

AGENDA

Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel

Monday, 12 April 2021 AT 16:00

This meeting will be a virtual meeting and therefore will not take place in a physical location.

Virtual Meeting - Link to View

This meeting will be a virtual meeting using Microsoft Teams and therefore will not take place at a physical location following guidelines set out in Section 78 of the Coronavirus Act 2020.

Members of the Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel

Councillor Brown (Chair), Councillors Mrs Atkinson, Denholm, Mrs Glendinning, Meller (Vice Chair), Mitchelson, Mrs McKerrell, Paton.

Substitutes:

Councillors Alcroft, Bainbridge, Betton, Birks, Bomford, Mrs Bowman, Collier, Ms Ellis-Williams, Mrs Finlayson, Glover, Morton, Patrick, Robson, Shepherd, Miss Sherriff, Southward, Tarbitt, Dr Tickner, Tinnion, Miss Whalen.

PART A

To be considered when the Public and Press are present

Register of Attendance and Declarations of Interest

A roll call of persons in attendance will be taken and 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.

Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence and notification of substitutions.

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 Meeting

7 - 10

The Chair will move the minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 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 RIVERSIDE UPDATE

**11 -
18**

Portfolio:	Economy, Enterprise and Housing
Directorate:	Economic Development
Officer:	Jeremy Hewitson, Housing Development Officer
Report:	ED.12/21 herewith

Background:

The Corporate Director of Economic Development to submit a progress report on various aspects of Riverside's operations across Carlisle District. The Regional Director of Riverside North Region has been invited to attend the meeting.

Why is this item on the agenda?

Item requested by the Panel at its meeting of 01/10/2020 (Minute Excerpt EGSP.50/20 refers).

What is the Panel being asked to do?

Consider the report and take the opportunity to put pertinent questions to the Regional Director of Riverside North.

A.3 CARLISLE PLAN 2021 - 2023

**19 -
38**

Portfolio:	Leader
Directorate:	Community Services
Officer:	Steven O'Keeffe, Policy and Communications Manager
Reports:	PC.10/21 and Minute Excerpt herewith

Background:

The Policy and Communications Manager to submit the draft Carlisle Plan 2021- 2023, which forms part of the Council's Policy Framework.

Why is this item on the agenda?

The matter was included in Key Executive Key Decisions (KD.01/21) and was considered by the Executive at its meeting of 8 March 2021.

What is the Panel being asked to do?

Consider and comment on the draft Carlisle Plan, with particular reference to the economic growth priority and programme.

A.4 SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT

**39 -
44**

Portfolio:	Cross Cutting
Directorate:	Community Services
Officer:	Rowan Jones, Overview and Scrutiny Officer
Report:	OS.12/21 herewith

Background:

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer to submit the draft Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel section of the Scrutiny Annual report 2020/21.

Why is this item on the agenda?

Annual Scrutiny report.

What is the Panel being asked to do?

Consider and comment on the attached section of the draft report.

A.5 OVERVIEW REPORT AND WORK PROGRAMME

**45 -
48**

Portfolio:	Cross Cutting
Directorate:	Cross Cutting
Officer:	Rowan Jones, Overview and Scrutiny Officer
Report:	OS.09/21 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 has been set for the 2020/21 municipal year. The Programme will be 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;
- Discuss the Work Programme and prioritise as necessary.

PART B

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

Item Title

-NIL-

Item Title

Enquiries, requests for reports, background papers etc to:

Jacqui Issatt, Committee Clerk - jacqui.issatt@carlisle.gov.uk

ECONOMIC GROWTH SCRUTINY PANEL

THURSDAY 4 MARCH 2021 AT 4.00pm

PRESENT: Councillor Meller (Vice Chair), Councillors Mrs Atkinson (until 4.50pm), Denholm, Ms Ellis-Williams (as substitute for Councillor Brown), Mitchelson, Mrs McKerrell and Tinnion (as substitute for Councillor Paton)

ALSO

PRESENT: Councillor J Mallinson – Leader
Councillor Ellis – Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder
Councillor Nedved – Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder
Councillor Christian – Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder
Mr McIntyre - Managing Director of Kingmoor Park

OFFICERS: Corporate Director of Economic Development
Regeneration Manager
Principal Health and Housing Officer
Empty Homes and Grants Officer
Data Analyst Apprentice
Overview and Scrutiny Officer

EGSP.12/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Brown, Glendinning and Paton.

EGSP.13/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest submitted.

EGSP.14/21 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.15/21 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLVED – It was noted that Council, at its meeting on 2 March 2021, received and adopted the minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2021. The Chair would sign the minutes at the first practicable opportunity.

EGSP.16/21 CALL IN OF DECISIONS

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

EGSP.17/21 KINGMOOR PARK ENTERPRISE ZONE – PARTNER UPDATE

The Regeneration Manager presented an overview of Kingmoor Park Enterprise Zone (ED.08/21).

The Regeneration Manager reminded the Panel of the background to Kingmoor Park and the establishment of the Enterprise Zone.

Mr McIntyre, Managing Director of Kingmoor Park gave a detailed presentation on the work and challenges at Kingmoor Park over the last twelve months.

Mr McIntyre outlined the adjustments made at Kingmoor Park as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic including operational continuity, response support, rent holidays, tenant liaison, community support and on site works. He set out the performance indicators for the period March 2020 to February 2021 which showed that, despite wider spread economic uncertainty, the variety of tenants, a solid core of distribution sector serving properties and a pro active approach in dealing with tenants had resulted in a 98.7% occupancy rate in the Enterprise Zone. The figures showed 20 new leases which had been agreed in 2020 which had surpassed previous figures.

Mr McIntyre provided an update on projects within Kingmoor Park which included the completion and enablement of the Solar Farm which produced one third of the power for the site, new gateway signage in three locations and the construction of the MODVillage.

Mr McIntyre set out the positive outcomes and threats at the Park, along with the performance and marketing of the Enterprise Zone.

In response to a question from the Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder, Mr McIntyre gave a brief update on the incinerator proposals. He clarified that Kingmoor Park were the landlords and not investment partners. He explained that he had been in discussion with a number of operators about potential recycling but had not yet received information from the incinerator operators on their next steps or their sources for fuel stock. He did not know if the proposals from North West Recycling would impact the incinerator business, however, he was waiting on responses to a number of questions from the incinerator operators.

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder thanked Mr McIntyre for his detailed presentation and asked how the Enterprise Zone was being recognised outside of Carlisle, what engagement was being undertaken with young people for future employment and he asked for an update on the aspiration to have a rail head at the site.

Mr McIntyre responded that there were enquires from international businesses, particularly with regard to logistics businesses due to the location of the Park. There were perceived issues in terms of the availability of a skilled workforce in the area and as a result Kingmoor Park worked closely with partners such as Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership to promote the opportunities such as apprenticeships for education leavers to work in a vast range of businesses that were based within the Park. Mr McIntyre added that the Park had excellent connectivity to the West Coast Mainline and it was the aspiration of the Park to engage partners to connect the Park to the rail infrastructure that was in place and encourage more businesses from the West Coast and the rest of the UK to the area.

The Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder supported Kingmoor Park's vision for green investment and sustainability and asked for further information on the work being undertaken.

Mr McIntyre set out some of the measures that were in place to support Kingmoor Park in becoming fully green and sustainable which also benefited the tenants. He reported that engagement work would be carried out with the 160 organisations on site to carry out green audits and help each of them achieve environmental improvements such as car share or cycle to work schemes.

