</td><td>Dangerous Dogs</td><td>Councillor Jim Smith, Environment and Operations</td></tr></table> <p>Councillor Smith responded to the question and supplementary question, advising of the Council’s approach to dealing with dog fouling, noise nuisance and dog attacks, noting that the Council had no legal powers to intervene or assist in seizing or destroying a dangerous dog, which was a police matter, but agreed to see what else the Council could do in terms of dog on dog attacks.</p>			Name of Non-Executive Member asking the Question	Subject Area	Executive Member and Portfolio	Councillor Paul Marrow	Dangerous Dogs	Councillor Jim Smith, Environment and Operations	
Name of Non-Executive Member asking the Question	Subject Area	Executive Member and Portfolio								
Councillor Paul Marrow	Dangerous Dogs	Councillor Jim Smith, Environment and Operations								
7	<p><u>Youth MPs Update</u></p> <p>The Youth MP verbally reported on recent events and activities including :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Progress of the Young Inspectors Programme/Wellbeing Champions Project• The recent Youthforia Event and forthcoming Annual Conference• Forthcoming Residential Visits• In terms of the two Deputy Youth MPs, Hasti was currently having a rest after a very busy period, and Isabelle would			Noted						

	Item	Action
	<p>be stepping down, and would be replaced by Kasim Shah.</p> <p>Councillor Mustafa Desai invited the Youth MPs to get involved in transition work involving the 18-25 cohort, and Councillor Julie Gunn reflected on the ongoing positive work of the Youth MPs.</p>	
8.1	<p><u>NHS Health and Social Care Integrated System Governance Update</u></p> <p>The Executive Board was provided with an update on key matters in relation to health and care system reform in 2022/23, including the establishment of the Lancashire and South Cumbria Health and Care Partnership and were asked to endorse the Terms of Reference, attached as Appendix A, associated with the Health and Care Partnership.</p> <p>The four Upper Tier Local Authorities in Lancashire and South Cumbria (with engagement with North Yorkshire County Council due to some cross boundary areas) and the Integrated Care Board (ICB) had a requirement to ensure appropriate arrangements were in place to establish an interim Lancashire and South Cumbria Health and Care Partnership (known nationally as the Integrated Care Partnership) from 1st July 2022. Working collectively the local authorities and the ICB had now set out proposals for the immediate next steps for the HCP in terms of Phase One - Set Up (May – June) and Phase Two - Development (July – December). This will enable organisations to meet the new statutory requirements, focus on agreeing what they would do together and deliver, rather than creating undue process or complex governance, and allow time to build a new culture of partnership working for Lancashire and South Cumbria.</p> <p>Formally established on 1st July 2022, the ICB, an NHS statutory body, would take on the NHS commissioning functions of CCGs as well as some of NHS England's commissioning functions. It would also be accountable for NHS spend and performance within the Lancashire & South Cumbria system.</p> <p>RESOLVED -</p> <p>That the Executive Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the update provided in relation to establishing the Integrated Care Board, the Health and Care Partnership and the Place Based Partnerships in Lancashire and South Cumbria; and • Endorse the proposed Terms of Reference for the Health and Care Partnership as attached at Appendix A 	<p>Noted</p> <p>Approved</p>

	Item	Action
8.2	<p><u>Schools Estates and Capital Variation</u></p> <p>A report was submitted which presented for approval variations to the 2021/2022 schools capital programme to enable necessary repairs and maintenance at four schools.</p> <p>RESOLVED –</p> <p>That the Executive Board:</p> <p>Approves a variation to the 2021/2022 schools capital programme to include new projects including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £250k for immediate roof repairs to Newfield School (complex needs building) • £20k for immediate repairs to the MUGA pitch on Troy Street, Blackburn • £35k for a replacement boiler at Belmont Primary School • £25k for a replacement water main at Longshaw Junior School. 	Approved
8.3	<p><u>Changing Futures Funding</u></p> <p>Members received a report which advised that the Council was the lead authority for a Lancashire wide integrated support programme for the most disadvantaged adults across the whole county named Changing Futures.</p> <p>The Changing Futures Programme was funded by the Department of Levelling Up Housing and Communities (DLUHC) and The National Lottery Community Fund. On behalf of the partners BwD Council would receive a total of £6.499million over 3 years through to 2023-24. Programme delivery was split across 4 Changing Futures locality footprints.</p> <p>The Council was hosting the core programme delivery team and was the lead authority for Pennine, covering BwD and the 5 East Lancashire boroughs. The Council had led the development of a robust road map to collect data to fulfil the programme data requirements, supported by data sharing frameworks. The Lancashire programme was one of the most developed nationally in terms of partnerships and delivery and had reached the point at which delivery with beneficiaries would begin soon.</p> <p>RESOLVED- That the Executive Board:</p> <p>That Executive Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note and endorse the Council's role as lead authority and accountable body; and • Note the approach to financial management through MOU's with lead authorities across Lancashire. 	<p>Noted and Approved</p> <p>Noted and Approved</p>

	Item	Action
8.4	<p><u>Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 Procedure and Guidance</u></p> <p>The Executive Board received a report requesting approval of the newly drafted corporate RIPA Procedure and Guidance which was compliant with the latest Home Office Statutory Codes of Practice and which informed the Board that once this was approved the recommendations made by the Inspector from the Investigatory Powers Commissioners Office in 2019 would have been followed.</p> <p>RESOLVED – The Executive Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agrees to adopt the new Procedure and Guidance see Appendix 1, and • Note that the recommendations of the last inspection including ensuring that the Procedure and Guidance complies with the new Codes of Practice and undertaking the required training have been followed. 	<p>Approved</p> <p>Noted</p>
8.5	<p><u>Land at Lower Phillips Road</u></p> <p>Members received a report outlining a request from an existing leaseholder and tenant of the Council to acquire the Council's freehold interest of the land they currently occupied.</p> <p>The report sought approval to authorise the Strategic Director, Growth and Development to enter into a building licence and subsequently to dispose of the Council's freehold interest in land at Philips Road, Whitebirk, Blackburn. The land at Philips Road was currently occupied by way of a 99 year ground lease with effect from 31 December 1972 (50 years unexpired).</p> <p>By disposing of the freehold, this would allow the existing tenant to invest in new buildings, machinery and facilities that would retain this important employer in the Borough.</p> <p>RESOLVED –</p> <p>That the Executive Board:</p> <p>2.1 Approve the disposal of the Council's freehold interest to the current occupier as Special Purchaser.</p> <p>2.2 Authorise the Growth Programme Director to finalise and complete the terms of the disposal.</p> <p>2.3 Authorises the Deputy Director for Legal and Governance to complete the necessary legal formalities in the disposal process.</p>	<p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p>
8.6	<p><u>Revenue Outturn Report 2021/22 Quarter 4</u></p> <p>A report was submitted on the overall revenue financial position of the Council for the year ended 31st March 2022, highlighting any</p>	

	Item	Action
	<p>significant issues and explaining variations in the final quarter of the financial year. Also to determine the year end position with regard to portfolio under/overspends and the impact on earmarked and unallocated reserves.</p> <p>RESOLVED -</p> <p>The Executive Board is asked to approve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the portfolio budget adjustments outlined in Appendix 1 the outturn summary provided in Appendix 2 the earmarked reserves position shown in Appendix 3 	Approved
8.7	<p><u>Corporate Capital Budget and Balance Sheet Monitoring Report 2021/22 Quarter 4</u></p> <p>Members received a report on the overall financial position of the Council in respect of the capital programme as at 31st March 2022, highlighting key issues and explaining variations at the year end with regard to scheme under/overspends and slippage since the last report to the Executive Board in February 2022.</p> <p>RESOLVED -</p> <p>The Executive Board is asked;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to approve the revised capital programme as per Appendix 1, to approve the variations to the programme shown in Appendix 2. 	<p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p>
8.8	<p><u>Treasury Management Outturn Report 2021/22</u></p> <p>Members received a report on the Treasury outturn for 2021/22.</p> <p>RESOLVED -</p> <p>The Executive Board is asked;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to note the outturn position for 2021/22, and; to note the updated PWLB lending guidance. 	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
9.1	<p><u>Vehicle Replacement Programme</u></p> <p>The Executive Board received a report which advised that the Council's vehicle replacement programme had identified that a number of teams across the Council had vehicles that were ageing and needed replacing. There were also a number of hired vehicles on the Council's fleet which was not the most economical way of providing vehicles for the various services, so a recommended approach was outlined in the report submitted.</p>	

	Item	Action
	<p>RESOLVED -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is recommended that Executive Board authorise the replacement of these old and hired vehicles, and the addition of £1,300,000 to the capital programme for this purpose, as part of the Council's vehicle replacement programme. That delegated authority is given to the Director of Finance to determine the most appropriate method of financing the acquisition of these vehicles. 	<p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p>
9.2	<p><u>Disposal of Plot 4 Millbank, Lower Darwen</u></p> <p>Approval was sought to proceed with the sale of Plot 4 at Millbank Business Park, Lower Darwen, via Barnfield Blackburn Ltd, a company in which the Council was part shareholder.</p> <p>Hippo Vehicle Solutions Ltd had made an offer to purchase the site and the provisional Heads of Terms agreed, were detailed in the Part 2 Report submitted at Agenda Item 11.1.</p> <p>RESOLVED –</p> <p>2.1 Approve that the Council as shareholder of Barnfield Blackburn Ltd authorises the nominated Council Directors to sign off the sale of Plot 4 Millbank Business Park, Lower Darwen (shown edged red on the attached plan) to Hippo Vehicle Solutions Ltd.</p> <p>2.2 Authorise the nominated Council Directors to finalise and complete the terms of the disposal.</p> <p>AT THIS STAGE OF THE PROCEEDINGS THE PRESS AND PUBLIC WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING.</p>	<p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p>
11.1	<p><u>Disposal of Plot 4 Millbank, Lower Darwen</u></p> <p>Further to the report submitted at Agenda Item 9.1, an additional report was submitted, containing commercially sensitive information.</p> <p>RESOLVED – The Executive Board:</p> <p>2.1 Approve that the Council as shareholder of Barnfield Blackburn Ltd authorises the nominated Council Directors to sign off the sale of Plot 4 Millbank Business Park, Lower Darwen (shown edged red on the attached plan) to Hippo</p>	<p>Approved</p>

	Item	Action
	Vehicle Solutions Ltd.	
	2.2 Authorise the nominated Council Directors to finalise and complete the terms of the disposal.	Approved
11.2	<p><u>Land at Lower Phillips Road</u></p> <p>Further to the report submitted at Agenda Item 8.5, an additional report was submitted, containing commercially sensitive information.</p> <p>That the Executive Board:</p> <p>2.1 Approve the disposal of the Council's freehold interest to the current occupier as Special Purchaser.</p> <p>2.2 Authorise the Growth Programme Director to finalise and complete the terms of the disposal.</p> <p>2.3 Authorises the Deputy Director for Legal and Governance to complete the necessary legal formalities in the disposal process</p> <p>Signed at a meeting of the Board</p> <p>on 11th August 2022</p> <p>(being the ensuing meeting on the Board)</p> <p>Chair of the meeting at which the Minutes were confirmed</p>	<p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p>

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

Members attending a Council, Committee, Board or other meeting with a personal interest in a matter on the Agenda must disclose the existence and nature of the interest and, if it is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or an Other Interest under paragraph 16.1 of the Code of Conduct, should leave the meeting during discussion and voting on the item.

Members declaring an interest(s) should complete this form and hand it to the Democratic Services Officer at the commencement of the meeting and declare such an interest at the appropriate point on the agenda.

MEETING: **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

DATE: **11TH AUGUST 2022**

AGENDA ITEM NO.:

DESCRIPTION (BRIEF):

NATURE OF INTEREST:

DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY/OTHER (delete as appropriate)

SIGNED :

PRINT NAME:

(Paragraphs 8 to 17 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Council refer)

EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION



REPORT OF:	Executive Member for Adults Social Care & Health
LEAD OFFICERS:	Strategic Director of Adults and Health
DATE:	Thursday, 11 August 2022

PORTFOLIO/S AFFECTED:	Adults Social Care & Health
WARD/S AFFECTED:	(All Wards);
KEY DECISION:	Y

SUBJECT: Social Care Reforms

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Executive Board with an update on the key issues in relation to Adult Social Care Reforms following publication of the Governments Building Back Better Plan and White Paper for reforming the delivery of Adults Social Care ('People at the Heart of Care').

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Board:

- Note the update provided in relation to the Social Care Reforms and in particular the Council's progress on the Fair Cost of Care exercise and development of our Care Market Sustainability Plans

3. BACKGROUND

In September 2021, the government published its Building Back Better plan for reforming the funding of Health and Social Care. This was followed in December 2021 by the publication of the White Paper for reforming the delivery of Adult Social Care ('People at the Heart of Care').

The Government White paper sets out a 10 year vision for adult social care and ambitious reforms to provide individuals with choice and control, access to outstanding quality and tailored care and support, and Adult Social Care Services that are fair and accessible.

The white paper includes four key aspects of significant reform which will impact on people receiving care, providers in the care market and local authorities. These reforms are to be implemented by Local Authorities from April 2023 onwards and they represent some of the most significant change to

Adult Social Care within the last decade. For the purposes and focus of this report the four key financially related reform changes include:

- **Charging Reforms** – Introduction of a Care Cap which limits the amount that any individual will have to pay towards the cost of their care in their lifetime.
- **Charging Reforms** – Change in the existing means test for chargeable care services.
- **Fair Cost of Care** – establishment of a fair cost of care across local authority care providers
- **Care Brokerage** – enactment of responsibilities for the Local Authority under the Care Act - Section 18(3)

In addition it is important to note a raft of other legislative changes impacting on adult social care all of which will link and require a system approach to implementation. These have been presented in separate reports. These changes include the;

- Implementation of the Health and Care Act 2022 which for example will impact on the CQC regulation of the Local Authority, development of the Integrated care Boards and changes around discharge to assess programmes.
- Changes to the Mental Capacity Act and the introduction of Liberty protection safeguards.
- The implementation of the refreshed Autism Act strategies.
- The reformed Mental Health Act requirements.

All of these reforms will impact on the whole Health and Social care system and those organisations who operate within the system, including a change;

- in the cost of support funded by the local authority
- in the demand for local authority assessment and support for care services
- in the requirements placed on the local authority and
- in the requirements placed on care providers.

There is an expectation that new funding will be provided to Councils by the Government to fund these changes. The Government's intention is to fund adult social care reforms through an increase in National Insurance contributions across the population but the mechanism for funding Local Authorities for Social Care is, as yet, unknown and initial funding has been targeted towards the NHS as it is expected that reforms will be delivered across the Health and Social Care system. In addition the extent to which any such new funding will be sufficient to meet the cost of delivering the reforms will need to be a consideration in the development of the Council's budget for 2023/24 and will be subject to further assessment of the impact of charging reforms and the outcome of the fair cost of care/market sustainability programme of work. The consultancy company Newton's have been commissioned by the County Council network and are producing early indicators of likely cost for BwD.

The Government has made available various ad-hoc grants to support the social care system. These are cash grants, some of which are non-recurrent, payable to local authorities for investment in Adult and Children's Social Care, either directly by the Council or as part of a pooling arrangement with the NHS. Conditions for spend are required. These grants are set out with the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan presented to Finance Council in February 2022.

As set out to Finance Council in February 2022, and as part of Social Care Reforms the Council has been allocated a new Market Sustainability and Fair Funding Grant, and a new Charging Reform Implementation grant. These funding streams, and the required activity will be covered in more detail later in this report.

4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS

The key issues and risks in respect of each of the four areas of social care reforms are detailed below:

Charging Reforms – Introduction of the Care Cap

Under current legislation individuals in receipt of care services following an assessment of their care needs, are subject to financial assessment to determine what level of contribution they will make towards the cost of their care and what support the local authority will fund. This is based on an assessment of the individual's income and assets.

As part of the charging reforms the Government are introducing a cap of £86,000 on the amount any individual can spend on their personal care over a lifetime. Under these reforms the local authority will be required to help people 'meter' towards the cap through a Personal Care Account which is used to account for any money they spend on care, based on the budget the local authority determines is appropriate for level of eligible need. There will be key exclusions from 'care costs' which will not count towards the care cap such as daily living costs. Once the cap is reached, care will be funded by the local authority. This will mean residents contributions to their care will be limited regardless of the level of wealth and assets they have.

The local authority will be required to understand the numbers of people who will reach the care cap, by April 2023, for October implementation, by assessing the number of self-funders in the Borough and assessing existing service users who are likely to reach the cap. This will require the introduction of care accounts on our social care and/or finance systems and a reform of our digital approach. It is worth noting that the demographic in Blackburn with Darwen means that we have a much lower proportion of self-funding residents or residents exceeding the Upper Capital Limit of the new means test thresholds however the likely cost impact will be significant.

Charging Reforms – Change in Means Test

The charging reforms will result in a more generous means test which will mean more individuals receive some financial assistance in paying for their care. The current means test system uses asset thresholds to determine when and how much an individual contributes to their care. These thresholds are referred to as the Lower Capital limit (LCL) and Upper Capital Limit (UCL).

The introduction of a more generous means test will mean that anyone with assets of less than £23,250 (LCL) and £100,000 (UCL) will receive some assistance with the cost of their care from the local authority. This compares with the current limits of £14,250 and £23,250 which means that the authority pays in full if the individual has assets of less than £14,250 and funds in part for any individual with assets below the UCL of £23,250. Anybody with assets above the UCL of £23,250 pays for their own care in full as a self-funder.

The financial assessment also uses a Minimum Income Guarantee and Personal Expenses Allowance to protect an individual's income. Income above this level is contributed towards the cost of care. This will be unfrozen under the new system and will rise with inflation meaning an individual keeps more of their own income.

These changes will mean that fewer people will pay the full cost of their care, and more people will be eligible for financial support from the local authority and will **not** contribute to the cost of their care.

Changes in the means test will have a direct impact on the cost of care and client contribution levels for adult social care, but there will also be an impact on local authorities in terms of managing the additional demand for both care and financial assessments. As such the operational costs of additional social care and financial assessment staff will increase unless the operating model for social care is changed. This will require the development of and investment in our processes, systems and ways of working.

The Government have allocated a new Implementation Support Grant for Charging Reforms and Blackburn with Darwen has received £97,403 for 2022/23. The grant provides support to local authorities in England towards expenditure on the planning and preparation costs associated with charging reform, to recruit additional staff to manage the increased demand for assessments and the implementation of the care account module. This grant is a non-ringfenced contribution towards local authorities to implement charging reform.

Care Brokerage

Local Authorities have a duty under Section 5 of the Care Act to promote and manage the efficient and effective operation of a market in services for meeting care and support needs. Implementing section 18(3) of the Care Act will mean that the local authority has new responsibility for assessing and brokering care for self funders.

Self funders will be able to request an assessment from their local authority and they will be able to ask the local authority to source and broker (commission) their care for them at the local authority 'fair cost of care' rate.

As such it is expected that providers will lose income from this cohort of service users which will impact upon the stability of the care market if commissioned rates do not reflect this. In most cases providers charge a higher rate or apply 'top ups' for self funders to receive an 'enhanced' level of care and support e.g.: to be supported in a specific home with specific facilities or support above their local authority assessed level of eligible need.

These new duties are expected to increase the number of individuals presenting to the local authority for assessment.

Fair Cost of Care/Market Sustainability Plans

Local Authorities are required by October 2023 to 'move towards' paying a 'fair cost of care'. This is to ensure that providers of care receive sustainable funding to deliver high quality consistent care.

As part of the reforms the Council has been allocated a new Market Sustainability and Fair Funding Grant with the Council's share being £516,000 for 22/23. It is assumed that this is a one-off grant and Government guidance states that it is intended to be used by Council's to:-

- conduct a cost of care exercise to determine sustainable rates within the care market and identify how close they are to it;

- engage with local providers to improve data on operational costs and number of self-funders to better understand the impact of reform on the local market;
- strengthen capacity to plan for, and execute, greater market oversight (as a result of increased section 18(3) commissioning) and improved market management to ensure markets are well positioned to deliver on the Government's reform ambitions;
- use this additional funding to genuinely increase fee rates, as appropriate to local circumstances.
- grant conditions stipulate that a minimum of 75% of the grant should be paid directly to Providers in scope of the fair cost of care exercise, to increase fee rates.

Local Authorities must:

- Complete and publish a fair cost of care exercise for providers in scope (this includes providers of Residential and Nursing Care for Older people over 65yrs and Domiciliary Care for providers of care at home for Adults 18yrs plus).
- Complete and Publish a Market Sustainability Plan which includes an assessment of market changes over the next 3 years including changes due to charging reform, the impact of current fee rates on the market, potential risks and information on the development of mitigating actions and plans to deliver sustainable rates over the spending review period
- Submit a Spend Return detailing how the funding allocated is being spent in line with the conditions of the grant

These returns must be submitted to the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) by 14th October 2022 and will include provisional market sustainability plans. Final plans will be submitted in February 2023 to link into the local authority budget setting process.

Plans to undertake the Fair Cost of Care (FCoC) work have been established and work is well underway in terms of engaging with providers to complete the exercise and establish a Fair Cost of Care within the Borough. Council officers are working closely with an organisation which has been commissioned to support the collation of Care provider cost data and provide analysis to provide the DHSC Fair Cost of Care returns. The commissioned organisation are well established in this area of work having worked closely with a number of Trailblazer authorities. Work is also underway within the adults strategic commissioning team to update and refresh our Market Position Statement and update areas of the Borough's Local Plan in preparation for submitting our Market Sustainability plans.

The outcome of the FCoC work will determine sustainable rates within the care market and an assessment of the full budgetary implications can then be undertaken for the Local Authority's financial planning however it is anticipated that the financial implications will be significant for Blackburn with Darwen given our current baseline for provider fees.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None with this report, however policy changes required as a result of the social care reforms and legislative changes within and across social care will be considered and further updates reported to Executive Board as needed. A new Target Costing Model will be required for Adults Social Care.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are significant financial implications associated with the social care reforms which are not yet fully known or quantified.

At its simplest:

- the charging reforms detailed above, redistribute financial responsibility for care, so the cost to individuals will reduce and the cost to the local authority will increase.
- the additional commissioning responsibilities and changing means test are expected to bring increased operational costs in terms of workforce requirements
- there will be significant cost to move towards a sustainable fee rate for providers

Whilst these would seem to be the most obvious cost implication there are other financial risks and issues, which have already been stated within the report that the local authority needs to understand in relation to the full impact and overall cost of the reforms. These include but are not limited to:

- Increased annual price and pay inflation above previous budget planning assumptions, in line with a local authority's overall increased expenditure on adult social care services.
- Potential for increased resources required to manage contacts / enquiries from residents and provide information, advice and advocacy. This is likely to include both increased internal resources and potentially increases to the scale of contracts with external organisations for these services (typically provided by the voluntary sector).
- The need to implement and maintain new systems or adaptations to our existing systems to enable Care Accounts to be set up and people's metering towards the cap to be tracked. These systems will then need to be integrated with the main adult social care system and finance systems to enable a smooth transition when people reach their cap.
- Potential increases to adult social care debt, as people may be less willing to pay charges before they reach their cap and subject to policy decisions the total amount local authorities bill to residents may increase.
- Increased resources required in other parts of the Council, for instance finance, HR, procurement, legal services.

Whilst some of the financial impact of social care reforms has been included within the Medium Term Financial Plan, in terms of expected increases to provider rates for National Living Wage increases, this is not the full impact and our future funding levels associated with reform are unknown.

Further assessment of the full financial cost and impact is needed. As this work programme progresses the overall impact and cost will be quantified and a further update will be brought to Executive Board in due course.

As already detailed in the report the authority has received two new grants for 22/23, to support the social care reforms: Fair Cost of Care/Market Sustainability at £516,000 and Implementation of Charging Reforms at £97,403. These funding streams will be managed through the portfolio's budget.

In addition the County Council Network have commissioned a report from Newton's Europe which seeks to assess the impact of Social Care reforms nationally and provide direct comparison to the Government's own Impact Assessment. Regional and local information has been made available by Newton's to provide an early indication of the likely cost within a local authority area. Blackburn with Darwen is progressing a review of the Newton's analysis together with our own data collation to assess the full implications.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None with this report however all future formal governance arrangements will be agreed in accordance with Social Care legislation and the Council Constitution.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The initial resource implications are being managed within the existing Commissioning and Finance team within Adults and Health. Further resource implications are anticipated and will require further assessment to understand the full resource implications. Continued Member and Officer time and commitment are required in order to achieve the changes required from Social Care Reforms.

9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Please select one of the options below. Where appropriate please include the hyperlink to the EIA.

Option 1 ☒ Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA link here)*

Option 3 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA attachment)*

10. CONSULTATIONS

Consultation has been ongoing and undertaken with DHSC and Local Authority. Consultation has been undertaken by the Local Authority with care providers via a number of provider forums.

11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered. The

recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded in the Summary of Decisions published on the day following the meeting.

VERSION:	1
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CONTACT OFFICER:	Zoe Evans
DATE:	27.07.2022
BACKGROUND PAPER:	

EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION



REPORT OF:	Executive Member for Adults and Health
LEAD OFFICERS:	Director for Adults and Health
DATE:	11/08/2022

PORTFOLIO/S AFFECTED:	Neighbourhoods, Wellbeing and Prevention
WARD/S AFFECTED:	(All Wards);
KEY DECISION:	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

SUBJECT: EB Multiply - Government Initiative

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Multiply is a national Government initiative to support the development of numeracy skills across the Borough using a variety of innovative approaches.

Part of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) which is Government funding intended to reduce inequalities between communities, as part of the Government's wider "levelling up" agenda, Multiply was agreed as the first priority of the UKSPF. In addition to UKSPF, it also supports the wider aims of Lancashire's Local Skills Improvement Plan, recognising that people who improve their numeracy skills are more likely to be in employment, have higher wages, and better wellbeing.

Gaining a maths qualification at Level 2 (GCSE Grades A*-C) or equivalent also unlocks the door to progress to higher levels of free training to secure a skilled job in the local economy. Improved numeracy also matters to businesses right across the country – small and big. Businesses that develop their employees' numeracy skills can boost productivity, increase profits, and improve employee retention.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Board:

- Notes and supports the priorities and aims of the Multiply initiative over the 3 financial years – 2022-2023; 2023-2024; 2024-2025.
- Agrees the Investment Plan for BwD (Appendix 1) which has been prepared for submission to the DfE.
- Delegates authority to the Strategic Director of Adults & Health in consultation with Executive member for Adults Services & Prevention to select providers and award service contracts

3. BACKGROUND

There are significant areas of Blackburn with Darwen which have very low levels of qualifications amongst adults of working-age. With regard to the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Adult Skills sub domain, BwD is ranked 4th highest of unitary authorities with their proportion (37.36) of Lower

Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in the most deprived 10% nationally. The target group for this activity is adults aged 19+ who have not previously achieved a GCSE Grade 4/C or higher maths qualification.

Numeracy is universally important for individuals' life chances, and for the United Kingdom's economy as a whole. 17m adults in England - half of the working-age population - have everyday maths skills roughly equivalent to those expected of a primary school child (Entry Levels).

Locally, Multiply has the potential to reach a wide range of the hardest to reach and engage over the next three years; helping them to improve their functional numeracy skills. This will support the Levelling Up mission to ensure that by 2030, the number of people successfully completing high-quality skills training will have significantly increased in every area of the United Kingdom.

Developing functional literacy will help people improve their ability to understand and use maths in daily life, home, and work. Whether that be improving household finances, helping children with homework, making more sense of the facts in the media, or improving numeracy skills specific to a line of work. To achieve that, Multiply will offer a range of options such as free personal tutoring, digital training and flexible courses that fit around people's lives and are tailored to specific needs, circumstances, sectors and industries.

The following outcomes provide the main focus of the initiative and partners participating locally will need to ensure that their offer supports the achievement of these outcomes.

Indicative Outcomes

- Increased number of adults achieving maths qualifications up to, and including, Level 2
- Increased number of adults participating in maths qualifications and courses up to, and including, Level 2
- Increased number of adults participating, acquiring and evidencing skills through non-qualification provision
- Improved labour market outcomes
- Increased adult numeracy (by supporting learners to improve their understanding and use of maths in their daily lives, at home and at work)

Local consultation has highlighted that in Blackburn with Darwen, these are the main areas of focus to be developed within the Investment Plan.

- Engagement
- One to One Support
- Non-Accredited Courses/Workshops
- Qualifications/Accredited Courses
- Employer/Employee Engagement
- Meaningful participation that boosts people's ability to understand and use maths in their daily life, such as:
 - Improving household finances
 - Helping children with homework
 - Making more sense of the facts in the media
 - Improving numeracy skills specific to a line of work

The Multiply provision in Blackburn with Darwen will provide progression pathways leading to Level 2 qualifications for individuals with a wide range of needs. This includes those people who are currently the furthest away from being ready to undertake any qualification.

Working with a variety of partners, providers and grassroots organisations who have the appropriate links as well as experience and understanding of local level of need the offer will support individuals with very basic levels of numeracy to develop their confidence with numbers, understanding how and why they are used in everyday life.

Employer engagement will also be key to supporting employers and employees to ensure they have the relevant sector-specific numeracy skills, which in turn can help improve staff retention and productivity.

4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS

Underperformance on the initiative would result in any underspend below 100% being recovered by DfE (usually by reduction of the amount of funding given to the Council in the next funding tranche – which might be at the mid-year point or at the end of a full funding year).

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

N/A – Multiply is Part of UKSPF and Levelling Up agenda and was agreed by Government as the first priority of UKSPF.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Maximum grant allocation of £851,021 over the 3 years is subject to achievement of expected outcomes based on the submitted plan. Underperformance would result in subsequent allocations being reduced to recover underspends from the previous period which in turn may require adjustments to the scale of the activity it is possible to provide. Further, any net underspend below 100% will be recovered by the DfE each year by reducing the ring-fenced grant for the next financial year by the same amount (or if there is underspend in the first half of a year by reduction of the amount for the second half of the year).

Members will note that the funding allocation for 2022/23 is broadly similar to Years 2 and 3 yet the time available to defray the spending and achieve the outputs necessary is reduced given Government has yet to approve the Council's investment plan. This will need to be managed in conjunction with the DfE to ensure the Council maximises the amount of funding spent in the Borough.

Local Authority	Total Funding Allocation (£)	Funding Allocation 2022-23 (£)	Funding Allocation 2023-24 (£)	Funding Allocation 2024-25 (£)
Blackburn with Darwen	851,021	257,285	296,868	296,868

The government's funding of Multiply is a 3 year programme: the government expects local authorities to ensure that suitable legacy arrangements will be in place for interventions funded through Multiply, since there is no commitment of future funding from the government for Multiply beyond the 2024-25 financial year.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council is required to submit its first Investment Plan to the DfE by 30 June 2022 and updated investment plans will need to be submitted to and approved by the DfE prior to the start of each financial year before payments for years 2 and 3 will be made.

Funding for Multiply will be provided as a ring-fenced grant under s.31, Local Government Act 2003, and funding must only be used to deliver agreed Multiply interventions in accordance with our approved Investment Plan. Interventions delivered with Multiply funding need to be additional and differentiated from that which is already fully funded through the Adult Education Budget legal entitlement and should not displace that provision.

Funding allocation statements (as set out above in Section 6. Financial Implications) are indicative only; they are not legally binding and do not create any legal obligation against the Secretary of State for Education.

The Council must consider its Public Sector Equality Duty in any provision we develop through Multiply.

Grant agreements for receipt of these funds will provide full details of the government's required arrangements for these funds (in addition to the guidance already provided). The Procurement and Commissioning team will need to scrutinise the Memorandum of Understanding and grant determination letter each year which will set out Fund requirements and obligations, and provide advice to ensure that the Council is aware of and complies with all the obligations/conditions imposed as a condition of receipt of this grant allocation.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Resource for the initiative comes via the funding allocation, although some support will be provided through existing capacity.

On completion of the three years of the programme there is an expectation that there are "suitable legacy arrangements in place for interventions funded through Multiply". We anticipate that a range of interventions developed and delivered as part of the 3 year project will become custom and practice and will therefore continue as part of the services provided by the various organisations. This will include any delivery offered by the Adult Learning Service, where numeracy skills development will be embedded in a wide range of programmes.

For the qualification based programmes post Multiply it will be possible to make use of the AEB allocation in order to further develop and deliver qualifications.

A proportion of the expected income will be used to enhance current in-house teams as part of the Adult Learning Service, to ensure that we have sufficient capacity to deliver the additional interventions as outlined in the Investment Plan.

9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Please select one of the options below. Where appropriate please include the hyperlink to the EIA.

Option 1 ☒ Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA link here)*

Option 3 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA attachment)*

10. CONSULTATIONS

Due to the short timescales for submission of the Investment Plan, an information sharing partner event was held to enable internal and external partners to shape the offer and inform the plan.

The partner organisations invited to the event represent people with a wide range of needs, including those with protected characteristics. In addressing potential equality implications, the Investment Plan will include how the development and implementation of the initiative will consider the accessibility of the offer.

This will include the communication of information about Multiply and associated activities available to everyone, including those with protected characteristics.

11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered.

The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded in the Summary of Decisions published on the day following the meeting.

VERSION:	1
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CONTACT OFFICER:	Karen Wignall
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DATE:	08/06/2022
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BACKGROUND PAPER:	This file contains the Multiply Investment Prospectus
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Number	Multiply intervention (please see page 7 of the investment prospectus)	Short description of Multiply provision (there could be multiple types of provision for each intervention)	Related fund output indicators (please see page 8 of the technical guidance)	Estimated output 22-23	Estimated output 23-24	Estimated output 24-25	Budget			
							22-23	23-24	24-25	Total
Example	<i>What Multiply intervention are you delivering? e.g. Courses designed to increase confidence with numbers for those needing the first steps towards formal qualifications</i>	<i>What is the provision you intend to deliver? Who is the target audience for this provision? Are there any comms activities to increase reach required to deliver this provision? Approximately, how many guided learning hours will the provision include? e.g., a cross-agency / partnership approach, working with local employers (for example, to deliver in-work confidence building courses)</i>	<i>Referring to the six fund output indicators on page 8 of the technical guidance, what outputs will this provision deliver. If you want to select more than one please add an additional row e.g. Number of adult numeracy courses run in a local area through Multiply</i>	<i>e.g. 5 new courses or reach 100 learners</i>	<i>e.g. 5 new courses or reach 100 learners</i>	<i>e.g. 5 new courses or reach 100 learners</i>	£1,000	£2,000	£2,000	£5,000
1	Courses aimed at people who can't apply for certain jobs because of lack of numeracy skills and/or to encourage people to upskill in numeracy order to access a certain job/career	Informal courses with a focus on developing work skills/preparing for more formal qualifications. Maths workshops delivered as a component (link to ESOL delivery)	Number of adult numeracy courses run in a local area through Multiply Number of people participating in Multiply funded courses Number of different cohorts participating in numeracy courses	25	30	40	£3,125	£3,750	£5,000	£11,875
2	Courses designed to help people use numeracy to manage their money.	A range of engagement activities, workshops and longer programmes for people who are struggling with financial literacy and to manage money in their daily lives. Innovative programmes will deliver numeracy skills in various contexts. A range of target groups to receive this type of intervention - ESOL, young parents, people with LDD, older people, jobseekers etc Includes some provision of ongoing one to one advice and casework for residents of Blackburn with Darwen who have attended a workshop or who are receiving support through other Multiply projects, and would benefit from further support around managing their money.	Number of adult numeracy courses run in a local area through Multiply Number of people participating in Multiply funded courses Number of different cohorts participating in numeracy courses	350	450	450	£62,203	£79,980	£79,980	£222,163
3	Courses designed to increase confidence with numbers for those needing the first steps towards formal numeracy qualifications. T	A range of engagement activities, workshops and longer programmes for people who want to progress onto a maths qualification. Courses will help develop confidence in numeracy and provide a pathway to qualification-based learning Proposed interventions will include one to one mentoring support for people who would benefit from a more intensive approach	Number of adult numeracy courses run in a local area through Multiply Number of people participating in Multiply funded courses Number of people referred from partners onto upskill courses Number of different cohorts participating in numeracy courses	400	460	420	£79,575	£91,511	£83,553	£254,639
4	Courses for parents wanting to increase their numeracy skills in order to help their children, and help with their own progression	A range of family learning courses will be delivered during term times and school holiday. These will be designed to support parents who want to gain numeracy skills to help their children as well as gain skills themselves. These will be delivered through various means, including different arts and crafts activities that can help contextualise and integrate maths skills. Interventions are likely to include some additional one to one support and tutorials for people who need the extra input.	Number of adult numeracy courses run in a local area through Multiply Number of people participating in Multiply funded courses Number of different cohorts participating in numeracy courses	300	350	350	£12,332	£14,420	£14,420	£41,172
5	Innovative numeracy programmes delivered together with employers – including courses designed to cover specific numeracy skills required in the workplace	A range of activities to support employers to address numeracy skills needed in the workplace and to support informal numeracy and maths skills development linked to rising cost of living. Work will be undertaken with employers to establish the skills gap and need for contextualised numeracy support within their specific sector. Activities will include needs analysis, short courses, longer courses with a view to progression onto qualifications where appropriate. Some one to one mentoring and peer support may also be provided	Number of adult numeracy courses run in a local area through Multiply Number of people participating in Multiply funded courses Number of courses developed in collaboration with employers Number of different cohorts participating in numeracy courses	350	375	375	£43,840	£43,280	£43,280	£130,400
6	New intensive and flexible numeracy courses targeted at people without Level 2 maths, leading to a Functional Skills Qualification	A range of engagement activities, workshops and courses aimed at people with no Level 2 maths qualification. The programmes will use innovative approaches to engage and retain learners, helping them to develop numeracy skills and improve their understanding of maths qualification requirements. This will provide a pathway to qualifications with various organisations	Number of adult numeracy courses run in a local area through Multiply Number of people participating in Multiply funded courses Number of people achieving a qualification Number of people referred from partners onto upskill courses	104	115	140	£30,450	£33,671	£40,990	£105,111

7	Numeracy activities, courses or provision developed in partnership with community organisations and other partners aimed at engaging the hardest to reach learners	A significant proportion of the activities outlined above will also fall into this category. The delivery partners we will be working with are focusing on those members of the local community who are the hardest to reach and engage. Therefore, the bulk of our Multiply funding allocation will focus on the progression of those individuals who would not normally engage with learning											
8													
9										£0			
10										£0			
... Add rows as required										£0			
Any off-menu	Off-menu intervention	Is there any provision that does not fit the menu of interventions? Please provide a description. You will be asked to provide a rationale in question 3.											
Un-allocated	Are there any remaining funds that are unlikely to be spent?									£0			
Admin	Please include a breakdown of your required administrative expenditure across Year 1-3 (up to a maximum 10% of the total spend in that year). Please note the % admin allowance is subject to review before Y2 & Y3 payments. If you do not think you can spend your full provisional allocation we expect that you will consider the scale of your administrative spending, making appropriate adjustments to prevent disproportionate expenditure.						£25,700	£29,500	£29,500	£84,700			
Total							1529	1780	1775	£257,225	£296,112	£296,723	£850,060



Department
for Education

Multiply

Multiply

Investment plan template (England)

May 2022

For Mayoral Combined Authorities, the Greater London Authority, and upper tier/unitary local authorities outside of these areas in England

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About this document

In conjunction with this template, please refer to the Multiply investment prospectus and technical guidance for England available here

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiply-funding-available-to-improve-numeracy-skills>

Investment plans are invited from the Greater London Authority, all Mayoral Combined Authorities, and upper tier/unitary authorities outside of these areas in England. Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland should refer to the [wider UKSPF investment framework](#)

Please ensure you complete this template in full and submit by 30th June 2022 by emailing Multiply.investmentplans@education.gov.uk

Once investment plans are approved, provisional allocations will be signed off, grant agreements will be put in place incorporating information included in this investment plan and first payments made in autumn 2022.

At the end of the 2022-23 and 2023-24 financial years, areas will submit an annual progress report, and a revised investment plan for subsequent years of Multiply provision. This should take on board learning achieved through local delivery, peer to peer support networks and engagement events. It should align with the updated menu of interventions and any new guidance issued each year by the Department for Education.

For further information or to discuss a proposal ahead of submission please contact DfE at Multiply.investmentplans@education.gov.uk

Please note that information provided on this form, including personal information, may be subject to publication or disclosure in accordance with the access to information regimes, primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Data Protection Act 1998.

We have suggested word counts for questions as an approximation but will allow some flexibility and will not apply the word count rigidly. We don't anticipate investment plans to be longer than 25 pages. We won't accept additional attachments beyond the return of this document and the accompanying Excel spreadsheet.

1. Who are the local authority representatives for Multiply (name, email, telephone)?

Multiply lead: Karen Wignall – 01254 222124

Karen.wignall@blackburn.gov.uk

Financial/Accounting Officer: Farook Barucha – 01254 585705

farook.bharucha@blackburn.gov.uk

Section A: Multiply intervention summary

2. **In the accompanying spreadsheet, please provide a high-level summary of the interventions to deliver Multiply in your local area, along with related output indicators and required budget?**

The spreadsheet includes high level summary of the proposed interventions. It is not possible to provide specific details of all activity at this stage due to the ongoing process of agreeing proposed plans from a range of interested partners.

Our consultation and application processes mean that we are able to provide an estimate of the expected outputs and cost projections for each type of activity, but not specifically with which of our individual delivery partners will contribute. The consultation event enabled us to establish key priorities and target groups and a subsequent Expression of Interest process has provided information to be able to identify the types and volumes of interventions at varying levels.

We await the terms and conditions of the grant from DfE before making a final decision and contracting with successful delivery partners.

3. **If you have described any Multiply provision in Section A that does not fit the menu of interventions, what is your rationale for proposing this additional intervention? We will consider this proposal against the aims of the Multiply programme. You can answer “None” for this question. (Approx. 250 words)**

None

4. **Please confirm and explain how your Multiply provision is in addition to and does not duplicate or offset fully funded maths courses delivered through the Adult Education Budget statutory entitlement, or other government funded maths provision. (Approx. 250 words)**

The Multiply provision will be in addition to existing fully funded maths provision in the local area. A significant proportion of the people we are working with will be from cohorts who are far away from being able to access and achieve qualifications, or who have, to date, seen little to no value in achieving a numeracy or maths qualification.

The provision aims to support individuals to develop their confidence in using everyday numeracy skills by contextualising this to their existing circumstances. We will do this by working with a range of target groups, identified in consultation with a number of local training and learning providers, and as well as those grassroots organisations who have the links with the hardest to reach/engage members of the community. Their knowledge of local need has informed this plan by identifying the numeracy skills their client groups are lacking, and any barriers to taking up existing learning opportunities.

For example, by working with parents we are looking to develop their ability to support their children with homework, and help them to understand household budgets and finances. Working with ESOL learners we will help them to understand the need for numeracy skills in daily life in the UK – including the ability to interpret medicine labels,

or understand bus and rail timetables and local currency. Additional maths and numeracy modules can be built in to existing programmes of learning so that this is embedded activity rather than an add-on.

Work with employers will also be able to identify any skills gaps, but also, where appropriate, any qualification gaps. Multiply can work with employers and employees to fill these gaps and provide qualifications to support ongoing career development.

5. **Please briefly set out how you have considered the FE workforce needs (e.g. classroom, tutoring) for Multiply. How will you ensure Multiply workforce needs will not be at the detriment of other programmes you are delivering (eg under the AEB statutory entitlements)? Please note, FE workforce investment should support delivery of Multiply provision and should not be a standalone intervention. (Approx. 250 words)**

Workforce needs have been considered by all providers and deliverers who have contributed to and support this Investment Plan. Deliverers recognise that Multiply requires dedicated capacity in addition to that currently working on existing programmes, including those delivering regular community learning or AEB funded activity. There is also local recognition that there will be some need for upskilling delivery staff to ensure consistency in numeracy levels.

The money received in support of Multiply will be used to fund additional capacity specifically for interventions linked to developing numeracy skills. These activities may complement existing programmes, but will involve additional input, time and resources. It is also acknowledged that a number of the proposed interventions will not be in traditional classroom settings and are likely to involve smaller group sizes, or one to one activity where appropriate. Inevitably this will impact on capacity, requiring more FTE staff to support delivery.

We will offer CPD and support for existing staff working across the Adult Learning Service and delivery partners, where appropriate, to help to refresh their numeracy skills with a view to embedding and promoting numeracy in the range of programmes they deliver.

We will work with delivery partners to support their assessment, progress monitoring and quality assurance processes, as well as providing access to our CPD activity to ensure staff are suitably skilled and can provide required evidence of progress and achievement to fulfil our contractual requirements. We will hold regular project meetings, incorporating partner updates and sharing of good practice, both locally and as part of a Lancashire-wide Community of Practice.

