

The effectiveness of Scrutiny on the decisions taken by Cabinet in 2021/22 (New arrangements introduced)

ITEM	SCRUTINY MEETING	CABINET MEETING	DECISION OF SCRUTINY	DECISION OF CABINET
REVIEW OF A TRIAL OF COMPACTION LITTER BINS	Corporate & Env O&S Cttee June 2021	8 June 2021	That the Committee recommend to Cabinet that the trial of compaction litter bins in designated locations be postponed and further reviewed in one year's time, and that the capital funds of £10k allocated to litter bin review work stream, of which £5k was specifically designated for the trial in a high footfall location (10 compaction bins @ £500 each) be utilised to bring forward and support the Borough wide litter bin replacement upgrade programme."	Recommendations agreed in full: That the trial of compaction litter bins in designated locations be postponed and further reviewed in one year's time, and that the capital funds of £10k allocated to litter bin review work stream, of which £5k was specifically designated for the trial in a high footfall location (10 compaction bins @ £500 each) be utilised to bring forward and support the Borough wide litter bin replacement upgrade programme.
Corporate Peer Challenge	Exec O&S Oct 2021	Nov 2021	That the content of the report be noted and that the following agreed comments of Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee be presented to Cabinet for their consideration: A. That the full results of the Corporate Peer Challenge be published subject to the redaction of commercially exempt information. B. That all Political Leaders be invited to participate in the scoping meeting with the Local Government Association ahead of the onsite review.	Recommendations agreed in full and expanded: A. That the contents of the report and the indicative timetable at appendix 1, be noted. B. That the results of the Corporate Peer Challenge and action plan be published following good practice and advice from the peer challenge team. C. That all Councillors be invited to send their views on the scoping exercise to the Leader and Chief Operating Officer prior to the scoping meeting with the Local Government Association ahead of the onsite review.
LOCAL PLAN REGULATION 18 (SCOPE, ISSUES &	Exec O&S Oct 2021	Nov 2021	That the following agreed comments be considered by Cabinet: A. That the recommendation at 3.2 of the report	Recommendations agreed in full A. That the Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Issues & Options material (provided at

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OPTIONS) CONSULTATION			<p>be amended to read: 'That the Local Plan 2023-2040 Issues & Options material (provided at Appendix A) be approved for public consultation, subject to any minor amendments made by the Interim Head of Growth and Development in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, and that comments on the scope of a new Local Plan also be sought as part of this public consultation'. B. That the Local Plan Cabinet Working Group meet more frequently to consider documents. C. That although the documents have been through scrutiny, there has not been enough time to scrutinise every document.</p>	<p>Appendices B and C respectively), and the Duty to Co-operate Statement (provided at Appendix D), be noted. B. That the Local Plan 2023-2040 Issues & Options material (provided at Appendix A) be approved for public consultation, subject to any minor amendments made by the Interim Head of Growth and Development in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, and that comments on the scope of a new Local Plan also be sought as part of this public consultation. C. That the Local Plan Cabinet Working Group meet more frequently to consider documents.</p>
Climate Change Review Final Report of the Corp & Env O&S Cttee	Corp O&S Dec 2021	Jan 2022	<p>A. That the following completed Actions/outcomes highlighted by the Committee during the course of the review, be noted: 1. Information regarding the Green Homes Grant has been sent to all residents who requested it, with links to the Cosy Homes in Lancashire (CHIL) website, which provides further information, encourages householders to take up free energy efficiency measures in their homes and provides an online application form. 2. An invite to the NW Energy Hub event in</p>	<p>Recommendations agreed in full: That the final report of the Committee on the review undertaken on the Action on Climate Emergency' combined with 'Create/Designate Hedgehog and Wildlife areas in public parks/gardens across the Borough', attached as Appendix A to the report be noted, and the recommendations contained therein, be approved as follows: A. That the following completed Actions/outcomes highlighted by the Committee during the course of the review, be noted:</p>

