

Agenda

General scrutiny committee

Date: Monday 25 January 2021

Time: **2.00 pm**

Place: online

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www.youtube.com/HerefordshireCouncil

Notes: Please note the time, date and venue of the meeting.

For any further information please contact:

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If you would like help to understand this document, or would like it in another format, please call Tim Brown, Governance Services on 01432 260239 or e-mail tbrown@herefordshire.gov.uk in advance of the meeting.

Agenda for the meeting of the General scrutiny committee

Membership

Chairperson Councillor Jonathan Lester Vice-Chairperson Councillor Tracy Bowes

Councillor Barry Durkin Councillor Jennie Hewitt Councillor Bob Matthews Councillor Louis Stark Councillor William Wilding

Agenda

Pages

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive apologies for absence.

2. NAMED SUBSTITUTES

To receive details of members nominated to attend the meeting in place of a member of the committee.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive declarations of interests in respect of Schedule 1, Schedule 2 or Other Interests from members of the committee in respect of items on the agenda.

4. MINUTES (TO FOLLOW)

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2021.

HOW TO SUBMIT QUESTIONS

The deadline for the submission of questions for this meeting is 5.00 pm on Tuesday 19 January 2021.

Questions must be submitted to <u>councillorservices@herefordshire.gov.uk</u>. Questions sent to any other address may not be accepted.

Accepted questions and the responses will be published as a supplement to the agenda papers prior to the meeting. Further information and guidance is available at www.herefordshire.gov.uk/getinvolved

5. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

To receive any written questions from members of the public.

6. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

To receive any written questions from members of the council.

7. TASK AND FINISH GROUP REPORT - CLIMATE EMERGENCY REVIEW

11 - 32

To consider the Task and Finish Group's report on Climate & Ecological Emergency review.

8. WORK PROGRAMME

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To review the committee's work programme.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting is on 22 March 2021 (10.15 am)

The Public's Rights to Information and Attendance at Meetings

Herefordshire Council is currently conducting its public committees, including the General Scrutiny Committee, as "virtual" meetings. These meetings will be video streamed live on the internet and a video recording maintained on the council's website after the meeting. This is in response to a recent change in legislation as a result of COVID-19. This arrangement will be adopted while public health emergency measures including, for example, social distancing, remain in place.

Meetings will be streamed live on the Herefordshire Council YouTube Channel at

https://www.youtube.com/HerefordshireCouncil

The recording of the meeting will be available shortly after the meeting has concluded through the General Scrutiny Committee meeting page on the council's web-site.

http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Cld=809&Year=0

YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO: -

- Observe all "virtual" Council, Cabinet, Committee and Sub-Committee meetings unless the business to be transacted would disclose 'confidential' or 'exempt' information.
- Inspect agenda and public reports at least five clear days before the date of the meeting. (These
 will be published on the Planning and Regulatory Committee meeting page on the council's website. See link above).
- Inspect minutes of the Council and all Committees and Sub-Committees and written statements of decisions taken by the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Members for up to six years following a meeting. (These will be published on the Planning and Regulatory Committee meeting page on the council's web-site. See link above).
- Inspect background papers used in the preparation of public reports for a period of up to four years from the date of the meeting. (A list of the background papers to a report is given at the end of each report). A background paper is a document on which the officer has relied in writing the report and which otherwise is not available to the public.
- Access to a public register stating the names, addresses and wards of all Councillors with details
 of the membership of Cabinet and of all Committees and Sub-Committees.
- Have access to a list specifying those powers on which the Council have delegated decision making to their officers identifying the officers concerned by title.
- Access to this summary of your rights as members of the public to observe "virtual" meetings of the Council, Cabinet, Committees and Sub-Committees and to inspect documents.



Guide to General Scrutiny Committee

Scrutiny is a statutory role fulfilled by councillors who are not members of the cabinet.

The role of the scrutiny committees is to help develop policy, to carry out reviews of council and other local services, and to hold decision makers to account for their actions and decisions.

Council has decided that there will be three scrutiny committees. The Committees reflect the balance of political groups on the council.

The General Scrutiny Committee consists of 7 Councillors.

Councillor Tracy Bowes (Vice-Chairperson)	It's Our County
Councillor Barry Durkin	Conservative
Councillor Jennie Hewitt	Herefordshire Independents
Councillor Jonathan Lester (Chairperson)	Conservative
Councillor Bob Matthews	True Independents
Councillor Louis Stark	Liberal Democrat
Councillor William Wilding	Herefordshire Independents

The committees have the power:

- (a) to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the executive,
- (b) to make reports or recommendations to the authority or the executive with respect to the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the executive,
- (c) to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge of any functions which are not the responsibility of the executive,
- (d) to make reports or recommendations to council or the cabinet with respect to the discharge of any functions which are not the responsibility of the executive,
- (e) to make reports or recommendations to council or the cabinet on matters which affect the authority's area or the inhabitants of that area
- (f) to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions and to make reports or recommendations to the council with respect to the discharge of those functions. In this regard crime and disorder functions means:
 - (i) a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in the area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); and
 - (ii) a strategy for combatting the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the area; and
 - (iii) a strategy for the reduction of re-offending in the area
- (g) to review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in its area and make reports and recommendations to a responsible person on any matter it has reviewed or scrutinised or to be consulted by a relevant NHS



body or health service provider in accordance with the Regulations (2013/218) as amended. In this regard *health service* includes services designed to secure improvement—

- (i) in the physical and mental health of the people of England, and
- (ii) in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of physical and mental illness
- (iii) And any services provided in pursuance of arrangements under section 75 in relation to the exercise of health-related functions of a local authority.
- (h) to review and scrutinise the exercise by risk management authorities of flood risk management functions or coastal erosion risk management functions which may affect the local authority's area.

The specific remit of the general scrutiny committee includes:

- Services within the economy and place directorate and corporate centre
- Corporate performance
- Budget and policy framework matters
- Statutory flood risk management scrutiny powers
- Statutory community safety and policing scrutiny powers

Who attends general scrutiny committee meetings?

The following attend the committee:

- Members of the committee, including the chairperson and vice chairperson.
- Cabinet Members They are not members of the committee but attend principally to answer any questions the Committee may have and inform the debate.
- Officers of the council to present reports and give technical advice to the committee
- People external to the Council invited to provide information to the committee.

(Other councillors - may attend as observers but are only entitled to speak at the discretion of the chairman.)



The Seven Principles of Public Life

(Nolan Principles)

1. Selflessness

Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest.

2. Integrity

Holders of public office must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships.

3. Objectivity

Holders of public office must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias.

4. Accountability

Holders of public office are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this.

5. Openness

Holders of public office should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing.

6. Honesty

Holders of public office should be truthful.

7. Leadership

Holders of public office should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs.



Meeting:	General scrutiny committee
Meeting date:	Monday 28 September 2020
Title of report:	Task and Finish Group Report – Climate Emergency Review
Report by:	Chair of Climate & Ecological Emergency Task and Finish Group

Classification

Open

Decision type

This is not an executive decision

Wards affected

(All Wards);

Purpose

To consider the Task and Finish Group's report on Climate & Ecological Emergency review.

Recommendation(s)

That:

- (a) The committee considers the task and finish group's report at appendix A; and
- (b) The committee submits the findings and recommendations to the executive for consideration.

Alternative options

1. The recommendations proposed in the Group's report represent the Group's findings. If there are any additional recommendations that the committee wishes to make these can be considered at the meeting.

Key considerations

- 2. On 8 March 2019 Herefordshire Council declared a climate and ecological emergency following unanimous support for a climate emergency resolution at full council.
- 3. On 26 September 2019, Cabinet approved the executive's response to these resolutions, setting out a number of actions and policy commitments including:
 - An accelerated reduction of the council's own carbon emissions and the aspiration to become net carbon neutral by 2030/31.
 - The council will work with strategic partners, residents and local organisations to develop a revised countywide CO₂ reduction strategy, aspiring for carbon neutral by 2030.
 - That the general scrutiny committee is invited to consider building into their work programme and/or establishing a task and finish group to:
 - i. Review the draft carbon management plan;
 - ii. Review partners' plans and strategies to recommend how best to develop a joint countywide strategy;
 - iii. Develop and propose a checklist of criteria for the development of new and review of existing council strategies to assess their suitability to deliver on carbon reduction.
- 4. General scrutiny committee established a task and finish group on 20 January 2020 to carry out a climate emergency review.
- 5. The review is intended to support policy development by providing the task and finish group's findings and recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Economy and Skills and the Sustainability & Climate Change team.
- 6. The review will contribute to the design and delivery of the Council's new climate change commitments, as set out in the 'Executive Response to the Climate Emergency'.
- 7. At an early stage the group identified key topic areas to focus the review on. Both external and internal speakers who are experts in their fields were identified and invited to meetings to present to the group and discuss these subject areas.
- 8. This review has taken place during the Covid-19 pandemic, since March meetings have been held online.

Community impact

9. In accordance with the adopted code of corporate governance, Herefordshire Council is committed to promoting a positive working culture that accepts and encourages constructive challenge and recognises that a culture and structure for scrutiny are key elements for accountable decision making, policy development and review.

- 10. The resulting improvements in local air quality, improved public health and efficiencies from addressing the climate emergency will positively contribute towards the delivery of the council's corporate plan objectives of 'Securing better services, quality of life and value for money' and 'Enabling residents to live safe, healthy and independent lives.'
- 11. Flooding has been a focus of the groups work throughout the year with recommendations in the report made to look to lessen the impact of flooding and to support those that have been the victims of flooding in Herefordshire.
- 12. As a part of this work improving the fabric of buildings across the county has been given consideration and the positive impact that plays on both the environment and the health of our residents both for new build and existing properties.

Environmental Impact

- 13. The objective of this task and finish group is to ensure the council's operations reflect the ambition set out in the declaration of a Climate and Ecological Emergency and the setting of the 2030 net zero carbon targets for the council and county. The findings and recommendations in this review support the council's environmental policy commitments in aiming to:
 - Improve and extend active travel options throughout the county (EN2)
 - Understand and support sustainable living (EN3)
 - Invest in low carbon projects (EN4)
 - Identify climate change actions in all aspects of the councils operations (EN5)
 - Seek strong stewardship of the county's natural resources (EN6)
 - Protect & enhance the county's biodiversity, value nature and uphold environmental standards (EN7)
 - Develop environmentally sound infrastructure that attracts investment (EC6)
- 14. It strongly supports the County Plan's ambitions for Herefordshire to:
 - Protect and enhance our environment and keep Herefordshire a great place to live
 - Support an economy which builds on the county's strengths and resources

Equality duty

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

15. If the committee agrees with the findings of the task and finish group, the report will need to be considered by the executive and, depending on their decision, due regard will need to be given to the public sector equality duty.

