

# AGENDA

## Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel

**Thursday, 17 June 2021 AT 16:00  
In the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8QG**

<p><b>** A pre meeting for Members to prepare for the Panel will take place 45 minutes before the meeting**</b></p>
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The Press and Public are welcome to attend for the consideration of any items which are public.

### **Members of the Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel**

Councillor Brown (Chair), Councillors Mrs Bowman, Ms Ellis-Williams, Mrs Glendinning, Meller (Vice Chair), Mrs McKerrell, Mitchelson, Paton.

Substitutes:

Councillors Alcroft, Atkinson, Bainbridge, Birks, Collier, Mrs Finlayson, Glover, Lishman, Mrs Mitchell, Morton, Patrick, Robson, Shepherd, Miss Sherriff, Southward, Sunter, Tarbitt, Dr Tickner, Tinnion, Miss Whalen.

## **PART A**

### **To be considered when the Public and Press are present**

#### **Apologies for Absence**

To receive apologies for absence and notification of substitutions.

#### **Declarations of Interest (including declarations of “The Party Whip”)**

Members are invited to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests, other registrable interests, and any interests, relating to any item on the agenda at this stage.

#### **Public and Press**

To agree that the items of business within Part A of the agenda should be dealt with in public and that the items of business within Part B of the agenda should be dealt with in private.

#### **Minutes of Previous Meetings**

**5 - 12**

The Chair will move the minutes of the meeting held on 12 April 2021 as a correct record. The only part of the minutes that may be discussed is their accuracy.

(Copy minutes herewith).

#### **A.1 CALL-IN OF DECISIONS**

To consider any matter which has been the subject of call-in.

#### **A.2 LOCAL ENVIRONMENT (CLIMATE CHANGE) STRATEGY UPDATE**

**13 -  
32**

Portfolio:	Environment and Transport
Directorate:	Economic Development
Officer:	Jane Meek, Corporate Director of Economic Development Steven O'Keeffe, Policy and Communications Manager
Report:	PC.19/21 herewith

#### **Background:**

To consider a report which provides an update on the Local Environment (Climate Change) Strategy.

#### **Why is this item on the agenda?**

Item confirmed by Panel Chair.

**What is the Panel being asked to do?**

Comment on the progress made against the agreed action plan  
Comment on the proposed amendments and additions to the action plan as a working document.

**A.3 END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT 2020/21**

**33 -  
44**

Portfolio:	Finance, Governance and Resources
Directorate:	Community Services
Officer:	Gary Oliver, Policy and Performance Officer
Report:	PC.22/21 herewith

**Background:**

The Policy and Communications Manager to submit the 2020/21 performance against the current Service Standards and a summary of the Carlisle Plan 2016-19 as defined in the 'plan on a page'. Performance against the Panel's Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are also included.

**Why is this item on the agenda?**

Annual monitoring of performance.

**What is the Panel being asked to do?**

Scrutinise the performance of the City Council with a view to seeking continuous improvement.

**A.4 OVERVIEW REPORT**

**45 -  
50**

Portfolio:	Cross Cutting
Directorate:	Cross Cutting
Officer:	Rowan Jones, Overview and Scrutiny Officer
Report:	OS.16/21 herewith

**Background:**

To consider a report providing an overview of matters related to the work of the Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel.

**Why is this item on the agenda?**

The Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel operates within a Work Programme which is set for the 2021/22 municipal year. The Programme is reviewed at every meeting so that it can be adjusted to reflect the wishes of the Panel and

take into account items, relevant to this Panel, in the latest Notice of Executive Key Decisions.

**What is the Panel being asked to do?**

- Note the items (within Panel remit) on the most recent Notice of Executive Key Decisions
- Review the information raised within the report.

**PART B**

**To be considered when the Public and Press are excluded from the meeting**

-NIL-

Enquiries, requests for reports, background papers etc to:

Rachel Plant, Democratic Services Officer - [rachel.plant@carlisle.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.plant@carlisle.gov.uk)

**ECONOMIC GROWTH SCRUTINY PANEL**

**MONDAY 12 APRIL 2021 AT 4.00 pm**

- PRESENT:** Councillor Brown (Chair), Councillors Mrs Atkinson, Denholm, Mrs Glendinning, Meller, Mitchelson and Mrs McKerrell
- ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor J Mallinson – Leader  
Councillor Ellis – Deputy Leader and Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder  
Councillor Christian – Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder  
Councillor Mrs Mallinson – Communities, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder  
Councillor Nedved – Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder  
Ms Thorn – Regional Director of Riverside North Region (until 4.33 pm)
- OFFICERS:** Corporate Director of Economic Development  
Housing Development Officer  
Policy and Communications Manager  
Overview and Scrutiny Officer

**EGSP.21/21 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor Paton.

**EGSP.22/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest affecting the business to be transacted at the meeting.

**EGSP.23/21 HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE PHILIP, DUKE OF EDINBURGH**

The Panel observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect to the memory of His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

**EGSP.24/21 PUBLIC AND PRESS**

It was agreed that the items of business in Part A be dealt with in public and Part B be dealt with in private.

**EGSP.25/21 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 2021 be approved.

**EGSP.26/21 CALL IN OF DECISIONS**

There were no items which had been the subject of call-in.

**EGSP.27/21 RIVERSIDE UPDATE**

Speaking by way of introduction the Corporate Director of Economic Development indicated that Members would recall that Ms Paton was Regional Director of Riverside. Ms Paton had now retired and both the Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder and herself had written to thank Ms Paton for the sterling work she had undertaken for Riverside in Carlisle. Ms Paton

had attended Panel meetings on a regular basis to respond to questions and the Corporate Director felt sure that Members would also wish to express their appreciation to her.

In response, the Chair asked that the Panel's and her own personal thanks to Ms Paton be placed on record.

The Housing Development Officer was pleased to introduce Ms Thorn, the new Regional Director of the Riverside North Region who brought a wealth of local knowledge and experience to the role. Members of the Panel had expressed an interest in learning more about Riverside's regeneration and development plans and so Ms Thorn's update would hopefully be of particular interest.

Ms Thorn, Regional Director of the Riverside North Region presented the Riverside Update (Report ED.12/21).

Ms Thorn summarised, in some detail, aspects of Riverside's business activities and future plans including Customer Services; Riverside Office, Botchergate; Impact Furniture Service (IFS); Strategic Investment Framework; New Development; Decarbonisation Strategy; Manchester United Foundation / Carlisle United Community Sports Trust project; Cumbria Skills Shortage project and Neighbourhood Plans.

Ms Thorn further reported that:

- Customer Services: customers who experienced real challenges financially continued to be supported through Riverside's Income Maximisation Teams who provided a level of support to access benefits and to assist in whatever way they could.
- IFS: Riverside would be looking to partner with alternative recycling services to ensure that their customers continued to have the opportunity to source low cost furniture and did not end up in furniture poverty; and would ultimately look to partners to ensure that any reusable furniture from empty properties was recycled.
- Neighbourhood Plans: some confusion had arisen around the utilisation of the name 'Neighbourhood Plans'. Following further consultation, it had been determined that 'Community Plans' better described what Riverside was doing and they were working with customers to understand their neighbourhoods and what needed to be done to make them great places in which to live.

The Chair welcomed Ms Thorn to her first Panel meeting and expressed thanks for her attendance

Members raised the following questions and observations during their scrutiny of the report:

- *Referencing the impending closure of the Impact Furniture Service (IFS), a Member questioned whether, as part of the decision making process, consideration had been given to the utilisation of social media / selling of second-hand furniture on line; and whether that could be looked at moving forward.*

Ms Thorn replied that on-line social media selling had been introduced approximately three years before; Riverside had quite a good social media presence and was selling furniture via that medium. That did not, however, diminish the differential between IFS overheads (employment costs, insurance, premises, collection and delivery vehicles, etc) and income generated. Neither did remodelling - a volunteer-based service delivery through outsourcing to other community delivery opportunities or consolidation into one location result in a cost neutral business plan that would enable the service to 'wash its own face'.

- *A Member noted (paragraph 2.9) that Riverside had identified their first four Neighbourhood Plans and that it had been agreed to look at Raffles first and Botcherby second. She questioned which two Neighbourhood Plans would follow.*

Ms Thorn undertook to investigate and respond.

Another Member noted that the report recorded that the appraisal for Botcherby had been started and Riverside would then move on to Upperby and then Petteril Bank/Harraby.

- The Raffles Neighbourhood Plan was progressing well, with customer surveys taking place next week. A Member sought clarification as regards the type of questions posed and the feedback received in response thereto.

Another Member questioned the level of community engagement on what they saw as the vision for the area; and whether Members could be involved moving forward.

Ms Thorn indicated that she would provide the Panel with a detailed response. She was aware that the Raffles survey had been conducted virtually through telephone calls, social media and Teams channels as opposed to the normal physical presence on the estate e.g. drop-in sessions at a community facility. That could be progressed as lockdown restrictions eased.

During discussions at the Carlisle Partnership a Member had expressed a desire for Riverside to include questions around how COVID had changed the lives of their customers and how the use of properties differed as a consequence thereof. Although it had been too late to action that for the Raffles estate, questions had now been included as part of the standard questioning bank within those Neighbourhood Plans in order to aid understanding of what more Riverside needed to do to support customers to live and work at home. That may also influence a change in terms of the design of future properties

On the latter point, Riverside did engage with their strategic partners and Member involvement was absolutely a possibility.