In scrutinising the presentation Members raised the following comments and questions:

- A Member of the Panel acknowledged the success of Kingmoor Park and asked what the future plans were for the area, given that the Enterprise Zone was at 98% capacity and the City was moving ahead with a programme of development and growth.

Mr McIntyre informed the Panel that Kingmoor Park had prepared a Masterplan for the 120 acres which sat within the Enterprise Zone's current boundary. Discussions were underway with developers so that meaningful engagement with future markets could take place with a clear Masterplan, vision, and complete partner solution.

- Was the MODVillage completed and occupied?

Mr McIntyre confirmed that 10 of the 18 units in the first phase had been completed and had tenants. There had been a shift in the market and the demand for this type of flexible space remained and the village would be an incubation space for new businesses.

- Was the airport a requirement for businesses looking to move to the area?

Mr McIntyre explained that the nature of the businesses and dominant industries coming to the Park meant that the airport was not relevant to the businesses, however, it was a credit to Carlisle.

RESOLVED – 1) The Panel thanked Mr McIntyre for his detailed and informative presentation.

2) That the Kingmoor Park Enterprise Zone – Partner Update (ED.08/21) be noted.

EGSP.18/21 EMPTY PROPERTY GRANT

The Principal Health and Housing Officer presented proposed changes to the Empty Property Grant offer (GD.23/21).

The Principal Health and Housing Officer reported that it was proposed that capital funds be used to ensure an extension to the Empty Property Grant. The report also proposed an increase in the maximum possible Grant award from £3,000 to £5,000. She reminded the Panel that the Grant supported the work of the City Council in bringing long term empty properties back into use as set out in the Housing Renewal Assistance Policy 2018 and she detailed how the funding would be met.

The Empty Homes and Grants Officer set out the background to the situation regarding empty homes nationally and the profiles of the empty properties in Carlisle. He also gave details of the impact of the work that had been undertaken.

In discussing the report the Panel supported the increase to the proposed Grant and hoped it would assist more properties coming back into use.

In response to the Panel's questions the Empty Homes and Grants Officer explained that any further increase to the Grant would impact the number of properties that could be brought back in to use. He reported that there were 12 properties which remained empty following the 2015 flood and the owners would be invited to utilise the Grant. The criteria for the Grant required the completed properties to be free of Class 1 Hazards and safe, decent homes ready for occupation either by the owner or rented out. A Local Land Charge would be placed on the properties for five years, should they be sold during that period the Council would recoup the Grant money.

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio thanked Officers for their hard work during the pandemic in continuing their excellent work.

RESOLVED – That the Panel had considered the proposed extension and increase of the Empty Property Grant by the use of £109,433.00 Capital funds from 2012/13 which were presently unallocated.

EGSP.19/21 QUARTER 3 PERFORMANCE REPORT 2020/21

The Data Analyst Apprentice presented the Quarter 3 Performance Report 2020/21 (PC.16/21).

The report contained the Quarter 3 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 Panels' 2020/21 Key Performance Indicators were also included.

The Data Analyst Apprentice gave an update on the work of the Task and Finish Group which was reviewing the content of the performance reports and drew the Panel's attention to the summary of exceptions which showed as red:

CSe22 – Actual city centre revenue as a percentage of city centre expenditure.

In response to a question the Corporate Director of Economic Development outlined the details of a Communications Protocol.

RESOLVED – That the Panel had received the quarter 3 performance 2020/21 report PC.16/21.

EGSP.20/21 OVERVIEW REPORT AND WORK PROGRAMME

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer presented report OS.06/21 providing an overview of matters relating to the work of the Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel.

The Panel's attention was drawn to the Panel's Work Programme for 2020/21 for discussion.

RESOLVED – 1) That the Overview Report incorporating the Work Programme and Key Decision items relevant to the Business and Transformation Scrutiny Panel be noted (OS.06/21).

- 3) That the following matters be submitted to the Panel on 12 April 2021:
- Scrutiny Annual Report 2020/21
 - Draft Carlisle Plan
 - Riverside Housing

(The meeting ended at 5.52pm)

Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel

Agenda
Item:

A.2

Meeting Date: 14 April 2021
Portfolio: Economy, Enterprise and Housing
Key Decision: No
Within Policy and Budget Framework: Yes
Public / Private: Public

Title: Riverside Update
Report of: Corporate Director of Economic Development
Report Number: ED 12/21

Purpose / Summary:

This update provides a progress report on various aspects of Riverside's operations across Carlisle District. In response to the Housing Need, Delivery and Strategy Update (ED 34.20) on 1 October 2020, Members of the Panel expressed an interest in learning more about Riverside's regeneration and development plans, so these areas will hopefully be of particular interest.

Recommendations:

The panel are requested to take the opportunity to put pertinent questions to Andrea Thorn, the new Regional Director of the Riverside North Region.

Tracking

Executive:	N/A
Scrutiny:	N/A
Council:	N/A

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1** The update on various aspects of Riverside's business activities and future plans, included in Section 2 of this report, has been provided by Andrea Thorn, the new Regional Director of the Riverside North Region, from April 2021.

2. RIVERSIDE UPDATE

2.1 Customer Services

We are still delivering most services remotely by phone, email or video call. The latest update on our repairs and maintenance service is:

- From Monday 1 March, customers can report all repair types to us as normal. We're working to a **56-day** target for routine repair appointments, so customers may wait longer than usual but we are aiming to revert this to the normal 28-day timescale from 6 April.
- If customers are shielding and they still want routine repairs or planned improvement work carried out in their home, we will complete it with all the necessary safety measures in place.
- Planned improvement programmes are continuing as normal, in line with government safety guidelines. However, customers can choose to delay works if they are self-isolating, shielding, working from home or were home-schooling.
- Aids & Adaptations and Disrepair work is continuing as normal.

Grounds maintenance is continuing as normal for the time of year.

It is likely that once the lockdown is eased, colleagues will mix working from home and working from the office as well as being out and about on estates and visiting customers at home where necessary.

2.2 Riverside Office, Botchergate

We are committed to our current office on the first floor of English Gate Plaza for the foreseeable future, but the ground floor remains empty.

Last year we had hoped to be able to use the ground floor with the shop front on Botchergate as a furniture shop for the Impact Furniture Service (IFS). This did not progress due to the lockdown and the decision has now been made to close IFS completely (see below).

There is one year left on the lease of the office and so it is likely that the ground floor will now remain empty until the lease expires.

2.3 Impact Furniture Service (IFS)

The IFS service collects and resells second-hand furniture throughout Cumbria including Carlisle with the depot and shop on Nelson Street where they also upcycled furniture.

Following a review of the service which considered all options, a decision has been made to close IFS this year because it has been losing money for some time and we cannot justify continuing to subsidise it.

The Carlisle shop will not re-open after the lockdown. We will retain the office and depot on Nelson Street for other uses.

2.4 Strategic Investment framework

Over the past 6 months we have continued to work on our plans for Morton to identify the interventions and investment required to ensure the sustainability of the neighbourhood in the long term.

This work has assessed Morton as a whole including the movement, connectivity, location of housing types and tenure, economic growth, public realm, energy sustainability etc. Following the conclusion of this work in April 2021 we will be seeking internal approval to progress to the next stage of works.

It is then anticipated that during the summer, government restrictions permitting, detailed consultation and engagement on the proposed investment plans will commence with the community and residents.

The feasibility work has highlighted the oversupply of 1-bedroom flats within Morton, compared to the family nature of the area, showing disparity between the types of properties in demand in the area and those on offer. The consultation and engagement will seek to build on these findings to ensure the right housing types and tenures are available within Morton through the investment.