Section B: Strategic fit

6. **How does the proposed Multiply provision strategically fit with your local priorities, coordinating where possible with wider skills and employment interventions in local areas (for example through Local Skills Improvement Plans), and interventions funded through the broader UKSPF (e.g. in district council investment plans) or other programmes? (Approx. 500 words)**

The proposed provision complements the Council's strategic priorities as well as developing and delivering interventions in local areas that support the priorities of the Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP). This adds value and action to the Levelling Up agenda by extending opportunities to all, particularly in areas where there are higher levels of perceived barriers to these opportunities.

The Council's priorities are:

- Supporting young people and raising aspirations
- Safeguarding and supporting the most vulnerable people
- Reducing health inequalities and improving health outcomes
- Connected communities
- Safe and clean environment
- Strong economy to enable social mobility
- Supporting our town centres and businesses
- Transparent and effective organisation

These provide a sound focus on investing in skills to enable residents to improve their ability to secure good quality employment, tackle inequality and boost the ability of priority groups to live independently, manage their finances, and engage in employment. By working with parents and carers we can support them to help with homework, better understand financial and household management, and develop their aspirations. This in turn will encourage young people to raise their own aspirations.

Supporting people to develop the numeracy skills that will enable them to be more confident in their everyday life can help to improve their wellbeing, raise their aspirations and facilitate career progression. The Lancashire-wide LSIP involved feedback from local employers and business sectors. Numeracy skills were identified within this report as both an existing and future need in a range of sectors.

Additionally, the Blackburn with Darwen Employment and Skills Strategy (2017-2040) aims to get more local people into work by delivering a skills system that meets the needs of both employers and residents of the borough. The ambition being to work together with employers and skills providers to a shared vision with joined up delivery.

The Employment and Skills Board which drives the strategy is made up of local representation from the public, private and voluntary sector and, as such, provides an open and honest approach to challenging existing arrangements and testing new opportunities. The six strategic objectives are:

- A skilled and productive workforce
- High performing education providers
- An informed choice
- Employer engagement and collaboration
- Social inclusion
- Full employment

The strategic objectives align with national policy and the Lancashire Skills and Employment Strategic Framework. This is the wider Lancashire skills strategy, driven by the Lancashire Skills and Employment Advisory Panel, made up of industry, education providers and local stakeholders. This spans the wider LCC area, including the two unitary authorities. There are four strategic themes:

- Future workforce
- Skilled and productive workforce
- Inclusive workforce
- An informed approach

Overall, these strategies aim to enable unemployed and inactive individuals to boost their labour market mobility and progress towards and into employment. Once in employment, the aim is to upskill and reskill people in the workplace to support career development and progression.

As the UK Shared Prosperity Fund begins to replace the European funded projects, Multiply will complement activities being funded through UKSPF locally. Emerging themes being around addressing the current cost of living crisis and improving finances by providing wrap around programmes of support, including Community Banking opportunities. This work will continue to develop and evolve over the three years of the Multiply funding, and beyond.

Section C: High level delivery timeline

7. Please provide an outline of your high-level delivery timeline including major milestones and planned partnerships with local education providers, employers, and other local

	Multiply activity	Delivery partners	Major milestones	Date	Comments
1	Identifying Multiply Management Team	Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council	Allocation of Project Leads – including management, quality and data	July 2022	Arrangements in place
			Allocation of Admin/Business Support	August 2022	Expressions of interest to be requested and reviewed
2	Reviewing Expressions of Interest	Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council	Deadline – 15 June 2022	June 2022	10 submissions received
			Expressions of Interest to be reviewed by panel	Mid-July 2022	Likely to be grant award process – need T&Cs from DfE
3	Establish internal Direct Delivery Plans	Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council	Courses to be developed	September 2022	Delivery to start September/October 2022
			Embedding of numeracy across curriculum to be supported through CPD delivery	September 2022	Termly updates may be required
3	Contracting with Delivery Partners	Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council Confirmed Delivery partners	Delivery partners identified and grant funding agreements issued	September 2022	Once final confirmation regarding local Multiply funding is received from DfE
			Monitoring performance, progress and quality processes agreed and shared with delivery partners	September 2022	To be built in to contracting agreements
4	Establishing the Community of Practice (CoP) In collaboration with LCC and Blackpool	Skills Hub, LCC, BwD, Blackpool and local providers	Remit of the CoP established with Terms of Reference (LCC Project Manager to chair)	Aug 2022	
			First meeting and schedule agreed, including any early Task and Finish Groups	Sep 2022	

5	Marketing and Comms Strategy and action plan agreed In collaboration with LCC and Blackpool	Skills Hub, LCC, BwD, Blackpool and local providers	Marketing and Comms Strategy and Action Plan drafted and agreed with the CoP	Sep 2022	
7	Multiply Launch	Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council Confirmed Providers	Launch Event held and provision starts	Oct 2022	Dependent on availability of funding from DfE
8	Ongoing monitoring of performance progress and quality	Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council Confirmed Providers	Process agreed for monitoring progress and performance	Jul-Aug 2022	
			Individual Induction meetings held with BwD Multiply Delivery partners	Sep 2022	
			Progress reports and claim information received on a monthly basis	Monthly from Sep 2022	
9	Annual Evaluation and Review of Programmes In collaboration with LCC and Blackpool	Skills Hub, LCC, BwD, Blackpool and local providers	Evaluation strategy agreed, including approaches to assessing distance travelled for learners	Sep-Nov 2022	
			Annual Evaluation and Review of Practice undertaken, and report produced	April 2023, 2024, 2025	

Section D: Evidence of need and demand

8. **Please describe why improving adult functional numeracy (aiming to teach the numeracy skills that are needed in daily life and the workplace) matters to your local area. You should refer to specific characteristics of your local area in your answer and include supporting evidence - especially quantitative forms of evidence where available. (Approx. 250 words)**

In the Lancashire LEP area (includes Lancashire County Council, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council, and Blackpool Borough Council), 34% of employers surveyed in 2019 who had job vacancies that were considered hard-to-fill, reported finding “basic numerical skills and understanding” challenging amongst candidates – this compares to 26% nationally. Source: Employer Skills Survey, 2019.

Data also suggests that Lancashire employers find it relatively less challenging than their national contemporaries, to find candidates with more complex maths skills (22% in Lancashire vs 26% nationally). Source: Employer Skills Survey, 2019.

This data, along with the fact that there has been a post-pandemic increase in vacancy postings in BwD, suggests that support is needed amongst the lower skilled population to bring their skills up to the right level required to fill the available jobs.

Nationally, we know that currently people with skills below Level 2 are employed at a rate of 6% below those with Level 2 qualifications and 9% below the overall rate (at the time of publication). Source: Annual Population Survey, ONS.

This suggests that the section of the population in Blackburn with Darwen with lower skills are more likely to be unemployed, and these people could fill the available vacancies with some basic skills support.

This is important information to consider alongside BwD’s employment rate, at 67.5% as of December 2021, compared to 74.8% in Great Britain and 72.9% in the North West. Taking the relationship between employers’ demands for improved basic numeracy skills, the relationship between likelihood of employment and possession of basic skills, and the vacancies that exist – Multiply would provide a much needed numeracy intervention within the Borough.

9. **Please describe any qualitative or quantitative data you have on local adult numeracy levels (e.g., historic and current participation and achievement, etc) to evidence need and demand. (Approx. 250 words)**

In the absence of published data on numeracy skills levels, a proxy of “% of 16-64 population with No Qualifications” has been used from the Annual Population Survey. We have surmised that where somebody has no qualifications at all, then they cannot have a numeracy or maths qualification.

In Blackburn with Darwen, 8.9% of working age residents have no qualifications, compared to 6.6% nationally - this is evenly split between males and females across the Borough.

Most notably, in Lancashire (including BwD), the percentage of those with no qualifications is highest (other than 16–19-year-olds) at aged 50-64, with 10.1% - this is above the national average of 8.4%.

We also proxy adult numeracy with the percentage of young people achieving a Level 2 Maths qualification by the time they are 16, and have found this to be below the national average in East Lancashire local authorities, and for those eligible for free school meals in 11 of the 14 Districts of Lancashire, including Blackburn, this is uniformly below the national average. We believe this to be a useful comparison as it may demonstrate the lack of assistance at home from parents/guardians of these young people.

Samples of data from European Social Funded projects in Lancashire indicate that for employed people who wanted to upskill, 65.7% had lower than GCSE equivalent maths skills (sample of 4,700+), and for unemployed this rose to 66.5% (sample of 1,100+).

10. How does the Multiply provision outlined in section A meet this demand, on top of how existing entitlement is already meeting it, and what does success look like for your local area? (Approx. 250 words)

In addition to the local AEB offer, the Multiply provision in Blackburn with Darwen has been developed to provide progression pathways leading to Level 2 qualifications for individuals with a wide range of needs. This includes those people who are currently the furthest away from being ready to undertake any qualification, particularly.

The provision will support individuals with very basic levels of numeracy to develop their confidence with numbers, understanding how and why they are used in everyday life. In order to reach these people it is important to work with a variety of partners, providers and grassroots organisations who have the appropriate links as well as the experience and understanding of their level of need.

With specific reference to qualification based outcomes, some support will be required to simply develop confidence and encourage participation where other support will include a more intensive approach to developing skills and understanding basic numeracy principles before participants can be considered ready to undertake exam-based accreditations.

Locally, success will include the skills development and levels of understanding of maths and numeracy skills, with an increased number of people gaining qualifications at various levels. Work with employers will result in a more coherent response to ensuring existing staff and potential employees have the relevant sector-based numeracy skills. A 'wider impact' assessment will be carried out on the various types of activity, identifying how improved skills has benefited the individual, their family and/or the wider community or employer.

11. Please describe what you have done to ensure good value for money (e.g., has your plan been reviewed by an economist, have you reviewed local data?). Please also describe what controls you will put in place to ensure that good value for money continues to be achieved throughout the lifetime of the Multiply provision. (Approx. 250 words)

Advice and additional analysis from colleagues in Lancashire has supported our review of local data. This identified that there are significant areas of Blackburn with Darwen with very low levels of qualifications amongst working-age adults. With regard to the IMD Adult Skills sub domain, BwD is ranked 4th highest of unitary authorities with their proportion (37.36) of LSOAs in the most deprived 10% nationally.

Research by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills shows employment returns of 7.1% for learners achieving level 2 qualifications over a 4 year period. It also shows returns of 4.1% for learners achieving qualifications below level 2.

Social returns diminish at older ages (ie higher for those 19-24 than those 25+) and returns are higher for Level 1 (£6 for £1 spent) than entry level £3 for £1 spent). Research indicates wage returns of 8.5% over 3/5 years for Level 2 qualifications in maths and/or English.

Data suggests that the closer to Level 2 the qualification is - the higher the benefit to the exchequer, the local economy, and the individual – particularly in areas of deprivation.

To ensure value for money for the proposed activities, we have also looked at the average cost per learner per hour of delivery for our Adult Learning Service, which compares favourably with similar organisations across the country. Using a combination of national benchmarking data identifying costs per learner and costs per enrolment for a range of Adult Community Learning providers, as well as local data based on recent projects undertaken, we have established a baseline of indicative costs for each type of activity.

Monthly quality and progress review meetings across the three years will involve reporting on progress to target, a summary of types of activity expected and achieved as well as a review of evidence of individual progress and achievement.

Section E: Engaging learners

12. Which cohorts of learners will be hardest to reach? How do you intend to maximise the reach of the programme and make sure Multiply provision engages those learners that are hardest to reach (e.g., communications; reaching out to people via employers, 'touch points' such as housing and other community groups)? (Approx. 300 words)

Given the low numbers of people with numeracy or Level 2 qualifications locally and the relatively low levels of people engaging with numeracy related courses and activities, it is clear that promoting and running numeracy support is not enough. The local population who would benefit from Multiply have personal barriers which need to be addressed in order for them to engage.

Once people have left education they can be resistant to the idea of returning, particularly if their experience was poor. Reaching these people effectively therefore requires a different, and more stealth-like approach – contextualised to their everyday lives and circumstances.

Those who are among the most difficult to reach will include people who live in households which experience multiple deprivation, poor educational attainment, multiple vulnerabilities and challenges as well as seriously low income. They are predominantly unemployed and furthest away from the labour market – for whom low levels of numeracy is a barrier to progression into work, vocational training & further education, including apprenticeships.

Working with the partners involved in the development of this investment plan, Multiply in Blackburn with Darwen will support those traditionally hardest to reach. Partners include well established training and learning providers as well as reputable children, young people, parents, families, and community-based organisations. These offer a wealth of experience, knowledge, and skills in relation to engaging and supporting vulnerable people and communities.

Often, people within the target groups tend to remain in their own communities and it can be challenging for them to step outside of this to seek support. This includes the proposed work with employers, where employees might not feel confident to seek help outside of the organisation. Provision therefore needs to address and consider the following needs of individuals:

- Personalised provision/support – small groups/121
- Accessible locations – delivered in community settings/informal environments
- Build on trusted relationships within communities already supported
- Flexible times – to work around childcare & home life commitments
- Numeracy qualifications to support access to further learning or work

13. How will you ensure Multiply provision will be available and accessible to a diverse cohort as per [Public Sector Equalities Duty \(PSED\)](#) including those with dyscalculia or other protected characteristics? (Approx. 100 words)

The partner organisations invited to the consultation event and then to submit an Expression of Interest represent people with a wide range of needs, including those with protected characteristics. In addressing potential equality implications, the Investment Plan considers how the development and implementation of Multiply will ensure the accessibility of the offer. This will include venues, timings, suitable resources and additional learning support where appropriate. Making sure that all people are aware of the offer will involve varied methods of communication of information about Multiply and associated activities available to everyone, including those with protected characteristics.

Section F: Measuring success

14. **We expect Multiply learner data to be inputted into the Individualised Learner Record (ILR). Describe your approach to data collection, management, and reporting to meet these requirements (Approx. 250 words)**

The local authority's adult learning service has well established and robust methods of data collection in relation to learner details, along with suitable data management and associated reporting processes.

Data collection: Learner data is collected in line with ILR requirements through electronic and paper based methods. This data is then securely stored and inputted into our MIS system (MAYTAS by Tribal). This is the same system we use for our ESFA AEB contract.

Data management: We use Microsoft SharePoint to support the storage and organisation of our service data. Data is securely uploaded and stored on the system in line with GDPR principles.

Data reporting: ILR data is produced through our MIS system and validated using FIS and PDSAT prior to being submitted to the ESFA. We also have an internal data reporting process using Microsoft Power BI which enables us to present and report on ILR data using dashboards.

As part of our quality assurance and data accuracy processes a data cleansing activity regularly takes place to identify and resolve potential discrepancies.

Delivery partners for Multiply will be required to provide the same information for activities undertaken and this will enable us to report on all providers, with the ability to drill down and identify any specific providers which may need to implement remedial actions.

15. **What additional data (in addition to the Individualised Learner Record), if any, will you use to measure learner progress and achievement? If you do not have any additional data, you can answer "none". (Approx. 100 words)**

Using a model similar to RARPA, where appropriate, participants will be expected to carry out an initial assessment and results from this used as the basis from which to agree individual targets/learning goals based on their overall aim. For example, if the aim is to achieve a qualification, the learning goals should help the person work towards this outcome. These targets will be reviewed throughout their intervention and amended/added to as appropriate. Assessment of progress will be carried out for all. For longer programmes this will be at points throughout and for shorter interventions this will take place at the end.

16. Are there any other local measures of success against your plan that you intend to monitor? You can answer “not applicable” for this question. (Approx. 100 words)

We intend to monitor the wider impact of Multiply and how it benefits the individual, their family, their employer or their local community (as appropriate). The format of this review will be varied according to the type of activity being assessed. For example, where we want to look at wider impact for employer-based activities, the employer will be part of the review process and asked how the intervention has benefited the workplace as well as the individual themselves.

For community based activity with grassroots/third sector organisations, we will ask how the intervention has benefited the individual in their day to day life in addition to improving their confidence levels and/or numeracy skills.

Section G: Stakeholder management

- 17. Which organisations have you engaged with to develop your investment plan, including public sector, private sector, and civil society organisations? How have you engaged these organisations? (Approx. 100 words)**

Approximately 100 individuals from a wide range of partner organisations, local providers, employers and internal/external stakeholders were invited to an initial Multiply introductory session. This aim of this event was to introduce the initiative as well as to help gain an insight into the local need with regard to numeracy skills and skills development. It also sought to identify gaps in the local offer and how these might be addressed. Feedback from the workshop sessions provided a focus for potential target groups and themes to be considered as part of the BwD response to Multiply.

- 18. Detail how have you engaged lower tier local authorities, if any, within your local area in the development of your investment plan? You can answer “not applicable” to this question. (Approx. 100 words)**

In addition to the consultation/information event in Blackburn with Darwen we were part of a similar event in Lancashire which included Lancashire and Blackpool. This enabled us to reach a wider range of potential partners, giving the opportunity to identify potential links and collaborations across the county as a whole

Section H: Risks

19. Please set out any key risks including financial and fraud that could affect Multiply delivery. Describe these risks or issues, including the contingency measures you have put in place to mitigate them.

	Description of risk	Actions you will take to mitigate	After mitigation what is the likelihood of the risk occurring (High >70%, Possible 70-30%, Unlikely <30%)	After mitigation what would be the impact of the risk materialising? (High: significant impact of unable to deliver, Medium: delivery compromised, Low: Minor / no impact)
1	Delay in agreement of Investment Plan and issue of funds by DfE	Set expectations of delivery partners – explain the possibility of a delayed start to the programmes Respond to all communication, queries and feedback from DfE in relation to the Plan and suggested amendments	70-30%	Medium
2	Delay to start of programmes as a result of delay in the issue of funds	Ensure delivery partners have planned for more substantial proportion of delivery to take place later in the year	70-30%	Medium
3	Capacity and capability of partners to deliver the programme	Consultation event held to outline need Expressions of Interest submitted which outline capacity and capability Regular meetings with delivery partners following implementation	<30%	Minor
4	Failure to meet targets	Ensure successful delivery partners cover the scope and range of target groups Set clear aims and objectives for partners Set clear performance measures and outputs in contracts Implement monthly monitoring and reporting processes	70%-30%	Medium
5	Engagement, attendance and achievement of learners	Ensure successful delivery partners have experience of, or understand how to ensure success in these areas Set clear aims and objectives for partners Set clear performance measures and outputs in contracts Include in monthly monitoring and reporting processes	70%-30%	Medium

6	Employer engagement to support the Employer focus for Multiply	<p>Ensure successful delivery partners include organisations with experience of Employer engagement and activity</p> <p>Set clear aims and objectives for delivery partners</p> <p>Set clear performance measures and outputs in contracts</p> <p>Include in monthly monitoring and reporting processes</p>	<30%	Low
7	Quality of provision	<p>Ensure successful delivery partners understand quality processes and evidence requirements</p> <p>Set clear aims and objectives for delivery partners</p> <p>Set clear performance measures in contracts</p> <p>Include in monthly monitoring and reporting processes</p>	70%-30%	Medium

Section I: Capacity and Capability

20. **Do you have dedicated capacity and capability to deliver adult skills interventions and adult education? How many FTE will be working on delivery of Multiply and what functions are being undertaken by those FTE including who will be responsible for data collection, contract management and how you will coordinate delivery? (Approx. 250 words)**

The local authority's adult learning service has a well-established team delivering a wide range of adult skills programmes. In addition to specific Multiply interventions outlined in the accompanying spreadsheet, the team will provide added value to the initiative by embedding more focused and contextualised numeracy skills across the curriculum.

A proportion of the 10% for admin functions will support the contract management, data collection and data reporting processes.

Contract management, data collection and coordination of delivery – over the 3 years, this will involve the following:

0.1 FTE Service Lead – J Grade

This role will oversee the overall delivery of the project, holding regular meetings to discuss progress to target and ensure that the contract is in place and being adhered to

0.1 FTE Skills and Quality Manager – I Grade

This role will work with delivery partners to ensure that quality measures are robust and implemented. This will include the methods and processes used to ascertain starting points and progress made as a result of the intervention

0.1 FTE Knowledge Analyst – H Grade

This role will oversee the data collection, collation, inputting etc, ensuring that it is in line with ILR requirements. They will advise on appropriate data requirements, either through electronic or paper based methods. They will be responsible for the ILR data returns for Multiply.

0.2 FTE Admin/Business Support – D Grade

This role will be responsible for the data input and regular communication with delivery partners throughout the duration of the contract period. They will provide the key link between partners and core staff within the local authority

- 21. If you have capacity, would you be prepared to take a leading role in a regional peer-to-peer network to share learnings with other local authorities (eg host quarterly Multiply sessions, share best practice, etc)? This does not commit you at this stage and we will use this information to develop our learning plans across the Multiply programme. (Approx. 100 words)**

We would be happy to participate in a peer-to-peer network to share learning with other local authorities.

- 22. Please describe the key capacity and capability challenges (if you have any) for delivering skills interventions. This could include challenges within your local authority (e.g., gaps in areas such as procurement, contract management, communications) and/or in your local delivery system? This information will be used to inform what support could be made available nationally. (Approx. 100 words)**

The biggest challenge to delivering on the Multiply initiative would be to ensure there are sufficient maths and/or numeracy specialists who would be able to deliver the interventions included as part of this plan. However, the contributors have outlined how they will deliver the activities as part of the developmental programme of interventions which will support progression through the levels of numeracy across the 3 years of Multiply.

- 23. Please describe what further support would help address these challenges? We will use this information to inform what central government support is made available nationally but cannot commit to fund every individual request. (Approx. 100 words)**

A national approach to provide appropriate CPD and training for deliverers and delivery partners would be beneficial to ensure a consistent approach to the ongoing development of numeracy skills, albeit using innovative and contextualised approaches locally.


- 24. Are there interventions or capability areas where you can partner with other local authorities, providers, or employers in your region? (Approx. 100 words)**

We will continue a collaborative approach with colleagues in Lancashire and Blackpool to ensure that any cross-boundary opportunities are not missed.

Section J: Declaration of the Chief Executive of the lead local authority

As the lead local authority (Greater London Authority, Mayoral Combined Authorities, Upper Tier/Unitary Local Authorities) you will act as the accountable body and submit this application on behalf of your local area. By submitting this investment plan, you confirm:

- All the information included is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge.
- You have read, and confirm this plan is in accordance with, the expectations set out in the Multiply investment prospectus and technical guidance.
- Lower tier local authorities within your local area support this application and are committed to work with you.
- You will comply with the Assurance and Grant management process as outlined in the technical guidance and submit a statement of expenditure at mid-point and end of financial year.
- You understand that the grant will become repayable and further payments put on hold or reduced, if Multiply outputs are not on track for delivery and/or grant funding is not spent on eligible activities by the mid-point and end of each financial year.
- You understand that you will be responsible for ensuring data on Multiply learners is submitted through the Individualised Learner Record (ILR) and will submit regular monitoring reports as set out in the technical guidance.
- You will submit an annual progress report including an assurance statement to confirm spend was used wholly for the purposes for which it was given, and a revised investment plan for subsequent years of Multiply provision as set out in the technical guidance.
- You will support the sharing of learning as requested by the Department for Education – this may involve providing case studies, contributing to webinars and other activity as identified.
- You will comply with the Public Sector Equalities Duty and put in place equality policies and implementation plans as well as processes for learners to raise complaints about unfair practices or treatment.
- You will ensure value for money, seeking competitive costs for all activities and complying with the procurement governance as set out by your governing body.

Chief Executive name	Denise Park
Signature	
Date (DD/MM/YYYY)	28/06/2022



Department
for Education

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Agenda Item 8.3

EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION



REPORT OF: Executive Member for Environmental Services

LEAD OFFICERS: Strategic Director for Environment and Operations

DATE: 11th August 2022

PORTFOLIO/S AFFECTED: Environmental Services

WARD/S AFFECTED: Ewood Mill Hill and Moorgate

KEY DECISION: YES ☒ NO ☐

SUBJECT: Consultation on the Designation of a new Selective Licensing Area

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To seek approval to consult on the designation of a new Selective Licensing Area. This would require all privately rented houses within the designated area to be licensed under Part 3 of the Housing Act 2004.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Board:

- Approves the formal consultation process with residents, landlords and other parties regarding the designation of a new Selective Licensing Area;
- Notes the timelines outlined for the consultation, if approved. (Appendix 1);
- Notes the outcomes of a comparator study of the expired Infirmary and Darwen schemes (Appendix 2);
- Subject to satisfactory outcomes of consultations request further reports to be presented to the Executive Board seeking formal approval of the designation of the Selective Licensing Area under the Housing Act 2004. It is unlikely that the designation of this area would affect more than 20% of privately rented homes within the Borough, based on figures from census data, but if it does the designation would need to be submitted to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities for confirmation by the Secretary of State.

3. BACKGROUND

Section 80 of the Housing Act 2004 provides for the introduction of a scheme of selective licensing of private landlords in a local housing authority's area. The powers in the Act came into force in April

2006. Selective licensing is intended to address the impact of less engaged private landlords and anti-social tenants. It has primarily been developed with the need to tackle problems in areas of low housing demand in mind – although the Act also allows for selective licensing in areas of significant crime / anti-social behaviour. Low housing demand is where there is a high number of private rented properties, people are moving and only staying for short periods, and house prices and rental prices are low meaning owner occupiers are often in negative equity. This results in it being very difficult for a strong community to be developed and maintained in the area.

Many of the provisions relating to selective licensing are similar to those relating to the mandatory and discretionary licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) – new regimes which were also introduced by the 2004 Act.

In an area subject to selective licensing, all privately let properties must be licenced and if they are let without being licensed, or fail to comply with licensing conditions, the authority can take enforcement action.

To date the Borough has introduced five Selective Licensing schemes, all due to low demand:

- 1) Infirmary – came into force in February 2009
- 2) Central Darwen – came into force June 2009
- 3) Griffin – came into force in January 2013
- 4) Infirmary 2 – came into force March 2016
- 5) Darwen 2 – came into force May 2017

All selective licensing areas have now expired. A comparator study was recently commissioned to assess the relative impacts of the most recent selective licensing schemes (Infirmary 2 and Darwen 2), and this has shown that the schemes appear to have been beneficial in terms of addressing some of the issues which contribute to low demand; however there is still scope for improvement (Appendix 2).

As well as the comparator study, a review of the Borough has been undertaken to identify areas where low housing demand continues to be an issue (Appendix 3), for which a further designation may be appropriate, and a suitable area has been identified.

4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS

The private rented sector is an important and essential part of housing provision and housing choice in the Borough. Insufficiently managed private rented properties are the source of many problems and place high demands and costs across the Council and partner services as well as disruptive impact on local communities. Selective licensing aims to address the problems with poor quality and insufficiently managed private rented housing and in turn reduce the burden on Council services. Typically, such areas would be categorised as experiencing low housing demand.

A comparator study was commissioned in 2021 to evaluate the performance of the Infirmary and Darwen selective licensing areas. The study took into account factors such as property price changes, rent changes, time to let and empty properties, and concluded selective licensing has been particularly successful in increasing rent levels, reducing the time to let properties and reducing vacant properties. In terms of increasing property values, there has been greater success in Infirmary but generally prices have seen limited increases.

The study also recommended that further designation be considered to protect and develop the improvements seen.

To consider which areas of the Borough might currently be suitable for designating a selective licensing area, a review of the Borough was undertaken to identify areas of continuing low demand. (Appendix 3).

The indicators which have been assessed in the review in line with the requirements specified in the Housing Act 2004 are:

- Proportion of privately rented properties
- Property prices
- Rental values
- Time to let
- Long term empty properties
- Number of sales
- Turnover
- Rental yields

The above indicators have been collated and examined at Lower Super Output Level (LSOAs). It is important to collate and examine at LSOA level as this provides information for a smaller geographical area than at Ward Level; it would not be accurate to state a whole ward has low housing demand when the statistics relating to low housing demand relate only to one or two smaller geographical areas (LSOAs) within the whole ward.

The statistical analysis of the data gives an indication of the situation, but this needs to be considered with the Council's local knowledge and experience on whether an area requires intervention and whether other interventions have or are going to be put in place in the area being considered.

For this reason the statistical data in this review has been used as the basis of a consultation with partners within the Council in relation to demand on their own services in various areas of the Borough, and further detailed analysis has taken place in relation to prevalence of privately rented stock.

As a result of this work, an area has been identified which is believed would benefit from being designated as a Selective Licensing Area, and a map of this proposed area is attached as Appendix 4. It has been selected as the review identified that it is suffering from low demand, and analysis shows that the proportion of privately rented properties is high at 51% (the English Private Landlord Survey recently published by the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities puts the national proportion of privately rented properties at 19%).

The purpose of the scheme is that the implementation, combined with other measures being delivered by partners, will lead to a reduction in or elimination of the blight of low housing demand and therefore lead to improvements in social and economic conditions

The benefits of designating the area would include:

- Specific requirements for landlords to obtain references for new tenants.
- Specific requirements for landlords to take steps in relation to complaints about anti-social behaviour issues caused by their tenants.
- Specific requirements relating to the provision of bins built into the tenancy agreements.
- Provision of an Officer dedicated to working solely in the area who has close ties with Envirocrime, Community Safety and Empty Properties Teams. Consideration will be given to authorising this officer to enforce as wide a range of legislation as possible.

A key part of this proposed designation would be an evolved approach to enforcement within the scheme, compared with previous designations; while housing conditions would still be addressed as necessary within the area, more focus would be placed on ensuring compliance with conditions relating to environmental matters such as waste presentation and disposal, and general management

of tenants. Alongside this work, very close collaboration will take place with internal and external partners to maximise the mutual benefits of work undertaken within the area. Therefore further discussions will take place with colleagues in Envirocrime, Growth, Housing Needs and Community Safety Teams, as well as external partners during the 10-week consultation period.

A fair but robust approach will be taken towards enforcement within any newly designated selective licensing area.

Councils can recover costs associated with administering and performing the relevant functions of a selective licensing scheme. To achieve a cost neutral scheme the licence fees will have to be calculated with a view to recovering this cost over the 5 year period. Councils are not allowed to make a profit from licence fees, or use it for other purposes.

The legislation requires an intensive consultation and evidence base to be made in order to implement designation. The Council is required to consult fully with local residents, tenants and landlords, managing agents and local businesses, both within the proposed areas and in the surrounding areas. The Government Guidance also states that consultation on the designation must also contain the fee proposals as well as the scheme itself.

From 1st April 2015 the government introduced a new requirement that applications for Selective Licensing designation must be submitted to the Secretary of State for confirmation if the designation together with existing designations affect more than 20% of private rented homes in the local authority area, based on figures from census data. Given that no selective licensing areas are currently in force in Blackburn with Darwen, it is very unlikely that a referral to the Secretary of State would be required if designation took place. However the number of private rented homes in the area will be confirmed after the boundaries are agreed following the consultation exercise, indicating whether confirmation by the Secretary of State is required should the scheme go ahead.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Tackling the issues caused by substandard privately rented housing, poor housing conditions, inadequate tenant control and empty homes is a key priority for the Council. In policy terms it is a root cause when considering neighbourhood decline both in terms of social deprivation and environmental blight. Longer term if unchecked can lead to whole areas declining into further low demand, undermining communities leading to abandonment.

Whereas the Council normally relies of complaints from tenants to address poor housing conditions, with an associated weakness that tenants living in the worst properties (or who have unscrupulous landlords) do not complain for fear of harassment or retaliatory eviction, selective licensing provides an ability to proactively intervene within a designated area.

One of the challenges is of landlords not fully appreciating the significance of their roles and responsibilities. Buying a property can be a cheap but lucrative investment but if a landlord has no experience or understanding of property management, problems can impact more widely across a neighbourhood.

As well as clearly setting out duties to landlords via licensing conditions, selective licensing also builds in a 'fit and proper person' criteria in to the licensing process, and where a landlord cannot be licensed because they fail to meet the criteria, management has to be transferred to an acceptable licence holder who can manage the property satisfactorily.

The Council has in the past consulted on the development of a voluntary Landlord Accreditation Scheme as an alternative to selective licensing. This would entail 'accredited' landlords committing to ensure their properties achieve minimum standards and are well managed. The consultation indicated

that although there was perceived to be some benefit to the scheme landlords were reluctant to commit and there would be significant costs attached to development and maintenance. Previous accreditation schemes have not been well supported by landlords.

The designation of the selective licensing scheme would also support the Anti-Social behaviour policy for Blackburn with Darwen. A key outcome for the policy is “Improving the quality of life for all those who live, work and socialise in the Borough” and the designation of this selective licensing area would contribute significantly to that aim.

Selective Licensing supports the health and wellbeing of tenants and residents, and has a significant role in the Health and Well Being Strategy to promote healthy settings.

It would also be completely compatible with the vision set out in the draft Local Plan; ‘residents will take pride in their local neighbourhood as an attractive, clean and safe place to live, work, visit and move around in’.

In addition, the designation of the scheme would contribute towards the following Corporate Priorities:

- Safeguarding and supporting the most vulnerable people.
- Safe and clean environment.
- Strong, growing economy to enable social mobility.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A licensing fee of £727 is proposed (subject to consultation) for the area with a discount for applications submitted early within the scheme. Approximately 1200 licence applications are predicted, giving an annual income of approximately £157K over a 5 year period. As the law currently prohibits licensing schemes making a profit, the intention is to operate the scheme on a cost neutral basis, modelling income and expenditure over a 5 year period and matching staffing resources and costs. The proposed licence fee has been determined with reference to the cost of the Scheme over the 5 year period.

The proposed model provides for sufficient staffing resource to maintain a scheme which is robust in terms of enforcement but will allow integration of value-added elements such as landlord and tenant engagement to improve on issues which have a Council-wide impact (e.g. waste enforcement and other anti-social behaviour).

The Council will need to support those designation costs which cannot be recovered from the licensing fee, which includes the costs of consultations. This will be done from within existing budgets. Enforcement costs cannot be included in costings, although costs are applied for when a prosecution is successful (but cannot be applied for when cases do not reach the courts). Where appropriate, civil penalties will be used as an alternative to prosecution for non-compliance to minimise enforcement costs and avoid criminalisation of non-compliant landlords unduly.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Housing Act 2004 and regulations under the Act gives the Local Authority the power to introduce selective licensing in specified localities within their area. Guidance requires the Local Authority to present the case for selective licensing, and to say why it is the most appropriate solution, how consultations have been undertaken and how responses have been dealt with.

Local authorities can approve a scheme under 'general consent' powers. However, if the setting up of a scheme is not thorough and is not carried out in accordance with the legislation, the scheme can be

subject to judicial review. Responding to such a legal challenge would be both time consuming and costly.

The Act provides that privately rented properties falling within the designated area for a selective licensing scheme are required to be licensed. The relevant local authority is required to consider applications, deciding whether to approve and issue a licence or to refuse to issue a licence. The authority must impose some statutory licence conditions. In addition, the authority may impose other conditions relating to the management, use and occupation of the property. Further the authority must consider whether the proposed licence holder is a fit and proper person to hold a licence and whether the proposed management arrangements are satisfactory. The local authority may charge a licence fee reflecting the administration costs of the scheme.

After formal designation it is a criminal offence for a person who has control of or manages a property within the designated area (landlord or managing agent) not to have a licence for that property unless the property is exempt and the penalty is a fine for which there is now no statutory limit. It is also an offence not to comply with a condition for which the penalty is the same. If a person is unlicensed would also indicate that the person would not be a fit and proper person. In April 2017 an alternative civil penalty sanction was introduced for breaches relating to selective licensing; a local authority may issue a civil penalty of up to £30K, although lower is more likely. The issue of Civil Penalties must be authorised by Legal Services.

In recent years the Council has made use of the civil penalty regime made available by the Housing Act 2004, issuing 3 civil penalties of around £6K each for failure to obtain a licence in spite of reminders being sent.

The maximum period that an area may be designated as subject to selective licensing is five years. The Act provides that before making a selective licensing designation a local housing authority must take reasonable steps to consult persons who are likely to be affected by the designation and consider any representations made in accordance with the consultation.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The scheme would be administered by the Housing Standards team within Public Protection & Environmental Health.

It is anticipated that 1.5 FTE enforcement officer and 2 FTE admin staff would be required to administer the scheme, managed by the Principal Officer, Housing Standards. Existing staff will be reassigned to the duties, so no additional recruitment will be required.

9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Please select one of the options below. Where appropriate please include the hyperlink to the EIA.

Option 1 ☒ Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. (*insert EIA link here*)

Option 3 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. (*insert EIA attachment*)

10. CONSULTATIONS

Preliminary consultations have taken place with key members and enforcement partners, informing the draft outline of the proposed designated area.

The statutory consultation will inform the development of the EIA. Prior to any paper being submitted to Executive Board requesting the designation of the new area an EIA will be completed.

As mentioned previously, the Council is required to consult fully with local residents, tenants and landlords, managing agents and local businesses, both within the proposed area and in the surrounding area. Consultation will be undertaken through specific events and written communication. The minimum legal time period for consultation is 10 weeks to provide adequate time for people to respond and their views to be considered.

Following the Council's decision on whether or not to approve the designation, it is a legal requirement that the outcome of the consultations and the Council's decision is communicated to everyone who responded to the consultation.

The proposed consultation plan is attached as Appendix 1.

11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded in the Summary of Decisions published on the day following the meeting.

VERSION:	1
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CONTACT OFFICER:	Joanne Byrne, Gary Johnston
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DATE:	30 th May 2022
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BACKGROUND PAPER:	Appendix 1 – Consultation Plan Appendix 2 – Comparator Study Appendix 3 – Borough Review Appendix 4 – Map of Proposed Selective Licensing Area
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Proposed Ewood and Mill Hill Consultation plan

1. Flyer prepared and delivered to all dwellings and businesses in proposed area plus the area surrounding the proposed boundary plus to all managing agents and known landlords in the area, landlord associations, Citizens Advice Bureau, Shelter, Housing Associations and Members for wards affected, plus relevant internal and external partners.
2. Questionnaire delivered to all dwellings in area with prepaid envelopes.
3. Information placed on Council website and in Shuttle on line, with link for responses
4. 2 drop in sessions arranged for a venue within or near proposed area with officers to answer questions and questionnaires to complete (to be advertised in newsletter)
5. 10 week period for responses.
6. Collate responses to consultation and consider them.
7. Prepare Executive Board report with declaration report as appendix including results of consultation.
8. If necessary submit to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities for confirmation by Secretary of State

Blackburn with Darwen Selective Licensing Evaluation

Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council

January 2022

Main Contact: Helen Brzozowski
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 In 2009, Blackburn with Darwen Council declared two geographically licensed areas that were exhibiting indicators of low demand as one of the strategic measures alongside a range of other measures to tackle the problem. The areas were redesignated in 2016 and as the second designation is due to end in 2022, a review of Selective Licensing in the relevant areas has been undertaken to consider performance against the intended outcomes.
- 1.2 This report provides a comparator review of performance of designated licensing areas since 2009 to June 2021

Background to licensing

- 1.3 Section 80 of the Housing Act 2004 provides for the introduction of a scheme of selective licensing of private landlords in a local housing authority's area.
- 1.4 Selective licensing is intended to address the impact of poor quality private landlords and anti-social tenants. It has primarily been developed with the need to tackle problems in areas of low housing demand in mind – although the Act also allows for selective licensing in areas of significant crime / anti-social behaviour.
- 1.5 Many of the provisions relating to selective licensing are similar to those relating to the mandatory and discretionary licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) – new regimes which were also introduced by the 2004 Act. In a geographic area subject to selective licensing, all privately let properties must be licenced and if they are let without being licensed, or fail to comply with licensing conditions, the authority can take enforcement action.

Key Findings

- 1.6 **Lower Quartile property prices increased from £70,000 to £78,500 in Blackburn with Darwen over the 2008-2010 and 2019-June 2021 time period, a percentage change of 12.1%.**
- 1.7 In Darwen Licensed Output Areas, 5 of the analysed locations recorded increases and 4 of those 5 areas were single Output Areas where 100% of the Output Area is within the designated licensing area. 3 of the 5 areas where increases were recorded were in excess of the borough wide increase. Lower Quartile prices are currently £54,000. However, prices generally fell in the Darwen designated area and overall Lower Quartile price reductions of -9.2% were recorded. Recorded increases have generally focused on the second stage designation. Overall, Lower Quartile prices remain less than the borough average and the comparator location.
- 1.8 In Infirmary Licensed Output Area, 4 of the 6 analysed locations recorded increases. All 4 of the areas where increases were recorded were in excess of the borough wide increase. Lower Quartile prices are currently £60,000. However, prices remained static in Infirmary over the analysed period. During the initial designation Lower Quartile prices fell in Infirmary but have increased during the second designation but are still only aligned with those recorded in 2008-2010. Overall, Lower Quartile prices remain less than the borough average and the comparator location.
- 1.9 **Median Quartile property prices increased from £99,950 to £117,500 in Blackburn with Darwen over the 2008-2010 and 2019-June 2021 time period, a percentage change of 17.1%.**
- 1.10 In Darwen Licensed Output Areas, 8 of the analysed locations recorded increases. One area, E00171883 in Darwen South was in excess of the borough wide increase at 37.8%. Median Quartile prices are currently £69,474. However, prices generally fell in the Darwen designated area and overall Median Quartile price reductions of -6.1% were recorded. This is less than for Lower Quartile property values. Recorded increases have generally focused on the second stage designation. Between 2008-2010 and 2015-2017 all analysed locations recorded prices reductions. This is with the exception of E00063590 in Darwen South which recorded Median Quartile price change from £75,500 to £82,000 during this period. Overall Median Quartile prices remain less than the borough average and the comparator location.
- 1.11 In Infirmary Licensed Output Area, 3 of the 6 analysed locations recorded increases. All 3 of the areas where increases were recorded were in excess of the borough wide increase. Median Quartile prices are currently £76,500. Overall, in Infirmary Median Quartile prices have recorded increases of 9.3%, higher than the comparator area of 6.6% but lower than the borough average of 17.1%. Overall Median Quartile prices remain less than the borough average and the comparator location.
- 1.12 **Mean property prices increased from £114,814 to £142,023 in Blackburn with Darwen over the 2008-2010 and 2019-June 2021 time period, a percentage change of 23.7%.**
- 1.13 In Darwen Licensed Output Areas, 6 of the analysed locations recorded increases and 2 of those 7 areas were single Output Areas where 100% of the Output Area is within the designated licensing area. There were no locations where mean price change was higher

than the borough average and recorded increases ranged from 1.8% to 16.9%. Mean prices are currently £75,922. However, prices generally fell in the Darwen designated area and overall Mean price reductions of -6.3% were recorded. This is less than for Lower Quartile property values. Recorded increase have generally focused on the second stage designation. Between 2008-2010 and 2015-2017 all analysed locations recorded prices reductions. This is with the exception of E00063590 in Darwen South which recorded Mean price change from £76,700 to £86, 978 during this period. Overall Mean prices remain less than the borough average and the comparator location.

- 1.14 In Infirmary Licensed Output Area, 4 of the 6 analysed locations recorded increases. In Output area E00063498 in Ewood, the increase of 35.3% was in excess of the borough wide increase. Mean prices are currently £86,726. Overall, in Infirmary Mean prices have recorded increases of 5.1%, higher than the comparator area of 3.8% but lower than the borough average of 23.7%. Overall Mean prices remain less than the borough average and the comparator location.
- 1.15 **Median Quartile rents increased from £446pcm to £498pcm in Blackburn with Darwen over the 2008-2010 and 2019-June 2021 time period, a percentage change of 11.7%.**
- 1.16 In Darwen Licensed Output Areas, all of the analysed locations recorded increases. This is with the exception of two areas. E00171883 in Darwen south and E00063763 in Darwen East which recorded a -5% and 0% change respectively. All 5 of the Output Areas where 100% of the Output Area is within the designated licensing area recorded increases. 15 of the 20 areas considered in Darwen recorded Median Quartile rent increases in excess than the borough average and recorded increases ranged from 4.8% to 38.8%. Median Quartile rents are currently £451pcm. Rents in Darwen increased by 14.1% from 2008-2010, higher than the borough average of 11.7%. Recorded increases have generally been consistent across the designations. Overall Median Quartile rent levels remain less than the borough average.
- 1.17 In Infirmary Licensed Output Area, 4 of the 6 analysed locations recorded increases, with 3 locations in excess of the borough average increase. Median Quartile rents are currently £494pcm. Overall, in Infirmary Median Quartile rents have recorded increases of 4.7%, which is lower than the borough average of 11.7%. Overall Mean prices remain slightly less than the borough average
- 1.18 **Time to Let reduced from 11.3 weeks to 9.4 weeks in Blackburn with Darwen over the 2008-2010 and 2019-June 2021 time period, a percentage change of -16.9%.**
- 1.19 In Darwen Licensed Output Areas, 12 of the 20 analysed locations recorded reductions in Time to Let. Three locations where 100% of the Output Area is within the designated licensing area recorded reductions. 10 of the 20 areas considered in Darwen recorded Time to Let reductions in excess of the borough average and recorded reductions ranged from -0.9% to -78.4%. The Time to Let is currently 9 weeks. The Time to Let in Darwen reduced by -39.5%, higher than the borough average of -16.9%. Recorded reductions have generally been consistent across the designations. Overall Time to Let remains lower than the borough average.
- 1.20 In Infirmary Licensed Output Area, 2 of the 6 analysed locations recorded reduction; both locations in excess of the borough average reduction. Time to Let is currently 9.4 weeks which is consistent with Darwen and the borough average. There have been

some locations where Time to Let has significantly increased but overall performance remains consistent with other licensed locations.

