

# Agenda

## General scrutiny committee

Date: **Monday 26 April 2021**

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Time: **10.15 am**

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Place: **online**

[www.youtube.com/HerefordshireCouncil](https://www.youtube.com/HerefordshireCouncil)

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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](mailto: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.	<p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b></p> <p>To receive apologies for absence.</p>	
2.	<p><b>NAMED SUBSTITUTES</b></p> <p>To receive details of members nominated to attend the meeting in place of a member of the committee.</p>	
3.	<p><b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b></p> <p>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.</p>	
4.	<p><b>MINUTES</b></p> <p>To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 22 March 2021.</p>	11 - 16
<p><b>HOW TO SUBMIT QUESTIONS</b></p> <p>The deadline for the submission of questions for this meeting is 5.00 pm on Tuesday 20 April 2021.</p> <p>Questions must be submitted to <a href="mailto:councillorservices@herefordshire.gov.uk">councillorservices@herefordshire.gov.uk</a>. Questions sent to any other address may not be accepted.</p> <p>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 <a href="http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/getinvolved">www.herefordshire.gov.uk/getinvolved</a></p>		
5.	<p><b>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC</b></p> <p>To receive any written questions from members of the public.</p>	
6.	<p><b>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL</b></p> <p>To receive any written questions from members of the council.</p>	
7.	<p><b>UPDATE ON EXECUTIVE RESPONSES TO THE COMMITTEE'S WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC REVIEW AND THE REVIEW OF THE CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY</b></p> <p>To receive an update on the executive responses to the recommendations of the Committee's Waste Management Strategic Review and the review of the Climate and Ecological Emergency.</p>	17 - 84
8.	<p><b>WORK PROGRAMME</b></p> <p>To review the committee's work programme.</p>	85 - 152



## 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?CId=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 web-site. 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.

1 September 2020



## 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.



## Minutes of the meeting of General scrutiny committee held at Online meeting on Monday 22 March 2021 at 10.15 am

**Present:** Councillor Jonathan Lester (chairperson)  
Councillor Tracy Bowes (vice-chairperson)

Councillors: Sebastian Bowen, Barry Durkin, Bob Matthews, Louis Stark and William Wilding

**In attendance:** Councillors John Harrington (Cabinet Member) and David Hitchiner (Cabinet Member)

**Officers:** M Lane (Assistant Director Highways & Transport), Clive Hall Acting Expert Adviser (Special Engineering Projects); S Hodges – Directorate Services Team Leader (Economy and Place)

**Invitees:** (Agenda item 7 – Fownhope Flood Repair Work) Mr K Braybrook (Fownhope Parish Council) and Mr M Slocombe (Woolhope Group PC).  
**Representatives from Balfour Beatty Living Places:** L Lloyd – Contracts Manager and J Reynolds - Design & Build Manager.

**Invitees:** (Agenda item 8 – Local Flood Management Strategy Action Plan)  
**From Balfour Beatty Living Places:** J Reynolds - Design & Build Manager.  
**From the Environment Agency D Throup manager for Herefordshire and Worcestershire,** R Adams and T Whitehouse.

### 46. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Hewitt.

*(The Monitoring Officer had advised Councillor Hardwick ward member for Backbury ward, that he had a disclosable pecuniary interest in the Fownhope Road (as the joint landowner at Lechmere Ley) and should not therefore participate in the meeting. Accordingly he sent his apologies.)*

### 47. NAMED SUBSTITUTES

Councillor Bowen substituted for Councillor Hewitt.

### 48. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

### 49. MINUTES

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2021 be approved.

### 50. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None.

**51. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

None.

**52. FOWNHOPE FLOOD REPAIR WORK**

The Committee reviewed the delivery of the Fownhope flood repair works and considered any lessons to be learned for the future.

The Chairperson remarked that the Committee had agreed to consider the matter in response to a specific request from Fownhope Parish Council.

It was noted that additional material had been published as a supplement to the agenda papers: a proposed order of business for consideration of the item, a submission by Fownhope Parish Council and photographs of the affected areas..

The Chairman reminded the Committee that, as referred to at Paragraph 45 of the report an independent review of the Fownhope Road repair projects was to be commissioned. There was an opportunity for the Committee to propose matters for inclusion in that review.

A short video was shown showing the damage to the B4224 Fownhope Road and the extent of the flooding that had affected the County.

The Assistant Director and Acting Expert Adviser presented the report.

Representatives of Fownhope and Woolhope Group Parish Councils were then invited to comment.

Councillor John Harrington, Cabinet Member – Infrastructure and Transport then commented.

The Committee then discussed the matter asking a number of questions to which responses were given.

On conclusion of the debate representatives of Fownhope and Woolhope Group Parish Councils were then invited to make any final comments.

**RESOLVED to recommend to the executive:**

- That**
- (a) the executive support and encourage the delivery by BBLP of projects for the benefit of the Fownhope and Woolhope communities;**
  - (b) repairs to restore roads in the locality damaged by their use as a diversion route during the closure of the Fownhope Road are prioritised;**
  - (c) the executive encourage Fownhope and Woolhope Parish Councils to make representations to local MPs to seek funding for highway maintenance, and highlight shortcomings in the Bellwin scheme that appear to have been revealed, and the need for that scheme to be reviewed and for other funding sources to be provided if it is concluded that the Bellwin Scheme itself does not require revision;**

- (d) the executive make further representations to local MPs to seek additional grant funding for highway maintenance, and highlight shortcomings in the Bellwin scheme that appear to have been revealed, and the need for that scheme to be reviewed and for other funding sources to be provided if it is concluded that the Bellwin Scheme itself does not require revision;**
- (e) consideration be given to whether the situation could be presented to Government as a case study highlighting the adverse impact on the local community as a result of lack of funding;**
- (f) a robust review of the risks to other lengths of the B4224 of similar topography be conducted to establish if there is a need for preventative measures;**
- (g) given the experiences on the B4224 consideration be given to whether there any other sites in the county that could be similarly problematic in the event of flooding with a view to adopting a more preventative approach to maintenance across the county;**
- (h) action be taken to progress broadband works in the county delayed as a result of the B4224 works;**
- (i) It be ensured that parish councils and communities concerns are recognised and taken into account by the Council and their partners when taking forward repairs to infrastructure;**
- (j) the independent review be welcomed; and the following matters be considered for inclusion and if they are not included in the review they be responded to in any event by the executive:**
  - 1. The issues that arose because of the nature of vehicles using the diversion routes;**
  - 2. The potential for weight restrictions on traffic in the locality and other traffic management measures;**
  - 3. Was enough priority given to ongoing repairs needed to the routes forming the diversions;**
  - 4. Pace of decision making particularly from April to August;**
  - 5. The focus be on identifying lessons learned that can be applied generally to future schemes, whilst noting that matters unique to the specific sites also need to be identified;**
  - 6. Fownhope and Woolhope Parish Councils be consulted on matters for inclusion in the review;**
  - 7. Project management and processes, the timeframes involved, for example the time between identifying work needed, specification, commissioning the contract, to commencing work, and the incremental nature of delays. The ability of the council to have oversight of such projects and whether additional technical and project management resource in-house is required;**
  - 8. The time taken to establish whether it was possible to proceed without going to open tender;**
  - 9. Has there been sufficient assessment of the risk of further failure in the highway network in the locality;**

10. Were the solutions adopted appropriate and proportionate;
11. Managing working relationships with utility providers such as BT and gas providers and the approach to specifying works for them to undertake, including the potential benefit of a protocol for managing works in particular those of an emergency nature;
12. Clarification as to how the issue with the size of the crane required for the Stone Cottage works arose and assurance measures to avoid such occurrences in the future;
13. Review of the robustness of the effectiveness of the liaison between the Council and BBLP in managing projects;
14. Effectiveness of communication with the local community and speed thereof especially from the outset of an incident; and
15. Review appropriateness of diversion routes and their signing and facilitating of road safety management.

*(The Committee adjourned between 13.20 and 13.50 pm)*

### **53. LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY ACTION PLAN**

The Committee considered the 2016-22 local flood risk management strategy action plan.

The Directorate Services Team Leader presented the report.

The Committee discussed the matter.

Officers and representatives of the Environment Agency and BBLP responded to a number of questions.

**RESOLVED: to recommend to the executive:**

- That:**
- (a) prioritisation of actions in the action plan be re-evaluated;
  - (b) the council strengthen efforts with the Environment Agency to focus on flood mitigation measures for all watercourses;
  - (c) further efforts be made to reinforce the message to landowners to emphasise their riparian responsibilities as riparian owners to maintain drainage and make them aware of support and assistance available through the Council;
  - (d) consider how the Council can increase resources to manage drainage issues and invest in the drainage asset;
  - (e) review weighting given to the threshold for action to implement measures to address flooding on lengths of highway known to flood frequently, having regard to the need to ensure access for emergency vehicles;
  - (f) the liaison between the EA and the Council to disseminate flooding information to residents taking advantage of the Council's communication networks be kept under review to ensure that it is as effective as possible, noting the role parish councils and community groups can play;

- (g) consideration be given to whether the website content on flooding is readily accessible and sufficient or can be improved, with consideration given to use of apps and other methods;
- (h) improve information to local residents on respective responsibilities of residents themselves, the Council and the Environment Agency;
- (i) consideration be given to an annual survey of Parish Councils to establish information on their flooding experiences and any suggestions for improvements;
- (j) regard be had to knowledge of local residents and Parish Councils on areas subject to flooding and residents and Parish Councils be invited and encouraged to submit information;
- (k) review highways maintenance plan to see if there should be greater focus on roads subject to flooding;
- (l) consideration be given to raising awareness of the contribution to flooding made by climate change and information available via a link on the council's website; and
- (m) the mechanism for the production of Section 19 reports be reviewed and streamlined to seek to ensure the pace of completion is improved and appropriate resource allocated to support this aim.

**54. WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee reviewed its work programme.

**RESOLVED: That the draft work programme as set out at appendix 1 to the report be approved.**

**55. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 26 April 2021 at 10.15 am.

The meeting ended at 3.21 pm

**Chairperson**





## **Title of report: Update on executive responses to the Committee's Waste Management Strategic Review and the review of the Climate and Ecological Emergency**

**Meeting: General scrutiny committee**

**Meeting date: Monday 26 April 2021**

**Report by: Head of Environment Climate Emergency and Waste Services**

### **Classification**

Open

### **Decision type**

This is not an executive decision

### **Wards affected**

(All Wards);

### **Purpose**

To receive an update on the executive responses to the recommendations of the Committee's Waste Management Strategic Review and the review of the Climate and Ecological Emergency.

### **Recommendation(s)**

That:

- a) **The Committee considers the executive responses and these are noted, subject to any comment the committee wishes to make.**

### **Alternative options**

1. There are no alternative options.

### **Key considerations**

2. On 8 March 2019 Herefordshire Council declared a Climate Emergency following unanimous support for a climate emergency resolution at Full Council.

3. This declaration was updated on 11 December 2020 when Herefordshire Council declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency (CEE) following support for a climate and ecological emergency resolution at Full Council.

### **Climate and Ecological Emergency Review**

4. General scrutiny committee established a task and finish group on 20 January 2020 to carry out a climate emergency review.
5. The general scrutiny committee met on 25 January 2021 to agree the report and made 58 recommendations to the executive.
6. On 25 March 2021 the executive responded to the review setting out a response to each recommendation.
7. The full executive response is available here:
  - <https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=7731>

### **Waste Management Review**

8. General scrutiny committee established a task and finish group on 29 November 2019 to carry out a waste management strategic review.
9. At the General Scrutiny meeting held on 28 September 2020, the recommendations from the review were approved with the following additional recommendations included: that:
  - a. the Task and Finish Group report and all of its recommendations be approved, subject to including:
  - b. that, as part of the consultation process, there is clear explanation given as to why option one is not being put forward as an option;
  - c. the Waste Team continue to work with and lead the communications on each of the schemes to ensure public understanding for the preferred options is secured;
  - d. asking that the reuse of waste is brought forward as quickly as possible at our local household recycling centres;
10. The executive response is scheduled for a decision on 22 April and the documents including the proposed response to each recommendation is available here:
  - <https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50037106&Opt=0>

### **Next steps**

11. The Committee agreed on 7 December 2020 that a progress report on the Executive's responses to the task and finish group reports on the Waste Management Strategic Review and the Climate Emergency conducted by the Committee should be added to the work programme.

## Community impact

12. 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

13. 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.
14. A key objective of the Waste Management task and finish group was to ensure the council's future waste management services reflect the ambition set out in the declaration of a Climate and Ecological Emergency, to minimise waste and to maximise recycling rates.
15. The objective of the Climate task and finish group was 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 executive response to the report supports 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)

16. 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**

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.
18. The equality implications have been considered and outlined within the respective executive responses and are detailed in the covering reports.

## **Resource implications**

19. There are no resource implications from this committee reviewing the responses. The resource implications are set out within the appended reports.

## **Legal implications**

20. There are no legal implications from this committee reviewing the responses.

## **Risk management**

21. As set out in the appended reports.

## **Consultees**

22. As set out in the appended reports.
23. None on this report.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix A – AMENDED Appendix 1 Executive response to the Climate and Ecological Emergency Task and Finish Group Review.
- Appendix B – Appendix 5 Executive Response to the Waste Management Strategic Task and Finish Group Review.

## **Background papers**

- None identified



Between 20 January 2020 and 25 January 2021 a scrutiny review concerning the climate and ecological emergency was conducted.

The following was recommended to the executive:

**Recommendation 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.**

23

**Executive Response**

Rejected. Recommendation G to be referred to the Rethinking Governance Group.

Parts A, C and D are not possible under a Hybrid Model of governance, however the proposal will be referred to the Rethinking Governance Group who are considering Hybrid Model governance arrangements for the council. Elements of the recommendation, specifically part G and elements of B, E and F will be considered as a part of this work.

The Council is currently operating its governance arrangements by way of a Leader/Cabinet model ( Local Government Act 2000) which means that the Leader is appointed by Full Council and the leader appoints the Cabinet and the leader decides which executive functions will be carried out by individual Cabinet Members. The constitution sets this out at Part 2 Article 5. This leadership model also has to have at least one overview and scrutiny committee, it currently has three such committees. The proposal to establish a Climate Change Committee, would not fall within the Leader/Cabinet model but instead would be a committee established under a committee system where the council would divide itself into politically balanced committees that make the decisions.

The Cabinet Member is very much open to the idea of working with an advisory group of interested members and will seek to establish such a group informally.

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
The recommendation will be considered as a part of the work by the rethinking governance working group.	Monitoring Officer	May 2021.	Review completed by rethinking governance group.	

<p><b>Recommendation 2</b></p> <p>24</p>	<p><b>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;</b></p> <p><b>a. A collaborative, open and transparent partnership body needs to be established to deliver the countywide response to the climate and ecological emergency.</b></p> <p><b>b. The Council should be represented on the partnership, should participate in it and make a robust contribution.</b></p> <p><b>c. Arrangements should be put in place to ensure regular feedback from the partnership to the Committee.</b></p> <p><b>d. 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.</b></p> <p><b>e. Provision should be made for the membership of the partnership to include a range of views to promote effective critical friend challenge.</b></p>			
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<p><b>Executive Response</b></p>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>The executive acknowledge the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group were shared with the outgoing County Steering Group and considered as a part of the drafting of the Terms of Reference for the proposed Herefordshire Climate and Nature Partnership.</p> <p>A forthcoming decision will be made to consider the establishment a new Herefordshire Climate and Nature Partnership board to facilitate the aim of achieving countywide carbon neutrality by 2030 and to further protect and enhance local biodiversity. This is a key commitment within the council's corporate delivery plan.</p>			
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Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decision to be taken.</li> <li>Board to meet and take forward action plan.</li> </ul>	Richard Vaughan	July 2021.	Board established.	Terms of reference and application process drafted. Subject to Cabinet approval the invitation to apply to the role of board member will

open and will be publicised.

**Recommendation 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.

**Executive Response** Accepted. Subject to review.

As part of the development of a wider engagement framework for the council, considerations are being given to the inclusion of citizen assemblies as a method of engagement with citizens (alongside other tools and approaches). Considerations will include the resources required to deliver the assembly, the method by which citizens are invited and the prioritisation for the area of focus to ensure that they are clearly linked to the County Plan and the council's wider strategic objectives.

The council has recently partnered with an external agency (Impact Consultancy) to support the council's engagement with the public and key stakeholders. Impact Consultancy will support the relevant teams with the planning and delivery of a citizen's assembly on Zero Carbon once the resources have been committed to and timeframes for delivery agreed.

<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Confirmation of resources to be committed and timeframes agreed.	Donna Vickers	Current review ongoing.	Delivery of Zero Carbon citizen's assembly.	

**Recommendation 4** The executive should ensure that all relevant teams are sufficiently resourced to carry out all recommendations that are accepted.

**Executive Response** Accepted.

All relevant heads of services have been consulted during the process and all teams are adequately resourced to carry out the work set out in the executive response to recommendations that have been accepted. Due to the extraordinary financial pressures the council is under and the savings targets required some recommendations have had to be rejected, these are noted in relevant responses.

<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>

**Recommendation 5** 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.

**Executive Response** Rejected.

The existing training module on the environment will be updated. The training will make it clear to staff what is expected of them in their professional capacity whilst making them aware of what they can do in their personal life to help the county move

towards carbon zero and nature rich by 2030. The training will be engaging and will provide staff with practical steps to help them professionally and personally. This training will be widely advertised to staff.  
Whilst advisory the module will not be a mandatory module as it is corporate policy that only modules that are required by law are made mandatory.

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
Existing course to be updated and promoted to all staff.	Richard Vaughan	July 2021.	Course updated and promoted to staff.	Course currently being updated by the Sustainability & Climate Change team.

**Recommendation 6**

**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 Funding and the existing European Regional Development Fund.**

**Executive Response**

Accepted.  
The council will write to and engage with the Local Government Association (LGA) on these issues as well as raise these issues in the County Council Network (CCN).

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
Write to the LGA. Table issues at County Council Network.	Ben Boswell	June 2021.	Actively engage with LGA. Discuss matters at CCN.	

**Recommendation 7**

**A 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, engaging in discussion with farming bodies.

**Executive Response**

Accepted, in part.

Due to the financial pressures the council is under it is not possible to entirely dedicate the work of a single officer to support environmental communications. The council's corporate approach provides a mix of resource and specialist skills to develop and deliver its corporate campaigns, and environmental aspects are included within this.

- a. The Council communications team will support the work of the Partnership using our communications channels where the work is in line with the council's zero carbon ambitions for the county and/or has a positive impact on the residents of the county. The team can help promote case stories, news items and examples of commitment to the climate and ecological emergency.
- b. The home page banners on the council website are used to promote messages as part of the multi-media marketing mix. Banners are changed regularly and permanent banners are not recommended as they lose their effectiveness. There is opportunity for services to develop content to embed and include within council web pages to allow for greater interaction. A climate emergency link has been added into the Community navigation box on the home page to provide easier navigation from the home page.
- c. The Newsroom provides the latest corporate news for Herefordshire Council and links to relevant content including news stories relating to the climate and ecological emergency and will continue to do so.
- d. The Council communications team can support any corporate activity that aims to engage and inform local residents.
- e. Herefordshire Council communications team can help promote case stories and examples of its commitment to the climate and ecological emergency, where it is the lead agency and has had direct involvement. Identification of these stories will need to be undertaken by service lead officers, as the experts on best practice and preferred approach.