Views will also be sought on the number of 1 bed bungalows across Morton, the size and suitability of these properties to determine if the bungalow types and tenures are correct for the aging population of Morton. The investment will then look to address these issues.

2.5 New development

We have a number of schemes in contract in Carlisle - see below. Impact housing association will be managing most of these on our behalf as part of the pledges we made when they joined The Riverside Group (TRG).

Schemes in Contract						
Scheme Name	Developer	Units	SOS	Tenure	Mix	Forecast Completion
Beverley Rise, Carlisle, CA1 3RX	<i>Esh</i>	50	<i>On site</i>	<i>Rent</i>	2, 3, 4 Bed Houses	Scheme now complete. End of defects Dec 2021
Tarraby View, Carlisle, CA3 0FN	<i>Persimmon (S106)</i>	31 + 2 additional stock plots	<i>On Site</i>	<i>Rent</i>	2, 3, 4 Bed Houses & 3 Bed Bung	Acquired 2 additional stock plots Dec-20 6 bungalows handed over November 2020, 4 houses due June 2021, with remainder due late 2021.
Meadowbrook, Carlisle, CA1 2GW	<i>Taylor Wimpey (S106)</i>	16	<i>On Site</i>	<i>Rent</i>	2, 3 Bed Houses & 2 Bed Bung	First handovers due Sept 2021. Phased to Dec 2023
Meadowbrook, Carlisle, CA1 2GW	<i>Taylor Wimpey (S106)</i>	15	<i>On Site</i>	<i>Shared ownership</i>	2, 3 Bed Houses	First handovers due Oct 2021 to Dec 2023
The Ridings, Carlisle, CA2 4NH	<i>Story Homes (S106)</i>	8	<i>On Site</i>	<i>Shared Ownership</i>	3 Bed Houses	In contract. Phased completions from March 2021 to Jan 2022
The Ridings, Carlisle, Ca2 4NH	<i>Story Homes (S106)</i>	32	<i>On Site</i>	<i>Rent</i>	1 Bed Flats, 2 & 3 Bed Houses	In contract. Phased completions from March 2021 to Jan 2022

Dalston Road, Carlisle, CA2 5NP	<i>Atkinsons</i>	68	<i>On Site</i>	<i>Rent</i>	2, 3, 4 Bed House s	<i>First 10 Units to be handed over March 2021. PC October 21.</i>
Amberwood, Carlisle, CA2 6DP	<i>Persimmon (S106)</i>	15	<i>On Site</i>	<i>Rent</i>	2 Bed House s	<i>Final units completed Nov' 2020.</i>
Amberwood, Carlisle, CA2 6DP	<i>Persimmon (S106)</i>	15	<i>Completed</i>	<i>Shared ownership</i>	2, 3 Bed House s	<i>Completed</i>

Pipeline schemes not yet in contract

Scheme Name	Developer	Units	SOS	Tenure	Mix	Forecast Completion
Leabourne Road, Carlisle, CA2 4QL	Eddie Wannop Construction	12	<i>On site</i>	<i>Rent</i>	2 Bed House s	<i>Contract negotiations are ongoing with a view to acquiring all 12 in March 2021.</i>
Tarraby View Phase 2, Carlisle, CA3 0FN	<i>Persimmon (S106)</i>	13	<i>TBC</i>	<i>Rent</i>	3 & 4 Bed House s	<i>Phase 2 is going through Gate approvals. G3 due May 2021. Handovers phased: 2 units due June 2021. Remainder due June 2022 to Dec 2023</i>

Beverley Rise was completed in December and was delivered by Riverside in partnership with Carlisle City Council, developer Esh and Carlisle College. The partnership project provided hands-on training to local young people. Eight construction students and apprentices were able to gain practical onsite training by doing nine-week placements a few days a week in painting, decorating, plastering, bricklaying, joinery, plumbing and electrics to develop their skills to help secure future employment. Employers are looking for skilled people, so this work experience benefitted students by gaining hands-on training but also helped them

develop life skills to boost their employability prospects. Please take a look at the film [Working in partnership in Carlisle to deliver new homes and training opportunities - YouTube](#) Riverside produced in partnership celebrating the success of this partnership.

2.6 Decarbonisation Strategy

The Riverside Group have employed a consultant (Savills) to undertake a sample stock condition survey across its properties within its national portfolio. As part of the work we have requested feedback on our decent homes criteria both current and anticipated, and also the requirements to achieve carbon zero by 2050. We are expecting this report in the summer and will be presenting to our board alongside our business plan and Asset Management Strategy.

Once we get the three documents approved we'll be in a stronger position to start to understand our requirements for the stock and the measures we intend to take to reach our targets. The group have already set aside £200m in the life of the thirty-year plan to support our requirements to achieve carbon zero by 2050. Our current strategy is to focus on 'fabric first' which will see us concentrating on reducing heat loss, improving energy consumption and cutting carbon emissions. During the financial year 2021/2022 we will be carrying out the following investment aligned to our fabric first approach:

- Double Glazed window replacements
- Secure by Design Doors
- Energy efficient boilers

With over £1.8m of local investment we are looking to maximise the impact by developing a programme of apprenticeships to support the programme and other activities we have in Cumbria.

We will look at funding opportunities that align with our strategies going forward and that includes working closely with the council to maximise the opportunities.

2.7 Manchester Utd Foundation (MUF)/Carlisle Utd Community Sports Trust (CUCST) project

As reported previously, we are joint sponsors with MUF, CUCST and Richard Rose Central Academy of a project aimed at developing young people to achieve their potential by building confidence, self-esteem and leadership skills as well as health & wellbeing.

Despite the challenging circumstances in school due to social distancing some great outcomes were achieved last term including mentoring to improve attendance or behaviour, running an 'Attendance League' and leadership sessions.

Outside of school, there has been football bubble nights for KS3 girls with 30 attending; and a lunch provision football league for year 7 boys attended by 40-50.

2.8 Cumbria Skills Shortage Project

Whilst developing our new Regional Plan for 2020-23, it was highlighted that the constructions skills shortage in Cumbria affects teams across Riverside: Evolve our in-house contractor, our planned investment team in that there is a limited pool of contractors as well as our development team. A team of people from across those teams came together last summer and have developed an action plan. The project will aim to deliver against the following themes: recruitment, engagement with local schools, increasing apprenticeships and a possible construction skills hub.

The last couple of months we have met with a range of people from DWP, Cumbria LEP, Carlisle College, Cumbria Enterprise as well as a group of people who set up a hub in Hull. The group are now reviewing the opportunities to contribute towards addressing the skills shortage and will agree what actions to take forward shortly.

2.9 Neighbourhood Plans

Last year we reviewed which of our neighbourhoods in Carlisle should be prioritised for Neighbourhood Plans. We took into account the density of stock, levels of deprivation, those most impacted by Covid, where they sit within the timetable for our Strategic Investment Framework, and engagement opportunities. This identified our first 4 Neighbourhood Plans.

Having consulted with Emma Dixon (Carlisle Partnership) about using the Place Standard we agreed to look at Raffles first and Botcherby second. We are progressing well on the Raffles Plan with customer surveys taking place next week. We are continuing to work with Emma to finalise how we do the Place standard work and we're aiming to do this in the last week in March. The plan will be launched on the 31st March.

We've also started the appraisal for Botcherby and will then move onto Upperby and then Petteril Bank/Harraby. We'll keep you updated on our progress.