- 1.21 **The total reduction in long term vacant properties in Blackburn with Darwen over the 2008, 2016 and 2021 time period was -30.3%. In 2021 the total percentage of long term vacant properties was 2% of all properties.**
- 1.22 In Darwen Licensed Output Areas, 14 of the 20 analysed locations recorded reductions in long term vacant properties. Three locations where 100% of the Output Area is within the designated licensing area recorded reductions. 10 of the 20 areas considered in Darwen recorded reduced percentages of long term vacant properties in excess of the borough average of -30.3%. The current percentage of long term vacant properties is 3.2% reduced from 4.1% in 2008, a reduction of -22.6%.
- 1.23 In Infirmary Licensed Output Area, 4 of the 6 analysed locations recorded reductions. Two locations in excess of the borough average reduction. The long term vacant rate is currently 2.6%, down from 3.2% in 2008.

In summary

- 1.24 The review of the scheme has highlighted that it has been particularly successful in increasing rent levels, reducing the time to let properties and reducing vacant properties. In terms of increasing property values, there has been greater success in Infirmary but generally prices have seen limited increases.

2. The designated licensing area

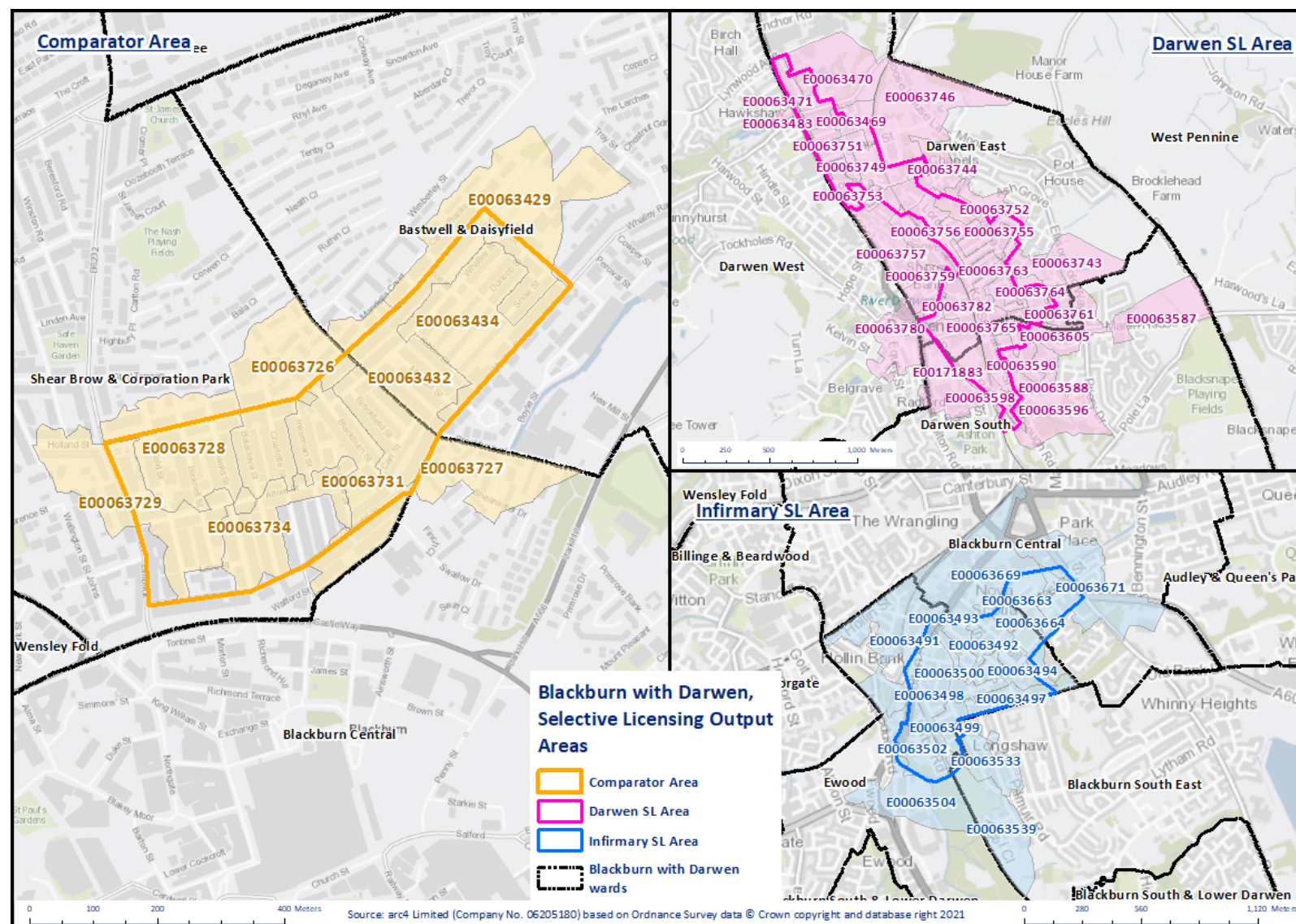
- 2.1 The locations in Blackburn with Darwen that are currently designated under selective licensing are set out below.
- 2.2 There are two designations:
- Darwen which comprises 27 Output Areas that form the designation and of those 5 of them are entirely included within the designated licensed area. A further 3 have over 80% of the area included. The percentage of these Output Areas, that are included, is set out in table 2.1. For example 74.8% of Output Area E00063471 is included within the designation, 25.2% is not.
 - Infirmary which comprises 12 Output Areas that form the designation and of those 1 of them are entirely included within the designated licensed area. The remainder are partly included.
- 2.3 The table also sets out comparable locations. These are Output Areas with similar characteristics to the designated Output Areas, for example they may contain large number of terraced properties but are considered to be performing better in terms of property values. The comparable locations will be included in the comparison study.
- 2.4 For both designations where less than 10% of the Output Areas was within the designation, the Output Area has been removed from the analysis.
- 2.5 Output Areas are generally small (circa between 110-140 households) and where data is unavailable over the time periods analysed, adjacent Output Areas have been merged for analytical purposes. For example in table 2.1 E00063759 & E00063760 in Darwen East are merged for the analysis.

Table 2.1 Designated Licensing Areas

DESIGNATION	OUTPUT AREAS	WARD	PROP. WITHIN DESIGNATION
Darwen SL Area	E00063749	Darwen East	100.0%
	E00063762	Darwen East	100.0%
	E00063759 & E00063760	Darwen East	100.0%
	E00063765 & E00063764	Darwen East	100.0%
	E00063758	Darwen East	100.0%
	E00063483 & E00063751	Darwen East	99.0%
	E00063782	Darwen East	95.6%
	E00063605	Darwen South	84.0%
	E00063598	Darwen South	77.3%
	E00063471	Darwen East	74.8%
	E00063766	Darwen East	63.7%
	E00063588 & E00063606	Darwen South	53.5%
	E00063753 & E00063757	Darwen East	49.0%
	E00063755 & E00063756 & E00063752	Darwen East	46.1%
	E00063469	Darwen East	49.1%
	E00171883	Darwen South	38.6%
	E00063590	Darwen South	24.9%
	E00063743	Darwen East	22.5%
	E00063470	Darwen East	22.1%
	E00063763	Darwen East	17.4%
DARWEN SL AREA TOTAL			
Infirmery SL Area	E00063498	Ewood	100.0%
	E00063492 & E00063493	Ewood	98.1%
	E00063496 & E00063500 & E00063494	Ewood	97.0%
	E00063499 & E00063497	Ewood	85.5%
	E00063502	Ewood	74.4%
	E00063663 & E00063664 & E00063669	Blackburn Central	67.7%
	INFIRMARY SL AREA TOTAL		
Comparable Areas	E00063429 & E00063434	Bastwell & Daisyfield	N/A
	E00063432	Bastwell & Daisyfield	N/A
	E00063726	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A
	E00063727	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A
	E00063728	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A
	E00063729	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A
	E00063731	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A
	E00063734	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A
COMPARABLE AREA TOTAL			

2.6 The locations are mapped overleaf:

Map 2.1 Areas of designation and comparator location



3. Indicators for review

- 3.1 The following indicators have been considered as part of the review and data considered for three time periods:
- 2008-2010 (taking into account the designation in 2009)
 - 2015-2017 (taking into account the redesignation in 2016)
 - 2019-June 2021 (the final evaluation timeframe)
- 3.2 Three years data have been used to ensure that sample data is robust.

Table 3.1 Indicators for review

NO	INDICATORS	DATA SOURCE
1	Lower Quartile Property % price change (all property) ranked lowest to highest	Land Registry
2	Median Quartile Property % price change (all property) ranked lowest to highest	Land Registry
3	Mean Property % price change (all property) ranked lowest to highest	Land Registry
4.	Median Quartile rent change (all property) ranked lowest to highest (Zoopla data only includes properties on the private rented market)	Zoopla ¹
5	% Change in Time to let (all property) (Zoopla data only includes properties on the private rented market)	Zoopla
6	Actual numbers and % of vacant properties (all vacant property over 6 months) 2008, 2016 and 2021	Blackburn with Darwen

- 3.3 Each indicator is considered individually and each area ranked 1 (the worst performing) to 34 (the best performing) over the 2008-2010 and 2019-June 2021 timescale. A comparison of performance is also made with the district.
- 3.4 Finally, all of the ranking scores for each indicator are added together for each area and an overall ranking provided to consider overall performance and change. For overall ranking Median rent levels and Time to let could not be included for comparator areas because of a lack of data.
- 3.5 Therefore overall rankings are only applied to licensed locations.

¹ Zoopla data is taken through a research license with Zoopla. It takes into account private rented property that is advertised through Zoopla

4. Lower Quartile Property Price Change

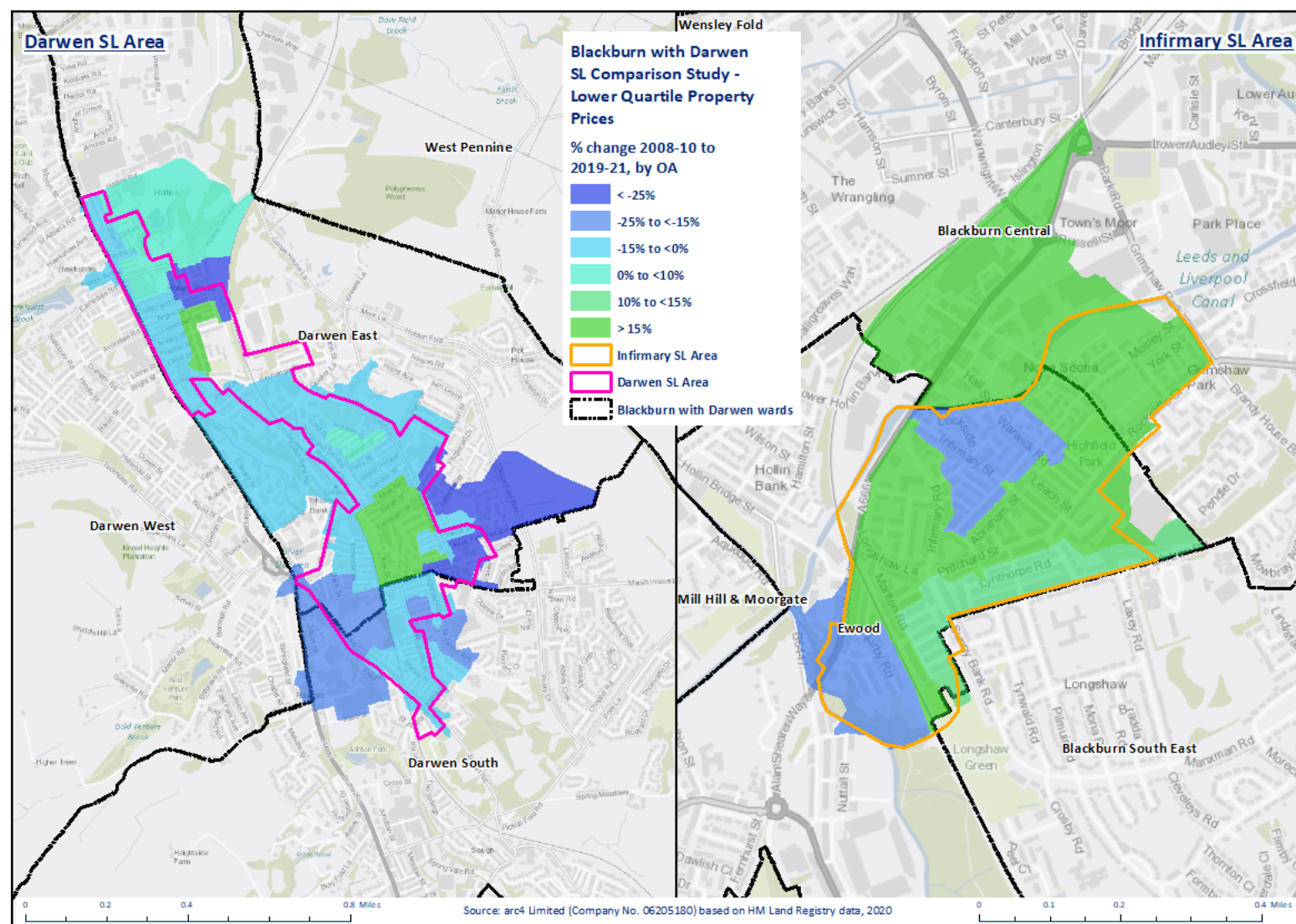
- 4.1 Lower Quartile property prices have been considered in 2008-2010, 2015-2017 and 2019-June 2021, for each of the designated and comparator Output Areas as well as for the district.
- 4.2 The percentage change in the values are then ranked 1 to 34 across all Output Areas (merged Output Areas will receive a single rank). They are set out in table 4.1 and those with improved performance are highlighted. Lower Quartile property price change is shown in Map 4.1 for each of the licensed Output Areas and comparator locations. The Output Areas with improved performance are highlighted.
- 4.3 Lower Quartile property prices increased from £70,000 to £78,500 in Blackburn with Darwen over the 2008-2010 and 2019-June 2021 time period, a percentage change of 12.1%.
- 4.4 In Darwen Licensed Output Areas, 5 of the analysed locations recorded increases and 4 of those 5 areas were single Output Areas where 100% of the Output Area is within the designated licensing area. 3 of the 5 areas where increases were recorded were in excess of the borough wide increase. Lower Quartile prices are currently £54,000. However, prices generally fell in the Darwen designated area and overall Lower Quartile price reductions of -9.2% were recorded. Recorded increases have generally focused on the second stage designation. Between 2008-2010 and 2015-2017 all analysed locations recorded prices reductions. This is with the exception of E00063749 in Darwen East which recorded Lower Quartile price change from £57,500 to £59,000 during this period. Overall, Lower Quartile prices remain less than the borough average and the comparator location.
- 4.5 In Infirmary Licensed Output Area, 4 of the 6 analysed locations recorded increases. All 4 of the areas where increases were recorded were in excess of the borough wide increase. Lower Quartile prices are currently £60,000. However, prices remained static in Infirmary over the analysed period. During the initial designation Lower Quartile prices fell in Infirmary but have increased during the second designation but are still only aligned with those recorded in 2008-2010. Overall, Lower Quartile prices remain less than the borough average and the comparator location.
- 4.6 During the analysed period, Lower Quartile prices increased by 2.5% in the comparator location but there was mixed performance with some Output Areas increasing and others recording price reductions.
- 4.7 One of bench mark elements of performance is how many of the 26 licensed areas being analysed are ranked in the top 50% (18-34) and how many in the bottom (1-17). For Lower Quartile property price change, 13 are ranked in the bottom 50% and 13 in the top 50%.

Table 4.1 Lower Quartile Property Price Change

DESIGNATION	OUTPUT AREAS	WARD	PROP. WITHIN DESIGNATION	INDICATOR 1 (SOURCE: LAND REGISTRY, 2008-21)							
				Lower Quartile Property % price change (all property) ranked lowest to highest							
				P1: 2008-2010	COUNT	P2: 2015-2017	COUNT	P3: 2019-2021	COUNT	CHANGE (P1-P3)	RANK
Darwen SL Area	E00063749	Darwen East	100.0%	£57,500	7	£59,000	10	£70,000	11	21.7%	29
	E00063762	Darwen East	100.0%	£47,475	12	£40,000	16	£55,000	15	15.9%	27
	E00063759 & E00063760	Darwen East	100.0%	£58,000	30	£45,750	28	£51,750	41	-10.8%	15
	E00063765 & E00063764	Darwen East	100.0%	£43,250	8	£39,750	9	£52,750	6	22.0%	30
	E00063758	Darwen East	100.0%	£46,000	19	£45,000	17	£49,963	12	8.6%	24
	E00063483 & E00063751	Darwen East	99.0%	£52,500	17	£45,438	42	£50,000	32	-4.8%	18
	E00063782	Darwen East	95.6%	£50,000	11	£38,500	18	£48,000	13	-4.0%	19
	E00063605	Darwen South	84.0%	£69,975	8	£51,000	21	£60,250	20	-13.9%	12
	E00063598	Darwen South	77.3%	£67,950	10	£50,000	22	£66,238	16	-2.5%	20
	E00063471	Darwen East	74.8%	£48,000	19	£46,000	23	£47,625	10	-0.8%	21
	E00063766	Darwen East	63.7%	£57,000	4	£51,000	10	£50,750	14	-11.0%	14
	E00063588 & E00063606	Darwen South	53.5%	£65,000	14	£46,750	19	£58,750	22	-9.6%	16
	E00063753 & E00063757	Darwen East	49.0%	£60,000	13	£42,000	37	£51,063	18	-14.9%	10
	E00063755 & E00063756 & E00063752	Darwen East	46.1%	£58,500	30	£45,000	54	£50,000	40	-14.5%	11
	E00063469	Darwen East	49.1%	£69,000	13	£63,000	9	£51,500	17	-25.4%	5
	E00171883	Darwen South	38.6%	£60,000	13	£42,000	7	£50,500	7	-15.8%	8
	E00063590	Darwen South	24.9%	£75,000	5	£66,000	18	£56,750	8	-24.3%	6
	E00063743	Darwen East	22.5%	£75,000	9	£55,000	19	£51,000	22	-32.0%	2
	E00063470	Darwen East	22.1%	£51,000	10	£39,498	20	£51,250	17	0.5%	22
	E00063763	Darwen East	17.4%	£72,950	30	£51,000	20	£52,000	27	-28.7%	4
DARWEN SL AREA TOTAL				£59,498	337	£47,000	490	£54,000	432	-9.2%	
Infirmary SL Area	E00063498	Ewood	100.0%	£58,500	12	£88,500	60	£72,250	28	23.5%	31
	E00063492 & E00063493	Ewood	98.1%	£58,500	31	£40,250	24	£46,813	16	-20.0%	7
	E00063496 & E00063500 & E00063494	Ewood	97.0%	£47,000	35	£43,500	37	£55,000	38	17.0%	28
	E00063499 & E00063497	Ewood	85.5%	£58,500	16	£55,125	22	£65,750	22	12.4%	26
	E00063502	Ewood	74.4%	£60,000	93	£46,000	29	£51,000	19	-15.0%	9
	E00063663 & E00063664 & E00063669	Blackburn Central	67.7%	£61,750	36	£63,313	16	£79,600	11	28.9%	32
INFIRMARY SL AREA TOTAL				£60,000	274	£51,000	225	£60,000	190	0.0%	
Comparable Areas	E00063429 & E00063434	Bastwell & Daisyfield	N/A	£100,000	7	£50,000	7	£70,625	8	-29.4%	3
	E00063432	Bastwell & Daisyfield	N/A	£75,000	15	£56,250	8	£78,000	11	4.0%	23
	E00063726	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	£60,000	11	£120,000	3	£93,250	4	55.4%	33
	E00063727	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	£75,000	5	£60,000	5	£65,000	8	-13.3%	13
	E00063728	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	£77,500	4	£60,000	3	£71,750	4	-7.4%	17
	E00063729	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	£70,000	11	£80,000	9	£132,500	5	89.3%	34
	E00063731	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	£72,500	9	£60,000	10	£80,000	5	10.3%	25
	E00063734	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	£94,500	8	£85,000	4	£63,161	6	-33.2%	1
COMPARABLE AREA TOTAL				£78,000	70	£60,000	49	£80,000	51	2.6%	
BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN DISTRICT				£70,000	4,438	£70,000	5,598	£78,500	4,437	12.1%	

Source: Land Registry

Map 4.1 Lower Quartile Property Price Change



Source: Land Registry

5. Median Quartile Property Price Change

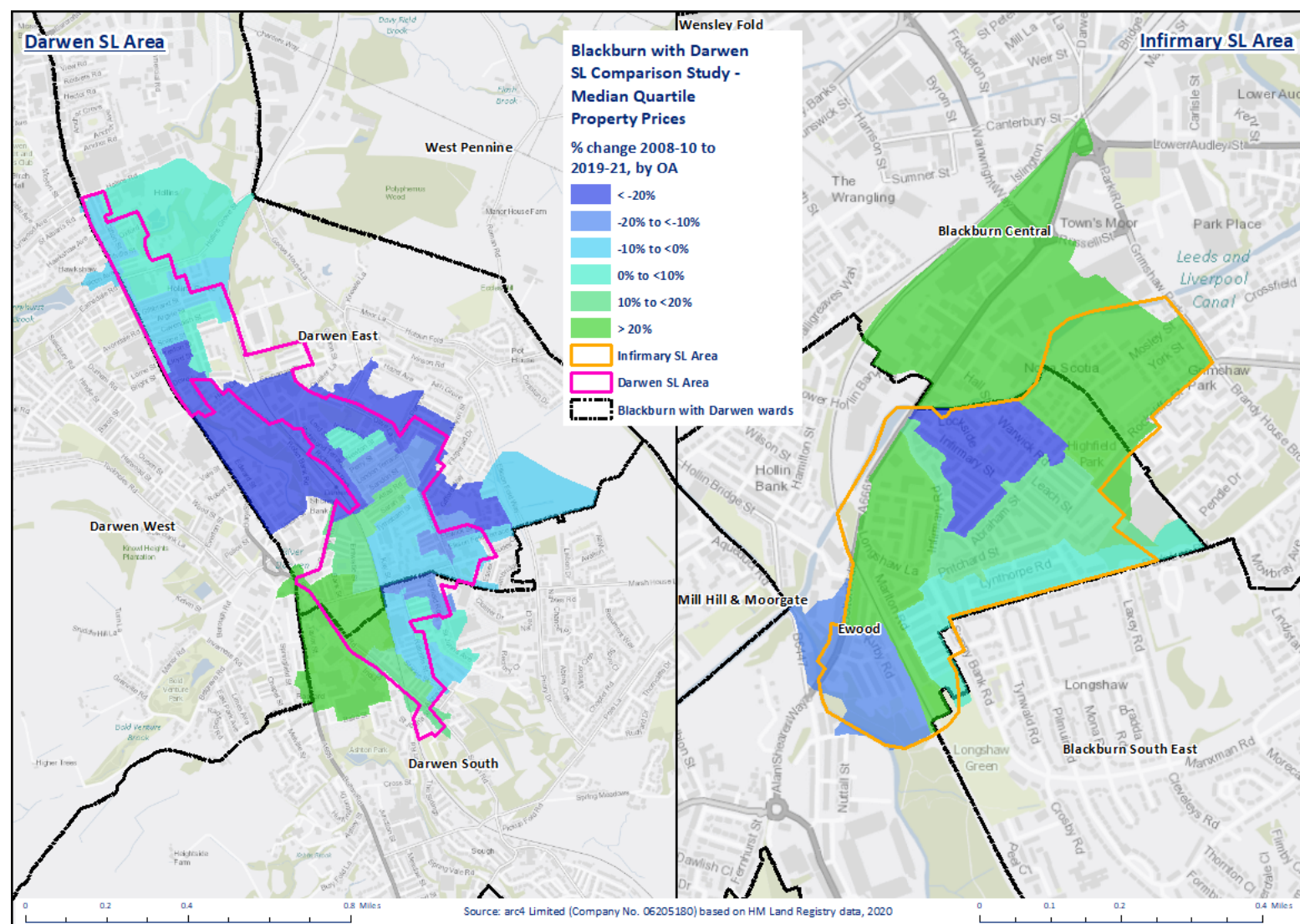
- 5.1 Median Quartile property prices have been considered in 2008-2010, 2015-2017 and 2019-June 2021, for each of the designated and comparator Output Areas as well as for the district.
- 5.2 The percentage change in the values are then ranked 1 to 34 across all Output Areas (merged Output Areas will receive a single rank). They are set out in table 5.1 and those with improved performance are highlighted. Median Quartile property price change is shown in Map 5.1 for each of the licensed Output Areas and comparator locations. The Output Areas with improved performance are highlighted.
- 5.3 Median Quartile property prices increased from £99,950 to £117,500 in Blackburn with Darwen over the 2008-2010 and 2019-June 2021 time period, a percentage change of 17.1%.
- 5.4 In Darwen Licensed Output Areas, 8 of the analysed locations recorded increases and 3 of those 7 areas were single Output Areas where 100% of the Output Area is within the designated licensing area. 1 area, E00171883 in Darwen South was in excess of the borough wide increase at 37.8%. Median Quartile prices are currently £69,474. However, prices generally fell in the Darwen designated area and overall Median Quartile price reductions of -6.1% were recorded. This is less than for Lower Quartile property values. Recorded increases have generally focused on the second stage designation. Between 2008-2010 and 2015-2017 all analysed locations recorded prices reductions. This is with the exception of E00063590 in Darwen South which recorded Median Quartile price change from £75,500 to £82,000 during this period. Overall Median Quartile prices remain less than the borough average and the comparator location.
- 5.5 In Infirmary Licensed Output Area, 3 of the 6 analysed locations recorded increases. All 3 of the areas where increases were recorded were in excess of the borough wide increase. Median Quartile prices are currently £76,500. Overall, in Infirmary Median Quartile prices have recorded increases of 9.3%, higher than the comparator area of 6.6% but lower than the borough average of 17.1%. Overall Median Quartile prices remain less than the borough average and the comparator location.
- 5.6 During the analysed period, Median Quartile prices increased by 6.6% in the comparator location but there was mixed performance with some Output Areas increasing and others recording price reductions, albeit the majority of locations recorded increases.
- 5.7 One of bench mark elements of performance is how many of the 26 licensed areas being analysed are ranked in the top 50% (18-34) and how many in the bottom (1-17). For Lower Quartile property price change, 14 are ranked in the bottom 50% and 12 in the top 50%.

Table 5.1 Median Quartile Property Price Change

DESIGNATION	OUTPUT AREAS	WARD	PROP. WITHIN DESIGNATION	INDICATOR 2 (SOURCE: LAND REGISTRY, 2008-21)							
				Median Quartile Property % price change (all property) ranked lowest to highest							
				P1: 2008-2010	COUNT	P2: 2015-2017	COUNT	P3: 2019-2021	COUNT	CHANGE (P1-P3)	RANK
Darwen SL Area	E00063749	Darwen East	100.0%	£74,000	7	£68,250	10	£75,000	11	1.4%	18
	E00063762	Darwen East	100.0%	£53,000	12	£51,000	16	£62,000	15	17.0%	29
	E00063759 & E00063760	Darwen East	100.0%	£71,000	30	£55,000	28	£62,000	41	-12.7%	8
	E00063765 & E00063764	Darwen East	100.0%	£60,500	8	£43,500	9	£58,500	6	-3.3%	16
	E00063758	Darwen East	100.0%	£56,850	19	£50,000	17	£59,250	12	4.2%	20
	E00063483 & E00063751	Darwen East	99.0%	£65,000	17	£57,750	42	£60,500	32	-6.9%	13
	E00063782	Darwen East	95.6%	£60,000	11	£44,000	18	£70,000	13	16.7%	28
	E00063605	Darwen South	84.0%	£75,500	8	£69,000	21	£65,500	20	-13.2%	7
	E00063598	Darwen South	77.3%	£70,000	10	£65,000	22	£80,000	16	14.3%	25
	E00063471	Darwen East	74.8%	£79,500	19	£55,000	23	£77,750	10	-2.2%	17
	E00063766	Darwen East	63.7%	£64,000	4	£54,000	10	£57,500	14	-10.2%	10
	E00063588 & E00063606	Darwen South	53.5%	£75,500	14	£56,000	19	£69,250	22	-8.3%	12
	E00063753 & E00063757	Darwen East	49.0%	£85,000	13	£48,000	37	£58,500	18	-31.2%	1
	E00063755 & E00063756 & E00063752	Darwen East	46.1%	£70,000	30	£53,375	54	£55,000	40	-21.4%	4
	E00063469	Darwen East	49.1%	£78,000	13	£69,000	9	£75,000	17	-3.8%	15
	E00171883	Darwen South	38.6%	£74,000	13	£68,000	7	£102,000	7	37.8%	33
	E00063590	Darwen South	24.9%	£75,500	5	£82,000	18	£77,750	8	3.0%	19
	E00063743	Darwen East	22.5%	£81,500	9	£63,000	19	£73,500	22	-9.8%	11
	E00063470	Darwen East	22.1%	£60,407	10	£53,000	20	£65,000	17	7.6%	21
	E00063763	Darwen East	17.4%	£117,475	30	£81,500	20	£90,000	27	-23.4%	3
DARWEN SL AREA TOTAL				£74,000	337	£60,000	490	£69,475	432	-6.1%	
Infirmary SL Area	E00063498	Ewood	100.0%	£68,750	12	£123,500	60	£92,475	28	34.5%	32
	E00063492 & E00063493	Ewood	98.1%	£70,000	31	£50,000	24	£50,000	16	-28.6%	2
	E00063496 & E00063500 & E00063494	Ewood	97.0%	£52,000	35	£55,000	37	£60,000	38	15.4%	26
	E00063499 & E00063497	Ewood	85.5%	£68,250	16	£64,500	22	£75,000	22	9.9%	23
	E00063502	Ewood	74.4%	£69,995	93	£64,000	29	£60,000	19	-14.3%	6
	E00063663 & E00063664 & E00063669	Blackburn Central	67.7%	£68,500	36	£70,000	16	£85,000	11	24.1%	30
INFIRMARY SL AREA TOTAL				£70,000	274	£68,000	225	£76,500	432	9.3%	
Comparable Areas	E00063429 & E00063434	Bastwell & Daisyfield	N/A	£104,000	7	£53,500	7	£97,500	8	-6.3%	14
	E00063432	Bastwell & Daisyfield	N/A	£90,000	15	£82,500	8	£104,000	11	15.6%	27
	E00063726	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	£124,000	11	£125,000	3	£135,000	4	8.9%	22
	E00063727	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	£90,000	5	£75,000	5	£80,000	8	-11.1%	9
	E00063728	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	£100,000	4	£60,000	3	£113,500	4	13.5%	24
	E00063729	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	£85,000	11	£95,000	9	£154,000	5	81.2%	34
	E00063731	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	£103,000	9	£79,000	10	£134,000	5	30.1%	31
	E00063734	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	£104,750	8	£102,500	4	£88,000	6	-16.0%	5
COMPARABLE AREA TOTAL				£98,500	70	£80,000	49	£105,000	51	6.6%	
BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN DISTRICT				£99,950	4,438	£100,000	5,598	£117,000	4,437	17.1%	

Source: Land Registry

Map 5.1 Median Quartile Property Price Change



Source: Land Registry

6. Mean Property Price Change

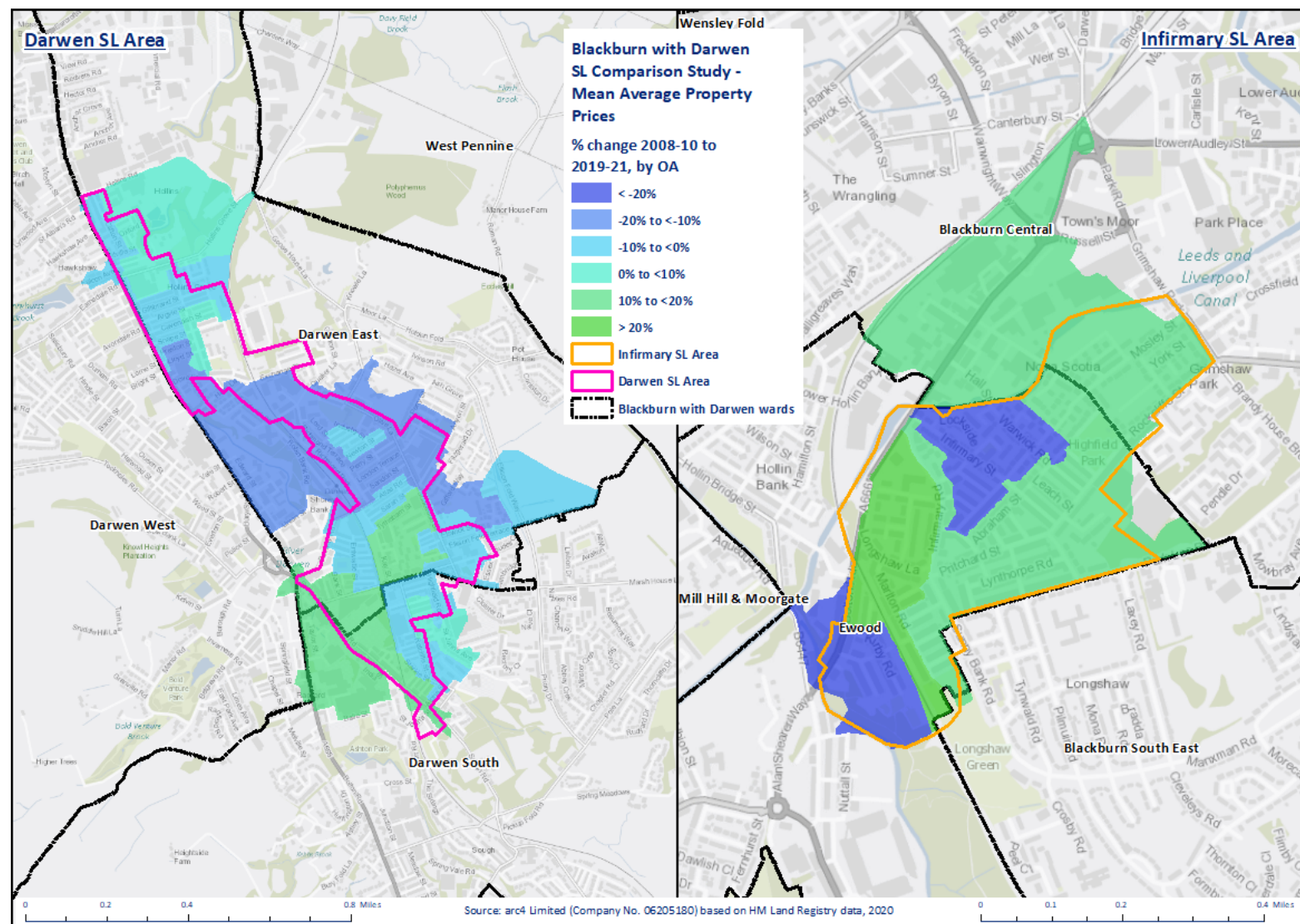
- 6.1 Mean property prices have been considered in 2008-2010, 2015-2017 and 2019-June 2021, for each of the designated and comparator Output Areas as well as for the district.
- 6.2 The percentage change in the values are then ranked 1 to 34 across all Output Areas (merged Output Areas will receive a single rank). They are set out in table 6.1 and those with improved performance are highlighted. Mean property price change is shown in Map 6.1 for each of the licensed Output Areas and comparator locations. The Output Areas with improved performance are highlighted.
- 6.3 Mean property prices increased from £114,814 to £142,023 in Blackburn with Darwen over the 2008-2010 and 2019-June 2021 time period, a percentage change of 23.7%.
- 6.4 In Darwen Licensed Output Areas, 6 of the analysed locations recorded increases and 2 of those 7 areas were single Output Areas where 100% of the Output Area is within the designated licensing area. There were no locations where mean price change was higher than the borough average and recorded increases ranged from 1.8% to 16.9%. Mean prices are currently £75,922. However, prices generally fell in the Darwen designated area and overall Mean price reductions of -6.3% were recorded. This is less than for Lower Quartile property values. Recorded increase have generally focused on the second stage designation. Between 2008-2010 and 2015-2017 all analysed locations recorded prices reductions. This is with the exception of E00063590 in Darwen South which recorded Mean price change from £76,700 to £86, 978 during this period. Overall Mean prices remain less than the borough average and the comparator location.
- 6.5 In Infirmary Licensed Output Area, 4 of the 6 analysed locations recorded increases. In Output area E00063498 in Ewood, the increase of 35.3% was in excess of the borough wide increase. Mean prices are currently £86,726. Overall, in Infirmary Mean prices have recorded increases of 5.1%, higher than the comparator area of 3.8% but lower than the borough average of 23.7%. Overall Mean prices remain less than the borough average and the comparator location.
- 6.6 During the analysed period, Mean prices increased by 3.8% in the comparator location and 6 of the 8 analysed areas recorded increases.
- 6.7 One of bench mark elements of performance is how many of the 26 licensed areas being analysed are ranked in the top 50% (18-34) and how many in the bottom (1-17). For Lower Quartile property price change, 15 are ranked in the bottom 50% and 11 in the top 50%.

Table 6.1 Mean Property Price Change

DESIGNATION	OUTPUT AREAS	WARD	PROP. WITHIN DESIGNATION	INDICATOR 3 (SOURCE: LAND REGISTRY, 2008-21)							
				Mean Property % price change (all property) ranked lowest to highest							
				P1: 2008-2010	COUNT	P2: 2015-2017	COUNT	P3: 2019-2021	COUNT	CHANGE (P1-P3)	RANK
Darwen SL Area	E00063749	Darwen East	100.0%	£75,357	7	£70,450	10	£76,723	11	1.8%	20
	E00063762	Darwen East	100.0%	£61,246	12	£52,609	16	£61,065	15	-0.3%	18
	E00063759 & E00063760	Darwen East	100.0%	£73,003	30	£56,784	28	£62,949	41	-13.8%	7
	E00063765 & E00063764	Darwen East	100.0%	£57,750	8	£50,361	9	£67,000	6	16.0%	28
	E00063758	Darwen East	100.0%	£59,680	19	£58,794	17	£58,079	12	-2.7%	17
	E00063483 & E00063751	Darwen East	99.0%	£63,115	17	£56,595	42	£60,875	32	-3.5%	16
	E00063782	Darwen East	95.6%	£70,397	11	£51,250	18	£66,150	13	-6.0%	14
	E00063605	Darwen South	84.0%	£81,806	8	£68,486	21	£75,108	20	-8.2%	10
	E00063598	Darwen South	77.3%	£73,140	10	£72,134	22	£80,747	16	10.4%	25
	E00063471	Darwen East	74.8%	£82,053	19	£66,154	23	£76,400	10	-6.9%	12
	E00063766	Darwen East	63.7%	£65,188	4	£58,400	10	£61,071	14	-6.3%	13
	E00063588 & E00063606	Darwen South	53.5%	£72,036	14	£54,829	19	£68,250	22	-5.3%	15
	E00063753 & E00063757	Darwen East	49.0%	£90,469	13	£65,336	37	£78,403	18	-13.3%	8
	E00063755 & E00063756 & E00063752	Darwen East	46.1%	£73,555	30	£58,209	54	£61,615	40	-16.2%	6
	E00063469	Darwen East	49.1%	£76,615	13	£67,069	9	£69,476	17	-9.3%	9
	E00171883	Darwen South	38.6%	£75,615	13	£74,714	7	£88,357	7	16.9%	29
	E00063590	Darwen South	24.9%	£76,700	5	£86,978	18	£80,500	8	5.0%	22
	E00063743	Darwen East	22.5%	£78,167	9	£65,576	19	£72,157	22	-7.7%	11
	E00063470	Darwen East	22.1%	£58,431	10	£50,525	20	£63,441	17	8.6%	24
	E00063763	Darwen East	17.4%	£111,494	30	£89,743	20	£89,933	27	-19.3%	4
DARWEN SL AREA TOTAL				£80,996	337	£68,672	490	£75,922	432	-6.3%	
Infirmary SL Area	E00063498	Ewood	100.0%	£73,575	12	£113,587	60	£99,555	28	35.3%	33
	E00063492 & E00063493	Ewood	98.1%	£86,515	31	£63,260	24	£63,359	16	-26.8%	1
	E00063496 & E00063500 & E00063494	Ewood	97.0%	£58,671	35	£59,666	37	£65,254	38	11.2%	26
	E00063499 & E00063497	Ewood	85.5%	£72,403	16	£68,602	22	£80,750	22	11.5%	27
	E00063502	Ewood	74.4%	£83,675	93	£64,198	29	£66,339	19	-20.7%	2
	E00063663 & E00063664 & E00063669	Blackburn Central	67.7%	£74,167	36	£71,088	16	£87,555	11	18.1%	30
INFIRMARY SL AREA TOTAL				£82,511	274	£77,583	225	£86,726	432	5.1%	
Comparable Areas	E00063429 & E00063434	Bastwell & Daisyfield	N/A	£117,000	7	£57,336	7	£95,938	8	-18.0%	5
	E00063432	Bastwell & Daisyfield	N/A	£104,667	15	£85,188	8	£106,545	11	1.8%	19
	E00063726	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	£131,181	11	£129,333	3	£134,000	4	2.1%	21
	E00063727	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	£79,000	5	£87,800	5	£85,469	8	8.2%	23
	E00063728	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	£95,000	4	£73,333	3	£113,875	4	19.9%	31
	E00063729	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	£89,636	11	£98,889	9	£161,800	5	80.5%	34
	E00063731	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	£95,222	9	£92,300	10	£121,300	5	27.4%	32
	E00063734	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	£121,813	8	£102,500	4	£97,358	6	-20.1%	3
COMPARABLE AREA TOTAL				£106,064	70	£88,834	49	£110,086	51	3.8%	
BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN DISTRICT				£114,814	4,438	£123,267	5,598	£142,023	4,437	23.7%	

Source: Land Registry

Map 6.1 Mean Property Price Change



Source: Land Registry

7. Median Quartile Rent Change

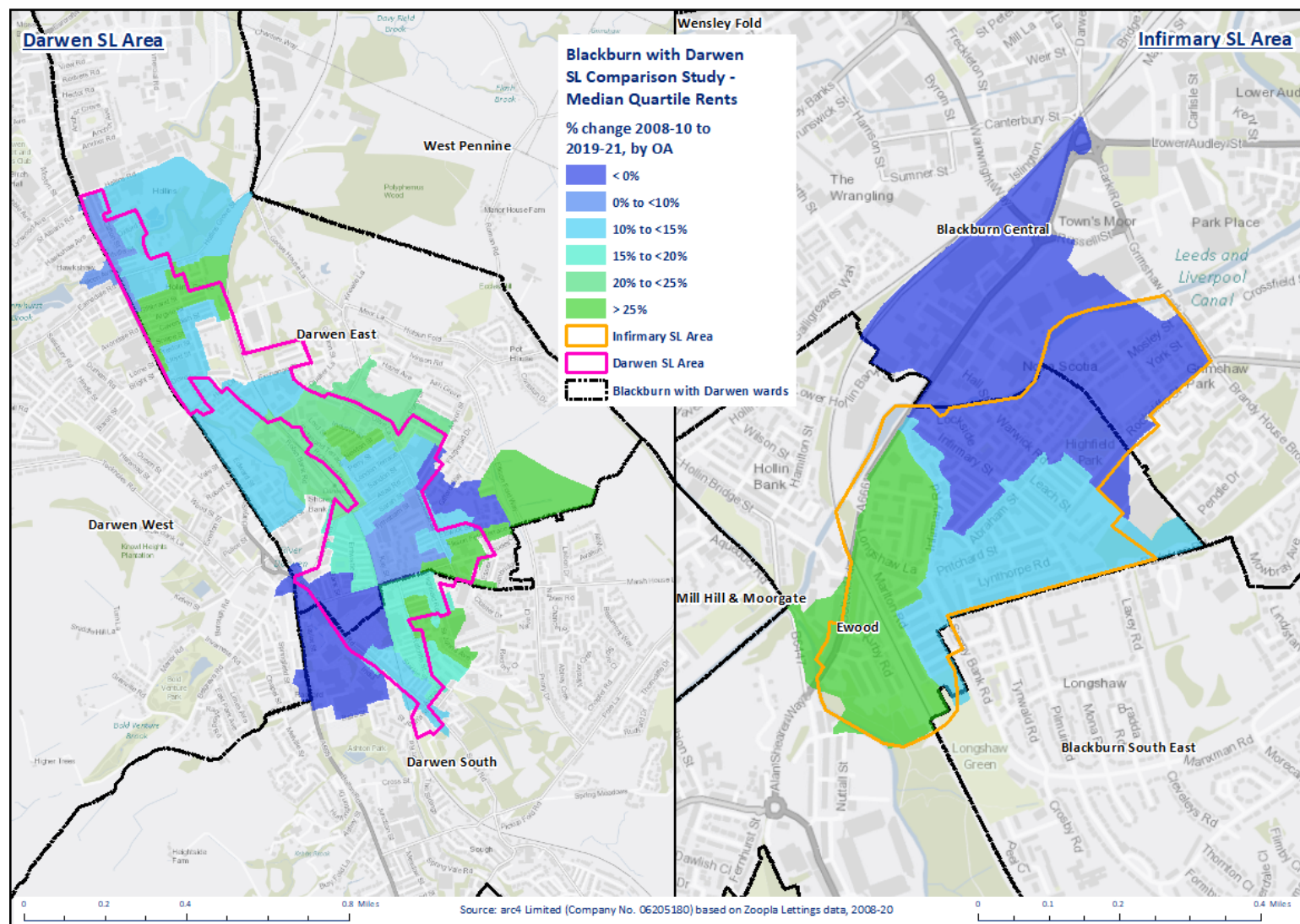
- 7.1 Median Quartile rents have been considered in 2008-2010, 2015-2017 and 2019-June 2021, for each of the designated areas as well as for the district.
- 7.2 The percentage change in the values are then ranked 1 to 26 across all Output Areas (merged Output Areas will receive a single rank). The rankings are only provided for licensed locations because of the lack of data in comparator areas. They are set out in Table 7.1 and those with improved performance are highlighted. Median Quartile rent change is shown in Map 7.1 for each of the licensed Output Areas. The Output Areas with improved performance are highlighted.
- 7.3 Median Quartile rents increased from £446pcm to £498pcm in Blackburn with Darwen over the 2008-2010 and 2019-June 2021 time period, a percentage change of 11.7%.
- 7.4 In Darwen Licensed Output Areas, all of the analysed locations recorded increases. This is with the exception of two areas. E00171883 in Darwen south and E00063763 in Darwen East which recorded a -5% and 0% change respectively. All 5 of the Output Areas where 100% of the Output Area is within the designated licensing area recorded increases. 15 of the 20 areas considered in Darwen recorded Median Quartile rent increases in excess than the borough average and recorded increases ranged from 4.8% to 38.8%. Median Quartile rents are currently £451pcm. Rents in Darwen increased by 14.1% from 2008-2010, higher than the borough average of 11.7%. Recorded increases have generally been consistent across the designations. Overall Median Quartile rent levels remain less than the borough average.
- 7.5 In Infirmary Licensed Output Area, 4 of the 6 analysed locations recorded increases, with 3 locations in excess of the borough average increase. Median Quartile rents are currently £494pcm. Overall, in Infirmary Median Quartile rents have recorded increases of 4.7%, which is lower than the borough average of 11.7%. Overall Mean prices remain slightly less than the borough average .