Resource implications

16. The recommendations agreed by the committee will be sent to the executive. In considering their response an assessment of resource implications will be undertaken.

Legal implications

- 17. The functions of the general scrutiny committee include the powers to make reports or recommendations to the executive with respect to the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the executive and to make reports or recommendations to council or the cabinet on matters which affect the authority's area or the inhabitants of that area.
- 18. There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

Risk management

19. The recommendations agreed by the committee will be sent to the executive. In considering its response the executive will need to assess any risks arising from the recommendations.

Consultees

20. None

Appendices

 Appendix A – Report of the Task and Finish Group – Climate & Ecological Emergency Review.

Background papers

None identified.



General Scrutiny Committee

Task and Finish Group

Climate and Ecological Emergency Review



Picture provided by Herefordshire Council Communications Team

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Foreword

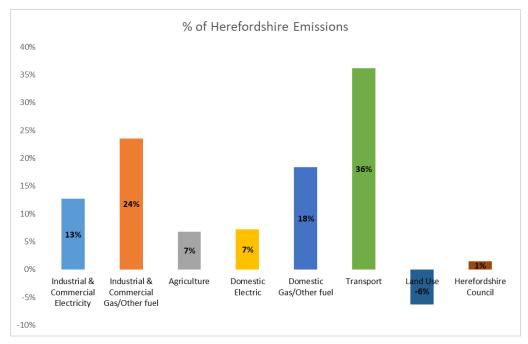
Climate change is a reality now. It has already impacted on many of our residents in terms of the severe flooding experienced across the County. The damage caused to private homes, businesses and infrastructure has been immense and is only a foretaste of worse to come. Although extreme weather events may seem the worst of our worries, we can at least take actions to mitigate them and repair damage caused.

Climate change is also a main driver in the UK's massive loss of biodiversity. Loss of biodiversity is totally irreversible, once species are extinct no amount of money can bring them back. Overriding all of this is the acute need to prevent more erosion to our bank of Natural Capital, to reverse the damage, and not only to enhance it, but build it back up to pre-industrial levels.

The Council has declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency and the aim to get to net carbon zero by 2030. But this can only be achieved if very strong measures are embedded in every decision the council makes, in its policies, processes and actions. Moreover, the council needs to consider how it can take the lead in helping our communities and local economy to adapt to climate change and to become more resilient.

These might seem to be very lofty aims. But this Task and Finish Group are aware that in order to meet its declared commitments the council, and the residents of Herefordshire must raise their game.

Through delivering the Terms of Reference set for us by the General Scrutiny Committee, we hope to enable Herefordshire Council to achieve what it needs to do in meeting its climate emergency declaration and setting an example for action across the County.



The chart above shows the breakdown of carbon emissions in Herefordshire in 2018¹. The total emissions in this year in Herefordshire were 1.137 million tonnes of CO₂.

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¹ Data from the Department for Business Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

The membership of our Group are:

Cllr William Wilding (Chair) Cllr Toni Fagan Cllr Jennie Hewitt

Cllr Louis Stark Cllr Elissa Swinglehurst

Early on in the process the Task and Finish Group ('the Group') identified key subject areas of focus for their work. These areas were communication, Natural Capital, economy and tourism, planning and resilience, transport, community, ecology and agriculture and land use. Both external and internal speakers who are experts in their fields were identified and invited to meetings to present to the Group and discuss these subjects. The recommendations of this report have been categorised under these themes.

The Group would like to acknowledge the work of the waste management strategic review and transport strategy review for Hereford. To avoid duplication of work, recommendations have not been made in these specific areas despite being imperative to meeting the climate and ecological emergency.

The climate and ecological emergency is a very fast moving subject area with huge amounts of work going on across Herefordshire and the country. This report is a snapshot of the work done by the Group in the timeframe available. It is accepted that with such a large subject area, there is constant advancement and therefore some recommendations may already be in progress and some may have been superseded by new initiatives. Where that is the case, it is welcomed and highlights why a permanent Committee is required.

Cllr William Wilding (Chair)

Governance

Much discussion was given to how much needs to be done to respond adequately to the climate and ecological emergency. The invaluable and tireless work of community groups and agencies outside Herefordshire Council was acknowledged.

A key question was raised, what sort of governance structure would be required and how would that structure work alongside countywide and external partners in a truly collaborative way. The Policy Committee, Partnership and Citizens panels should address the climate emergency through the lens of the same 'themes' to ensure synchronicity of work.

Moving forward with the hybrid style of governance, the Group recommend a Committee is formed allowing wider input from Councillors, greater transparency and cross cutting to prevent silo working.

1. Internal Governance:

- a. The Council should establish a politically proportionate Committee (the Climate and Ecological Emergency Policy Committee) with responsibility for directing the Council's response to the climate and ecological emergency. The Chairperson of that Committee may or may not be a cabinet member depending on the precise arrangements adopted by the council, but the Committee is to have primacy.
- b. The Committee should take account of the proposed Future Generations Act.
- c. The Committee should have some form of decision making powers in line with the future hybrid system of governance.
- d. The Committee should have its own budget that facilitates it to fulfil its remit and initiate projects that will enable the council to make progress required with respect to the climate & ecological emergency.
- e. The Committee should be the focal point for all council climate change related work.
- f. The Committee should receive regular reports from bodies charged with directing the countywide response to the climate and ecological emergency. The Committee would not duplicate this work but ensure that the council remained sighted upon it.
- g. Research should be undertaken and consideration given to models adopted by other authorities reflecting these principles.
- The existing county wide steering group was set up in 2019 to create the basis of a net zero, nature rich action plan and set up a new Partnership to adopt and drive forward the action plan. The Group recommends the following approach to a Partnership to deliver a countywide response to the climate and ecological emergency;
 - a. A collaborative, open and transparent partnership body needs to be established to deliver the countywide response to the climate and ecological emergency.
 - b. This body should not be led by the council or run by it.
 - c. The Council should be represented on the partnership, should participate in it and make a robust contribution.
 - d. Arrangements should be put in place to ensure regular feedback from the partnership to the Committee.
 - e. Provision should be made for the membership of the partnership to include those who are responsible for the delivery of measures that are likely to be recommended to ensure that they are practical and capable of implementation.
 - f. Provision should be made for the membership of the partnership to include a range of views to promote effective critical friend challenge.

3. On 12 July 2019 a Zero Carbon Citizens Assembly was agreed at full council. The executive response 26 September 2019 offered four options to be detailed in a forthcoming report. The Group recommend that the report should be produced and one of these options taken forward as a priority. This option should be delivered and supported by the council and feed into the Committee and Partnership to inform the work regarding the climate and ecological emergency.

Following this recommendation the report will be split into two sections, the first contains recommendations for the executive to consider to take forward now. The second part includes recommendations that should form a basis for a work plan for the Climate and Ecological Emergency Policy Committee to review and take forward.

Recommendations to the executive

The following recommendations are made by the Task and Finish Group to the executive.

Resources

- 4. The executive should ensure that all relevant teams are sufficiently resourced to carry out all recommendations that are accepted.
- A mandatory training element should be added to the Herefordshire Council staff online training service regarding the environment and personal responsibility to ensure all staff are clear on their own professional and personal role in the climate and ecological emergency.

Working with the Local Government Association

- Whilst discussing the issues around the climate and ecological emergency the Group felt it was important that the executive commit to work with the Local Government Association to;
 - a. Press for a joined-up regulatory and enforcement framework on Natural Capital.
 - b. Support and encourage behaviour change around reducing unnecessary vehicle use and support sustainable transport.
 - c. Ensure there is no gap between the Shared Prosperity Funding² and the existing European Regional Development Fund.
 - Address and ecological damage caused by temporary events of off-road motorsports.
 - e. Protect the ecology from site clearance prior to submission of a planning application.

² https://www.local.gov.uk/parliament/briefings-and-responses/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-house-commons-5-september-2019

Communications

Throughout the work carried out by the Task and Finish Group it has been clear that messaging is crucial, effective communication, both internally and externally, is seen by the Group a key component to the delivery of the net zero carbon targets. It is essential to encouraging behaviour change. The Group recommend the strengthening of communications to highlight messages on the value of the environment, ecology and the county's Natural Capital;

- 7. An additional, dedicated communications officer in the Communications team is recommended to support environmental communications. Consideration should be given to the website, social media, active and passive promotion and engagement with the public including young people and schools to facilitate behaviour change. The officer should facilitate the following;
 - a. The officer should link with the work of the Partnership to avoid duplication.
 - b. A link to the section on climate and ecological emergency on the council's website should be promoted by a permanent banner at the top of the home page and the website pages relating to the environment should be more interactive to encourage more public involvement.
 - c. The 'Newsroom' should reflect all news relating to the climate and ecological emergency and signpost to other sources of news on the climate and ecological emergency within the County.
 - d. As a way of generating engagement, competitions and awards for innovative approaches to tackle the climate and ecological emergency should be promoted by the council and/or its partners.
 - e. Good farming and land use practice should be actively promoted by the council, supporting existing work by the Wye & Usk foundation and others.

Natural Capital, Economy and Tourism

Herefordshire is a beautiful county with much to offer in terms of economy and tourism. The Group felt it essential to acknowledge the value of the county's Natural Capital and embed its contribution to the social and economic wellbeing of the county. The loss of Natural Capital poses a threat to our progress. The Group met with the Marches LEP and council's Economic Development team discussing sustainable growth, a low carbon economy and a green recovery from Covid-19. The following recommendations are made:

- 8. Full account should be taken of the concept of Natural Capital making it the driver for all council decisions. The concept of Natural Capital could offer a different economic model with weight given to the environment's contribution to economic development;
 - a. The Cabinet consider designating Natural Capital as a separate and distinct policy area in their portfolio of responsibilities and appoint a lead on it.
 - b. The council should incorporate in tender assessment, criteria to take account of Natural Capital and prioritise support for low impact, sustainable local businesses as part of a progressive procurement policy that takes account of social value.
- 9. The Group recognises and endorses the focus on broadband infrastructure and recommends that hard to reach areas that are not possible to reach with cable services are provided impartial advice regarding mobile network solutions.
- 10. The Group recognises the importance of the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and the role they have to play in making progress with regards to the climate and ecological emergency. The Group recommends;

- a. A Natural Capital partnership with Marches authorities and the LEP should be explored.
- b. The executive should request that the LEP publically commit to support all three authorities to deliver on the net zero carbon targets.
- c. The executive should request the LEP review assessment criteria and consider taking account of Natural Capital. Support for low impact, sustainable local businesses could be prioritised as part of a progressive procurement policy that takes account of social value.
- d. The executive should raise with the LEP the issue of maize used as a feedstock for anaerobic digestion which causes environmental damage and request it reflects on the damage to Natural Capital as well as the road network.

