

Scrutiny Committee – Climate & Place - Outcome Tracker 2023 - 2024

Agenda item	Lead officer	Committee Request/Recommendation	Outcome	RAG Status
17th May 2023				
Approach to Climate and Place Scrutiny Committee	Jamie Jackson /Mickey Green	Members received a presentation on the principles of scrutiny and the approach being taken regarding scrutiny within the new Somerset Council, which would be reviewed after a year.		Awaiting Scrutiny Review 2024
Infrastructure and Transport: Highways Service Responsiveness Update	Mike O'Dowd-Jones	Members resolved to set up a task and finish group to review the Highways and Transport Services communication interfaces.		On Hold
Climate, Environment and Sustainability: EV Charging Update	Mike O'Dowd-Jones	The Committee was advised that the Council was looking at applying for additional funding from the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) fund in order to run a small scale Egully trial. The Egully enables the on-street charging of residential vehicles, where people do not have their own driveways, without trailing wires across pavements etc. After the trial they would then report back and develop a strategy based upon their findings.	An all-member briefing note will be issued following LEVI approval of the Stage 2 application.	Ongoing
19th July 2023				
Future Transport	Mike O'Dowd-Jones	The Committee was advised that a new Local Plan and Local Transport Plan will need to be in place by 2025. Members resolved that a Local Transport Plan Task & Finish Group be set up.		On Hold
Climate, Sustainability and Environment – Next Steps	Kirsty Larkins	Members received a report setting out the next steps of the Council's strategic approach to Climate, Environment and Sustainability, to ensure that the Council was committed to reducing carbon emissions, achieving Net Zero and supporting nature's recovery. Members resolved that a Climate Strategy Refresh Task	A Task and Finish group has been established and the first meeting will be held in April 2024. Date to be confirmed.	Ongoing

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		& Finish Group be set up.		
20th September 2023				
Approach to Local Plan and Statement of Community Involvement	Paul Hickson	<p>Members received a presentation on the development of a Local Plan and the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) that was currently being developed and made the following recommendations to the Executive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That under the Pre-Applicant stage, paragraph 3.10 of the Statement of Community Involvement should be amended to encourage applicants to consult with their neighbours. 2. That the Council should continue to serve both site notices and adjacent neighbour notifications and that the wording of 3.24 of the Statement of Community Involvement be amended to reflect this. The wording of the recommendation to the Executive to be delegated to the Executive Director – Climate & Place in consultation with the Chair and circulated to the Committee. 3. That a Climate Change Development Plan Document be created to advance the Council’s climate emergency objectives, in particular zero carbon energy standards, new developments and renewable energy generation siting. To be separate from the Local Plan and to an earlier time. 	<p>Recommendations 1 & 2 – A response in the report to Executive stated that the pre-application stage should include consultation by applicants with the local community and that both site notices and neighbour notifications may be used to publicise an application.</p> <p>Recommendation 3 – The report to the Executive was amended and advised that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As an initial estimate the production of a CCDPD may cost the Council at least a further £1m (evidence base, examination and additional staff resources). • The council does not have a statutory duty to produce a CCDPD. • Emerging policies for the Local Plan would gain further weight as it progresses through its production stages. • Scrutiny would have an opportunity to engage with the development of the 	Complete

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			<p>Local Plan through engagement on an ongoing basis and as part of the formal consultation process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Consultation and Engagement Plan is being developed which will consider how best to facilitate wider member engagement in the development of the Local Plan. 	
Task and Finish Group: Somerset Energy Plan	Kirsty Larkins	The Committee agreed to the request to set up a Somerset Energy Plan task and finish group which would be taking a fairly high-level approach to the subject.	The Task and Finish group work is complete and a Task and Finish report will be published at the meeting on 20th March 2024.	Complete
Award of Contracts for highway services	Mike O'Dowd-Jones	Members received details of the following 5 highways contracts that were to be considered by the Executive. A written response would be given on how long, under the contracts, a pot-hole repair would be guaranteed for.		Awaiting further information
22nd November 2023				
Uk Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural	Paul Hickson	A councillor requested more information in respect of the governance processes. The Impact of the fund distribution to communities would be covered in a fuller more detailed response to the councillor.	The information was emailed to the Councillor on 12 th January 2024, and will be shared as an information item at the meeting on 20 th March 2024.	Complete
Climate and Place Budget Monitoring Position Month 5	Christian Evans	The causes of the £800k climate overspend were questioned, which included the costs incurred as a result of the pay award in the waste collection service. It was questioned if there were full year impacts or if these were part year impacts and if this could be provided in		Awaiting further information

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		the next report.		
17th January 2024				
Forward Plan	Mickey Green/Jamie Jackson	Due to a publishing error the committee Outline of Approach to the Forward Plan report was not included in the agenda papers.	The Approach to the Forward Plan will be published for the meeting on the 20 th March 2024.	Complete
Minutes of the previous meeting	Kirsty Larkins	Members voted unanimously in favour of an additional meeting to look at Water Quality in Somerset.	A Special ‘Water Quality meeting in Somerset’ Scrutiny meeting will be held on 26 th April 2024.	Complete
Somerset Rivers Authority Draft Strategy and Flood Action Plan	David Mitchell	Members considered the item and sought clarity on how the SRA is funded.		Awaiting further information
Flex Collect Update	Mike Cowdell	Members considered the item and requested more information about what recycled flex plastics are used for.		Awaiting further information

Completed	Action complete and will be removed from tracker for next meeting
Pending	Action on-going or plans in place to address.
Incomplete	No action currently in place with a minimum of 3 months since action agreed.