Table 7.1 Median Quartile Rent Change

DESIGNATION	OUTPUT AREAS	WARD	PROP. WITHIN DESIGNATION	INDICATOR 5 (SOURCE: ZOOPLA, 2008-21)							
				Median % rent change (all property) ranked lowest to highest							
				P1: 2008-2010	COUNT	P2: 2015-2017	COUNT	P3: 2019-2021	COUNT	CHANGE (P1-P3)	RANK
Darwen SL Area	E00063749	Darwen East	100.0%	£444	4	£468	13	£494	17	11.3%	8
	E00063762	Darwen East	100.0%	£373	2	£394	29	£425	33	13.9%	12
	E00063759 & E00063760	Darwen East	100.0%	£427	2	£399	40	£477	45	11.8%	9
	E00063765 & E00063764	Darwen East	100.0%	£310	4	£390	19	£325	24	4.8%	5
	E00063758	Darwen East	100.0%	£325	1	£399	30	£451	40	38.8%	26
	E00063483 & E00063751	Darwen East	99.0%	£381	7	£399	38	£477	52	25.2%	20
	E00063782	Darwen East	95.6%	£381	14	£394	46	£451	55	18.4%	18
	E00063605	Darwen South	84.0%	£342	15	£397	26	£399	34	16.7%	16
	E00063598	Darwen South	77.3%	£394	9	£451	22	£451	42	14.5%	15
	E00063471	Darwen East	74.8%	£394	1	£394	50	£425	45	7.9%	6
	E00063766	Darwen East	63.7%	£388	4	£399	24	£440	44	13.4%	11
	E00063588 & E00063606	Darwen South	53.5%	£386	5	£386	36	£451	38	16.8%	17
	E00063753 & E00063757	Darwen East	49.0%	£373	5	£384	70	£425	61	13.9%	12
	E00063755 & E00063756 & E00063752	Darwen East	46.1%	£373	3	£399	70	£451	72	20.9%	19
	E00063469	Darwen East	49.1%	£373	3	£425	25	£490	18	31.2%	25
	E00171883	Darwen South	38.6%	£434	2	£377	27	£412	48	-5.0%	1
	E00063590	Darwen South	24.9%	£347	1	£451	15	£451	9	30.0%	23
	E00063743	Darwen East	22.5%	£347	2	£399	27	£451	31	30.0%	23
	E00063470	Darwen East	22.1%	£399	2	£390	43	£451	36	13.0%	10
	E00063763	Darwen East	17.4%	£477	7	£455	38	£477	47	0.0%	4
DARWEN SL AREA TOTAL				£394	111	£399	785	£451	900	14.5%	
Infirmary SL Area	E00063498	Ewood	100.0%	£425	1	£594	21	£537	38	26.4%	22
	E00063492 & E00063493	Ewood	98.1%	£546	10	£455	47	£524	67	-4.0%	3
	E00063496 & E00063500 & E00063494	Ewood	97.0%	£373	1	£399	37	£425	62	13.9%	12
	E00063499 & E00063497	Ewood	85.5%	£446	1	£451	18	£494	13	10.8%	7
	E00063502	Ewood	74.4%	£394	13	£477	60	£494	75	25.4%	21
INFIRMARY SL AREA TOTAL				£472	2	£451	20	£451	19	-4.4%	2
Comparable Areas	E00063429 & E00063434	Bastwell & Daisyfield	N/A	-	0	£488	4	£498	2	-	-
	E00063432	Bastwell & Daisyfield	N/A	-	0	-	0	£550	1	-	-
	E00063726	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	-	0	£550	1	£477	3	-	-
	E00063727	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	-
	E00063728	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	-
	E00063729	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	-	0	£499	2	£399	1	-	-
	E00063731	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	-	0	-	0	£425	4	-	-
	E00063734	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	-	0	-	0	£514	2	-	-
COMPARABLE AREA TOTAL				-	0	£524	7	£488	16	-	-
BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN DISTRICT				£446	394	£451	3,294	£498	4,023	11.7%	

Source: Zoopla

Map 7.1 Median Quartile rent change



Source: Zoopla

- 7.6 An alternative comparator location was used where rental values are available for comparison in Darwen West. In this comparator area, increases in rent were higher overall than for licensed locations. However, a number of locations exhibited higher percentage increases.

	(SOURCE: ZOOPLA, 2008-21)							
	Median % rent change (all property) ranked lowest to highest							
	P1: 2008- 2010	COUNT	P2: 2015- 2017	COUNT	P3: 2019- 2021	COUNT	CHANGE (P1-P3)	
E00063768	£410	2	£451	25	£451	17	10.1%	
E00063773	£415	0	£477	5	£576	11	38.8%	
E00063776	£420	0	£498	15	£524	17	24.8%	
E00063771	£524	1	£574	4	£637	12	21.6%	
E00063774	£559	1	£726	2	£663	4	18.6%	
E00063775	£412	2	£514	12	£550	13	33.5%	
E00063772	£510	0	£550	11	£576	19	12.9%	
E00171882	£386	2	£425	17	£451	29	17.0%	
E00063767	£350	0	£399	9	£410	6	17.0%	
E00063472	£510	0	£550	12	£576	9	12.9%	
E00063770	£410	2	£420	31	£477	43	16.5%	
	£436	10	£451	143	£524	180	20.3%	

Source: Zoopla

8. Time to let

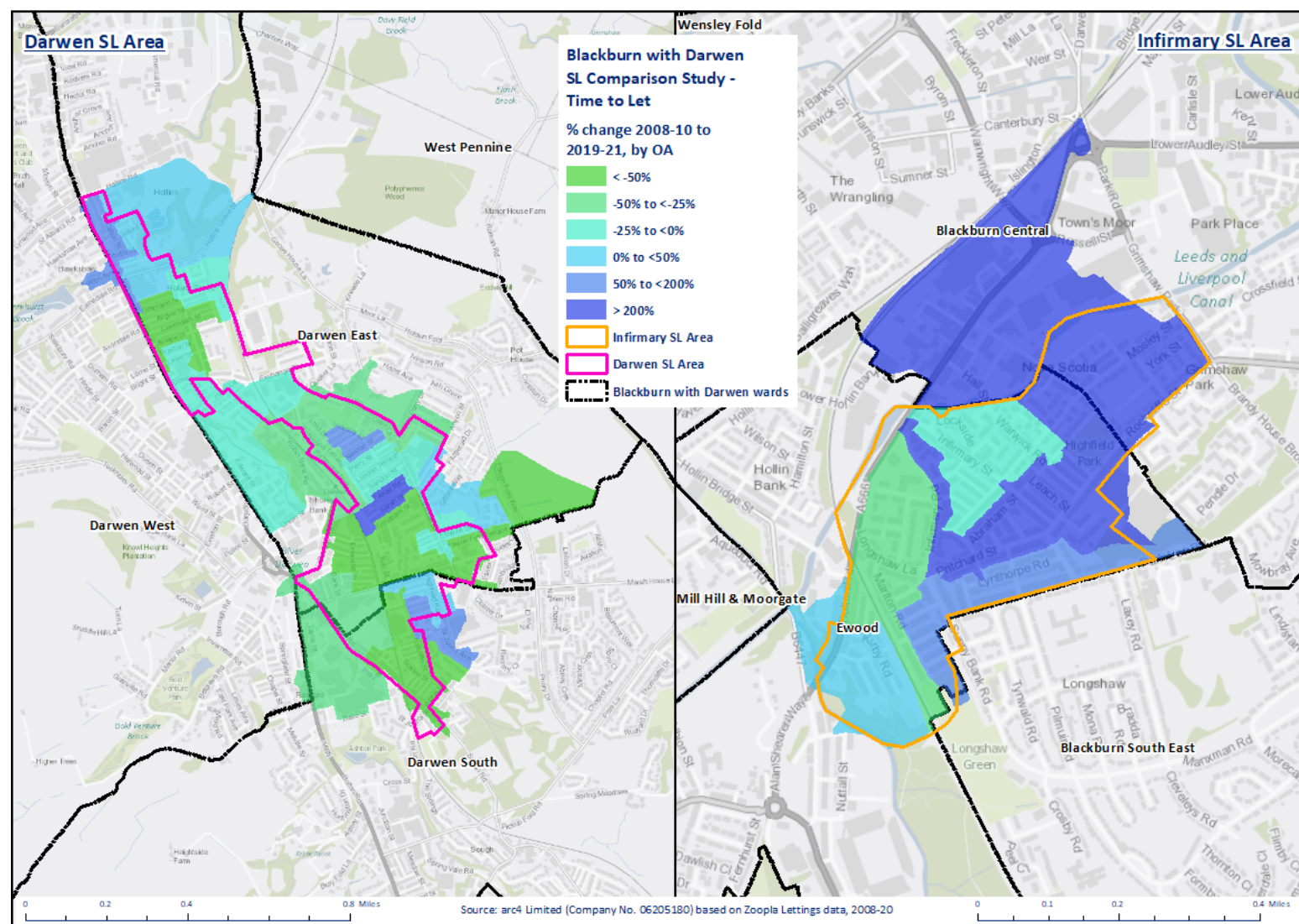
- 8.1 Time to let can indicate the popularity of locations. Where properties take longer to let, demand can be low and time to let is as indicator in this section. However, it is a complex indicator and properties that let quickly in lower value locations may not be popular but driven by the benefits market and lack of choice of affordable properties elsewhere. This indicator is a useful guide within a basket of indicators. Time to let change is shown in Map 8.1 for each of the licensed locations.
- 8.2 Time to Let have been considered in 2008-2010, 2015-2017 and 2019-June 2021, for each of the designated areas as well as for the district.
- 8.3 The percentage change in the values are then ranked 1 to 26 across all Output Areas (merged Output Areas will receive a single rank). The rankings are only provided for licensed locations because of the lack of data in comparator areas. They are set out in Table 8.1 and those with improved performance are highlighted. Median Quartile rent change is shown in Map 8.1 for each of the licensed Output Areas. The Output Areas with improved performance are highlighted. The weeks include an assumed 4 week notice period.
- 8.4 Time to Let reduced from 11.3 weeks to 9.4 weeks in Blackburn with Darwen over the 2008-2010 and 2019-June 2021 time period, a percentage change of -16.9%.
- 8.5 In Darwen Licensed Output Areas, 12 of the 20 analysed locations recorded reductions in Time to Let. Three locations where 100% of the Output Area is within the designated licensing area recorded reductions. 10 of the 20 areas considered in Darwen recorded Time to Let reductions in excess of the borough average and recorded reductions ranged from -0.9% to -78.4%. The Time to Let is currently 9 weeks. The Time to Let in Darwen reduced by -39.5%, higher than the borough average of -16.9%. Recorded reductions have generally been consistent across the designations. Overall Time to Let remains lower than the borough average.
- 8.6 In Infirmary Licensed Output Area, 2 of the 6 analysed locations recorded reduction; both locations in excess of the borough average reduction. Time to Let is currently 9.4 weeks which is consistent with Darwen and the borough average. There have been some locations where Time to Let has significantly increased but overall performance remains consistent with other licensed locations.

Table 8.1 Time to Let

DESIGNATION	OUTPUT AREAS	WARD	PROP. WITHIN DESIGNATION	INDICATOR 6 (SOURCE: ZOOPLA, 2008-21)							
				% Change in Time to let (all property)							
				P1: 2008-2010	COUNT	P2: 2015-2017	COUNT	P3: 2019-2021	COUNT	CHANGE (P1-P3)	RANK
Darwen SL Area	E00063749	Darwen East	100.0%	29.0	4	9.0	13	13.5	17	-53.5%	20
	E00063762	Darwen East	100.0%	2.0	2	10.0	29	6.2	33	207.6%	3
	E00063759 & E00063760	Darwen East	100.0%	9.0	2	16.2	40	7.1	45	-21.2%	15
	E00063765 & E00063764	Darwen East	100.0%	68.3	4	16.2	19	29.8	24	-56.3%	21
	E00063758	Darwen East	100.0%	4.0	1	13.0	30	8.0	40	100.6%	6
	E00063483 & E00063751	Darwen East	99.0%	21.1	7	12.7	38	6.9	52	-67.2%	23
	E00063782	Darwen East	95.6%	19.0	14	13.0	46	7.8	55	-58.8%	22
	E00063605	Darwen South	84.0%	5.4	15	10.0	26	7.9	34	45.4%	9
	E00063598	Darwen South	77.3%	24.3	9	11.0	22	7.3	42	-70.2%	24
	E00063471	Darwen East	74.8%	5.0	1	10.0	50	11.1	45	122.2%	5
	E00063766	Darwen East	63.7%	6.8	4	8.0	24	6.8	44	0.0%	12
	E00063588 & E00063606	Darwen South	53.5%	28.2	5	9.9	36	6.1	38	-78.4%	26
	E00063753 & E00063757	Darwen East	49.0%	9.0	5	9.4	70	8.4	61	-6.9%	14
	E00063755 & E00063756 & E00063752	Darwen East	46.1%	11.7	3	11.4	70	8.3	72	-28.9%	17
	E00063469	Darwen East	49.1%	6.0	3	9.0	25	5.9	18	-0.9%	13
	E00171883	Darwen South	38.6%	14.0	2	15.0	27	9.9	48	-29.0%	18
	E00063590	Darwen South	24.9%	4.0	1	10.0	15	6.1	9	52.8%	7
	E00063743	Darwen East	22.5%	32.0	2	13.0	27	8.0	31	-75.0%	25
	E00063470	Darwen East	22.1%	6.0	2	10.0	43	7.7	36	28.7%	10
	E00063763	Darwen East	17.4%	5.9	7	14.0	38	8.7	47	48.2%	8
DARWEN SL AREA TOTAL				14.9	111	11.7	785	9.0	900	-39.5%	
Infirmary SL Area	E00063498	Ewood	100.0%	12.0	1	5.0	21	7.8	38	-34.6%	19
	E00063492 & E00063493	Ewood	98.1%	10.2	10	8.1	47	7.9	67	-22.6%	16
	E00063496 & E00063500 & E00063494	Ewood	97.0%	3.0	1	10.7	37	11.1	62	270.4%	2
	E00063499 & E00063497	Ewood	85.5%	3.0	1	12.9	18	6.8	13	125.6%	4
	E00063502	Ewood	74.4%	7.6	13	10.0	60	9.3	75	22.4%	11
	E00063663 & E00063664 & E00063669	Blackburn Central	67.7%	3.5	2	8.4	20	17.1	19	387.2%	1
INFIRMARY SL AREA TOTAL				7.8	43	9.3	264	9.4	310	20.3%	
Comparable Areas	E00063429 & E00063434	Bastwell & Daisyfield	N/A	-	0	13.0	4	9.0	2	-	-
	E00063432	Bastwell & Daisyfield	N/A	-	0	-	0	0.0	1	-	-
	E00063726	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	-	0	1.0	1	8.3	3	-	-
	E00063727	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	-
	E00063728	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	-
	E00063729	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	-	0	12.0	2	2.0	1	-	-
	E00063731	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	-	0	-	0	7.8	4	-	-
	E00063734	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	-	0	-	0	2.5	2	-	-
COMPARABLE AREA TOTAL				-	0	10.6	7	7.7	16	-	-
BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN DISTRICT				11.3	394	9.7	3,294	9.4	4,023	-16.9%	

Source: Zoopla

Map 8.1 Time to Let Change



Source: Zoopla

- 8.7 An alternative comparator location was used where rental values are available for comparison in Darwen West. In this comparator area, change in the time to let property increased more than for licensed locations.

	INDICATOR 6 (SOURCE: ZOOPLA, 2008-21)							
	% Change in Time to let (all property)							
	P1: 2008- 2010	COUNT	P2: 2015- 2017	COUNT	P3: 2019- 2021	COUNT	CHANGE (P1-P3)	RANK
E00063768	1.5	2	7.6	25	9.9	17	562.7%	
E00063773	1.5	0	7.6	5	5.2	11	245.5%	
E00063776	2.0	0	7.4	15	9.0	17	350.0%	
E00063771	3.0	1	3.3	4	6.5	12	116.7%	
E00063774	11.0	1	4.5	2	5.5	4	-50.0%	
E00063775	13.0	2	9.9	12	4.7	13	-63.9%	
E00063772	3.0	0	6.7	11	6.4	19	114.0%	
E00171882	4.0	2	10.3	17	11.2	29	181.0%	
E00063767	4.0	0	5.1	9	13.5	6	237.5%	
E00063472	5.0	0	5.3	12	4.8	9	-4.4%	
E00063770	1.5	2	9.0	31	9.7	43	543.4%	
	5.4	10	7.8	143	8.5	180	57.1%	

9. Vacant property

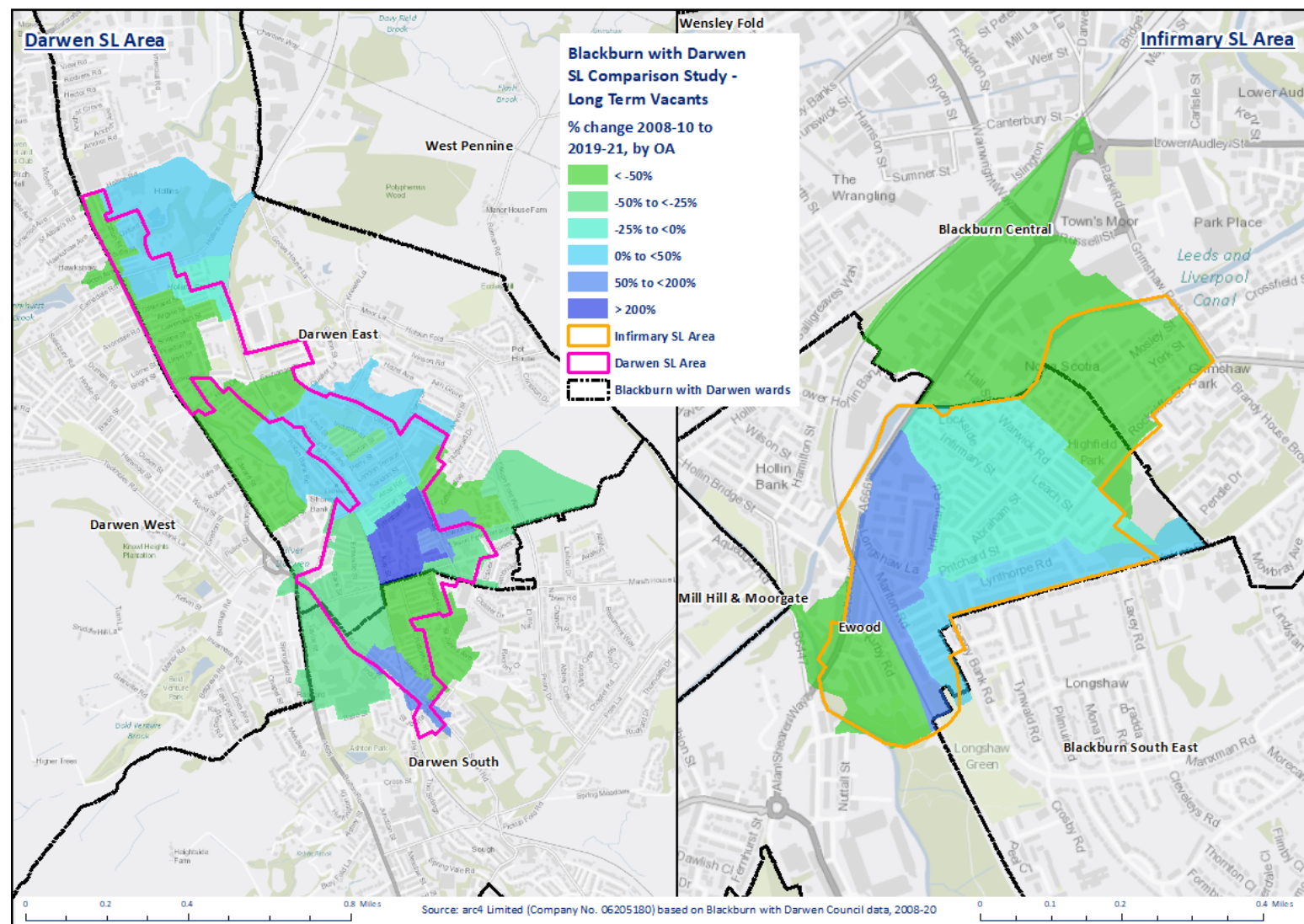
- 9.1 Long term vacant properties (over 6 months) have been considered in 2008, 2016 and 2021 for each of the designated areas, comparator areas as well as for the district.
- 9.2 The percentage change in the values are then ranked 1 to 34 across all Output Areas (merged Output Areas will receive a single rank). They are set out in Table 9.1 and those with improved performance are highlighted. Long term vacant properties performance is shown in Map 9.1 for each of the licensed Output Areas and comparator areas. The Output Areas with improved performance are highlighted.
- 9.3 The total reduction in long term vacant properties in Blackburn with Darwen over the 2008, 2016 and 2021 time period was -30.3%. In 2021 the total percentage of long term vacant properties was 2% of all properties.
- 9.4 In Darwen Licensed Output Areas, 14 of the 20 analysed locations recorded reductions in long term vacant properties. Three locations where 100% of the Output Area is within the designated licensing area recorded reductions. 10 of the 20 areas considered in Darwen recorded reduced percentages of long term vacant properties in excess of the borough average of -30.3%. The current percentage of long term vacant properties is 3.2% reduced from 4.1% in 2008, a reduction of -22.6%.
- 9.5 In Infirmary Licensed Output Area, 4 of the 6 analysed locations recorded reductions. Two locations in excess of the borough average reduction. The long term vacant rate is currently 2.6%, down from 3.2% in 2008.
- 9.6 All locations in the comparator areas recorded reductions in the percentage of long term vacant properties and the current rate is 2% aligning with the borough average
- 9.7 One of bench mark elements of performance is how many of the 26 licensed LSOAs are ranked in the top 50% (18-34) and how many in the bottom (1-17). For reductions in long term vacant property, 18 are ranked in the bottom 50% and 8 in the top 50%.

Table 9.1 Vacant Property

DESIGNATION	OUTPUT AREAS	WARD	PROP. WITHIN DESIGNATION	INDICATOR 7 (SOURCE: HYNDBURN BC, 2008-21)				
				Actual numbers and %* of vacant properties (all vacant property over 6 months) 2016 and 2021				
				2008	2016	2021	2008-2021 CHANGE	RANK
Darwen SL Area	E00063749	Darwen East	100.0%	4.1%	3.3%	0.8%	-80.0%	32
	E00063762	Darwen East	100.0%	4.5%	5.2%	3.7%	-16.7%	10
	E00063759 & E00063760	Darwen East	100.0%	5.5%	4.4%	8.3%	50.0%	5
	E00063765 & E00063764	Darwen East	100.0%	0.4%	3.0%	5.6%	1200.0%	1
	E00063758	Darwen East	100.0%	3.0%	4.5%	2.2%	-25.0%	13
	E00063483 & E00063751	Darwen East	99.0%	5.4%	7.7%	2.3%	-58.3%	24
	E00063782	Darwen East	95.6%	5.9%	7.0%	3.7%	-36.4%	15
	E00063605	Darwen South	84.0%	3.9%	3.9%	1.3%	-66.7%	27
	E00063598	Darwen South	77.3%	1.6%	2.2%	4.9%	200.0%	2
	E00063471	Darwen East	74.8%	9.8%	7.7%	4.9%	-50.0%	17
	E00063766	Darwen East	63.7%	2.3%	3.8%	3.8%	66.7%	4
	E00063588 & E00063606	Darwen South	53.5%	7.4%	2.5%	1.2%	-83.3%	34
	E00063753 & E00063757	Darwen East	49.0%	5.3%	6.6%	2.2%	-58.8%	25
	E00063755 & E00063756 & E00063752	Darwen East	46.1%	3.2%	6.4%	3.4%	8.3%	8
	E00063469	Darwen East	49.1%	4.4%	2.9%	3.6%	-16.7%	11
	E00171883	Darwen South	38.6%	12.8%	8.5%	7.1%	-44.4%	16
	E00063590	Darwen South	24.9%	1.7%	3.4%	0.9%	-50.0%	17
	E00063743	Darwen East	22.5%	4.4%	7.5%	3.1%	-28.6%	14
	E00063470	Darwen East	22.1%	3.6%	6.4%	4.3%	20.0%	7
	E00063763	Darwen East	17.4%	4.1%	1.8%	1.8%	-57.1%	21
DARWEN SL AREA TOTAL				4.1%	4.3%	3.2%	-22.6%	
Infirmary SL Area	E00063498	Ewood	100.0%	2.3%	2.3%	5.3%	133.3%	3
	E00063492 & E00063493	Ewood	98.1%	3.7%	7.5%	3.3%	-11.1%	9
	E00063496 & E00063500 & E00063494	Ewood	97.0%	5.9%	5.0%	4.5%	-23.8%	12
	E00063499 & E00063497	Ewood	85.5%	1.7%	2.1%	2.1%	25.0%	6
	E00063502	Ewood	74.4%	4.7%	3.5%	1.8%	-62.5%	26
	E00063663 & E00063669	Blackburn Central	67.7%	6.2%	2.5%	2.1%	-66.7%	28
INFIRMARY SL AREA TOTAL				3.7%	3.1%	2.6%	-29.1%	
Comparable Areas	E00063429 & E00063434	Bastwell & Daisyfield	N/A	3.8%	1.9%	1.9%	-50.0%	17
	E00063432	Bastwell & Daisyfield	N/A	9.0%	3.2%	2.6%	-71.4%	30
	E00063726	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	2.9%	3.6%	1.4%	-50.0%	17
	E00063727	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	4.8%	1.4%	2.1%	-57.1%	21
	E00063728	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	9.0%	3.0%	1.5%	-83.3%	33
	E00063729	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	5.1%	4.3%	1.4%	-71.4%	31
	E00063731	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	7.7%	1.5%	2.3%	-70.0%	29
	E00063734	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	6.0%	5.1%	2.6%	-57.1%	23
COMPARABLE AREA TOTAL				5.8%	2.9%	2.0%	-66.2%	
BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN DISTRICT				2.8%	2.3%	2.0%	-30.3%	

Source: Source: Blackburn with Darwen BC

Map 9.1 Vacant Property



Source: Blackburn with Darwen BC

10. Ranking overall scores

- 10.1 Each of the indicator's ranked scores have been added together and an overall ranking allocated based on 1 being the Output Areas with the lowest overall score (worst performing) and 26 for the highest overall score (best performing). Comparator locations are excluded from this analysis because of incomplete data on rents and Time to Let.
- 10.2 The results are set out in Table 10.1 and shown in Map 10.1.
- 10.3 The best performing Output areas are 67.7% licensed in Blackburn Central the worst performing Output Areas are in Ewood, is 98.1% licensed.
- 10.4 Table 10.2 sets out all indicator performance and identifies (through a traffic light system), improvements in performance or an area recording worse scores.

Table 10.1 Overall ranking scores

DESIGNATION	OUTPUT AREAS	WARD	PROP. WITHIN DESIGNATION	RANK TOTAL	FINAL QUINTILE	OVERALL RANK
Darwen SL Area	E00063749	Darwen East	100.0%	99	5	24
	E00063762	Darwen East	100.0%	84	4	21
	E00063759 & E00063760	Darwen East	100.0%	35	1	4
	E00063765 & E00063764	Darwen East	100.0%	75	4	17
	E00063758	Darwen East	100.0%	74	3	15
	E00063483 & E00063751	Darwen East	99.0%	71	3	13
	E00063782	Darwen East	95.6%	76	4	18
	E00063605	Darwen South	84.0%	56	2	10
	E00063598	Darwen South	77.3%	72	3	14
	E00063471	Darwen East	74.8%	67	3	12
	E00063766	Darwen East	63.7%	41	2	7
	E00063588 & E00063606	Darwen South	53.5%	77	4	19
	E00063753 & E00063757	Darwen East	49.0%	44	2	9
	063755 & E00063756 & E00063	Darwen East	46.1%	29	1	2
	E00063469	Darwen East	49.1%	40	2	6
	E00171883	Darwen South	38.6%	86	5	22
	E00063590	Darwen South	24.9%	64	3	11
	E00063743	Darwen East	22.5%	38	1	5
	E00063470	Darwen East	22.1%	74	3	15
	E00063763	Darwen East	17.4%	32	1	3
DARWEN SL AREA TOTAL						
Infirmery SL Area	E00063498	Ewood	100.0%	99	5	24
	E00063492 & E00063493	Ewood	98.1%	19	1	1
	063496 & E00063500 & E00063	Ewood	97.0%	92	5	23
	E00063499 & E00063497	Ewood	85.5%	82	4	20
	E00063502	Ewood	74.4%	43	2	8
	063663 & E00063664 & E00063	Blackburn Central	67.7%	120	5	26
INFIRMARY SL AREA TOTAL						
Comparable Areas	E00063429 & E00063434	Bastwell & Daisyfield	N/A			
	E00063432	Bastwell & Daisyfield	N/A			
	E00063726	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A			
	E00063727	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A			
	E00063728	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A			
	E00063729	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A			
	E00063731	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A			
	E00063734	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A			
COMPARABLE AREA TOTAL						
BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN DISTRICT						

Map 10.1 Overall Ranking scores

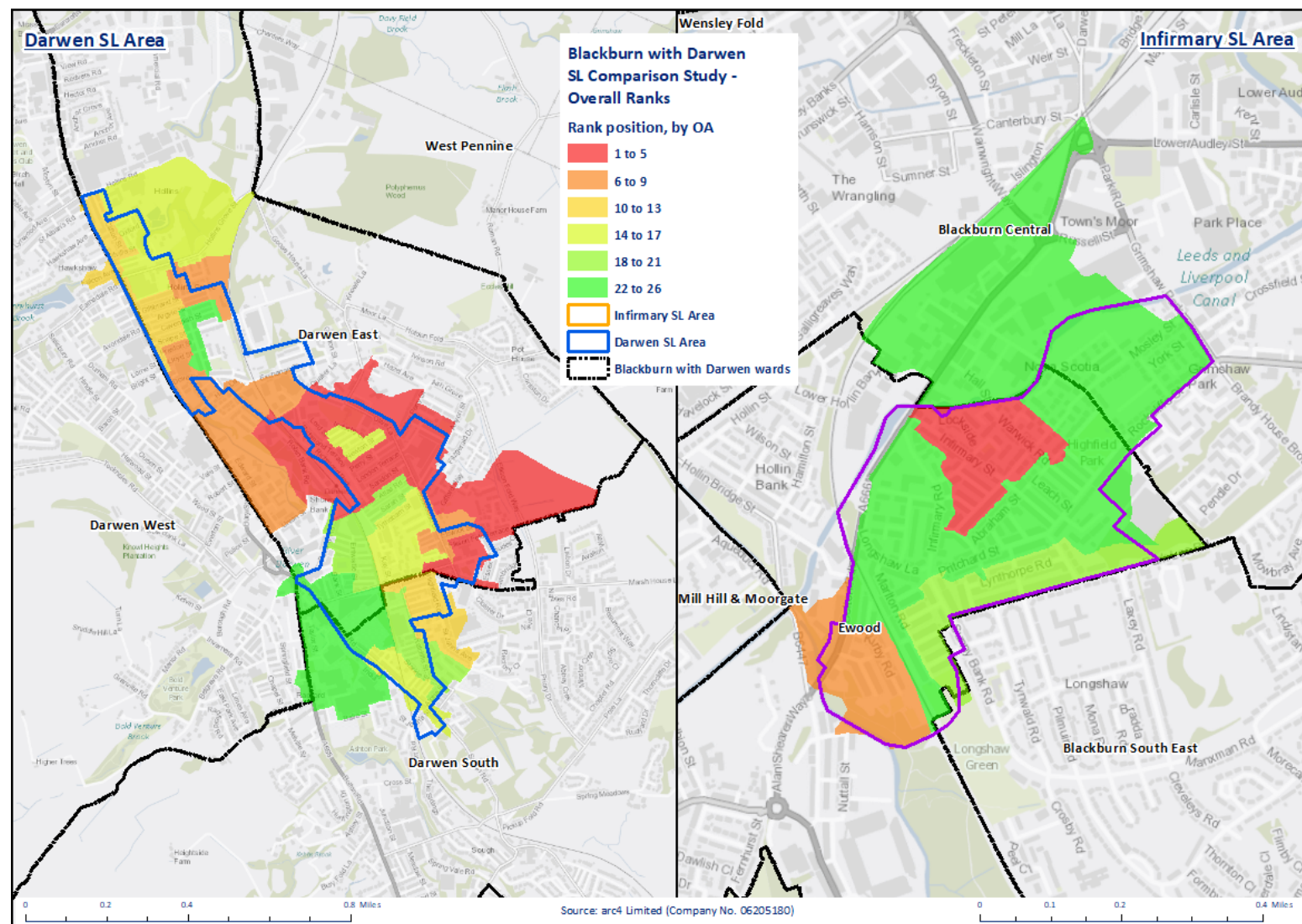


Table 10.2 Overall Indicator Performance

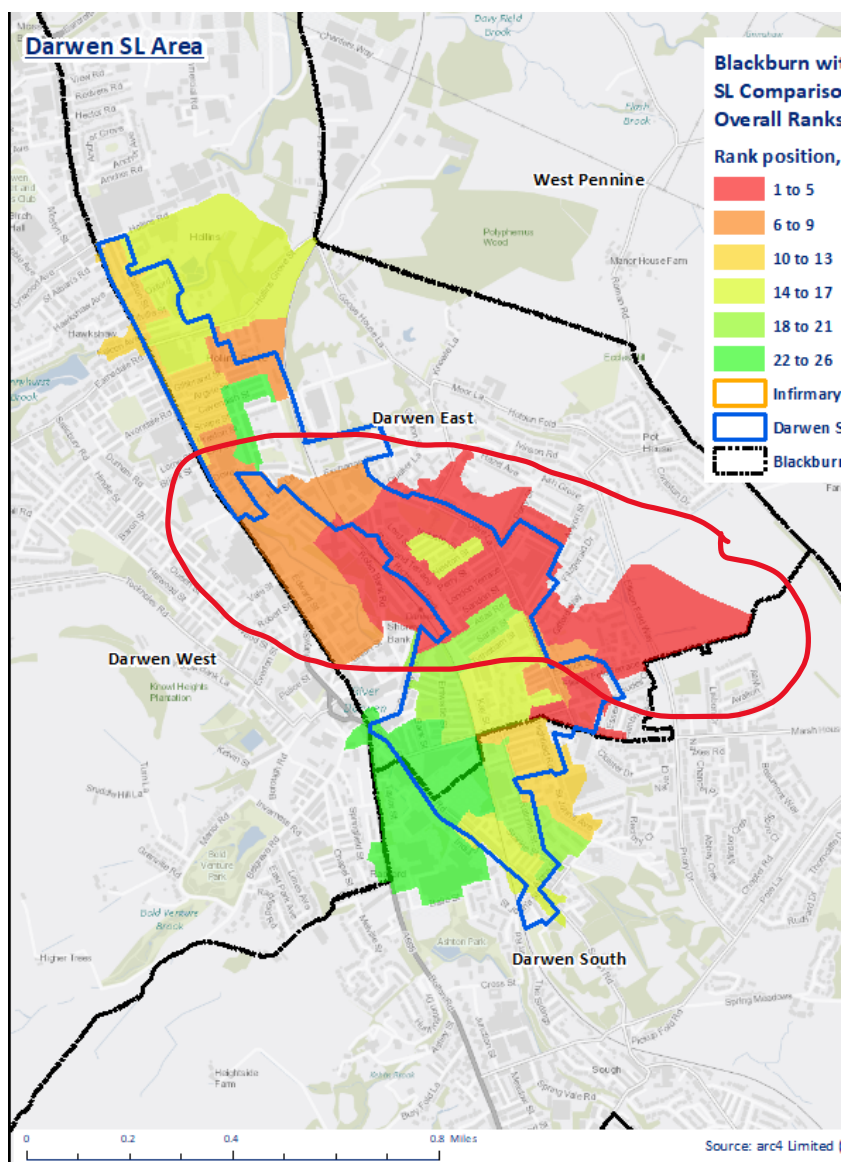
DESIGNATION	OUTPUT AREAS	WARD	PROP. WITHIN DESIGNATION	Indicator 1	Indicator 2	Indicator 3	Indicator 4	Indicator 5	Indicator 6
Darwen SL Area	E00063749	Darwen East	100.0%	21.70%	1.40%	1.80%	11.30%	-53.50%	-80.00%
	E00063762	Darwen East	100.0%	15.90%	17.00%	-0.30%	13.90%	207.60%	-16.70%
	E00063759 & E00063760	Darwen East	100.0%	-10.80%	-12.70%	-13.80%	11.80%	-21.20%	50.00%
	E00063765 & E00063764	Darwen East	100.0%	22.00%	-3.30%	16.00%	4.80%	-56.30%	1200.00%
	E00063758	Darwen East	100.0%	8.60%	4.20%	-2.70%	38.80%	100.60%	-25.00%
	E00063483 & E00063751	Darwen East	99.0%	-4.80%	-6.90%	-3.50%	25.20%	-67.20%	-58.30%
	E00063782	Darwen East	95.6%	-4.00%	16.70%	-6.00%	18.40%	-58.80%	-36.40%
	E00063605	Darwen South	84.0%	-13.90%	-13.20%	-8.20%	16.70%	45.40%	-66.70%
	E00063598	Darwen South	77.3%	-2.50%	14.30%	10.40%	14.50%	-70.20%	200.00%
	E00063471	Darwen East	74.8%	-0.80%	-2.20%	-6.90%	7.90%	122.20%	-50.00%
	E00063766	Darwen East	63.7%	-11.00%	-10.20%	-6.30%	13.40%	0.00%	66.70%
	E00063588 & E00063606	Darwen South	53.5%	-9.60%	-8.30%	-5.30%	16.80%	-78.40%	-83.30%
	E00063753 & E00063757	Darwen East	49.0%	-14.90%	-31.20%	-13.30%	13.90%	-6.90%	-58.80%
	063755 & E00063756 & E00063	Darwen East	46.1%	-14.50%	-21.40%	-16.20%	20.90%	-28.90%	8.30%
	E00063469	Darwen East	49.1%	-25.40%	-3.80%	-9.30%	31.20%	-0.90%	-16.70%
	E00171883	Darwen South	38.6%	-15.80%	37.80%	16.90%	-5.00%	-29.00%	-44.40%
	E00063590	Darwen South	24.9%	-24.30%	3.00%	5.00%	30.00%	52.80%	-50.00%
	E00063743	Darwen East	22.5%	-32.00%	-9.80%	-7.70%	30.00%	-75.00%	-28.60%
	E00063470	Darwen East	22.1%	0.50%	7.60%	8.60%	13.00%	28.70%	20.00%
	E00063763	Darwen East	17.4%	-28.70%	-23.40%	-19.30%	0.00%	48.20%	-57.10%
DARWEN SL AREA TOTAL				-9.20%	-6.10%	-6.30%	14.50%	-39.50%	-22.60%
Infirmary SL Area	E00063498	Ewood	100.0%	23.50%	34.50%	35.30%	26.40%	-34.60%	133.30%
	E00063492 & E00063493	Ewood	98.1%	-20.00%	-28.60%	-26.80%	-4.00%	-22.60%	-11.10%
	063496 & E00063500 & E00063	Ewood	97.0%	17.00%	15.40%	11.20%	13.90%	270.40%	-23.80%
	E00063499 & E00063497	Ewood	85.5%	12.40%	9.90%	11.50%	10.80%	125.60%	25.00%
	E00063502	Ewood	74.4%	-15.00%	-14.30%	-20.70%	25.40%	22.40%	-62.50%
063663 & E00063664 & E00063				28.90%	24.10%	18.10%	-4.40%	387.20%	-66.70%
INFIRMARY SL AREA TOTAL				0.00%	9.30%	5.10%	4.70%	20.30%	-29.10%
Comparable Areas	E00063429 & E00063434	Bastwell & Daisyfield	N/A	-29.40%	-6.30%	-18.00%	-	-	-50.00%
	E00063432	Bastwell & Daisyfield	N/A	4.00%	15.60%	1.80%	-	-	-71.40%
	E00063726	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	55.40%	8.90%	2.10%	-	-	-50.00%
	E00063727	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	-13.30%	-11.10%	8.20%	-	-	-57.10%
	E00063728	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	-7.40%	13.50%	19.90%	-	-	-83.30%
	E00063729	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	89.30%	81.20%	80.50%	-	-	-71.40%
	E00063731	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	10.30%	30.10%	27.40%	-	-	-70.00%
	E00063734	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	N/A	-33.20%	-16.00%	-20.10%	-	-	-57.10%
COMPARABLE AREA TOTAL				2.60%	6.60%	3.80%	-	-	-66.20%
BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN DISTRICT				12.10%	17.10%	23.70%	11.70%	-16.90%	-30.30%

- 10.5 The review of the scheme has highlighted that it has been particularly successful in increasing rent levels, reducing the time to let properties and reducing vacant properties. In terms of increasing property values, there has been greater success in Infirmary but generally prices have seen limited increases.
- 10.6 To ensure that these positives outcomes continue it is important that the scheme is sustained.