*The Member added that she personally lived on an estate with mixed housing and the difference in how people were interacting and what they used in the area was astounding.*

- A Member commented that the majority of the new development schemes in contract in Carlisle were under Section 106 Agreements. She sought clarification on the difficulties of progressing such schemes without Section 106 contributions and questioned whether any other funding could be utilised.

Ms Thorn advised that funding associated with new development / affordable housing was a challenge and the money available to Riverside for investment in new build properties was not infinite. Members would, however, note from the pipeline that Carlisle was one of those strategic locations which received a fair proportion in terms of available investment for properties. She added that Riverside was always reliant upon some Government grant to support that through Homes England and continued to work with Carlisle and the other strategic partners across Cumbria to ensure that grant opportunities into Cumbria were maximised as far as possible.

- *Substantial consultation between Riverside, the City Council, Carlisle College and the developer had taken place with regard to the brilliant Beverley Rise development. Were any similar schemes coming through the pipeline?*

In response, Ms Thorn explained that Riverside would always look for opportunities to maximise what could be done in terms of social value on the back of investment to maximise that economic value locally. Clearly partnership working would be required to source young people. Now that an established model was in place, work would continue with developers on other schemes.

- Referencing the Manchester United Foundation / Carlisle United Community Sports Trust project, a Member reported that she was a teacher and that Carlisle United had visited her school. Her pupils had benefitted from that excellent scheme.
- The report detailed that one year remained on the lease of the Riverside office in Botchergate and that it was now likely that the ground floor would remain empty until the lease expired. Bearing in mind that the ground floor constituted a large area on the high street in the entrance to Carlisle City, a Member asked whether there was anything which could be done to repurpose that area as opposed to leaving it empty.
- *In terms of new development and the provision of social housing, a Member asked whether developers were good at meeting the forecast completion dates.*

Ms Thorn replied that obviously there had been delays in the handover of the pipeline projects in the last twelve months but, as soon as those contractors had been allowed back on site, they had continued to work and deliver. Ultimately it was in everyone's interests to get those properties built and handed over as soon as was possible. It would be necessary to refocus that view after lockdown, but the new revised dates were on the whole being delivered and achieved.

- A Member asked for an explanation in layman's terms of the information provided at paragraph 2.4 regarding the Strategic Investment Framework.

Ms Thorn explained that Morton was one of Riverside's key neighbourhoods where they managed stock. An assessment had been undertaken covering the aspects set out. That work represented the normal due diligence which would be done on any estate to understand the demographics, what the drivers were and what the long-term future sustainability of that neighbourhood would require in order to keep it stable.

Riverside did not wish to see the emergence of large numbers of empty properties in an area since that would inevitably lead to a decline. There was some experience of that now around one-bedroom flats which detracted from an area and it was therefore timely to take action to understand whether more needed to be done to ensure the longer term viability of that neighbourhood.

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder stated that Chairing the Carlisle Liaison Group for the past few years had provided a unique insight into Riverside. Some quite rigorous lines of questioning had taken place, including the IFS and ground floor of the Riverside Office in Botchergate, and it was hoped that responses would be forthcoming over the coming weeks and months.

The Portfolio Holder felt that much progress had been made as regards the level of contact and responses received from Riverside over the last few years and that the relationship had been transformed.

Referencing the Beverley Rise development, the Portfolio Holder further believed that to be a template moving forward. The hands-on training and development opportunities for apprentices to address skills shortages as part of the partnership project had been exceptionally beneficial.

He wished to see that work pursued and felt sure that the Panel would agree. It was a great pity that it had not been possible to undertake a similar scheme at Dalston Road.

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder noted that Riverside had an important investment portfolio going forward, much of which was centred around the City Centre; and that St Cuthbert's Garden Village would be an important element of that strategic vision. He asked whether Ms Thorn was able to give any indication as to whether St Cuthbert's Garden Village would be given the same level of commitment and prospects as other city centre sites since there was an opportunity for the City to invest in social and affordable housing moving forward.

In response, Ms Thorn explained that St Cuthbert's Garden Village was on Riverside's strategic portfolio of areas for investment. They were keen to see how those plans would develop.

The Chair then thanked Ms Thorn for her presentation of the report.

RESOLVED – (1) That the Riverside Update (ED.12/21) be noted.

(2) That the thanks of the Chair and Members of the Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel for the attendance and work undertaken by Ms Paton during her time as Regional Director of Riverside Carlisle be placed on record.

(3) That Ms Thorn, Regional Director, Riverside North Region be requested to provide responses on the following:

- Neighbourhood Plans - details of the customer survey questions and feedback received as part of the consultation exercise.
- The level of engagement on what the community saw as the vision for the area; and whether Members could be involved moving forward.

*Ms Thorn left the meeting*

## **EGSP.28/21    CARLISLE PLAN 2021-2023**

The Policy and Communications Manager submitted report PC.10/21, the purpose of which being to progress the adoption of a new Carlisle Plan forming part of the Council's Policy Framework.

The Policy and Communications Manager explained that the draft Carlisle Plan comprised a main document containing the detail behind the Plan, together with a summary 'Plan on a Page' listing the Council's vision, principles, priorities and programmes/projects. The two priorities were Economic Growth and Health and Wellbeing. He added that Corporate Plan would be developed over the coming months in parallel to the Carlisle Plan. A further key point of note was that a Performance Reporting Task and Finish Group was underway which would enable preparation of a detailed quarterly performance report from April 2021 onwards.

The Executive had considered the matter at their meeting on 8 March 2021 (EX.30/21) and referred it to the Panel for consultation.

The Policy and Communications Manager concluded by inviting the Panel to consider and comment on the draft Carlisle Plan, with particular reference to the economic growth priority and programme.

The following observations / suggestions were raised during scrutiny of the Carlisle Plan 2021-2023:

- *The Vision – ‘To enable Carlisle to grow and prosper as the capital of the Borderlands region, benefitting the health and wellbeing of the people of Carlisle.’ was welcomed. However, that statement lacked depth in terms of addressing inequality and poverty. Nor was there any mention of low-cost affordable housing.*  
  
*If the Council was serious about true inclusivity, that meant looking at every area of poverty and inequality. It was requested that further consideration be given to ‘The Vision’ and that the Carlisle Plan go out to public consultation.*
- *A more creative approach to the wording / terminology and compilation of the document would aide understanding and ensure that it was user friendly for the public.*
- *The Plan needed to include a greater focus on tourism and the Economic Strategy as that would be an important factor in driving change and the prosperity of Carlisle.*
- *The Economic Growth priority stated that “we aim to deliver inclusive and sustainable economic growth, ensuring we provide opportunities for all our communities to prosper”, yet no mention was made of the means by which that would be achieved. Similarly, the statements on page 29 concerning the Citadels for example were lacking in detail in terms of the level of investment and how discussions with the University were coming to fruition.*

The Deputy Leader, and Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder acknowledged that Members were correct in the sense that the key economic growth programmes and projects were referenced within the Carlisle Plan, but there was no real link within the document to state why they were significant if one was not planning or able to go to University in Carlisle; why moving the University to the Citadel was so important; how many jobs would be brought into the City or how it would help the high street to survive. Further clarity was therefore required.

The Deputy Leader further explained that he was particularly keen on both sustainable and unsustainable growth (unsustainable in terms of new businesses being empowered to start up and try to grow whilst acknowledging that, statistically, a significant number of new businesses do not last more than three years) to deliver a more prosperous society and thus improving standards of living and quality of life. The Plan could be more visual and informative to aide understanding.

- *Referencing the three principles (Clarity, Confidence and Commitment), a Member questioned how much consultation had gone into understanding the needs of Carlisle’s residents.*

In response, the Leader stated that COVID-19 had presented somewhat of a bar to consultation. However, now that lockdown measures were easing serious consideration could be given to public consultation.

The Leader further took the Member’s point regarding the Citadels which could be better populated as time goes by.

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder commented that the draft Economic Strategy was nearing completion and would be coming back to Committee in due course.

Tourism could bring immense scope and potential money into the City and should perhaps be given greater credence within the Carlisle Plan. Projects including the Carlisle Station Gateway

and Project Tullie; and improvement of the visitor / night-time economy were of critical importance. Further detail may also be needed as regards housing provision.

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder then thanked Members for their most helpful and useful comments.

The Policy and Communications Manager added his thanks to the Panel for their feedback.

A Member sought clarification that the revised draft Carlisle Plan, taking account of the comments raised, would come back through the Scrutiny process.

The Leader replied that Scrutiny was entitled to review the document should they so wish.

RESOLVED – (1) That the Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel had considered and commented upon the draft Carlisle Plan 2021-2023 (PC.10/21).

(2) That the Panel made a series of observations / suggestions (outlined in the bullet points above) for the Executive to consider in the development of the final Plan document.

(3) That the Panel wished to have sight of the revised draft Carlisle Plan at a future meeting.