3. RISKS

- 3.1** The content of this report contains no risks to the Council.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1** The Council holds formal partnership meetings with Riverside through the Carlisle Liaison Group, which replaced the former Divisional Board. The minutes to the meetings are shared with all City Councillors. Riverside have also consulted Carlisle Partnership regarding their Neighbourhood Plans.

5. CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1** To ensure ongoing effective collaboration between the Council and Riverside to deliver our mutual objectives of providing quality affordable housing and associated services to the people of Carlisle.

6. CONTRIBUTION TO THE CARLISLE PLAN PRIORITIES

- 6.1** “Address current and future housing needs to protect and improve residents’ quality of life.”

Contact Officer: **Jeremy Hewitson**

Ext: **7519**

Appendices **None**
attached to report:

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

- **None**

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS:

LEGAL – None

PROPERTY SERVICES – None

FINANCE – None

EQUALITY – None

INFORMATION GOVERNANCE – None

Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel

Agenda
Item:
A.3

Meeting Date: 12 April 2021
Portfolio: Leader
Key Decision: Yes
Within Policy and Budget Framework: Yes
Public / Private: Public

Title: Carlisle Plan 2021-2023
Report of: Deputy Chief Executive
Report Number: PC 10/21

Purpose / Summary:

To progress the adoption of a new Carlisle Plan, which forms part of the Council's Policy Framework.

Recommendations:

- Consider and comment on the draft Carlisle Plan, with particular reference to the economic growth priority and programme.

Tracking

Executive:	8 March 2021 2 June 2021
Scrutiny:	Business & Transformation Scrutiny Panel 1 April 2021 Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel 8 April 2021 Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel 12 April 2021
Council:	20 July 2021

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1. This is the third iteration of the Carlisle Plan (2013-16,15-18, 21-23). The associated Carlisle Plan on a Page has been kept up to date throughout with an annual review of key actions, with updates reported through the Quarterly Performance Report.
- 1.2. The Corporate Peer Challenge, January 2020, identified the important role the Plan has through the following recommendation:
‘Develop and agree a new Carlisle Plan to provide the Council's long term vision for the district and establish clear priorities to deliver this and give the framework for other strategic plans. Agreement on what is a priority or not a priority for the next three years and beyond will be important, underpinned by an aligned MTFP.’
- 1.3. The LGA Remote Peer Support, November 2020, recommends that:
‘Continue to develop the new vision and accompanying priorities as planned, but crucially to use these to help shape the work of the Council’. The Peers added that this work has a central role in achieving the type of improvement we are seeking to achieve.
- 1.4. This new version of the Carlisle Plan brings together an ambitious programme for Carlisle under two priorities and a new vision. The response to and recovery from the Covid-19 Pandemic remains the focus of the Council's efforts. Accelerating progress on the programme will mean that Carlisle and the local economy can bounce back from the impacts of this public health emergency.

2. PROPOSALS

- 2.1. The draft Carlisle Plan is attached as Appendix A. The Carlisle Plan is made up of a main document containing the detail behind the Plan and a summary ‘Plan on a Page’. The Plan on a Page (Appendix B) is a single page listing the Council's vision, principles, priorities, and programmes/projects.
- 2.2. The vision has been updated to focus on prosperity as the primary purpose of the Plan, prosperity being the most important determinant of health and wellbeing.
- 2.3. There are two, related, priorities:
 - Economic growth
 - Health and wellbeing
- 2.4. There is an emphasis on maximising the co-benefits for cross-cutting issues such as Climate Change. The detail on these co-benefits will be highlighted within the reporting of the programme work.
- 2.5. The Plan presents the ambition for Carlisle as a place, it is not the organisational plan (Corporate Plan) which is the plan for all the Council's service delivery. The Corporate Plan will be developed in parallel to the Carlisle Plan programmes/projects over the next months, through Service and Directorate

Planning. The updated Corporate Plan will become the reverse side of the Carlisle Plan on a Page so that every officer can see the contribution they are making to fulfilling the priorities and service delivery.

- 2.6. Progress on the Carlisle Plan will be reported in the quarterly performance report, beginning in April 2021. Work is underway to review the current performance report through a Scrutiny Task & Finish Group.

3. RISKS

- 3.1. The risks associated with the delivery of the Carlisle Plan will be managed in accordance with the Risk Management Assurance Framework Policy.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1. Public consultation is not planned due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Effective consultation and engagement around the priorities and programme can be evidenced over the last two years through the major projects and strategies.
- 4.2. Informal consultation on the plan will be undertaken with partners engaged in delivering the priorities. The Council will engage with community and voluntary groups on the plan to identify opportunities to continue to develop this sector and support existing initiatives.

5. CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1. The commitment of investment in Carlisle and development of clear programmes and strategies now means that it is an appropriate time to update the Carlisle Plan.
- The recommendation is to consider and comment on the draft Carlisle Plan, with particular reference to the economic growth priority and programme.

6 CONTRIBUTION TO THE CARLISLE PLAN PRIORITIES

- 6.1 The Plan sets out the new priorities.

Contact Officer: STEVEN O'KEEFFE
Appendices A: Carlisle Plan 2021-23
attached to report: B: Carlisle Plan on a Page

Ext: 7258

Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government Act 1972 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers: None

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS:

LEGAL - The Carlisle Plan 2021-23 replaces the previous Carlisle Plan 2015-18 and forms part of the Council's Policy Framework. In exercising some statutory powers, the Council must have regard to its approved Plan.

FINANCE – There are no specific financial implications of adopting the Carlisle Plan, however the plan will be used to inform future budget processes to align council resources to the priorities contained within it.

EQUALITY – None. The equality impacts will be considered within the programmes and projects of the two priorities.

PROPERTY – Carlisle City Council has an extensive property portfolio that can assist in delivering the aspirations of the plan.

INFORMATION GOVERNANCE – None.

Carlisle Plan 2021-23

The vision

To enable Carlisle to grow and prosper as the capital of the Borderlands region, benefiting the health and wellbeing of the people of Carlisle.

We will work in partnership so that all can enjoy the benefits of new opportunities and choices, whilst rising to the challenges of a changing climate.

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Introduction

The Carlisle Plan, the third of its kind, is an ambitious plan setting out the Council's vision, priorities, and key actions.

Carlisle is the capital of Cumbria with a population more than 108,000. The city is recognised as the economic capital of a region serving 1.1 million people who live in Cumbria, Northumberland, and Southern Scotland. The City of Carlisle is the largest settlement in the district with more than two thirds of the population. The remaining population is distinctly more rural and in places extremely sparse. The most significant rural populations are in smaller market towns and large villages spread across the district, including Brampton, Dalston, Longtown and Wetheral.

Across the district, there are a wealth of natural and cultural assets making Carlisle a great place to live, work and visit. Carlisle draws strength from its strategic location, with heritage and environmental sites of national and international importance (Solway Coast and North Pennines), and good connections to national infrastructure.

Now is a golden opportunity for growth and development, Carlisle can build on its established economic role whilst encouraging the development of new sectors and entrepreneurship.

Carlisle is set within some of the country's most spectacular natural scenery and the city is the final stop for three of the country's scenic railway lines (Settle to Carlisle, Cumbria Coast Line and Tyne Valley Line). Landmark buildings and heritage sites such as Carlisle Castle, Carlisle Cathedral, Lanercost Priory and Hadrian's Wall attract visitors from across the world.

The Covid-19 Pandemic has had a significant impact on our local economy. The impact has highlighted the importance of health and wellbeing across all communities reminding us that Carlisle is a place focused on tackling health inequalities and enabling communities to thrive and be healthy. This Plan will seek to assist Carlisle to bounce back from this public health emergency, with greater confidence and commitment to meet future challenges.