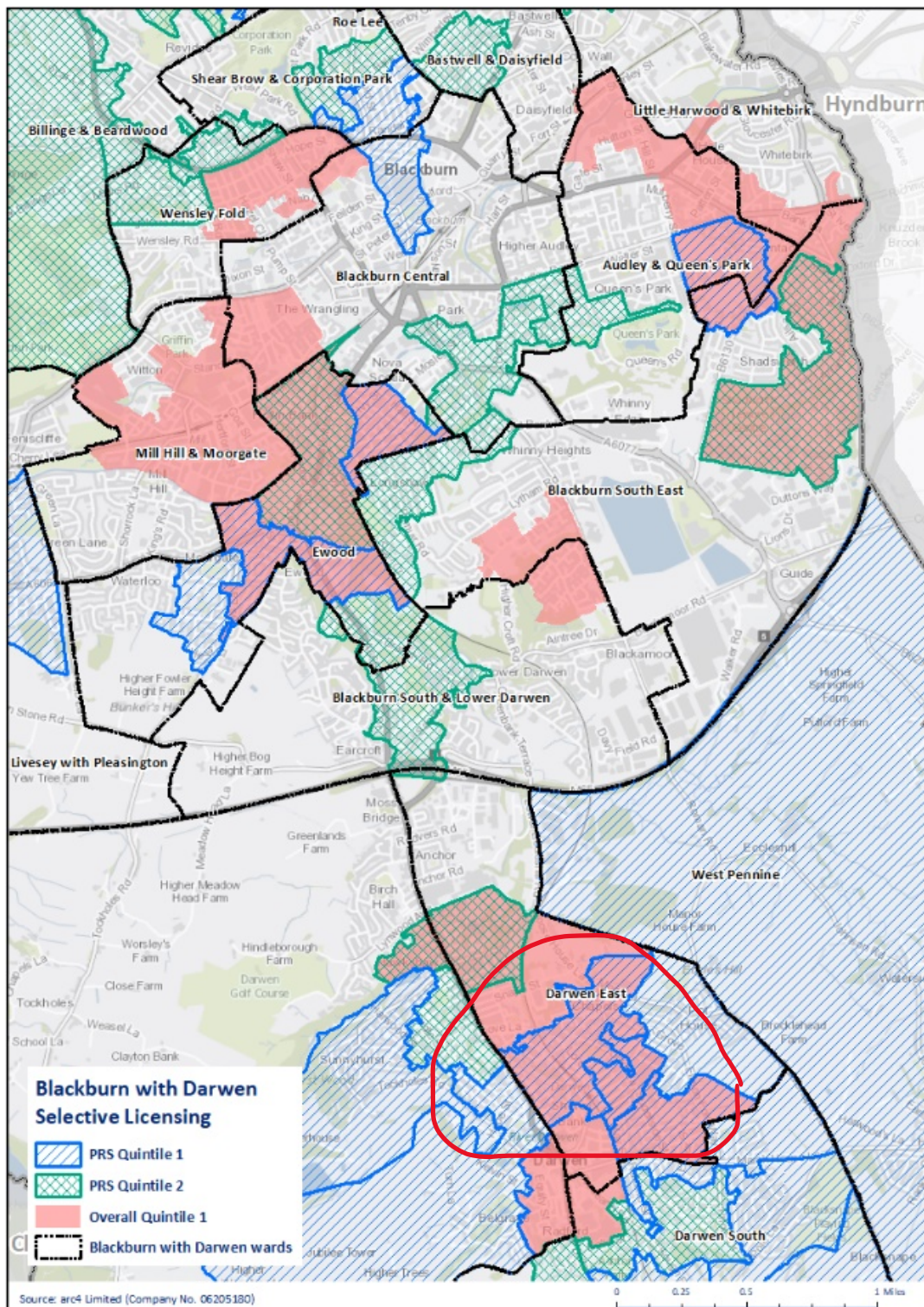
11. Implementing further licensing designations

Darwen

- 11.1 Darwen has performed less well than Infirmar, in terms of overall improvements utilising the indicators in this report. Property prices have not improved but where increases have been recorded in specific Output Areas, it has been during the second designation. Continued licensing may therefore have a positive impact here. Darwen has performed positively in terms of increasing rent levels, reducing vacant properties and reducing time to let property. For increasing rent levels and reducing time to let, performance has been better than the Blackburn with Darwen district average. This is a positive outcome of licensing. Geographically, the Output Areas in central area of the licensing designation has performed less well than others Output Areas.
- 11.2 Those Output Areas, that have performed less well are in Darwen East and Highlighted below from Map 10.1 in this report:



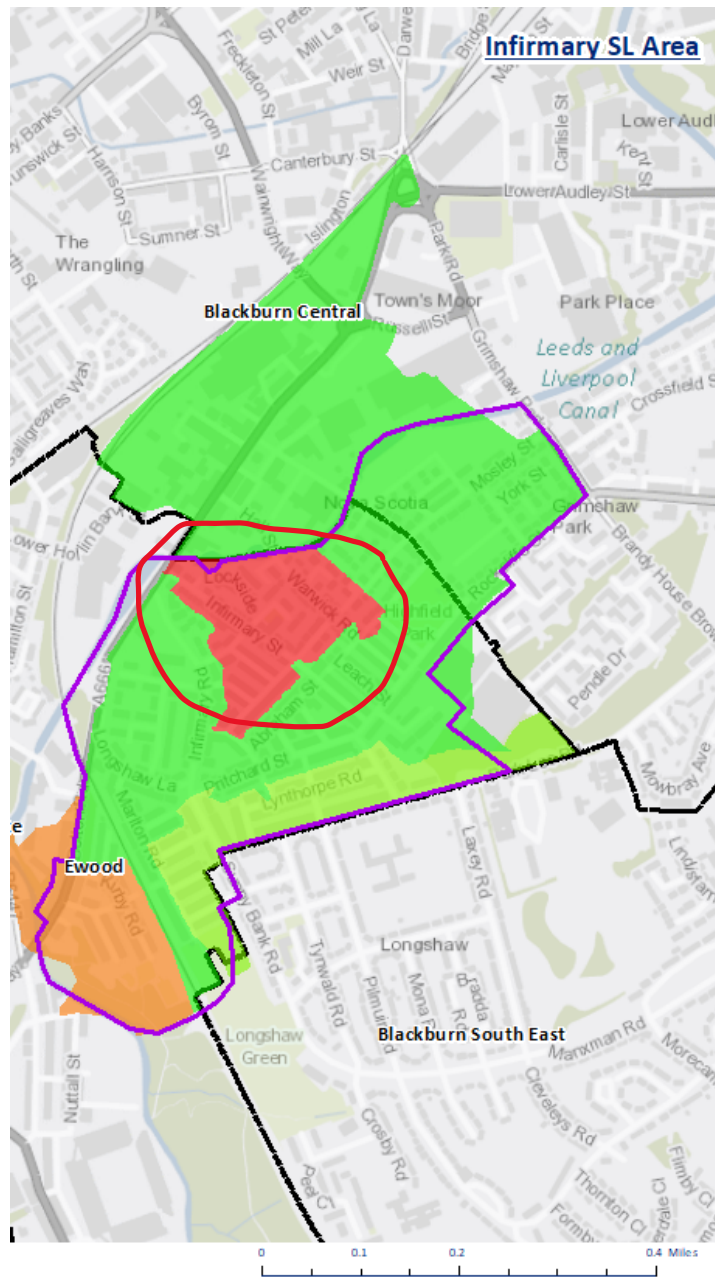
- 11.3 This highlighted area has also been identified as a future area to consider designation in the 2022 'Preparing an evidence base to identify potential locations for selective licensing'.



- 11.4 Therefore consideration should be given to extending designation in this location.

Infirmary

- 11.5 The Output Areas that have been designated in infirmary have performed well in all of the indicators, albeit less well for Time to Let property. However, there is a central area where performance has been less positive and is highlighted below from Map 10.1 in this report.



- 11.6 This area comprises the streets either side of Infirmary Street and has also been identified as a future area to consider designation in the 2022 'Preparing an evidence base to identify potential locations for selective licensing'.
- 11.7 This area should form the focus of future licensing and may extend further to secure scale for change.

Preparing an evidence base to identify potential locations for selective licensing

Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council

January 2022

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 arc⁴ has been appointed to support Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council to develop an evidence base to identify potential locations where there are high levels of private rented sector (PRS) homes and low demand locations. These locations may then be considered for licensing through a selective licensing arrangement.
- 1.2 Government guidance confirms that when deciding if an area is suffering from, or likely to become, an area of low housing demand, it is recommended that local housing authorities consider the following factors:
 - The value of residential premises in the area, in comparison to the value of similar premises in other areas which the authority considers to be comparable (whether in terms of type of housing, local amenities, availability of transport).
 - The turnover of occupiers of residential premises (in both rented and owner occupied properties).
 - The number of residential premises which are available to buy or rent, and the length of time for which they remain unoccupied.
 - The general appearance of the locality and the number of boarded up shops and properties.
- 1.3 The scheme should state how it will help address the problems associated with low demand in the designated area, for example, through imposing conditions relating to the management of properties. It must identify how the scheme will work in combination with other specified measures that the local housing authority is taking to combat those problems.
- 1.4 The outcome of the scheme should be a reduction in or elimination of the blight of low demand which has led to improvements of the social and economic conditions of the sector, which are identifiable.
- 1.5 This report sets out the findings of that analysis.

2. Methodology

- 2.1 A series of indicators for each designation has been assembled at the LSOA administrative boundary. The indicators are:

Indicator	Definition of indicator	Source and date
Level of Private Rented Sector	The percentage of rented property in an LSOA: defined as those renting a home from a landlord and all other private rented sector households. It excludes those living rent free.	Census 2011 Table KS402EW Tenure.
Property prices	Lower Quartile Property price in an LSOA (all property) ranked lowest to highest	Land Registry January 2020 to June 2021
Property prices	Median Quartile Property price in an LSOA (all property) ranked lowest to highest	Land Registry January 2020 to June 2021
Property prices	Mean Property price in an LSOA (all property) ranked lowest to highest	Land Registry January 2020 to June 2021
Rental values	LQ rent (all property) ranked lowest to highest	Zoopla January 2020 to June 2021
Rental values	Median rent (all property) ranked lowest to highest	Zoopla January 2020 to June 2021
Time to let	Time to let in weeks in an LSOA (all property)	Zoopla January 2020 to June 2021
Long term empty homes	% of vacant properties (over 6 months) in an LSOA	Blackburn with Darwen BC April 2021
Number of sales	The total number of sales expressed as % of 2018-based ONS 2021 household district	Land Registry June 2018 to June 2021 ONS 2021 Dwelling stock
Turnover	Turnover of rented stock expressed as a % of 2018-based ONS 2021 household district	Zoopla, January 2020 to June 2021 ONS 2021 Dwelling stock
Rental yields	Median rents as a yield of median property values	Land Registry January 2020 to June 2021

Indicator	Definition of indicator	Source and date
		Zoopla January 2020 to June 2021

- 2.2 The measure/score for each indicator has then been recorded and each LSOA scored in terms of the quintile it is within in Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council on the basis of:
- quintile 1 being the lowest/worst 20% LSOAs for each indicator; and
 - quintile 5 being the best/highest LSOAs for each indicator.
- 2.3 Each LSOA is then ranked within a final quintile by adding each individual indicator quintile score to provide an overall rank retaining the assumption that quintile 1 LSOAs overall are the worst performing LSOAs for the indicators that have been identified.
- 2.4 The report identifies those indicators in quintile 1 for each designation in detail and provides individual maps in the following sections.
- 2.5 As there are 91 LSOAs in Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council, we have reviewed the worst 18 LSOAs and recorded them as quintile 1. The number of LSOAs in quintile 1 can increase, where there are identical scores in LSOAs.

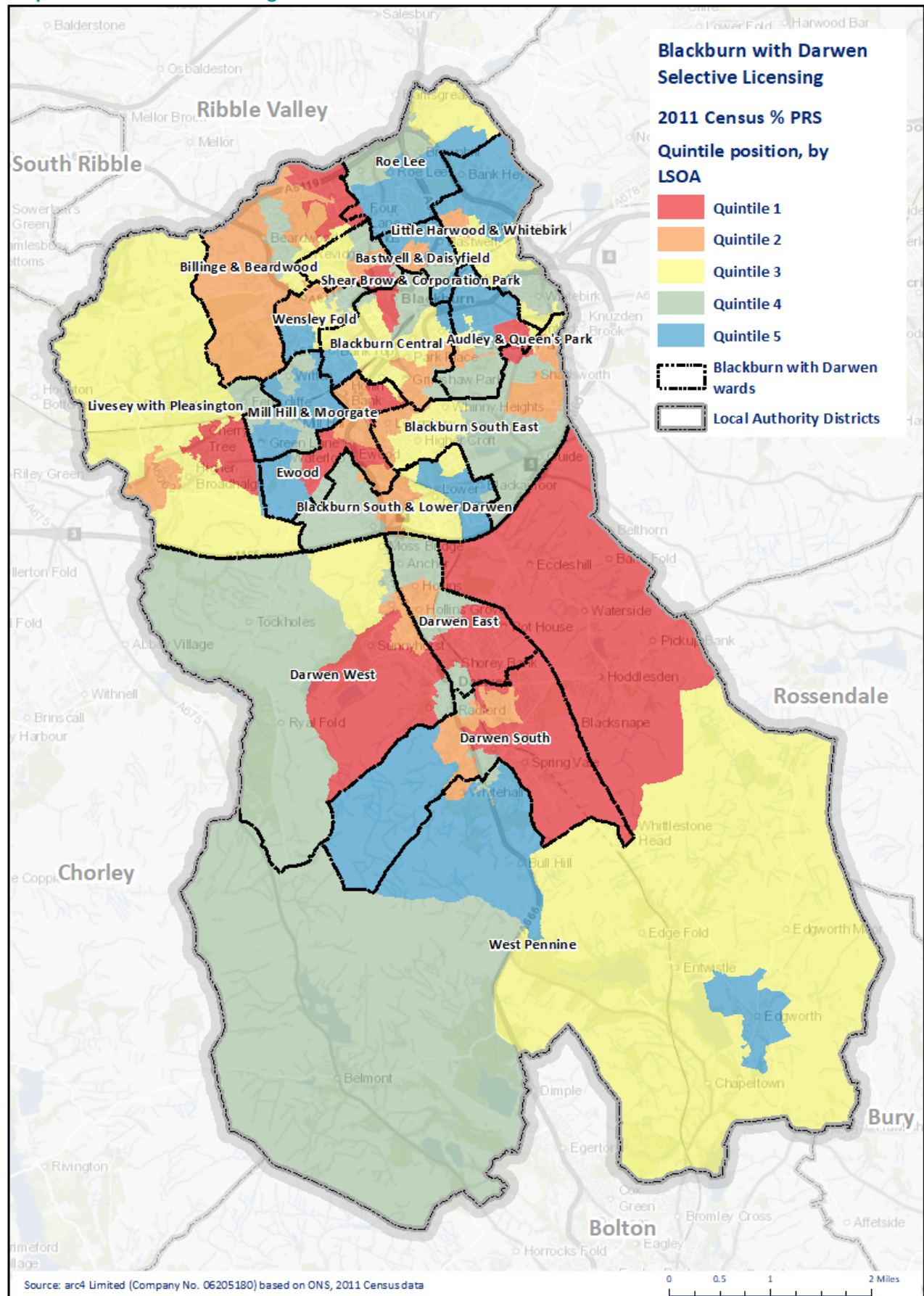
3. Private Rented Sector in Blackburn with Darwen BC

- 3.1 Table 3.1 illustrates the levels of PRS from the 2011 Census to identify locations of high private rented housing and includes those renting a home from a landlord and all other private rented sector households. It excludes those living rent free and is recorded as 17.2%.
- 3.2 Living rent free is excluded because 'living rent free' could include households that are living in accommodation other than private rented.
- 3.3 The LSOAs in quintile 1 and 2 with the highest levels of PRS are identified in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1 LSOAs in quintile 1 with the highest levels of properties in the Private Rented Sector			
Quintile 1 LSOA	Ward	Score for Quintile 1 LSOAs	Rank
E01012653	Darwen West	36.22%	1
E01012596	Ewood	34.86%	2
E01012649	Darwen East	31.88%	3
E01012641	Audley & Queen's Park	31.24%	4
E01012613	Livesey with Pleasington	30.86%	5
E01012644	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	28.44%	6
E01012593	Ewood	28.23%	7
E01012612	Livesey with Pleasington	28.02%	8
E01012647	Darwen East	27.02%	9
E01012652	Darwen West	26.21%	10
E01012594	Ewood	26.18%	11
E01012617	Darwen South	26.10%	12
E01012650	Darwen East	26.07%	13
E01012614	Darwen South	24.87%	14
E01012616	Darwen South	24.62%	15
E01012592	West Pennine	24.29%	16
E01012583	Billinge & Beardwood	24.22%	17
E01012646	Darwen East	22.43%	18

Source: Census 2011 Table KS402EW Tenure

- 3.4 This data for the percentage of PRS in each LSOA is mapped in Map 3.1 overleaf with wards overlaid.

Map 3.1 Private renting 2011

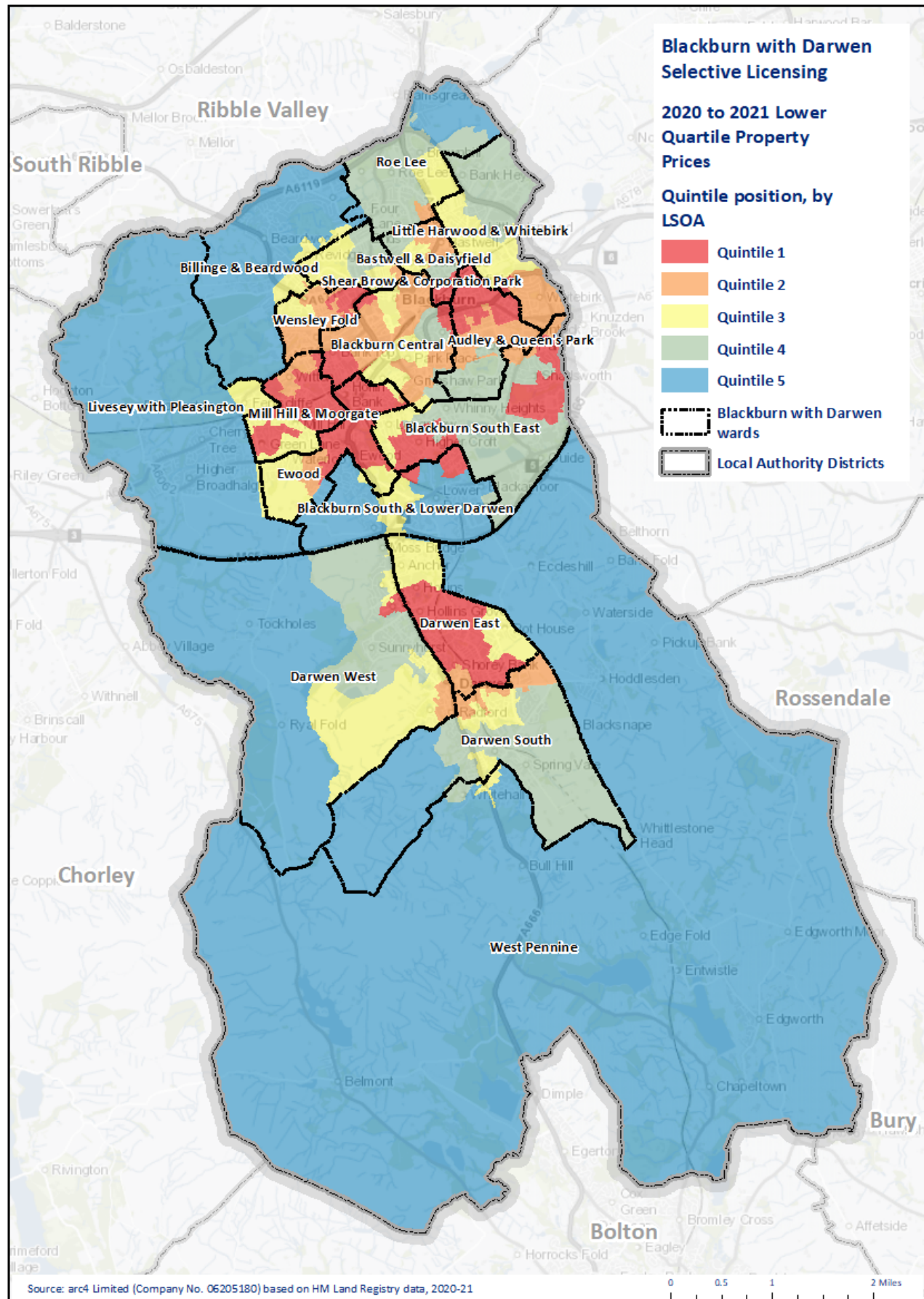
4. Lower Quartile property values

- 4.1 Low value property is associated with low demand and lower quartile property values are considered as an indicator in this section.
- 4.2 Table 4.1 illustrates the LSOAs with the lowest value lower quartile property values that comprise quintile 1 and compares them to the levels of PRS in those LSOAs (this is illustrated by the quintile that each LSOA falls into, where 1 is the highest levels of PRS).
- 4.3 8 of the 18 LSOAs with the lowest lower quartile property values are recorded as being in quintile 1 or 2 for the level of PRS.

Quintile 1 LSOA	Ward	Score for Quintile 1 LSOAs	Rank	LSOA Quintile rank for PRS
E01012603	Blackburn South & Lower Darwen	£50,000	1	3
E01012649	Darwen East	£50,500	2	1
E01012589	Darwen East	£51,625	3	2
E01012596	Ewood	£51,750	4	1
E01012622	Blackburn Central	£52,000	5	5
E01012625	Mill Hill & Moorgate	£53,000	6	5
E01012576	Audley & Queen's Park	£53,250	7	5
E01012575	Audley & Queen's Park	£53,750	8	5
E01012648	Darwen East	£54,000	9	4
E01012646	Darwen East	£54,500	10	1
E01012593	Ewood	£55,200	11	1
E01012619	Mill Hill & Moorgate	£55,500	12	5
E01012650	Darwen East	£55,500	12	1
E01012656	Wensley Fold	£56,750	14	4
E01012595	Ewood	£57,875	15	2
E01012601	Blackburn South East	£58,000	16	3
E01012637	Blackburn South East	£58,500	17	2
E01012624	Mill Hill & Moorgate	£59,750	18	5

Source: Land Registry January 2020 to June 2021

- 4.4 The data for all LSOAs is mapped in quintile for lower value property values in Map 4.1 overleaf with wards overlaid.

Map 4.1 Lower Quartile property values January 2020-June 2021

Source: Land Registry January 2020 to June 2021

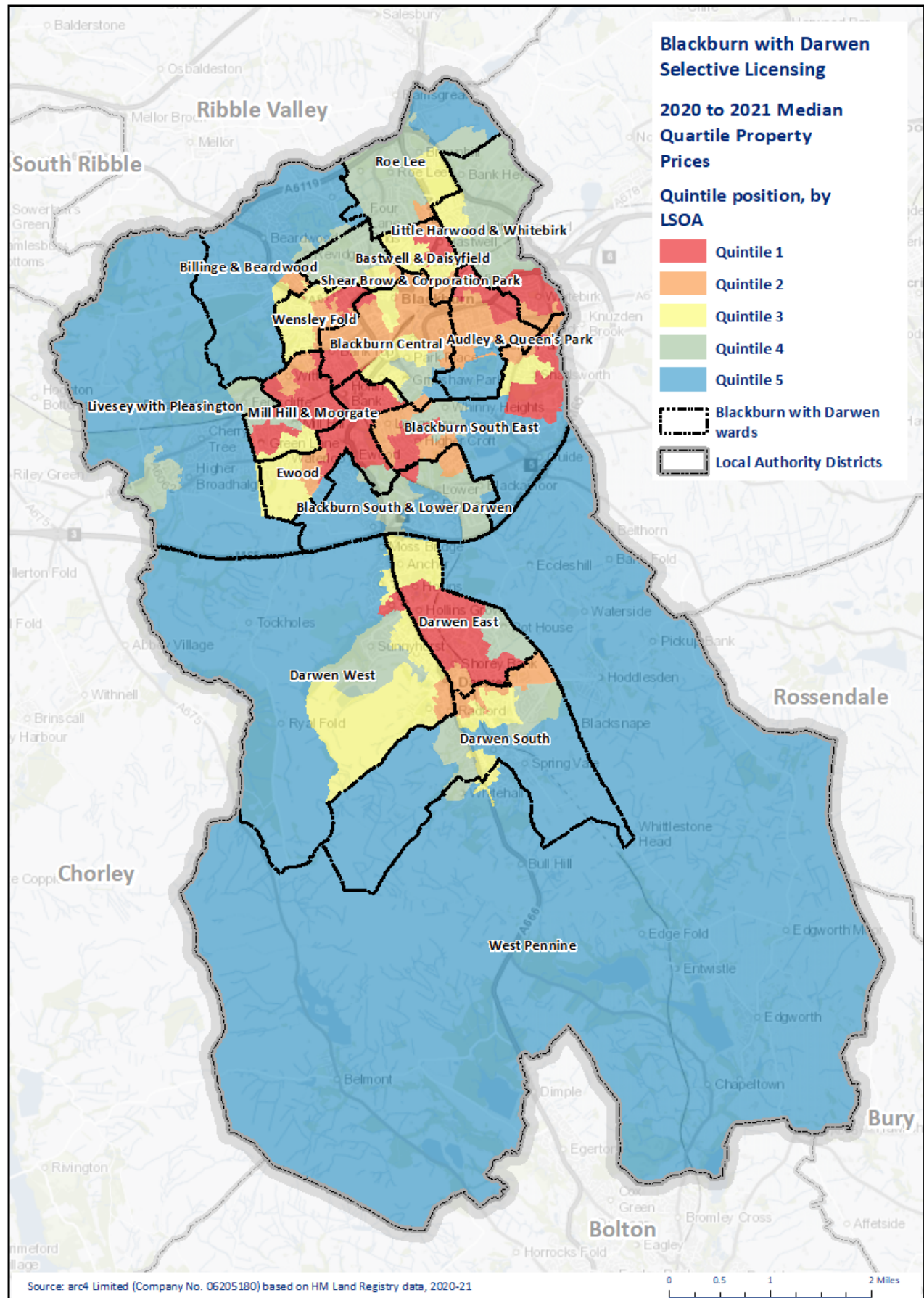
5. Median Quartile property values

- 5.1 Low value property is associated with low demand and median quartile property values are considered as an indicator in this section.
- 5.2 Table 5.1 illustrates the LSOAs with the lowest value median quartile property values that comprise quintile 1 and compares them to the levels of PRS in those LSOAs (this is illustrated by the quintile that each LSOA falls into, where 1 is the highest levels of PRS).
- 5.3 8 of the 18 LSOAs with the lowest median quartile property values are recorded as being in quintile 1 or 2 for the level of PRS.

Quintile 1 LSOA	Ward	Score for Quintile 1 LSOAs	Rank	LSOA Quintile rank for PRS
E01012622	Blackburn Central	£62,000	1	5
E01012650	Darwen East	£63,000	2	1
E01012625	Mill Hill & Moorgate	£64,000	3	5
E01012649	Darwen East	£64,000	3	1
E01012593	Ewood	£65,000	5	1
E01012596	Ewood	£65,000	5	1
E01012656	Wensley Fold	£65,000	5	4
E01012576	Audley & Queen's Park	£67,750	8	5
E01012619	Mill Hill & Moorgate	£70,000	9	5
E01012624	Mill Hill & Moorgate	£70,000	9	5
E01012646	Darwen East	£70,000	9	1
E01012578	Bastwell & Daisyfield	£70,500	12	5
E01012589	Darwen East	£70,500	12	2
E01012637	Blackburn South East	£70,500	12	2
E01012595	Ewood	£71,250	15	2
E01012648	Darwen East	£72,950	16	4
E01012639	Little Harwood & Whitebirk	£77,500	17	4
E01012601	Blackburn South East	£78,000	18	3

Source: Land Registry January 2020 to June 2021

- 5.4 The data for all LSOAs is mapped in quintile for median quartile property values in Map 5.1 overleaf with wards overlaid.

Map 5.1 Median Quartile property values January 2020-June 2021

Source: Land Registry January 2020 to June 2021

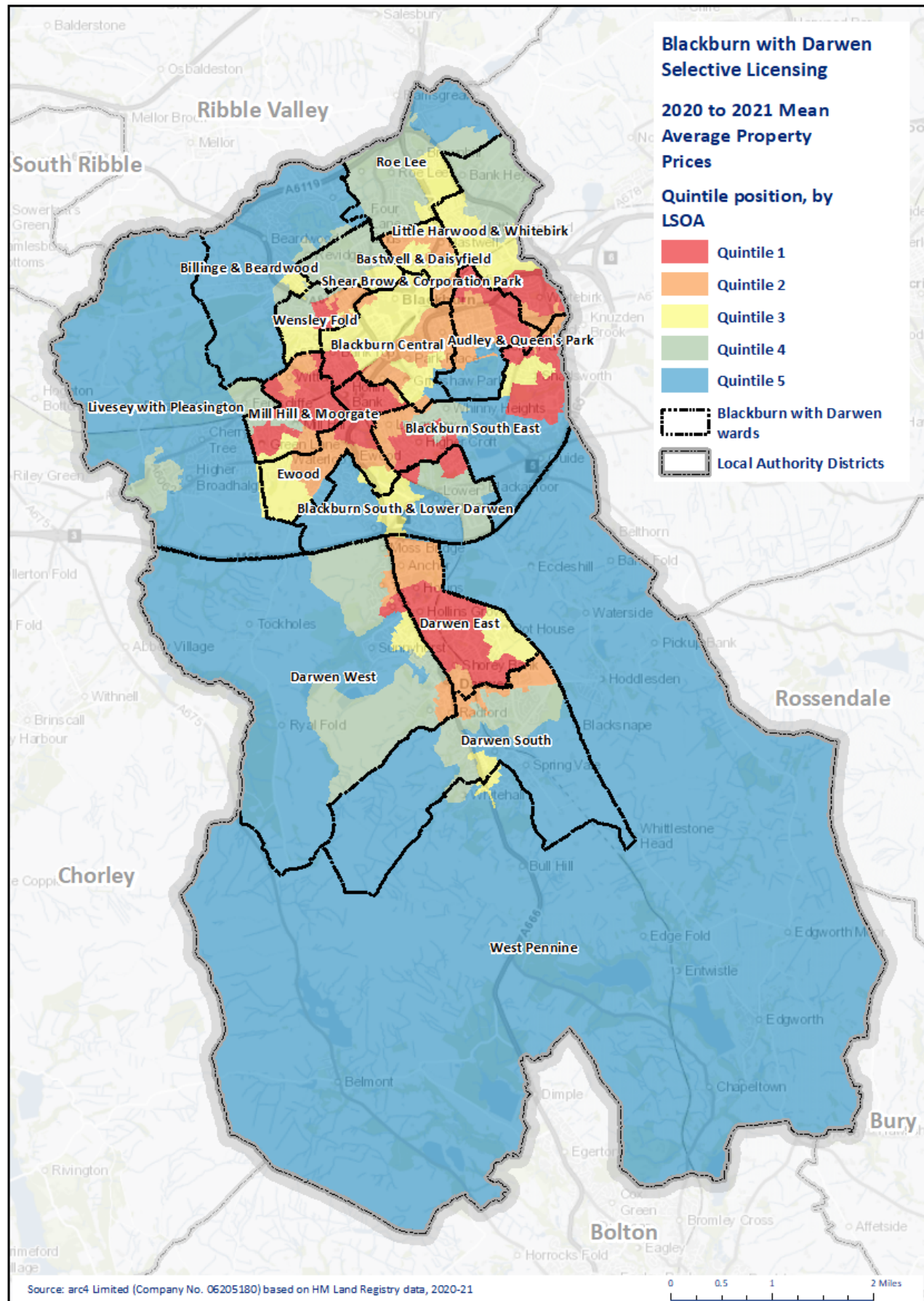
6. Mean property values

- 6.1 Low value property is associated with low demand and mean property values are considered as an indicator in this section.
- 6.2 Table 6.1 illustrates the LSOAs with the lowest value mean property values that comprise quintile 1 and compares them to the levels of PRS in those LSOAs (this is illustrated by the quintile that each LSOA falls into, where 1 is the highest levels of PRS).
- 6.3 8 of the 18 LSOAs with the lowest mean property values are recorded as being in quintile 1 or 2 for the level of PRS.

Quintile 1 LSOA	Ward	Score for Quintile 1 LSOAs	Rank	LSOA Quintile rank for PRS
E01012622	Blackburn Central	£62,423	1	5
E01012650	Darwen East	£64,842	2	1
E01012576	Audley & Queen's Park	£68,727	3	5
E01012596	Ewood	£69,860	4	1
E01012649	Darwen East	£72,124	5	1
E01012637	Blackburn South East	£72,500	6	2
E01012648	Darwen East	£72,858	7	4
E01012625	Mill Hill & Moorgate	£74,207	8	5
E01012624	Mill Hill & Moorgate	£77,283	9	5
E01012639	Little Harwood & Whitebirk	£77,667	10	4
E01012641	Audley & Queen's Park	£78,067	11	1
E01012601	Blackburn South East	£78,667	12	3
E01012603	Blackburn South & Lower Darwen	£79,467	13	3
E01012657	Wensley Fold	£79,667	14	3
E01012595	Ewood	£79,770	15	2
E01012619	Mill Hill & Moorgate	£80,389	16	5
E01012646	Darwen East	£80,447	17	1
E01012589	Darwen East	£81,971	18	2

Source: Land Registry January 2020 to June 2021

- 6.4 The data for all LSOAs is mapped in quintile for mean property values in Map 6.1 overleaf with wards overlaid.

Map 6.1 Mean property values January 2020- June 2021

Source: Land Registry January 2020 to June 2021

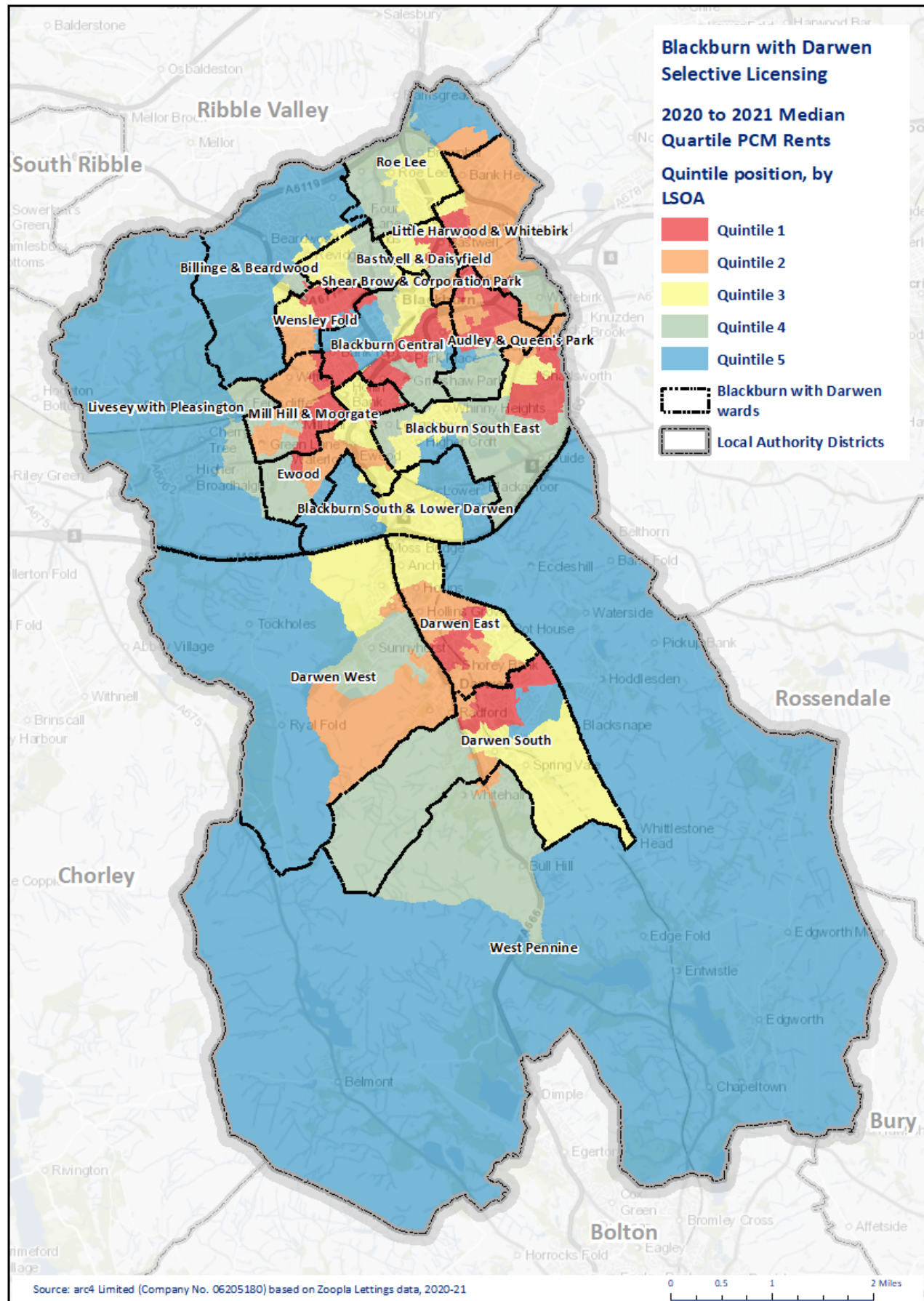
7. Median Quartile rent levels

- 7.1 Low value rents are associated with low demand and median quartile rental values (pcm) are considered as an indicator in this section.
- 7.2 Table 7.1 illustrates the LSOAs with the lowest median quartile rental values that comprise quintile 1 and compares them to the levels of PRS in those LSOAs (this is illustrated by the quintile that each LSOA falls into, where 1 is the highest levels of PRS).
- 7.3 7 of the 18 LSOAs with the lowest median quartile rental values are recorded as being in quintile 1 or 2 for the level of PRS.

Quintile 1 LSOA	Ward	Score for Quintile 1 LSOAs	Rank	LSOA Quintile rank for PRS
E01012586	Wensley Fold	£342	1	2
E01012573	Audley & Queen's Park	£377	2	3
E01012605	Little Harwood & Whitebirk	£381	3	2
E01012572	Blackburn Central	£399	4	3
E01012656	Wensley Fold	£399	4	4
E01012571	Audley & Queen's Park	£425	6	5
E01012578	Bastwell & Daisyfield	£451	7	5
E01012596	Ewood	£451	7	1
E01012617	Darwen South	£451	7	1
E01012621	Mill Hill & Moorgate	£451	7	4
E01012622	Blackburn Central	£451	7	5
E01012624	Mill Hill & Moorgate	£451	7	5
E01012629	Blackburn Central	£451	7	3
E01012649	Darwen East	£451	7	1
E01012657	Wensley Fold	£451	7	3
E01012576	Audley & Queen's Park	£453	16	5
E01012615	Darwen South	£459	17	2
E01012637	Blackburn South East	£468	18	2

Source: Zoopla January 2020 to June 2021

- 7.4 The data for all LSOAs is mapped as a percentage in Map 7.1 overleaf with wards overlaid.

Map 7.1 Median Quartile rent levels January 2020-June 2021

Source: Zoopla January 2020 to June 2021

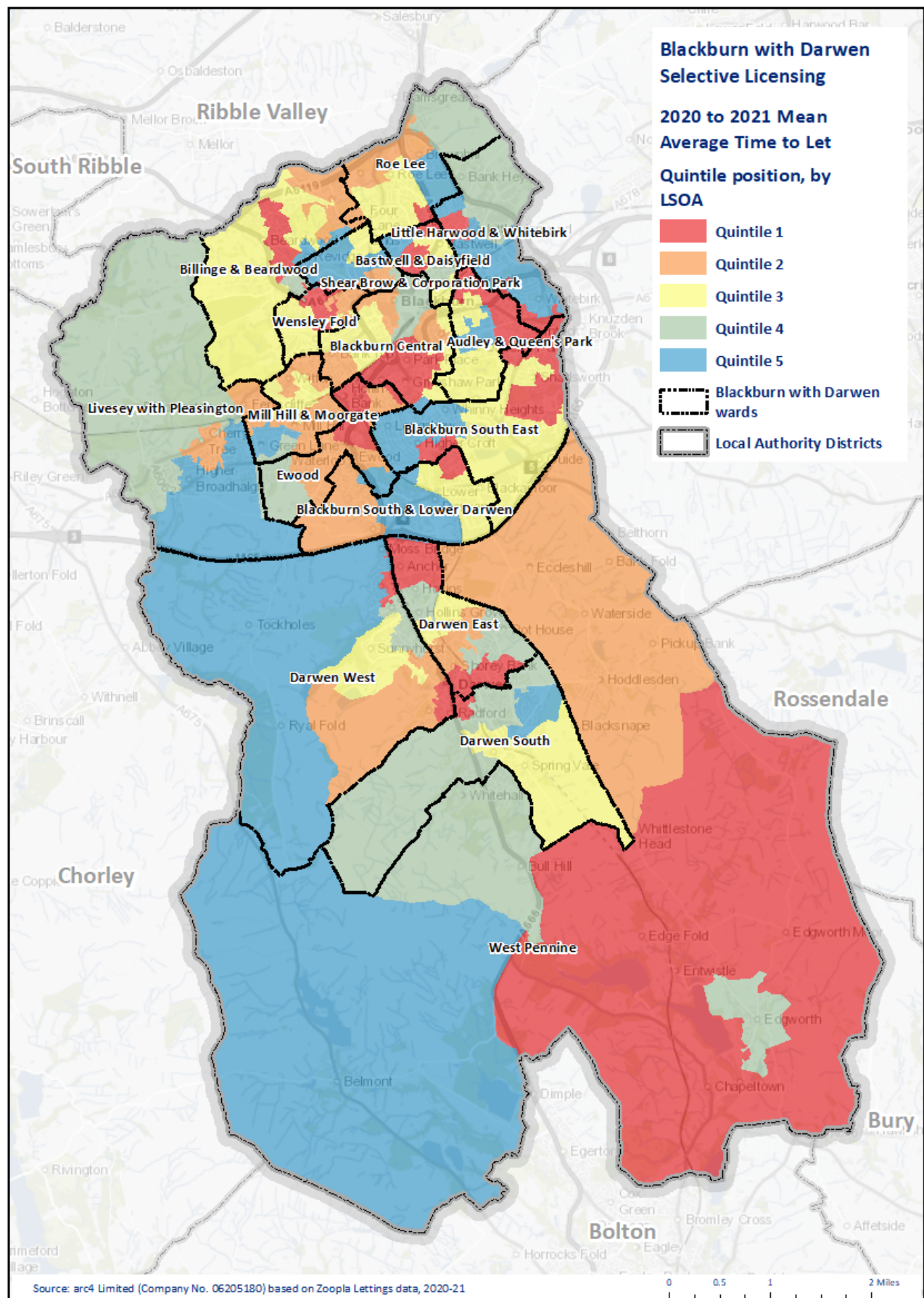
8. Time to let

- 8.1 Time to let can indicate the popularity of locations. Where properties take longer to let, demand can be low and time to let is as indicator in this section. However, it is a complex indicator and properties that let quickly in lower value locations may not be popular but driven by the benefits market and lack of choice of affordable properties elsewhere. This indicator is a useful guide within a basket of indicators.
- 8.2 Table 8.1 illustrates the LSOAs with the highest mean time to let that comprise quintile 1 and compares them to the levels of PRS in those LSOAs (this is illustrated by the quintile that each LSOA falls into, where 1 is the highest levels of PRS).
- 8.3 8 of the 18 LSOAs with the lowest median quartile rental values are recorded as being in quintile 1 or 2 for the level of PRS.

Quintile 1 LSOA	Ward	Score for Quintile 1 LSOAs	Rank	LSOA Quintile rank for PRS
E01012595	Ewood	28.1	1	2
E01012577	Bastwell & Daisyfield	24.0	2	5
E01012605	Little Harwood & Whitebirk	17.7	3	2
E01012657	Wensley Fold	16.4	4	3
E01012586	Wensley Fold	15.8	5	2
E01012631	Blackburn Central	13.3	6	2
E01012576	Audley & Queen's Park	12.0	7	5
E01012603	Blackburn South & Lower Darwen	11.1	8	3
E01012646	Darwen East	10.9	9	1
E01012582	Billinge & Beardwood	10.8	10	4
E01012629	Blackburn Central	10.6	11	3
E01012590	Darwen East	10.6	12	4
E01012654	Darwen West	10.1	13	4
E01012580	Bastwell & Daisyfield	10.0	14	2
E01012641	Audley & Queen's Park	9.9	15	1
E01012637	Blackburn South East	9.5	16	2
E01012640	Little Harwood & Whitebirk	9.3	17	3
E01032485	West Pennine	9.2	18	3

Source: Zoopla January 2020 to June 2021

- 8.4 The data for all LSOAs is mapped at LSOA level with wards overlaid in Map 8.1.