#### **EGSP.29/21      SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT**

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer submitted report OS.12/21 providing the draft Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel section for the Scrutiny Annual Report 2020/21. Members' attention was drawn to the key items for the Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel, comments in relation to which were invited.

No comments were forthcoming, and it was:

RESOLVED – That the Panel had considered the Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel section of the Scrutiny Annual Report (OS.12/21).

#### **EGSP.30/21      OVERVIEW REPORT AND WORK PROGRAMME**

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer presented report OS.09/21 providing an overview of matters relating to the work of the Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel. The latest version of the work programme was also included.

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer highlighted a number of items which were not included within the Panel's work programme, together with a resolution from the 26 November 2020 meeting [2) That a review of the parking permit scheme at Talkin Tarn be carried out] which remained as pending, details of which were recorded at Section 1.

RESOLVED – That the Overview Report incorporating the Work Programme and Key Decision items relevant to the Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel be noted (OS.09/21).

#### **EGSP.31/21      CHAIR'S COMMENTS**

Since this was the last Panel meeting of the current Municipal Year, the Chair wished to place on record thanks to the Overview and Scrutiny Officer for her hard work and the excellent assistance provided over the past year.

[The meeting ended at 4.55 pm]



# Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel

Agenda  
Item:

**A.2**

Meeting Date: 17 June 2021  
 Portfolio: Environment and Transport  
 Key Decision: Yes  
 Within Policy and Budget Framework: Yes  
 Public / Private: Public  
 Title: Local Environment (Climate Change) Strategy update  
 Report of: Jane Meek, Corporate Director of Economic Development  
 Report Number: PC 19/21

## Purpose / Summary:

The purpose of this report is to update the Panel on the progress.

## Recommendations:

- Comment on the progress made against the agreed action plan.
- Comment on the proposed amendments and additions to the action plan, as a working document.

## Tracking

Scrutiny:	Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel (10 June 2021) Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel
Executive	
Council	

# **1. BACKGROUND**

## **1.1 Introduction**

1.1.1 This update report is focused on the last six months, since the last report to the Panel. Since then the Local Environment (Climate Change) Strategy and action plan have been adopted and progress made with partners.

1.1.2 In March 2021 the Council agreed the following two recommendations:

- Recommend that Council adopt this strategy as the evolution of Agenda 21, henceforth referring to it as the Local Environment (Climate Change) Strategy in Article 4 of the Constitution.
- Recommend that Council amends the net zero target date from 2030 to 2037, in line with the Carbon Baseline for Cumbria recommendation adopted by the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership.

## **1.2 Member Advisory Group**

1.2.1 The Member Advisory Group (MAG) is a cross-party, informal group that will provide elected Member input to the Local Environment (Climate Change) Strategy.

1.2.2 The MAG met on 22 April to discuss the progress on the action planning. The discussions included the next focus for communication and engagement, as separate workstreams are developed. Topics include:

- Agile working and working from home (Internal)
- Cycling and walking Infrastructure Plan (Local CWIP)
- Local Environment Crime, Action and Enforcement Strategy
- Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Phase 2 Project

1.2.3 The MAG received a presentation on the lessons learned from communication and engagement during the response to the Covid-19 Pandemic, in particular the application of a behavioural change model from Public Health. This learning is transferrable to the strategy and will be developed as part of our ongoing communication and engagement.

1.2.4 The MAG also received an update on the engagement with Carlisle Borough Pennsylvania, which is in the Cumberland County, USA. The virtual meetings have been taking place on the strategies, action plans and carbon footprinting. Interestingly, we learnt that the former prison, which is now used by Cumberland County for offices, was even built to resemble The Citadel in Carlisle England.

### 1.3 Countywide partnership work

- 1.3.1 The Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership (ZCCP) met in May to discuss an update to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and an interim communication strategy. The key parts of the MoU are the purpose and vision:

The purpose of the group is to plan and oversee a radical programme of action that will enable Cumbria to become a carbon neutral county and to mitigate the likely impact of existing climate change.

The Vision is to work towards:

*“a carbon neutral county with improved quality of life, people living in balance with their environment and a sustainable low carbon economy.”*

- 1.3.2 To do this, the group has already completed the following activities:

- Propose a shared definition of “carbon neutral”
- Propose a target date by which this is to be achieved, agreed net zero target of 2037
- Commission a baseline carbon audit for the County

- 1.3.3 The following activities are in progress:

- Agree ongoing monitoring and evaluation mechanisms
- Identify leadership for developing action across key topics
- Establish a programme of action by key partners
- Lead joint campaigning to encourage wider public awareness and action, to commence later in 2021.

- 1.3.4 There is now a regular ZCCP update item on the Public Health Alliance agenda. The ZCCP reports into the Cumbria Chief Executives Group (CCEG), Public Health Alliance and Cumbria Sustainability Network (CSN). The membership reflects this with representation from the organisations connected to those bodies. Wider membership from all sectors is critical to allow the ZCCP to build a broad picture of carbon emissions across the county and includes the third sector, education, business, health, agriculture, energy, and environment.

- 1.3.5 The development of a ZCCP Communication Strategy is underway now that the Communication Manager is in post. The communications strategy will be a top level, overarching strategy for the partnership. The strategy will be implemented through detailed marketing and communications plans which will be developed by delivery partners and sector groups with support and guidance from the ZCCP Communications Manager.

- 1.3.6 The ZCCP has now recruited 12 posts and has 17 projects to be delivered with the Lottery Fund. A summary of the 17 projects is presented in Appendix A.

1.3.7 The Local Authority Climate Policy Group has been meeting monthly since April, the policy group has grown to include the ZCC funded Local Authority Climate Coordinator. The topics discussed at the recent meetings include:

- Carbon Accounting Methodology Review
- Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership updates
- The Pensions Bill – new climate related disclosure requirements consultation
- Liftshare website and consultancy service
- Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Programme Consultation
- Waste and Recycling
- Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund (NEIRF)
- South Lakeland Carbon Offsetting Report
- Citizens' Juries Update
- Cumbria EV Charging Infrastructure
- Local Authority Carbon Monitoring
- Carbon Literacy Training
- Repair cafes

#### **1.4 Action planning, update on progress on the six month action plan**

##### **Assets**

- 1.4.1 Actions are being progressed against the six month action plan. A summary update on each actions is presented in Appendix B, in a table format.
- 1.4.2 The Sands Centre, Pools and Victorian Health Suite (Turkish Baths) forms part of the Council's carbon footprint, under scope 3. This means that the Sands Centre Redevelopment will have a significant impact on reducing the organisations carbon footprint. Initial calculations, based on the Consequential Improvements Report, estimate a reduction in production Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions of 96 tonnes per annum.
- 1.4.3 The Civic Centre Reinstatement Project will also bring improvements to the energy efficiency of the ground floor, the impact of which will be seen in changes in gas and electricity usage. The project also includes demolition of the Rotunda with associated Public Realm improvements and EV charging points in the extended Civic Centre car park.
- 1.4.4 The Council has a total of 1421 footway lights, approximately 50% in the rural area and 50% in the main urban area. Prior to the contract for footway lighting upgrade starting 436 of our lights were already LED, this leaves approximately 1000 lights still to be upgraded. The Footway Lighting (LED Project) is now ending, leaving 122 lamps which still need to be upgraded. It is hoped that as environmental improvements schemes currently being discussed are developed these lamps can be replaced as part of these schemes. There are 67 existing concrete lamp columns to which LED lamps cannot be fitted. It is hoped that

over the next few years these will be gradually replaced or modified as part of the routine maintenance works. It is expected that electric consumption will drop by over 60% as a result of the upgrading works. The lights we are fitting are the same as those being used by the County Council and incorporate 50% dimming of the lights between 9pm and 6am. Experience has shown that this assists in reducing electric consumption but also assists with the dark skies campaign without adversely affecting residents perception of the lighting levels. The projected annual saving of production Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions is 93 tonnes, an estimated lifespan saving of 1,399 (t)CO<sub>2</sub>e.

- 1.4.5 Through the Fleet Strategy vehicle replacement reviews for each service area are underway. A review of Enforcement Fleet has seen a reduction in vehicles and shift to an entirely electric vehicles (EVs), with an estimated annual savings of production Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions of 5 tonnes.
- 1.4.6 The challenge is to continually reduce the fleet and mileage. Four E-Bikes suppliers are being assessed with the view of enabling supervisors to make city centre trips through these new additions to the fleet.
- 1.4.7 We are collating the data for an Energy Saving Trust Consultancy (EST) round two objectives:
  - Objective 1, Van Fleet from the perspective of current and expected needs for EVs, and the likely load on the electricity supply, and, number of charge points required.
  - Objective 2, Grey Fleet & Pool Cars.
- 1.4.8 The Fleet Strategy includes a fleet challenge around plant, trailers and hand operated equipment. Grounds Maintenance Team have been trialling battery-powered equipment as replacement to petrol-powered, one outcome has been the purchasing of battery strimmers and hedge cutters. There are co-benefits from this switch to electric, they are quieter to use and cause less noise disturbance and staff no longer need to handle and transport petrol which can lead to evaporation, spills and associated fugitive emissions.