The Vision

To enable Carlisle to grow and prosper as the regional capital, benefiting the health and wellbeing of the people of Carlisle.

We will work in partnership so that all can enjoy the benefits of new opportunities and choices, whilst rising to the challenges of a changing climate.

The Council plays a key role in enabling growth and prosperity, building on Carlisle's reputation as a regional capital. Our focus is on raising prosperity levels across the district as the primary purpose of the Plan; prosperity being the most important determinant of health and wellbeing. Improving health and wellbeing and tackling Climate Change will run through all our plans and services.

There are challenges ahead that will impact especially on our rural areas due to their ageing population, accessibility and often higher living and infrastructure costs. Knowing these issues and adapting policies and practices to meet the needs of rural areas will be vital to fulfilling the Vision.

Many of our activities and assets have a significant impact on the wider social, economic, and environmental determinants of health and wellbeing. Our employees work to address health inequalities daily and have a positive impact on the lives of some of the most vulnerable residents in Carlisle. We will continue to support the work of the Carlisle Healthy City partnership and the aspirations outlined in the Phase VII World Health Organisation Healthy City Plan.

We will be the best possible partner to organisations, communities and individuals that share our commitment, clarity, and confidence in Carlisle. We will help shape the future of Carlisle, delivering the priorities in the Carlisle Plan whilst operating a highly effective organisation where employees are supported to be the best they can be. We will continue to adapt to meet the financial challenges of the future by carefully and confidently allocating our resources whilst seeking to develop new income streams that add value to the local economy.

Principles

The Seven Principles of Public Life

All officers and Carlisle City Councillors adhere to The Seven Principles of Public Life (also known as the Nolan Principles):

- Selflessness.
- Integrity.
- Objectivity.
- Accountability.
- Openness.
- Honesty.
- Leadership.

Clarity, confidence, and commitment

Three principles have been developed by our staff and Councillors to guide how we will deliver the vision for Carlisle:

- Clarity.
 - Confidence.
 - Commitment.
-
- We are a clear, committed, and confident Council.
 - By setting out our vision, we show that we understand the needs of Carlisle's residents, businesses, and visitors. Our plans to respond to these needs are clear and straightforward. We know what is expected of us and do our best to create clarity in how we work.
 - We are committed to achieving our vision for Carlisle. We will ensure that our day to day work and resources are consistent with the priorities.
 - We will continue to work effectively with partners to drive positive change for Carlisle and will celebrate our successes and achievements. As part of our ongoing work to develop all our communities we will engage young people and make sure the Carlisle Plan helps to deliver their aspirations for Carlisle.

Priorities

Economic growth

We will continue to prioritise the current response to and rapid recovery from the economic impacts of the Covid-19 Pandemic on the local economy.

We aim to deliver inclusive and sustainable economic growth, ensuring we provide opportunities for all our communities to prosper. We will boost the local economy, making Carlisle a more attractive place for investment, improving skills and drive key sector development. Committed to ensuring our growth agenda is as inclusive as possible, we will ensure that our activities benefit our rural communities.

We see improving connectivity is a key driver, both through the delivery of transport and digital connectivity, as well supporting the development of low carbon transport.

Carlisle's population will flourish through housing led growth and the delivery of St Cuthbert's Garden Village. This will add to the vibrancy and activity in Carlisle City Centre, creating a thriving community of students, residents, businesses, and workers using the centre for education, housing, work, and leisure activities, during the day and into the evening. We will also grow Carlisle's visitor economy, attracting additional footfall and spending to the city.

Key economic growth programmes and projects

Delivering the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal:

- Carlisle Station Gateway: improving the railway station and surrounding public spaces as the key transport hub for the Borderlands and preparing for HS2.
- Citadels University Campus: developing a new City Centre campus/headquarters for the University of Cumbria. Investing in the university to attract greater student numbers and boost the number of Higher Education (HE) learners and graduates in Carlisle.
- Citadels Business Infrastructure: Creating a new bespoke business hub for the Creative and Digital sector, supporting the growth of an emerging high value sector in the city to boost productivity, reputation, and reach.
- Support and lobby for the improvement/increased coverage of rural public transport networks, including the reopening of Gilsland railway station and Borders rail feasibility study.
- Improving digital infrastructure and access through the Borderlands digital voucher scheme, providing a new innovation centre for the digital sector at the

Citadels and improving skills through the proposed digital and community learning hub.

- Delivery of the Longtown Place Plan: Working with local communities in Longtown to develop a locally owned place plan for Longtown, to seek investment in the town from the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal.
- Destination Borderlands (Hadrian's Wall): Seeking to work with key partners such as Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery to bring investment to the western side of the Wall, boost visitor numbers, create new jobs and support rural communities.
- Digital Voucher Scheme: providing opportunity for greater broadband speed for rural communities and businesses.

Delivering St Cuthbert's Garden Village:

- Delivery of 10,000 new homes and over 9,000 direct jobs south of Carlisle.
- Establishing new communities where population health, wellbeing and environmental sustainability goals are at the heart of good design and land use.
- Providing improved walking and cycling infrastructure through projects such as St Cuthbert's Garden Village, Southern Link Road and Town Deal.
- Through our £1.2m bid to the Government's New Development Corporation Competition, we will explore alternative mechanisms to deliver the Garden Village and ensure the long term stewardship of the new social and environmental assets that will be created.

Delivering the Future High Street Fund, Town Investment Plan and Towns Fund, Town Deal Accelerated Fund, and related regeneration projects:

- Revitalising the Market Square, pedestrianised improvements to Devonshire Street, redevelopment of the former Central Plaza site, and 6-24 Castle Street.
- Start with the Park (St Cuthbert's Garden Village).
- Digital and Community Learning Hub: investing in community learning to improve the local skills base.
- Investment in Tullie House, Market Hall, Southern Gateway (English Street/Botchergate/Crescent), lighting-up Carlisle project (event and infrastructure).
- Citadels Business Infrastructure (Linked to Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal).
- Caldew Riverside: Remediation of development site with potential to provide new city centre living opportunities.
- Creation of a temporary, modular 'pod village' in Bitts Park, providing a vibrant small business hub.

Building on success through new economic opportunities:

- Kingmoor Park Enterprise Zone: continuing support for the first Enterprise Zone in Cumbria as a local hub for key sectors such as manufacturing and logistics and an environment that welcomes new investors and high growth organisations.

- Development of a Rural Strategy: to work with rural communities and the agricultural sector to address the challenges and identify new priorities and opportunities following the UK departure from the EU.
- Proactively position Carlisle for future investment: encourage private and public sector investment in Carlisle to improve productivity, help grow and boost the city; bringing in key employers and more high value jobs, while also ensuring we have investment in our infrastructure to help build Carlisle's future. Making it clear to government and the private sector alike that Carlisle is open for business.
- Grow our visitor economy: ensuring that Carlisle's strong potential as a tourist destination is realised, through providing an enhanced visitor experience with new attractions and increased vibrancy, whilst continuing work to promote the city through the Discover Carlisle brand.
- Working in partnership to tackle the carbon footprint of tourism.

Health and wellbeing

We will continue to prioritise the current response to and rapid recovery from the health and wellbeing impacts of Covid-19 Pandemic.

We will work with our partners in the public, health, private and voluntary sectors to deliver a broad programme that will support the good, lifelong health and wellbeing of our residents and visitors. This priority builds on the framework of the Cumbria Public Health Strategy and WHO Healthy City Programme with projects and programmes that will focus on the determinants of health; a sense of place and safety; the quality of the local environment and tackling Climate Change together.