Planning and resilience

Planning and enforcement generated much discussion for members of the Group, particularly in light of the review of the Core Strategy. There are also implications and potential changes to the planning regime as recommended by the Government's white paper³ on planning reform, the Environment Bill⁴ and Paris Agreement⁵.

Sustainability is employed in many areas within planning. The Group was concerned that often it is interpreted wrongly, or loosely employed to 'green' development plans. The Group believe that future use of the word sustainable must be qualified so there is no doubt as to the degree of sustainability and long-term commitment to it that is required.

The Group felt that it was important that Herefordshire's Natural Capital is valued and protected. It was also felt important that the local plan should give greater weight both to the vulnerability of the natural environment and to resilience. The review of the Core Strategy is an opportunity to reassess the policies that form the local plan. In light of the declared climate and ecological emergency, it is vital that emerging policies should have greater focus on climate and biodiversity and these policies be given greater weight. The group also felt that consideration should be given to the relative weight of the NPPF, the Climate Change Act 2008, the Environment Bill and the Paris Agreement in refocusing the Core Strategy.

In support of the generating of these recommendations the Group consulted with the following teams from the council; Planning, Built and Natural Environment and Directorate Services⁶. The Group requests the executive enacts the following recommendations;

- 11. The Committee be consultees under the Core Strategy review.
- 12. Biodiversity net-gain should be a consideration in future planning applications through the Core Strategy review.
- 13. Under the Core Strategy review the development of a new truly sustainable town to meet housing targets should be considered preferable to incremental growth. The town would include biodiversity net-gain, sustainable transport links and local renewable energy generation including a heat network. This should prevent broad countryside loss across the county and protect the historic nature of existing settlements.

³ https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future

⁴ https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environment-bill-2020/30-january-2020-environment-bill-2020-policy-statement

https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/what-is-the-paris-agreement

⁶ Regarding resilience.

- 14. The group recognises there is a definition of sustainability in the NPPF; "Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs". However given the environmental and ecological emergency the group recommends that greater weight is given to "the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" through the Core Strategy review.
- 15. Good clear environmental policies should be developed, demonstrably supported by the evidence base, containing specific minimum standards that could then be enforced. A Supplementary Planning Document⁷ (SPD) should be produced to address the climate & ecological emergency.
- 16. Local planning strategy to include nature recovery networks through the Core Strategy review.
- 17. The existing environmental and forthcoming ecology compliance checklists should sit in the pre validation stage of a planning applications where they will form part of our local list.
- 18. The executive should ensure that existing provisions and policies on climate change and ecology are given their maximum possible weight in the planning balance and consider whether consolidating these provisions would assist in providing a stronger focus on the issues and weight to be attributed to them.
- 19. Working in conjunction with the Environment Agency, manure management plans which have been used as mitigation in planning applications should be mapped and cross referenced and existing plans should be reviewed before new plans are issued to ensure land is not under multiple plans which would mean an exceedance would exist. Any exceedances should be reported to the Environment Agency.
- 20. A greater focus must be given within neighbourhood development plans (NDPs) to low carbon policies and green space and the scope for the neighbourhood planning team to provide greater encouragement to and support for such policies⁸. A guidance note should be produced setting out the council's expectations for provision of green space. This could include a checklist. The provision of green space as a condition for planning as well as retaining wildlife corridors, preventing the breaking up of wildlife corridors for individual plots and ensuring biodiversity net-gain should be included.
- 21. Consideration should be given to an SPD for new anaerobic digesters should prioritise feedstock which supports the circular economy and where it can be shown there will be no adverse effects on water quality.
- 22. With respect to flooding:
 - a. No future development sites should be brought forward in Environment Agency designated flood zones 2 and 3 in order to allow these areas to sequester carbon, improve biodiversity and resilience.
 - b. Actively investigate the causes of pluvial flooding and the discharge of water and sediments onto the public highway and carry out enforcement.
- 23. Where sites have already been identified for development, the council should be supporting local house builders to build sustainable housing.

https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/sitedocuments/Planning-and-Building-Control/Planning-Policy/LP20162036/cost_of_carbon_reduction_in_new_buildings_report_publication_version.pdf

⁷ e.g. https://www.cse.org.uk/downloads/file/Sara_Grimes_BANES.pdf

⁸ Existing reference material: https://www.cse.org.uk/downloads/reports-and-publications/policy/planning/renewables/neighbourhood-planning-in-a-climate-emergency-feb-2020.pdf

24. The council assess the potential for using s.106 monies to retrofit existing poorly performing housing stock in the county to improve thermal efficiency (Milton Keynes as an example⁹).

Community

The Group recognises the grassroots activity and concern around the climate and ecological emergency and therefore recommends the council considers the way it can work with and support the community. As the pandemic has demonstrated, the bedrock of resilience is the community and therefore we need to continue to strengthen partnership working.

- 25. The Group recognises the good work of officers in signposting community groups to grant funding and recommends the council increases resources so it is able to support bids through the application process and proactively drive bids in support of environmental projects with significant positive environmental outcomes.
- 26. The council should continue to support and promote Keep Herefordshire Warm and provide incentives and support to individuals to make behaviour changes to reduce carbon emissions.

Ecology

The Group recognises that ecology, land use and agriculture are intrinsically linked, as such these recommendations should be considered as a whole.

Discussions held around the ecological emergency and the River Wye SAC, as well more widely, highlighted the need to address the impacts of agriculture on Herefordshire's ecology. Discussion with external consultee's including the Wye & Usk Foundation, Monmouthshire County Council and Butterfly Conservation, highlighted potential opportunities to improve the counties ecology. Discussion with the council's Parks, Planning and Built and Natural Environment teams informed current restraints as well as opportunities for net gain. The Group present the following recommendations:

- 27. The council should have sufficient expertise and resource to carry out proactive works to protect the natural environment with a focus on wider ecological concerns in addition to responding to planning applications. The council should therefore appoint a dedicated officer to carry out proactive works.
- 28. To immediately resource an update of the Biological Records, making the data contained therein an up to date and accurate benchmark from which to understand and enhance biodiversity in the County.
- 29. A soil strategy for the County should be produced as a matter of urgency.
- 30. Improving biodiversity of verges, hedgerows and trees;
 - a. Review the approach by statutory undertakers to rewilding verges.
 - b. The council should adopt a Hedgerow Manifesto¹⁰ as part of the emerging tree strategy.
 - c. That the business case for another cut and collect machine is developed¹¹.

⁹ S.106 has been a mechanism to offset the carbon impacts of a development (embedded and lifetime) in other authorities (Milton Keynes) and to retrofit other properties.

¹⁰ The Manifesto should outline a clear strategy for the protection and conservation of the counties hedgerows

¹¹ Informed by the meeting with Butterfly Conservation who provided a case study

- d. That training be provided on sustainable verge management as part of a Parish Summit meeting inviting other key stakeholders who look after green open spaces including lengthsman.
- e. Recognise the importance of effective communication in advance of any changes to explain them fully to the public.
- 31. The council should, in consultation with Highways England, explore getting local authority verges in Herefordshire registered under Tier 3 for Environmental Land Management Schemes.
- 32. A strategic approach to biodiversity net-gain should be established, working alongside partners to aggregate biodiversity net-gain across the County and maximise the benefit¹². Carbon sequestration and offsetting should be pursued together with the scope for the County to benefit economically from these actions through the development of a business case. The Council should engage with other landowners highlighting the potential gain to them of tree planting and offer support to owners in growing;
 - a. A record should be kept of number of trees planted, for example a running counter on the website since the declaration of the climate and ecological emergency.
 - b. The council should explore options for an open market trading platform for biodiversity and carbon.
 - c. The council should take every opportunity to expedite tree planting on council owned land where appropriate, including closed landfill sites.

Agriculture and Land Use

The Rivers Wye and Lugg are special areas of conservation, protected under European and UK legislation (SSSI, Habitats Directive, Water Framework Directive, Natura 2000). However the Lugg continues to fail the water quality targets set for phosphates. Prompted by the Dutch Case¹³, Herefordshire Council has applied a moratorium to development in the Lugg catchment until Natural England is satisfied that there will be no adverse impact on the SAC. The estimated cost of this moratorium to developers is approximately £66m¹⁴.

Current data shows that the source apportionment of phosphate is around 70% agriculture/diffuse and 30% housing, point pollution. The proportion is likely to shift further towards agriculture/diffuse. Despite enormous effort to encourage changes in farming practice the River Lugg remains in exceedance for phosphate. The Wye is also suffering from the consequences of nutrient enrichment. The most significant impact of this was the eradication of the keystone species water crowfoot from around 70 miles of river, impacting invertebrate and fish habitat and leading to the almost total absence of viable swan broods.

Climate change will increase the frequency of weather patterns like 2020 – and that the algal bloom will recur unless something is done to change the conditions.

In order to ensure that damaging farming practices are reduced and to avoid disruption to future economic activity, for example the visitor economy we would recommend:

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¹² This would link into nature recovery networks

¹³ Case 293/17 court of Justice of the European Union Cooperation Mobilisation for the Environment v Verenigin Leefmilieu (Dutch Nitrogen)

¹⁴ Source: Herefordshire Construction Industry Lobby Group

- 33. The council should urgently seek counsel advice regarding the implementation of a water protection zone to protect the special area of conservation (SAC) from diffuse agricultural pollution (Wye and tributaries).
- 34. The council should explore the use of council land for solar farms and where appropriate council car parks linked with EV charging points.

Recommendations for the Climate and Ecological Emergency Policy Committee

Should a Climate and Ecological Emergency Policy Committee not be agreed or established the following recommendations should be made to the executive.

- 35. The Committee should review all elements of the work so far on the climate and ecological emergency to ensure progress and avoid duplication of work.
 - a. Specifically the Committee should review the SPD¹⁵ and environmental and ecological checklists produced.
 - b. The work of the Committee¹⁶ and others should guide the council's actions to ensure it is moving in the right direction.

Agriculture and land use

The group met with the Wye & Usk Foundation, a part of the meeting included discussion around land use. The Group identified the need for greater emphasis on good agricultural practice. The survival of the rich biodiversity of the River Wye depends upon it.

As a rural county, agriculture and land use should have a prominent position within the council. Much good work has already been achieved and the Group urge the need to build on that with a sense of urgency.