## **People**

- 1.4.9 The Staff competencies: Promoting Personal Wellbeing and Environmental Responsibility has been updated to link to the strategy and action plan. This will now form the content for Management Competency Framework training.
- 1.4.10 The Agile Working Policy will be reviewed with the learning from home working during the Pandemic. A staff survey (Staff Survey – Flexible Working Options, May 2021) has been completed to gather evidence for policy review, a great response rate was achieved.
- 1.4.11 Research into the current training modules available to officers and members on will be presented to the Member Learning and Development Group in June.

There are a range of offers available and the objective is to agree a list of suggested modules from reputable bodies.

## **Technology**

1.4.12 The Pandemic has accelerated the Councils switch to online services, including the deployment of an online call centre. There has been a consequential shift in customer contact to digital channels, most notably web queries and emails.

1.4.13 Rapid replacement of desktop PCs with laptops has taken place to enable home working, we now have 450 laptops in circulation. The roll-out of Microsoft Teams and permission to take IT and office furniture home has enabled the Council to work continually throughout the Pandemic.

## **Finance**

1.4.14 The Council is committed to becoming carbon neutral in the future and there may be a requirement for significant investment in achieving this goal, with recovery through the achievement of efficiency savings and/or by maximising any external grants and contributions available to support the strategy and action plan through the Council's Funding Strategy. However, any carbon reduction schemes will initially have to be funded from resources currently contained within the Council's existing Revenue and Capital budgets; with any new climate change initiatives, following the formal adoption and approval of the Local Environment (Climate Change) Strategy, being supported by robust business cases with a cost benefit analysis provided.

1.4.15 The Council also maintains a Vehicle Plant and Equipment Replacement Plan which outlines the anticipated replacement lifecycle for the main items of fleet it requires to operate services. This plan is updated annually and is fed into the budget process to determine the capital requirement.

1.4.16 The Council's Funding Strategy aims to maximise external funding. The following funding opportunities, relating to Local Environment (Climate Change) Strategy, have been explored, funds that have been underlined are now actively being progressed:

- British Cycling – Places to Ride bid
- Cumbria Waste Management Environmental Trust
- Air Quality Grants Programme
- Countryside Stewardship: Woodland Creation Grant
- Environment Fund – Cumbria County Council
- ERDF - Reserve Fund
- Fellfoot Forward Funding
- Flood and Coastal Resilience Innovation Programme
- Friends of the Lake District Landscape Grant

- Green Homes Fund
- Heat Networks Funding Stream
- Historic England - Partnership Schemes in Conservation Areas
- MCS Charitable Foundation
- National Lottery Climate Action Fund
- National Recycling Awards
- Non-Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI)
- On-Street Residential ChargePoint Scheme
- Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund - Phase 2
- Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS)
- Public Sector Low Carbon Skills Fund
- Salix Energy Efficiency Loans (SEELS) Programme
- The Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund (NEIRF)
- WEEE Local Projects Round 5 Distributor Take-back Scheme (DTS)
- Woodland Carbon Fund
- Workplace Charging Scheme (WCS)
- WRAP – ‘Binrastructure’ Fund
- Sustainable Food City

1.4.17 An application was submitted to the Public Sector Low Carbon Skills Fund to support for a designed capital programme consisting of energy efficiency measures, renewable generation and low carbon heating replacement across Council assets. Unfortunately, the fund was oversubscribed and we did not progress.

1.4.18 A direct application to Department of Business Energy and industrial Strategy (BEIS) for the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery (LAD phase 1B) was unsuccessful.

1.4.19 A report on a joint bid for funds under Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Phase 2 (LAD Phase 2) was presented to Executive in April. The report stated that the City Council is part of a consortium of Cumbrian councils seeking funds from the North West Regional Hub. Each of the 6 authorities may receive approximately £716,000 to £1million to address fuel poverty and improve energy efficiency and carbon savings in approximately 75 to 100 private sector properties. Eden District Council will act as the consortium’s accountable body.

## **Movement**

1.4.20 The Charge My Street sites at Kingsway Car Park, Dalston, and Linton Tweeds are now available for use. An additional 10 twin-socket Charging Points will be going live over Spring and early summer, the 10 sites are:

Corporation Road Car Park, Carlisle, CA3 8XD  
Westmorland Street Car Park, Carlisle, CA2 5HH

Shadygrove Road Car Park, Carlisle, CA2 7LD  
Milbourne Street inc St Johns Place, Carlisle, CA2 5XD  
Wigton Road/Silloth Street, Carlisle, CA2 5UR  
Stanwix Car Park, Carlisle, CA3 9DJ  
Sands Centre Car Park, Carlisle, CA1 1LS  
Paddy's Market Car Park, Carlisle, CA2 5TR  
Brampton Showfield Car Park, Carlisle, CA8 1NH  
Union Lane Car Park, Brampton, CA8 1BX

There is potential for a further 4 sites, making 16 sites in total.

1.4.21 In addition to this a number of actions from the main plan have been progressing to notable milestones.

### Organisation Actions

- The Fleet Strategy Handbook for drivers has been completed.
- The Energy Management System, funded through the budget, is at the evaluation stage of procurement.
- One Public Estate is exploring a Countywide EV Charging Strategy and opportunities for pool cars.
- Advice and guidance on data for decarbonising estates has been received from the North West Energy Hub.

### Local Actions

- Executive have adopted the St. Cuthbert's Garden Village Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). The vision of which states:

***"St Cuthbert's will provide connected villages set in stunning healthy landscapes within the world class setting of the Lake District National Park, the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site. A cluster of distinct garden villages set in an attractive recreational, riverside and landscape setting will be well connected to Carlisle and wider countryside. St Cuthbert's will actively promote healthy lifestyles providing integrated communities focused around high-quality homes, locally distinctive spaces and inclusive facilities. Innovation and technology will support attractive employment opportunities and exemplary low carbon living."***

***St. Cuthbert's Garden Village Vision***

The SPD also includes a Principle for Smart & Sustainable Living which states: 'Support low carbon living through sustainable planning, transport and energy.'

- The Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal was formally signed on 18 March 2021, bringing in up to £452million of fresh investment to the Borderlands area.
- £19.7m Town Deal investment has been secured.

- £9.1m Future High Street Fund has been secured.
- Data from the Cumbria Observatory, the open source Landmark EPC register (August 2020) and a recent Carlisle BRE Housing Stock Modelling Report will enable us to target wards and housing that have the highest concentrations of fuel poverty, using low income/ high fuel costs definition in the private sector together with the highest levels of excess cold hazards.
- Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans Public Consultation.
- Local Environment Crime, Action and Enforcement Strategy scrutinized.
- Air Quality Action Plan adopted.
- Cumbria Coastal Strategy adopted. *The County Council lead officer has offered to raise awareness of the Strategy and the Shoreline Management Plan with the Panel.*
- New flood defences completed at Rickerby and at Melbourne Park. Phase 2 (Bitts Park and Sands Centre) completed. Assessment of future options for Eden Place and Etterby Terrace underway. Gosling Sike Flood Risk Management Scheme taken forward.
- Multi-agency Flood Plan being drafted through a Cumbria Local Resilience Forum Task and Finish Group.
- Get Cumbria Buzzing Project underway. The Swifts golf course and driving range in Carlisle city centre is set to become the very first urban bee and butterfly oasis in the North-West.
- Sustainable Food City Co-ordinator in post to drive the delivery of the 2019–2022 Carlisle Sustainable Food Action Plan.

## **Communication and engagement**

1.4.22 Work will begin in June with students at the University of Northumbria on a project with the Business Clinic, Consultancy Groups of Masters students. The aim of the is to develop a Marketing and Communication Plan (to support the delivery of the Action Plan); leading to tangible changes in behaviour that will have a positive impact on the carbon footprint of the whole area. The project objectives are:

- Identify a model or set of techniques that can be applied to the strategy and action plan that has a track record in delivering behavioural change.
- Explore the opportunities to apply this model or set of techniques alongside the developments planned in the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal.
- Make recommendations (both on and offline) for the communication and marketing of the actions that the Council will work on locally through partnerships and collaboration.

1.4.23 The following are the most relevant media releases, including calls to action, over the last six months:

- Don't be rubbish this Christmas  
*It's been a hard year and Carlisle City Council wants everybody to enjoy Christmas but is urging residents not to fly-tip or they could face a fine.*
- Refuse and Recycling calendars 2021 now available
- St Cuthbert's Garden Village  
*There's still time to have your say on ambitious plans for St Cuthbert's Garden Village, Carlisle.*
- Air Quality Action Plan (2). Consultation is now underway on plan that aims to improve air quality in Carlisle.
- Court fine for fly-tipping  
*Carlisle City Council is reminding people not to fly-tip following a successful prosecution case heard on Wednesday 16 December 2020 at Carlisle Magistrates Court.*
- Public Space Protection Order (2)  
*A consultation on a draft Public Space Protection Order for Carlisle is now underway.*
- National Empty Home Week  
*Support and advice available for Carlisle homeowners.*
- New electric vehicle to tackle enviro-crimes
- Work gets underway on wildlife haven
- Work is set to get underway on a new wildlife haven for birds, bees and butterflies.
- Roadside litter clearance
- North Cumbria wellbeing partnership celebrates national funding success
- Switch off your engine or face a fine  
*From this April, drivers in Carlisle could be fined if they refuse to switch off their vehicle's engine when stationary.*

## 1.5 Action planning, amendments and additions

- 1.5.1 The action plan is a working document, it will be reviewed and amended in consultation with the Portfolio Holder and Executive. The following amendments are proposed:
- Additional action on the development of a Waste Sector baseline report.
  - Additional actions arising Cumbria Coastal *Strategy and the Shoreline Management Plan*.
  - Update Community Resilience action with the DEFRA 'Flood and coastal resilience innovation programme: creating resilient places'.
  - Additional action on Cumbria Local Nature Recovery Strategy.
  - Note the pilot research project on Transformative Partnerships for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
  - Note the Strategic Recovery Coordination Group Recovery Strategy (Covid-19).