Map 8.1 Time to Let January 2020-June 2021

Source: Zoopla January 2020 to June 2021

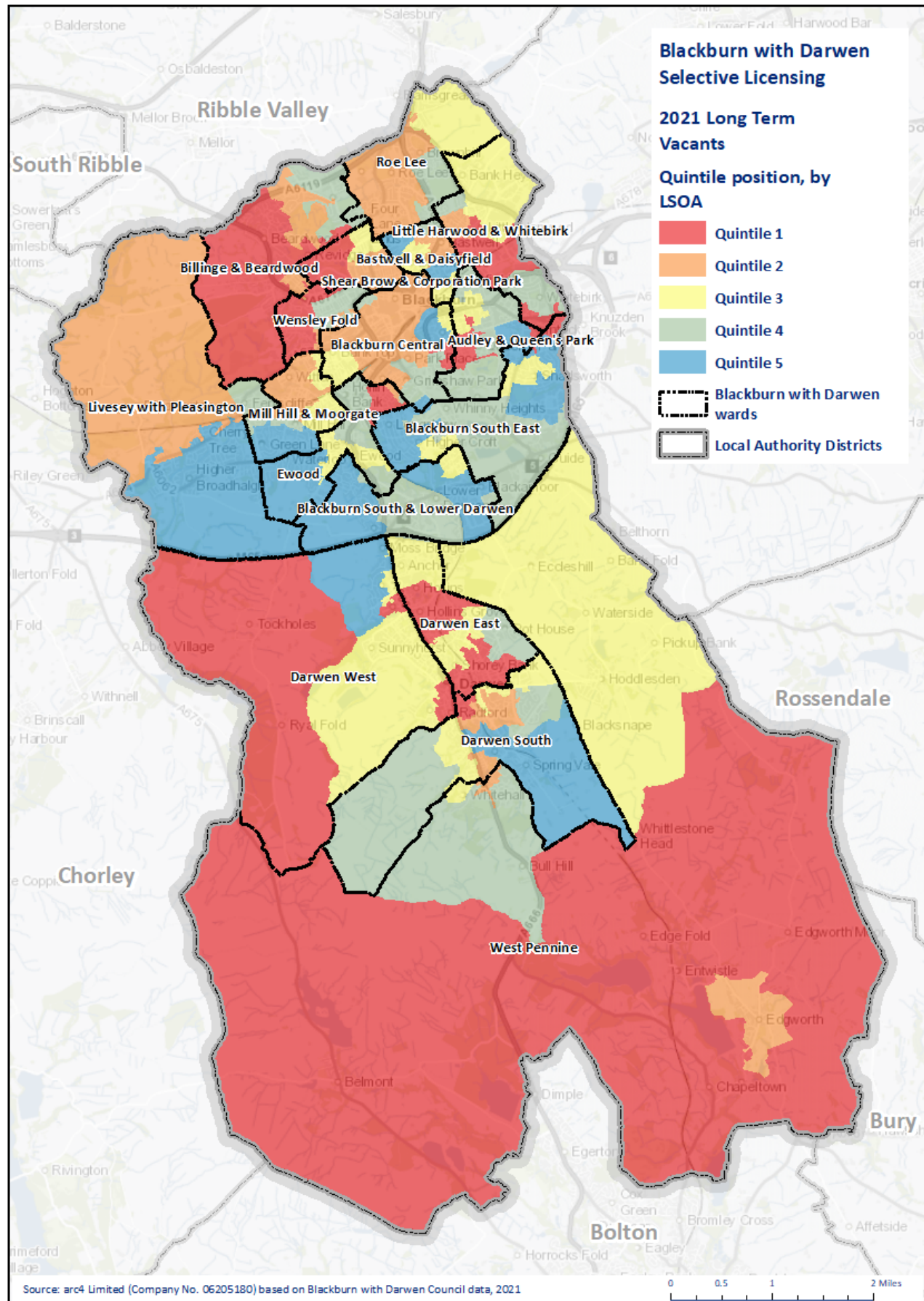
9. Vacant properties

- 9.1 High levels of empty properties are associated with low demand and long term empty properties (over 6 months) in April 2021 are considered as an indicator in this section.
- 9.2 Table 9.1 illustrates the LSOAs with the highest percentage of empty properties that comprise quintile 1 and compares them to the levels of PRS in those LSOAs (this is illustrated by the quintile that each LSOA falls into, where 1 is the highest levels of PRS).
- 9.3 8 of the 18 LSOAs with the highest percentage of empty properties are recorded as being in quintile 1 or 2 for the level of PRS.

Quintile 1 LSOA	Ward	Score for Quintile 1 LSOAs	Rank	LSOA Quintile rank for PRS
E01012584	Billinge & Beardwood	5.1%	1	2
E01012586	Wensley Fold	4.8%	2	2
E01012585	Wensley Fold	4.7%	3	2
E01012654	Darwen West	4.4%	4	4
E01012606	Little Harwood & Whitebirk	4.3%	5	3
E01012640	Little Harwood & Whitebirk	4.0%	6	3
E01012650	Darwen East	3.8%	7	1
E01012587	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	3.3%	8	3
E01012646	Darwen East	3.2%	9	1
E01012628	West Pennine	3.1%	10	4
E01012630	Blackburn Central	3.1%	10	2
E01012596	Ewood	3.1%	12	1
E01012658	Wensley Fold	2.9%	13	5
E01032485	West Pennine	2.8%	14	3
E01012582	Billinge & Beardwood	2.8%	15	4
E01012648	Darwen East	2.8%	16	4
E01012573	Audley & Queen's Park	2.7%	17	3
E01012589	Darwen East	2.7%	18	2

Source: Council data April 2021 data expressed as a % of 2020 VOA Dwelling Stock - ALL PROPERTIES

- 9.4 The data for all LSOAs is mapped in Map 9.1 overleaf with wards overlaid.

Map 9.1 Vacant properties April 2021

Source: Council data April 2021 data expressed as a % of 2020 VOA Dwelling Stock - ALL PROPERTIES

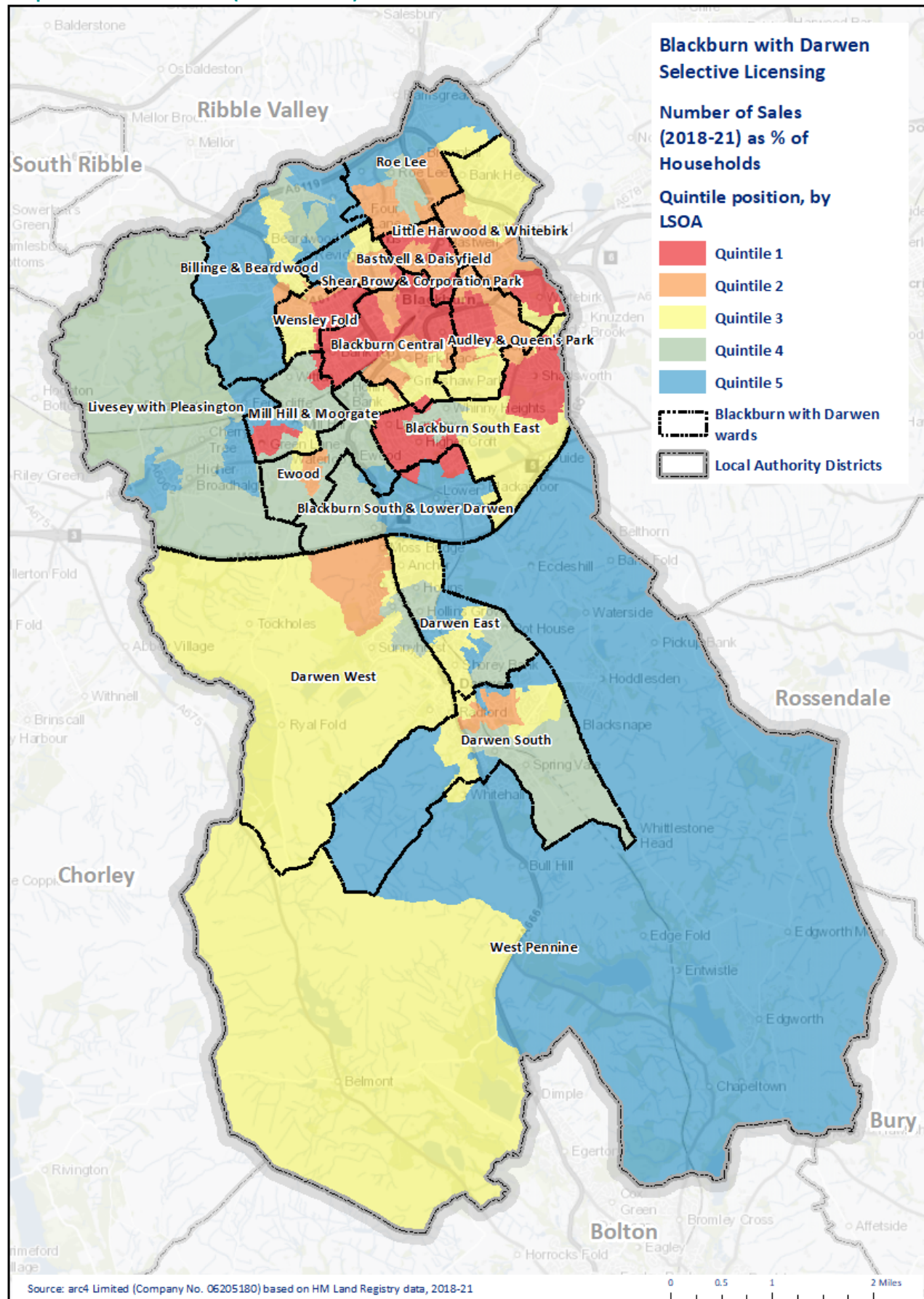
10. Turnover (Sales Market)

- 10.1 The total number of sales as a percentage of all households June 2018-June 2021 is explored as an indicator of low demand in this section. Low sales is used as an indicator of low demand.
- 10.2 Table 10.1 identifies the LSOAs with the lowest percentage of sales compared with the levels of PRS in each LSOA (this is illustrated by the quintile that each LSOA falls into, where 1 is the highest levels of PRS).
- 10.3 2 of the 18 LSOAs with the lowest percentage of sales are recorded as being in quintile 1 or 2 for the level of PRS.

Quintile 1 LSOA	Ward	Score for Quintile 1 LSOAs	Rank	LSOA Quintile rank for PRS
E01012572	Blackburn Central	0.9%	1	3
E01012575	Audley & Queen's Park	1.6%	2	5
E01012637	Blackburn South East	1.7%	3	2
E01012603	Blackburn South & Lower Darwen	2.0%	4	3
E01012601	Blackburn South East	2.7%	5	3
E01012639	Little Harwood & Whitebirk	3.0%	6	4
E01012657	Wensley Fold	3.2%	7	3
E01012571	Audley & Queen's Park	3.3%	8	5
E01012573	Audley & Queen's Park	3.3%	9	3
E01012600	Blackburn South East	3.3%	10	2
E01012643	Blackburn Central	3.5%	11	4
E01012656	Wensley Fold	3.5%	11	4
E01012638	Blackburn South East	3.8%	13	4
E01012619	Mill Hill & Moorgate	3.9%	14	5
E01012655	Blackburn Central	3.9%	15	3
E01012622	Blackburn Central	4.1%	16	5
E01012579	Bastwell & Daisyfield	4.2%	17	5
E01012578	Bastwell & Daisyfield	4.5%	18	5

Source: Land Registry and census data. Data expressed as % of 2018-based ONS 2021 household district growth factor applied to 2011 Census total household numbers

- 10.4 The data for all LSOAs is mapped in Map 10.1 with wards overlaid.

Map 10.1 Turnover (Sales market) June 2018-June 2021

Source: Land Registry and census data. Data expressed as % of 2018-based ONS 2021 household district growth factor applied to 2011 Census total household numbers

11. Turnover (rented market)

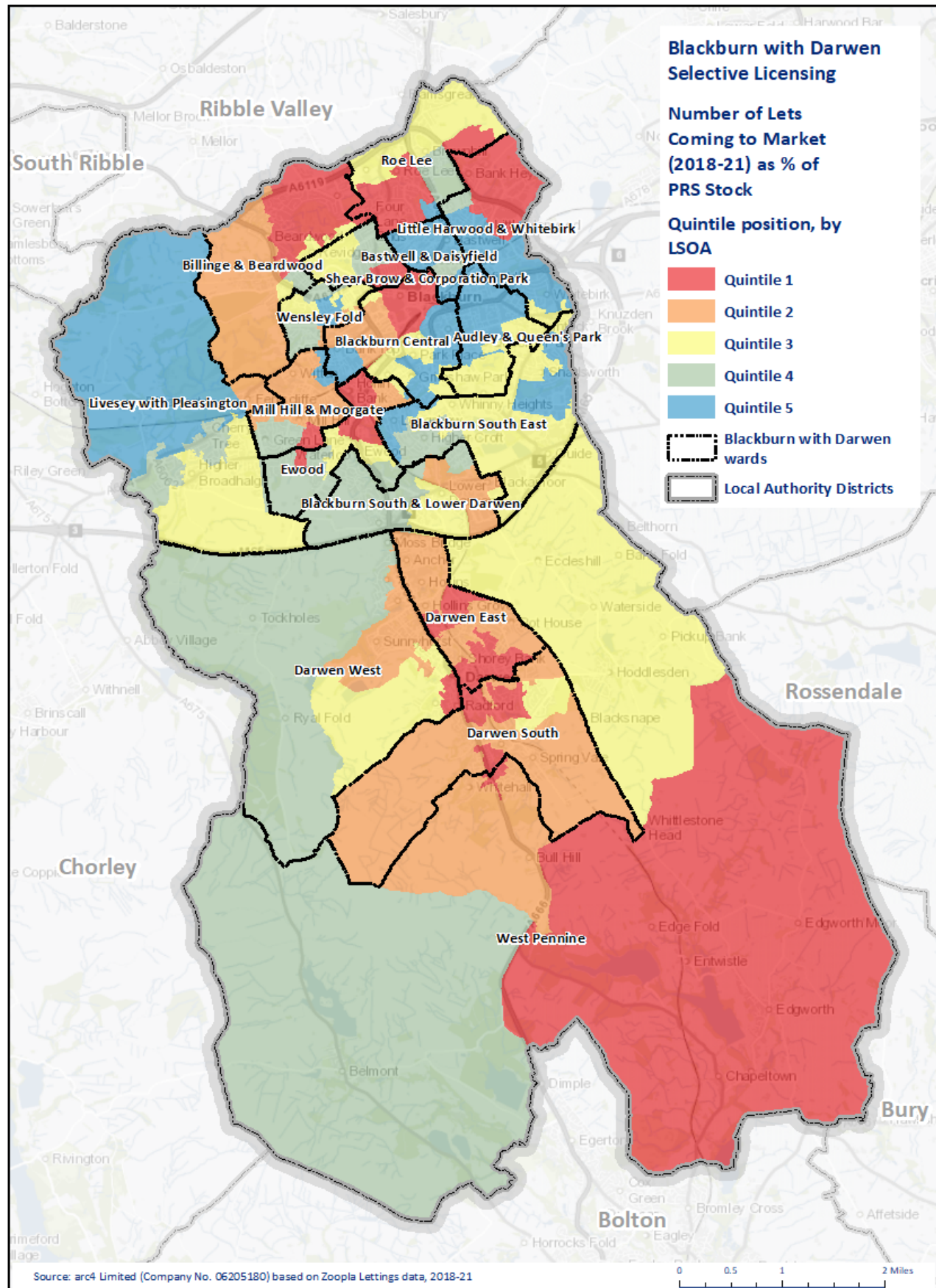
- 11.1 The turnover of rented stock is explored as an indicator of low demand in this section. High turnover would indicate unpopular property and the data is based on properties coming onto the market through Zoopla expressed as a percentage of 2018-based ONS 2021 household district growth factor applied to 2011 Census PRS household numbers. The total numbers coming onto the market through Zoopla does not confirm the total market and these figures demonstrate trend rather than actual.
- 11.2 Table 11.1 identifies the LSOAs with the highest turnover in the private rented sector compared with the levels of PRS in each LSOA (this is illustrated by the quintile that each LSOA falls into, where 1 is the highest levels of PRS).
- 11.3 11 of the 18 LSOAs with the highest turnover in the private rented sector are recorded as being in quintile 1 or 2 for the level of PRS.

Table 11.1 The turnover of rented stock expressed as % of 2018-based ONS 2021 household district growth factor applied to 2011 Census PRS household numbers

Quintile 1 LSOA	Ward	Score for Quintile 1 LSOAs	Rank	LSOA Quintile rank for PRS
E01012643	Blackburn Central	227.4%	1	3
E01032486	West Pennine	152.6%	2	1
E01012583	Billinge & Beardwood	135.5%	3	1
E01012648	Darwen East	116.9%	4	2
E01012634	Roe Lee	116.6%	5	4
E01012581	Billinge & Beardwood	116.3%	6	2
E01012646	Darwen East	104.6%	7	3
E01012654	Darwen West	102.8%	8	1
E01012661	Darwen South	100.5%	9	1
E01032485	West Pennine	100.4%	10	2
E01012595	Ewood	98.4%	11	3
E01012582	Billinge & Beardwood	96.7%	12	5
E01012615	Darwen South	95.5%	13	1
E01012644	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	95.4%	14	2
E01012635	Roe Lee	95.1%	15	2
E01012650	Darwen East	94.0%	16	4
E01012607	Little Harwood & Whitebirk	93.7%	17	1
E01012621	Mill Hill & Moorgate	93.1%	18	5

Source: Zoopla turnover of rented stock expressed as a as % of 2018-based ONS 2021 household district growth factor applied to 2011 Census PRS household numbers

- 11.4 The data for all LSOAs is mapped in Map 11.1 with wards overlaid.

Map 11.1 Turnover (Rented Market)

Source: Zoopla turnover of rented stock expressed as a as % of 2018-based ONS 2021 household district growth factor applied to 2011 Census PRS household numbers

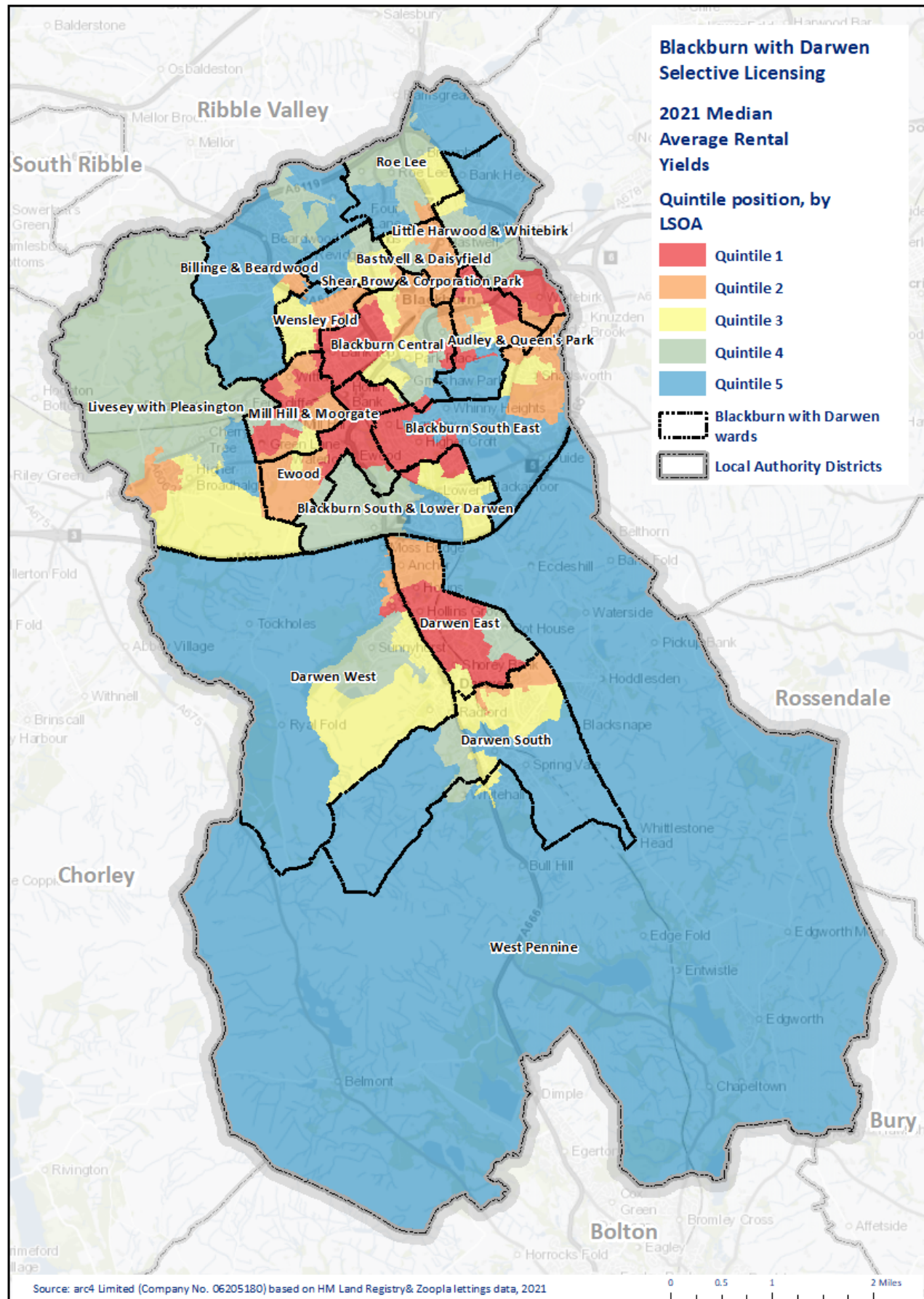
12. Median Rental yields

- 12.1 The rental yield is explored as an indicator of low demand in this section. It is based on median rents and expressed as a yield of median property values. High yields are considered low demand because of the high income obtained from low value property. However, it is a complex indicator and properties that have high yields may also be popular locations. This indicator is a useful guide within a basket of indicators.
- 12.2 Table 12.1 identifies the LSOAs with the highest yield compared with the levels of PRS in each LSOA (this is illustrated by the quintile that each LSOA falls into, where 1 is the highest levels of PRS).
- 12.3 9 of the 18 LSOAs with the highest turnover in the private rented sector are recorded as being in quintile 1 or 2 for the level of PRS.

Quintile 1 LSOA	Ward	Score for Quintile 1 LSOAs	Rank	LSOA Quintile rank for PRS
E01012630	Blackburn Central	11.6%	1	2
E01012603	Blackburn South & Lower Darwen	9.9%	2	3
E01012655	Blackburn Central	9.7%	3	3
E01012600	Blackburn South East	9.4%	4	2
E01012625	Mill Hill & Moorgate	9.2%	5	5
E01012593	Ewood	9.1%	6	1
E01012650	Darwen East	9.1%	7	1
E01012622	Blackburn Central	8.7%	8	5
E01012639	Little Harwood & Whitebirk	8.7%	9	4
E01012619	Mill Hill & Moorgate	8.5%	10	5
E01012649	Darwen East	8.5%	11	1
E01012595	Ewood	8.4%	12	2
E01012596	Ewood	8.3%	13	1
E01012646	Darwen East	8.2%	14	1
E01012589	Darwen East	8.1%	15	2
E01012601	Blackburn South East	8.1%	16	3
E01012576	Audley & Queen's Park	8.0%	17	5
E01012648	Darwen East	8.0%	18	4

Source: Land Registry January 2020 to June 2021 and Zoopla January 2020 to June 2021

- 12.4 The data for all LSOAs is mapped in Map 12.1 with wards overlaid.

Map 12.1 Median Rental Yields

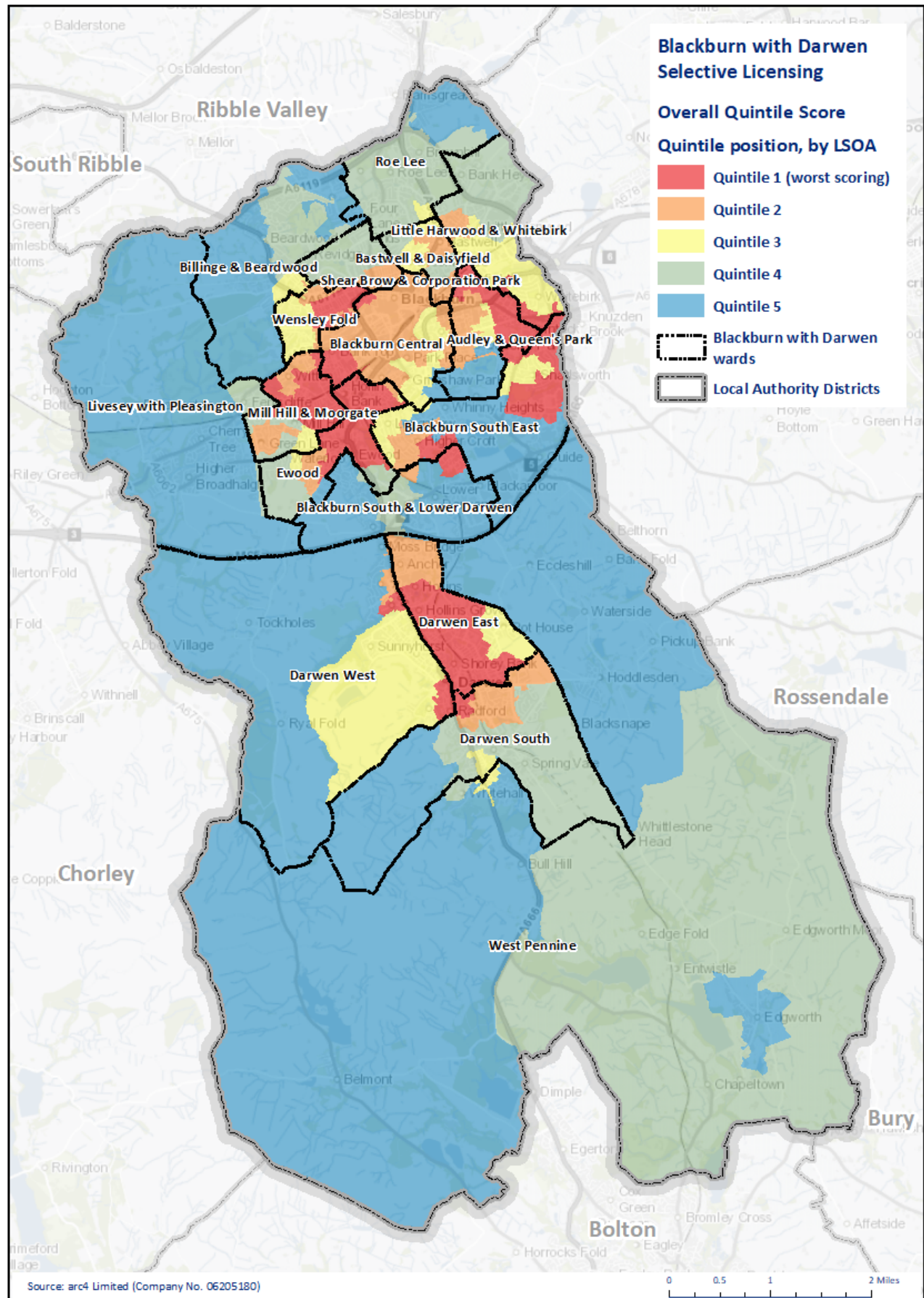
Source: Land Registry January 2020 to June 2021 and Zoopla January 2020 to June 2021

13. Ranking quintiles and identifying locations

- 13.1 For each of the indicators the quintile scores have been added together to provide an overall score and these scores have then been ranked into quintiles; quintile 1 indicators are the worst performing locations. An accompanying Excel spreadsheet captures all of the data and scoring details.
- 13.2 Table 13.1 sets out those LSOAs in quintile 1 and 2 compared with the levels of PRS in each LSOA (this is illustrated by the quintile that each LSOA falls into, where 1 is the highest levels of PRS).
- 13.3 Of the 19 LSOAs that comprise quintile 1 overall scores, 9 are in quintile 1 or 2 for PRS. Of the 17 LSOAs that comprise quintile 2 overall scores, 7 are in quintile 1 or 2 for PRS.

Table 13.1 Overall scores				
Quintile 1 LSOA	Ward	Score for Quintile 1 and 2	Rank	LSOA Quintile rank for PRS
Quintile 1				
E01012596	Ewood	14	1	1
E01012646	Darwen East	14	1	1
E01012649	Darwen East	16	3	1
E01012650	Darwen East	18	4	1
E01012589	Darwen East	19	5	2
E01012595	Ewood	19	5	2
E01012593	Ewood	20	7	1
E01012637	Blackburn South East	20	7	2
E01012648	Darwen East	20	7	4
E01012622	Blackburn Central	21	10	5
E01012640	Little Harwood & Whitebirk	21	10	3
E01012641	Audley & Queen's Park	21	10	1
E01012654	Darwen West	21	10	4
E01012656	Wensley Fold	21	10	4
E01012576	Audley & Queen's Park	22	15	5
E01012603	Blackburn South & Lower Darwen	22	15	3
E01012624	Mill Hill & Moorgate	22	15	5
E01012625	Mill Hill & Moorgate	22	15	5
E01012657	Wensley Fold	22	15	3
Quintile 2				
E01012629	Blackburn Central	23	20	3
E01012578	Bastwell & Daisyfield	24	21	5
E01012594	Ewood	24	21	1
E01012617	Darwen South	24	21	1
E01012623	Mill Hill & Moorgate	24	21	4
E01012643	Blackburn Central	24	21	4
E01012644	Shear Brow & Corporation Park	24	21	1
E01012655	Blackburn Central	24	21	3
E01012586	Wensley Fold	25	28	2
E01012601	Blackburn South East	25	28	3
E01012615	Darwen South	25	28	2
E01012630	Blackburn Central	25	28	2
E01012573	Audley & Queen's Park	26	32	3
E01012575	Audley & Queen's Park	26	32	5
E01012590	Darwen East	26	32	4
E01012605	Little Harwood & Whitebirk	26	32	2
E01012619	Mill Hill & Moorgate	26	32	5

13.4 The overall scores are mapped in Map 13.1.

Map 13.1 Overall scores

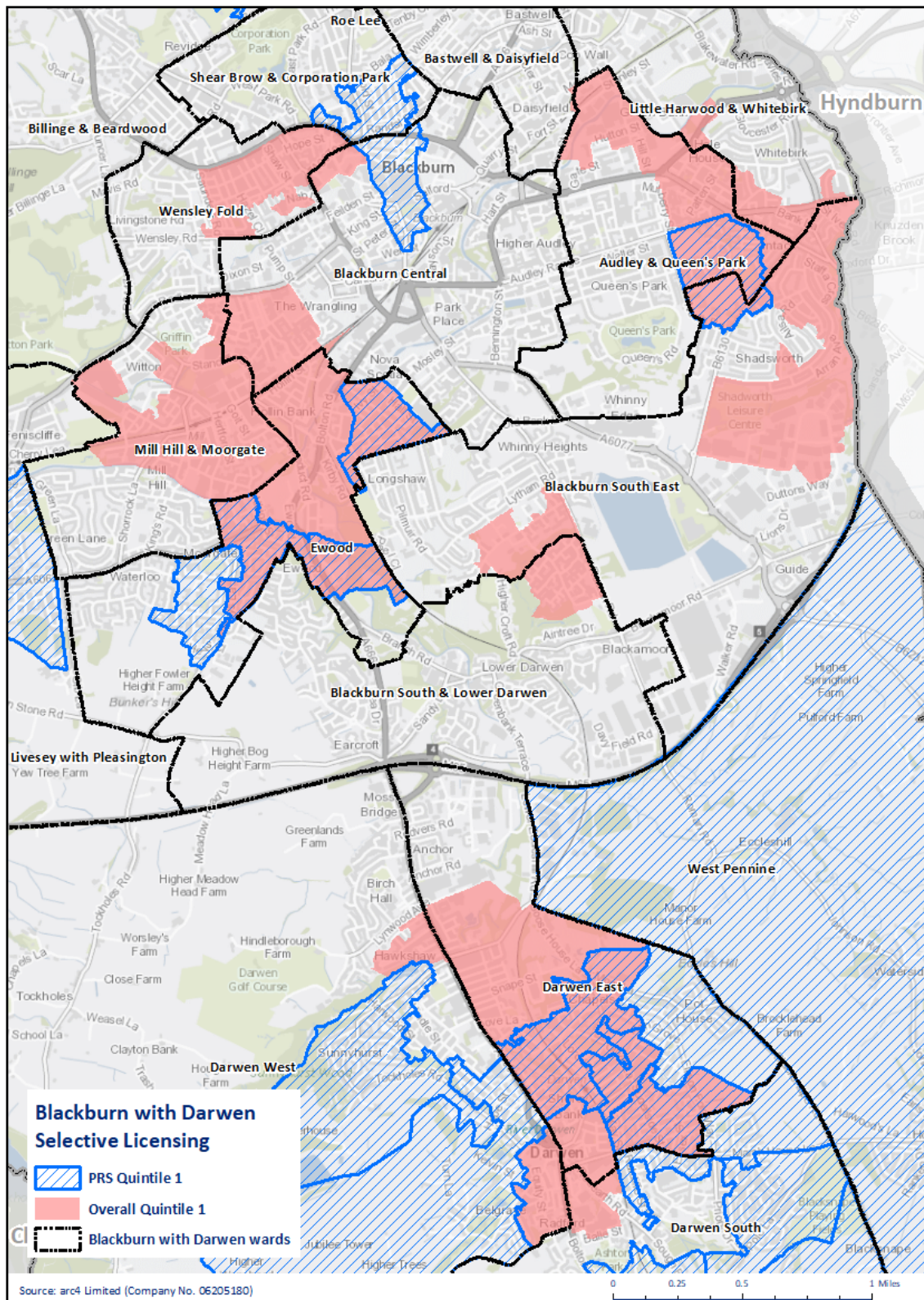
14. Correlations with the Private Rented Sector

- 14.1 The overall quintile scores for LSOAs identifies those LSOAs that are the most poorly performing for the indicators considered and most likely to be in low demand.
- 14.2 However, there is a requirement that before selective licensing is applied that those 'worst' performing locations (quintile 1) correlate with locations where the private rented sector is also high.
- 14.3 The following maps consider this in more detail.

Overall quintile 1 locations and quintile 1 PRS locations

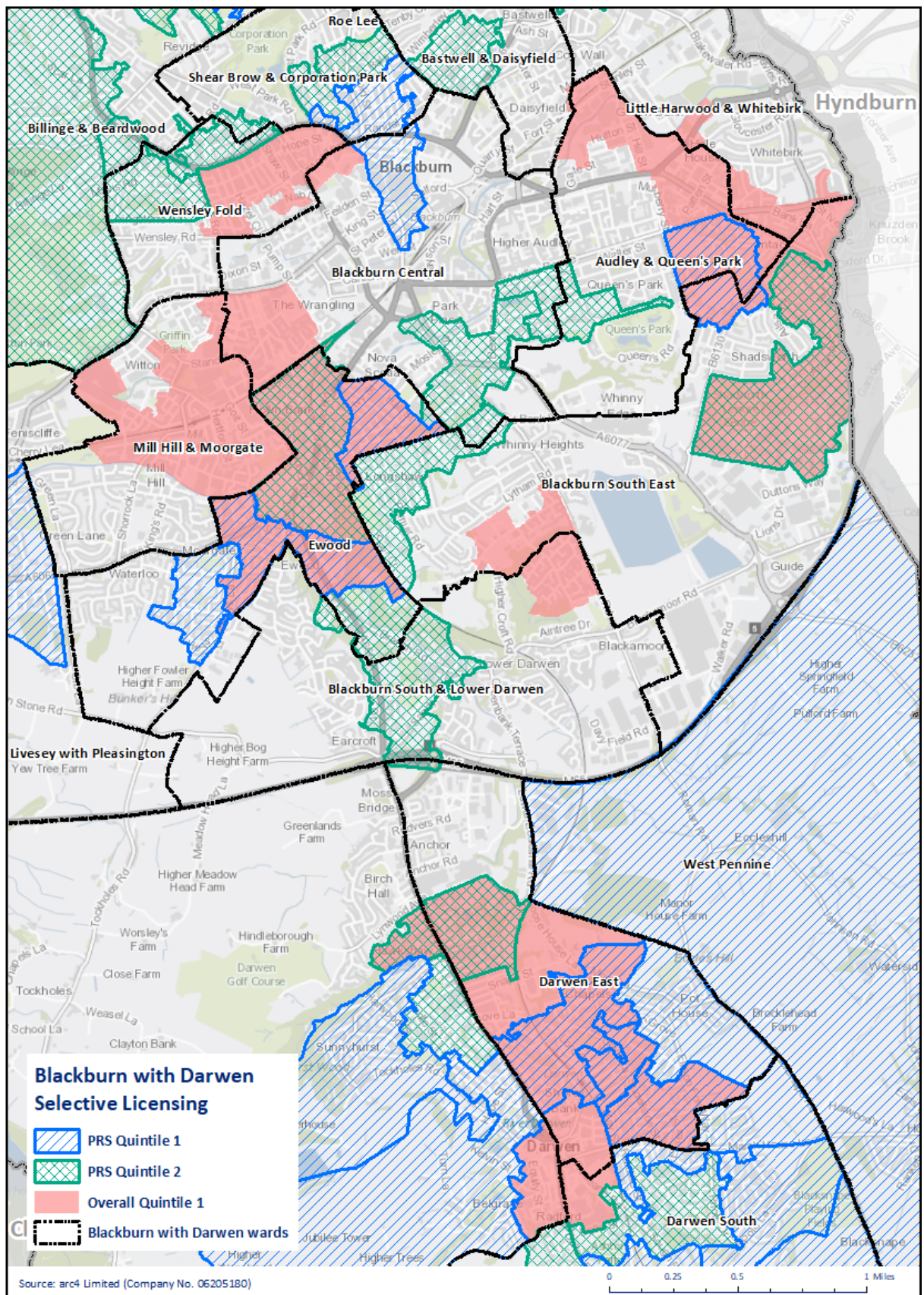
- 14.4 Map 14.1 shows those LSOAs in quintile 1 overall scores and LSOAs in quintile 1 for PRS. These locations have the highest levels of low demand behaviour and the highest levels of PRS.

Map 14.1 Overall scores and PRS = quintile 1



14.5 Map 14.2 illustrates the same information but includes quintile 2 LSOAs for PRS.

Map 14.2 Overall scores = quintile 1 and PRS = quintile 1 and 2



- 14.6 These LSOAs in quintile 1 for overall scores and quintile 1 for PRS are listed below and identified at street level in Appendix 1. These locations should be the focus for potential licensing schemes.