- 36. There is a need to explore where the council can support the work of the Environment Agency and work more closely together on mutual targets and ambitions regarding enforcement.
- 37. Good farming and land use practice should be actively promoted by the Committee, supporting existing work by the Wye & Usk foundation and others, with a view to setting up a Herefordshire local seal of quality. The produce should be promoted for example in a food festival, local farm shop or farmers market.

¹⁵ Recommendation 14

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¹⁶ https://www.theccc.org.uk/

Transport

The group met with both the Cabinet Member for transport and the Head of Transport and Access Services. The following recommendations are made by the Group, informed by these discussion to the Committee to further enhance the role of active travel to reduce the impact of fossil fuel based transport on the County.

- 38. The council should work with Parish Councils and partners such as Sustrans and the Local Access Forum to map potential cycle and walking route extensions.
- 39. Strips of land alongside rural roads should be investigated to create cycle ways with a view to purchase or lease the land.
- 40. 20 mph zones should be implemented across Hereford, the market towns and around schools, countywide.
- 41. Opportunities to support all schools in developing school travel plans noting the link to changing travel to school behaviour and wider travel behaviour of children and parents should be explored.
- 42. To address the issues of rural transport the council should pursue funding to support innovative transport schemes within the community sector including demand responsive transport (DRT), car clubs and low traffic neighbourhoods¹⁷.
- 43. A 'shop drop' scheme should be considered to support car-free city and town centres to enable shoppers to park on the outskirts and have shopping sustainably transported to their car, choose how you move location or bus stop. This should support existing 'first mile last mile' schemes.
- 44. Demand management should be further implemented, supported by robust communications¹⁸ and used to increase the provision of infrastructure to support active travel e.g.;
 - a. Reduce on street parking and replace with infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians.
 - b. Work place levy operated by the council with funds used to increase uptake of active travel.
 - c. Car parking charges to be based on emissions.

Natural Capital, Economy and Tourism

- 45. The Group recognises the existing work by officers to support the retrofit of fuel poor households. It recommends an investigation into the potential for a local 'green deal' option potentially through the establishment of a social enterprise to support the retrofit of the largest domestic users of energy in the County.
- 46. Consideration should be given to use of alternative fuel market¹⁹ for council fleet and contractors when vehicles/contractors are commissioned.
- 47. The use of hydrogen as an alternative fuel for long range vehicles or HGVs across the County should be explored.
- 48. A Natural Capital management plan should be drawn up with partners. A baseline should be established and the plan should;
 - a. Ensure that its preservation and restoration are given equal weight to economic growth and development in the allocation of funding (particularly capital) and in the decision making process.

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¹⁷ https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/future-of-transport-rural-strategy-call-for-evidence/future-of-transport-rural-strategy-call-for-evidence

¹⁸ e.g. successfully demonstrate alternative to private car use

¹⁹ such as hydro treated vegetable oil

- Be used as a framework for positive and collaborative engagement with key partners to achieve a unified approach to remedy damage done to Natural Capital across the County.
- 49. A fund to be established to support businesses to contribute to carbon reduction or ecological restoration.

Community

The Group acknowledges and appreciates the strength of existing networks and how much work has been done across the County. It is essential that partnership and collaborative working is embedded in how we move forward to drive behaviour change across the County as we move towards decarbonisation. The Group would like to recognise the excellent work of Talk Community and the opportunity it presents to enhance partnership working across communities.

- 50. The Group would recognise the excellent existing work of Talk Community and recommend it explore support and actively engage with single person households to improve or enhance resilience and prepared for the effects of the climate and ecological emergency.
- 51. Where the council provides schools meals they must be nutritious, locally sourced, low carbon and ethical.
- 52. In terms of community gardens, the potential for using pockets of green space in the more urban areas for orchards/market gardens should be explored. A scheme be developed to facilitate residents in the countryside who cannot manage their gardens to find someone eager to make productive use of that land.

Ecology

- 53. To recognise and properly protect the natural resource in Herefordshire the Committee should:
 - a. Consider the creation of additional areas of outstanding natural beauty (AONB).
 - b. Support the Wye Valley (including the Monnow Valley) be a national park (see Glover Review) and explore other areas including the Golden Valley as well as link to the other Marches authorities to establish nature recovery networks.

Concluding statement

Let's us not forget that massive amounts of great work has already been done. Previous administrations, both officers and members from all political groups have achieved much. There are many groups in our communities who have also contributed time, effort and skill. We are standing on the shoulders of giants.

The task is enormous, around 1,700,000 tonnes of CO₂e is produced in Herefordshire each year. We are in constant danger of duplication, trying to solve something that someone else is already delivering, communication, collaboration and transparency are key areas to improve.

In order to meet our declared aims, we have recommended a robust governance structure which includes recommendations to the executive, the new Committee and the Partnership.

We also look forward to the contributions from NMITE to the challenge ahead.

Above all the council, and the residents of Herefordshire must work together and raise their game.

Cllr William Wilding (Chair)



Photograph: Lisa Wise 2018

Acknowledgements and progress

The Group notes that the Countywide Climate & Ecological Emergency Steering Group is working on the following themes: Energy, Transport, Waste, Food, Land Use and Agriculture and Community Engagement.

We look forward to the collaborative countywide Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan for Herefordshire being published in 2021. The Group welcome the speed and determination the County Steering Group has shown to move forward on this and applaud the work done by the Steering Group.

The Task and Finish Group are aware that because these two groups are active simultaneously, there will be some duplication. However the Group are of the opinion that in order to move swiftly it was essential to push ahead with both groups.

The Group were keen to ensure that the emergency of the situation was recognised and made a number of recommendations throughout its process, these are noted below.

- Cabinet member Cllr Ellie Chowns has been given specific responsibility to act as a lead on the climate and ecological emergency.
- The council's decision report template has been amended to include a section on climate and ecological emergency considerations.
- The Group fed into the draft report of the Carbon Management Plan 2020/21-25/26.

In addition the Group notes the success of the council's 'Better Ways of Working' and show support for its long term continuation.

Glossary

Natural capital - Natural capital can be defined as the world's stocks of natural assets which include geology, soil, air, water and all living things²⁰.

Some Natural Capital assets provide people with free goods and services, often called ecosystem services.

Two of these (clean water and fertile soil) underpin our economy and society, and thus make human life possible.

Natural capital provides people with essential services, like water catchment, erosion control and crop pollination by insects, which in turn ensure the long-term viability of other natural resources²¹.

Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) - SuDS are drainage systems that are considered to be environmentally beneficial, causing minimal or no long-term detrimental damage. They are often regarded as a sequence of management practices, control structures and strategies designed to efficiently and sustainably drain surface water, while minimising pollution and managing the impact on water quality of local water bodies²².

Sustainability – When 'sustainability' and 'sustainable' are used in this report it they are used in the following context and all recommendations made relating to it should reflect this definition: Having regard to how natural systems function, remain diverse and produce everything they need for the ecosystem to remain in balance.²³

Consultees

- Cllr Trish Marsh (Herefordshire Council)
- Cllr John Harrington (Herefordshire Council)
- Cllr Ellie Chowns (Herefordshire Council)
- Elizabeth Duberley (Herefordshire Council, Service Manager, Built and Natural Environment)
- Nigel Leaworthy (Monmouthshire County Council, Operations Manager)
- Mark Cleaver (Monmouthshire County Council)
- Gill Hamer (Marches LEP, Chief Executive)
- Tim Yair (on behalf of Marches LEP)
- Roger Allonby (Herefordshire Council, Head of Economic Development)
- Phil Sterling (Butterfly Conservation, Programme Manager)

https://naturalcapitalforum.com/about/#:~:text=Natural%20capital%20can%20be%20defined,which%20make%20human%20life%20possible.

²⁰

²¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_capital

²² https://www.susdrain.org/delivering-suds/using-suds/background/sustainable-drainage.html

https://www.environmentalscience.org/sustainability

- Kevin Bishop (Herefordshire Council, Lead Development Manager)
- Spencer Grogan (Herefordshire Council, Parks and Leisure Centre Commissioning Manager
- Simon Evans (Wye and Usk Foundation, CEO)
- Steve Hodges (Herefordshire Council, Directorate Services Team Leader)
- Steve Burgess (Herefordshire Council, Head of Transport and Access Services)
- Task and Finish Group Waste Management Strategic Review

Further reading

https://www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Key%20local%20and%20national%20actions%20-%20Dieter%20Helm.pdf

https://www.rspb.org.uk/globalassets/downloads/documents/birds-and-wildlife/birds-of-conservation-concern-4--the-population-status-of-birds-in-the-united-kingdom-channel-islands-and-the-isle-of-man.pdf

https://www.mammal.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/MS_RL20_Britain.pdf



Meeting:	General scrutiny committee
Meeting date:	Monday 25 January 2021
Title of report:	Work programme
Report by:	Democratic Services Officer

Classification

Open

Decision type

This is not an executive decision

Wards affected

(All Wards);

Purpose

To review the committee's work programme.

Recommendation(s)

That:

- (a) the draft work programme as set out at appendix 1 to the report be approved subject to any amendments the committee wishes to make; and
- (b) the committee determines any other matter in relation to the appointment of task and finish groups, their chairmanship and any special responsibility allowance or the undertaking of a spotlight review.

Alternative options

 It is for the committee to determine its work programme to reflect the priorities facing Herefordshire. The committee needs to be selective and ensure that the work programme is focused, realistic and deliverable within existing resources.

Key considerations

- 2. The work programme needs to focus on the key issues of local concern and be manageable. It must also be ready to accommodate urgent items or matters that have been called-in.
- 3. Should committee members become aware of any issue they think should be considered by the Committee they are invited to discuss the matter with the chairperson, vice-chairperson and the statutory scrutiny officer.
- 4. The draft work programme is attached at appendix 1. A number of suggestions were made at an informal scrutiny work planning session on 20 November. The Committee has addressed some of these. The remainder are set out for consideration in the appendix.
- 5. The Committee on 23 July 2019 authorised the statutory scrutiny officer, following consultation with the chairperson and vice-chairperson, to add items to the work programme where it is necessary to ensure their timely consideration where there is no scheduled meeting to approve their inclusion.