Housing and a sense of home is fundamental to health and wellbeing. We will continue to tackle homelessness and rough sleeping with a strategic focus on early intervention and prevention rather than crisis management. We will also seek to improve the homes of residents in most need, ensuring that everyone has access to safe, warm, affordable housing.

As a Sustainable Food City, we will promote a vibrant and diverse food economy, with local communities having access to a range of healthy and affordable food options. We will continue to increase recycling and reduce waste and increase recycling and energy recovery, helping to reduce the Carbon footprint of our current lifestyles.

All communities will have good access to a wide range of recreational, leisure and exercise opportunities, that are both diverse and affordable. We will encourage opportunities to participate in and engage with the arts

and culture, the strategic focus will be on establishing Carlisle as a central hub for culture within the wider region. Accessible green spaces have a vital role in human health and wellbeing as well as providing opportunities to increase net biodiversity gains through improved wildlife habitats.

Making Carlisle a great and safe place to walk, cycle, and use electric vehicles, alongside public transport systems will increase activity and reduce the Carbon footprint of local journeys.

Key health and wellbeing programmes and projects

Deliver The Sands Centre Redevelopment project:

- The delivery of a new £27 million flagship sport, leisure, and entertainment facility at the heart of the City will transform the quality and accessibility of health and leisure provision in our district. The new facilities will also enhance our strong partnership relationships with NHS providers focused on improving population health. The Sands Centre will host an extensive Musculoskeletal unit designed to offer patients treatment and preventative services at the heart of a leisure setting.
- The design and development of the new facilities include a range of sustainable features which will support the council's plans for reducing Carbon emissions, improving energy efficiency, and providing sustainable, healthy transport options.
- The new extension will significantly improve the access opportunities for all our communities to use and enjoy the facilities and services. Access to the building will be significantly improved from all points as will the internal layout. The development of the project has used an inclusive design approach to ensure equal access and wellbeing. This will assist users with physical and other conditions such as dementia to make full use of the site and surroundings.
- The facilities will also improve the existing opportunities for The Sands to host performances, cultural events, and conferences.

Support the delivery of partnership plans:

- Develop and maintain a short-term Partnership Place Plan.
- Explore the opportunity to pilot a collaborative funding model, focusing on a place based and coordinated approach for investment in the civil society.
- Develop shared spaces and new ways of working to allow partners to come together to improve outcomes and address core areas.
- Building capacity to collaborate across the Place to grow awareness, knowledge, and partnership workforce capacity.
- Develop a Draft Strategy for Social Prescribing in Cumbria by March/April 2020
- Secure system support for the Social Prescribing Strategy in North Cumbria.

Deliver the Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleepers Strategy:

- Reduction of multiple exclusion homelessness and rough sleeping.
- Prioritising early intervention and prevention of homelessness.
- Promoting safeguarding and harm minimisation support for victims of domestic violence.
- Increasing access to flexible move on accommodation and support options available for people experiencing homelessness.
- Improve experiences and opportunities for young people and children experiencing homelessness.
- Increase key partnerships to respond effectively to local emergency situations.
- Meeting the Council's commitments via the Armed Forces Covenant by providing housing choices and support for those leaving the services.

Deliver the Homelife programme of advice and support:

- Programme of Disabled Facilities Grant and discretionary grants funded through the Better Care Fund.
- Hospital Discharge Grants to anyone who is in hospital, or has recently been discharged, and requires emergency repairs or measures to get them home.
- Working to address fuel poverty, improve energy efficiency and Carbon savings.
- Work to help bring empty homes back into use.

Delivery of Phase VII World Health Organisation Healthy City Plan:

- Work with partners to deliver on key district wide actions associated with the WHO 6 Ps (People, Place, Prosperity, Planet, Peace, Participation)
- Via the County-wide Public Health Strategy and WHO 6 Ps sustain a focus on delivery projects and programmes that address - healthy weight management, physical activity levels, developing a child friendly city, supporting vulnerable adults, addressing population mental health management particularly post Covid19 restrictions.
- Continue to influence and shape public planning policy for key developments such as the St Cuthbert's Garden Village, city centre redevelopment and other key place based developments.

Deliver the Local Environment (Climate Change) Strategy

Climate Change presents new challenges and opportunities for our whole region. In partnership we are committed to working towards a net zero Carbon future for Carlisle, Cumbria, and the Borderlands. Through programme and partnership working we can realise the cross-cutting co-

benefits presented by the two priorities of economic growth and health and wellbeing. There are clear health benefits from improved air quality, healthier diets and more walking and cycling. The drive for clean growth has the potential for industrial and commercial opportunities. The strategy has the following objectives:

- Reducing emissions from the City Council estate and operations.
- Reducing energy consumption and emissions from homes and businesses in Carlisle and tackling fuel poverty, by promoting energy efficiency measures, sustainable construction, renewable energy sources and behaviour change.
- Reducing emissions from transport by promoting sustainable transport, reducing car travel and traffic congestion, and encouraging behaviour change.
- Reducing consumption of resources, increasing recycling, and reducing waste.
- Supporting council services, residents, and businesses to mitigate against and adapt to the impacts of Climate Change.

Deliver the Green Spaces Strategy and support the delivery of the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (CWIP):

- To make sure that Carlisle's reputation as a place that is enriched by its wealth of green spaces is enhanced as the city continues to grow and develop, recognising the health benefits from contact with green space and the natural environment and maintaining the current standard of 3.6ha of green space per 1000 population.
- To meet and exceed a set of challenging quality standards for all green spaces which will ensure they are safe, attractive, and welcoming for everyone who visits them.
- To make sure that all residents of Carlisle and our visitors have easy access to our inspirational green spaces, whatever their level of physical ability and that we take every opportunity to link and connect green spaces, walking and cycling routes, nature reserves and riversides.
- To manage our green estate as a diverse and flourishing natural resource which provides a range of environmental services including resilience against future flooding, reducing the impacts of and mitigation against Climate Change and enhancing biodiversity to provide rich and varied wildlife habitats.
- To nurture and support the role of our communities in caring for our green spaces and natural resources, encouraging them to take a leading role where appropriate and promoting green spaces as a primary resource in the cultural life of the city including as venues for events, play, sports and recreational activities.
- Make an ongoing and effective contribution to the development of extensive cycling and walking infrastructure plans for Carlisle and the wider district, building on the existing infrastructure, increasing and improving the range of cycle and walking options and ensuring that these safe routes are widely publicised and sign posted.

Development and delivery of the new Cumbria Waste Strategy:

- Development of the new Waste and Recycling Strategy which presents an opportunity to reflect the aims and objectives of the Resources & Waste Strategy, the Environment Bill, Clean Growth Strategy and Litter Strategy. The strategy will bring together the strategic aims of these national strategies, and focus on waste reduction, Carbon impacts and plan for future waste management infrastructure to meet national targets.

Support for the delivery of the Carlisle Cultural Framework:

- Placing culture at the heart of Carlisle's ambitions for environmental sustainability, inclusive economic prosperity, and good health for all
- Embedding culture within regeneration and local planning to attract investment for city centre transformation and infrastructure development.
- Playing a full and active role in Carlisle's ongoing commitment as a World Health Organisation, Healthy City, using culture to improve the wider determinants of health, wellbeing, and community cohesion.
- Supporting artists and venues to emerge stronger from the COVID-19 crisis.
- Co-ordinating and promoting an exciting, wide-ranging, and inclusive programme of events in the city centre and across the district.