- Update the action on the Carlisle Cycling and Walking Plan for Carlisle (CWIP).
- Carbon footprint methodology update and recalculations.
- Update action on Local Environment Crime Action & Enforcement Strategy.
- Updates the timeframe for actions rolling into 2021/22.

## **2. PROPOSALS**

- 2.1 The resolution by Business & Transformation Scrutiny Panel, that a report be submitted to a future meeting of the Panel setting out the comparison work that has been undertaken with other authorities in addressing their climate change targets has been completed and is included as Appendix C for information.
- 2.2 The Scrutiny Performance Report Task and Finish Group will discuss the Key Performance Indicators for the strategy. The proposal is for an annual measure of the percentage reduction in the organisation's carbon footprint compared to the baseline year (2018/2019). This will be reported in arrears, with the first reported measure being 2019/20.

## **3. RISKS**

- 3.1 The are risks associated with this strategy have been added to the Policy & Communications Risk Register.

## **4. CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 The Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP) Public Consultation closes on the 28<sup>th</sup> May. This is the first stage of consultation in the planning process, there will be another opportunity for consultation on the LCWIP final report. The link to the consultation web page is:  
<https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/planning-environment/cyclingandwalking/>

## **5. CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 5.1 Panel are requested to:
- Comment on the progress made against the agreed action plan.
  - Comment on the proposed amendments and additions to the action plan, as a working document.

## **6. CONTRIBUTION TO THE CARLISLE PLAN PRIORITIES**

- 6.1 The draft Carlisle Plan includes the delivery of the objectives within the strategy.

**Contact Officer:** Steven O'Keeffe

**Ext:** 7258

### **Appendices**

### **attached to report:**

A: ZCCP Project summary

B: Action Plan update

C: Business & Transformation Scrutiny Panel Resolution update

**Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government Act 1972 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers:**

#### **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS:**

**Legal** - Members are being asked to note progress against the previously agreed Action Plan and provide comments. It should be remembered that the various projects outlined in the report, for example the e-bike suppliers and the electric charging points, will require the involvement of legal services in order that appropriate legal documentation can be put in place.

**Property Services** - The Council endeavours to include energy efficiency measures in all construction projects as evidenced by the current redevelopment projects at the Sands Centre and Civic Centre.

**Finance** – The Council's commitment to becoming carbon neutral and the delivery of the objectives of the Climate Change Policy will involve financial implications on the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan; both positive and negative in terms of decreased or increased costs. These implications will need to be carefully considered when implementing any policy changes and will need to be included and considered as part of the annual budget setting processes.

**Equality** – The action plan will be subject to a desktop Equality Impact Assessment in 2021.

**Information Governance** – There are no information governance implications with this report.

## **Appendix A: ZCCP Project summary, prepared by Local Authority Climate Coordinator:**

### **Citizens' Assembly and Citizens' Juries**

One county wide Climate Change Assembly and 6 district wide Climate Change Juries will bring a representative cross section of the public together to understand the issues and opportunities for significant action on climate change in their local area, and to make recommendations for action by local authorities and other organisations. This empowering and powerful model of engagement will influence policy and infrastructure decisions with local authorities and other statutory and non -statutory agencies.

Delivered by Shared Future.

### **Cumbria Sustainability Network**

Countywide support, knowledge sharing and peer mentoring across Cumbria's 35+ small sustainability groups. A programme of events and training delivered by small local groups across the county. Central funding for access to training, learning resources, signposting to funding, running events and to support the delivery of local group activities. Support for local groups to influence gatekeepers of emissions. Ensure CSN influence wider partnership action. Hosted by CAfS. As part of the project there will be a £100,000 fund for sustainability organisations. This will provide a range of grants over the five-year period to help grassroots organisations deliver climate change events, training, and small-scale projects.

### **Barrow Community Action**

The community support officer (0.2 fte) will run events and broaden and deepen community engagement across Barrow. They will set up and run Repair Cafes, Art events and Climate Conversations. They will be supported by the CSN Coordinator. Hosted by Art Gene on behalf of Real Barrow.

### **Carlisle Community Action**

The community support officer (0.2 fte) will run events and broaden and deepen community engagement across Carlisle. They will set up and run Repair Cafes, Free Stalls and Climate Conversation Cafes. They will be supported by the CSN Coordinator. Post hosted by Sustainable Carlisle.

### **Eden Community Action**

The community support officer (0.2 fte) will run events and broaden and deepen community engagement across Eden. They will set up and run Repair Cafes, Free Stalls and Climate Conversation Cafes. They will be supported by the CSN Coordinator. Post hosted by Penrith Action for Community Transition.

### **Youth Climate Action Programme**

A Cumbria Youth Climate Leadership programme will be set up to empower and skill up young people to have their voices heard and for those in power to listen and act. It will involve several strands including Youth Voice, Youth Climate Council, Youth Climate Reporters, Youth Climate Summits, schools' events programmes, training for teachers, carbon literacy for schools. Contract to be tendered to partners.

### **Partnership Events and Training Programme**

Major programme of events and training across the county to address skills and knowledge gaps of partners and beyond in order to overcome knowledge barriers to action. Hosted by CAfS.

### **Community Carbon Literacy Programme**

Deliver professional, accredited carbon literacy training to organisations. Deliver Carbon Literacy Training with communities, schools, organisations and community-led Climate Education. Coordinate and support a network of community trainers to cascade knowledge about science and solutions. Hosted by CAfS.

### **Low Carbon Food Programme**

Developing a low carbon food network of communities and businesses to create low carbon menus, develop and share good practice and develop demonstration sites and the potential to develop a Low Carbon Food Charter for Cumbria. Develop an online Low Carbon Food toolkit to share, learn and improve this sectors awareness, behaviour, tools, resources and strategies. Increase understanding of low carbon food and desire to act with the public and communities. It will link with the Community Veg project and Youth Climate Action Programme. Contract to be tendered to partners

### **Grow Local Eat Local project**

This project will explore a new model of food growing to increase plant based food production in Cumbria, reduce food miles by working in partnership with local retailers, and offset carbon usage of local distribution through agro-forestry. Farmers will be supported to set up a farmer cooperative, grow veg/fruit/cereal crops and generate income into the farm business. Delivered by Vista Veg

### **Community Energy Support**

A central pot of funding will be available along with support from the Project Staff team to provide deep-dive support to two communities to develop new community energy projects that test out new community-owned models of generating, storing and sharing energy. Learning will be shared nationally. Managed by the CSN Coordinator

### **Broadening engagement and overcoming disadvantage support**

A central pot of funding will be available to overcome barriers to participation in the project. This will support costs of travel, crèches, translation, etc. Training will also be provided to all members on how to build a broad movement and engage with all groups. Managed by the SCN Coordinator

### **Mapping of Repair Cafés and peer support to establish new cafes**

Research will be carried out into different models and approaches to setting up Repair Cafés. Link in to national 'restart project' regarding recording carbon savings and set up a Directory of Repairers (beyond repair cafes). New groups will be supported to set up a local repair café. Delivered by South Lakes Repair Café.

### **Cumbria Carbon Monitoring – Pioneering evaluation framework**

We will develop and share a pioneering new evaluation framework in partnership with leadings experts Mike Berners-Lee and Climate 24 Outreach. All partners will monitor carbon impact of their activities, including behaviour change activities, with support

from the Carbon Monitoring Officer to monitor carbon reductions across the county and report progress against the baseline report. Delivered by Lake District National Park Authority, Small World Consulting and Climate Outreach UK. Wider evaluation of social impact, community influence and human emergence will be contracted out.

### **Expert Advice**

Central funding will be dedicated to contracting consultancy expertise to co-design solutions with business, local authorities and communities as they emerge through the life of the project

### **Sharing Learning Nationally**

To ensure partners can be part of a movement of change nationally funding will be available for partners to share learning at, and learn from national events on climate change action and community empowerment etc. This will cover travel and accommodation costs.

### **Partnership Management Support, co-ordinate and continually develop the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership.**

Ensure collaborative development, including community influence, of a coordinated plan for emission reduction activity needed across the county in order to achieve carbon neutral by 2037. Coordinate partnership meetings, set strategic direction for budget, activity, training and fundraising and ensure emission reduction action is transformative and community-led.