Constitutional Matters

Task and Finish Groups

- 6. A scrutiny committee may appoint a task and finish group for any scrutiny activity within the committee's agreed work programme. A committee may determine to undertake a task and finish activity itself as a spotlight review where such an activity may be undertaken in a single session; the procedure rules relating to task and finish groups will apply in these circumstances.
- 7. The relevant scrutiny committee will approve the scope of the activity to be undertaken, the membership, chairperson, timeframe, desired outcomes and what will not be included in the work. A task and finish group will be composed of a least 2 members of the committee, other councillors (nominees to be sought from group leaders with un-affiliated members also invited to express their interest in sitting on the group). This may include, as appropriate, co-opted people with specialist knowledge or expertise to support the task. In appointing a chairman of a task and finish group the committee will also determine, having regard to the advice of the council's monitoring officer and statutory scrutiny officer, whether the scope of the activity is such as to attract a special responsibility allowance.
- 8. The Committee is asked to determine any matters relating to the appointment of a task and finish group and the chairperson and any special responsibility allowance or undertaking a spotlight review including co-option.

Task and finish group – update

9. No task and finish groups are in progress.

Suggestions for scrutiny

11. Suggestions for scrutiny are invited from members of the public through the council's website, accessible through the link below.

Tracking of recommendations made by the committee

12. A schedule of recommendations and action in response is attached at appendix 2.

Forward plan

13. The constitution states that scrutiny committees should consider the forward plan as the chief source of information regarding forthcoming key decisions. Forthcoming decisions can be viewed under the forthcoming decisions link on the council's website:

http://councillors.herefordshire.qov.uk/mgdelegateddecisions.aspx?XXR=0&DAYS=28&RP=0&K=0&DM=0&HD=0&DS=1&META=mgdelegateddecisions&V=Councillors.herefordshire.qov.uk/mgdelegateddecisions.aspx?XXR=0&DAYS=28&RP=0&K=0&DM=0&HD=0&DS=1&META=mgdelegateddecisions&V=Councillors.herefordshire.qov.uk/mgdelegateddecisions.aspx?XXR=0&DAYS=28&RP=0&K=0&DM=0&HD=0&DS=1&META=mgdelegateddecisions&V=Councillors.herefordshire.qov.uk/mgdelegateddecisions.aspx?XXR=0&DAYS=28&RP=0&K=0&DM=0&DS=1&META=mgdelegateddecisions&V=Councillors.herefordshire.qov.uk/mgdelegateddecisions.aspx?XXR=0&DAYS=28&RP=0&K=0&DM=0&DS=1&META=mgdelegateddecisions&V=Councillors.herefordshire.qov.uk/mgdelegateddecisions.aspx?XXR=0&DAYS=28&RP=0&K=0&DM=0&DS=1&META=mgdelegateddecisions&V=Councillors.herefordshire.qov.uk/mgdelegateddecisions&V=Councillors.here

14. An extract from the plan containing items within the remit of this Committee to consider is attached at appendix 3.

Community impact

15. In accordance with the adopted code of corporate governance, Herefordshire Council is committed to promoting a positive working culture that accepts and encourages constructive challenge and recognises that a culture and structure for scrutiny are key elements for accountable decision making, policy development and review. Topics selected for scrutiny should have regard to what matters to residents.

Environmental Impact

- Herefordshire Council provides and purchases a wide range of services for the people of Herefordshire. Together with partner organisations in the private, public and voluntary sectors we share a strong commitment to improving our environmental sustainability, achieving carbon neutrality and to protect and enhance Herefordshire's outstanding natural environment.
- 16 The topics selected for scrutiny will take environmental impact into account.

Equality duty

17 Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

- The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services. As this report concerns the administrative function of the committee, it is not considered that it will have an impact on the equality duty.
- 19. The topics selected for scrutiny need to have regard to equality and human rights issues.

Resource implications

20. The costs of the work of the committee will have to be met within existing resources. It should be noted the costs of running scrutiny can be subject to an assessment to support appropriate processes.

Legal implications

21. The council is required to deliver an overview and scrutiny function. The development of a work programme that is focused and reflects priorities facing Herefordshire will assist the committee and the council to deliver the scrutiny function.

Risk management

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
There is a reputational risk to the council if the overview and scrutiny function does not operate effectively.	The arrangements for the development of the work programme should help to mitigate this risk.

Consultees

22. The work programme is reviewed at every committee meeting. The Chairperson Vice-Chairperson and statutory scrutiny officer also review the work programme.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – draft work programme

Appendix 2 – schedule of recommendations made and response

Appendix 3 – Extract from the Forward Plan

Background papers

None identified

General Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

A Matters Currently Scheduled

Currently scheduled meetings and business	Purpose	Type of Scrutiny	Notes
TBC			
Work Programme addition As part of the work programme – report on options for scrutiny of Contract management/Performance management (see minutes of 7 December)			T&F Group suggested as one option for contract management. First step would be approval of scoping statement. Proposal 7 December. That a task and finish group be established to examine why the council had previously not been able to meet project deadlines for council projects, the reasons for delays, what measures needed to be put in place including arrangements with LEP partners, governance, and processes to ensure projects could be delivered on time,
25 January 2021			budgeted and to the appropriate quality.
Report of T&F Group on Climate Emergency	To consider the Group's recommendations with a view to recommending them to the Executive.	Policy Development	

15/01/21

B Outstanding Issues raised during work programming session

The Committee has addressed some of the matters raised during the above session. Consideration needs to be given to including these remaining items and, if they are to be included, allocating a target date.

Outstanding Item/issues Raised/Proposed during scrutiny workshop 20 November	Purpose	Timing	Type of Scrutiny	Notes
Scrutiny of the Planning Service: particular concern about enforcement strategy.				
Consideration of use to which S106 monies/Community Infrastructure levy are put.				
Devolution of control over parking charges and income to market towns?			Policy Review	
Partnership Working				

C Issues previously logged on work programme for possible future consideration

•	NMiTE	To review progress with the Scheme		
•	Sustainable Transport	To explore planned and implemented sustainable transport measures.		
	Public Realm Service Provision (Council contract arrangements with Balfour Beatty Living Places – and stakeholder communication	To explore how Councils communicate effectively with the public, explaining service levels, costs and delivery that can be expected under the contract, performance measures in place, and evidence that the contract is delivering to the required standard within the agreed framework. Consider results of customer satisfaction performance data Ways of improving feedback to the public – so that they know when they can expect work that has been requested and can track delivery.		Noted that decision on extension of contract pending.
	Police and Crime Commissioner	Need to specify what is to be considered		Suggested Performance indicator - killed and seriously injured on roads is one possible topic.
	Budget and Policy Framework items to be scheduled		Policy Develop Review	oment and
	 Hereford Area Plan 			

Rural Areas Development		
Plan Document		
Core Strategy		
Community		
Safety remit		

Schedule of General Scrutiny Committee recommendations made and action in response (May 2019 on)

Meeting	item	Recommend	dations	Action	Status
23 July	Gambling Policy 2019- 22 Review	RESOLVED	TO RECOMMEND TO THE EXECUTIVE THAT:		Completed
		а)	Officers review the wording in Para 1.1 of the policy to ensure it places clear emphasis on promoting compliance with the principles set out in the Act, and make clear that it is not about promoting gambling;	Done	
		b)	Officers include a glossary of terms to cover all technical and legal terms set out in the report before it goes on to cabinet and full Council;	Done	
		с)	a sentence be added to the policy document to highlight where people can be directed to apply for a license;	Done	
		d)	a new category (i) be added to the itemised list in para 15.6 to include training in child protection and child safeguarding;	(We don't recommend it's mandatory because it's not proportionate to the evidence locally but we can make licensees aware of the risks to CYP and the	

		training opportunities that are available.)
e)	officers look at all of the suggested various changes to wording of the policy suggested in bullet point 7 above and update the policy to ensure there is clarity in the phraseology used.	The phraseology used within the Policy reflects the terms used within the Act and the use of different terminology within the policy may cause confusion).
f)	the various references to children and young persons should – for consistency – be changed to children and young people throughout the policy document.	(the term children and young persons is the term used within the Act and again may cause confusion if different terms are used within the policy) .
g)	officers revise the wording to highlight that the gambling policy is 'reviewed' every three years and to add clarity to the reference of policy review from 'time to time' – with the additional context that this will happen when/if there are changes to legislation during the three year period;	Done
h)	officers remove the reference to 'the governance team' in para 4.5 of the policy;	Done

		 i) officers state clearly what the deadline timeframes are in para 5.2. j) grounds for a review of a premises license as set out at section 18 of the policy should also include any breaches to the principles that the licensing authority, upholds in overseeing and this policy and any related enforcement action; and k) details on rights of appeal should be included in the 	Done Done	
9 September 2019	Call-in of cabinet member decision on hereford transport package and south wye transport	policy document. RESOLVED: That the decision be referred back to the cabinet member to reconsider, and in doing so: The cabinet member seeks clarification from the funders, of both the South Wye Transport Package and the Hereford Transport Package, of the funding implications of a review and	THAT, having regard to the recommendations made by General Scrutiny Committee on 9 September 2019: (a) a review of the South Wye Transport Package be undertaken to determine next steps, and work on the Southern Link Road and active travel measures (the scope	Complete
	package	ensures that both projects are not interdependent of each other; Ongoing planned activity, programmed in to take place	of which will be determined in a further report and be subject to the agreement of funders to draw down funding or provision being made within the capital	

during the pause, continues while the review is underway;

The cabinet member hosts a time limited series of 'open days' with parish councils, businesses and members of the public to ensure their views are taken into account on all of the evidence under consideration as part of the review; and

 That all council, and council contractors, contact databases, as far as is practicable, are kept up to date ahead of contacting members of the public programme) is continued whilst the review is undertaken;

(b) a review of the bypass project to determine next steps be undertaken, and work on the Hereford Transport

package active travel measures and the other bypass work as listed below is continued whilst the review is undertaken;

Phase 2a consultation report completion

£12,000

Geophysical survey report completion

£3,000

Ground Investigation Report (GIR) completion

£6,000

Walking and Cycling (WCHAR) assessment completion

£5,000

Traffic Modelling

£22,000

Large Local Major Bid completion

£18,000

		(c) discussions continue with funding organisations to clarify the funding implications of a review and to seek to minimise the risk of loss of any secured funding;
		(d) consultation with parish councils, businesses and members of the public be included within the scope of the review;
		(e) the acting director for economy and place be authorised to take all operational decisions necessary to scope the review work for both road schemes within a budget of £50k (Southern Link Road) and £70k (Hereford By-pass) to inform a further decision in this calendar year on the scope of the review to be undertaken; and
		(f) the acting director for economy and place be authorised to take all operational decisions necessary to undertake the bypass work listed in recommendation (b) above within a budget envelope of £66,000 and to approve variance between the activities within a tolerance of £5,000.
22 October 2019	RESOLVED:	(i) Noted – The LEP is working to support the local authority climate

(a) to recommend to the executive that:

- i. the LEP be encouraged to declare a climate emergency as a priority;
- ii. the LEP be encouraged to raise its profile through engagement with Parish and Town Councils and business forums:
- iii. the LEP be requested to focus on promoting available schemes to the market towns; and

(b) provision be made in the Committee's work programme for an annual report from the LEP.

emergency strategies and has allocated resource to support this.