Performance Monitoring

We will measure progress against the plan through an updated performance framework. This framework will include progress in key projects, risks, and opportunities.

A new set of measures will be agreed with Service Managers and the Senior Management Team. We will present these measures under each priority. Their purpose will be to help steer services and projects towards the benefits we want to achieve by implementing the plan. The performance framework will be monitored through Directorate Management Team meetings and a quarterly report to Senior Management Team. A quarterly summary of performance will be reported to Executive and Overview and Scrutiny.

The Carlisle Plan will be reviewed annually before the setting of service plans within our Directorates.

Carlisle Plan 2021-2023 Summary

Vision: To enable Carlisle to grow and prosper as the regional capital, benefiting the health and wellbeing of the people of Carlisle. We will work in partnership so that all can enjoy the benefits of new opportunities and choices, whilst rising to the challenges of a changing climate.

Priorities: Economic growth

Health and wellbeing

Key programmes and projects:

1. Delivering the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal.
2. Delivering St Cuthbert's Garden Village.
3. Delivering the Future High Street Fund, Town Investment Plan and Towns Fund, Town Deal Accelerated Fund, and related regeneration projects.
4. Building on success through new economic opportunities.
5. Deliver The Sands Centre Redevelopment.
6. Deliver the Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleepers Strategy.
7. Deliver the Homelife programme of advice and support.
8. Delivery of Phase VII World Health Organisation Healthy City Plan.
9. Deliver the Green Spaces Strategy and support the delivery of the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (CWIP).
10. Development and delivery of the new Cumbria Waste Strategy.
11. Deliver the Local Environment (Climate Change) Strategy.
12. Support for the delivery of the Carlisle Cultural Framework.
13. Support the delivery of partnership plans.
14. We will continue to prioritise the current response to and rapid recovery from the impacts of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Corporate Plan 2021-2023 Summary

Purpose: Enabling the fulfilment of the Carlisle Plan whilst ensuring the efficient and effective delivery of all Council services.

The Corporate Plan is a signpost to the following strategic documents, plans and projects, within which we set out how services will be improved, and key projects resourced and delivered:

- Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP): A comprehensive plan for strategic finance decision-making
- Asset Management Plan (AMP):
- Workforce Plan (WFP): The Workforce Plan provides a framework for dealing with challenges in a consistent way.
- Customer Service Charter: The customer charter outlines how our principles are at the heart of everything we do. Our promise is to continue to innovate so our customers can access council services anytime, anywhere.
- Project Management Handbook: A toolkit for project management.
- Performance Framework: This framework draws together all the activities that contribute to our performance.
- Risk Management Assurance Framework: This framework clearly sets out how we manage operational, strategic and major project risks.
- Information Governance Framework: This framework provides an over-arching basis of the Council's approach to the governance of its information.

Business change plans and strategies:

Together these documents will enable agile working, compliance with the new rules on data and improve the tasking and coordination of demand-led services.

- Business Continuity Planning.
- Dispersed and agile working.
- ICT Strategy and programme.
- Transformation Board actions.
- Directorate Planning & Service Planning: Service planning sets out what needs to be delivered, how, when and by whom, in the context of the Carlisle Plan, Corporate Plan and statutory/service responsibilities.

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE HELD ON 8 MARCH 2021

EX.30/21 CARLISLE PLAN 2021-2023
(Key Decision – KD.01/21)

Portfolio Leader

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Business and Transformation; Health and Wellbeing;
and Economic Growth

Subject Matter

The Leader submitted report PC.7/21 presenting the draft Carlisle Plan 2021-2023 which brought together an ambitious programme for Carlisle under two priorities, namely Economic Growth and Health and Wellbeing; together with a new vision focussing on prosperity as the primary purpose, prosperity being the most important determinant of health and wellbeing.

There was also an emphasis on maximising the co-benefits for cross-cutting issues such as Climate Change, the detail in relation to which would be highlighted within the reporting of the programme work.

The Leader then moved the recommendations, which were duly seconded by the Deputy Leader.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Executive:

1. Had considered and commented on the draft Carlisle Plan 2021 – 2023 as appended to Report PC.7/21.
2. Referred the draft Carlisle Plan to the Overview and Scrutiny Panels for consultation.

Reasons for Decision

The commitment of investment in Carlisle and development of clear programmes and strategies now meant that it was an appropriate time to update the Carlisle Plan

Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel

Agenda
Item:

A.4

Meeting Date: 12 April 2021

Portfolio: Cross-cutting

Key Decision: No

Within Policy and
Budget Framework

Private/Public Public

Title: Scrutiny Annual Report

Report of: Overview and Scrutiny Officer

Report Number: OS.12/21

Purpose / Summary:

This report provides the draft Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel Section for the Scrutiny Annual Report 2020/21.

Recommendations:

Members are asked to:

- Consider and comment on the attached section of the draft report.

Tracking

Executive:	Not applicable
Scrutiny:	EGSP 12/04/21
Council:	27/04/21

1. Background

1.1 The Constitution: Article 6 – Overview and Scrutiny Committees, 6.03 Specific functions [c] states that:

‘Annual report. Overview and scrutiny committees must report annually to full Council on their workings and make recommendations for future work programmes and amended working methods if appropriate’.

1.2 This report contains this Panel’s draft sections for the Annual Scrutiny Report 2020/21. Each Scrutiny Panel will consider their own sections of the draft report before recommending its acceptance to Council.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Panel consider and comment on the appended draft report.

Contact Officer: Rowan Jones Email: rowan.jones@carlisle.gov.uk

Appendices Draft general and Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel
attached to report: sections for the Scrutiny Annual Report 2020/21

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: Draft general and Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel sections for the Scrutiny Annual Report 2020-21

Introduction

The Annual Report for the Civic Year 2020-21 will reflect on a year of significant change for Scrutiny Panels at Carlisle City Council. The changes for Scrutiny reflect how the City Council as a whole has adapted to remote working and virtual meetings in response to the unprecedented challenges of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Carlisle City Council has three scrutiny panels:

- Business and Transformation Scrutiny Panel
- Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel
- Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel

Over the course of the year each Panel has run a full and varied workplan, reflecting aspects of the City Council's function that fall within that Panel's remit. Members have looked carefully at their work programmes, working with council officers to ensure that their scrutiny activity is targeted at the most important issues and decisions that are facing the City Council as Carlisle looks to recover and move forward from the Covid-19 pandemic.

What is Scrutiny and why is it important?

Scrutiny is a process to ensure that decisions taken by the Council reflect the needs and priorities of communities in Carlisle. Scrutiny is carried out by Councillors who understand and promote the concerns of the people who elected them, connecting decision makers to local communities.

Council decisions can be made by Council Officers, by the Council's 'Executive' (the political leadership) and by full Council (all Councillors).

Scrutiny Panels are made up of Non-Executive Councillors who work together, across political parties, to understand why decisions are made and how the Council is performing to deliver the best possible outcomes for Carlisle and its people. Scrutiny Panels do not have decision-making powers; their role is to challenge and make recommendations that influence decision makers.

Scrutiny Response to Covid-19

During 2020/21 all Panel meetings have taken place in a virtual setting, following guidelines set out in the Coronavirus Act 2020.

Carlisle City Council was quick to respond to the need to deliver virtual committee meetings and we would like to note our achievement in having delivered all planned scrutiny meetings during 2020/21. Panel Members and Officers have worked together to develop a new way of working, adapting and persevering with new IT skills, supporting each other and showing tolerance and humour at the bumps in the road that have sometimes accompanied the shift to virtual meetings.