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Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. To promote work of the partnership when it has formed.</li> <li>b. Climate emergency link has been added into the Community navigation box.</li> <li>c. The newsroom will continue to deliver news relating to the climate and ecological emergency.</li> <li>d. Support corporate activity that aims to engage and inform local residents including competitions and awards.</li> </ul>	<p>Alex Floyd</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Upon formation of partnership.</li> <li>b. Complete.</li> <li>c. Ongoing.</li> <li>d. Ongoing.</li> <li>e. Ongoing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Ongoing promotions.</li> <li>b. Complete.</li> <li>c. Ongoing promotions.</li> <li>d. Ongoing promotions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d. Climate emergency link has been added into the Community navigation box on the front page of</li> </ul>

e. Promote case stories and examples of its commitment to the climate and ecological emergency, where it is the lead agency and has had direct involvement.			e. Ongoing promotions.	the council's website.
<b>Recommendation 8</b>	<p><b>Full account should be taken of the concept of Natural Capital (including air quality) 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;</b></p> <p><b>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></p> <p><b>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.</b></p>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted, in part.</p> <p>In 2020 the Council updated the corporate decision making process to require that all new decision reports set out how the decision / proposal seeks to deliver the council's environmental policy commitments, aligns to the Environmental success measures in the County Plan and addresses wider Environmental Impacts. In order to strengthen the consideration for Natural Capital further guidance will be developed for report authors to further inform future decision making.</p> <p>The Council's updated Social Value Policy requires consideration of social, environmental and economic considerations as part of all corporate commissioning.</p> <p>A key objective of the Council's Corporate Delivery Plan is the development of a new Nature Strategy which will include further consideration of Natural Capital.</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Updated guidance on Natural Capital to be developed to inform future decision making and future commissioning.	Liz Duberley	Sept 2021.	Guidance produced.	
Development of a Nature Strategy.	Liz Duberley	Feb 2022.	Adoption of Nature Strategy.	
<b>Recommendation 9</b>	<p><b>The Group recognises and endorses the continued 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.</b></p>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Rejected.			

The current Fastershire strategy is not to give up and deem any premise ‘not possible to reach with fibre optic’ until the council have exhausted all other opportunities to find fixed broadband solutions.

As well as its various strategic contracts, the council is utilising a number of grant schemes to implement this strategy. This current strategy is in effect until the end of 2022. If a premise is not in one of Fastershire’s contracts, residents can express an interest via the Fastershire website in developing a community project which Fastershire will fund and support. This will only fund Gigabit Capable fixed broadband infrastructure. Businesses have access to the Marches and Gloucestershire Business Broadband Grant, which is also administered by Herefordshire Council and provides Gigabit Capable Services. It would only be when these approaches have failed to deliver a fixed broadband solution that the project would look to advise people to consider mobile network solutions as the two are not comparable.

It is important to note that access to 4G home broadband packages are available already to most people in the county.

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
<p>Continue to support the deployment of fibre optic broadband to rural properties until the end of 2022 utilising grant funding.</p> <p>29</p>	<p>Matt Smith</p>	<p>2023.</p>	<p>&gt;98% coverage at superfast speeds.</p>	<p>The county currently sits at c. 93% superfast coverage. The existing contracts will boost coverage to 97% by 2023. The Fastershire Community Grant and Business Grant will boost this coverage further but to what extent will depend on the level of demand from the community. So far 7 communities are in the pipeline for the Community Grant.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 10</b></p>	<p><b>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;</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>a. A Natural Capital partnership with Marches authorities and the LEP should be explored.</b></li> <li><b>b. The executive should request that the LEP publically commit to support all three authorities to deliver on the net zero carbon targets.</b></li> <li><b>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.</b></li> </ul>			

	<b>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.</b>				
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted. The council will write to and engage with the Marches LEP regarding the issues outlined in the recommendation.				
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>	
<span style="position: absolute; left: -40px; top: 50%; transform: translateY(-50%); font-size: 2em;">30</span> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Explore with the Marches LEP the possibilities around a Marches Natural Capital partnership.</li> <li>b. Request the LEP publically commit to support all Marches authorities and their net zero carbon ambitions by 2030.</li> <li>c. Request the LEP review their assessment criteria for support and consider taking account of Natural Capital. Request the LEP support for low impact, sustainable local businesses could be prioritised as part of a progressive procurement policy that takes account of social value.</li> <li>d. Raise with the LEP the issue of maize used as a feedstock for anaerobic digestion and discuss a joined up approach to tackling the issue, although this will be governed by national policy.</li> </ul>	Ben Boswell	June 2021.	Dialogue with LEP around these issues raised.		
<b>Recommendation 11</b>	<b>The Committee be consultees under the Core Strategy review.</b>				
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted. All members will be consulted as a part of the Local Plan update via Members briefing sessions.				
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>	
Ensure appropriate member/committee engagement during the plan making process.	Kevin Singleton	Ongoing process 2021-2024.	Members of the Committee consulted under Local Plan Update.		
<b>Recommendation 12</b>	<b>Biodiversity net gain should be a consideration in future planning applications through the Core Strategy review.</b>				
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted.				

	There will be a requirement to achieve biodiversity net gain of 10% introduced into the planning system through the forthcoming Environment Bill. However the Local Plan update will be able to consider the scope for requirements above the national target.			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Local Plan update will be able to consider the scope for requirements above the national target.	Kevin Singleton	Ongoing process 2021-2024.	The scope for setting requirements above national targets are considered.	
<b>Recommendation 13</b>	<b>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.</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted in part, the proposal will be reviewed as a part of the Local Plan update process.  There is a requirement that the Local Plan update will need to demonstrate that reasonable alternatives are considered during the plan making process. The executive will consider whether one of the appropriate alternatives developed for the new spatial strategy for the County could be a new settlement or settlements.			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Consideration given to appropriate alternatives developed for the new spatial strategy for the County could be a new settlement or settlements.	Kevin Singleton	Ongoing process 2021-2024.	A review of options completed.	
<b>Recommendation 14</b>	<b>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.</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted, in part. As part of the Local Plan update how sustainable development can be better defined and prioritised will be considered.			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
To consider how sustainable development can be better defined and prioritised as part of the Local Plan update.	Kevin Singleton	Ongoing process 2021-2024.	Review completed of the definition and priority given to sustainability as a part of the Local Plan update.	

<b>Recommendation 15</b>	<b>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 Document (SPD) should be produced to address the climate &amp; ecological emergency</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted. An SPD on Environmental Building Standards is being developed and will encourage new buildings built to a higher standard and therefore reduce the amount of heat and energy required to run them. An SPD on Intensive Livestock Units and River Quality will look to produce policy guidance, primarily for agricultural development to reduce pollution into the rivers. Particular focus will be on the reduction of phosphate into the River Wye SAC. The Local Plan update will enable further policy development in support of the climate & ecological emergency.			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
SPD on Environmental Building Standards be developed. SPD on Intensive Livestock Units and River Quality be developed. The Local Plan update will enable further policy development in support of the climate & ecological emergency.	Kevin Singleton	Both SPDs to be completed by December 2021. Local Plan update ongoing process 2021-2024.	SPD on Buildings Standards and SPD on River Quality are in force. Local Plan reinforce policies in support of the climate & ecological emergency.	SPDs on building standards and river quality are currently underway.
<b>Recommendation 16</b>	<b>Local planning strategy to include nature recovery networks through the Core Strategy review.</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted, in part, this will be considered as a part of the Local Plan review. It is understood that local planning strategy will likely be required to include nature recovery networks following the enactment of the Environment Bill. In any event the preparation of the new local plan will enable consideration of nature recovery networks to be integrated into the policies of the new local plan.			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Review the Environment Bill once it becomes an Act of Parliament.	Kevin Singleton	When the Bill becomes an Act of Parliament/ Local Plan update ongoing process 2021-2024.	Review.	
<b>Recommendation 17</b>	<b>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.</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Rejected.			

	<p>The council does not currently have a local list, so this is something that is being explored although the last local list was disbanded to make the planning service more efficient so that it could validate applications more quickly. Should the review conclude that a local list be established then a statutory consultation will follow.</p> <p>Currently the checklists are held on the planning pages of the website and all applicants are encouraged to use them. All applications are validated using national standards (in lieu of a local list). Applications without a checklist are informed the checklists are required.</p> <p>Should the decision be made to move forward with a local list, then this will be incorporated in accordance with any other recommendations made by the recent Planning Advisory Service (PAS) review of the planning service.</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Review opportunity for a local list.	Kevin Bishop	Jan 2022.	Completion of review.	The opportunity for a local list is currently being explored.
Statutory consultation on local list.	Kevin Bishop	April 2022.	Completion of consultation.	
<b>Recommendation 18</b>	<b>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.</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>In respect of existing policies the forthcoming SPDs on Environmental Building Standards and Intensive Livestock Units and River Quality will provide additional context and help inform the decision making of planning officers regarding climate change and ecology.</p> <p>Ultimately this is a matter of planning judgement for the professional officer in the processing of the application and conclusions within the planning balance.</p> <p>The Local Plan update will provide the opportunity to strengthen existing and/or introduce new planning policies in respect of climate change and ecology.</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Enactment of SPD on Environmental Building Standards. Enactment of SPD on Intensive Livestock Units and River Quality. Incorporate up-to-date policies to strengthen the response to the climate and ecological emergency where possible within the Local Plan update.	Kevin Singleton	Dec 2021.  2021-2024.	Implementation of two SPDs.	Both SPDs are currently underway.
<b>Recommendation 19</b>	<b>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</b>			

	<b>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.</b>				
<b>Executive Response</b>	Rejected. We do not have the capabilities to monitor this action as the Environment Agency enforce this. However, when manure management plans are submitted to the planning service as part of an application they will be assessed.				
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>	
Manure management plans are reviewed before new plans are issued to ensure land is not under multiple plans.	Kevin Bishop	Ongoing.			
<b>Recommendation 20</b>	<b>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 policies. 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.</b>				
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted. There are currently 37 Guidance notes which have been produce to assist parish councils producing neighbourhood development plans. Three of these currently cover topics on 'Conservation issues (Guidance Note 23)', 'Recreation Areas (Guidance Note 24)' and 'Renewable Energy (Guidance Note 25)'. These three Guidance Notes will be reviewed, recast and broadened to cover a greater focus on low carbon policies, carbon reduction, transport, green space and biodiversity. Checklists can be included within the notes to help guide those parishes whilst producing their revised NDPs.				
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<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>	
To revise and recast the current NDP Guidance Notes 23, 24 and 25 to include a wider scope of green spaces and low carbon.	Sam Banks	September 2021.	Issuing of new guidance note to parish councils.		
<b>Recommendation 21</b>	<b>Consideration should be given to an SPD for new anaerobic digesters which should prioritise feedstock which supports the circular economy and where it can be shown there will be no adverse effects on water quality.</b>				
<b>Executive Response</b>	Rejected. The Minerals and Waste Local Plan sets out an emerging policy (M3) which would carry greater weight than an SPD. The draft policy supports anaerobic digestion where its use is to manage only natural wastes generated primarily on the agricultural unit within which it is located. The policy would also require development proposals to demonstrate delivery of a net reduction in nutrient discharges contributing to nutrient neutrality, or betterment, within the River Wye SAC.				
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>	

Implementation of the Minerals and Waste Local Plan.	Kevin Singleton	Programmed for adoption 2022.	The implantation of the Minerals and Waste Local Plan.	
<b>Recommendation 22</b>	<p><b>With respect to flooding:</b></p> <p><b>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></p> <p><b>b. Actively investigate the causes of pluvial flooding and the discharge of water and sediments onto the public highway and carry out enforcement.</b></p> <p><b>c. Discussions take place with the LGA/EA/local and national drainage authorities and other appropriate bodies to see how flooding issues can be addressed at a national level</b></p> <p><b>d. That there be a focus on actions that can be taken locally by council and partners</b></p> <p><b>e. Work with landowners from whose land flooding onto the highway is known to occur reminding them of their responsibilities</b></p>			
<p><b>Executive Response</b></p> <p>35</p>	<p>a. Rejected.</p> <p>b. Accepted.</p> <p>c. Accepted.</p> <p>d. Accepted.</p> <p>e. Accepted.</p> <p>a. It is not possible to prevent all development on flood zones 2 and 3 however, policy SD3 ‘sustainable water management and water resources’ of Herefordshire’s Core Strategy addresses this. It states that “development proposals are located in accordance with the Sequential Test and Exception Tests (where appropriate) and have regard to the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) 2009 for Herefordshire”. This policy aims to ensure development is located on land at lowest risk of flooding i.e. Flood Zone 1.</p> <p>b. The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 places a duty on Lead Local Flood Authorities to investigate incidents of flooding and this is set out in Section 19 of the Act and the investigations are therefore typically termed ‘S19 Reports.’ Analysis has been carried out of the October 2019 and February 2020 flood events, identifying the impact of the flooding for each geographical area affected and whether this is attributable to main river (therefore to be investigated by the Environment Agency) or local sources of flooding, i.e. ordinary watercourses, surface water and groundwater (therefore to be investigated and reported within a S19). Using this data, initial budget and programme estimates were produced and a desktop study is currently being conducted in order to further refine this dataset. Some 55 locations across the</p>			

county have been identified as requiring further investigation. Of these, 29 will require S19s by the council and 26 are within the remit of the Environment Agency. Note that we ordinarily plan for one S19 report to be completed per year. Whilst the desktop study will clearly help in prioritising and defining a programme of S19 reports, completing all of these investigations will clearly take some time.

- c. The primary way in which we do this is through Regional Flood & Coastal Committees (RFCC). These are committees established by the Environment Agency under the Flood & Water Management Act 2010. They bring together members appointed by Lead Local Flood Authorities and independent members with relevant experience who are appointed by the Environment Agency. RFCCs approve the annual programme of Flood and Coastal Risk Management (FCRM) work in their region and set the local levy that funds FCRM activities within the region that are a local priority. Herefordshire Council is part of the English Severn and Wye RFCC and its representative is Cllr Harrington. Through the River Wye and Lugg Natural Flood Management (NFM) Project ([www.herefordshire.gov.uk/nfm](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/nfm)) we have been working closely with the EA and project partners to deliver NFM measures that will reduce flood risk to downstream communities. Monitoring data and outputs from this project will feed into national discussions.
- d. It is extremely important to involve local communities in discussions about flooding and how to reduce their flood risk. Locals have a wealth of knowledge on flooding issues which are integral to identifying solutions. We are seeking to further engage with the various flood groups that have formed in Herefordshire. As resources allow, our approach is to create mutually beneficial relationships with local flood groups, providing advice as to what measures the flood groups/parishes can carry out themselves, and sharing asset information with them. As per recommendation 50 this will be supported by Talk Community over the coming year. The NFM project has highlighted the important role landowners can play in reducing flood risk, by adopting different land management practices or installing NFM features such as attenuation areas and leaky dams.
- e. At the request of Cabinet Members, BBLP have reviewed internal procedures to produce step by step processes that can be used by parish councillors, Ward Members, BBLP and residents alike to ensure a more focussed response to good maintenance of drainage throughout the county. This targeted enforcement work with landowners from initial stages of informing and helping them to discharge their responsibilities through to enforcement will be briefed to members and the guidance updated on the council's webpage at <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/roads-1/flooding/6>. We would always look to work with landowners first before taking any action ourselves. Under Farming Rules For Water (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rules-for-farmers-and-land-managers-to-prevent-water-pollution#prevent-erosion-manage-livestock-and-soil>) landowners are required to look after their soils and prevent erosion. It is the Environment Agency's responsibility to ensure compliance to these rules and they undertake inspections to do this. In Herefordshire we also have a soil patrol which is led by the Environment Agency. As part of this patrol work, high risk fields are identified using satellite imagery and then Environment Agency staff work with the relevant landowners to help prevent soil erosion and remind them of their responsibilities ([https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/news/article/819/preventing\\_pollution\\_and\\_hazards\\_from\\_soil\\_water\\_run-off](https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/news/article/819/preventing_pollution_and_hazards_from_soil_water_run-off)).

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
37 b. Continued working with the EA, BBLP to investigate flooding and identify mitigation. b. Conduct Section 19 investigations into significant flood events. c. Continued working with the EA, BBLP and regional flood committees c. Deliver NFM to reduce flood risk d. Support local Flood Groups through the Talk Communities project. e. Council website to be updated regarding guidance on riparian responsibilities.	Steve Hodges	b. Ongoing. c. Ongoing. d. Refer to recommendation 50. e. March 2022.	b. Continued investigation and mitigation, section 19 investigations carried out c. Ongoing partnership working d. Support provided to emerging Flood Groups e. Website updated	
<b>Recommendation 23</b>	<b>Where sites have already been identified for development, the council should be supporting local house builders to build sustainable housing.</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted, in part. With regards to housing sites, the council will not be able to direct that local house builders build out development sites. It could, by virtue of the review of the Local Plan, allocate a range of sizes of development sites that would assist both small scale local house builders and national house builders in delivering sites in Herefordshire. In the review of the Local Plan the council will investigate whether section 106 agreements can be used to facilitate the use of local employment and training clauses to encourage creation of sustainable jobs and training. This will require an understanding of the needs of the construction industry, and the local context in terms of the availability of skilled, trained and experienced workers. Implementing the recommendation will be dependent on how the Government responds to the consultation responses received on their proposals to abolish the use of section 106 agreements and the Community Infrastructure Levy and the replacement with a national Infrastructure Levy. The Building Standards SPD which is currently underway will seek to address the need for sustainable housing by requiring and encouraging more sustainable building methods and techniques.			
Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress

Recommendation to be captured and explored in the review of the Local Plan.	Kevin Singleton.	Ongoing process 2021-2024.		
Enactment of SPD on Environmental Building Standards.	Kevin Singleton.	December 2021	Implementation of SPD.	SPD currently underway.
<b>Recommendation 24</b>	<b>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 example)</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>Carbon offsetting can operate as a planning policy that requires a reduction in carbon emissions beyond that required by Building Regulations. The offset payments pay for carbon saving projects to go ahead elsewhere, to make up for the carbon savings not achieved within developments. Carbon offsets are collected through section 106 legal agreements.</p> <p>In the review of the Local Plan the council will investigate how a carbon offset regime could operate, the risks and benefits of using carbon offsetting, the price that developers could be charged per tonne of carbon to achieve carbon abatement offsite, the type of measures that might be eligible and how a carbon offset fund might be managed.</p> <p>Implementing the recommendation will be dependent on how the Government responds to the consultation responses received on their proposals to abolish the use of section 106 agreements and the Community Infrastructure Levy and the replacement with a national Infrastructure Levy.</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
To consider as a part of the Local Plan review. 38	Kevin Singleton	Ongoing process 2021-2024.	The scope for supporting domestic retrofit using S.106 monies are considered.	
<b>Recommendation 25</b>	<b>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</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>The council recognises the importance in supporting community group's access grants and the excellent return on investment that results. The operational services provided by the Talk Community Division are currently being developed and redesigned with the aim to increase reach and impact for all the services. The Talk Community division have been supporting Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) to fund activities, services and projects and the redesign aims to increase this reach by offering community support and advice through a model of self-help tools, as well as upskilling those supporting community groups and organisations so that there is wider access to funding advice.</p> <p>Officers from the Talk Community Division support Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) organisations seeking to fund activities, services and projects. The service is available to all such organisations including those developing environmental projects. In support of environmental projects the Sustainability &amp; Climate Change team will provide technical advice and support wherever necessary/possible. So far in 2020/21 the Talk Community Division have supported VCSE</p>			

organisations to secure £1,253,620 for environmental projects and activities and will continue to support these organisations moving forward.

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to actively promote the support available to VCSE organisations seeking to fund environmental projects.</li> <li>Continued joint working of the Talk Community Division and Sustainability and Climate Change teams in support of environmental bids.</li> </ul>	Nina Bridges	Ongoing.	VCSE organisations supported in the securing of grant funding for environmental projects.	