The Marches LEP Senior Energy Officer is supporting each of the Local Authorities with the implementation of their climate emergency strategies alongside his work to develop an action plan to implement the Marches Energy Strategy.

- (ii) Noted this is a priority for 2020/21 and being led by the Chair.
- (iii) Noted. Available schemes are currently being promoted through the Marches Growth Hub https://www.marchesgrowthhub.co.uk/.

The Marches LEP is also represented on the Boards for the Towns Funding which Hereford and Telford are eligible to bid for https://assets.publishing.service.g ov.uk/government/uploads/system /uploads/attachment_data/file/843 843/20191031_Towns_Fund_pros pectus.pdf and the Historic England town fund which Leominster and Oswestry are seeking to access https://historicengland.org.uk/servi

			ces-skills/heritage-action- zones/regenerating-historic-high- streets/ • The LEP will continue to lobby government for funding for market towns in line with the agreed priorities set out in the Strategic Economic Plan 2019. (b) Included
29 November 2019	2020/21 Budget and Corporate Plan Proposals	(a) In relation to the draft corporate plan: I. Specific emphasis is given to investment and commitment to high quality members of staff in delivering the corporate plan; II. the wording and presentation of the ambition for Herefordshire and the corporate plan as a whole be reviewed; and III. the corporate plan should address the needs of the county as a whole including the market towns and their environs; (b) in relation to the 2020/21 budget I. any business cases reflect current association with business partners and any	(as stated at para 63 of budget report to Cabinet 30 January 2020)

current government funding available;

- II. consideration be given to a specific budget for measures to address the climate emergency;
- III. the feasibility of allocating a ring fenced sum for highway maintenance to the market towns should be explored;
- IV. during development of business cases consideration be given to whether greater community use could be made of educational facilities; and
- V. the following recommendations of the Adults and Wellbeing and Children and Young People Scrutiny Committees be considered

Adults and Wellbeing Scrutiny
Committee – 18 November 2019

1. The committee welcomes the proposed areas for investment which support prevention and the strengths based agenda.

i (The detailed business cases will include reference to the matters raised by the committee and will form part of the decision to spend against the investment proposal.

li This is for cabinet to consider further at this meeting.

lii This is for cabinet to consider further at this meeting.

Iv The detailed business cases will include reference to the matters raised by the committee and will form part of the decision to spend against the investment proposal

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Noted

The detailed business cases will include reference to the matters raised by the committee and will

2. Acknowledging that the	e lack form part of the decision to spend
of specific details in the	
outline business cases	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
due to the timing const	raints
and early sight of pote	ntial
projects coming forward	rd, the
committee would be pl	eased
if attention can be give	
the matters it has raise	Agreed, later papers include a
for deeper levels of det	globbary or torrior
be provided in the next	
iterations of the busine	ess
cases.	
3. That terminology and	
language be used consistently	у,
using Plain English.	
Children and Young People S	
Committee – 25 November 20	19
RESOLVED: That the committee	ee:
Supports the planned	
investments for looked	after
children, edge of care a	
improving social care	
services and requests	further
information is submitted	ed to
the committee regarding	ng
proposals for these se	rvices;
and	

		Asks that a report concerning the dental health initiatives is provided to the committee setting out key performance indicators for the proposals.		
20 January	Review Of	RESOLVED: That		
2020	Budget And Corporate Plan	(a) in relation to the draft corporate plan:	(Report to cabinet 30 January 2020)	
	Proposals For 2020/21	reference be included to protecting and enhancing our local health care services with the inclusion of key performance indicators to underpin this commitment;	(para 24) The recommendations from the scrutiny committees have been incorporated into the latest draft Corporate Plan.	
		 (c) the presentation of the till receipt as at p7 of the Plan be reviewed to ensure it is an accurate representation of the actual spend; (d) the plan explains where the council is paying less than it did in the previous financial year; (e) the plan at p15 includes success measures – to consider additional focus on resources to improve infrastructure and community resilience in market towns; (f) that the committee receives a briefing note on the progress on broadband roll out; (g) the corporate plan is reworded on page 7 to reflect that the figure of 		

£46m is revised to ensure it reflects the compensation paid to the tenants; and it is made clear that £46m is not enough to fund 1000 new homes and that further borrowing is being proposed of up to a further £100m;

- (h) the corporate plan is reworded on page 18 – to say 'spend more locally' and on page 19 – rather than say 'sweat our assets' the committee recommends this is changed to say 'better use of our assets; and
- (i) that the corporate plan includes a specific element on what farmers are doing to contribute to the climate change emergency.

(b) in relation to the 2020/21 budget:

- V. that the executive respond to the proposal that schools are better supported in updating their travel plans;
- V. the cabinet considers providing a specific capital allocation for market towns to be able to bid for public realm improvements;
- VI. the MTFS includes a separate line on what is being proposed for climate change;
- II. that specific resources are identified and included to support the proposed

(as stated at para 63 of budget report to Cabinet 30 January 2020)

Vi "This is added as a tracked change in appendix 1.

Vii There is a specific earmarked reserve allocated to waste, this is to be reviewed for its adequacy to fund the costs identified

The detailed business cases will include reference to the matters raised by the committee and will

work on the waste task and finish

				nd Young People Scrutiny – 14 January 2020		
		VI.	t i	That the committee supports he additional areas of nvestment identified in the budget.		
28 September	Minerals and Waste Local	RESOL		TO RECOMMEND TO THE		
2020	Plan	That	(a)	a plain English and practical guidance/executive summary document be produced to support the report;	Agreed. It would be useful to provide a non-technical summary of the MWLP, in order to reach as wide an audience as possible.	
			(b)	a more explicit definition, with links to the examples of acceptable sustainable development - within the context of this report - be included	Sustainable development has been defined in the glossary of the MWLP. In sections of the text which directly mention sustainable development, references to the glossary will be added to aid technical understanding of this phrase.	
			(c)	while it recognises that the insertion of a stronger line on preventing fracking/unconventional hydrocarbon extraction in	No changes to the MWLP are required in response to this recommendation, however, officers will work with the Cabinet Member Infrastructure and	

	(d)	voice its view and see a clearer statement from government that fracking/extraction of unconventional hydrocarbons is unacceptable in Herefordshire; and the current draft MWLP be endorsed to go forward to	fracking to be issued.	
aroun	nat (a) 1	report and all of its recommendations be approved, subject to including: 1. that, as part of the consultation process,	Decision by cabinet member – commissioning, procurement and assets 26 October 2020 http://councillors.herefordshire.go y.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=7 273 (a) accept the	
1	group t - waste agement egic	and group t - waste agement egic w	the committee wishes to voice its view and see a clearer statement from government that fracking/extraction of unconventional hydrocarbons is unacceptable in Herefordshire; and (d) the current draft MWLP be endorsed to go forward to public consultation. RESOLVED: That (a) the Task and Finish Group report and all of its recommendations be approved, subject to including: 1. that, as part of the	the committee wishes to voice its view and see a clearer statement from government that fracking/extraction of unconventional hydrocarbons is unacceptable in Herefordshire; and (d) the current draft MWLP be endorsed to go forward to public consultation. (d) the current draft MWLP be endorsed to go forward to public consultation. Decision by cabinet member – commissioning, procurement and assets 26 October 2020 http://councillors.herefordshire.go y.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=7 273 1. that, as part of the consultation process, there is clear explanation the recommendations around the recommendation a

			implement the recommendation; and (e) Subject to the provisions of the Financial Procedure Rules, the Assistant Director for Regulatory, Environment and Waste be authorised to take all operational decisions required to implement the above recommendations.
9 November 2020	Hereford Transport Strategy Review	RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE EXECUTIVE: That (a) more detailed studies are undertaken on the benefits and dis-benefits of traffic light management in more locations in Hereford;	(As reported to cabinet on 3 December) Whilst the removal of traffic signals along the A49 was looked at and discarded by the review due to negative impacts on pedestrians and cyclists, traffic light management would form an element of the Intelligent Transport Systems option (page 53 of the review) which is included in Package C. If cabinet is minded to support this recommendation this would be additional work which the cabinet could ask officers to consider and set out the resource requirements to progress.

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transport options and cycle routes to reduce demand for car journeys into or through the city centre with a particular focus given to the limited transport options currently experienced by Herefordshire's rural communities and that the executive set up a transport team as a matter of priority to implement the planning of cycling and walking, and that the road schemes are reconfigured to accommodate walking and cycling safely within the city;

routes (Page 45) and Package A+B includes significant investment in public transport options within the Hereford's urban area and urban fringe (options set out at pages 45, 46, 47 and 49 of the review) and these will support longer distance travel needs. Cabinet will be able to select this combination of package options noting the support indicated by committee.

Whilst this review has focused on transport issues in Hereford in line with the scope set out in the cabinet member decision of January 2020 it is appreciated that it would be helpful to review

transport challenges and solutions countywide. The cabinet report sets out the original intention to review the Local Transport Plan within 5 years of its adoption which would be by 2021. It is also important to note that the core strategy update is due to comment in the next few months. As such, the intention would be to undertake a wider review of transport strategy for the whole county over the coming year.