## Appendix B: Action Plan update

Theme	Action	LE(CC)S Obj.*	Timeframe	Outcome	Update
Assets	Sands Centre Redevelopment	1	2020/21-2022/23	Improved energy and heat efficiency from the Leisure estate.  Reduced demand on asset management and future maintenance.	The project is on schedule. Council were informed of the future of the Victorian Health Suite (Turkish Baths) in April.
Assets	Civic Centre Ground Floor Reinstatement	1	2020/21-2021/22	Improved energy and heat efficiency of operational buildings.	The project is on schedule.
Assets	Footway Lighting (LED Project)	1	2020/21	Improved energy efficiency of operational assets.	This project is close to completion, in terms of action planning it can be closed.
Assets	Fleet Strategy: Vehicle replacement reviews for each service area.	1	2020/21	Regular review of fleet replacement programme to forecast future costs for vehicle replacement.  Data model for CAPEX / Decarbonisation prioritisation and decision making.	A strategy and replacement schedule are in place to forecast future costs for vehicle replacement.  A data model and dashboard has been developed; quarterly meetings will be scheduled to continue progress.
Assets	Fleet: Energy Saving Trust Consultancy (EST)	1	2020/21	Advice and recommendations on fleet and mileage to improve energy efficiency.	A consultation slot has been secured with the Energy Savings Trust. The remaining data set, the 'grey' miles is being compiled.
Assets	Fleet Challenge Plant /trailers / hand operated equipment	1	2020/21	Improved energy efficiency of equipment.	This forms part of the Fleet Strategy.  New equipment is being tested and trialled by the Grounds Maintenance staff in the Healthy City Team.

Theme	Action	LE(CC)S Obj.*	Timeframe	Outcome	Update
People	Staff competencies: Promoting Personal Wellbeing and Environmental Responsibility	1 & 5	2020/21	Core values and competencies included in Appraisal rounds.	Content of the competency has been updated to link to the strategy and action plan.  This action can now be closed.
People	Workforce Plan: Agile Working Policy	1	2020/21	Reduction in travel to and from work and between work settings.	A staff survey has been completed and the findings reported to Management Briefing and SMT. This will inform the review of the Agile Working Policy.
People	Workforce Plan: Climate Change and Local Environmental responsibility training (modules)	1	2020/21	Officer and Member training to raise awareness of local environment and climate change challenges.	A summary of the training available is being compiled. This will be shared with MAG and presented at the next Member Learning Development Group meeting, in June.
Technology	ICT Strategy: Agile working ICT equipment and networks	1	2020/21	Reduction in travel to and from work and between work settings.	Significant progress made during the Pandemic.
Finance	Funding Strategy: Identifying CAPEX Opportunities for decarbonisation and renewal energy.	1	2020/21	Maximising external funding.	Funding Newsletter widely circulated, targeted approach taken to funds that could have the biggest impact and greatest likelihood of progressing.
Communications and engagement	Targeted campaigns to encourage behaviour change	2 & 5	2020/21	Engagement and awareness raising to be delivered in partnership.	Media releases included calls for action on: Air Quality Action Plan Public Space Protection Order

Theme	Action	LE(CC)S Obj.*	Timeframe	Outcome	Update
Movement	<p>Electric Vehicle Charging: On street Charging Infrastructure</p> <p>Working with partners to expand provision of EV charging points in Carlisle including electric bikes</p>	3	2019/20-2020/21	<p>Stimulate demand for EV's in areas without off street parking</p> <p>Increased take up of electric vehicles, allowing people to save money on fuel costs</p> <p>Reduction air pollution and CO2 emissions</p>	On Street Charging Project is progressing well. 2 sites up and running, 10 more in the project pipeline. Potential for 16 sites in total.

\*LE(CC)S Obj. is the Local Environment (Climate Change) Strategy Objective.

## **Appendix C: Business & Transformation Scrutiny Panel Resolution update**

In March, the Council voted on and agreed to amend the target year for Net Zero from 2030 to 2037 for both the organisation and the district. This is in line with the Cumbria Baseline Report recommendation, the same year has been confirmed as the target year for the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership (ZCCP).

The ZCCP accepted this as the most feasible target that can be regarded as being in line with the requirements laid down by the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) for “well below 2 degrees and in pursuit of 1.5 degrees” of global warming. A comparison table of the targets for all the local authorities in the ZCCP is presented below:

	<b>Climate Emergency Declaration</b>	<b>Council Target</b>	<b>Locality/district Target</b>
Allerdale	No	Net Zero by 2030	None
Barrow	Yes 16/07/19	Net Zero as soon as possible	Net Zero by 2037
Carlisle	Yes 05/03/19	Net Zero by 2037	Net Zero by 2037
Copeland	No	Net Zero no date	Not determined
Cumbria	No	Net Zero by 2037	Carbon Neutral by 2037
Eden	Yes 11/07/19	Net Zero by 2030	Not determined
Lake District National Park (LDNP)	No	Net Zero by 2025	Not applicable
South Lakeland	Yes 26/02/19	Carbon Neutral by 2030	Carbon Neutral by 2037

There are two terms used, often interchanged, ‘Net Zero’ and ‘Carbon Neutral’. Further research from the LDNP has highlighted the difference between these two terms and the implications for action planning, in particular the use of ‘offsetting’ to remove the hard-to-decarbonise emissions. There is still much discussion around appropriate ‘Greenhouse Gas Removal (GGR)’ methods and the markets for GGRs require significant development in terms of volume, market mechanisms, and certification protocols.



# Report to Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel

Agenda  
Item:  
**A.3**

Meeting Date: 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021  
Portfolio: Finance, Governance and Resources  
Key Decision: No  
Within Policy and Budget Framework Yes  
Public / Private Public

Title: END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT 2020/21  
Report of: Policy and Communications Manager  
Report Number: PC 22-21

## Purpose / Summary:

This report contains the 2020/21 performance against the current Service Standards and a summary of the Carlisle Plan 2016-19 actions as defined in the 'plan on a page'. Performance against the Panel's 2020/21 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are also included.

## Recommendations:

1. Scrutinise the performance of the City Council with a view to seeking continuous improvement in how the Council delivers its priorities.

## Tracking

Executive:	05/07/21
Scrutiny:	Business and Transformation 03/06/21 Health and Wellbeing 10/06/21 Economic Growth 17/06/21
Council:	N/A

## **1. BACKGROUND**

1.1 This report contains the 2020/21 performance against the Service Standards and a summary of the Carlisle Plan 2016-19 actions as defined in the 'plan on a page'. The Panel's Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are also included as an appendix.

1.2 Service Standards are the measures judged to be the most important to our customers and therefore the mostly likely to influence the overall satisfaction with how the Council performs. The following pages contain the Council's performance against the Service Standards for this Panel.

1.3 The measures are predominately lagging indicators (looking back at performance) and cover a range of services. Some indicators naturally lend themselves to having a specific target, or a national target, whilst with others the aim is to continually improve year-on-year compared to past performance. Regularly monitoring the Council's performance helps to drive continuous improvement and protects against any financial or organisational issues by flagging up indicators that are off target. The measures can also be used for a variety of other purposes including: to evaluate, control, budget, motivate, promote, celebrate and learn. Performance management in this form is just one aspect of the Council's wider performance framework.

1.4 The updates against the actions in the Carlisle Plan are presented in Section 3. Only actions within the remit of the Panel are included in this report. The intention is to give the Panel a brief overview of the current position without duplicating the more detailed reporting that takes place within the Scrutiny agendas and Portfolio Holder reports.

1.5 At their meetings of 28 August and 3 September 2020 respectively, Health and Wellbeing and Business and Transformation Scrutiny Panels both resolved that they would like to be involved in developing the content of future performance reports. It was agreed by all three Scrutiny Panels that this work should be carried forward by a Task and Finish Group that involved officers and Members from each Panel.

1.6 The aims of the aims of the Task and Finish Group are:

- Review existing reporting, seek advice from Policy and Communications Team on strengths and challenges of existing reporting
- Research examples of good practice
- Develop recommendations to share with the three Scrutiny Panels.

1.7 The group met for the first time on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and the current performance report content and format were reviewed. It was agreed that members of the group would

research areas of good practice in performance management reporting and feedback to the group with some options at the next meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> February. A set of draft principles for future reporting were then broadly agreed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> February meeting and a draft report template will be discussed at the final meeting in June before being presented to the Panels for discussion later in the year.

### **1.8 Summary of KPIs and Service Standards:**

Service Standards – 0 ‘red’, 0 ‘amber’ and 1 ‘green’

KPIs – 2 ‘red’, 0 ‘amber’, 10 ‘green’

### **Summary of Exceptions (RED)**

<b>Measure</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Performance</b>
CSe22 Actual city centre pedestrianised zone revenue as a percentage of city centre expenditure	47%	35% Revenue down on target due to less events in the city centre due to Covid-19 restrictions.
ED04 Actual Building Control revenue as a percentage of Building Control expenditure	84%	78% Unable to conduct inspections earlier in the year due to Covid-19.

## **2. PROPOSALS**

None.

## **3. RISKS**

None.

## **4. CONSULTATION**

The report was reviewed by relevant senior management and will be considered at the other Scrutiny Panels.

## **5. CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Panel are asked to scrutinise the Performance Report prior to it being submitted to Executive.

## **6. CONTRIBUTION TO THE CARLISLE PLAN PRIORITIES**

Detail in the report.