**Recommendation 26**      **The council should continue to support and promote Keep Herefordshire Warm having regard to the importance of addressing fuel poverty and provide incentives and support to individuals to make behaviour changes to reduce carbon emissions.**

<p><b>Executive Response</b></p> <p>∞</p>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>The current Keep Herefordshire Warm (KHW) contract, run by Severn Wye Energy Agency, will run until 2022, when the contract will be reviewed and either extended or re-tendered. KHW has supported over 900 households through the course of 2020/21, however energy efficiency measure installs and physical home visits are down on previous years as a result of the pandemic. Activity is on-going to promote the service and associated schemes and funding through a suite of tools including targeted social media, e-learning delivery and the website.</p>
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Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to promote KHW using a variety of methods in 2021/22;</li> <li>Increase uptake of energy efficiency measures and home visits as County transitions out of the pandemic.</li> </ul>	Richard Vaughan	June 2021	Maintained household engagement levels and increased realisation of energy efficiency installs.	<p>In quarters 1-3 of 2020/21:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>893 households have received advice through KHW (target 750);</li> <li>35 energy efficiency measures installed;</li> </ul>

- 7 home visits completed;
- 8,879 'hits' to KHW website;
- 36 separate marketing activities completed and 48 staff/stakeholders engaged for fuel poverty training and affordable warmth network facilitation.

**Recommendation 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.**

**Executive Response**

Accepted, in part.

In addition to providing ecological advice for planning consults the Council's recently appointed Principal Ecologist will also take a leading role engaging in strategic and proactive work including the development of a new Nature Strategy, addressing the recently declared ecological emergency, and further supporting work to address water quality and phosphate pollution within the Rivers Lugg and Wye.

We do also require sufficient ecology expertise to carry out our statutory duty in terms of providing ecological advice for planning consults and processing HRA, in order to avoid legal challenge. This would require an additional full time planning ecologist.

In order to consider the increasing complexity and work load for the natural environment team a strategic review is proposed to consider the current and future resource requirements to deliver the statutory planning function, to meet the Council's commitments on the climate and ecological emergency and also to consider the future implications of the forthcoming Environment Bill.

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
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Strategic review of the Built & Natural Environment service to consider current and future resource requirements.	Ben Boswell	Sept 2021.	Review undertaken.	
<b>Recommendation 28</b>	<b>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.</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted, in part. The process of updating the records is a live and iterative process to enable the records to be continually kept up to date and we are currently working with partners and volunteers to do this. Due to resource constraints it is not possible to allocate further resource to accelerate the process, however we continue to explore other funding opportunities.</p> <p>Herefordshire Biological Records Centre (HBRC) was established in 2001 as a 'not for profit' organisation run for the public benefit. It has been hosted from the outset by Herefordshire Council, operates on a self-financing model and works with partners and volunteers to provide a central database for environmental data in the county.</p> <p>The HBRC is proactively working with partners to develop data sharing agreements with recording groups across the county in order to expand and update the Biological Records.</p> <p>HBRC officers are also seeking alternative funding opportunities and are developing external grant applications in order to further develop the website, to enable online data requests and to free up officer time to input and improve data.</p> <p>However we are proactively working with partners and looking to make a funding application to the Heritage Lottery Fund which will help to update the records.</p> <p>The service is also working in partnership with Herefordshire Wildlife Trust (HWT) to review the current criterion for the designation of Local Wildlife Sites, to resurvey the existing sites is to be undertaken this year in partnership and new sites identified next year, which will enable HBRC to update this dataset.</p> <p>HBRC &amp; the council are also working in partnership with Malvern Hills AONB to share data for the Nature Recovery Network pilot scheme which is currently underway.</p> <p>The Wye Valley AONB have carried out more up to date survey work of habitats in AONB through a project in 2017 with trainee ecologists. HBRC will contact both AONBs to investigate data sharing agreement (this year).</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Funding application developed and submitted to the National Lottery Heritage Fund.	Liz Duberley	March 2022.	Application submitted / Successful.	

Partnership working with the Herefordshire Wildlife Trust to resurvey the Local Wildlife Sites.	Liz Duberley	March 2022.	Updated datasets.	
<b>Recommendation 29</b>	<b>A soil strategy for the County should be produced as a matter of urgency.</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>It is envisaged that the proposed nature strategy will encompass all areas of the natural environment including air, water, green infrastructure and soil. It will set out good practice in terms of soil management in order to address soil erosion and nutrient leaching in line with Defra guidance on Catchment Sensitive Farming Measures and Farming Rules for Water.</p> <p>This will also link with the existing partnership work on soils through the Herefordshire and Marches Nature Partnerships and the delivery of the Marches Environment Strategy 2020-2023 which includes agriculture, soils and woodland as a key strategic priority.</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Soils to be included within the development of the proposed Nature Strategy.	Liz Duberley	Feb 2022.	Adoption of Nature Strategy.	
<b>Recommendation 30</b>	<p><b>Improving biodiversity of hedgerows and trees;</b></p> <p><b>a. Review the approach by statutory undertakers to rewilding verges.</b></p> <p><b>b. The council should adopt a Hedgerow Manifesto as part of the emerging tree strategy including ancient and semi natural woodland.</b></p> <p><b>c. That the business case for another cut and collect machine is developed.</b></p> <p><b>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.</b></p> <p><b>e. Recognise the importance of effective communication in advance of any changes to explain them fully to the public.</b></p>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>a. Accepted in part, subject to Nature Strategy review.</p> <p>b. Accepted in part, subject to Nature Strategy review.</p> <p>c. Accepted in part, subject to development of business case.</p> <p>d. Rejected.</p> <p>e. Accepted.</p> <p>a. Within the recently approved capital budget for 2021/22 the Council has allocated £2.299m for the new Extra Ordinary Highways Maintenance &amp; Biodiversity Net Gain project. This innovative new project seeks to mitigate carbon emissions</p>			

and to deliver biodiversity net gain as part of highway maintenance and will include enhancements to verges and increased tree coverage.

- b. The proposed Nature Strategy seeks to protect and enhance biodiversity and key to this will be consideration of hedgerows and trees. As such the proposed response is to include consideration of a Hedgerow Manifesto through the development of this strategy.

This work will also be informed through the recent purchase of new mapping software for Hereford city that enables us to calculate percentage of canopy coverage in the urban area. Officers will also explore the potential to broaden the use of this mapping to consider hedgerows.

- c. The consideration of a business case for a new cut and collect machine will be included within the Extra Ordinary Highways Maintenance & Biodiversity Net Gain project.

- d. The council does not currently have the resources to undertake this proposal and is unable to commit additional resource due to financial pressures.

- e. The Council recognises the importance of effective communication in advance of any changes which will be promoted through the corporate communications channels. Further opportunities for partnership working will also be considered, for example working with tree wardens and members of public to identify species of trees within settlements and include this within the Council's mapping. This would enable us to address the ecological emergency through increased diversity of species. For example the Council has begun to plant different species at the King George playing fields as these are likely to be more flood tolerant.

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
Consideration of a Hedgerow Manifesto and approach to rewilding verges to be considered through the development of the Nature Strategy.	Liz Duberley	Feb 2022.	Inclusion in strategy.	
Development of business case for additional cut and collect machine to be included within the Extra Ordinary Highways Maintenance & Biodiversity Net Gain project.	Ben Boswell	Aug 2021.	Business case developed.	
<b>Recommendation 31</b>	<b>The council should, in consultation with Highways England, explore getting local authority verges in Herefordshire registered under Tier 3 for Environmental Land Management Schemes</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted			

The council is currently working with numerous partners including Balfour Beatty Living Places, Herefordshire Wildlife Trust and several other wildlife organisations on the 'Verging on Wild' project. This partnership activity has identified 10 sites to undertake this activity which is currently being reviewed by the officers with BBLP.

Officers can make contact with Verging on Wild to investigate this further and can also obtain mapping of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) to assist with identifying further sites for possible intervention.

BBLP also offered parish councils the opportunity to change to their mowing regime to promote wildlife although this has had limited take up.

Officer will investigate the opportunity for local authority verges to become registered as part of Environmental Land Management Schemes.

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
Consider opportunity for local authority verges to become registered as part of Environmental Land Management Schemes.	Liz Duberley	March 2022.		
Continuation of partnership working on the Verging on Wild project.	Spencer Grogan	March 2022.		
Further promotion to Parish Councils to enhance wildlife through changes to mowing regime.	BBLP	March 2022.	Additional Parishes amending mowing regimes.	

**Recommendation 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 benefit. 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, and felled, their age, location and regrowth plan 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.**

**Executive Response**

a. Accepted in part, a record of tree planting facilitated, enabled and delivered by the Council to be maintained.

b. Accepted in part, phosphate trading platform is currently being explored.

c. Accepted.

The County Plan sets out a strong commitment to 'Protect and enhance the county's biodiversity, value nature and uphold environmental standards' and the Nature Strategy proposed within the Corporate Delivery Plan will further develop the Council's strategic approach to biodiversity net gain.

As a committed member of the Herefordshire Local Nature Partnership the council will continue to work with partners to maximise biodiversity net gain across the County.

Offsetting will also come forward as part of the Environment Bill. The delivery of biodiversity net gain where it cannot be achieved on site therefore needs to be incorporated into section 106 contributions as part of the planning process. This will also be guided by the timescales of the Bill and the Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS).

Further examples of existing activity and partnership working include:

- Partnership with Natural England and Herefordshire Wildlife Trust to develop Nature Recovery Networks (NRNs) for the county which will help to identify opportunities for offsetting. Officers are also on the steering group for the NRN pilot scheme in the Malvern Hills AONB which is trialling the Gloucestershire model.
- The Council is investigating the opportunities to utilise s.106 contributions for phosphate credits through the development of a new phosphate trading platform which could then be used to fund projects to improve water quality such as wetlands.
- The Council has also commissioned the Wye & Usk Foundation to identify areas of land at risk of a higher degree of phosphate leaching as well as projects to address the pollution. This will allow the council to identify further strategic projects to improve water quality and rewilding.
- Through the Green Space Enhancement Project as part of the Towns Fund accelerated funding programme the Council is providing 519 trees free of charge to residents and organisations in Hereford City, ~80 new landmark trees in self-watering planters and planting ~90 large trees across the Hereford Enterprise Zone.
- The Extra Ordinary Highways Maintenance & Biodiversity Net Gain project will also include significant tree planting across the public realm.

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
Record of tree planting facilitated, enabled and delivered by the Council to be maintained.	Liz Duberley	Ongoing.		

Tree planting enabled through the Towns Fund Green Space Enhancement Project to be mapped on the Council's website.	Ben Boswell	July 2021.	Website updated.	Free tree offer already includes permission from tree recipients to enable the mapping.
Completion of phosphate trading platform.	Liz Duberley	April 2021.		
<b>Recommendation 33</b>	<b>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).</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Rejected.</p> <p>The council's legal team have provided advice in a meeting on 5 January 2021 regarding Water Protection Zones (WPZ) and how they work, and who is legislatively able to seek one.</p> <p>The council has been in discussion with the Environment Agency (who are the only ones able legislatively to make an application to the secretary of state for a WPZ) and other Nutrient Management Board partners to understand the process behind this. The first stage would be detailed modelling to demonstrate the need for a Water Protection Zone (WPZ), in order to put a business case to DEFRA should the Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales wish to proceed.</p> <p>Councillors and officers have met with local MPs to request intervention and a list of proposals for funding is being put forward, with the alternative being to lobby the Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales to press for a WPZ. The process of seeking a WPZ can take up to 10 years, with only one so far in the UK.</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
A list of actions for DEFRA shall be presented to the local MPs through a working group which is coordinated by the Environment Agency.	Ben Boswell	July 2021.	List accepted by MPs and Defra.	List for the MPs attains financial support from Defra.
<b>Recommendation 34</b>	<b>The council should explore the use of council land for solar farms and where appropriate council car parks linked with EV charging points.</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted, in part.</p> <p>The Sustainability &amp; Climate Change team have previously carried out a scoping exercise for solar farms with the ex-landfill site at Stretton Sugwas identified as a potential location, however after investigation with an installer and community support the site was not deemed suitable. The Sustainability &amp; Climate Change team will identify council owned car parks with sufficient electrical demand for solar photovoltaic (PV) installations.</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review electricity demand of council car parks.</li> </ul>	Richard Vaughan	June 2021.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of car parks complete.</li> <li>Feasibility of Garrick Multi-</li> </ul>	A provisional survey has revealed that Garrick Multi-storey car park has enough energy

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out a feasibility study on Garrick Multi-storey car park.</li> </ul>			storey car park carried out.	consumption to support a solar PV installation.
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**Should a Climate and Ecological Emergency Policy Committee not be agreed or established the following recommendations should be made to the executive.**

<b>Recommendation 35</b>	<p><b>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.</b></p> <p><b>a. Specifically the Committee should review the SPD and environmental and ecological checklists produced.</b></p> <p><b>b. The work of the Committee and others should guide the council's actions to ensure it is moving in the right direction.</b></p>
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<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member will review the SPDs and ecological checklists produced and will share this with the governance arrangements that are established as a result of the Rethinking Governance working group.</p>
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<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Review of SPD on Intensive Livestock Units and River Quality.	Sustainability & Climate Change Team	December 2021.	Review complete.	
Review of SPD on Environmental Building Standards.	Sustainability & Climate Change Team	December 2021.	Review complete.	
Review ecological checklist	Sustainability & Climate Change Team	July 2021.	Review complete.	

<b>Recommendation 36</b>	<b>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.</b>
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<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>The council chairs regular meetings with the Environment Agency for the purpose of identifying opportunities to reduce flood risk in a collaborative manner. In addition both the council and the Environment Agency are committed members of both the Herefordshire Local Nature Partnership and Nutrient Management Board. These groups work across a number of issues including land use, water quality and reducing phosphate levels in the River Wye catchment area.</p>
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<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Continue to meet and work with the Environment Agency for the purpose of identifying opportunities to reduce flood risk in a collaborative manner and reduce phosphate levels.	Steve Hodges/ Ben Boswell	Ongoing.		

<b>Recommendation 37</b>	<b>Good farming and land use practice should be actively promoted by the Committee, supporting existing work by the Wye &amp; 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.</b>			
<p>48</p> <p><b>Executive Response</b></p>	<p>Rejected.</p> <p>Currently the council does not have the resource or expertise to set up a local seal of quality for produce.</p> <p>Through the delivery of the Sustainable Food Places <a href="#">SFP framework</a> we aim to tackle 6 key areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 'Take a strategic and collaborative approach to good food governance and action',</li> <li>2. 'Build public awareness, active food citizenship and a local good food movement',</li> <li>3. 'Tackle food poverty, diet related ill-health and access to affordable healthy food',</li> <li>4. 'Create a vibrant, prosperous and diverse sustainable food economy',</li> <li>5. 'Transform catering and procurement and revitalise local sustainable food chains'</li> <li>6. 'Tackle the climate and nature emergency through sustainable food and farming and an end to food waste'.</li> </ol> <p>More specifically under key area 2 'inspire and engage the public about good local food' and 'foster food citizenship and a local good food movement', Area 4 'promote healthy sustainable and independent food businesses to consumers' and Area 6 'Promote sustainable food production and consumption and resource efficiency' &amp; Provide training, advice and support on adopting agroecological production and management techniques'.</p> <p>Through the River Wye and Lugg Natural Flood Management (NFM) scheme the council have been engaging with landowners within 7 catchment areas, providing them with tailored advice about how they can alter their land management practices to help slow the flow of water and reduce flood risk. To help implement these changes the council have ran an NFM Construction grant scheme. Details about the grant scheme, the catchment areas we have worked in and case study examples of the work delivered so far is available on the Council's webpage: <a href="http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/nfm">www.herefordshire.gov.uk/nfm</a></p> <p>The work has been promoted through the Communications team and has received media coverage from BBC Hereford &amp; Worcester and from BBC Radio 4, Farming Today.</p> <p>As part of the climate action plan development work, the council are working closely with the NFU, Farm Herefordshire and the Wildlife Trust to promote good farming and land use practice.</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>

Continue to work with landowners and promote best practice on NFM.	Steve Hodges	Ongoing.		
SFP co-ordinator grant application	Lindsay Macardy	Dec 2020	Success	Co-ordinator in post Jan 2021
Expansion in membership of Food alliance (leading SFP)	Lindsay Macardy	Ongoing	Increasing numbers	Additional members March 21
Mapping of current county-wide food activity	Lindsay Macardy	Ongoing	Map produced	Mapping ongoing
SFP criteria gap analysis & initial action plan development	Lindsay Macardy	July 2020	SFP 6 month action plan	Ongoing
<b>Recommendation 38</b>	<b>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.</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted. The council is planning to progress development of the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP). In progressing the LCWIP over the next year it will engage with key stakeholders including parish councils, Local Access Forum and other relevant consultees. This will include review of rural cycle routes which are already identified and consideration of new routes and extensions to routes. It is likely that some of the rural routes will present opportunities for leisure cycling and will help contribute to tourism opportunities in the county.			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Subject to cabinet confirming next steps in development of transport strategy and agreement to allocate appropriate resource, progress LCWIP during 2021/22.	James Fishlock	March 2022.	Completed LCWIP.	
<b>Recommendation 39</b>	<b>Strips of land alongside rural roads should be investigated to create cycle ways with a view to purchase or lease the land.</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted. The development of the LCWIP described in recommendation 38 would allow for consideration of rural cycle routes adjacent to existing highways. Any assessment of these routes would need to consider the appropriate design including if land was required and the potential costs of schemes. As per recommendation 31 it is important to recognise that 'strips of land alongside rural roads' may well provide an important wildlife asset and any proposals to identify these for cycle routes would need to consider how this would impact a wildlife asset.			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Subject to cabinet confirming next steps in development of transport strategy and agreement to allocate appropriate resource progress LCWIP during 2021/22.	James Fishlock	March 2022.	Completed LCWIP.	
<b>Recommendation 40</b>	<b>20 mph zones should be implemented across Hereford, the market towns and around schools, countywide.</b>			

<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted, subject to funding.</p> <p>Whilst the Local Transport Plan includes general policies supporting the introduction of residential 20mph zones, 20mph zones designed within public realm projects and 20mph zones for schools these can only be implemented subject to securing sufficient capital funds and meeting the requirements through the Traffic Regulation Order process.</p> <p>Following the motion by council that 'this Council requests that the executive undertakes an investigation concerning the introduction of area-wide 20mph speed limits across Herefordshire's towns and major villages.' Officers confirmed that an investigation would be undertaken subject to securing government funding in the summer of 2020. Some funding for temporary 20mph limits was secured in 2020 through the Emergency Active Travel scheme, but no funding has yet been secured for the investigation of area-wide 20mph speed limits across Herefordshire's towns and major villages so this has not yet been progressed. A capital funding business case is to be developed to undertake an investigation of 20 mph limits across the county and to develop a programme to implement these.</p>
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<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Subject to securing funding, commission an investigation of 20mph zones for Herefordshire's towns and major villages. The outcome of this investigation to form funding submissions to progress the implementation of limits prioritised around those which would provide the most significant benefits in terms of safety, modal shift and with greatest level of community support.	James Fishlock	Capital funding business case to be developed for countywide development of 20 zones, by September 2021. Hereford 20 Zones to be developed by March 2022.	Funding secured for investigation. Subject to the first action being completed: Investigation undertaken. Prioritised programme developed. Schemes implemented.	

**Recommendation 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.**

<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>Support for school travel planning has focused on Hereford schools in recent years through the Destination Hereford programme which has been funded via external revenue grant (local sustainable transport fund and in more recent years Access Fund). A review of approaches and preferred model for delivering countywide school travel plan will be progressed to determine the opportunities for providing countywide support and how this would be funded.</p>
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<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Review countywide school travel plan support and identify preferred approach, resource requirements and funding sources.	Ben Boswell	March 2022.	Review completed and approach to supporting countywide school	

			travel planning identified and implemented.	
<b>Recommendation 42</b>	<b>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 neighbourhoods</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>At full council on 12 February, £1.241m was allocated to further progress the councils sustainable transport strategy. A Cabinet report is progressed to consider the allocation of the budget set at Full Council. Innovative transport schemes within the community will be considered as a part of this report.</p> <p>Opportunities to pursue funding to support innovative transport schemes (including those described in the recommendation) will be progressed as and when such opportunities are identified. For example during 2020/21 an expression of interest was submitted to the DfT's Rural Mobility Fund to support a trial DRT scheme in the county. Unfortunately, DfT did not prioritise this submission but officers will continue to develop funding submissions as the opportunities arise. DfT has announced some potential future funding sources in its Gear Change policy statement including trials for mini Holland schemes outside of London and is also committed to produce a National Bus Strategy in 2021 which could also set out new funding opportunities.</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
<p>A Cabinet report is progressed to consider the allocation of the budget set at full council.</p> <p>Monitor opportunities to pursue funding for innovative transport schemes to support transport for rural areas as well as urban locations. Any funding submission will need to be in accordance with the council's financial procedures rules.</p>	<p>Steve Burgess (passenger transport)</p> <p>James Fishlock (infrastructure)</p> <p>Ben Boswell (behaviour change/shared mobility)</p>	<p>Cabinet report is due for consideration May 2021.</p> <p>Ongoing.</p>	<p>Funding submissions pursued in relation to funding opportunities.</p>	
<b>Recommendation 43</b>	<b>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. And investigate alternative delivery modes.</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted, in part.</p> <p>The development of mobility hubs will form part of the active travel component of the further work developing the Hereford Transport Strategy which will consider this opportunity for both the city and market towns.</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>

Develop concept designs for mobility hubs as part of the development of the package of active travel improvements.	James Fishlock	March 2022.	Locations and concept designs for mobility hubs.	
<b>Recommendation 44</b>	<p><b>Demand management should be further implemented, supported by robust communications and used to increase the provision of infrastructure to support active travel e.g.;</b></p> <p><b>a. Reduce on street parking and replace with infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians.</b></p> <p><b>b. Work place levy operated by the council with funds used to increase uptake of active travel.</b></p> <p><b>c. Car parking charges to be based on emissions.</b></p>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted, in part.</p> <p>Options for car parking management including those set out in parts A, B and C in the recommendation will be reviewed during 2021/22 to identify preferred solutions which will help manage demand particularly for shorter distance trips made by car.</p> <p>Options will need to consider the important role parking plays in providing access to key services (particularly for rural residents, elderly people and people with disabilities) and supporting vibrant local economies as well as the important contribution which parking income makes to supporting transport services including subsidised buses.</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Undertake parking review as part of the local transport plan update. 52	Steve Burgess	March 2022.	Revised parking strategy included in draft LTP for council adoption by council.	
<b>Recommendation 45</b>	<p><b>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</b></p>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted, subject to further decision.</p> <p>The council is committed to the continuation of the support provided by the Keeping Herefordshire Warm service. The council also aims to support the development of domestic building retrofit programmes to further improve the energy efficiency of Herefordshire's housing stock, reducing carbon emissions, improving wellbeing and tackling fuel poverty.</p> <p>Subject to governance and funding, the council will develop a long term countywide retrofit strategy that seeks to facilitate the retrofit of buildings to a much higher standard, help to reduce environmental impact, fuel poverty and improve the quality of life for residents. The study will provide a robust business case to be made to the capital programme in September 2021.</p> <p>In addition to the strategy the council will support fuel poor households to install energy efficiency measures through the upcoming Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery (GHG LAD) Phase 2.</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
To prepare a cabinet member report to consider the development of a Herefordshire Retrofit strategy.	Richard Vaughan	May 2021.	Governance obtained.	Report drafted. Specification of works for

				the county strategy currently being drafted.
Develop a business case to apply to the Council's capital programme for a domestic energy efficiency programme to deliver countywide retrofit.	Richard Vaughan	September 2021.	Partner engagement to take place and governance secured.	
Submit informed proposal to Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery (GHG LAD) Phase 2 project in order to support fuel poor households to install energy efficiency measures.	Richard Vaughan	May 2021.	Securing GHG LAD2 funding.	
<b>Recommendation 46</b>	<b>Consideration should be given to use of alternative fuel market for council fleet and contractors when vehicles/contractors are commissioned.</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>In 2020 the council undertook a green fleet review and re-procured its fleet of vehicles. Included within this six hybrid electric cars and six fully electric cars were purchased for use as pool vehicles or as service vehicles for council teams. The fleet is due to be replaced in 2026 when a further green fleet review will be undertaken to ensure that alternate powered vehicles will be considered before fossil fuel powered vehicles.</p> <p>Through the recently updated decision making process all new decisions must consider their environmental impact as part of their consideration, as such all decisions relating to the purchase of new vehicles will take this into account as a part of the business case development.</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
In 2026 when the corporate fleet is reprocured non fossil fuel powered vehicles will be considered before fossil fuel powered vehicles.	Richard Vaughan	2027.	All replacement vehicles consider alternate fuels including hybrid and full electric before internal combustion engines are considered.	Thirteen vehicles to date are electric hybrid or fully electric representing 29% of the fleet and 31% of fleet mileage.
<b>Recommendation 47</b>	<b>The use of hydrogen as an alternative fuel for long range vehicles or HGVs across the County should be explored</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>This recommendation aligns well with one of the 6 strategic priorities set out by government in its Decarbonising Transport – Setting the Challenge Paper: Decarbonisation of Road Vehicles<sup>1</sup>. This will be a government led approach which would enable local authorities to identify how they could support this priority as and when government sets out its Decarbonising Transport</p>			

<sup>1</sup> [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/932122/decarbonising-transport-setting-the-challenge.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/932122/decarbonising-transport-setting-the-challenge.pdf)

Plan (this was due end of 2020 but has been delayed by government until spring 2021). Government announced that it will be funding research and development into a number of areas of interest to support decarbonisation of transport and this included hydrogen technology stating:  
*“Hydrogen: Electric batteries are a viable technology for smaller vehicles today, but the fuel for delivering a solution for larger road, marine and rail vehicles is not yet clear. Hydrogen is a potential solution, and the UK has a number of world leading centres that could readily test the viability of the hydrogen economy for transport.”*

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
Review government’s Decarbonising Transport Plan and promised accompanying Science Plan which are due spring 2021, following Decarbonising Transport, and clarify further actions the council might take in supporting hydrogen as an alternative fuel option for road vehicles in the county.	Steve Burgess	Ongoing.	Approach developed to alternative fuels in response to government lead following on from Decarbonising Transport.	
<p><b>Recommendation 48</b></p> <p>54</p>	<p><b>A Natural Capital management plan should be drawn up with partners. A baseline should be established and the plan should;</b></p> <p><b>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.</b></p> <p><b>b. 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</b></p>			
<p><b>Executive Response</b></p>	<p>Accepted, in part.</p> <p>The forthcoming Nature Strategy will consider the council’s approach to managing Natural Capital across its landholdings.</p> <p>As the Herefordshire Local Nature Partnership (LNP) is the overarching strategic partnership for the environment and natural capital, the proposed response is to formally invite the LNP to consider the development of a Natural Capital management plan as part of its future work programme. This will also be a recommendation to the emerging Herefordshire Climate &amp; Nature Partnership.</p> <p>An initial step for the council would be to identify the approach taken elsewhere. For example, Warwickshire County Council are developing a Nature Recovery Network, we will be in contact with them and others to assist with the scope of the proposed Nature Strategy.</p> <p>This could also include consideration of the new Mapping and Assessment of Ecosystem Services (MAES) which is likely to come forward as part of the Environment Bill. This will also assist in the delivery of Biodiversity Net Gain and as a tool for</p>			

establishing baseline of development sites and ensuring the development proposal delivers the min 10% biodiversity net gain as currently proposed in the Environment Bill.

In addition the emerging Herefordshire Climate and Nature Partnership will consider Natural Capital as a part of the land use action plan which is one of the six themes that form the countywide action plan.

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
Best practice review of Natural Capital management plans.	Liz Duberley	July 2021.		
Proposal to Herefordshire Local Nature Partnership to develop Herefordshire Natural Capital management plan.	Ben Boswell	July 2021.		
Consideration of councils approach to Natural Capital through development of a Nature Strategy.	Liz Duberley	Feb 2022.	Adoption of Nature Strategy.	

**Recommendation 49**      **A fund to be established to support businesses to contribute to carbon reduction or ecological restoration**

**Executive Response**

Accepted, in part.

The council does not have monies available to establish its own fund specifically to provide grants to businesses for carbon reduction or ecological restoration. However we seek to maximise opportunities to use national grant schemes to support such work locally.

The council will continue to look to national grants to support carbon reduction and ecological restoration. Current examples of active grant schemes in support of carbon reduction or ecological restoration include:

- Marches Renewable Energy (MarRE) that supports business uptake of renewable energy across the Marches. Up to 50% grant is available to eligible businesses to install a renewable energy installation to reduce carbon emissions and improve business efficiency. This scheme has been a great success in Herefordshire and is currently closed to applications in Herefordshire ahead of project completion at the end of 2021.
- Business Energy Efficiency Programme (BEEP) which similarly is a European funded grant scheme that operates across the Marches and Worcester. Assessments of improvements that can be made with respect to energy and resource usage are carried out before grants of up to 40% are made available to help implement the recommendations.
- Through the Accelerated Towns Fund, 520 trees have been given out to residents and local businesses in Hereford City to increase tree coverage and improve local biodiversity. In addition to this c.80 large 'feature' trees will be located in self watering planters in Hereford City centre and a further 88 large trees will be planted at the Hereford Enterprise Zone.

The council is proactively exploring ways to use non-specific, national funds in support of carbon reduction or ecological restoration including the Additional Restrictions Grant fund and Community Renewal Fund. On the 3rd March government announced the Community Renewal Fund, with Herefordshire identified as one of one hundred priority local authority areas with

an opportunity to receive up to £3m of funding support. The fund can support Investment in skills, investment in local business, investment in community and place, and supporting people into employment. The prospectus states ‘proposals should demonstrate the extent of contribution to net zero objectives or wider environmental considerations. Projects should be based on low or zero carbon best practice, adopt and support innovative clean tech where possible and support the growing skills and supply chains in support of Net Zero where possible’. In taking forward this fund the council will seek project proposals that support businesses to contribute to carbon reduction, as well as developing retrofit skills and green building skills development programme.

In addition to grant schemes administered by the council, the Marches Growth Hub developed by the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) act as a single point of contact and signpost businesses to available loans, support and advice including support for business to reduce their carbon and ecological impact.

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
Through the Community Renewal Fund seek project proposals that will support businesses to contribute to carbon reduction, and develop retrofit and green building skills	Roger Allonby	18 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	Proposal finalised.	Awaiting further guidance on the fund from government, prior to seeking project proposals.
Subject to government approval, contract and manage the delivery of the proposed projects.	Roger Allonby	September 2021.	Numbers of business assists to reduce carbon.	
Evaluate uptake/ impact and feedback on the schemes offered to inform future schemes by end of May 2022.	Roger Allonby	June 2022.		
Continue to support BEEP in Herefordshire	Richard Vaughan	December 2022.	The provision of 60 free energy efficiency assessments to SME's in Herefordshire and a target reduction of 591 tonnes of carbon dioxide per annum in Herefordshire.	
<b>Recommendation 50</b>	<b>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</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted, in part.			

The aim of Talk Community is to bring Herefordshire together encouraging residents, businesses, community leaders and the Council to work together to make our community a better place to live and work. To enable residents to take care of themselves, look out for one another and take pride in the place you live. The scheme is specifically designed to be all inclusive, across all ages and to support the whole population which includes single person households.

From small acts of kindness such as looking out for a neighbour, to volunteer-run community hubs across the county and partnerships with the Police and NHS – our communities are the beating heart of Herefordshire.

A parish summit on community resilience is due in May to further support the excellent work carried out by parishes and communities and to continue working in partnership to build on the excellent work undertaken during floods and Covid-19. The Hubs can be used as anchor points within communities to provide education and awareness around the Climate and Ecological Emergency (CEE), as a part of this process organisations and volunteers could provide information sessions through the hubs. The council will explore recruiting or training community champions on the CEE.

The Talk Community team will be working with the Directorate Services and Emergency Planning teams and partners throughout 2021 to build on the resilience gained during the past 18 months.

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening of 50 Talk Community Hubs across the county to support residents.</li> <li>• Host Parish summit on community resilience.</li> <li>• Work with Directorate Services team and partners to build on community resilience.</li> <li>• Explore recruiting or training community champions on the CEE.</li> </ul>	Amy Pitt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50 Hubs due to be open by March 2022.</li> <li>• Parish summit in May.</li> <li>• Continue working with communities to continue to develop and build resilience.</li> <li>• Explore recruiting or training community champions by September 2021.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50 Hubs live across county.</li> <li>• Parish summit held.</li> <li>• Continue working with communities.</li> </ul>	17 Hubs are open, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, information sessions are currently being held online.
<b>Recommendation 51</b>	<b>Where the council provides schools meals they must be nutritious, locally sourced, low carbon and ethical</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted, in part.			

The council doesn't currently provide school meals, each school contracts its own service with each governing board responsible for school food provision and school food standards compliance. Historically there have been many small providers across the county rather than a few large caterers which adds to the complexity of the issue but this also provides opportunity. Through the delivery of the SFP model we aim to tackle 6 key areas:

1. 'Take a strategic and collaborative approach to good food governance and action',
2. 'Build public awareness, active food citizenship and a local good food movement',
3. 'Tackle food poverty, diet related ill-health and access to affordable healthy food',
4. 'Create a vibrant, prosperous and diverse sustainable food economy',
5. 'Transform catering and procurement and revitalise local sustainable food chains'
6. 'Tackle the climate and nature emergency through sustainable food and farming and an end to food waste'.

More specifically under area 3 'Promote the adoption of holistic food culture transformation programmes in a range of settings e.g. schools'

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
SFP grant application	Lindsay MacHardy	Dec 2020	Grant award	Co-ordinator in post Jan 2021
Expansion in membership of Food alliance (leading SFP)	Lindsay MacHardy	Ongoing	Increasing numbers	Additional members March 21
Mapping of current county-wide food activity	Lindsay MacHardy	Ongoing	Map produced	Mapping ongoing
SFP criteria gap analysis & initial action plan development	Lindsay MacHardy	July 2020	SFP 6 month action plan	Ongoing
School food project plan	Lindsay MacHardy	August 2021	Delivery plan approval	

**Recommendation 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.**

**Executive Response**  
 Accepted in part.  
 In part this will be explored within our approach to implementing the Sustainable Food Place (SFP) model. Through the delivery of the SFP model we aim to tackle 6 key areas:

1. 'Take a strategic and collaborative approach to good food governance and action'
2. 'Build public awareness, active food citizenship and a local good food movement'
3. 'Tackle food poverty, diet related ill-health and access to affordable healthy food'
4. 'Create a vibrant, prosperous and diverse sustainable food economy'

5. 'Transform catering and procurement and revitalise local sustainable food chains'
6. 'Tackle the climate and nature emergency through sustainable food and farming and an end to food waste'.

In particular area 2 'Foster food citizenship and a local good food movement' by ensuring communities can access and take control of green, brownfield and unused building spaces and increasing participation in food growing by increase in allotment provision, incorporating growing sites into developments and edible landscapes.'

In key area 6 'develop & deliver a land use and management strategy that protects and makes land available for community growing and commercial sustainable agriculture'.

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
SFP grant application.	Lindsay MacHardy	Dec 2020	Grant award.	Co-ordinator in post Jan 2021.
Expansion in membership of Food alliance (leading SFP).	Lindsay MacHardy	Ongoing	Increasing numbers.	Additional members March 21.
Mapping of current county-wide food activity.	Lindsay MacHardy	Ongoing	Map produced.	Mapping ongoing.
SFP criteria gap analysis & initial action plan development.	Lindsay MacHardy	July 2020	SFP 6 month action plan.	Ongoing.
<b>Recommendation 53</b>	<p><b>To recognise and properly protect the natural resource in Herefordshire the Committee should:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>a. Consider the creation of additional areas of outstanding natural beauty (AONB).</b></li> <li><b>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.</b></li> <li><b>c. support protection of the County's SSSIs and SACs</b></li> </ol>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Accepted, in part.</li> <li>b. Accepted, in part.</li> <li>c. Accepted.</li> </ol> <p>SSSI and SACs are the responsibility of Natural England who are consulted on planning applications. The council also have a duty to consider and protect these designations at a planning stage.</p> <p>Officers are currently working in partnership with HWT and HBRC to review Local Wildlife Sites, reviewing their criterion and survey sites.</p>			

The creation of new AONBs is a decision for Natural England. Some areas in the north of the county adjacent to the Shropshire Hills AONB have been mooted as potential AONBs for a number of years and officers could investigate the process of promoting this further.

The Wye Valley AONB could be linked to the Malvern Hills AONB as a national park, although this is also a decision for Natural England and could be promoted following the Glover Report. Officers could speak with the Wye Valley AONB to understand if this is something they would wish and the process timescales etc.

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
<p>Explore potential to extend Shropshire Hills AONB with colleagues in Shropshire Council.</p> <p>Explore the potential to link up Wye Valley AONB with neighbouring authorities to create a national park.</p> <p>Continue to support protection of SSSIs and SACs by working in partnership with other agencies and through our planning processes.</p> <p>Continued partnership working with our strategic partners through the Herefordshire Local Nature Partnership.</p>	Ben Boswell	August 2021.	Partners engaged.	

**Recommendation 54**  
**An article 4 suspension of the general permitted development order relating to temporary events of off-road motorsports, to develop a more considered approach to the sport which acknowledges its impact on environment and ecology should be made. (Previously under planning)**

**Executive Response**

Rejected.

An article 4 direction can be made under the General Permitted Development Order 2015 (“the Order”) to remove permitted development rights (“pd rights”). In the case of off-road motor sports an article 4 direction would need to be made to remove pd rights under Schedule 2 part 4 Class B (b) and Class BA(b) of the Order. The use of article 4 directions to remove pd rights are normally made on a case by case basis where it is necessary to protect local amenity or the wellbeing of the area. There will need to be particularly strong justified reasons for withdrawing pd rights relating to a wide area, such as the entire county of Herefordshire.

If an article 4 direction is to be made, consultation will need to be undertaken in line with the legislation. Notice of the making of the article 4 direction will need to specify a period of at least 21 days (stating the date on which that period begins) within which any representations concerning the direction may be made to the Council. The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government must also be notified that the direction has been made. Any representations received must be considered in determining whether to confirm the direction. The Council would not be able to confirm the direction until after the expiration of a period of at least 28 days following the latest date on which the direction is served or published. If confirmed, the direction will come into force on the date specified in the notice, and notice must again be served on all persons affected by the

order. The Secretary of State must also be notified it has been confirmed. The Secretary of State has the power to modify or cancel article 4 directions at any time before or after they are confirmed.

Compensation can be due for abortive expenditure or other loss or damage directly attributable to the withdrawal of pd rights which includes works carried out under the pd rights before they were removed, as well as the preparation of plans for the purposes of any work. Loss or damage directly attributable to the withdrawal of pd rights would include the depreciation in the value of land or buildings, when its value with the permitted development right is compared to its value without the right.

As each article 4 direction has to be considered on the merits of each location, the impact of the motorsport has to be considered upon the environment for each bespoke location. It is not therefore possible to categorically state that the planning and legal officers can be supportive of proceeding to an article 4 direction for each and every site in the county, as its success cannot be guaranteed given the other agencies involved and likely legal challenge. That said, it does provide a legal remedy to remove the permitted rights enjoyed by motorsports who would otherwise not need to apply for planning consent if they use the land for less than 28 days a year for a motor sport, of which only 14 days can be for racing or practising for racing.

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
<p>Planning officers to liaise with the council's legal team to explore the merits in proceeding to an Article 4 Direction in cases where harm can be shown to be caused to the local community or environment.</p>	<p>Planning enforcement Development Manager</p>	<p>July 2021.</p>	<p>Legal support can be obtained to pursue with an Article 4 Direction.</p>	
<p><b>Recommendation 55</b></p>	<p><b>The council should make a revolving loan fund available to victims of pluvial flooding caused by human activity, to seek legal redress. Cases and progress should be publicised.</b></p>			
<p><b>Executive Response</b></p>	<p>Rejected.</p> <p>Under section 12 of the Local Government Act 2003 a LA may invest:            (a) for any purpose relevant to its functions under any enactment, or            (b) for the purposes of the prudent management of its financial affairs.</p> <p>The use of the power is subject to guidance issued by the SoS under section 15. Guidance has been issued entitled Statutory Guidance on Local Government Investments for financial years commencing on or after 1 April 2018. The guidance is clear that loans come within the ambit of investments. As such the LA is expected to make a return on its investments and interest will be payable (which will need to be at commercial rates to avoid state subsidy rules). Note the guidance also refers to loans to third parties for economic growth purposes.</p>			

Section 12 is a pre-commencement power for the purpose of section 2 of Localism Act 2011 (Boundaries of the general power) which is subject to restrictions i.e. the section 15 guidance and therefore also applies to the general power under section 1 of the 2011 Act.

The suggested fund is for the purposes of funding litigation by individuals affected by flooding due to the failures of neighbouring landowners. It does not appear that this purpose is related to any of the Council's functions as set out in legislation. As such the requirements of section 12 do not appear to be met and the Council would not appear to have the vires to make loans for this purpose.

Advice to residents regarding flooding can be found on the councils website: <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/roads-1/flooding?documentId=345&categoryId=200196>

If government considers the severity, duration and extent of reported impact of a flood enough to trigger activation of the Flood Recovery Framework, information regarding any financial support will be published on: <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/floods>

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
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The council website be kept up to date with the latest information regarding support after flooding.	Steve Hodges	Ongoing.		
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<b>Recommendation 56</b>	<b>Proactively protect the ecology of potential development sites prior to planning permission being sought, mindful of implications for biodiversity net gain.</b>
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<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Rejected.</p> <p>Whilst this is delivered to a degree through the existing Hedgerow Regulations and Tree Protection Orders, unfortunately there is no other legislation that is currently in place that the council can utilise in this manner.</p>
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Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
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Consideration of options to deliver higher level of protection through the development of the proposed Nature Strategy and through recommendations for policy in the Local Plan.	Liz Duberley	Feb 2022.	Inclusion in Nature Strategy and policy recommendations for Local Plan.	
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Ongoing review of any new legislation, in particular through the emerging Environment Bill.	Liz Duberley	Aug 2021.		
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<b>Recommendation 57</b>	<b>That this year's mailing of annual Council Tax notices to residents includes a statement from the Leader explaining why the Council has declared the CEE, what goals have been set, and in outline, how can residents and businesses support the Council's efforts to achieve carbon neutrality. And that each subsequent year a statement is sent to residents outlining the progress made in the preceding 12 months.</b>
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<b>Executive Response</b>	Rejected.
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The executive consider that a better use of resource and a more positive engagement message would be to utilise other forms of communications. The launch of the 'Herefordshire Zero Carbon and Nature Rich' website in March is intended to speak to residents in an engaging and interactive way. The website will set out the net zero carbon ambition for the county, our action plans in six key areas (transport, housing and buildings, energy, waste, food and farming and land use) as well as informing residents what they can personally do to make a difference. The website also asks for ideas from residents as to how we can achieve this ambitious goal together. The intention is that the website will be better received, more informative and interactive than a flyer with the council tax letter which may be perceived poorly, especially in relation to the use of paper and ink to disseminate information about climate change or the information lost amongst the other inserts.

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
Zero Carbon and Nature Rich website launch alongside establishment of Herefordshire Climate and Nature Partnership.	Richard Vaughan	July 2021.	Website launched and kept up to date.	Website has had a soft launch with partners.
<b>Recommendation 58</b>	<b>Some other local authorities have issued bonds to raise funding for climate-related investments, for example West Berkshire's Community Municipal Investment bond which has reached 50% of its target of £1m and will be used to pay for solar panels on schools. Would the Executive investigate the feasibility of Herefordshire creating a similar investment bond?</b>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted, in part.</p> <p>It is the understanding of the executive that bonds are currently more expensive than the prudential borrowing authorities have access to. West Berkshire pay investors 1.2 percent over a five year term alongside capital repayments. This is a higher cost than the cost of utilising prudential borrowing over the same repayment term, currently 0.8%. There would also be set up costs and the need to generate adequate investor interest.</p> <p>A decision is due to be taken to invest in up to £941,000 of prudential borrowing to install Solar PV where feasible on maintained schools over a three year period. This would offer those schools, a zero cost solar install and discounted energy prices, generated from the solar PV.</p> <p>A decision is due regarding the development of a countywide retrofit strategy. Should the development of the strategy go ahead this strategy will consider the use of Community Municipal Investment bonds as one of the potential funding options to deliver a retrofit programme.</p>			
Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
Decision to be made regarding the investment of up to £941k in Solar PV on maintained schools.	Richard Vaughan	Decision by April 2021 Programme to complete by April 2024.	Solar PV offered to maintained schools.	
To prepare a cabinet member report to consider the development of a Herefordshire Retrofit strategy.	Richard Vaughan	May 2021.	Governance obtained.	Report drafted. Specification of works for

				the county strategy currently being drafted.
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## Summary of recommendations to the executive and executive responses [Waste Management Strategic Review]

On 28 September 2020 the general scrutiny committee considered the report of the Waste Management Strategic Review task and finish group. The recommendations are below.				
<b>Recommendation 1</b>	<p>The council adopts the three priorities of TREATING WASTE AS A RESOURCE, PRIORITISING PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE and MAXIMISING REUSE as corporate priorities for waste management.</p> <p>Reason            Adopting these principles as part of our county plan will provide leadership and direction for future decisions. The principles highlight the need for a more efficient circular economy, using our natural resources wisely as well as council resources, whilst reflecting the need to ensure our service are accessible and user friendly.            Measurement of our success in meeting these priorities will be through monitoring and reporting our recycling rate, diversion from landfill, participation rate (for recycling) and amount of waste diverted for re-use.</p>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted            The executive accepts the importance of the three priorities identified however recognise that there may be a conflict between these which will be further considered through the Waste Management Strategy (WMS) and future service design following Cabinet decision in April 2021.</p>			
<b>Action –</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Include these proposed priorities as key considerations when designing future services	BB / NP	Jan 2022	Dedicated items included within service specification for future contracts	
Include these as proposed policy statements in next revision to WMS	BB / NP	Dec 2021	Included within published WMS	
<b>Recommendation 2</b>	<p>The council allocates resource to prevent waste from households, restricting residual capacity and investing in waste prevention campaigns and home &amp; community composting initiatives.</p> <p>Reason            Preventing waste will help save both residents and the council save money. Residents through food waste prevention initiatives that help people to buy only what they need and the council as it will not need to pay for the cost of collecting and treating the waste avoided.</p>			

	<p>In recent years the council has been successful at reducing waste, particularly general residual household waste. This has resulted in a saving of over £500,000 per annum since 2011.</p> <p>In terms of resource a dedicated member of staff with a small budget to manage waste prevention initiatives and waste communications in support of the service is recommended.</p> <p>The council should set a target to reduce the amount of non-recyclable waste from 530 kg per house per annum (19/20) to 400 kg per house per annum by 2030</p>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>The council recognises the importance of preventing waste, educating residents about the waste hierarchy and encouraging them to take action to move up it. As set out in the response to recommendation 18 this response proposes to introduce a new 3 year fixed term waste communications officer approved as part of the resourcing report for the Waste Services Review. A key aspect of this post will be to develop and undertake waste prevention campaigns to help with the introduction of new services and minimise waste.</p> <p>The restriction of residual waste has already been included as a service option within the public consultation.</p> <p>In addition, we are currently reviewing the waste accepted at Household Recycling Centres to prevent the free disposal of non-household waste through these sites.</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Recruitment of new Waste Communications Officer	BB / NP	ASAP	Position filled	Awaiting publication of job advert
Consider restriction to residual waste through waste service review	BB / NP	Apr 2021	Include as option within public consultation	Included as option 1 in waste consultation
Further to the publication of the Environment Bill, we will include consideration of these proposed targets with the WMS.	BB / NP	Dec 2021	New targets included within WMS	Awaiting Environment Bill outcome and Cabinet decision on future service option

<b>Recommendation 3</b>	<p>The council prioritises the quality of recyclable material to increase its value and marketability. Secondly the council continually reviews and invests in increasing the quantity of material sent for recycling.</p> <p>Reason</p>
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	<p>We must ensure that the recyclable materials we collect can be treated as a resource. We should design services that will encourage better quality materials to be collected we are more likely to find outlets for them to use as a resource to turn into new products.</p> <p>After quality we need to consider the best approach to maximise the quantity of materials collected for recycling. We can do this be ensuring our services are accessible and easy to use but also through investigating new opportunities and technologies that make the collection and recycling of materials possible. Our service needs to remain flexible enough to be able to accommodate these opportunities.</p> <p>The council should adopt, as a minimum, targets to allow us to achieve the Resource and Waste Strategy 2018 objective of 65% recycling and composting by 2035:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To recycle or compost 60% of household waste by 2025</li> <li>• To recycle or compost 60% of both household and commercial waste by 2030</li> <li>• To recycle or compost 65% of both household and commercial waste by 2035</li> </ul>			
<b>Response</b>	Accepted – the council recognise the government’s preference for increased segregation of recyclable materials and therefore options have been included within the public consultation to increase segregation of dry recycling items and separately collect food waste.			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Conduct public consultation to consider two new refuse collection options – both propose increased segregation of recyclables in order to increase quality and quantity of recyclable waste.	BB / NP	Feb 2021	Options included within consultation	Completed
Cabinet Member report on the future waste collection services	BB / NP	Apr 2021	Report produced	On forward Plan
Further to the publication of the Environment Bill, we will include consideration of these proposed targets with the WMS.	BB / NP	Dec 2021	New targets included within WMS	Awaiting Environment Bill outcome and Cabinet decision on future service option
<b>Recommendation 4</b>	<p>The council adopts a zero waste to landfill policy, sending only waste that cannot be recycled or recovered. This will minimise loss of resource and minimise harmful emissions, such as carbon and leachate.</p> <p>Reason</p> <p>The Resource and Waste Strategy 2018 sets an ambition to eliminate food waste to landfill by 2030. It also includes a longer term target of limiting municipal waste to landfill to a maximum of 10%. In 2019/20 we sent 20% of our waste to</p>			

	landfill. The Waste-TFG consider that with our shared Energy from Waste Facility we should be doing better to avoid landfill. In order to consider waste as a resource only waste for which there is no other alternative should be sent to landfill The council should adopt a target of no more than 1% of household waste to be sent to landfill from 2025.			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted The council is strongly committed to the waste hierarchy and minimising waste and maximising recycling.			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Include as requirement in service design and include as any potential joint working arrangements with Worcestershire County Council.	BB / NP	Jan 2022	Dedicated items included within service specification for future contracts or extension	
Further to the publication of the Environment Bill, we will include consideration of these proposed targets with the WMS.	BB / NP	Dec 2021	New target included within WMS	Awaiting Environment Bill

<b>Recommendation 5</b>	<p>The council ensures services are accessible and easy to use for all. Providing practical alternative solutions where beneficial so that all residents and business customers can reasonably access them and be encouraged to manage waste safely and in accordance with our service.</p> <p>Reason The Waste-TFG consider public acceptance a key factor in the design of any services we provide. We must ensure that the public are included in the process of delivering any changes to our service through effective engagement and consultation. This does not mean that only the collection method residents prefer will be adopted, but that their preferences will be taken into account, balanced with financial and environmental impacts.</p> <p>Through learning from our own experiences and those of other Local Authorities we can also consider what approaches may work best for Herefordshire residents and business customers.</p> <p>Although we may need to consider different approaches in different areas of the county (such as town centres &amp; communal developments) we want the service to be as consistent as possible from the user's perspective.</p>
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	Participation rate will be measured and monitored for different housing types and demographics to inform where use of the service could be improved and the success of those improvements measured.			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted Public consultation has been carried out and Equality Impact Assessment will be included as part of the service review.			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Conduct public consultation seeking residents views and comments on the T&F group's recommended waste collection services	BB / NP	Feb 2021	Options included within public consultation	Completed
Equality Impact Assessment to be undertaken as part of Waste Review	BB / NP	April 2021	EIA produced	EIA completed and to be kept under review

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<b>Recommendation 6</b>	The council allocates resource to provide effective communication initiatives with residents and businesses to promote proper use of the service and to help maximise waste reduction, reuse and recycling. Reason After ensuring we have an accessible and user friendly service the Waste-TFG consider that effective communication is essential to help our residents and business customers use it in the right way. Effective communication will help reduce problems relating to the provision of the service and encourage better quality and quantity of recycling, reducing cost and increasing revenue.			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted As set out in the response to recommendation 18, this executive response proposes to introduce a new 3 year fixed term waste communications officer approved as part of the resourcing report for the Waste Services Review.			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Recruitment of new Waste Communications Officer	BB / NP	ASAP	Position filled	Awaiting publication of job advert

Include these proposed priorities as key considerations when designing future services	BB / NP	Jan 2022	Dedicated items included within service specification for future contracts	
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<b>Recommendation 7</b>	<p>The council designs new services to expand reuse opportunities through both the household collection service and the Household Recycling Centres. Existing opportunities to extract reusable materials are explored and implemented.</p> <p>Reason The Waste-WFG believe that there are many social and commercial opportunities to be explored with reuse. A modest resource could help extract valuable materials so that they can be repaired, repurposed, upcycled and reused. Any costs will be recovered from savings in waste disposal cost, generating income from the materials and added social value.</p> <p>In the short term the council develops a re-use facility to enable suitable items and materials to be diverted from waste (see case studies below). Such initiatives will very likely support the council's objectives and indicators being considered as part of its corporate social value framework.</p> <p>The council should adopt a target to increase the current levels of reuse of 20 tonnes per annum to 500 tonnes per annum by 2025</p>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted, in part The council recognises that direct reuse opportunities are currently limited through existing contracts. Negotiations under existing disposal contract to increase reuse at HRCs could be lengthy.</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Proposed introduction of new commercial bulky waste collection to enable recycling of a greater amount of municipal waste	NP	April 2021	Commercial service offered to holiday lets and landlords of domestic properties	Officer decision approved March 2021 for introduction of new service and approved prices
Conduct consultation seeking businesses views on commercial HRC's and commercial food waste collection service	BB/ NP	Feb 2021	Consultation results published	Draft consultation report produced

Include the development of a new re-use target in new WMS	BB/ NP	Dec 2021	New target included within WMS	
Waste Strategy Officer to conduct review of HRCs including possibilities for increasing reuse across sites	NP	Aug 2021	Review report produced	Increasing reuse raised at Waste Disposal Contract meeting in March 2021

<b>Recommendation 8</b>	<p>The council will research and seek to develop and continually improve services to minimise carbon emissions and other environmental impacts of the waste management service.</p> <p>Reason</p> <p>The best data available suggests that avoiding the production of goods and materials from raw materials is the best way to avoid carbon emissions. The Waste-TFG believe the best way we can support global and our own ambitions to reduce the impacts of carbon emission is to reduce waste and discourage the consumption of goods and materials and thus avoid the damaging need for production.</p> <p>We should also explore and seek to provide our waste management services in the most efficient ways possible that reduce our carbon emissions. This can include making sure our waste collection rounds are optimised to minimise fuel use, using alternative fuels for our waste fleets and investing in renewable power sources at waste treatment facilities. We will work collaboratively with those engaged in work to meet our target of NET zero emissions by 2030 to identify, measure and consider way to reduce the impact of waste management activities. This includes the Energy and Active travel Team, Climate and Ecological Emergency steering group, and Climate Change Task and Finish Group.</p> <p>The council should measure existing carbon emissions from both operational and embedded sources (e.g. from sale and transport of recyclables) of the service and adopt an achievable target to reduce them.</p>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accept, in part</p> <p>Whilst the Council currently includes the carbon emissions from the waste collection service within the scope of the organisational carbon footprint, as waste creation and associated carbon emissions from waste disposal are the consequence of domestic properties and businesses these emissions are considered within the countywide carbon emission target.</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Service specification will include requirement for the minimisation of carbon emissions in line with the	BB / NP	Jan 2022	Dedicated items included within service	

Council's Climate & Ecological Emergency Declaration.			specification for future contracts	
The outcome and recommendations of the carbon assessment within the Frith report will be considered as part of the service options appraisal	BB / NP	Apr 2021	Reference and inclusion within Cabinet report	

<b>Recommendation 9</b>	<p>Ensure the service contributes, meets or exceeds the objectives set out in the council's developing Corporate Social Value Framework.</p> <p>Reason</p> <p>The Waste-TFG have identified many opportunities for how the waste management service can contribute to providing social value through a range of initiatives to a wide range of people and communities. Recommendation 7 highlights the many opportunities provided through re-use initiatives, but there exists further opportunities across the service.</p> <p>To support both the social objectives and benefit the ongoing delivery of the service an apprenticeship or trainee scheme could help encourage people to choose a career in waste. Amongst other things this could help tackle a national shortage of HGV drivers.</p> <p>The council should provide an apprenticeship and/or training scheme within its waste management service to provide young people an opportunity and career route into the waste management service. Key service providers will be required to provide trainee/apprenticeship schemes to provide opportunities for people to learn skills to fill key job roles such as HGV drivers.</p>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Procurement of new services will be undertaken to incorporate the Council's new Corporate Social Value Framework.	BB / NP	Jan 2023	Criteria included within service specification for future contracts	

The Waste Management Team are currently exploring the potential to create a new placement opportunity using the new Kickstart scheme.	NP	July 2021	Confirmation of applicable role by Organisation Development, People & Performance team.	
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<b>Recommendation 10</b>	<p>The council should provide the same opportunities for non-household waste as it does for household waste. The same materials will be collected for recycling and commercial recycling centres will be provided. The council will recover costs as described and permitted by relevant legislation.</p> <p>Reason  The Waste-TFG believe the council should provide services that are accessible, user friendly and flexible to meet the varied needs of businesses and other non-household entities in Herefordshire. Providing cost effective solutions will help improve compliance, reducing waste crime and the cost of dealing with it.  The council should adopt a target to provide at least one commercial recycling centre by 2025.</p>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted  Targets for local authorities have previously been based on household waste only however the new Resources and Waste Strategy outlines new targets for municipal waste which incorporates waste from businesses. The council recognises that its current recycling services for business is quite restrictive</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Conduct business consultation to seek businesses views on commercial HRC's and commercial food waste collection service	BB / NP	Mar 2021	Consultation results published	Draft consultation report produced
Proposed introduction of new commercial bulky waste collection to enable recycling of a greater amount of municipal waste	NP	April 2021	Commercial service offered to holiday lets and landlords of domestic properties	Officer decision approved March 2021 for introduction of new service and approved prices

<b>Recommendation 11</b>	<p>The council will ensure it provides value for money to the taxpayer by undertaking a detailed business case on preferred service options as part of any commissioning process encompassing the best approach to achieve cost effective services that provide value for money to the taxpayer.</p> <p>Reason</p> <p>With a decision of a value in the region of £150m the Waste-TFG believe that a well thought through and considered approach is more likely to result in not only better quality, but also better value for money. We must ensure that our services reflect both best practice and best value through understanding and assessing our option, undertaking a business case and through comparison with services provided by other Local Authorities.</p> <p>The council should periodically benchmark their waste management service to compare costs and performance with other councils providing similar services as well as those we aspire to provide. This will indicate if service costs are reasonable or not.</p>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted</p> <p>The Waste Collections Options Assessment produced in 2019 was used to inform the options put forward in the consultation but with the development of policies within Environment Bill and the effect over the last 12 months of COVID there may be some fundamental changes in waste that need to be reviewed and considered as an update to this assessment.</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
A detailed business case will be undertaken on the preferred service options following the public and business consultation.	BB / NP	Apr 2021	Business case report produced	

<b>Recommendation 12</b>	<p>The council will ensure flexibility during the design and provision of the service so that changes can be more easily made to accommodate requirements.</p> <p>Reason</p> <p>The Waste-TFG recognise that we are yet to receive specific details on the future policy. This presents a risk that the council could design a service which is not compliant with our statutory requirements. To mitigate this risk the council must be able to modify its approach during the design phase to ensure compliance with policy and legislative requirements.</p> <p>In designing our service we must also make sure we do not restrict flexibility. This can be achieved by ensuring a holistic approach to service design where waste treatment and disposal services flex to the needs of the waste</p>			
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	<p>collection service. This could include avoiding long contracts that restrict the council to any particular approach for an extended period of time.</p> <p>The Waste-TFG are also keen to explore introducing changes gradually over time to give residents and business customers time to adjust to new services. This may be also be beneficial to align service provision with promised government funding to support the delivery of the service.</p>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted, in part</p> <p>With further consultation to take place on the ambitions set out in the Resources and Waste Strategy, it is recognised that flexibility is important for allowing change.</p> <p>The waste collection contract has no further option for extension therefore we're likely to need to make the collection service changes all together in 2023 when new service launches to achieve the best value for money and have the biggest impact on behavioural change.</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Explore options available to provide flexible services within service specification and procurement	BB / NP	Jan 2022	Options report for procurement to allow flexibility produced	
Include flexibility or multiple options as requirement in service design	BB / NP	Jan 2022	Criteria included within service specification for future contracts, as informed by options report.	

<b>Recommendation 13</b>	<p>Options 2 and 3 are progressed to public consultation with feedback and preferences used to inform the council's decision on its preferred approach. Progressing Option 1 is not recommended.</p> <p>Reason</p> <p>The Waste-TFG understand that no option is without merit or risk however both option 2 and 3 best fulfil the priorities, objectives and recommendations of this report. Option 2 as the best performing option and Option 3 as the governments preferred approach in the RWS 2018.</p>
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	The council should consult with residents, business users and key stakeholders to obtain their views on these two approach to providing the service. The consultation should highlight future requirements and the need to change and ask for views on how best those changes can be delivered.				
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted				
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>	
Conduct public consultation including options 2 and 3 in addition to a separate business consultation	BB / NP	Mar 2021	Consultation results published	Draft consultation report produced	

<b>Recommendation 14</b>	<p>In designing a new service the council should ensure it incorporates features that will enable it to meet the objectives and recommended actions detailed in this report</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Design of the service enables the collection of high quality materials for recycling to ensure they are useful, valuable and in use for as long as possible to help protect natural resources in accordance with circular economy values.</li> <li>2. The service is designed from the outset to be capable of meeting a 65% recycling and composting target for all the waste collection by the council.</li> <li>3. Residual (general waste) capacity should be restricted in order to encourage the use of recycling and food waste collection, for example by smaller bin size or reduced collection frequency.</li> <li>4. Reasonable and practical alternative collection options are provided to households where the nature of development makes it challenging to accommodate the standard collection service. For example providing different containers and or an increased frequency of collection.</li> <li>5. Flexibility of service should be built in where possible, for example: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. By ensuring waste treatment and disposal arrangements dovetail with those for waste collection, for instance by aligning contract periods. This will ensure that treatment and disposal arrangements do not constrain opportunities to make changes to waste collection services.</li> <li>b. By having more flexible shorter term contractual arrangements with a range of providers to more easily flex to changes in materials collected for recycling.</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. A charge for garden waste collections should be made if permitted (to continue to encourage those residents able to do so, to compost at home).</li> </ol>
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	<p>7. The same opportunities provided for householders for recycling will be offered to commercial (trade waste) customers at a charge</p> <p>8. Social value will be maximised through re-use initiatives, education and training.</p> <p>9. The service will incorporate effective communications and initiatives to support provision of the service and encourage positive public behaviours to benefit the service (e.g. waste prevention, proper use of recycling services).</p>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted This recommendation summarises many of the other recommendations where we have recognised the importance of including specific aspects within service design.</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Consideration will be given within the future service design and service specification. This will also be informed by the current public consultation exercise.	BB / NP	Jan 2022	Criteria included within service specification for future contracts	

<b>Recommendation 15</b>	<p>The council commissions work to understand what changes to its disposal service will be required to best manage the materials arising from the waste collection service options.</p> <p>Reason</p> <p>The council commissions a piece of work to understand what changes to its disposal service will be required to best manage the materials arising from the waste collection service options detailed in the analysis above. A better understanding of the changes required to existing waste treatment and disposal service will inform requirements to support the delivery of the waste collection options outlined in this report. As a priority the council should seek to understand what changes are required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Waste Transfer Stations, to understand how best materials collected could be accepted and stored for onward transport to treatment facilities elsewhere, and what required changes to existing transfer stations would be required, and:-</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Waste Treatment Facilities, to understand current waste treatment methods and capacity, what waste treatment facilities are required, and if there are any opportunities for developing more effective and resource efficient solutions for dealing with the materials collected.</li> </ul>
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	<input type="checkbox"/> A full analysis of potential markets for materials arising from the new service and opportunities for local processing to be commission alongside public consultation to inform decision on preferred approach.			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted The decision regarding collection service option is necessary before this piece of work can commence as different requirements would be needed at sites depending on the method of collected materials.			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Produce cabinet member report to recommend allocating additional staff and budget to undertake specific technical reviews as part of the service review	BB / NP	Feb 2021	Member report signed off	Completed
Commission technical investigation	BB / NP	Jun 2021	Report produced	

<b>Recommendation 16</b>	An early study is undertaken to evaluate if any existing AD facilities could be utilised for the treatment of food waste in Herefordshire. Reason The Waste-TFG recognise that Anaerobic Digestion facilities are likely to be required to treat food waste collected in Herefordshire. Although there are a number of options such as developing our own facility, using existing out of county facilities, the option of converting an existing agricultural facility may be advantageous. A study engaging with existing operators would reveal if there is any appetite and possibility for this. The Waste –TFG believe this could also provide added incentives in discouraging the use of energy crops to as feedstock.			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Conduct soft market testing	BB / NP	June 21	Report produced	This work package is due to be undertake shortly in partnership with Worcestershire County Council.

<b>Recommendation 17</b>	<p>The council should seek to agree an approach with Worcestershire County Council on how their joint Energy from Waste (EFW) facility will be managed and operated to the mutual benefit of both councils on expiry or extension of existing arrangements.</p> <p>Reason</p> <p>Even if the council were able to meet or exceed the government's expected target of 65% recycling by 2035 there will remain a need to treat residual waste arising from Herefordshire's waste management service.</p> <p>Energy from Waste (Incineration) remains the only reasonable alternative to landfill for residual waste treatment so sending waste to our own shared EFW is expected. However the Waste-TFG wish to see the plant optimised by generating heat as well as power and other options to maximise the efficiency of the facility explored and implemented where advantageous to the two councils both financially and environmentally (through reducing the impact of residual waste treatment on climate change).</p> <p>Any excess tonnage capacity created from increased recycling should be sold to generate commercial revenue for the two councils.</p>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Produce cabinet member report to recommend allocating additional staff and budget to undertake specific technical reviews as part of the service review	BB / NP	Feb 2021	Member report signed off	Completed
Conduct options appraisal on the future management options for the EfW plant.	BB / NP	Apr 2021	Option appraisal report produced	

<b>Recommendation 18</b>	<p>Waste Management Team is augmented with required staff and resource to plan, commission and implement new services and manage our new arrangements.</p> <p>Reason</p>			
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	<p>The Waste-TFG consider it is essential to replace our Waste Disposal Team Leader as soon as possible and to create 3 new posts. A Waste Strategy Officer to provide support to the current post in developing the contract(s) and researching collection and disposal options. A Waste Communications Officer to lead the process of public engagement. They will need to be supported by an Administration Officer.</p> <p>These new posts are required no later than 1st April 2021 and will need to be in place until at least 31st December 2025 to allow for bedding in of the redesigned waste collection services. The cost of these new posts is insignificant in terms of contract value and the financial and reputational impacts of getting this decision wrong. They will also be significantly less than the cost of bringing in consultants to bail us out at the 11th hour if we continue to rely on a single officer to deliver this.</p> <p>Further resource is likely to be required to appoint legal, financial and technical advisers as required, particularly in support during any procurement. Investing in building the capability in the team will however minimise the need for expensive consultants as well as build a more capable team to manage and continue to develop the service.</p>			
<b>Executive Response</b>	<p>Accepted</p> <p>It is recognised that the successful procurement of two of the county's largest contracts is significant and that there is not the necessary capacity within the existing team to manage the existing contracts whilst also researching and commissioning new ones.</p>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Produce cabinet member report to recommend allocating additional staff and budget to undertake specific technical reviews as part of the service review	BB / NP	Feb 2021	Member report signed off	Report approved with budget to recruit 4 new, 3 year fixed term posts and with additional funding to source external technical advisers.
Restructure current Waste Management Team based on current service needs up to 2024 and giving consideration to approved new posts	BB / NP	Jul 2021	Restructure completed	

<b>Recommendation 19</b>	<p>The council should maintain the Waste-TFG as a cross party member group to provide oversight and support to officers until implementation of new services in early 2024.</p> <p>Reason</p>
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	A cross party member working group will help include political groups throughout the process of planning, commissioning and implementing new services. It can help provide support to officers in offering balanced views and guidance. This group should help to re-enforce the governance processes of the council to ensure that decisions are made in the best interest of the council and its residents.			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted The value of a cross party group has been shown through the collaboration of the Waste T&F group and the production of a valuable report which incorporates a shared vision to move the county to a more resource efficient county of the future.			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Welcome this offer of continued support and propose the development of a new ToR for the group for the duration of the contract review	BB / NP	Apr 2021	New ToR agreed & all members agree to continue	

Additional recommendations made at the Committee's meeting on 28 September 2020

<b>Recommendation 20</b>	That, as part of the consultation process, there is clear explanation given as to why option one is not being put forward as an option;			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted This was included within consultation introduction			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Target/Success Criteria</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Complete – part of current consultation exercise				Completed

<b>Recommendation 21</b>	The Waste Team continue to work with and lead the communications on each of the schemes to ensure public understanding for the preferred options is secured.			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted Line management arrangement for new post will need to be agreed as the communication of a major service change will need to co-ordinate across all areas of the councils communication teams expertise.			

Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
Establish joint working and line management roles for new waste communications officer between the waste management team and communications team and recruit to post.	BB / NP	Apr 2021	New post recruited & management agreement in place	Verbal and email agreement between NP & AF
Outline agreed scope of work programme for new post	BB / NP	May 2021	Work programme outlined	

<b>Recommendation 22</b>	Asking that the reuse of waste is brought forward as quickly as possible at our local household recycling centres			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted All HRCs except Bromyard currently have a reuse container located at them where the public can place unwanted items and a number of local charities come and cherry pick items from. Feedback from WCC Monitoring Officers is that many items placed into the containers are not wanted by the charities as they would be unable to sell them on. It is therefore recognised that alternative options for the increase of reuse will need to be explored.			
Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress
Waste Strategy Officer to conduct review of HRCs including possibilities for increasing reuse across sites	NP		Review report produced	Increasing reuse raised at Waste Disposal Contract meeting in March 2021

<b>Recommendation 23</b>	That the Task and Finish group report is shared with Defra.			
<b>Executive Response</b>	Accepted			
Action	Owner	By When	Target/Success Criteria	Progress

T&F group report to be sent to DEFRA	BB	Feb 2021	Report emailed to DEFRA	Completed
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## Title of report: Work Programme

**Meeting: General scrutiny committee**

**Meeting date: Monday 26 April 2021**

**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

1. 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.
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.

#### **Invitation from cabinet member – commissioning, procurement and assets**

10. The cabinet member- commissioning, procurement and assets has asked if the Committee would be interested in undertaking a task and finish group to undertake a short, sharp review to contribute to an updated litter strategy including, for example, ideas on enforcement, positioning of bins and educational programmes. This would involve discussions with external groups and volunteers. The issue has been the subject of local and national publicity.

### **Suggestions for scrutiny**

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

[https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200148/your\\_council/61/get\\_involved/4](https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200148/your_council/61/get_involved/4)

### **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.gov.uk/mgdelegateddecisions.aspx?XXR=0&DAYS=28&RP=0&K=0&DM=0&HD=0&DS=1&META=mgdelegateddecisions&V=0>

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**

16. 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.
17. The topics selected for scrutiny will take environmental impact into account.

## **Equality duty**

18. 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.
19. 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.
20. The topics selected for scrutiny need to have regard to equality and human rights issues.

### **Resource implications**

21. 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**

22. 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**

23. 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**

24. 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			
<p>Work Programme addition</p> <p>As part of the work programme – report on options for scrutiny of Contract management/Performance management (see minutes of 7 December)</p>			<p>T&amp;F Group suggested as one option for contract management. First step would be approval of scoping statement.</p> <p>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, budgeted and to the appropriate quality.</p> <p>(25 January – requested that consideration be given to a spotlight review.)</p>
<b>Covid 19</b>	To review the response to the Covid 19 pandemic in the County in 2020 and the proposed recovery plan to ensure measures in place to	Performance Review/Policy Development	

	provide enhanced resilience.  To include consideration of how grants have been used and seek comparative information from other authorities.		
<b>Other Matters already agreed for inclusion but not yet scheduled</b>			
Purchase of Maylords Shopping Centre	To review the decision	Policy review	Request from member of the public (Accepted by Committee on 28 September)

### **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.

<b>Outstanding Item/issues Raised/Proposed during scrutiny workshop 20 November</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Timing</b>	<b>Type of Scrutiny</b>	<b>Notes</b>
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.			Noted that decision on extension of contract pending.

	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.			
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 Development and Review	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hereford Area Plan</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rural Areas Development Plan Document</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Core Strategy</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Safety remit</li> </ul>				

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

Meeting	item	Recommendations	Action	Status
23 July 19	Gambling Policy 2019-22 Review	<p><b>RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE EXECUTIVE THAT:</b></p> <p><b>a) 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;</b></p> <p><b>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;</b></p> <p><b>c) a sentence be added to the policy document to highlight where people can be directed to apply for a license;</b></p> <p><b>d) a new category (i) be added to the itemised list in para 15.6 to include training in child protection and child safeguarding;</b></p>	<p>Done</p> <p>Done</p> <p>Done</p> <p>(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</p>	Completed

		<p>e) <b>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.</b></p> <p>f) <b>the various references to children and young persons should – for consistency – be changed to children and young people throughout the policy document.</b></p> <p>g) <b>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;</b></p> <p>h) <b>officers remove the reference to ‘the governance team’ in para 4.5 of the policy;</b></p>	<p>training opportunities that are available.)</p> <p>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).</p> <p>(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) .</p> <p>Done</p> <p>Done</p>	
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		<p>i) officers state clearly what the deadline timeframes are in para 5.2.</p> <p>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</p> <p>k) details on rights of appeal should be included in the policy document.</p>	<p>Done</p> <p>Done</p> <p>Done</p>	
9 September 2019	Call-in of cabinet member decision on hereford transport package and south wye transport package	<p><b>RESOLVED: That the decision be referred back to the cabinet member to reconsider, and in doing so:</b></p> <p><b>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 ensures that both projects are not interdependent of each other;</b></p> <p><b>Ongoing planned activity, programmed in to take place</b></p>	<p>THAT, having regard to the recommendations made by General Scrutiny Committee on 9 September 2019:</p> <p>(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 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</p>	Completed

		<p><b>during the pause, continues while the review is underway;</b></p> <p><b>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</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>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</b></li> </ul>	<p>programme) is continued whilst the review is undertaken;</p> <p>(b) a review of the bypass project to determine next steps be undertaken, and work on the Hereford Transport</p> <p>package active travel measures and the other bypass work as listed below is continued whilst the review is undertaken;</p> <p>Phase 2a consultation report completion £12,000</p> <p>Geophysical survey report completion £3,000</p> <p>Ground Investigation Report (GIR) completion £6,000</p> <p>Walking and Cycling (WCHAR) assessment completion £5,000</p> <p>Traffic Modelling £22,000</p> <p>Large Local Major Bid completion £18,000</p>	
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			<p>(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;</p> <p>(d) consultation with parish councils, businesses and members of the public be included within the scope of the review;</p> <p>(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</p> <p>(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.</p>	
<p>22 October 2019</p>		<p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p>	<p>(i) Noted – The LEP is working to support the local authority climate</p>	<p>Completed</p>

		<p><b>(a) to recommend to the executive that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i. the LEP be encouraged to declare a climate emergency as a priority;</b></li> <li><b>ii. the LEP be encouraged to raise its profile through engagement with Parish and Town Councils and business forums;</b></li> <li><b>iii. the LEP be requested to focus on promoting available schemes to the market towns; and</b></li> </ul> <p><b>(b) provision be made in the Committee’s work programme for an annual report from the LEP.</b></p>	<p>emergency strategies and has allocated resource to support this.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>(ii) Noted – this is a priority for 2020/21 and being led by the Chair.</p> <p>(iii) Noted. Available schemes are currently being promoted through the Marches Growth Hub <a href="https://www.marchesgrowthhub.co.uk/">https://www.marchesgrowthhub.co.uk/</a>.</p> <p>The Marches LEP is also represented on the Boards for the Towns Funding which Hereford and Telford are eligible to bid for <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/843843/20191031_Towns_Fund_prospectus.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/843843/20191031_Towns_Fund_prospectus.pdf</a> and the Historic England town fund which Leominster and Oswestry are seeking to access <a href="https://historicengland.org.uk/servi">https://historicengland.org.uk/servi</a></p>	
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			<p>ces-skills/heritage-action-zones/regenerating-historic-high-streets/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul> <p>(b) Included</p>	
29 November 2019	2020/21 Budget and Corporate Plan Proposals	<p><b>RESOLVED: That</b></p> <p><b>(a) In relation to the draft corporate plan:</b></p> <p><b>I. Specific emphasis is given to investment and commitment to high quality members of staff in delivering the corporate plan;</b></p> <p><b>II. the wording and presentation of the ambition for Herefordshire and the corporate plan as a whole be reviewed; and</b></p> <p><b>III. the corporate plan should address the needs of the county as a whole including the market towns and their environs;</b></p> <p><b>(b) in relation to the 2020/21 budget</b></p> <p><b>I. any business cases reflect current association with business partners and any</b></p>	<p>(as stated at para 63 of budget report to Cabinet 30 January 2020)</p>	Completed

		<p><b>II. current government funding available;</b></p> <p><b>consideration be given to a specific budget for measures to address the climate emergency;</b></p> <p><b>III. the feasibility of allocating a ring fenced sum for highway maintenance to the market towns should be explored;</b></p> <p><b>IV. during development of business cases consideration be given to whether greater community use could be made of educational facilities; and</b></p> <p><b>V. the following recommendations of the Adults and Wellbeing and Children and Young People Scrutiny Committees be considered</b></p> <p><b>Adults and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee – 18 November 2019</b></p> <p><b>1. The committee welcomes the proposed areas for investment which support prevention and the strengths based agenda.</b></p>	<p>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.</p> <p>li This is for cabinet to consider further at this meeting.</p> <p>lii This is for cabinet to consider further at this meeting.</p> <p>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</p> <p>v</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>The detailed business cases will include reference to the matters raised by the committee and will</p>	
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		<p><b>2. Acknowledging that the lack of specific details in the outline business cases was due to the timing constraints and early sight of potential projects coming forward, the committee would be pleased if attention can be given to the matters it has raised and for deeper levels of detail to be provided in the next iterations of the business cases.</b></p> <p><b>3. That terminology and language be used consistently, using Plain English.</b></p> <p><b>Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee – 25 November 2019</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED: That the committee:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Supports the planned investments for looked after children, edge of care and improving social care services and requests further information is submitted to the committee regarding proposals for these services; and</b></li> </ul>	<p>form part of the decision to spend against the investment proposal</p> <p>Agreed, later papers include a glossary of terms.</p>	
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Asks that a report concerning the dental health initiatives is provided to the committee setting out key performance indicators for the proposals.</li> </ul>		
20 January 2020	Review Of Budget And Corporate Plan Proposals For 2020/21	<p><b>RESOLVED: That</b></p> <p><b>(a) in relation to the draft corporate plan:</b></p> <p><b>reference be included to protecting and enhancing our local health care services with the inclusion of key performance indicators to underpin this commitment;</b></p> <p><b>(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;</b></p> <p><b>(d) the plan explains where the council is paying less than it did in the previous financial year;</b></p> <p><b>(e) the plan at p15 includes success measures – to consider additional focus on resources to improve infrastructure and community resilience in market towns;</b></p> <p><b>(f) that the committee receives a briefing note on the progress on broadband roll out;</b></p> <p><b>(g) the corporate plan is reworded on page 7 to reflect that the figure of</b></p>	<p>(Report to cabinet 30 January 2020)</p> <p>(para 24) The recommendations from the scrutiny committees have been incorporated into the latest draft Corporate Plan.</p>	Completed

		<p><b>£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;</b></p> <p><b>(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</b></p> <p><b>(i) that the corporate plan includes a specific element on what farmers are doing to contribute to the climate change emergency.</b></p> <p><b>(b) in relation to the 2020/21 budget:</b></p> <p><b>IV. that the executive respond to the proposal that schools are better supported in updating their travel plans;</b></p> <p><b>V. the cabinet considers providing a specific capital allocation for market towns to be able to bid for public realm improvements;</b></p> <p><b>VI. the MTFS includes a separate line on what is being proposed for climate change;</b></p> <p><b>VII. that specific resources are identified and included to support the proposed</b></p>	<p>(as stated at para 63 of budget report to Cabinet 30 January 2020)</p> <p>Vi “This is added as a tracked change in appendix 1.</p> <p>Vii There is a specific earmarked reserve allocated to waste, this is to be reviewed for its adequacy to fund the costs identified</p> <p>The detailed business cases will include reference to the matters raised by the committee and will</p>	
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		<p><b>work on the waste task and finish group;</b></p> <p><b>III. greater clarity be provided on the funding sources for capital investment as set out at paragraph 23 of the report;and</b></p> <p><b>IX. the following recommendations of the Adults and Wellbeing and Children and young People Scrutiny Committee be considered:</b></p> <p><b>Adults and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee – 13 January 2020</b></p> <p><b>1. To inform the detailed business cases for the key areas of capital investment and to provide assurance that they are sustainable and represent value for money, the executive be asked to arrange an all members’ seminar to explore the options appraisals.</b></p> <p><b>2. That the options appraisal for public housing also consider the potential to support key workers with their accommodation needs.</b></p> <p><b>3. There is further clarification and detail provided on the proposed shared social care pooled budget between the adults and children’s directorates when it is available.</b></p>	<p>form part of the decision to spend against the investment proposal</p> <p>This is for Cabinet to consider further at this meeting</p> <p>This is for Cabinet to consider further at this meeting</p> <p>Agreed as proposals are drafted further consultation will be completed</p> <p>Noted</p>	
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		<p><b>Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee – 14 January 2020</b></p> <p>VI. <b>That the committee supports the additional areas of investment identified in the budget.</b></p>		
28 September 2020	Minerals and Waste Local Plan	<p><b>RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE EXECUTIVE:</b></p> <p><b>That</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(a) a plain English and practical guidance/executive summary document be produced to support the report;</b></li> <li><b>(b) a more explicit definition, with links to the examples of acceptable sustainable development - within the context of this report - be included</b></li> <li><b>(c) while it recognises that the insertion of a stronger line on preventing fracking/unconventional hydrocarbon extraction in</b></li> </ul>	<p>Agreed. It would be useful to provide a non-technical summary of the MWLP, in order to reach as wide an audience as possible.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>No changes to the MWLP are required in response to this recommendation, however, officers will work with the Cabinet Member Infrastructure and</p>	completed

		<p><b>Herefordshire may make the MWLP ‘unsound’ due to national policy guidelines - 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</b></p> <p><b>(d) the current draft MWLP be endorsed to go forward to public consultation.</b></p>	<p>Transport to lobby Government for a stronger statement on fracking to be issued.</p>	
28 September 2020	Task and finish group report - waste management strategic review	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p><b>That (a) the Task and Finish Group report and all of its recommendations be approved, subject to including:</b></p> <p><b>1. that, as part of the consultation process, there is clear explanation given as to why option</b></p>	<p>Decision by cabinet member – commissioning, procurement and assets 26 October 2020</p> <p><a href="http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=7273">http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=7273</a></p> <p>Response to review on agenda for 26 April 2021</p>	Update to Committee in April 2021

		<p><b>one is not being put forward as an option;</b></p> <p><b>2. the Waste Team continue to work with and lead the communications on each of the schemes to ensure public understanding for the preferred options is secured;</b></p> <p><b>3. asking that the reuse of waste is brought forward as quickly as possible at our local household recycling centres; and</b></p> <p><b>4. that the Task and Finish group report is shared with Defra; and</b></p> <p><b>(b) the findings and recommendations be submitted to the executive for consideration.</b></p>	<p>(a) accept the recommendations around consulting on options 2 &amp; 3 from General Scrutiny Committee held on 28 September 2020</p> <p>(b) consent be given for expenditure up to the value of £75,000 is allocated from the council's waste revenue reserves to the Economy &amp; Place Directorate's revenue budget for 2020/21 to award a tender and include expenditure required for resources to allow the council to carry out an effective and engaging consultation on the future of its Waste Management Service;</p> <p>(c) a further report is brought back to the cabinet member for procurement and assets outlining the resources required to deliver the waste services management review;</p>	
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			<p>(d) a further report is brought back to cabinet in Spring 2021 with a recommendation on future collection services and outlining future resources required to implement the recommendation; and</p> <p>(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.</p>	
9 November 2020	Hereford Transport Strategy Review	<p><b>RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE EXECUTIVE:</b></p> <p><b>That (a) more detailed studies are undertaken on the benefits and dis-benefits of traffic light management in more locations in Hereford;</b></p>	<p>(As reported to cabinet on 3 December)</p> <p>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.</p> <p>If cabinet is minded to support this recommendation this would be</p>	completed

		<p><b>(b) as a result of this review, the committee recommends that the cabinet consider 'weighting of the preferred outcomes' to help determine the preferred package to take forward;</b></p>	<p>additional work which the cabinet could ask officers to consider and set out the resource requirements to progress.</p> <p>The review has specifically chosen not to weight the 4 objectives or 16 outcomes which underpin these objectives. This provides a comparative view of performance for all of the six packages. Cabinet may choose to assign its own strategic priorities in respect of objectives and outcomes and reference these priorities in determining its preferred package.</p> <p>If cabinet wished for weightings to be applied to the package assessments it could ask for this as a further step to the review. Cabinet would need to confirm its preferred weightings or instruct that alternative weightings are assessed. If cabinet wished to progress this work it would need to defer its decision on the preferred packages and this would extend the review.</p>	
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		<p><b>(c) support is given to promoting more ‘park and choose’ options in combination with more investment into public 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;</b></p>	<p>The recommendation is noted. Package A includes investment in park and choose options (identified as mobility hubs at page 51 of the review) and cycle 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.</p> <p>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.</p>	
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		<p><b>(d) the cabinet follow up on the suggestion for a 'River-Bus Service' in ongoing refinement and review of the Hereford transport package options;</b></p> <p><b>(e) consideration is given to a wider, more in depth study, on the transport options that address countywide</b></p>	<p>As such, the intention would be to undertake a wider review of transport strategy for the whole county over the coming year.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p> <p>Whilst this review has focused on transport issues in Hereford in line with the scope set out in the cabinet member decision of</p>	
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		<p><b>transport challenges and solutions, not just in Hereford City;</b></p> <p><b>(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.</b></p> <p><b>(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.</b></p>	<p>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.</p> <p>The recommendation to cabinet sets out that cabinet may consider the packages as assessed in the review or combination of package options.</p> <p>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</p>	
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		<p><b>(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;</b></p> <p><b>(i) carbon offsetting is looked at in relation to offsetting on major infrastructure projects.</b></p> <p><b>(j) the impact of assessing routes over other river crossings, in particular, the Bridge Sollars crossing, is</b></p>	<p>of these elements (or any other transport elements) it could ask officers ask officers to consider and set out the resource requirements for any additional technical work.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Cabinet is invited to consider whether or not it wishes to instruct that further work is done to</p>	
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		<p><b>built into the analysis of options and packages under review.</b></p> <p><b>(k) that the executive abandon the Western Bypass and reject other major road infrastructure schemes, barring only the eastern river crossing option;</b></p> <p><b>(l) the executive take a look again at the robustness of the qualitative assessment of the evidence presented; and</b></p>	<p>understand wider traffic movements through the county and outside of the Hereford transport network in the context further development of a preferred package. This is additional work which the cabinet could ask officers to consider and set out the resource requirements to progress.</p> <p>The recommendations for cabinet include the option to stop work on the western bypass and southern link road and the western bypass as also include in package A+C+D. Two of the package options include eastern river crossings and cabinet may determine to progress either of these options. Any decision which would result in a significant change to current adopted policy and strategy may require the need for consideration by full council.</p> <p>If cabinet wished to look again at the robustness of the qualitative assessment this would extend the</p>	
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		<p>(m) Herefordshire Council should immediately implement a</p>	<p>review and would require it to defer any decision.</p> <p>Cabinet have been briefed on the review at various stages of its development and also requested 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.</p>	
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		<b>well-designed comprehensive safe and attractive network of active travel measures across the entire county to reduce the effect of climate change and the risk of surface flooding.</b>	<p>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 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.</p>	
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7 December 2020	Marches Local Enterprise Partnership - Update	<p><b>That (a) the update from the Marches LEP including current priorities and projects be noted;</b></p> <p><b>(b) the executive be recommended that:</b></p> <p><b>(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;</b></p>	<p>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</p>	Recommendations f and g outstanding

		<p><b>(2) the LEP be encouraged in its stated intention to revisit its Strategic Economic Plan and other policies to ensure that they are sustainable and resilient having regard, for example, to the impact of transport schemes in the context of the declared climate emergency;</b></p> <p><b>(3) the LEP be asked to consider how it can improve its engagement with creative industries;</b></p>	<p>fully considered in future calls for project applications.</p> <p>It is welcomed that the Marches LEP will be revisiting the SEP and other policies to review in the context of the climate emergency. The Marches LEP will confirm the timetable for these reviews but it will be dependent on the government making resources available in 2020/21 to enable the LEP to do this work in consultation with partners.</p> <p>The Marches LEP recognises the important contribution creative industries make to the local economy. The LEP are currently considering how it can improve (with the respective local authorities) sector based engagement in each area. The LEP will ensure that engagement with the creative industries sector is fully considered and improved through this process.</p> <p>In accordance with the Articles of Association, with the exception of</p>	
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		<p><b>(6) the LEP be asked to bid for funding to address the impacts of flooding, noting that these are of a significance comparable to the impacts of Covid 19 for which the Government has provided funding;</b></p> <p><b>(c) the Executive considers how it can facilitate better engagement between the Herefordshire Cultural Partnership and the LEP;</b></p>	<p>themselves live in a rural area or market town, representing these needs.</p> <p>The LEP are a member of the River Severn Partnership alongside the local authorities, seeking to lobby government for funding to support improved infrastructure to reduce flooding and enable the growth of the local economy. Should the government provide an opportunity for the LEPs to seek funding for flood prevention, the LEP would commit to doing so. At this time, it is not yet clear what future government funding will be made available via the LEP network.</p> <p>The LEP are not currently members of the Herefordshire Cultural Partnership, but are represented on a number of cross cutting Herefordshire partnerships such as the Herefordshire Business Board (where the cultural partnership is represented) and the Hereford</p>	
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		<p><b>(d) the Executive work with the LEP to make representations for there to be a small towns LEP group along the lines of the national rural LEP Group;</b></p> <p><b>(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</b></p>	<p>Towns Board. Herefordshire council are represented on the Cultural Partnership, and can ensure enhanced engagement and improved co-ordination with the LEP.</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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</p>	
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		<p><b>(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</b></p> <p><b>(g) the LEP be asked to report to the Committee on the level of inward investment achieved.</b></p>	<p>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.</p> <p>For consideration in the work before.</p> <p>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.</p>	
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7 December 2020	Work Programme	<b>(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 preferred outcomes' to help determine the preferred package to take forward'.</b>	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 making a determination on the 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.	completed
15 January 2021	2021/22 Budget Setting	<b>The recommendations and the responses to them are set out in the 2021/22 budget setting report to council on 12 February 2021 (paragraph 51)</b>  <a href="http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents/s50086885/202122%20Budget%20Setting.pdf">http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents/s50086885/202122%20Budget%20Setting.pdf</a>  <a href="http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents/s50086885/202122%20Budget%20Setting.pdf">http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents/s50086885/202122%20Budget%20Setting.pdf</a>	See report to Council 12 February 2021	

		<p>The following recommendations are for the Committee itself to address:</p> <p>(b) In its review of Covid measures the Committee consider how grants have been used and seek comparative information from other authorities;</p> <p>(c) the committee makes arrangements to include monitoring of savings plans in work programme; and</p> <p>(d) mindful of the impact of the budget proposals on the Economy and Place Budget briefings be provided to the Committee on progress in achieving the proposed savings and their impact and the Committee be informed of other savings proposals that have been identified with a view to ensuring appropriate contingency plans are in place.</p>		
25 January 2021	Task and Finish Group Report – Climate Emergency Review	<b>RESOLVED: That the findings of the report, and recommendations as amended and set out at appendix 3 to the minutes, be submitted to the executive.</b>	Executive response on agenda for 26 April.	

		<a href="http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents/g8054/Public%20minutes%20Monday%2025-Jan-2021%2014.00%20General%20scrutiny%20committee.pdf?T=11">http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents/g8054/Public%20minutes%20Monday%2025-Jan-2021%2014.00%20General%20scrutiny%20committee.pdf?T=11</a> <small><a href="http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents/g8054/Public%20minutes%20Monday%2025-Jan-2021%2014.00%20General%20scrutiny%20committee.pdf?T=11">http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents/g8054/Public%20minutes%20Monday%2025-Jan-2021%2014.00%20General%20scrutiny%20committee.pdf?T=11</a></small>	<a href="http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=7731">http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=7731</a>	
22 March 2021	Fownhope Flood Repair Work	<p><b>RESOLVED to recommend to the executive:</b></p> <p><b>That</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(a) the executive support and encourage the delivery by BBLP of projects for the benefit of the Fownhope and Woolhope communities;</b></li> <li><b>(b) repairs to restore roads in the locality damaged by their use as a diversion route during the closure of the Fownhope Road are prioritised;</b></li> <li><b>(c) the executive encourage Fownhope and Woolhope Parish Councils to make representations to local MPs</b></li> </ul>	TBC	

		<p>to seek funding for highway maintenance, and highlight shortcomings in the Bellwin scheme that appear to have been revealed, and the need for that scheme to be reviewed and for other funding sources to be provided if it is concluded that the Bellwin Scheme itself does not require revision;</p> <p>(d) the executive make further representations to local MPs to seek additional grant funding for highway maintenance, and highlight shortcomings in the Bellwin scheme that appear to have been revealed, and the need for that scheme to be reviewed and for other funding sources to be provided if it is concluded that the Bellwin Scheme itself does not require revision;</p> <p>(e) consideration be given to whether the situation could be presented to Government as a case study highlighting the adverse impact on the local community as a result of lack of funding;</p>		
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		<p>(f) a robust review of the risks to other lengths of the B4224 of similar topography be conducted to establish if there is a need for preventative measures;</p> <p>(g) given the experiences on the B4224 consideration be given to whether there any other sites in the county that could be similarly problematic in the event of flooding with a view to adopting a more preventative approach to maintenance across the county;</p> <p>(h) action be taken to progress broadband works in the county delayed as a result of the B4224 works;</p> <p>(i) It be ensured that parish councils and communities concerns are recognised and taken into account by the Council and their partners when taking forward repairs to infrastructure;</p> <p>(j) the independent review be welcomed; and the following matters be considered for inclusion and if they are not</p>		
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		<p><b>included in the review they be responded to in any event by the executive:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1. The issues that arose because of the nature of vehicles using the diversion routes;</b></li><li><b>2. The potential for weight restrictions on traffic in the locality and other traffic management measures;</b></li><li><b>3. Was enough priority given to ongoing repairs needed to the routes forming the diversions;</b></li><li><b>4. Pace of decision making particularly from April to August;</b></li><li><b>5. The focus be on identifying lessons learned that can be applied generally to future schemes, whilst noting that matters unique to the specific sites also need to be identified;</b></li><li><b>6. Fownhope and Woolhope Parish Councils be consulted on matters for inclusion in the review;</b></li><li><b>7. Project management and processes, the timeframes involved, for</b></li></ol>		
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		<p><b>example the time between identifying work needed, specification, commissioning the contract, to commencing work, and the incremental nature of delays. The ability of the council to have oversight of such projects and whether additional technical and project management resource in-house is required;</b></p> <p><b>8. The time taken to establish whether it was possible to proceed without going to open tender;</b></p> <p><b>9. Has there been sufficient assessment of the risk of further failure in the highway network in the locality;</b></p> <p><b>10. Were the solutions adopted appropriate and proportionate;</b></p> <p><b>11. Managing working relationships with utility providers such as BT and gas providers and the approach to specifying works for them to undertake, including the potential benefit of a</b></p>		
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		<p>protocol for managing works in particular those of an emergency nature;</p> <p>12. Clarification as to how the issue with the size of the crane required for the Stone Cottage works arose and assurance measures to avoid such occurrences in the future;</p> <p>13. Review of the robustness of the effectiveness of the liaison between the Council and BBLP in managing projects;</p> <p>14. Effectiveness of communication with the local community and speed thereof especially from the outset of an incident; and</p> <p>15. Review appropriateness of diversion routes and their signing and facilitating of road safety management.</p>		
22 March 2021	Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Action Plan	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b> to recommend to the executive:</p> <p><b>That: (a) prioritisation of actions in the action plan be re-evaluated;</b></p>	tbc	

		<p>(b) the council strengthen efforts with the Environment Agency to focus on flood mitigation measures for all watercourses;</p> <p>(c) further efforts be made to reinforce the message to landowners to emphasise their riparian responsibilities as riparian owners to maintain drainage and make them aware of support and assistance available through the Council;</p> <p>(d) consider how the Council can increase resources to manage drainage issues and invest in the drainage asset;</p> <p>(e) review weighting given to the threshold for action to implement measures to address flooding on lengths of highway known to flood frequently, having regard to the need to ensure access for emergency vehicles;</p> <p>(f) the liaison between the EA and the Council to disseminate flooding information to residents taking advantage of the</p>		
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		<p><b>Council's communication networks be kept under review to ensure that it is as effective as possible, noting the role parish councils and community groups can play;</b></p> <p><b>(g) consideration be given to whether the website content on flooding is readily accessible and sufficient or can be improved, with consideration given to use of apps and other methods;</b></p> <p><b>(h) improve information to local residents on respective responsibilities of residents themselves, the Council and the Environment Agency;</b></p> <p><b>(i) consideration be given to an annual survey of Parish Councils to establish information on their flooding experiences and any suggestions for improvements;</b></p> <p><b>(j) regard be had to knowledge of local residents and Parish Councils on areas subject to flooding and residents and Parish Councils be invited</b></p>		
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		<p>and encouraged to submit information;</p> <p>(k) review highways maintenance plan to see if there should be greater focus on roads subject to flooding;</p> <p>(l) consideration be given to raising awareness of the contribution to flooding made by climate change and information available via a link on the council's website; and</p> <p>(m) the mechanism for the production of Section 19 reports be reviewed and streamlined to seek to ensure the pace of completion is improved and appropriate resource allocated to support this aim.</p>		
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**Forward plan of forthcoming decisions at 31 March 2021 (updated 12 April)**

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
<p><b>Hereford Transport Strategy</b>                      To agree the approach to developing and delivering the transport strategy in 2021/22.                      To agree the allocation of revenue budget to support the development and delivery of the strategy.</p>	<p>Cabinet                      27 May 2021</p>	<p>Steve Burgess, Head of transport and access services                      sburgess@herefordshire.gov.uk                      Tel: 01432260968</p> <p>Cabinet member                      Infrastructure and transport</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>9 February 2021                      I50036831</p>	<p><b>KEY</b>                      Open</p>
<p><b>Major contract performance update</b>                      To update the Cabinet on the major contract performance review action points reported to Cabinet 24 September 2020</p>	<p>Cabinet                      tbc 2021</p>	<p>Josie Rushgrove, Head of corporate finance                      jrushgrove@herefordshire.gov.uk                      Tel: 01432 261867</p> <p>Cabinet member                      commissioning, procurement and assets</p>	<p>Corporate Support Centre</p>	<p>8 March 2021                      I50037104</p>	<p><b>Non Key</b>                      Open</p>

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
<p><b>Nature and Climate Partnership</b> This report seeks approval to establish a new countywide partnership to facilitate the aim of achieving countywide net zero-carbon by 2030 and to further protect and enhance local biodiversity.</p> <p>This is key objective within the County Plan, supports the delivery of the Council's Climate &amp; Ecological Emergency declarations and is in line with the recent recommendation from the scrutiny Task and Finish Group on the Climate and Ecological Emergency.</p>	Cabinet tbc 2021	<p>Ben Boswell, Head of environment, climate emergency and waste services, Richard Vaughan, Principal Energy &amp; Active Travel Officer</p> <p><small>bboswell@herefordshire.gov.uk, Richard.Vaughan@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 261930, Tel: 01432 260192</small></p> <p>Cabinet member environment, economy and skills</p>	Economy and Place	150037042	<b>Non Key</b> Open
<p><b>Herefordshire Capital Investment Strategy 2021-2030 For Specialist Settings Educating Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities SEND</b> To approve the Herefordshire Capital Investment Strategy for specialist settings for Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) 2021-2030.</p> <p>The strategy seeks to ensure that there is high quality sustainable specialist educational accommodation for children and young people with SEND in Herefordshire.</p>	Cabinet 22 April 2021	<p>Susan Woodrow, Schools capital investment advisor</p> <p><small>Susan.Woodrow@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260327</small></p> <p>Cabinet member children and families</p>	Children and Families	11 February 2021 150036846	<b>KEY</b> 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
<p><b>To set out the councils preferred waste collection model and to agree the implementation plan for the new waste management service</b></p> <p>The councils Waste Management contracts for the collection service and the disposal service are due to expire in 2023 &amp; 2024. There are aspirations in the County Plan to address the climate and ecological emergency which seeks to protect the environment, use our resources in the most efficient way and become a carbon neutral County by 2030. The council launched a waste collection consultation with the public in December 2020 following recommendations from the waste task and finish group in September 2020 and in response to expected changes in national legislation. The consultation has now concluded and the council will set out its preferred future operating model with a view to procuring the future collection and disposal contracts over the next 3 years</p>	<p>Cabinet 22 April 2021</p>	<p>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</p> <p>Cabinet member commissioning, procurement and assets</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>23 March 2021 150037265</p>	<p><b>KEY</b> Open</p>

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
<p><b>Empty Property Strategy for Herefordshire 2021-2024</b> To approve the Empty Property Strategy for Herefordshire</p>	Cabinet 27 May 2021	<p>Sarah Woodhouse, Empty Property and Housing Development Officer <small>Sarah.Woodhouse@herefordshire.gov.uk</small></p> <p>Cabinet member housing, regulatory services, and community safety</p>	Economy and Place	2 March 2021 150037065	<b>KEY</b> Open
<p><b>Annual review of earmarked reserves</b> For Cabinet to note and approve the annual earmarked reserves review.</p>	Cabinet 27 May 2021	<p>Josie Rushgrove, Head of corporate finance <small>jrushgrove@herefordshire.gov.uk</small> Tel: 01432 261867</p> <p>Cabinet member corporate strategy and budget</p>	Corporate Support Centre	6 October 2020 150035385	<b>Non Key</b> Open
<p><b>Q4 Budget &amp; Performance Report</b> To review the councils final 2020/21 budget output and performance against the 2020-2022 Delivery Plan</p>	Cabinet 27 May 2021	<p>Paul Harris, Head of Corporate Performance <small>Paul.Harris1@herefordshire.gov.uk</small> Tel: 01432 383675</p> <p>Cabinet member finance and corporate services</p>	Corporate Support Centre	19 March 2021 150037206	<b>Non Key</b> 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
<p><b>To approve the Communications Strategy 2020-2024</b> The Communications Strategy with associated Communication Protocols for the period 2020-2024 will provide the strategic messaging and approach for Herefordshire Council's corporate communications.</p>	Cabinet 27 May 2021	<p>Alexandra Floyd, Communications manager <small>Alexandra.Floyd@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432261899</small></p> <p>Cabinet member housing, regulatory services, and community safety</p>	Corporate Support Centre	5 June 2020 150034196	<b>KEY</b> Open
<p><b>Housing Strategy 2020-2025</b> To approve the strategy which sets out objectives, targets and policies on how the authority intends to manage and deliver its strategic housing role.</p>	Cabinet 24 June 2021	<p>Hannah McSherry, Housing Strategy Officer <small>Hannah.McSherry2@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383061</small></p> <p>Cabinet member housing, regulatory services, and community safety</p>	Economy and Place	5 July 2019 150030451	<b>KEY</b> Open
<p><b>Temporary Accommodation Policy</b> To approve a temporary accommodation policy for Herefordshire.</p>	Cabinet 24 June 2021	<p>Hannah McSherry, Housing Strategy Officer <small>Hannah.McSherry2@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383061</small></p> <p>Cabinet member housing, regulatory services, and community safety</p>	Economy and Place	3 December 2020 150036099	<b>KEY</b> 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
<p><b>New Arrangements for Commissioned Home Care</b> To approve a new approach and model for commissioned home care services.</p>	<p>Cabinet 24 June 2021</p>	<p>Lucy Beckett, Ian Gardner, Senior commissioning officer lucy.beckett2@herefordshire.gov.uk, lan.Gardner@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383079, Tel: 01432 383734</p> <p>Cabinet member health and adult wellbeing</p>	<p>Adults and Communities</p>	<p>3 March 2021 I50037076</p>	<p><b>KEY</b> Open</p>
<p><b>Carers strategy</b> To approve Herefordshire's approach to improving carers lives and experiences.</p>	<p>Cabinet 23 September 2021</p>	<p>Amy Whiles, Senior commissioning officer Amy.Whiles2@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 261920</p> <p>Cabinet member health and adult wellbeing</p>	<p>Adults and Communities</p>	<p>2 March 2021 I50036926</p>	<p><b>KEY</b> Open</p>

**Forward plan of forthcoming decisions at 12 April 2021**

<b>Report title and purpose</b>	<b>Decision Maker and Due date</b>	<b>Lead officer and lead cabinet member</b>	<b>Directorate</b>	<b>Notice of decision first published / ID</b>	<b>Issue Type and exemptions</b>
<p><b>Consider the options for delivery of a residential and respite service for adults with learning disability</b> To agree the business case to deliver the residential and respite learning disabilities and complex needs service.</p>	<p>Cabinet member health and adult wellbeing 29 April 2021</p>	<p>Jas Kakkar, Head of care commissioning <small>Jas.Kakkar@herefordshire.gov.uk</small></p> <p>Cabinet member health and adult wellbeing</p>	<p>Adults and Communities</p>	<p>24 March 2021 150037282</p>	<p><b>KEY</b> Part exempt</p>
<p><b>Complex Needs Framework</b> To approve the joining of the Worcestershire complex needs framework.</p>	<p>Cabinet member health and adult wellbeing 30 April 2021</p>	<p>Laura Ferguson, Senior commissioning officer <small>Laura.Ferguson@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383873</small></p> <p>Cabinet member health and adult wellbeing</p>	<p>Adults and Communities</p>	<p>15 February 2021 150036859</p>	<p><b>KEY</b> Open</p>
<p><b>Empty Property and Development Capital Budget</b> To approve expenditure and approach to delivering the Empty Property and Development Capital Budget.</p>	<p>Cabinet member housing, regulatory services, and community safety 29 January 2021</p>	<p>Hayley Crane, Strategic Housing Manager <small>hcrane@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 261919</small></p> <p>Cabinet member housing, regulatory services, and community safety</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>28 August 2020 150034941</p>	<p><b>KEY</b> Open</p>

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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
<p><b>Commissioning of S106 projects for the public Realm</b></p> <p>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</p>	<p>Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport 11 February 2021</p>	<p>John Manterfield, Commercial and Contract Manager <small>John.Manterfield@herefordshire.gov.uk</small></p> <p>Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>10 June 2020 I50034269</p>	<p><b>KEY</b> Open</p>
<p><b>Acceptance and implementation of Solar PV for schools project</b></p> <p>To seek approval for the Council to invest capital £941,151 across schools allocated for the solar photovoltaic (PV) project. The Council will install solar PV without any cost to the schools and charge the schools for discounted solar generated electricity.</p>	<p>Cabinet member environment, economy and skills 30 March 2021</p>	<p>Danny Lenain, Principal Sustainability and Climate Change Officer <small>daniel.lenain@herefordshire.gov.uk</small></p> <p>Cabinet member environment, economy and skills</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>5 February 2021 I50036775</p>	<p><b>KEY</b> Open</p>
<p><b>Public Realm Contract Extension</b></p> <p>To approve an extension of the public realm service contract, with Balfour Beatty Living Places, in line with contract terms and conditions.</p>	<p>Cabinet member commissioning , procurement and assets 30 April 2021</p>	<p>John Manterfield, Commercial and Contract Manager <small>John.Manterfield@herefordshire.gov.uk</small></p> <p>Cabinet member commissioning, procurement and assets</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>18 November 2020 I50035893</p>	<p><b>KEY</b> Open</p>

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
<p><b>Executive response to the Waste Management Strategic Task and Finish Group Review</b> To approve the executive response to the report from the Task and Finish group review concerning the Waste Management Strategic Review.</p> <p>The General Scrutiny committee made 23 recommendations.</p>	<p>Cabinet member commissioning , procurement and assets 14 April 2021</p>	<p>Nicola Percival, Waste operations team leader, Ben Boswell, Head of environment, climate emergency and waste services npercival@herefordshire.gov.uk, bboswell@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260991, Tel: 01432 261930</p> <p>Cabinet member commissioning, procurement and assets</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>5 March 2021 I50037106</p>	<p><b>Non Key</b> Open</p>
<p><b>Draft Housing Strategy</b> To approve the draft housing strategy for community consultation.</p>	<p>Cabinet member housing, regulatory services, and community safety 15 April 2021</p>	<p>Hannah McSherry, Housing Strategy Officer Hannah.McSherry2@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383061</p> <p>Cabinet member housing, regulatory services, and community safety</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>1 February 2021 I50036692</p>	<p><b>Non Key</b> Open</p>
<p><b>Herefordshire Building Retrofit Strategy and Business Case</b> The report seeks approval of £50,000 in order to develop a Herefordshire Building Retrofit Strategy and Business Case. This work will aim to develop a funded strategy that can be implemented in order to contribute to the county's zero carbon targets.</p>	<p>Cabinet member environment, economy and skills 15 April 2021</p>	<p>Matthew Locking, Energy strategy officer mlocking@herefordshire.gov.uk</p> <p>Cabinet member environment, economy and skills</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>3 March 2021 I50037081</p>	<p><b>Non Key</b> Open</p>

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
<p><b>Licensing Fee increase 2021.2022</b></p> <p>To agree the updated licensing charges across all chargeable licences and services in line with the council's full cost recovery policy.</p>	<p>Cabinet member housing, regulatory services, and community safety 16 April 2021</p>	<p>Claire Corfield, Licensing, travellers and technical support service manager ccorfield@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 383324</p> <p>Cabinet member housing, regulatory services, and community safety</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>19 March 2021 150037204</p>	<p><b>Non Key</b> Open Urgent</p>
<p><b>Electric Vehicle Charge Point Concession Contract</b></p> <p>To approve the development and procurement of a concession contract to secure a delivery partner to operate and expand the countywide electric vehicle charging network in order to support the anticipated increase in electric vehicle ownership and subsequent demand.</p>	<p>Director of Economy and Place 16 April 2021</p>	<p>Laura Blackwell, Energy and active travel officer Laura.Blackwell@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260530</p> <p>Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>2 March 2021 150037068</p>	<p><b>KEY</b> Open</p>

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
<p><b>Lugwardine: A438 Improvement scheme:S106 Works Pedestrian Crossing and footway</b></p> <p>To approve the allocation of highway contributions secured by way of a S106 agreement to deliver works through the public realm contract.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport 16 April 2021</p>	<p>Bruce Evans, Engineering manager bje@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 07792880548</p> <p>Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>5 November 2020 150035792</p>	<p><b>Non Key</b> Open</p>
<p><b>Executive response to the tree strategy and hedgehog protection motions</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>To approve the development of a Nature Strategy to enhance and protect biodiversity across the Council's operations</p>	<p>Cabinet member environment, economy and skills 19 April 2021</p>	<p>Ben Boswell, Head of environment, climate emergency and waste services bboswell@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 261930</p> <p>Cabinet member environment, economy and skills</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>6 November 2020 150035790</p>	<p><b>Non Key</b> Open</p>

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
<p><b>Public realm service annual plan 2021/22</b> To confirm the annual plan 2021/22 for the public realm services contract with Balfour Beatty Living Places.</p> <p>The annual plan has been developed by Balfour Beatty Living Places (BBLP) with council officers based on instruction by the council to ensure that it meets the council's objectives for the public realm (highways and related services) within the assigned budgets. The service manager's acceptance of the annual plan has ensured that the annual plan complies with the terms of the public realm services contract. Cabinet member approval of the plan provides final confirmation of this acceptance and in doing so ensures that the plan provides a sound basis for performance and contract management during the forthcoming financial year. The council has confirmed that the necessary contractual requirements have been complied with in regard to the annual plan.</p>	<p>Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport 20 April 2021</p>	<p>John Manterfield, Commercial and Contract Manager <small>John.Manterfield@herefordshire.gov.uk</small></p> <p>Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>20 January 2021 150036552</p>	<p><b>KEY</b> Open</p>
<p><b>Housing Pipeline Investigation Account</b> Create a Housing Pipeline Investigation Account which could be utilised to procure technical services to undertake initial site studies for sites in third party ownership in order to develop a pipeline of housing schemes</p>	<p>Cabinet member housing, regulatory services, and community safety 22 April 2021</p>	<p>Roger Allonby, Head of economic development <small>Roger.Allonby@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260330</small></p> <p>Cabinet member housing, regulatory services, and community safety</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>24 March 2021 150037287</p>	<p><b>Non Key</b> Open</p>

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
<p><b>COVID19 Additional Restrictions Grant - Business Recovery Programme</b> To approve a programme of business support activity, funded by the government's Additional Restriction Grant, to aid the recovery of Herefordshire businesses and the Herefordshire economy from the economic downturn resulting from the COVID19 pandemic.</p>	<p>Cabinet member environment, economy and skills 23 April 2021</p>	<p>Nick Webster, Economic development manager nwebster@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260601  Cabinet member environment, economy and skills</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>2 March 2021 150037061</p>	<p><b>KEY</b> Open</p>
<p><b>Additional Restrictions Grant - business recovery programme</b> To urgently seek approval to accept and spend the Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) funding (£1.7m) January allocation from government, and the £1.791m ARG Restart Grant allocation to support businesses and charities affected by the continuing lockdown restrictions and their ongoing recovery.</p>	<p>Cabinet member environment, economy and skills 23 April 2021</p>	<p>Nick Webster, Economic development manager nwebster@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260601  Cabinet member environment, economy and skills</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>150037393</p>	<p><b>KEY</b> Open</p>
<p><b>Freehold Transfer of the Town hall and No 10 into a third sector community organisation</b> To approve the Freehold Transfer of the Town Hall and No 10, St Owen's Street, Hereford into a third sector community organisation.</p>	<p>Cabinet member commissioning , procurement and assets 30 April 2021</p>	<p>Helen Beale, Senior Estate Manager HBeale@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260688  Cabinet member commissioning, procurement and assets</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>3 March 2021 150037054</p>	<p><b>KEY</b> Open</p>

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
<p><b>Hereford City Centre Transport Package (HCCTP) - Development of the remaining elements</b> To confirm next steps to progress the design development and public consultation of the remaining elements of the HCCTP.</p>	<p>Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport 5 May 2021</p>	<p>Mairead Lane, Acting Assistant Director for Highways and Transport / Head of Infrastructure Delivery mlane@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 260944</p> <p>Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>15 February 2021 150036856</p>	<p><b>KEY</b> Open</p>
<p><b>Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)</b> To seek approval on the adoption of the Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) following consultation</p>	<p>Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport 14 May 2021</p>	<p>Tina Wood, Housing development officer twood2@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 261975</p> <p>Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>27 January 2021 150036685</p>	<p><b>KEY</b> Open</p>
<p><b>Adoption of CCTV Code of Practice</b> The CCTV Code of Practice provides a framework to officers of the Council and members of the public about how CCTV data is used and processed</p>	<p>Assistant Director for Technical Services 1 June 2021</p>	<p>Debbie Turner, CCTV commissioning officer Debbie.Turner@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01432 261713</p> <p>Cabinet member housing, regulatory services, and community safety</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>24 March 2021 150037251</p>	<p><b>Non Key</b> Open</p>

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
<p><b>Highways Maintenance Plan 2020</b> To update the original plan, incorporating updates in legislation.</p>	<p>Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport 3 June 2021</p>	<p>Bruce Evans, Engineering manager bje@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 07792880548</p> <p>Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>21 January 2020 150030462</p>	<p><b>KEY</b> Open</p>
<p><b>Holmer &amp; Shelwick - Traffic Calming and Pedestrian Improvements</b> To propose and implement highway regulation measures, and associated engineering measures as part of Holmer and Shelwick Traffic Calming &amp; 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.</p>	<p>Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport 14 June 2021</p>	<p>Bruce Evans, Engineering manager bje@herefordshire.gov.uk Tel: 07792880548</p> <p>Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport</p>	<p>Economy and Place</p>	<p>18 September 2020 150035199</p>	<p><b>KEY</b> Open</p>