(d)	the cabinet follow up on the suggestion for a 'River-Bus Service' in ongoing refinement and review of the Hereford transport package options;	Cabinet may ask officers to consider the approach to designing and delivering transport schemes and report back on options and funding implications for different approaches. Whilst this proposal was not considered in the review or suggested by members or stakeholders during the engagement stages of the review cabinet could include this option in its preferred package combination and instruct that this is considered further in the context of package development work. The cost of undertaking this work would need to be confirmed and set out in a subsequent report to the cabinet member	
(e)	consideration is given to a wider, more in depth study, on the transport options that address countywide transport challenges and	Whilst this review has focused on transport issues in Hereford in line with the scope set out in the cabinet member decision of January 2020 it is appreciated that it would be helpful to review transport challenges and solutions countywide. The cabinet report sets out the original intention to	

	solutions, not just in Hereford	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	City;	within 5 years of its adoption	
		which would be by 2021. It is also	
		important to note that the core	
		strategy update is due to	
		comment in the next few months.	
		As such, the intention would be to	
		undertake a wider review of	
		transport strategy for the whole	
		county over the coming year.	
(f)	cabinet should not feel constrained by having to consider just the package of options that has been presented to them as part of this review.	The recommendation to cabinet sets out that cabinet may consider the packages as assessed in the review or combination of package options.	
(g)	the committee considers that further analysis is undertaken to assess further the mitigation measures of traffic utilising an eastern crossing before the dis-benefits of an eastern crossing rule it out as an option.	Cabinet may choose to agree a package which includes an eastern river crossing noting that 2 eastern river crossing options have been assessed within the 6 packages. If cabinet considers that further technical work is required to understand the impacts and potential mitigations of these elements (or any other transport elements) it could ask	
		officers ask officers to consider and set out the resource	

(h)	school travel and transport is given greater priority and that more work is done to undertake survey work with schools and parents to gain a better understanding to what the barriers to uptake of school transport are;	requirements for any additional technical work. Whilst an assessment of the barriers to uptake of different modes of travel to school (other than by car) was not part of this review and the review did not undertake fresh and comprehensive surveys of travel to school for county schools. This is additional work which the cabinet could ask officers to consider and set out the resource requirements to progress.	
(i)	carbon offsetting is looked at in relation to offsetting on major infrastructure projects.	Carbon offsetting is being considered in the work being undertaken on the carbon management plan – Pathway to Carbon Neutral. The Plan indicates that offsetting is likely to follow in the 5 years following the current management plan and between 2025 and 2030.	
(j)	the impact of assessing routes over other river crossings, in particular, the Bridge Sollars crossing, is built into the analysis of options and packages under review.	Cabinet is invited to consider whether or not it wishes to instruct that further work is done to understand wider traffic movements through the county and outside of the Hereford transport network in the context	

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the engagement of a critical friend in the form of an independent transport consultant to review the draft report and inform final reporting. The critical friend has confirmed that in their view the details of the assessment have been done at a level appropriate to the stage of work, noting that further detailed work would be required. The review includes both qualitative assessment and assessment which is based on modelled outputs. The qualitative assessment was undertaken by transport planners with experience of strategy development and scheme delivery across a range of transport interventions and work was subject to discussion and challenge with council officers, stakeholders and members through the engagement sessions.

(m) Herefordshire Council should immediately implement a well-designed comprehensive safe and attractive network of active travel measures across the entire county to reduce

This aligns with policy and the types of measures identified in Package A. A number of active travel measures are being progressed which will include improvements for pedestrians, cyclists, bus and rail users and we

	the effect of climate change and the risk of surface flooding.	are continuing to deliver the choose how you move behavioural change programme countywide. Clearly, more of these measures could be introduced more quickly if additional funding is available and it is anticipated that there will be further opportunities to bid for external funds over the coming months as government provides more details following its publication of 'Decarbonising Transport' and 'Gear Change' earlier in 2020.	

7 December 2020 Marches Local Enterprise Partnership - Update	That (a) the update from the Marches LEP including current priorities and projects be noted; (b) the executive be recommended that: (1) the LEP be asked to bear in mind the importance of having regard to the needs of the market towns and the rural areas when considering allocating funding for projects;	The important economic role of the market towns is recognised in the Marches LEP Strategic Economic Plan and the draft Local Industrial Strategy. The LEP also recognises the significant impact of Covid 19 has had on town centres, particularly retail and hospitality. At this time it is not clear what future government funding will be made available via the LEPs, in terms of the amount of funding or the related criteria. However, wherever possible, in meeting the priorities of the Strategic Economic Plan, the draft Local Industrial Strategy and in supporting the recovery of Covid 19, the LEP will ensure that the needs of the market towns are fully considered in future calls for project applications.	
	(2) the LEP be encouraged in its stated intention to revisit its Strategic Economic Plan and other policies to ensure that they	It is welcomed that the Marches LEP will be revisiting the SEP and other policies to review in the	

	directly appoint a representative for a specific sector or geography, but do seek to ensure the Board is representative through the recruitment and selection process.
(5) the LEP Board be recommended to appoint a rural and market Towns Champion;	As above, in accordance with the Articles of Association, with the exception of the Local Authority representation on the LEP Board (which is subject to the local election process), all of the remaining Board positions are openly recruited. Therefore, the LEP don't currently have a means to directly appoint a representative for a specific sector or geography, but do seek to ensure the Board is representative through the recruitment and selection process. As a predominately rural LEP area, a number of the existing Board members either have business interests in and/or themselves live in a rural area or market town, representing these needs.
(6) the LEP be asked to bid for funding to address the impacts of flooding, noting	The LEP are a member of the River Severn Partnership

make representations for there to be a small towns LEP group along the lines of the national rural LEP Group;

(d) the Executive work with the LEP to

The council and the LEP will work in partnership to encourage government and the LEP network to consider establishing a small towns LEP group. It is noted that over the last 12 months government has launched a number of council led initiatives to support towns, such as Stronger Towns Funding (Hereford and Telford currently selected), Future High Street Funding, and Heritage Action Zone (Leominster selected).

(e) the Executive ensures that it has a number of approved prioritised projects available for submission to the LEP in order to take advantage of funding opportunities when they arise; and The council will ensure that a pipeline of high quality, worked up shovel ready projects are established in order to apply for funding opportunities. The council is currently working with the Hereford Towns Board to develop a Town Investment Plan, and is leading the development of Economic Development Investment Plans for each of the five market towns. These plans will identify the strategic needs/opportunities for these areas and develop project proposals in

			anticipation of future government funding. A similar investment plan for the wider rural areas is also planned, identified as an action in the County Plan Delivery Plan 2020 to 2022.	
		(f) the Committee establishes a task and finish group to review the processes in place to deliver projects, ensuring that the reasons that have led to delays in the past on council managed projects have been addressed and that the current processes are fit for purpose; and	For consideration in the work before.	
		(g) the LEP be asked to report to the Committee on the level of inward investment achieved.	The LEP and the Local Authorities work with the Department for International Trade to engage foreign owned businesses and support investment. The LEP and Herefordshire Council will work together to better monitor and report against inward investment into the county.	
7 December 2020	Work Programme	(d) the executive be requested to provide a fuller explanation of its response to the Committee's recommendation (b) in its consideration of the Hereford Transport Package review on 9 November that the cabinet consider 'weighting of the	In considering the General Scrutiny Committee's recommendation (b) of its meeting of 9 November 2020 the cabinet member confirmed at the cabinet meeting of 3 December 2020 that it was not proposed to delay	

preferred outcomes' to help determine the	making a determination on the
preferred package to take forward'.	preferred strategy to introduce a
	system to weight preferred
	outcomes. The cabinet member
	confirmed that cabinet was able to
	consider its preferred strategic
	packages in the context of the
	information provided by the review
	and its priorities. The priorities for
	the review were clear and the
	detailed information and analysis
	set out in the review documents
	were considered sufficient to
	inform the decision taken by
	cabinet.

Forward plan of forthcoming decisions at 18 December 2020 (Cabinet Member Decisions)

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead officer and lead cabinet member	Directorate	Notice of decision first published / ID	Issue Type and exemptions
Approach to the Core Strategy review and update in the light of the Planning for the Future White Paper To agree to update the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy, following a review of the adopted plan, in accordance with The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended) and paragraph 33 of the National Planning Policy Framework in the light of of the proposals set out in the White Paper: Planning for the Future.	Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport 9 November 2020	Kevin Singleton, Team leader strategic planning ks1@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432260137 Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport	Economy and Place	13 July 2020 I50034568	KEY Open
Re-Opening of the High Street Safely Fund (RHSSF) Herefordshire Council applied for a £172,188 Re-Opening of the High Street Safely Fund (RHSSF) to support the safe reopening of high streets and other commercial areas. The money will allow IHC to put in place additional measures to establish a safe trading environment for businesses and customers, particularly in high streets, through measures that extend to the end of March 2021. This report is asking for the approval of the RHSSF for Herefordshire Council.	Cabinet member corporate strategy and budget 4 December 2020	Vinia Abesamis, Senior policy and funding officer vabesamis@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432260625 Cabinet member environment, economy and skills	Economy and Place	I50036048 NEW	Non Key Open Urgent

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead officer and lead cabinet member	Directorate	Notice of decision first published / ID	Issue Type and exemptions
Transfer of Get Building Funding the New Model Institute Technology and Engineering To enable the accountable body, Shropshire Council, to delegate responsibility for the managing of the Get Building Funding grant and the relationship with the successful grant applicant (NMiTE) to the council. The full grant amount of £1.6m for project will be transferred from the accountable body to the council in advance of project delivery. The grant funding will be utilised to accelerate development of NMITE's Centre for Automated Manufacturing on the Herefordshire Enterprise Zone	Cabinet member finance and corporate services 17 December 2020	Roger Allonby, Head of Economic Development, Economy and Place Roger.Allonby@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260330 Cabinet member finance and corporate services	Economy and Place	19 November 2020 I50035929	KEY Open
£2m Investment in the C and U road network - confirmation of the delivery programme To approve the programme of works on the C and U road network further to the decision by the cabinet member of 6 August 2020 and resolution of the Council of 14 February 2020.	Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport 17 December 2020	Bruce Evans, Engineering manager bje@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 07792880548 Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport	Economy and Place	6 November 2020 I50035794	KEY Open

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead officer and lead cabinet member	Directorate	Notice of decision first published / ID	Issue Type and exemptions
Executive response to the tree strategy and hedgehog protection motions To approve the cabinet member response to the Tree Strategy resolution that was passed by council at the meeting of full council on 17 July 2020. To approve the cabinet member response to the Decline in Hedgehog population resolution that was unanimously supported at the meeting of full council on 9 October 2020. To approve the development of a Nature Strategy to enhance and protect biodiversity across the Council's operations	Cabinet member environment, economy and skills 12 January 2021	Ben Boswell, Head of environment, climate emergency and waste services bboswell@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 261930 Cabinet member environment, economy and skills	Economy and Place	6 November 2020 I50035790	Non Key Open
Additional funding in support of Lengthsman Grant To approve £60k capital works under the public realm annual plan 2020/21 and £10k additional revenue funding to the lengthsman scheme to allow all applications received from parishes under the lengthsman scheme to be undertaken.	Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport 14 January 2021	John Manterfield, Commercial and Contract Manager John.Manterfield@herefordshire.gov.uk Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport	Economy and Place	26 October 2020 I50035456	Non Key Open