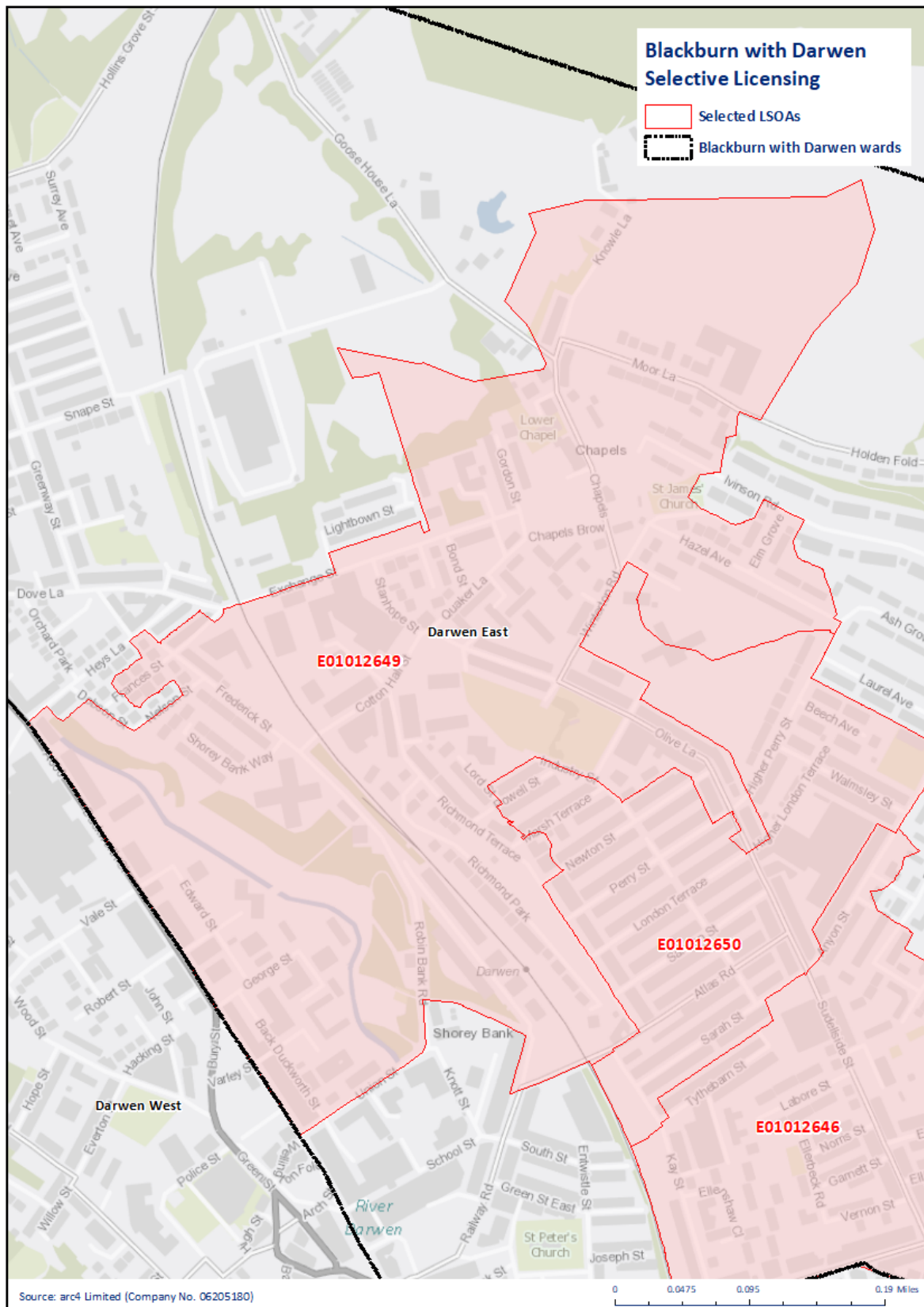
Table 14.1 Quintile 1 locations for overall scores and PRS			
LSOA	Ward	PRS quintile	Overall quintile score
E01012596	Ewood	1	1
E01012646	Darwen East	1	1
E01012649	Darwen East	1	1
E01012650	Darwen East	1	1
E01012593	Ewood	1	1
E01012641	Audley & Queen's Park	1	1

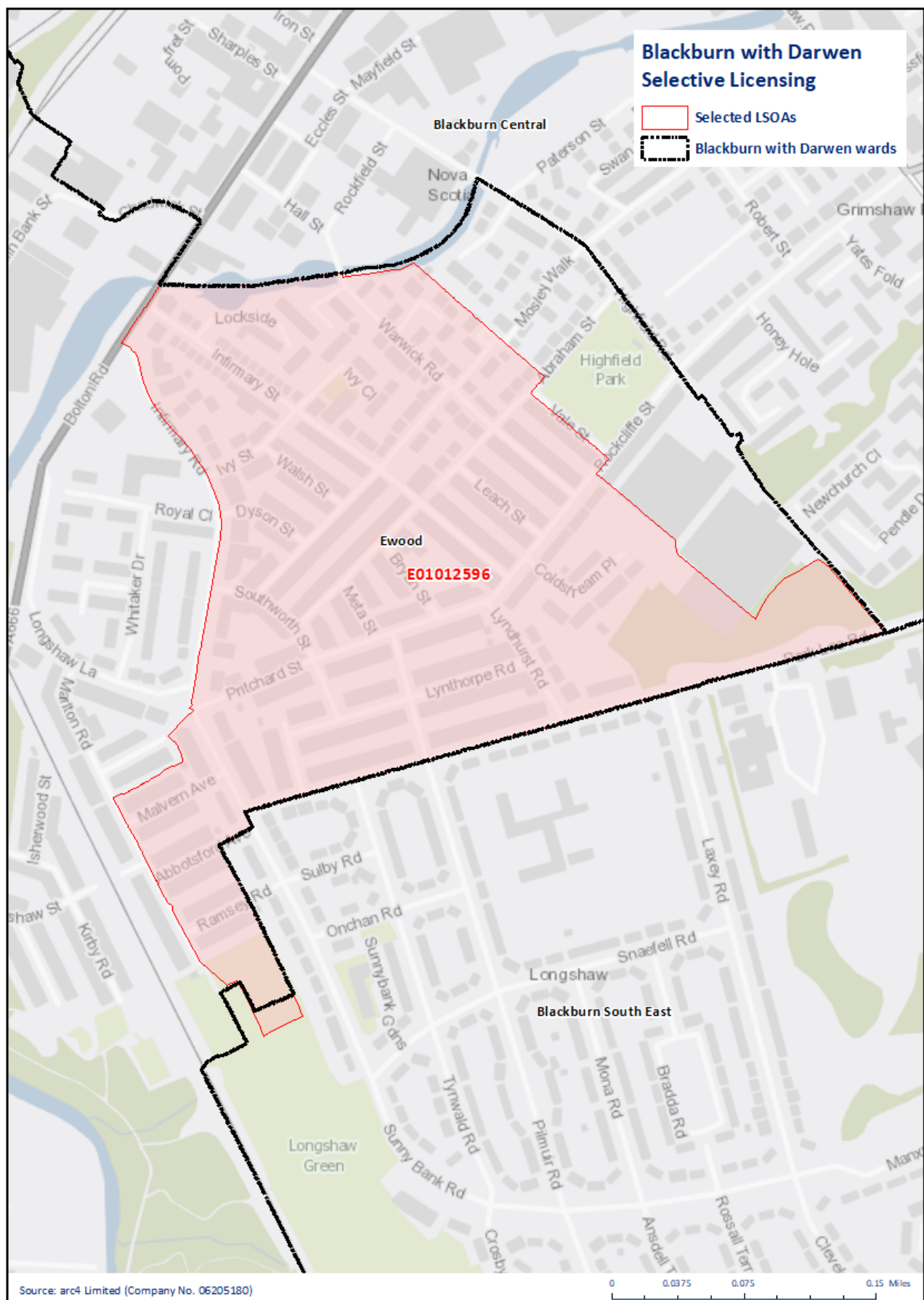
15. Conclusions and recommendations

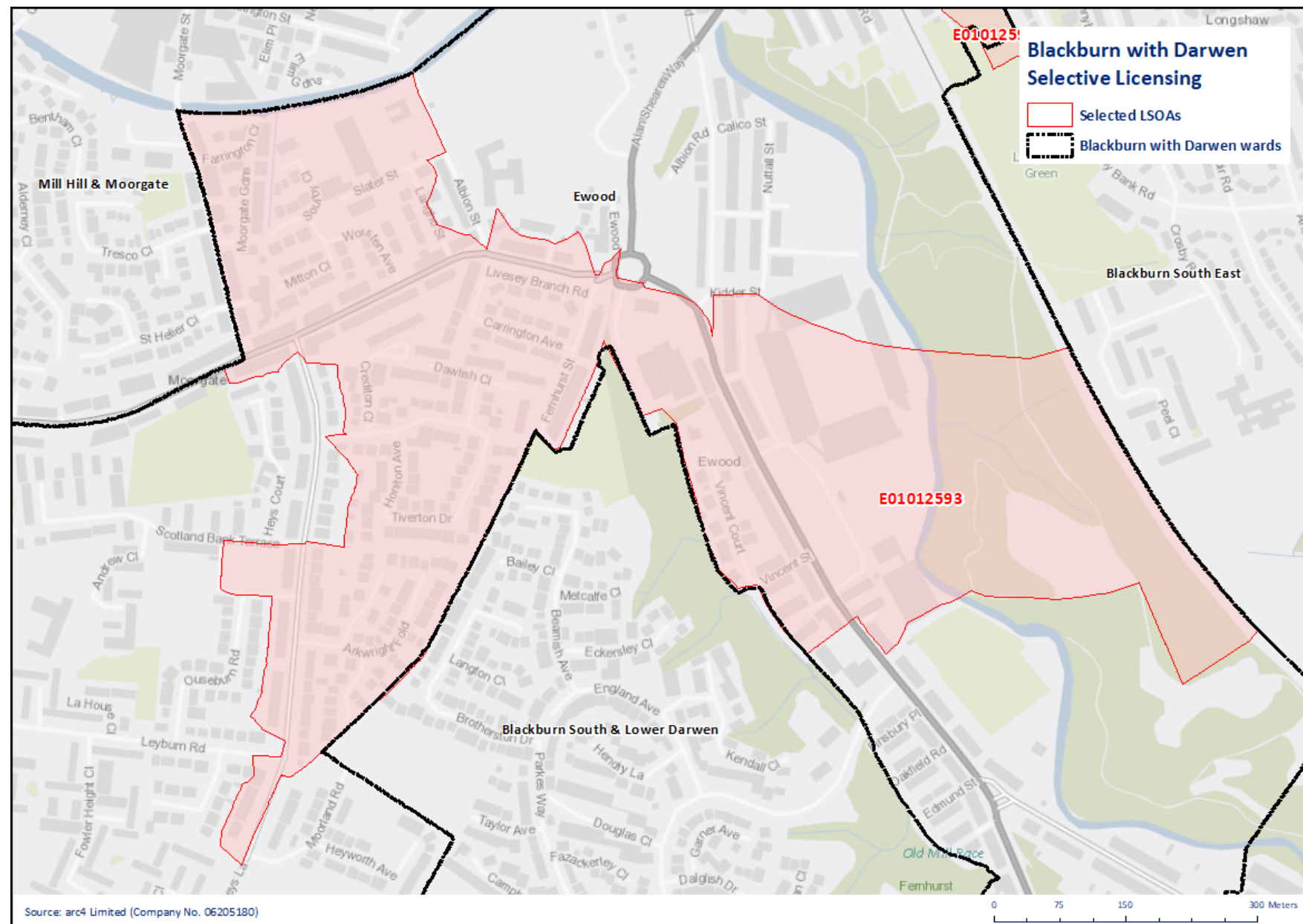
- 15.1 In conclusion, there are correlations between the LSOAs with above average private rented sector levels and indicators that measure low demand.
- 15.2 Those locations where the overall score is in quintile 1 or quintile 2 that correlate with high PRS (quintile 1 or 2) are potential locations to consider licensing.
- 15.3 The council must now consider whether it will apply selective licensing designations to these locations. There is no requirement to include all of the LSOAs identified in quintile 1 or 2. These locations must now be considered as to whether there are any other courses of action available to the council, other than licensing, which would achieve the same objective or objectives as the proposed scheme without the need for the designation to be made.
- 15.4 If the council decide that some locations should be designated, it must consider its overall strategic interventions and plans. Selective licensing is not a tool that can be used in isolation. The local authority will need to demonstrate how such a designation will be part of the overall strategic borough wide approach, and how it fits with existing policies on:
- homelessness;
 - empty homes;
 - regeneration; and
 - anti-social behaviour associated with privately renting tenants.
- 15.5 The council must also ensure that selective licensing complements other measures. It should only be used where existing measures alone are not sufficient to tackle the underlying housing problems of a specific area. Local authorities should carefully consider any potential negative economic impact that licensing may have on their area – particularly the risk of increased costs to landlords who are already fully compliant with their obligations. These additional costs can reduce further investment and are frequently passed on to tenants through higher rents.
- 15.6 The council will also have to demonstrate the role of other partners (if any), such as the police or social services, in ensuring the designation reaches its goal. It must show:
- it has considered whether there are any other courses of action available to them that might provide an effective method of achieving the objectives that the designation is intended to achieve; and
 - how the making of the designation will significantly assist the local housing authority in achieving its' objectives (whether or not in conjunction with those other measures).
- 15.7 **It is recommended that the Council:**
- consider those locations listed where the LSOA falls within quintile 1 of the overall scores for performance against the indicators and also falls within quintile 1 for PRS. These locations should be the focus for potential licensing schemes. However, the Council may wish to include other locations that fall within quintile 1 and 2 for performance and 1 and 2 for PRS depending on other strategic interventions and complementary activity which would support licensing outcomes.

- develop a proposed licensing list of locations and identify whether it is less than 20% of the authority or PRS. Secretary of State approval is required for schemes that (taken together with other selective licensing schemes), covered more than 20% of the geographic area of the local authority concerned or would (taken together with other schemes), affect more than 20% of private rented sector homes in the area.
- develop an evidenced proposal for licensing. This should be a detailed document, incorporating the results of this study as well as the plans for the authority in line with government guidance.
- use the evidence as a basis for consultation and develop a consultation strategy for licensing.

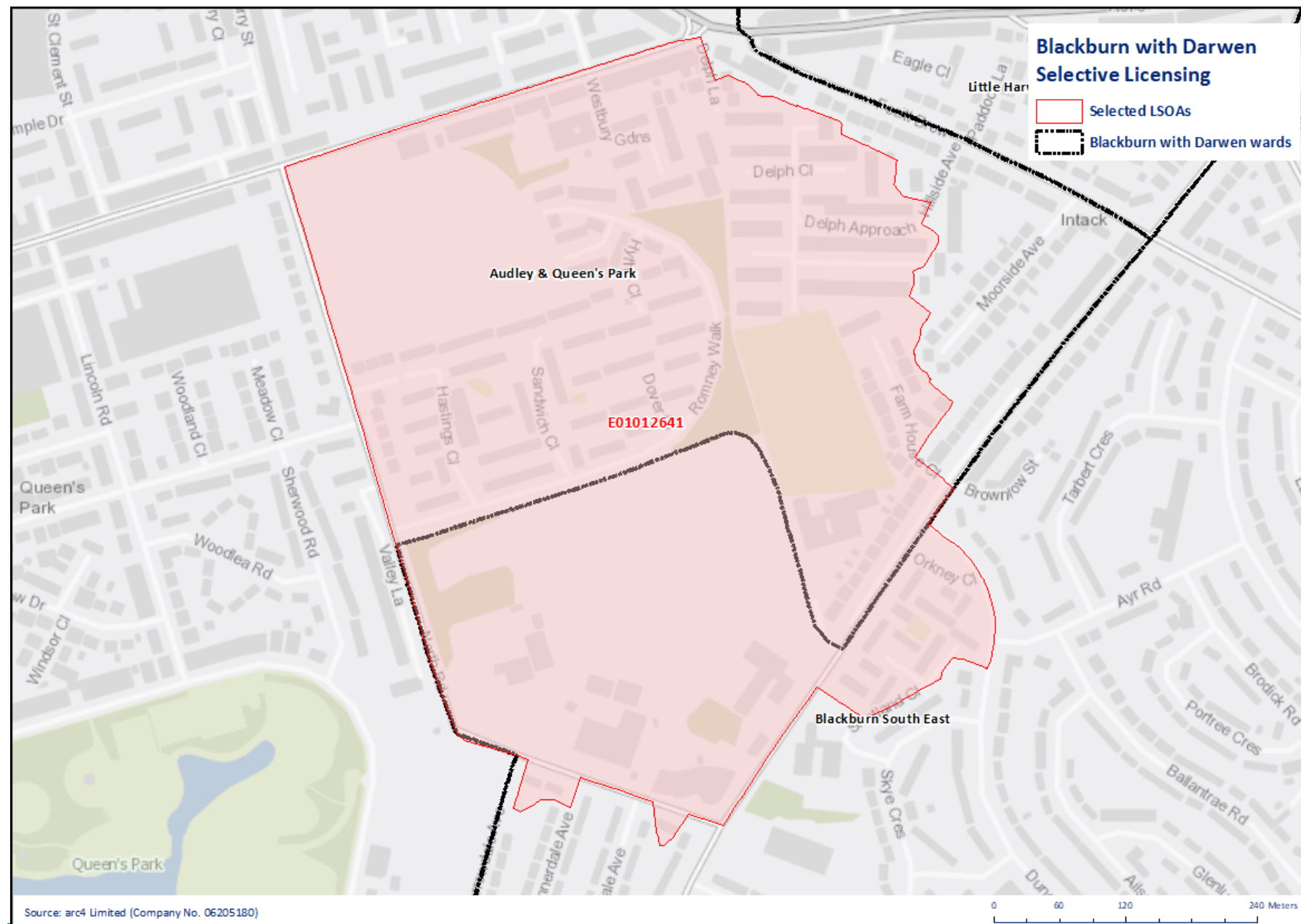
Appendix 1: Street maps of LSOAs with overall scores of quintile 1 and PRS levels in quintile 1











EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION



REPORT OF:	Executive Member for Environment & Operations
LEAD OFFICERS:	Strategic Director of Environment & Operations
DATE:	Thursday, 11 August 2022

PORTFOLIO/S AFFECTED:	Environment & Operations
WARD/S AFFECTED:	(All Wards);
KEY DECISION:	Y

SUBJECT: EB: Lease of Old Bank Lane Car Park to East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council constructed and opened Old Bank Lane car park adjacent to Royal Blackburn Hospital in 2018 to provide much needed car parking in the area surrounding the hospital and to ease the significant traffic congestion caused by cars waiting to enter the Hospital car park.

When the car park opened in 2018, it was available for use 24/7 with Automatic number-plate recognition cameras (ANPR) with a combination of pay on foot parking and permit holder parking.

From July 2020 to June 2022, 50% of the car park was used for a Regional Testing Centre, the whole of the car park is now once again operating as a pay on foot and permit holder car park.

The Council generates income from pay and foot and parking permits and pays an annual management fee to the Hospital in exchange for them managing the car park on behalf of the Council 24/7 all year around.

In the past 3 years, the hospital site has had extensive development which has resulted in the loss of parking spaces previously used by hospital staff. As a result, hospital staff are now parking in spaces which would normally have been used by patients and visitors to the Hospital.

The Council has been engaged in discussions and negotiations with East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust about the Council leasing the whole of Old Bank Lane car park for permit parking for Hospital staff, which in turn would allow the Hospital car park, to be returned to full use for patients and visitors. During the term of the lease, the Council will not be required to pay the car park management fee.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Board:

- Notes the report

- Approves the proposed grant of lease of Old Bank Lane car park to East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust from 1st Sept 2022 to the 31st March 2028, with a break clause after 3 years.
- Delegates approval to the Strategic Director of Environment and Operations in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment to finalise the lease arrangements with East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust as outlined in this report.
- The net additional income to the council from this arrangement be used in support of the Council's Medium Term funding deficit (as reported to the Executive Board in June 2022)

3. BACKGROUND

In 2017, East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust estimated that there was an under provision of 250 car spaces at Royal Blackburn Hospital to accommodate the needs of patients and visitors. The traffic congestion caused by cars waiting to enter the Hospital car park created significant blockages on the highway network with traffic often queuing back towards junction 5 of the M65. As a result, those visiting the Hospital for appointments or to visit family members or friends were regularly late. Hospital staff were regularly stuck in traffic; including consultants that were travelling to Blackburn for their afternoon clinics. The traffic congestion meant that clinics sometimes started late, which had a negative impact on patients.

In July 2017, in response to this situation, the Executive Board of the Council approved the construction of Old Bank Lane car park on land adjacent to Royal Blackburn Hospital. Old Bank Lane car park is a 520 space flat surface car park and was constructed to complement the existing parking offer at Royal Blackburn Hospital and alleviate the traffic congestion in the area around the Hospital.

When Old Bank Lane car park opened in 2018, it was available for use 24/7 all year around with Automatic number-plate recognition cameras (ANPR) with a combination of Pay on Foot parking and permit holder parking.

As the car park was open 24/7, it required managing 24/7 all year round which would have been labour intensive and costly for the Council to provide. Therefore the Council secured an agreement with the East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust to manage the car park on behalf of the Council for an annual management fee.

From July 2020 until June 2022, 50% of Old Bank Lane car park was utilised for a Regional Testing Centre, whilst the other 50% remained available for parking. The car park is now fully utilised for parking and has reverted back to a mix of permit parking and pay and display parking.

Currently East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust purchase 250 permits for staff parking on Old Bank Lane car park and provides pay and display parking for Hospital patients and visitors.

In the past 3 years, the Royal Blackburn Hospital site has undergone further extensive development which has resulted in the loss of parking spaces previously used by hospital staff. This has placed additional pressure on the Hospital car park as staff are parking in spaces which would normally have been used by patients and visitors to the Hospital.

Following lengthy discussions and negotiations with the East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust, it is proposed that Old Bank Lane car park, in its entirety, is leased directly to the Trust to use as a 'staff only' permit holders car park, which in turn allows the Hospital car park, to be returned to full use for patients and visitors.

4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS

Old Bank Lane car park has 520 spaces and is used as a combination of Pay and Display and Permit holder parking.

Currently permits are limited to East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust who purchase 250 permits at per annum. In addition to this, pay and display parking generates additional income for the council.

Following discussions with the East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust it is proposed that the Council lease the whole of the car park to the Trust to enable them to locate their staff on Old Bank Lane car park and free up car parking spaces on the Hospital site for patients and visitors. The Hospital will not be able to operate Old Bank Lane car park as a pay and display car park during the term of the lease.

The Lease will be in place for 5 years and 7 months with a break clause after 3 years.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The current operation of Old Bank Lane is forecasted to generate £158,000 income per annum from permit parking and pay and display parking. In addition, the Council pays an annual management fee of £66,000 per annum to the Trust to manage the car park 24/7 all year around.

The Council has negotiated an annual lease payment from the Trust for the sole use of Old Bank Lane for permit parking for Hospital staff. The Lease payment exceeds the income currently generated from the car park and during the term of the lease, the Council will not have to pay the management fee to manage the car park 24/7 all year around. These lease arrangements will provide a financial benefit to the Council.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust will have sole use of Old Bank Lane car park on a full repairing and insuring lease for 5 years and 7 months from the 1st Sept 2022 to the 31st March 2028, with a break clause after 3 years.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Officers from the Council's Corporate Property team and Legal services team will have to draft a lease for the East Lancashire NHS Trust for their sole use of Old Bank Lane car park from the 1st Sept 2022 to the 31st March 2028.

9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Please select one of the options below. Where appropriate please include the hyperlink to the EIA.

Option 1 ☒ Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA link here)*

Option 3 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA attachment)*

10. CONSULTATIONS

N/A

11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded in the Summary of Decisions published on the day following the meeting.

VERSION:	1
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CONTACT OFFICER:	Kelvin Rutter, Service Lead, Environment and Operations Department
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DATE:	29.07.2022
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BACKGROUND PAPER:	N/A
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EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION



REPORT OF:	Executive Member for Public Health, Prevention & Wellbeing
LEAD OFFICERS:	Strategic Director, Adults & Health (DASS)
DATE:	11 th August 2022

PORTFOLIO/S AFFECTED: Various given the range of services provided to Ukrainian Evacuees

WARD/S AFFECTED: (ALL);

SUBJECT: Homes 4 Ukraine Resourcing

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Government's Homes 4 Ukraine scheme opened on the 18th March 2022 for visa applications from Ukrainian evacuees looking to be homed by a UK family. Up to mid June 2022, 342 people in Blackburn with Darwen had put themselves and their home forward as a sponsor. Of those, 30 have been matched, with 57 adults and children that are either in Blackburn already or are to arrive imminently. The increase in the speed of visa processing means we are now receiving on average 1-2 families per day.

There will be no limit or cap on the sponsorship route. The UK has stated it will welcome as many Ukrainians as wish to come and for whom there are sponsors.

It is difficult to predict how many of the sponsors will receive evacuees. With this in mind we are looking at an incrementally scaled up support programme for them, aligned as closely as we can to numbers of people matched to sponsors and in line with national guidelines. The government is providing funding at a rate of £10,500 per person to councils. This is to provide a number of important services to include:

- Data Sharing with Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DHLUC) and the Home Office through their Foundry System
- Initial safeguarding checks, checks on Sponsors and DBS processing.
- Accommodation checks
- Ongoing welfare checks
- Application of statutory safeguarding duties to adults and minors.
- Interim payment to evacuees.
- Re-Matching and Homelessness prevention.
- Homelessness duty
- Co-ordination of support
- Work and Benefit support
- Community Integration
- Sponsor thank you payments (Separately funded)

Based on the funding rate agreed the Council will claim funds at a rate per person and incur expenditure, against the income claimed, for the services identified above.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Board:

- **Notes the funding package being made available to local authorities to meet the costs of supporting Ukrainian Evacuees;**
- Gives approval to a supplementary revenue estimate of £598,500 to support the Homes 4 Ukraine programme funded by the grant referred to above;
- **Acknowledging that the number of Ukrainian Evacuees may continue to increase, give delegated authority to the Strategic Director, Adults & Health (DASS) in consultation Executive Members for Public Health, Prevention and Wellbeing and Finance and Governance, to agree the allocation of funding (subject to it being fully funded by Government Grant) on recommendation from the Homes 4 Ukraine Programme Board.**

3. BACKGROUND

Over 3 million people have fled the war in Ukraine; primarily women, children and the elderly arriving in a number of EU countries that border Ukraine, the majority to Poland. Males between 18 and 60 are required to stay in Ukraine if in good health.

Currently people from Ukraine need a visa to enter the UK. There are two visa routes identified to support Ukrainian nationals who want to come to the UK – the Ukrainian Family Scheme and Homes for Ukraine.

Eligibility for, and approval of, visas is the responsibility of the Home Office, with the 'Homes for Ukraine' scheme specifically being administered by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC). There is no cap on the number of visas that can be issued; they will be demand-led. There is no proposal to apportion people applying to a particular area/region of the UK. Where people move to will depend on where they have family or sponsors depending on the scheme they enter the UK under. To mid-June 2022, 342 individuals from Blackburn with Darwen have applied to be a sponsor with 57 Ukrainian nationals in 30 family groups being matched and either in the borough already, or arriving imminently.

4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS

The scheme is operating, and a high number of sponsors have put their name forward from the Borough. The Council needs to rapidly maintain and/or put the key infrastructure in place to undertake checks and provide timely support for both sponsors and evacuees to ensure their safe arrival and integration into our communities. The resources outlined in this report will make sure Blackburn with Darwen can achieve this.

It is difficult to predict how many more sponsors will come forward, or how many of those that have been sponsored will go on to receive evacuees. We are therefore adopting a phased approach to resourcing the programme to mitigate financial risks to the council in commissioning or recruiting more resource than funding available.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The government has set out guidance to local authorities stipulating the requirements of the Homes 4 Ukraine Scheme. The resourcing requirements outlined above will provide the infrastructure required in order to offer full assurance that the council will discharge the requirements of the guidance and receive the funding as outlined by the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The council will receive £10,500 funding for each evacuee received into the authority. The expenditure detailed below will be incurred against this income. To date, 57 evacuees have been matched and are here, or on their way. The claim for these individuals will total £598,500 of which £273,000 has already been submitted.

The total costs indicated are £368,927 with the balance of any costs yet to be established. Further authorisation of expenditure will be delegated to the Director of Public Health in consultation with the Executive Members for Public Health, Prevention and Wellbeing and Finance and Government on recommendation from the Homes 4 Ukraine programme board. Any such costs will be maintained within the claim value for evacuees that have arrived or we know to be imminently arriving.

Based on the funding rate agreed by government, the first claim has been sent for the 26 evacuees that had arrived up to 6th June deadline. From claim period 1, Blackburn with Darwen will receive £273,000. The second claim for those we know are arriving will be a minimum of £325,500. The minimum expected claim for periods 1 and 2 combined is therefore £598,500.

To provide support in all the areas required, the Departments that are already, or are best placed to provide it, have estimated the following likely costs:-

Housing Services Personal cash payments (required for each evacuee), administration and weekly returns to government, co-ordination for all evacuees to include Ukrainian language specialist	£128,700
Housing Standards Accommodation checks and support for sponsors with certification	£31,000
Policy & Support Documentation and translation	£1,000
Integration & Community Employment with training, cohesion and community integration support	£130,000
Social Care Support and Assessment Assessment and support costs for elderly and infirm evacuees	£78,227
Total	£368,927
Balance to be allocated	£228,573
Total	£598,500

The above programme areas can deliver against the core requirements of the programme for up to 100 evacuees, but are estimates based on expected need. The balance of the grant will increase as more sponsors are matched. It is therefore requested future allocations to cover costs of both the specific needs of the evacuees outside of the core offer and additional capacity in those areas identified already are delegated to the programme board overseeing its operation. This will include further funding for specific needs around social care, and costs for responding to sponsor changes and homelessness protection due to sponsor breakdown that are difficult to estimate. This will allow timely responses to such circumstance.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Resources required of the programme are funded through the programme.

9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Please select one of the options below. Where appropriate please include the hyperlink to the EIA.

Option 1 ☒ Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA link here)*

Option 3 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA attachment)*

10. CONSULTATIONS

Consultation with council departments, education colleagues, health and third sector colleagues, asylum and refugee groups, Ukrainian evacuees and members.

11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded and published if applicable.

VERSION:	1
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CONTACT OFFICER:	Mark Aspin
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DATE:	14/06/22
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BACKGROUND PAPER:	N/A
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EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION



REPORT OF:	Executive Member for Public Health, Prevention & Wellbeing
LEAD OFFICERS:	Director of Public Health
DATE:	Thursday, 11 August 2022

PORTFOLIO/S AFFECTED:	Public Health Prevention and Wellbeing
WARD/S AFFECTED:	(All Wards);
KEY DECISION:	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

SUBJECT: EB Drug and Alcohol Additional Funding

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Blackburn with Darwen Council has an opportunity for additional investment in a variety of drug and alcohol provision and inter-related activities over the next 3 years, 2022/23 to 2024/25. This paper explains this process and approach and the considerations we need to undertake to ensure we maximise the outcomes from this additional investment locally.

We have confirmation of the first three investments following an application process summarised below:

- Supplemental Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery (SSMTR) Grant Funding £567,783, rising to £930,306 in year 2 and £1,795,698 in year 3.
- Inpatient Detox Funding (IPD) £55,334 annual for 3 years.
- Individual Placement Support (IPS) up to £148,395 annual for 3 years.

We have also applied for the following grant funding and are awaiting confirmation of this:

- Rough Sleeping Drug and Alcohol Treatment grant funding (RSDATG) £416,544 over 2022-24 period, with an additional year possible.

Three of these funding streams have been confirmed already in line with planning template and action grids required from national teams. The RSDATG funding is yet to be confirmed as of the date of this report.

We welcome this additional investment into the Borough to support our renewed effort to address the recommendations of both the Dame Carol Black review and the new National Drug Strategy (From Harm to Hope) including the Drug Strategy guidance for local delivery partners.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Board:

- Notes the receipt of the additional funding to Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council from the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID);
- Notes that the funding received (SSMTR, IPD and IPS) will be used for the purposes set out within the funding bid application form to OHID and agrees that budget estimates are created accordingly
- Notes the bid for the Rough Sleeping Drug and Alcohol Treatment Grants and agrees that, subject to confirmation of the funding, budget estimates are created once the amount of funding is known;
- To note the commencement of the additional activity.

3.BACKGROUND

Since 1st April 2013 upper tier and/or unitary Local Authorities (LA's) have had responsibility under the Health and Social Care Act (2012) for improving the health of their local population and for public health services including those aimed at reducing drug and alcohol misuse.

Each local authority has responsibilities under the Public Health Grant to commission community based substance misuse services. Blackburn with Darwen currently commission the following service provision for substance misuse locally:

SPARK Integrated Drug and Alcohol Treatment and Recovery Service which incorporates Calico Group as the lead provider with sub contracting via EarlyBreak, Acorn, Delphi Medical, Red Rose Recovery, CVS and IMO.

Why Invest?

Alcohol and drug misuse impacts on a wide range of cross cutting priorities across health, wellbeing, social care, prosperity and attainment and criminal justice. There is extensive research and evidence in terms of the economic and social benefits and return on investment of funding for drug and alcohol service interventions. Please see a summary below of the rationale to retain investment into these commissioned services:

- Acquisitive crime, violent crime and domestic abuse are particularly associated with drug and alcohol misuse. Analysis of Ministry of Justice and drug & alcohol treatment data has shown that drug and alcohol specialist treatment results in significant reductions in offending behaviour in dependent drug and alcohol users. Drug/alcohol treatment results in a 44% reduction in the number of individuals re-offending in the 2 years after starting treatment for dependency, with a 33% decrease in the number of offences committed.
- Alcohol misuse has been estimated to cost £7bn in lost productivity nationally. Most individuals seeking drug or alcohol treatment are unemployed and treatment/recovery services actively seek to provide opportunities and support to individuals to find meaningful activities and employment. Employment and recovery are mutually reinforcing.
- Drug and alcohol problems can be both a cause and a symptom of homelessness. Significant proportions of homeless people have drug or alcohol problems. Providing support to address housing need is vital and can have a positive impact on motivation to change.
- The costs of alcohol and drug misuse to society are significant. Estimates show that the social and economic costs of alcohol related harm amount to £21.5bn, while that of illicit drug use

costs £10.7bn. These include costs associated with deaths, NHS, crime and, in the case of alcohol, lost productivity.

- Drug and alcohol treatment results in savings in a number of areas, such as Crime, QALY improvements and health & social care.
- Quality-adjusted life years (QALYs) are measures of life expectancy and quality of life, fundamental in health economic evaluations and resource allocations.
- Alcohol treatment reflects a return on investment of £3 for every pound invested.
- Drug treatment reflects a return on investment of £4 for every pound invested

Substance use services across the ICS are under significant strain following the financial climate over recent years which has led to reductions in funding for both these services and wider support structures for those who use the services. This has been further enhanced by the COVID19 pandemic and the need to alter working practice in order to keep services open, adapt to changing demands (e.g. rapid support of accommodated rough sleepers, shielded populations etc.) and operate in a COVID secure manner.

The current Independent review of drugs by Professor Dame Carol Black has included national surveys of commissioners and providers of substance misuse services to ascertain the current spend and reductions, with a view to support a request to the Treasury to reinvest in the delivery of substance misuse services.

This is the first year of a three-year scheme where OHID is working alongside other government departments to support a process of investment in a whole system approach to tackling illicit drug use, including enforcement, diversion, and treatment and recovery interventions. Local guidance for delivery partners from the Combating Drugs Unit to address the new National Drug Strategy also provides recommendations that we will address with the funding streams detailed below.

Please see a summary of funding streams and their intended outcomes below:

- **Supplementary Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery (SSMTR) Additional Grant Funding**

This funding stream will be used as follows to achieve a:

- reduced likelihood of drug and alcohol related deaths
- a reduction in drug and alcohol related reoffending amongst prolific offenders within local areas
- increase in the numbers of drug and alcohol users, especially offenders, engaging in treatment as well as increases in those achieving and sustaining recovery
- reduced costs for local health services and police forces due to lower health and crime harms, and lower costs to the criminal justice system (as fewer people are dealt with by the courts)

- **Inpatient Detox (IPD) funding**

Additional funding to be used to further support the placement of appropriate service users into Inpatient detox units and enable better integrated provision of residential rehabilitation for those requiring this support as part of their treatment and recovery interventions

- **Individual Placement Support (IPS) funding**

IPS is a well-evidenced approach that aims for sustained employment through mainstream, competitive jobs. It works with anyone of working age engaged in structured treatment. IPS is highly personalised, features significant employer engagement, and offers in-work support in addition to pre-employment support. IPS is a 'first' intervention designed to support people

into jobs that they want to do regardless of their stage on the recovery journey. It is also, to a large extent, a work only intervention - the aim is to support people in paid, mainstream jobs

- **Rough Sleeper Drug and Alcohol Treatment Grant (RSDATG) funding**

Structured drug and alcohol treatment (including community treatment and inpatient detox and residential rehabilitation) for those experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness and rough sleeping. Further wraparound and engagement support (including project coordination and/or project support) to support wider determinants linked this vulnerable cohort such as housing support, physical health, wound care and mental health assessment and interventions

4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS

Conditions of this funding are that:

- The investment in drug and alcohol treatment and recovery is in line with the outturn in 2020/21
- The spend is in accordance with the agreed proposal for the SSMTR grant
- The appropriate documentation is submitted to OHID when requested
- This will include providing provisional revenue outturn data of local authority revenue expenditure and financing for substance misuse treatment and prevention
- Failure to comply may result in the recall of all or part of the funding

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This process will be aligned to both local and national Drug and Alcohol Strategy recommendations, Dame Carol Black review recommendations, the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, local Transforming Lives strategy, local Vulnerable People Strategy, the Early Help Strategy, and will also consider implications with regards to a number of other developing strategic agendas.

The EIA checklist has been completed.

The NHS long term plan and also local Pennine Lancashire prevention plans will also be considered.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Supplemental Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Grant allocation for the Council is £3.294m in the period to 2024/25 (being £567k in 2022/23 and, indicatively, £930k in 2023/24 and £1.796m in 2024/25. This is wholly revenue funding and must be used in accordance with plans submitted to the OHID.

The Inpatient Detoxification Grant is £166k for the period to 2024/25 (being £55k annually). Again, this is wholly revenue funding as is the Individual Placement Support Funding which is expected to be up to £148k each year for the next 3 years.

The Council has yet to receive confirmation of the Rough Sleeping Drug and Alcohol Treatment Grant so at this stage, the Executive Board is asked to note confirmation of this funding is pending.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The funding opportunities will need to comply with the Public Contracts Regulations and the Council's Contract and Procurement Procedure Rules. These will be undertaken by contract variations with existing providers.

The proposed contract variations are permitted by regulation 72 (1)(f) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 provided that the total value is less than the threshold for the light touch regime and less than 10% of the initial contract value.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The management and implementation of the funding proposals will be actioned within BwD team resources including input from Legal, Finance, Integrated Strategic Commissioning and Public Health.

They will be further supported by the addition of 2 fixed term roles (1 Public Health Development Manager and 1 Social Care Worker).

9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Please select one of the options below. Where appropriate please include the hyperlink to the EIA.

Option 1 ☒ Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. (*insert EIA link here*)

Option 3 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. (*insert EIA attachment*)

10. CONSULTATIONS

A series of consultation and engagement events have been held from March to May 2022 relating to different themes and elements of the integrated treatment system such as YP service provision, adult provision, shared care, Tier 4, IPD, IPS, rough sleeping and homelessness, and acute site interaction. The views of providers, key stakeholders and service users will be taken into account and their comments and feedback will influence the service design and additional offers in line with the various funding options.

11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded in the Summary of Decisions published on the day following the meeting.

VERSION:	2
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CONTACT OFFICER:	Lee Girvan
DATE:	17.6.22
BACKGROUND PAPER:	

EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION



REPORT OF: Executive member of Growth and Development

LEAD OFFICERS: Martin Eden, Strategic Director of Environment and Operations

DATE: TBC

PORTFOLIO/S AFFECTED: Growth & Development;
Resources

WARD/S AFFECTED: Blackburn Central

KEY DECISION: YES ☒ NO ☐

SUBJECT: Blackburn Museum & Art Gallery Roof Replacement

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Blackburn Museum and Art Gallery was one of the first public museums to open outside London in 1874, it houses beautiful collections as well as working closely with the borough's diverse communities to ensure that the stories told through exhibitions and displays are those of contemporary Blackburn.

The roof of the museum is now in an extremely poor condition, with water ingress risking damage to not only the fabric of the Council owned building but the valuable collections and exhibitions. The structural integrity of the roof has worsened over recent years causing internal damage to the original plaster work in the galleries which now limits the display of paintings from the museum's extensive collections and at times has necessitated the closure of these areas to the public.

To protect the external building structure and longevity as well as the internal plasterwork and room decoration and to improve the thermal efficiency and stability of the gallery environment, vital for the safe keeping of the collections it will be necessary to replace the full the roof structure, repair internal damage and improve the control of the building's environment.

In a heavily oversubscribed funding round, Blackburn Museum and Art Gallery has been successful in securing £365,000 from Arts Council England's Museum Estates and Development (MEND) fund towards the capital costs of replacing the roof and associated work. Council match funding is required, in this case £100,000 (21.5% of project costs). The projected cost of £465,000 includes a 16% contingency to reflect the risk management of increased inflation and construction costs.

The project is planned to commence on site January 2023 for an expected 9 month period

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Board:

- Notes the successful MEND grant securing £365,000 funding from Arts Council England for the replacement of the roof at Blackburn Museum

- Approves a match funding allocation of £100,000 from the Corporate Property Investment Fund
- Approves the establishment of a capital budget of £465,000 (£365,000 grant plus £100,000 council) in the financial year 2022/23 to fund the project including surveys, professional fees and construction costs
- Delegate authority to the Strategic Director of Environment and Operations, in consultation with the Executive Member for Growth and Development to approve the procurement strategy and subsequent award of contracts required to undertake the roof replacement and associated works following a tendering process

2. BACKGROUND

Blackburn Museum and Art Gallery was one of the first public museums to open outside of London in 1874, it houses beautiful collections as well as working closely with the borough's diverse communities to ensure that the stories we tell are also those of Contemporary Blackburn.

The roof's condition has been declining over the years, the current extremely poor state has meant that in the last 2 years serious water ingress has been seen into the first floor galleries, which has meant that the collections have had to be moved to protect them and the gallery shut for extended periods.

Alongside this there are areas where work / displays cannot be hung because of the repeated leaks. There are numerous patching and temporary internal repairs which temporarily curtail the ingress but the internal plaster, including the original frieze around the gallery are damaged

The ability for the Council to apply for external grant funding from Arts Council England's MEND fund was seen as an excellent opportunity for the Council to significantly reduce the capital cost burden of the essential roof replacement. Awarding Blackburn with Darwen Council the MEND grant is confirmation that the Arts Council recognises the importance and value of this project to the integrity of the museum building and therefore to the cultural infrastructure of the town.

Blackburn Museum and Art Gallery has been successful in securing £365,000 from Arts Council England's Museum Estates and Development (MEND) fund towards the capital costs of replacing the roof and associated work. The MEND fund grant conditions require match funding, in this case £100,000 of Council funding is being requested, which equates to 21.5% of the project costs

The MEND grant and Council match contribution will fund the following work:

- Replace of the roof and update the guttering including removing the obsolete skylights
- Make good the areas of the ceiling and walls that are impacted including mouldings, blooming and cracked walls.
- In the Watercolour gallery we will repair the original 1874 frieze.
- Explore the opportunity to site solar panels on the hidden roof area to reduce energy costs and contribute to decarbonisation targets. Due to the collections and exhibitions the museum's atmosphere needs to be kept at a constant temperature throughout the year

The outcomes of completing this pivotal replacement roof project will contribute to the protection of the fabric and longevity of the building and support the ongoing corporate maintenance plan and climate change/decarbonisation agenda. This in turn protects the exhibits and collections by removing the risk of flood and water damage and allowing more work to be shown on public display. The upgrading of building services and improving the thermal performance of the building will support collections' care and conservation and ensure that the whole building stays open and can be enjoyed by local residents and visitors

The project is planned to commence on site January 2023 for an expected 9 month period

3. KEY ISSUES & RISKS

The roof of Blackburn Museum and Art Gallery is in a very poor condition, having seen significant deterioration over recent years causing serious water ingress and damage to original plaster work. If the roof is not replaced, further damage will be experienced to the fabric of the building, requiring increased costs to the Council in future years.

If the roof is not replaced, there is an increasing risk of damage to the museum's valuable collections and further closures of the gallery areas to the public. Any damage to the collections would also severely damage the Council's reputation as custodian of the collections.

The work is essential and needs to be undertaken. If the Council does not utilise the MEND grant to replace the roof, the council will inevitably have to fund the replacement of the roof in future years and fund the whole cost of the project. Securing the MEND funding provides £365,000 to the project with Council match funding of £100,000.

With the high inflation rate and supply chain pressures the construction and building sector continues to experience rapid uplifts in costs of materials and labour. The current industry position poses uncertainty around the final project costs. The projected cost of £465,000 includes a 16% contingency to reflect the risk management of increased inflation and construction costs.

MEND grant criteria requires the project to be completed by March 2025

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The total working budget including all additional surveys, professional fees, internals and contingency has been estimated at £465,000, including 16% contingency.

The cost will be covered through £365,000 from MEND grant funding secured from Arts Council England with £100,000 recommended for approval from the council's Capital Property Investment Fund.

The council's internal building team are familiar with the Museum building and roof structure through their regular checks and surveys of the roof condition, they will closely manage the project, with underspends returning to the Corporate Property Investment Fund

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The contract value is below the threshold for works where the Public Contracts regulations 2015 would apply. The contract will be in a form approved by legal officers in the Contracts and Procurement team.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Officers from the Corporate procurement team and building and facilities team would be engaged in the procurement process to award the contract for the roof replacement and internal works. Officers from the building and facilities team would perform clerk of works role working with the appointed contractor on the delivery of the scheme.

9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Please select one of the options below. Where appropriate please include the hyperlink to the EIA.

Option 1 ☒ Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. (*insert EIA link here*)

Option 3 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. (*insert EIA attachment*)

10. CONSULTATIONS

11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded in the Summary of Decisions published on the day following the meeting.

VERSION:	
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CONTACT OFFICER:	Claire Ramwell
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DATE:	27 th July 2022
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BACKGROUND PAPER:	
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EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION



REPORT OF:	Executive Member for Finance and Governance
LEAD OFFICERS:	Director of Finance
DATE:	Thursday, 11 August 2022

PORTFOLIO/S AFFECTED:	Finance and Governance
WARD/S AFFECTED:	(All Wards);
KEY DECISION:	Y

SUBJECT: Household Support Fund Round 3

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 In May 2022, the Government announced an extension to the Household Support Fund (HSF) from 1st October 2022 to support communities who are struggling due to the cost of living crisis. This was announced as part of wider support package to residents.
- 1.2 The Council has successfully delivered the HSF since October 2021 in partnership with a range of voluntary, community and faith sector organisations who work together to provide a strength based approach to supporting our residents.
- 1.3 This reports seeks to gain ongoing support for the delivery of the HSF grant programme as described in the body of the report.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Board:

- 2.1 Agree to the distribution of the Household Support Fund Round 3 as set out in the report and subject to confirmation of the grant funding.
- 2.2 Give delegated authority to the Director of Finance, in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance and Governance, to amend the grant criteria should that be considered necessary given guidance from Government and local circumstances.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At the beginning of October 2021, the Government announced that a new HSF worth over £500m would be made available to Upper Tier Local Authorities to support those households most in need over the winter period to March 2022.

- 3.2 Details of the grant allocations and supporting information on how the grant should be used were released to Councils on 7th October 2021 and a report on this matter was considered by the Executive in November 2022 where the distribution of the fund was agreed. Blackburn with Darwen Council received £1.619m and at the closure of the Scheme on 31st March 2022, all of the funding had been used as planned.
- 3.3 As part of the recent Spring Statement 2022, the Government announced an extension to the HSF by providing a further £500m for the Scheme as part of a package of measures to support those affected by the rising cost of living. The Council's share of this additional funding is £1.619m and the grant funding must be used by 30th September 2022.
- 3.4 As part of the Chancellors' Cost of Living statement on 26th May 2022, the government announced a further extension to the HSF from 1st October 2022. This grant funding must be used by 31st March 2023 and the Council is expected to receive a further £1.619m as part of the £500m scheme.

4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS

- 4.1 The original objective of the Fund was to provide support to vulnerable households in most need of support over the winter period as the economy recovers. It has been recognised that further support is required to support communities as the cost of living crisis begins to impact further beyond recovery from the pandemic.
- 4.2 Councils have been required to develop a 'local eligibility framework and approach' to enable the distribution of the grant funding. In HSF1 at least 50% of the funding was for vulnerable households with children. The remainder of the funding was available for vulnerable households without children (including individuals).
- 4.3 For Round 2, there was a change in how the fund should be targeted. At least one third of the total funding is ring-fenced to support households with children, at least one third of the total funding is ring fenced to support pensioners with up to one third of the total funding to other households genuinely in need of support. This may include households not currently in receipt of DWP welfare benefits.
- 4.4 Guidance on the use of the Housing Support Fund Round 3 has not yet been issued by the Department of Work and Pensions. Whilst there may be some amendments to the eligibility criteria for HSF3, it is unlikely there will be any other significant changes to the grant conditions. When administering the Scheme during the first two rounds, Councils have been encouraged to adopt the following principles:
- use discretion on how to identify and support those most in need, taking into account a wide range of information;
 - use the funding from 1st October 2022 to 31st March 2023 to meet immediate needs and help those who are struggling to afford energy, food and water bills, and other related essentials. It can also be used to support households who are struggling to afford wider essentials;
 - in exceptional cases of genuine emergency, it can additionally be used to support housing costs where existing housing support schemes do not meet this exceptional need;
 - this includes payments made, or committed to, by the Authority or any person acting on behalf of the Authority, from 1st October 2022 to 31st March 2023. For example, this would allow any vouchers issued before the end of the funding period to be redeemed in April 2023. All authorities are encouraged to ensure that any vouchers issued are redeemed before the end of the scheme, or shortly thereafter, or consider recycling unused vouchers;

- Councils have the flexibility to work with multiple organisations to provide a local delivery network that supports vulnerable households with a broad range of support;
- Council can claim for reasonable administrative costs incurred in administering the Scheme;

4.5 In relation to the use of the fund for housing costs, Councils must establish whether other forms of support are available to the household, such as Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP). In this respect, however, it is worthwhile noting that the Council's allocation of DHP funding for 2022/23 has been reduced by 30% when compared to 2021/22 (the Council will received £321k for DHPs in 2022/23, a reduction of £98k when compared to 2021/22). It is expected that this may result in more claims for support to the HSF Round 3 than would have been the case otherwise.