**Contact Officer:** Gary Oliver

**Ext:** 7430

**Appendices attached to report:**

Performance Dashboard

**Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers:**

- None

**CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS:**

**LEGAL** - This report raises no explicit legal issues.

**FINANCE** – This report raises no explicit financial issues.

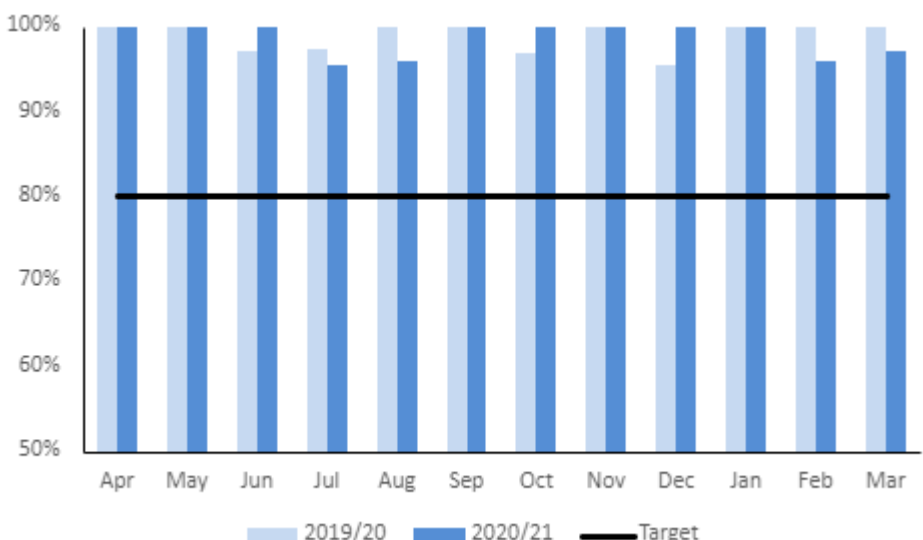
**EQUALITY** – This report raises no explicit issues relating to the Public Sector Equality Duty.

**INFORMATION GOVERNANCE** – This report raises no explicit issues relating to Information Governance.

## Section 1: Service Standards 2020/21

Service Standards were introduced in 2012 after consultation with Service Managers, DMTs, SMT and JMT. Five further measures were introduced from Quarter 2 2017/18 and all are reviewed during Quarter 3 each year. Service Standards are the measures judged to be the most important to our customers, therefore, the mostly likely to influence the overall satisfaction with how the Council performs. Below is the Council's performance against the Panel's only Service Standard.

### SS01: Percentage of Household Planning Applications processed within eight weeks

Service Standard	2020/21	Performance by Month	Further Information
80% (Nationally set target)	98.5%	 <p>274 household planning applications have been processed in the year compared with 305 last year.</p>	
	(2019/20: 98.7%)		
	On target?		
	✓		

## **Section 2: Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)**

Service Standards are not the only set of measures used to interrogate the performance of the Council. Alongside the review of Service Standards, a set of Key Performance Indicators, derived from the links between the service plans and budget resolution were developed. The measures are predominately lagging indicators (looking back at performance) and cover a range of internal and external facing services. Some indicators naturally lend themselves to having a target or may have a national target set whilst with others, the aim is to improve year-on-year. Regularly monitoring the Council's performance helps to drive continuous improvement and protects against any financial or organisational issues by flagging up indicators that are off target. The KPIs can also be used for a variety of other purposes including: to evaluate, control, budget, motivate, promote, celebrate and learn. Performance management in this form is just one aspect of the Council's wider performance framework.

The current KPIs are attached as a dashboard.

## **Section 3: [Carlisle Plan on a Page 2016–19](#) Delivery**

The current [Carlisle Plan](#) covered the period 2016-19 and the majority of the key actions are now either delivered or considered business as usual and feature within existing service plans. Quarter 4 updates to the Panel's remaining key actions are contained within the following pages.

# **Priority: Support business growth and skills development to improve opportunities and economic prospects for the people of Carlisle**

## ***Business Property & Infrastructure:***

**Key Action 2: City Centre redevelopment projects** (SMT Owner: J Meek, Scrutiny Panel: EG / B&T)

**Project Description:** The City of Carlisle is ambitious to grow, leading the way in unleashing the full economic potential of Cumbria and the wider Borderlands Area. As the business and population capital of the region, a university city and the strategically located Borderlands hub connecting Cumbria to the rest of the UK, Carlisle has the assets, strengths and potential to drive future prosperity and growth. Carlisle city centre regeneration programme will ensure that we provide the environment in which businesses can thrive, attract new jobs, provide a high quality environment in which to live, work or play and a well-connected flourishing visitor destination and attractive gateway to the wider Cumbrian and Borderlands region.

### ***Timeline - Quarter 4 Update:***

The business case for the improvements to Carlisle Station has been approved by government and £20m funding has been allocated to the project through the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal. Cumbria County Council will be the delivery body for the project and is in the process of letting contracts for the works, which will commence this financial year.

The business case for a new campus for the University of Cumbria on the Citadels site is nearing completion and will be submitted to government before summer this year. The business case will request £50m of funding through the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal to support the delivery of the project.

The government has confirmed that Carlisle City Council has secured £9.1m of investment through the Future High Street Fund. This will support the delivery projects designed to improve the vitality and viability of the city centre, including the redevelopment of the former Central Plaza site.

The government has also confirmed that Carlisle City Council has secured £19.7m through the Towns Deal programme. Increasing the vibrancy of the city centre is a key objective of the strategy set out in the Carlisle Town Investment Plan, which underpinned the bid. The investment will support the delivery of projects within city centre and compliment those in the Future High Street Fund programme.

### ***Emerging risks/issues:***

The Future High Street Fund and Town Deal programmes will require appropriate governance, financial and project / programme management arrangements.

The establishment of a dedicated Economic Development Programme Management Office and creating additional resources within the Economic Development/Regeneration team is underway to ensure that the required skills and capacity are in place.

**Key Action 6: Progress the Borderlands Initiative** (SMT Owner: J Meek, Scrutiny Panel: EG)

***Project Description:*** The Borderlands Partnership was established to unlock the potential for sustainable and inclusive economic growth across the South of Scotland and North of England. This has resulted in a £345 million deal with Scottish / UK Governments to deliver inclusive growth across the Borderland subregion. The Borderlands programme is focusing on ways to make the area more attractive to existing and potential residents, investors and visitors.

***Timeline - Quarter 4 Update:***

The Final Deal Agreement for the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal was signed on 18 March 2021 between the UK Government, Scotland Office, Scottish Government and council areas of Carlisle, Cumbria, Dumfries & Galloway, Northumberland and Scottish Borders.

***Emerging risks/issues:***

The necessary capacity / budget to progress the production of a Place Plan for Longtown once the business case for the Place Programme has been signed off by government and the funding is available to be drawn down.

**Key Action 7: Infrastructure Delivery Plan** (SMT Owner: J Meek, Scrutiny Panel: EG)

***Project Description:*** Maintain an up to date Infrastructure Delivery Plan and develop proposals to address identified issues. Much of this work is now centred around the St Cuthbert's Garden Village and the necessary supporting infrastructure including a new strategic link road (CSLR)

***Timeline - Quarter 4 Update:***

Planning application of the CSLR approved by Cumbria County Council in October 2020. CPO Inquiry scheduled to start on 14 June 2021. Construction planned to commence in March 2022 with the completion and opening in 2024. Funding agreement & contract in place including obligations (linked to housing delivery as opposed to the road) which fall to the City Council inclusive of linked milestones.

***Emerging risks/issues:***

None

**Key Action 8: St Cuthbert's Garden Village** (SMT Owner: J Meek, Scrutiny Panel: EG)

**Project Description:** St Cuthbert's Garden Village, Carlisle is an ambitious proposal that will deliver the development of around 10,000 new quality homes, new employment opportunities, community facilities and a new Southern Link Road between the A595 and M6 (J42). This Key Action is currently split into two projects: Carlisle Southern Link Road and St Cuthbert's Garden Village Masterplan and Local Plan.

**Timeline - Quarter 4 Update:**

The Masterplanning Framework was finalised in October 2020 and informed the consultation on the Regulation 18 "Preferred Option" Local Plan (held Nov/Dec 2020). Comments are now being analysed and additional evidential requirements identified and to be secured to inform the formal Regulation 19 Draft Plan. Consultation on the St Cuthbert's Strategic Design Guide SPD completed in December 2020 and the finalised SPD was formally adopted by Executive on 6 April 2021 (in accordance with the HIF milestone).