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead officer and lead cabinet member	Directorate	Notice of decision first published / ID	Issue Type and exemptions
Lugwardine: A438 Improvement scheme:S106 Works Pedestrian Crossing and footway To approve the allocation of highway contributions secured by way of a S106 agreement to deliver works through the public realm contract. These works are to be undertaken using S106 monies which will deliver a pedestrian crossing and extend a footway to the bus stop. The works are in the vicinity of the school and are aimed to ensure safety for children accessing the school and access for all to the bus waiting facilities	Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport 15 January 2021	Bruce Evans, Engineering manager bje@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 07792880548 Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport	Economy and Place	5 November 2020 I50035792	Non Key Open
Public Realm Contract Extension To approve an extension of the public realm service contract, with Balfour Beatty Living Places, in line with contract terms and conditions.	Cabinet member commissioning , procurement and assets 18 January 2021	John Manterfield, Commercial and Contract Manager John.Manterfield@herefordshire.gov.uk Cabinet member commissioning, procurement and assets	Economy and Place	18 November 2020 I50035893	KEY Open

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead officer and lead cabinet member	Directorate	Notice of decision first published / ID	Issue Type and exemptions
To review and authorise a resourcing plan that will be required to take forward and implement the outcome of the waste management review The council are currently undertaking a waste management review where by the council is likely to be responsible for delivering a significant change programme to deliver changes in the way that waste is collected and disposed of throughout the county. There will be a need for expertise across waste contract procurement, public communications, strategic waste management and the capacity to implement change within the organisation	Cabinet member commissioning , procurement and assets 21 January 2021	Ben Boswell, Head of environment, climate emergency and waste services, Joni Hughes, Senior Project Manager bboswell@herefordshire.gov.uk, Joni.Hughes@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 261930, Tel: 01432 260598 Cabinet member commissioning, procurement and assets	Economy and Place	29 October 2020 I50035661	KEY Open
Property services estates capital programme 2021/22 To agree the property services 2021/22 estates capital works programme The proposed programme of works as set out in appendix A, incorporates a series of planned project works that enables the council to deliver on its obligations to maintain buildings fit for purpose utilising the agreed £1.390m capital budget which was approved at council budget meeting of 15 February 2019	Cabinet member commissioning , procurement and assets 21 January 2021	GianCarlo Paganuzzi, Architectural technologist gpaganuzzi@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 261896 Cabinet member commissioning, procurement and assets	Economy and Place	2 September 2020 I50034995	KEY Open

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead officer and lead cabinet member	Directorate	Notice of decision first published / ID	Issue Type and exemptions
Maylord Shopping Centre - Procurement of Management Contract To approve the procurement of a contract for the management of the Maylord Shopping Centre, Hereford so that a new contract is in place at the expiry of the existing contract in June 2021.	Cabinet member commissioning , procurement and assets 22 January 2021	Andrew Husband, Strategic property services manager andrew.husband@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383552 Cabinet member commissioning, procurement and assets	Economy and Place	16 December 2020 I50035828 NEW	KEY Open
Car Parking Charges To consider consultation feedback and approve revised parking tariffs in council on and off street parking areas.	Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport 22 January 2021	James.Hughes, Parking Strategy & Processing Manager James.Hughes@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260975 Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport	Economy and Place	6 August 2020 I50034795	KEY Open
Community Improvement Project relating to Wilton Sports Centre, Ross-on-Wye. To approve the community improvement project at Wilton Sports Centre, Ross-on-Wye	Cabinet member commissioning , procurement and assets January 2021	Helen Beale, Senior Estate Manager HBeale@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260688 Cabinet member commissioning, procurement and assets	Economy and Place	4 December 2020 I50036153	Non Key Open

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead officer and lead cabinet member	Directorate	Notice of decision first published / ID	Issue Type and exemptions
Empty Property and Development Capital Budget To approve expenditure and approach to delivering the Empty Property and Development Capital Budget.	Cabinet member housing, regulatory services, and community safety 29 January 2021	Hayley Crane, Strategic Housing Manager hcrane@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 261919 Cabinet member housing, regulatory services, and community safety	Economy and Place	28 August 2020 I50034941	KEY Open
Project Plan for the Local Plan update To set out a project plan for the preparation of an updated Herefordshire Local Plan	Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport 29 January 2021	Kevin Singleton, Team leader strategic planning ks1@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432260137 Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport	Economy and Place	24 November 2020 I50035981 NEW	Non Key Open
Hereford Towns Fund sign off process and project development funding acceptance To approve the Hereford Towns Fund Town Investment Plan (TIP) sign off process and to accept the £162,000 of revenue grant received from the government to support the development of the Hereford TIP	Cabinet member environment, economy and skills 29 January 2021	Nick Webster, Economic development manager nwebster@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260601 Cabinet member environment, economy and skills	Economy and Place	2 November 2020 I50035698	Non Key Open

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead officer and lead cabinet member	Directorate	Notice of decision first published / ID	Issue Type and exemptions
Hereford City Centre Transport Package (HCCTP) To provide an update on programme and budget for the HCCTP project and to agree next steps to progress the remaining elements of the project.	Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport 4 February 2021	Mairead Lane, Acting Assistant Director for Highways and Transport / Head of Infrastructure Delivery mlane@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260944 Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport	Economy and Place	19 November 2020 I50035899	KEY Open
Commissioning of S106 projects for the public Realm This decision will enable funding and delivery in the financial year 2020/21 of developer S106 planning contributions for highways and transportation schemes. These schemes have been identified in accordance with the Heads of Terms (HoT) in the S106 Deed of Planning Obligation Heads of Terms for the individual developments which form the S106 contribution	Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport 11 February 2021	John Manterfield, Commercial and Contract Manager John.Manterfield@herefordshire.gov.uk Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport	Economy and Place	10 June 2020 I50034269	KEY Open

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead officer and lead cabinet member	Directorate	Notice of decision first published / ID	Issue Type and exemptions
Holmer & Shelwick - Traffic Calming and Pedestrian Improvements To propose and implement highway regulation measures, and associated engineering measures as part of Holmer and Shelwick Traffic Calming & Pedestrian Improvements. The scope and funding for this scheme has been approved and monies received by Herefordshire Council as part of planning process and associated S106 agreements following recent development in the locality.	Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport 22 March 2021	Bruce Evans, Engineering manager bje@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 07792880548 Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport	Economy and Place	18 September 2020 I50035199	KEY Open
Highways Maintenance Plan 2020 To update the original plan, incorporating updates in legislation.	Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport 3 June 2021	Bruce Evans, Engineering manager bje@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 07792880548 Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport	Economy and Place	21 January 2020 I50030462	KEY Open

Forward plan of forthcoming Cabinet decisions at 18 December 2020

Report title and purpose Decision Maker and Due date Lead officer and lead cabinet member	Directorate	Notice of decision first published / ID	Issue Type and exemptions
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Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead officer and lead cabinet member	Directorate	Notice of decision first published / ID	Issue Type and exemptions
Hereford Transport Strategy For cabinet to set out its recommendations to council with regard to stopping the western bypass and southern link road schemes and to confirm the re-allocation of associated capital funds; and For cabinet to agree the approach to progressing the preferred transport strategy for Hereford.	Cabinet 14 January 2021	Steve Burgess, Head of transport and access services sburgess@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432260968 Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport	Economy and Place	16 December 2020 150036233 NEW	KEY Open
Empty Property Strategy for Herefordshire 2021-2024 To approve the empty property strategy for Hereford to bring properties back into use in the County.	Cabinet 21 January 2021	Sarah Woodhouse, Empty Property and Housing Development Officer Sarah.Woodhouse@herefordshire.gov.uk Cabinet member housing, regulatory services, and community safety	Economy and Place	28 October 2020 I50036029	KEY Open
Hereford Towns Fund town investment plan submission Endorsement of the Hereford Towns Fund town investment plan submission and approval to act as accountable body for any subsequent Town Deal agreed with government.	Cabinet 21 January 2021	Nick Webster, Economic development manager nwebster@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260601 Cabinet member environment, economy and skills	Economy and Place	23 November 2020 I50035959	KEY Open

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead officer and lead cabinet member	Directorate	Notice of decision first published / ID	Issue Type and exemptions
Progressing the transport strategy for Hereford For cabinet to confirm how it will take forward its preferred transport strategy for Hereford as determined at its meeting of 3 December 2020 and to set out its recommendations with regard to current road proposals and allocation of capital funds for consideration of full council.	Cabinet 21 January 2021	Steve Burgess, Head of transport and access services sburgess@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432260968 Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport	Economy and Place	I50036229 NEW	Non Key Open
Recommendation for potential sites to progress affordable housing delivery in Herefordshire To approve the recommendation of the potential sites to progress affordable housing delivery in Herefordshire	Cabinet 28 January 2021	Nigel Thomas, Senior Project Manager Nigel.Thomas@herefordshire.gov.uk Cabinet member housing, regulatory services, and community safety	Corporate Support Centre	I50035883 NEW	KEY Open
Discretionary purchase policy for the Hereford Transport Package (HTP) To consider a discretionary purchase policy for the Hereford Transport Package.	Cabinet 25 February 2021	Mairead Lane, Acting Assistant Director for Highways and Transport / Head of Infrastructure Delivery mlane@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260944 Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport	Economy and Place	I50036033 NEW	KEY Open

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead officer and lead cabinet member	Directorate	Notice of decision first published / ID	Issue Type and exemptions
Housing Strategy 2020-2025 To approve the strategy which sets out objectives, targets and policies on how the authority intends to manage and deliver its strategic housing role.	Cabinet 25 February 2021	Hannah McSherry, Housing Strategy Officer Hannah.McSherry2@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383061 Cabinet member housing, regulatory services, and community safety	Economy and Place	5 July 2019 I50030451	KEY Open
Estate Asset Strategy 2020-2024 To approve the Estate Asset Strategy 2020-2024 and the Corporate Asset Management Plan which support and enables the implementation of the council's County Plan and strategic objectives. The Estate Asset Strategy 2020-24 will guide the management of the council's estate over the next four years and sets the parameters and processes to be followed in respect of all aspects of estate asset management including the acquisition, disposal, community asset transfer, maintenance, tenure, performance measurement and the review of estate assets.	Cabinet 22 April 2021	Andrew Husband, Strategic property services manager andrew.husband@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383552 Cabinet member commissioning, procurement and assets	Economy and Place	13 March 2020 I50033634	KEY Open

Report title and purpose	Decision Maker and Due date	Lead officer and lead cabinet member	Directorate	Notice of decision first published / ID	Issue Type and exemptions
Temporary Accommodation Policy To approve a temporary accommodation policy for Herefordshire.	Cabinet 22 April 2021	Hannah McSherry, Housing Strategy Officer Hannah.McSherry2@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383061 Cabinet member housing, regulatory services, and community safety	Economy and Place	3 December 2020 I50036099	KEY Open

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