Maintaining scrutiny activity during the pandemic has been important because:

- Significant decisions with impacts on Carlisle have been made during this time.
- Councillors represent their local communities and their knowledge and perspective are vital to ensuring a robust, democratic response to the crisis and recovery plans that are suitable for local needs.

Scrutiny Chairs have worked closely together to co-ordinate their Panel's activities to ensure a good level of oversight across the City Council's role in Covid-19 response and recovery.

Comment from Leader of the Council, Councillor John Mallinson

<Text to be inserted>

Corporate Peer Challenges, January and November 2020 – implications for Scrutiny

The Carlisle Corporate Peer Challenge undertaken in January 2020 was positive and highlighted a number of strengths for the Council. This Peer Challenge focussed on leadership, governance, corporate capacity and financial resilience. This Peer Challenge included some comments around the role of scrutiny. Scrutiny Panels, led by their Chairs, have made some steps in beginning to respond to these comments. For example, in recognising that developing robust workplans can help Scrutiny to focus on key strategic issues for Carlisle and making recommendations that will add value to the decision making process.

A further Corporate Peer Challenge, undertaken remotely in November 2020, reviewed the Council's use of existing governance arrangements. There are likely to be further implications of this Peer Challenge for scrutiny panels that can be considered over the coming scrutiny year.

Public engagement in Scrutiny

Scrutiny Panels are open to the public to attend at the Civic Centre, when Panels are meeting at a physical location. Panel meetings can be viewed online via the Council's website, whilst virtual meetings are taking place as part of Covid-19 social distancing measures.

Agendas, report and minutes from Scrutiny Panel meetings are available on the City Council website. Members of the public can also submit questions for meetings; these need to be submitted 11 full days before the Panel Meeting.

For more information on these meetings or on how to engage with the Scrutiny process, please contact: scrutiny@carlisle.gov.uk.

Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel (EGSP)

Chairs Report, Councillor Lisa Brown

It has been a both a challenge and privilege to Chair the EGSP this past year, one year on since the country went into a National Lockdown. My thanks go to Cllr Mellor as Vice Chair and all the Members and substitutes for their support and attendance, it is very clear that each member wants to see the very best for the City of Carlisle and its residents.

The majority of items coming to the panel this year have been the many key projects for the City across, all promising a bright future for Carlisle if successful, particularly the ambitions for growth in St Cuthbert's Garden Village and Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal. It has never been more important that the word "Inclusive" used here is number one priority for the council, we must ensure that all its residents benefit from these deals and projects especially since the Coronavirus pandemic has drastically changed lives over this last year. We must use all the tools available to us to reduce poverty and improve quality of life for each person living in the urban or rural parts of the district.

It is clear to see that the council benefits from some dedicated and experienced members of staff and their ambition for Carlisle is obvious when reading the reports presented to the panel. We have also had some excellent contributions from outside organisations such as the CLEP, Riverside and Carlisle Ambassadors. The panel is keen to see the Ambassadors continue their work promoting the City and was interested to find out what Scrutiny could do to aid that.

Every meeting has been held virtually this year, not something any of us thought we would be doing. It hasn't reduced the quality of the meetings, and every meeting has run effortlessly which is entirely down to the hard work and patience of the staff behind the scenes. On behalf of the panel, I would like to thank them for all their time and effort especially doing it all from home.

Looking towards the new Civic Year, I hope that we start beginning to see work start on the key projects for Carlisle, and that we can start to build a clearer picture of Carlisle as it enters the recovery phase of the pandemic.

Comment from Councillor Paul Nedved, Portfolio Holder for Economy, Enterprise and Housing

<Text to be inserted>

Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel

Agenda
Item:

A.5

Meeting Date: 12 April 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.09/21

Purpose / Summary:

This report provides an overview of matters related to the Scrutiny Panel's work. It also includes the latest version of the work programme.

Recommendations:

Members are asked to:

- Note the items (within Panel remit) on the most recent Notice of Key Executive Decisions
- Review the current work programme and resolutions and make recommendations for the future work programme

Tracking

Executive:	Not applicable
Scrutiny:	EGSP 12/04/21
Council:	Not applicable

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 05 March 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 04/21 St Cuthberts Garden Village Strategic Design Supplementary Planning Document
- KD 05/21 Carlisle Station Gateway – Phase 1
- KD.10/21 Budget Process 2022/23 – 2026/27
- KD.12/21 Future High Street Fund

2. References from Executive

2.1 At their meeting of 8 March 2021, the Executive referred the Carlisle Plan 2021-2023 to EGSP (minute reference EX.30/21).

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	20/08//20	EGSP 40/20	4) That the Corporate Director of Economic Development liaise with the Chair and the CLEP to link the work of the Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel into the Council's contribution to the CLEP's scrutiny function.	Complete
6	26/11/20	EGSP 59/20	2) That a review of the parking permit scheme at Talkin Tarn be carried out.	Pending

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**

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**Appendices
attached to report:**

1. Draft Scrutiny Panel Work Programme 2020-21

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: Draft Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel Work Programme 2020-21

Title	Type of scrutiny	Lead Officer	Meeting Date
End of Year Performance Report	For info	Gary Oliver	June 2020
St Cuthberts Garden Village - housing theme	Policy update	Jane Meek	04/06/2020
Scrutiny Annual Report 2019/20	Policy development	Rowan Jones	04/06/2020
Solway Coast AONB Management Plan 2020-2025	For info	Jane Meek/ Richard Wood	June 2020
Economic recovery - focus on Covid challenges/ recovery	Policy update	Jane Meek	09/07/2020
Performance Report - Q1	Monitoring	Gary Oliver	20/08/2020
Events Planning for Autumn/ Winter 2020	Policy update	Darren Crossley/ Paul Walker	20/08/2020
Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)	Partnership	Jane Meek	20/08/2020
Corporate Peer Challenge	Policy development	Darren Crossley	01/10/2020
Housing Needs and Housing Strategy	Policy update	Jane Meek	01/10/2020
Carlisle Ambassadors	Partnership	Jane Meek	26/11/2020
Budget setting	Budget	Alison Taylor	26/11/2020
St Cuthberts Garden Village Local Plan - preferred option consultation	Policy update	Neil Cole	26/11/2020
Garden Village Masterplan	Policy development	Neil Cole	26/11/2020
Performance Report - Q2	Monitoring	Gary Oliver	26/11/2020
Economic Strategy - development	Policy development	Jane Meek	30/11/2020
Environment (Climate Change) Strategy	Policy development	Jane Meek/ Steven O'Keeffe	21/01/2021
Draft Economic Strategy	Policy development	Jane Meek/ Steven Robinson	21/01/2021
Towns Fund – Capital Accelerated Fund	Policy update	Steven Robinson	21/01/2021
Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal/key projects – Part B	Policy update	Steven Robinson	21/01/2021
Flood risk management	For info	Steven O'Keeffe/ Environ't Agency	Jan 2021
Kingmoor Park Update	Partnership	Jane Meek	04/03/2021
Empty Property Grant Assistance	Policy update	Mark Lambert	04/03/2021
Performance Report - Q3	Monitoring	Gary Oliver	04/03/2021
Scrutiny Annual Report 2020/21	Policy development	Rowan Jones	12/04/2021
Riverside Housing	Partnership	Jane Meek	12/04/2021
Draft Carlisle Plan	Policy development	Steven O'Keeffe	12/04/2021
Briefing note - key data on impacts of Covid-19 on economic growth in Carlisle	For info	LEP	Summer 2021