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			<p>June was forwarded to all who expressed an interest, together with another similar event by Electricity Northwest (ENW) 'Powering our Communities' which launched a Fund to support community and local energy groups to develop and grow.</p> <p>3. A 2nd bid has been submitted to the Office of Low Emissions Vehicles (OLEV) for their consideration. This includes 32 charge points at 16 locations, the majority of which are in communal parking areas on housing estates in Skelmersdale, to ensure those living in properties without off-street parking have access to a convenient charging network. Should the project go ahead, it would attract £374,709.01 investment, at nil cost to the council.</p> <p>B. That interested parties be contacted to inform about the Rural Community Energy Fund.</p> <p>C. That the Council continue to investigate a community/group purchasing project for Solar PV, noting that early conversations are underway with NW Energy Hub regarding an application to the Rural Community Energy Fund, with possible partners. The intention is to community fund a solar PV project on large scale building/s in Skelmersdale occupied by a high energy user to purchase the power (this could be a Council owned commercial</p>	<p>1. Information regarding the Green Homes Grant has been sent to all residents who requested it, with links to the Cosy Homes in Lancashire (CHIL) website, which provides further information, encourages householders to take up free energy efficiency measures in their homes and provides an online application form.</p> <p>2. An invite to the NW Energy Hub event in June was forwarded to all who expressed an interest, together with another similar event by Electricity Northwest (ENW) 'Powering our Communities' which launched a Fund to support community and local energy groups to develop and grow.</p> <p>3. A 2nd bid has been submitted to the Office of Low Emissions Vehicles (OLEV) for their consideration. This includes 32 charge points at 16 locations, the majority of which are in communal parking areas on housing estates in Skelmersdale, to ensure those living in properties without off-street parking have access to a convenient charging network. Should the project go ahead, it would attract £374,709.01 investment, at nil cost to the council.</p> <p>B. That interested parties be contacted to inform about the Rural Community Energy Fund.</p> <p>C. That the Council continue to investigate a community/group purchasing project for Solar PV, noting that early conversations are</p>

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			<p>building with a high user tenant). The income generated could then be reinvested to fund a further project or offered back to investors, depending on the community model used.</p> <p>D. That representatives from North West Energy Hub and Electricity North West be invited to attend a West Lancashire community energy event, following the outcome of a RCEF fund application in C above.</p> <p>E. That case studies, with performance and savings figures, from installed renewable technologies on Council housing, be developed and made available on the Council's website, including details of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much will it cost to install a 2kw 3kw or 4kw? 2. How much disruption will there be to install them? 3. What potential returns are there, if any, besides the positive impact on the environment? <p>F. That working with the Lancashire Woodland Connect Project, continue to identify locations for tree planting and hedgehog and wildlife areas, noting that potential sites currently identified include 2-3 hectares at Fairy Glenn for the Queens 'Green Canopy Scheme'; 2-3 hectares at Tawd Valley Park with the assistance of the 'Friends of Tawd Valley Park'; a community orchard at Whittle Drive,</p>	<p>underway with NW Energy Hub regarding an application to the Rural Community Energy Fund, with possible partners. The intention is to community fund a solar PV project on large scale building/s in Skelmersdale occupied by a high energy user to purchase the power (this could be a Council owned commercial building with a high user tenant). The income generated could then be reinvested to fund a further project or offered back to investors, depending on the community model used.</p> <p>D. That representatives from North West Energy Hub and Electricity North West be invited to attend a West Lancashire community energy event, following the outcome of a RCEF fund application in C above.</p> <p>E. That case studies, with performance and savings figures, from installed renewable technologies on Council housing, be developed and made available on the Council's website, including details of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much will it cost to install a 2kw 3kw or 4kw? 2. How much disruption will there be to install them? 3. What potential returns are there, if any, besides the positive impact on the environment? <p>F. That working with the Lancashire Woodland Connect Project, continue to identify locations for tree planting and</p>

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			<p>Ormskirk, working with Westend School; hedgehog gardens at the Halsall Lane site, where the Schools will be getting involved, with potential funding being made available from the housing environmental improvement fund.</p> <p>G. That the potential to provide for an alternative/reduced mowing regime be investigated in order to manage areas specifically for wildlife and wildflower habitats.</p> <p>H. That consideration be given to climate change matters within the emerging Local Plan.</p> <p>I. That officers investigate / explore how businesses in the Borough can be supported with recycling.</p> <p>J. That 'Water Management Strategies' be considered as a future topic for consideration for inclusion in the Corporate & Environmental Overview & Scrutiny work programme for 2022/23.</p> <p>K. That Members receive via a Members Update, frequent updates in respect of the 'Action on Climate Emergency Strategy and Action plan'.</p> <p>L. That a Lead Member and senior officer be identified to drive forward the Council's agenda for Carbon Reduction/Environment and the importance of appointing an Environmental Strategy Manager to facilitate the actions outlined in the Council's Climate</p>	<p>hedgehog and wildlife areas, noting that potential sites currently identified include 2-3 hectares at Fairy Glenn for the Queens 'Green Canopy Scheme'; 2-3 hectares at Tawd Valley Park with the assistance of the 'Friends of Tawd Valley Park'; a community orchard at Whittle Drive, Ormskirk, working with Westend School; hedgehog gardens at the Halsall Lane site, where the Schools will be getting involved, with potential funding being made available from the housing environmental improvement fund.</p> <p>G. That the potential to provide for an alternative/reduced mowing regime be investigated in order to manage areas specifically for wildlife and wildflower habitats.</p> <p>H. That consideration be given to climate change matters within the emerging Local Plan.</p> <p>I. That officers investigate / explore how businesses in the Borough can be supported with recycling.</p> <p>J. That 'Water Management Strategies' be considered as a future topic for consideration for inclusion in the Corporate & Environmental Overview & Scrutiny work programme for 2022/23.</p> <p>K. That Members receive via a Members Update, frequent updates in respect of the 'Action on Climate Emergency Strategy and Action plan'.</p> <p>L. That a Lead Member and senior officer</p>