**Emerging risks/issues:**

None

## Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel Performance Dashboard 2020/21

<b>Key</b>	
↓	Performance is deteriorating (compared to same period last year)
↑	Performance is improving (compared to same period last year)
→	No change in performance (compared to same period last year)
✗	Off target
▲	Close to target (within 5%)
✓	On target

On Target?	New Code	Measure	Performance 2020/21	Performance 2019/20	Trend	Target	Comments
✗	CSe22	Actual city centre pedestrianised zone revenue as a percentage of city centre expenditure (including recharges)	34.9%	39.9%	↓	46.5%	Revenue down on target due to less events in the city centre due to Covid-19 restrictions.
✓	ED02	Building Control to process S80 demolition notices within six weeks (statutory duty)	100%	100%	→	100%	
✓	ED03b	Building Control to decide 100% of all applications within the statutory period of 5 weeks or 2 calendar months (with the consent of the applicant)	100%	99.1%	→	100%	
✗	ED04	Actual Building Control revenue as a percentage of Building Control expenditure (including recharges).	78.1%	91.3%	↓	83.9%	Unable to conduct inspections earlier in the year due to Covid-19.
✓	ED05	Proportion of major planning applications completed in 13 weeks or within agreed time extension	94.7%	93.3%	↑	60%	
✓	ED06	Proportion of minor planning applications completed in 8 weeks or within agreed time extension	96.5%	96.2%	↑	80%	
✓	ED07	Proportion of 'other' planning applications completed in 8 weeks or within agreed time extension	97.6%	97.7%	↓	80%	
✓	ED08	Proportion of Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) confirmed within 6 months	100%	87.5%	↑	100%	
✓	ED10	Proportion of Tree Preservation Order applications determined within statutory period of 8 weeks	100%	97.6%	↑	100%	
✓	ED11	% of valid full plan applications determined or checked by Building Control within 5 working days	31%	35.8%	↓	25%	
✓	ED12	% of valid full plan applications determined or checked by Building Control within 15 working days	100%	100%	→	95%	
✓	ED13	% of site inspections carried out by Building Control on the date agreed	99.6%	98.7%	↑	99%	5283 inspections completed.

# Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel

Agenda  
Item:

**A.4**

Meeting Date: 17 June 2021

Portfolio: Cross-cutting

Key Decision: No

Within Policy and  
Budget Framework

Private/Public Public

Title: Overview Report

Report of: Overview and Scrutiny Officer

Report Number: OS.16/21

## Purpose / Summary:

This report provides an overview of matters related to the Scrutiny Panel's work.

## Recommendations:

Members are asked to:

- Note the items (within Panel remit) on the most recent Notice of Key Executive Decisions
- Review information raised within the report.

## Tracking

Executive:	<b>Not applicable</b>
Scrutiny:	<b>EGSP 17/06/21</b>
Council:	<b>Not applicable</b>

## 1. Notice of Key Decisions

**1.1** At the time of writing this Overview Report, the most recent Notice of Key Executive Decisions was published on 04 May 2021. This was circulated to all Members. The following items fall within the remit of this Panel:

*Items that are included in the Panel's Work Programme:*

- KD 01/21 Carlisle Plan

*Items that are not included in the Panel's Work Programme:*

- KD 05/21 Carlisle Station Gateway – Phase 1
- KD.10/21 Budget Process 2022/23 – 2026/27

## 2. References from Executive

**2.1** None

## 3. Progress on resolutions from previous meetings

**3.1** The following table sets out the meeting date and resolution that require following up. The status is presented as either “completed”, “pending” (date expected), or “outstanding”. An item is considered outstanding if no update or progress has been made after three panel meetings. All the completed actions will be removed from the list following the meeting.

	Meeting date	Minute ref	Action	Status
1	12/04/21	EGSP 27/21	(3) That Ms Thorn, Regional Director, Riverside North Region be requested to provide responses on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Neighbourhood Plans - details of the customer survey questions and feedback received as part of the consultation exercise.</li><li>• The level of engagement on what the community saw as the vision for the area; and whether Members could be involved moving forward.</li></ul>	Complete
2	12/04/21	EGSP 28/21	(3) That the Panel wished to have sight of the revised draft Carlisle Plan at a future meeting.	Pending

#### **4. Update from Scrutiny Chairs Group**

**4.1** At their meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2021, Scrutiny Chairs worked with the Deputy Chair Executive, Darren Crossley, to consider the findings of the most recent Corporate Peer Challenge, which took place in November 2020 and to look at how we can respond to five recommendations that related specifically to scrutiny.

**4.2** The recommendations from the Corporate Peer Challenge and the Scrutiny Chairs response on these are provided at Appendix 1 of this report.

#### **5. Developing a workplan for Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel**

**5.1** A draft workplan is currently being developed for EGSP. The Chair and Vice Chair will be working with Members of Senior Management Team (SMT) to discuss priorities and workstreams in order to develop a draft work programme. This will be shared with EGSP Members for comment and input at the earliest opportunity.

#### **4. CONTRIBUTION TO THE CARLISLE PLAN PRIORITIES**

**4.1** The overview and scrutiny of the Carlisle Plan items that match the panel remit contribute to ongoing policy development.

**Contact Officer: Rowan Jones**

**Ext: rowan.jones@carlisle.gov.uk**

**Appendices  
attached to report:**

**1. LGA Remote Peer Challenge – Key Recommendations  
and Response from Scrutiny Chairs Group**

**Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers:**

**• None**

**CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS:**

**LEGAL -**

**FINANCE –**

**EQUALITY –** This report raises no explicit issues relating to the public sector Equality Duty.

**INFORMATION GOVERNANCE –**

## Appendix 1

### LGA Remote Peer Challenge – Key Recommendations for Scrutiny and Response from Scrutiny Chairs Group

Recommendation from Peer Challenge	Scrutiny Chairs Response
<p><b>Recommendation 5</b> – <i>provide Chairs of Scrutiny with further dedicated support.</i></p> <p>This can take the form of training, such as in deciding agendas which focus more on the key strategic issues and avoiding the overly operational. It can also help in shaping strong, meaningful recommendations. This offer of support, would also include the type of informal, open relationship Chairs of Scrutiny have with the Leader and Executive. It also includes the type of support officers provide them with.</p>	<p>The Group felt that the previous system of the Chairs and Vice Chairs meeting with SMT had worked well to reflect on projects and issues which Scrutiny may add value to and to help shape the work programmes.</p> <p><b>Resolution</b> – That the Chairs and Vice Chairs of each Panel meet with members of SMT 3 - 4 times per year to discuss the upcoming work programme to enable the Panels to set their own agendas. This will include a meeting early in the new municipal year to assist in establishing a draft workplan.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 6</b> – <i>officers working with Scrutiny and Chairs of Scrutiny are encouraged to speak with colleagues in councils elsewhere to share further learning in regards to the different ways of operating Scrutiny</i></p> <p>– which can include the methods that can be adopted by working groups, as well as other ways of engaging key ‘expert witnesses’. The LGA are happy to connect the Council with colleagues elsewhere who would be happy to help with this.</p>	<p>Information sharing and shared learning was already taking place through the North West Scrutiny Peer Group, Cumbrian Scrutiny Officers, Association of Democratic Services Officers and Cumbrian Democratic Services Officer groups. Scrutiny Members were encouraged to attend meetings of the Scrutiny Peer Group regional meetings.</p> <p><b>Resolution</b> – Shared learning and knowledge would continue and would extend as opportunities arose.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 7</b> – <i>further support and training for members of scrutiny, including for asking questions and the different methods of providing scrutiny.</i></p> <p>This can help to give members of Overview and Scrutiny further confidence in their roles and the value of this role.</p>	<p>A virtual training session for Scrutiny Members would be held at the end of May, in addition training notes had been prepared to support Scrutiny Members. The training would focus on questioning and the role of Scrutiny. There was also an ongoing schedule of corporate training available to all Members.</p> <p><b>Resolution</b> – That the virtual training session be open to all Members of the Council and, if possible, recorded, to allow everyone to access the training.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 8</b> – <i>whilst the role of scrutiny should be an important consideration for all senior officers, identifying and communicating a clear senior officer champion for Scrutiny can help to drive this agenda.</i></p>	<p>The Group discussed the potential role of a Scrutiny Champion and who this may be and how they would work with the Overview and Scrutiny Officer and Members.</p>

<p>This senior lead can help to progress the actions and improvements identified in relation to scrutiny, be a senior officer voice for the role of scrutiny and can support scrutiny officers to challenge both officers and members in relation to the role of scrutiny and how to engage with it. Having this can also help further empower scrutiny in deciding its own agenda, breaking down any obstacles that may present themselves (as appropriate).</p>	<p><b>Resolution</b> – That the Deputy Chief Executive would discuss the nomination for a Scrutiny Champion with SMT and set out an outline of what the role would do.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 9</b> – <i>consider the structure for Scrutiny and look again at the options for reducing the number of committees.</i></p> <p>In light of the Council’s wishes for improvement in Scrutiny, and in light of the reduction in the number of seats in May 2019, it is the view of the peer team that the Council would be well served by moving to a model with one committee. Building and brokering agreement on any alternative structure may need the support of the CEX but having these discussions can be important to the improvements you are trying to achieve. Equally, should agreement be found on this, ensuring this is implemented and not restricted by a date set for the AGM will avoid this debate repeating again.</p>	<p>To be discussed as a separate item by Scrutiny Chairs, with a further Chairs meeting to discuss this with Group Leaders.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 10</b> – <i>all of the above is multi-faceted, involving a number of people and actions. Having a specific Scrutiny improvement plan in place that brings this all together will aid progress.</i></p>	<p>The Group supported an action plan which allowed the outcomes to be monitored.</p> <p><b>Resolution</b> - that a Scrutiny Improvement Plan be prepared.</p>