4.6 The Council has a demonstrable track record of developing and implementing welfare support schemes and the delivery of Round 1 of the HSF is an illustration of this. Over 24,000 households have been supported through a range of measures including, for example, support with energy bills, Council Tax, provision of food and, as part of the wraparound service, advice and guidance in areas such as debt management.

4.7 Based on the criteria and funding allocation for Round 3 remaining broadly the same as Rounds 1 and 2 and building on the frameworks that have been used for delivery to date and also recognising that the rising costs of energy will continue to be the most acute pressure faced by local residents over the next six months, it is proposed to use the HSF in the following way:-

Area of Support	£m
Support for Energy Bills	1.024
Food Partnership - including crisis, food larder and community centre support	0.250
Housing Need Community Care Grant	0.025
White Goods Provision	0.150
Contributions to Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector (BwD Homestart, Age UK and BwD Carers)	0.030
Costs of Administering the Scheme	0.140
Total Household Support Fund	1.619

4.8 Again, as with HSF Round 1 and 2, by taking this whole systems, partnership and strength based approach with the HSF3, the Council will have the opportunity to reach some of the most vulnerable households in the community thereby complying with the objectives of the Scheme.

4.9 As ever with these types of grant allocations, the Council is required to provide the DWP with statements on the use of the grant and arrangements are in place to satisfy this requirement.

4.10 The delivery of the HSF will continue alongside other support including developing employability skills, debt, benefit and housing advice and mental health and wellbeing advice and support alongside supporting food larders as part of a plan for sustainability beyond the HSF grant.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications arising directly from this report.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council is expected to receive a grant of £1.619m from the Household Support Fund. Details of the proposed distribution of the funding are as set out in the report.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Although there are no legal implications arising directly from the contents of this report, there will need to be adequate systems in place to record decision making and allocations to ensure that funds are distributed in accordance with the funding criteria to avoid any claw back.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no other resources implications arising from the contents of this report.

9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Please select one of the options below. Where appropriate please include the hyperlink to the EIA.

Option 1 ☒ Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA link here)*

Option 3 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA attachment)*

10. CONSULTATIONS

None arising from the contents of this report.

11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded in the Summary of Decisions published on the day following the meeting.

VERSION:	1
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CONTACT OFFICER:	Dean Langton, Beth Wolfenden
DATE:	11 August 2022
BACKGROUND PAPER:	

EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION



REPORT OF:	Executive Member for Public Health, Prevention and Wellbeing & Executive Member for Children, Young People and Education
LEAD OFFICERS:	Abdul Razaq – Director of Public Health Jayne Ivory- Strategic Director of Children's Services and Education
DATE:	11 th of August, 2022

PORTFOLIO/S AFFECTED:	All
WARD/S AFFECTED:	(All Wards);
KEY DECISION:	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

SUBJECT: EB Procurement of the 0-19 Healthy Child Programme

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The provision of 0-19 Healthy Child Programme services across Blackburn with Darwen will be retendered due to the current contract coming to an end.

The 0-19 Healthy Child Programme incorporates a range of service provision, covering health visiting, school nursing, specialist infant feeding and targeted support for children and families from Community, Voluntary and Faith Sector partners.

Local Authorities are mandated to ensure a number of Public Health Services for children and young people are provided including:

- Five mandated Health Visitor contacts (approx. 10,000 contacts a year)
- The National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP), a key element of the School Nursing Service, provided for all children in Year Reception and Year 6 in Blackburn with Darwen schools (approx. 4,000 children a year)

The Healthy Child Programme provides a wide-ranging offer including support for breastfeeding, vulnerable families, speech and language development, mental wellbeing of families and looked after children's health assessments. Safeguarding responsibilities apply through all elements from identification of risk and need, to early help and targeted work, and formal child protection.

A comprehensive health needs assessment and consultation with stakeholders and partners has taken place to ensure the new service meets the needs of our children, young people and families. The delivery model has been reviewed based on consultation feedback, and a full competitive tender exercise is proposed to commence in Autumn 2022, based on the approved Procurement Strategy.

The new service contract is for a three year and a half year period (with the option for extend for a further 1 + 1 years) commencing 1st October 2023. The newly procured service will be required to demonstrate commitment to an integrated/collaborative 'Family Hub Offer' with other Local

Authority provided services for children and young people, in line with the wider strategic direction from the Department for Health and Social Care, 2021. Further information about this is provided via the following link:

[Department for Health and Social Care, Integration and innovation : working together to improve health and social care for all, 2021.](#)

Feedback from the consultation has led to a re-modelling of the contract and instead of one large 'prime provider' model, the contract will be divided into three 'Lots'. Separating out the contract will enable the Authority to have more control over the model and ensure it is adaptable to change over the contract period.

The lots are:

- Lot 1 – Health visiting and school nursing
- Lot 2 – Specialist infant feeding support service
- Lot 3 – Community and Voluntary Sector Support service

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Board:

- Approves the commencement of a competitive tendering exercise in accordance with procurement rules, to result in a new revised contract to be in place from 1st October 2023.
- Approves an extension to the current service's contract for six months, to enable the full recommissioning process to take place, with appropriate time for consultation.
- Notes that provided it is within the budget and strategy outlined in this report the decision to award the final contracts can be made by the Director of Public Health via delegated authority.

BACKGROUND

The local authority has responsibility for commissioning the 0-19 Healthy Child Programme (up to 25 with SEND), a universal offer to all families across the borough, ensuring every child has the best start to life. The foundations for virtually every aspect of human development including physical, intellectual and emotional, are established in early childhood.

There are two mandated elements as part of the programme, the five mandated health-visitor reviews and the National Child Measuring Programme (NCMP) in Reception and Year 6. The programme however offers a model for improving a wide and varied range of health outcomes for children and their families. It forms part of the 'whole system' of support for children and young people's health and wellbeing including the NHS, the community, voluntary and faith sector, schools and colleges. The programme also links to other commissioned services such as substance misuse, mental health, sexual health, pharmacies, screening and immunisation programmes and primary care.

In 2016, a procurement process took place resulting in the award of a contract for an integrated 0-19 Healthy Child Programme public health nursing service. Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust were appointed as the prime provider, with sub-contracted elements provided by East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust, Homestart, Lancashire Mind and Brook. The Trust were awarded a three-year contract with two plus one year options. Over the five-year contract, the public health nursing staff were relocated within our Children's Centres to provide a joint early help offer with staff from Children's Services. Developments such as the two year integrated review have highlighted the good joint working processes across the children's health, education and social care teams. The development of 'Family Hubs' and a new Early Years Strategy for the Council will also be part of this work.

The Healthy Child Programme guidance was updated by Public Health England in May 2021 and therefore it is timely to go through the procurement process with the modernised model as a template – it is ‘universal in approach but personalised in response’ (see Figure 1 below). The new model is based on four levels of service – community, universal, targeted and specialist, depending on individual and family need.

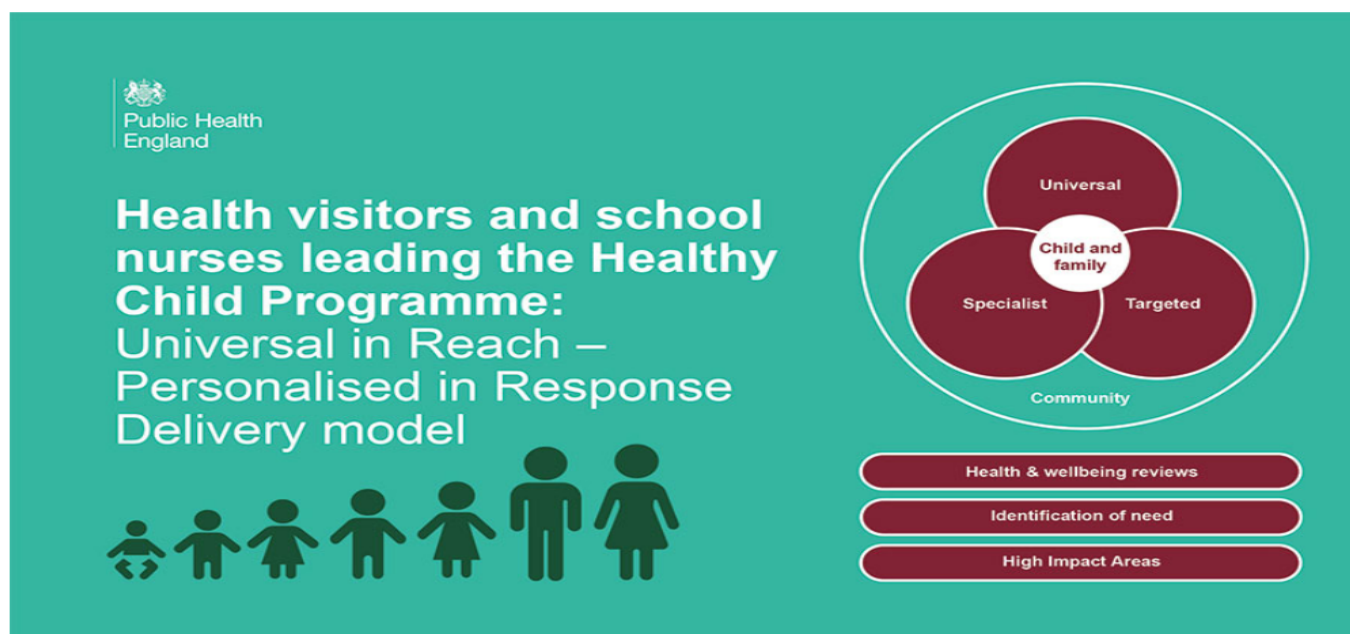


Figure 1. Core elements of a universal reach, personalised response model

As part of the commissioning process, an Expert Reference Group including experts and commissioners from a range of organisations and disciplines will be set up to aid the development of the local integrated delivery model. A governance group will be established with key representatives from Council departments that will need to be informed such as legal, finance, HR and information governance.

A consultation process has taken place with service users, families, schools and young people, including vulnerable groups, in conjunction with Healthwatch. The findings from the consultation have been collated into a report that will inform the development of the priorities and outcomes in the service specification.

A full options appraisal has taken place with elected members and Directors of relevant departments, to decide how to take forward the commissioning and provision of the Health Child Programme and to fully recommission the service was the recommended option.

The timeline for tender process is outlined below:

September to December 2021	Consultation – Service User, Staff, Stakeholder
June 2022	Soft marketing testing with current providers and PIN notice published on the Chest
July 2022	Soft market testing meetings to take place with potential providers
August 2022	Executive Board Meeting – permission to tender sought
September 2022	Governance board set up
September – October 2022	Specification development

<i>November 2022</i>	<i>Specification and contracts legal checks</i>
<i>December 2022</i>	<i>Market Engagement Events prior to tender notice</i>
<i>January 2023</i>	<i>Tender Issued</i>
<i>March – April 2023</i>	<i>Evaluation of Tenders</i>
<i>April 2023</i>	<i>Governance Boards & Decision to Award</i>
<i>May 2023</i>	<i>Tender awarded & Standstill period</i>
<i>June to September 2023</i>	<i>Provider Engagement & Mobilisation of new service</i>
<i>1st October 2023</i>	<i>New service starts</i>

The previous tender was done on a prime provider model i.e. a single contract was awarded to one provider, who then tendered out different aspects of the service to other sub-contractors. As part of the feedback from stakeholders in the consultation, it is proposed that the service is now commissioned on a Lots model, comprising of three Lots as specified below:

Lot 1 – Health Visitors & School Nursing (Contract value £3,887,666 per annum)

The largest element of the contract, the health visiting and school nursing Lot will provide the vast majority of the model. The elements of this Lot will include, but not limited to:

- Public health nursing – Universal in reach and personalised in response, from the antenatal period up to 19 years for children, young people and families (up to 25 years with SEND).
- Support for all children, young people and families at the four service levels (community, universal, targeted and specialist).
- Early identification of need, screening, developmental health reviews, focus on high impact areas, and the provision of the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) and School Health Needs Assessment (SHNA)
- Safeguarding support, including looked after children health assessments.
- Health improvement with a focus on prevention.

Lot 2 – Specialist Infant Feeding Support Service (Contract value £100,000 per annum)

The specialist Infant Feeding Support Service will provide multi-faceted approaches in order to improve breastfeeding initiation and prevalence rates in Blackburn with Darwen, therefore supporting a reduction in health inequalities. The service will contribute to promoting a social and cultural shift where breastfeeding is recognised as the conventional way to feed an infant.

Lot 3 – Community and Voluntary Sector Support service (Contract value £95,000 per annum)

The community and voluntary sector support Lot will provide low level community support and early intervention to families to include aspects such as befriending, volunteering and peer family support for young families to build the skills, confidence and strength to nurture children. The service will support families and children with behaviour support, school readiness, speech and language, emotional support for children and families and support resilient parenting.

Soft Market Testing

A recent soft marketing testing exercise has shown there is more than anticipated interest in the forthcoming tender exercise, with nine providers filling out a questionnaire to show their interest and fourteen other providers expressing an interest, but not filling out the questionnaire. This has provided assurances that we will be able to appoint suitably experienced providers to each of the Lots outlined above.

Digital transformation

As part of the tender process, we want to deliver improved digital systems and innovation within the new service. This includes having an inter-operable web based child record system, a virtual offer (where appropriate) and increased digital information sharing. This will reduce duplication and enhance the service 'offer' to families and is in line with the Family Hub model. Once the Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB) digital teams are in place, we will work with them to ensure our offer is part of any digital transformation programmes they propose.

Evaluation criteria

As per the changes to the Council constitution and the new Contract Procurement Procedure Rules, the evaluation criteria is displayed below, so the Board can approve the procurement strategy. As per the Council's Social Value Policy, 15% has been allocated to Social Value. 5% has been allocated to price for Lot 1 as this is set contract value and the quality and innovation of the service has been prioritised to obtain the best quality service to give our children the best start in life.

The following evaluation criteria will be used to evaluate the tenders received :

Lot 1 – Health Visitors & School Nursing

Evaluation Criteria	Weighting
Quality	70%
Price	5%
Innovation	10%
Social Value	15%

Lots 2 and 3 – Specialist infant feeding support service and Community and Voluntary Third sector support Service

Evaluation Criteria	Weighting
Quality	70%
Price	10%
Innovation	5%
Social Value	15%

4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS

- Due to the cuts to the public health budget, there is a challenge, with no significant uplift in the budget, to maintain quality standards and a sustainable workforce. There are national shortages of health visitors and school nurses and the current service has faced challenges with recruitment.
- Demand on the school nursing service has increased with regard to safeguarding and that has made it challenging for the service to deliver on the early intervention and prevention work required.

- Discussions will be ongoing with partners, such as Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB and NHS England around co-commissioning parts of the model that may help to increase value for money and efficiencies and we will explore joint funding opportunities.
- TUPE transfer would apply if a new provider were to be appointed. The governance board will provide the expert advice on the HR process. A new provider would also mean a transfer to a new data management system for personal data so information governance and IT colleagues will be engaged early on in the process.
- The implications of the new integrated care structure structures will be taken into consideration and an attempt will be made to ensure that any future commissioning on Integrated Care Board footprints will be considered as part of the plans.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The tender exercise will be delivered in line with current procurement law. The revised delivery model will be informed by evidence based quality standards as per the new Healthy Child programme guidance published in April 2021 (Public Health England, 2021). Following the award of Family Hub funding to the Authority for 2022/23, these contracts will provide key services that make up the integrated offer to children and families across the borough, and will be delivered in Family Hubs.

The following national strategies and plans will also inform the new local delivery model:

- Health visiting and School nursing service delivery model (PHE, 2021)
- A best start for life : a vision for the 1,001 critical day (DHSC, 2021)
- No child left behind: a public health informed approach to improving outcome for vulnerable children (PHE, 2020)
- The NHS long term plan (2019)
- Working together to safeguard children (Department for Education, 2018)

Local strategies and plans include:

- The oral health improvement strategy (2021-25)
- The joint health and wellbeing strategy (2018-21 - new strategy in development)
- Early childhood strategy (in development)
- The adolescent strategy (2019-23)
- The neglect strategy (2020-2023)
- Blackburn with Darwen SEND strategy (2020-23)
- Blackburn with Darwen Corporate plan (2019-23 – new plan in development)
- Trauma informed strategic framework for Blackburn with Darwen
- The Balance review of speech and language early identification and support across Pennine Lancashire

[Public Health England, Health visiting and school nursing service delivery model , 2021](#)

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The 0-19 Healthy Child Programme contract will be funded by the Department of Health Public health grant, the table below shows the cost of the initial three year and a half year contract and then the two one year extensions that will be available, if it is decided to extend the contract length. An increase on the previous contract value (£200,000) has been added to the value of the contract as Agenda For Change uplift monies have been added to the Public health grant in 2022/23. Public health departments have to pass these monies to the provider, as the stipulation of the public health grant terms :

The contract value for the 0-19 service has remained at a static rate for four years, since 2019/20. Since the start of the contract in 2017/8, NHS pay scales have had a 10% increase and with inflationary increases and the cost of petrol rising, the slight increase in the contract value means the real terms actual financial envelope is a decrease on the previous contract value. The increasing complexity and demand on the service post covid and as a knock on impact of the cost of living crisis, mean that any further reduction in funding would make the service objectives undeliverable.

A breakdown of the different Lot values is shown in the table below:

	Value per annum (full year effect)
Lot 1	£3,887,666
Lot 2	£100,000
Lot 3	£95,000
Contract total value per annum	£4,082,666

The total value of the three contracts over the potential five and a half years is shown below:

Year		Total contract values
Year 1 – six months	23/24	£2,041,333
Year 2	24/25	£4,082,666
Year 3	25/26	£4,082,666
Year 4	26/27	£4,082,666
Additional optional years		
Year 5	27/28	£4,082,666
Year 6	28/29	£4,082,666
Total		£22,454,663

Year one of the all the contract values will be 50%, to take into account the half year effect.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

An open tender process will be followed to ensure these tenders attracts providers with sufficient knowledge and expertise. The tendering process will need to comply with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and the Council's Contract and Procurement Procedure Rules. The contract will be in a form approved by legal officers in the Contracts and Procurement team.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The management and implementation of the tender will be led by the Public Health team including input from Legal, Finance, HR and the commissioning and procurement team.

9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Please select one of the options below. Where appropriate please include the hyperlink to the EIA.

Option 1 ☒ Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. (*insert EIA link here*)

Option 3 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. (*insert EIA attachment*)

10. CONSULTATIONS

There will be a three phase approach to the consultation and engagement strategy that will draw upon the learning and feedback and build this into the design at each stage.

Stage one, which has already taken place, focussed on children and families, young people, current staff and partners and included a mix of questionnaires and focus groups. A draft consultation report has been drawn up of key findings.

Stage two, is currently underway involving soft market testing with current and potential providers in the market, steering the process by broadening understanding of the current market place and any innovations in practice which can be written into the service specification process. Meetings with all of our incumbent providers took place in June 2022.

Stage three will follow and focus on a market engagement event, once the tenders have gone online via the CHEST procurement system. These events will allow potential providers to gain more understanding of the service required and a chance to ask questions, before final tenders are submitted. Clarifications questions can also be asked via the CHEST.

A full consultation programme with colleagues from other relevant departments will take place, as well as the expert reference group, and all relevant partnership groups and boards will be consulted.

11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded in the Summary of Decisions published on the day following the meeting.

VERSION:	1
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CONTACT OFFICER:	Liz Johnston, Public Health specialist – Start Well
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DATE:	8th of July, 2022
BACKGROUND PAPER:	

EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION



REPORT OF:	Executive Member for Growth and Development
LEAD OFFICERS:	Strategic Director of Growth & Development
DATE:	Thursday, 11 August 2022

PORTFOLIO/S AFFECTED:	Growth and Development
WARD/S AFFECTED:	Ewood
KEY DECISION:	N

SUBJECT: Worsten Avenue Petition

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A petition signed by 80 residents of the Worsten Avenue area of Blackburn has been submitted to the Council requesting that speed bumps be installed on Worsten Avenue.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

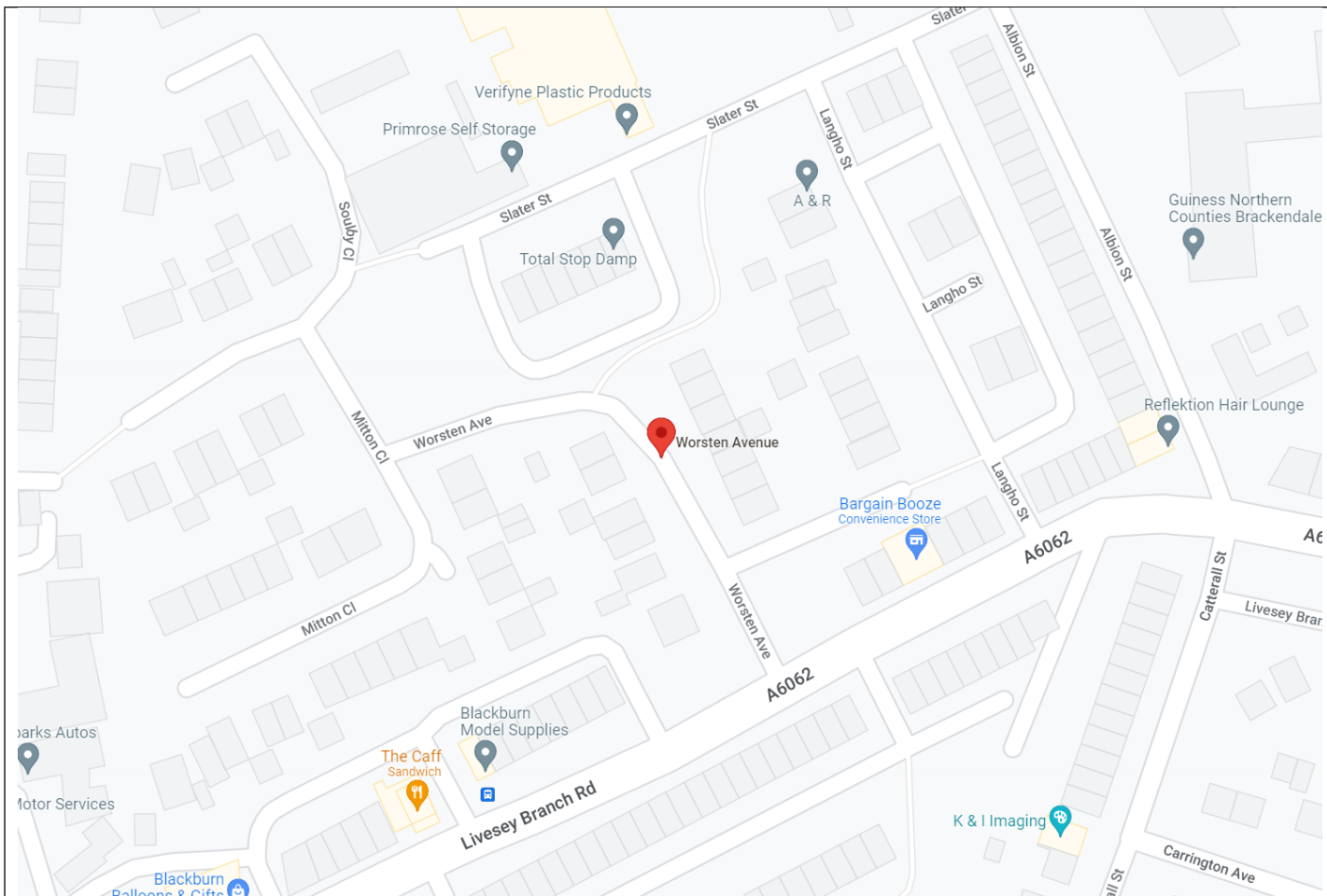
That the Executive Board:

- Notes the petition.
- Supports the officers' recommendation that the request for speed bumps be refused.
- Request that officers inform the lead petitioner of the decision.

3. BACKGROUND

Worsten Avenue is a residential road in Blackburn with a speed limit of 30mph. It slopes from Livesey Branch Road, has a series of bends and serves the residents of Mitton Close and Soulby Close.

Please see images below showing the layout and nature of Worsten Avenue and surrounding roads:



The petition can be seen in Appendix 1.

Following receipt of the petition a speed survey was undertaken over 7 days from 16th June to 23rd June and the speed radar was located on lighting column 4. The results of the week long speed survey determined that 85% of traffic travelled at 19mph and a maximum speed was recorded as 26mph. There are no recorded accidents / events at this location.

Based on the data the speeds of vehicles were well within the assigned speed limit and the request for traffic calming does not meet criteria for any intervention at this time.

Full details of the speed survey can be seen in Appendix 2.

4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS

The Council work in partnership with the Police and other stakeholders through the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership with the aim to reduce casualties on our roads.

Speed surveys are regularly undertaken across the Borough and if speeds are detected as exceeding the police enforcement speed limits then intervention is planned and engineering works are undertaken to reduce speeds.

The Council published the Safer Roads Strategy 2022 – 2026 with the aims of reducing casualties on our roads and to make people feel safer on BwD roads, reduce car use and take action to improve air quality.

The speeds recorded from the speed survey were lower than the assigned speed limit of 30mph and therefore intervention will not be considered.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council have an assigned road safety budget to intervene and construct traffic calming / speed reduction measures when necessary.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council has a duty to maintain the adopted highway under the Highways Act 1980.

This is an ordinary petition as defined in the Council's constitution as being one signed by at least 50 people and submitted by people who live, work or study in the Borough. Part 7 of the Constitution outlines the possible mechanisms for petitions and this report and response is one such type of valid response.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

None

9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Please select one of the options below. Where appropriate please include the hyperlink to the EIA.

Option 1 ☒ Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA link here)*

Option 3 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA attachment)*

10. CONSULTATIONS

None

11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded in the Summary of Decisions published on the day following the meeting.

VERSION:	1
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CONTACT OFFICER:	Dwayne Lowe
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DATE:	18 th July 2022
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BACKGROUND PAPER:	
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Dear Jim Smith,

Please can you look into getting Speed Bumps at the Top and on The Bend of Worsten Avenue, All The residence are in agreement that the Bend has become a Danger, there has been Several near misses with cars and Delivery vans, and with children crossing the road from The play area that is right on The Bend, Family Pets have also Become injured, we would all just like a Safe road for everyone on our Small Housing Estate without the worry of a more Serious Collision happening.

Thank You

Speed Bumps!

Please sign the petition below to get speed bumps on Worsten Avenue. Before a child, or car is smashed into through people speeding up and down the hill.

Thank you.

Name	Address	Signature
N	10	P. D.

Author

Institution Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council
 Department Highways
 Street Davy Field Road
 Postal Code BB1 1FB
 City Blackburn
 Country United Kingdom
 Contact Traffic Team
 Phone +44-1254-585100
 E-Mail traffic@blackburn.gov.uk



Blackburn with
Darwen Council

Built with **DataCollect Webreporter** version 1.0 at 28/06/2022 11:06:30

Site

Name WorstedAve4

Dir. Oncoming (name)

Dir. Outgoing (name)

Posted Speed Limit



Comment

Device type

SDR Traffic+

Time Range

Start Date 16/06/2022 16:00

End Date 23/06/2022 10:59

Days Mo, Tu, We, Th, Fr, Sa, Su

Time Interval 60 minutes

Time Frame / Day 00:00 - 23:59

Length Classes

[L in m]

Cross-section		Oncoming				Outgoing			
Time	Σ	Σ	CAR	TRUCK	LONG	Σ	CAR	TRUCK	LONG
00:00-06:00	75	44	43	1	0	31	31	0	0
06:00-09:00	314	210	202	8	0	104	101	2	1
15:00-19:00	775	349	346	3	0	426	422	4	0
06:00-22:00	2094	1047	1022	25	0	1047	1022	24	1
00:00-24:00	2222	1113	1087	26	0	1109	1084	24	1

Speed Figures

[V in mph]

	Vmin	Vmax	Vavg	V15	V50	V85	Vexc %
Cross-section	3	26	16	13	16	19	0.0
Oncoming	3	24	16	13	16	18	0.0
Outgoing	6	26	16	13	16	19	0.0

Descriptions

Vmin: Minimal velocity
 Vmax: Maximal velocity
 Vavg: Average velocity
 V15: Critical velocity for the first 15% of vehicles

V50: Critical velocity for the first 50% of vehicles
 V85: Critical velocity for the first 85% of vehicles
 Vexc %: Speeding in %

Author

Institution Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council
 Department Highways
 Street Davy Field Road
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 City Blackburn
 Country United Kingdom
 Contact Traffic Team
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Blackburn with
Darwen Council

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Dir. Oncoming (name)

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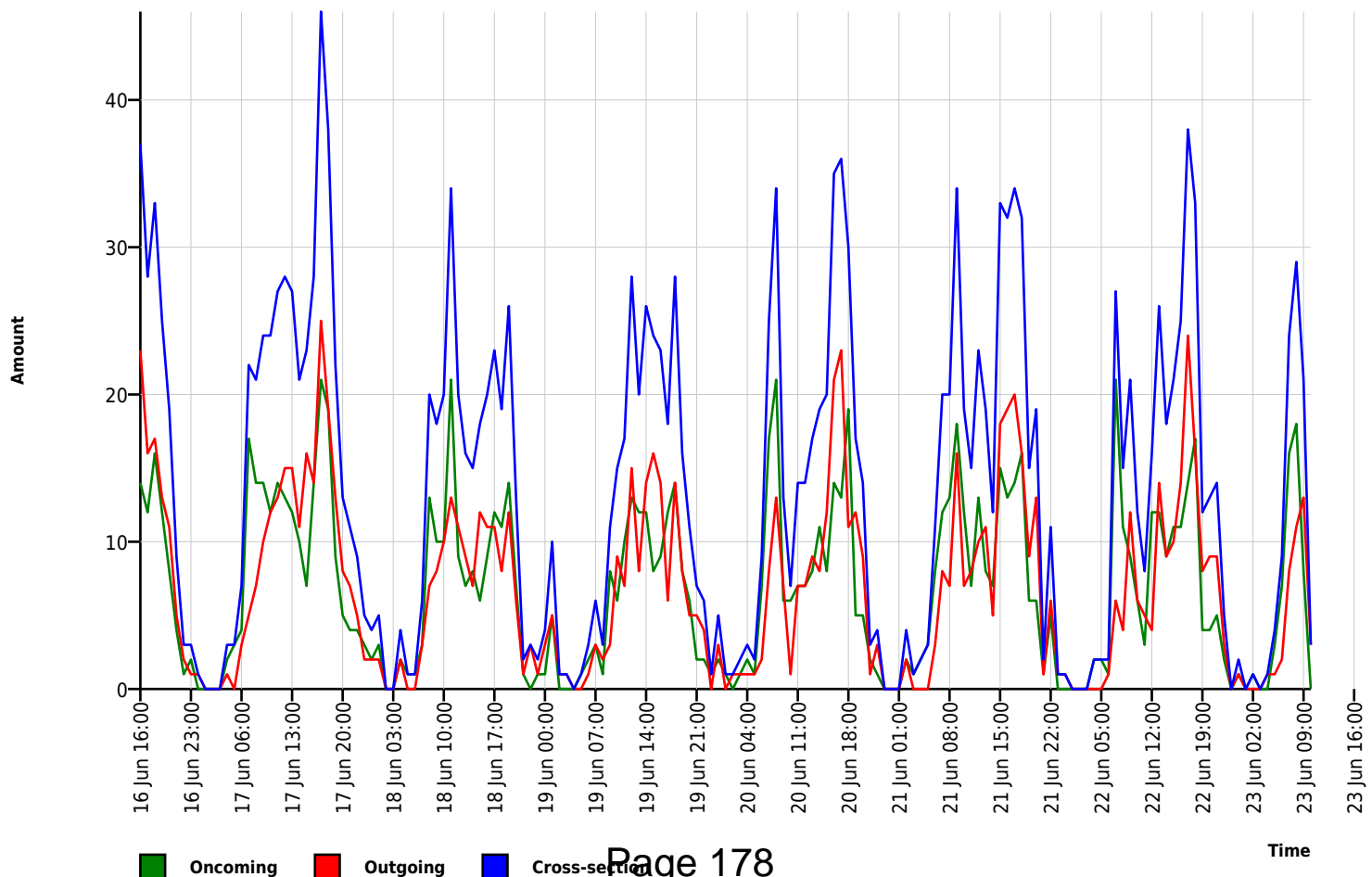
End Date 23/06/2022 10:59

Days Mo, Tu, We, Th, Fr, Sa, Su

Time Interval 60 minutes

Time Frame / Day 00:00 - 23:59

Time Variation Curve



Author

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Blackburn with
Darwen Council

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Site

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Dir. Oncoming (name)

Dir. Outgoing (name)

Posted Speed Limit



Comment

Device type

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Time Range

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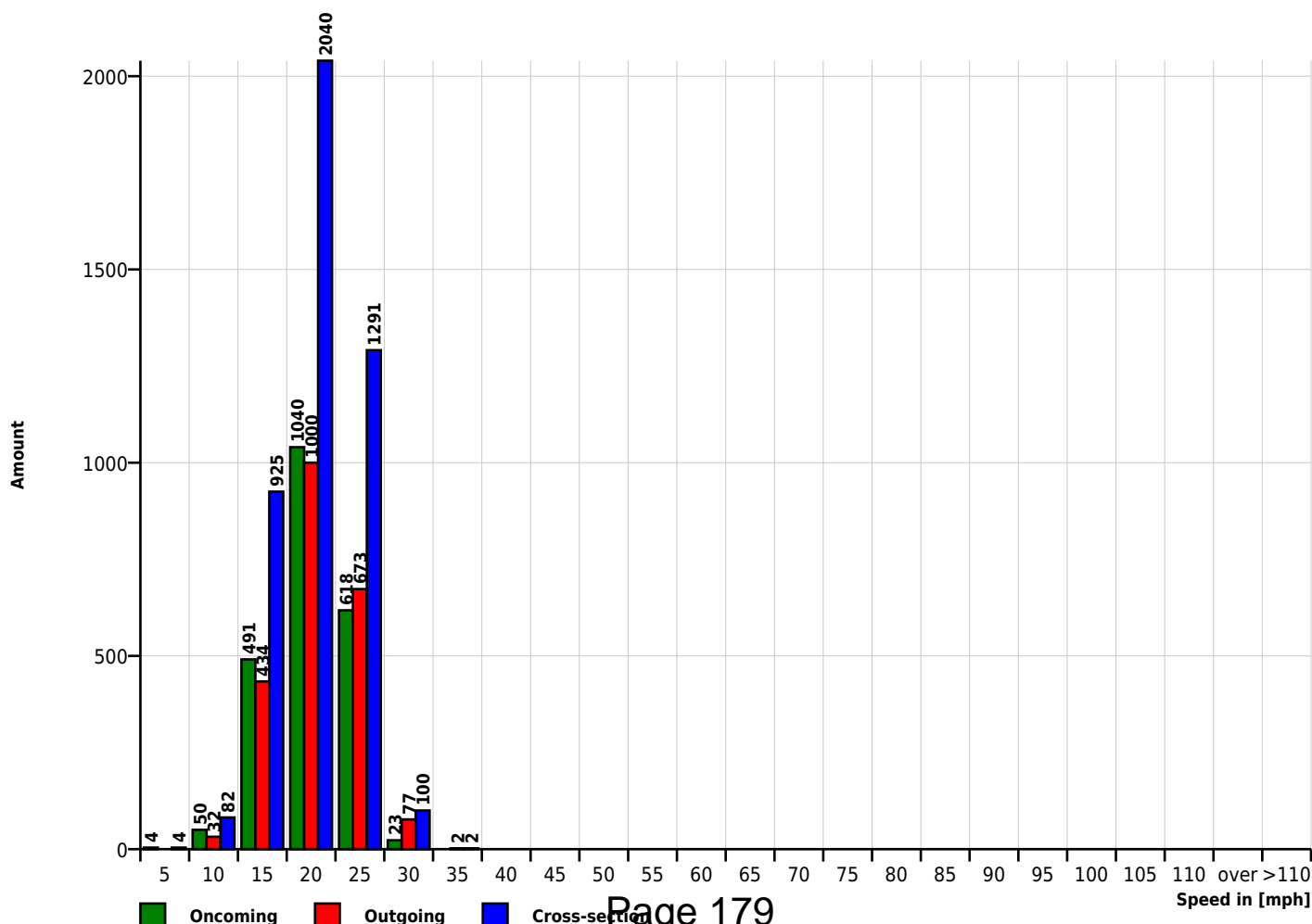
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Time Interval 60 minutes

Time Frame / Day 00:00 - 23:59

Speed Histogram



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Blackburn with
Darwen Council

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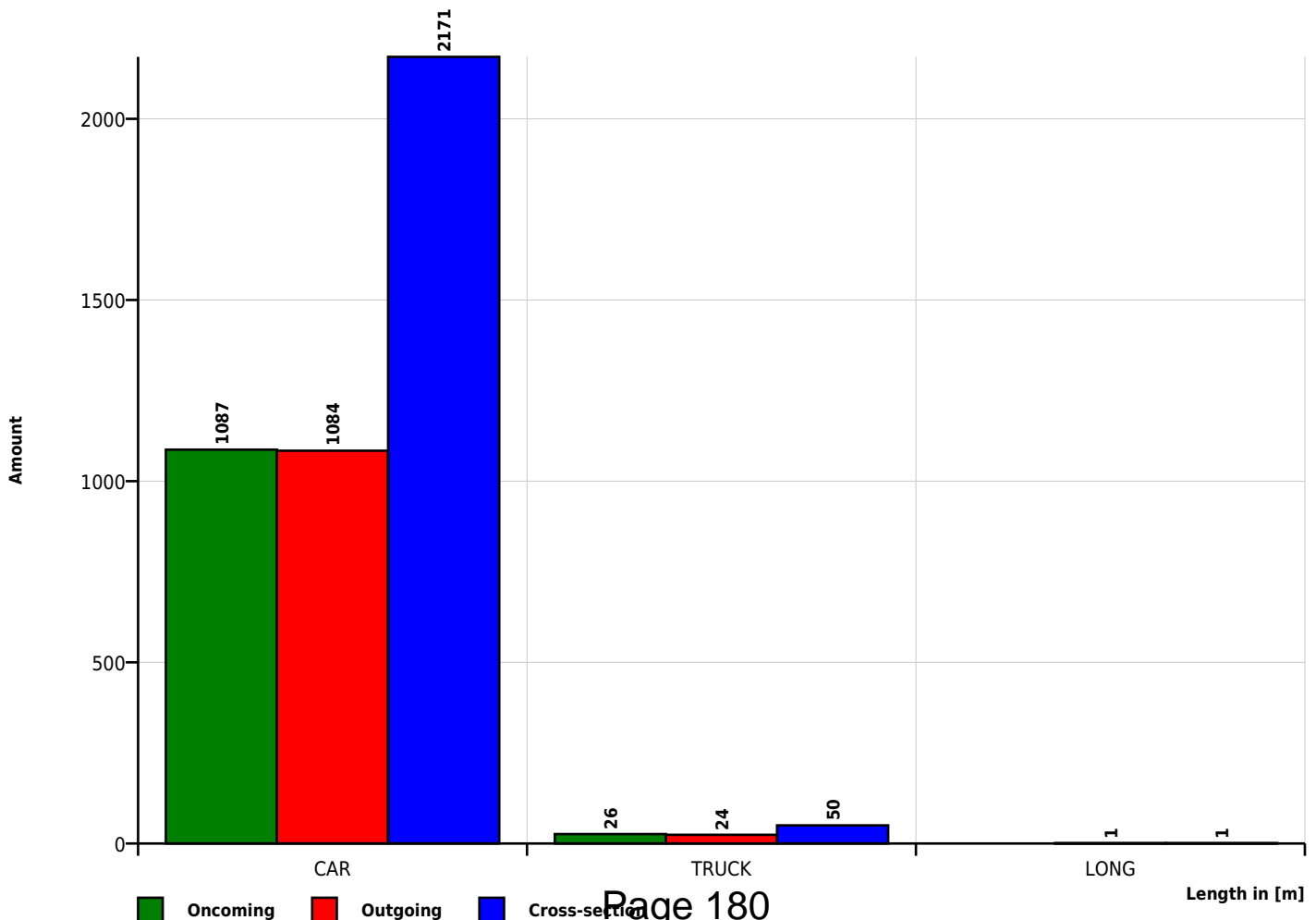
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Days Mo, Tu, We, Th, Fr, Sa, Su

Time Interval 60 minutes

Time Frame / Day 00:00 - 23:59

Length Histogram



EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION



REPORT OF:	Executive Member for Growth and Development
LEAD OFFICERS:	Strategic Director of Environment and Operations
DATE:	Thursday, 11 th August 2022

PORTFOLIO/S AFFECTED:	Growth and Development
WARD/S AFFECTED:	Audley and Queens Park
KEY DECISION:	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBJECT: Lambeth Street Petition

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A petition signed by 176 residents of Lambeth Street area of Blackburn has been submitted to the Council requesting that the sections of Lambeth Street between numbers 128 to 31 and 154 – 59 be resurfaced.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Board:

- Notes the petition.
- Supports the officers' recommendation that the request for resurfacing be refused.
- Request that officers inform the lead petitioner of the decision.

3. BACKGROUND

Lambeth Street is a residential road serving properties and is closed at Pringle Street.

The residents of the area believe that lengths of the carriageway between numbers 128 to 31 and 154 – 59 should be resurfaced. The petition states that some of the residents have lived there over 30 years and the road has not been resurfaced in that time.

This unclassified road, off Audley Range is an adopted 246m long residential side road, 65 homes front onto it. Access beyond Pringle Street is not possible due to a planting bed with a mature tree. The residents believe that the carriageway should be resurfaced. The petition requests that a short section of 71m be resurfaced as they feel that this is the worst part of this section of this road, realistically it would only be economic to resurface the full section from Audley Range to Pringle Street.

The carriageway appears to be surfaced partly with asphalt, which has been surfaced dressed in the past and partly with sett paving, used a traffic management feature.

In 2020 the council commissioned a carriageway condition the results of which categorised carriageways and footways as follows:

Grade 5	Structurally impaired
Grade 4	Functionally impaired
Grade 3	Mid life
Grade 2	Signs of surface wear
Grade 1	Free from defects

The carriageway was classed as 27% grade 5; 39% grade 4; 29% grade 3, 5% grade 1. overall functionally impaired.

In accordance with the Council's Safety Inspection Procedure for Highways this road is inspected annually and any defects which exceed the intervention levels are repaired. The table below identifies this repair history since 2017.

Year	Carriageway defects
2017	7
2018	9
2019	0
2020	17
2021	11
2022	9 (to date)
Total	53

NB: this is for the section of Lambeth Street in the complaint (*off Audley Range is an adopted 246m*), not the full street (>830m).

This defect history supports the results of the condition survey that the carriageway condition is generally acceptable.

4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS

The Highways Asset Management Strategy, approved by the Executive Member for Growth and Regeneration, and published on 25th October 2019, described the authority's approach and commitment to highway maintenance.

Present funding levels, both revenue and capital, effectively restrict consideration of only the Borough's major classified roads for the foreseeable future. It would be unrealistic to expect or anticipate routine, planned resurfacing of low-trafficked residential streets in the foreseeable future. Unfortunately the structural condition and visual appearance of these roads will continue to deteriorate, however the authority will continue to inspect them to ensure that safety defects are identified and repaired.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The capital maintenance budget is committed to the long term plan for highway work which effectively precludes resurfacing roads such as Lambeth Street.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council has a duty to maintain the adopted highway under the Highways Act 1980.

This is an ordinary petition as defined in the Council's constitution as being one signed by at least 50 people and submitted by people who live, work or study in the Borough. Part 7 of the Constitution outlines the possible mechanisms for petitions and this report and response is one such type of valid response.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

None

9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Please select one of the options below. Where appropriate please include the hyperlink to the EIA.

Option 1 ☒ Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA link here)*

Option 3 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA attachment)*

10. CONSULTATIONS

None

11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded in the Summary of Decisions published on the day following the meeting.

VERSION:	1
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CONTACT OFFICER:	Dwayne Lowe
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DATE:	18th July 2022
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BACKGROUND PAPER:	
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Petition to resurface section of Lambeth Street

The residents of Lambeth St and nearby areas are petitioning for the council to resurface the small stretch of road from 128/31 Lambeth Street to 156/59 Lambeth Street. The road has numerous potholes which are filled annually, and this has only been a temporary fix because the whole road is crumbling. The road is uneven and It is like a dirt track because the cars are bouncing up and down on this road.

In over 30 years, this section has never been tarmacked and considering the volume of traffic flow. it has not done too bad. We would urge the council to visit the site and to carry out this work at the earliest opportunity as it is desperate need of urgent repair

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted