



Somerset Council
Scrutiny Committee
– 22nd November 2023

Climate and Place Directorate Project Forward Plan

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Executive Lead Member:

Division / Local Member:

1. Summary

- 1.1.** The Climate and Place Directorate leadership team recognises the value that a robust Project Forward Plan will add to both Members and Officers in terms of project management and transparency.
- 1.2.** The intention is to create a Project Forward Plan for the 3 service areas within the Climate and Place Directorate to be shared and discussed with Scrutiny Committee members on a regular frequency.

2. Issues for Consideration / Recommendations

- 2.1.** Scrutiny Committee is asked to note that the Climate and Place Directorate Project Forward Plan is not a democratic Forward Plan but will be used to highlight key issues, risks, hot topics and timeframes for upcoming required democratic decisions.

3. Background

- 3.1.** The Climate and Place Leadership Team is keen to discuss and agree the contents of a Project Forward Plan with Portfolio Members and publish it to provide information for Scrutiny Committee Members.
- 3.2.** The Project Forward Plan is still emerging, reflecting the work on the financial emergency. However, meetings are being held with each of the Service Directors to capture the relevant information as a matter of priority.
- 3.3.** Examples of projects to be detailed include Tree Risk Management Policy, Highway Lighting and Electrical Assets Strategy, development of new Local Transport Plan and Local Plan, Future Transport, large regeneration schemes and Gravity site.
- 3.4.** The use of the Project Forward Plan will assist Officers in scheduling Executive Decision reports and therefore provide timely updates for Scrutiny Committee.
- 3.5.** Involving the Scrutiny Committee in development plan matters will be incorporated into the forward plan of the committee. This will include the Scrutiny Committee being consulted as part of the process of developing the

local plan and other development plan documents (including the Somerset minerals and waste plans) at Regulation 18 and Regulation 19 stages in the plan making process. These are statutory requirements for formal consultation on the local plan and there will be opportunity for Scrutiny Committee to feed in views during this period. In addition, there will be informal engagement with all members in developing the vision and during the plan preparation.

4. Consultations Undertaken

4.1. None required at this stage.

5. Implications

5.1. At this stage there are no associated financial, equalities, health and wellbeing, climate change and sustainability or HR implications.

6. Background papers

6.1. None

Note: For sight of individual background papers please contact the report author