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			<p>Change Strategy, be expressed. M. That an update on progress of the recommendations be reviewed at Corporate & Environmental Overview & Scrutiny Committee in September 2022.</p>	<p>be identified to drive forward the Council's agenda for Carbon Reduction/Environment and the importance of appointing an Environmental Strategy Manager to facilitate the actions outlined in the Council's Climate Change Strategy, be expressed. M. That an update on progress of the recommendations be reviewed at Corporate & Environmental Overview & Scrutiny Committee in September 2022. (An update will presented to the O&S Cttee in December 2022)</p>
Corporate Performance Reporting 2022/23	Feb 2022	March 2022	<p>RESOLVED: That the Committee considered and noted the suite of Key Performance Indicators 2022/23 (Appendix A) and that the following agreed comments be passed to Cabinet on 8 March 2022 for their consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the PI WL108 Average answered waiting time for callers to the Contact Centre (seconds), to change the proposed target for 2022/23 from 145 seconds to 60 seconds. 2. That PI WL157a No. visits to Leisure Facilities proposed annual target 2022/23 be increased to reflect the new Government guidance in respect of Covid restrictions ending. 3. That PI WL159 No. attending Parks and Countryside events, proposed annual target 2022/23 be increased to reflect the 	<p>Recommendation agreed in part:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. That the suite of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and targets in Appendix A are approved and adopted for reporting as part of a Council Plan Corporate Delivery Plan to evidence progress with the Council Plan. B. That in respect of PI WL108 'Average answered waiting time for callers to the Contact Centre (seconds)' and the request from Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee to change the proposed target for 2022/23 from 145 seconds to 60 seconds, that officers undertake an evidence-based evaluation to model this, and the additional resources required and bring back a report to Cabinet for consideration. C. That in respect of PI WL157a 'No. visits to Leisure Facilities' and PI WL159 'No. attending Parks and Countryside events' the

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			<p>new Government guidance in respect of Covid restrictions ending and that major events may now take place.</p> <p>4. That a proposed new PI be formulated to reflect staff turnover/vacancy levels.</p>	<p>figures for 2022/23 be revised in accordance with the changing legislation.</p> <p>D. That a proposed new PI be formulated to reflect staff turnover/vacancy levels.</p> <p>E. That the Corporate Director of Transformation and Resources, in consultation with the Leader of the Council as Portfolio Holder, be authorised to finalise and amend the suite (Appendix A) and to make necessary amendments to the suite in year in response to any issues that may arise, for example government policy or collection mechanisms.</p> <p>ACTIONS COMPLETED:</p> <p>B. A report was considered by Executive O&S & Cabinet in September 2022, when it was agreed that the target for WL108 remains at 145 seconds.</p> <p>C. Within Q1 reporting. WL157a target was increased from initially proposed 480K (annual) to 550K and WL159 target was increased from initial 15K (annual) to 35K)</p> <p>D. Within Q1 reporting staff turnover rate was included.</p>
Risk Management Framework & Key Risk Register	Exec O&S Feb 2022	March 2022	<p>A. That the continuing effective operation of the Risk Management Framework as detailed in the Annual Report 2021 (Appendix A) be noted.</p> <p>B. That the proposed amendments to the Risk Management Policy & Strategy (Appendix B) and Toolkit (Appendix C)</p>	<p>Recommendations accepted in full:</p> <p>A. That the continuing effective operation of the Risk Management Framework as detailed in the Annual Report 2021 (Appendix A) be noted.</p> <p>B. That the proposed amendments to the Risk Management Policy & Strategy (Appendix B) and Toolkit (Appendix C) be</p>

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			<p>be considered and noted.</p> <p>C. That the progress made in relation to the management of the risks shown in the Key Risk Register (Appendix D) be considered and noted.</p> <p>D. That the following agreed comments of Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee be considered by Cabinet on 8 March 2022:</p> <p>1. That the risk owner look again at the ratings of the following key risk areas as contained in the Key Risk Report at Appendix D:</p> <p>Page 1916 Agenda Item 6c</p> <p>a) Growth and Development Services – delays in preparation of new Local Plan.</p> <p>b) Failure for Tawd Valley Developments to deliver the Business Plan agreed by Council.</p> <p>c) Corporate and Customer Services– Recruitment and retention of key staff</p>	<p>approved.</p> <p>C. That in respect of the agreed comments of the Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 24 February 2022, as detailed in the minute circulated, it be noted that risk ratings are constantly reviewed and are looked at as a minimum on a quarterly basis by the risk owner and are measured against the risk impact descriptor tables.</p> <p>D. That the progress made in relation to the management of the risks shown in the Key Risk Register (Appendix D) be endorsed.</p>
Local Development Scheme Update	Exec O&S Feb 2022	March 2022	<p>That the content of the report be noted and that the following agreed comments of Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee be submitted to Cabinet on 8 March 2022:</p> <p>1. There are significant concerns in respect of resource levels of the Planning Policy Team. This includes concern that one position in the new structure is advertised as 'temporary'.</p>	<p>Recommendations accepted in full:</p> <p>A. That the updated March 2022 Local Development Scheme within Appendix A to the report be approved.</p> <p>B. That the agreed comments of the Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 24 February 2022, in respect of the resources levels of the Planning Policy Team and the proposed new Local Plan</p>

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			<p>2. There is concern that the proposed new Local Plan timescale is difficult to achieve.</p> <p>3. That the Local Plan Cabinet Working Group should not consider changes/approval of the HEDNA by email and that a further meeting be held to consider this.</p> <p>4. That the request that further and more frequent meetings of the Local Plan Cabinet Working Group take place is reiterated.</p> <p>5. That the Local Plan Cabinet Working Group be provided with an update on the 2019 PAS report outlining policies on the current Local Plan that are outdated</p>	<p>timescale be noted.</p> <p>C. That the agreed comments of the Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee, in respect of the work programme and frequency of meetings of the Local Plan Cabinet Working Group, be endorsed.</p>

Items considered by Scrutiny Committees, which were supported and referred to Cabinet without any agreed comments:

1. Revised Tenancy Policy – June 2021
2. Planning Service Review – June 2021
3. Corporate Risk Register – September 2021 (A matter was referred to Audit & Gov)
4. Mobile Home fit & Proper Person Policy 2021 – September 2021
5. Draft CIL Funding Programme 2022/23 – September 2021
6. Timetable For Local Plan Preparation – September 2021
7. The Planning Service Review – Update (noted) – September 2021
8. Independent Review of Tawd Valley Developments Ltd (post hoc scrutiny) – September 2021
9. Tenancy Strategy 2022-2025 – November 2021
10. Housing Revenue Account - Revenue and Capital Mid-Year Review (Noted) – November 2021
11. Capital Programme Mid Year Review – November 2021
12. Customer Feedback Policy – November 2021

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- 13. Data Quality Policy – November 2021
- 14. Food Insecurity – November 2021
- 15. Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard Enforcement Policy – November 2021
- 16. Private Rented Sector Electrical Safety Policy 2021 – November 2021
- 17. Greater Manchester Combined Authority 'Places for Everyone' Statement of Common Ground – November 2021
- 18. Infrastructure Funding Statement 2021 – November 2021
- 19. A Regeneration Plan for Skelmersdale Town Centre – November 2021
- 20. Draft Revenue & Capital Programme Budget – January 2022
- 21. Housing Account – Revenue and Capital Programme Budget Setting – January 2022
- 22. Quarterly Council Plan Performance Delivery Plan – Q2 2021/22 – January 2022
- 23. CIL Funding Programme 2022/23
- 24. Review of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule – March 2022
- 25. Planning Service Review – Update – March 2022
- 26. Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Strategy and Equality Objectives 2022-2026 – March 2022
- 27. Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations – March 2022