

**Actions arising from previous meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**8 January 2023**

<b>Outstanding Actions</b>			
<b>Meeting date</b>	<b>Minute</b>	<b>Action Owner</b>	<b>Update</b>
31 October	OS.294 on paragraph 6 In relation to ASB, ERS Service lead was asked to provide more information to members.	Business Manager, Health and Wellbeing/ ERS Service Lead	Officer contacted, awaiting information
31 October	OS.294 on paragraph 6 In relation multi agency approach to crime prevention, information sheet had been produced and would be shared with the committee	Business Manager, Health and Wellbeing	Officer contacted, awaiting information
28 November 2023	OS.10 “Members discussed the report and raised the following points, which the Chief Executive Officer stated written responses would be provided to ...”	Chief Executive	Response received, with information provided overleaf of this document, awaiting update on Ubico item
28 November 2023	OS. 11 “The Deputy Chief Executive stated that they would provide further detail of the variations at Annex A.”	Deputy Chief Executive	Verbal update to be provided at meeting
28 November 2023	OS.8 That the consultation questions for the housing strategy are shared with Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Forward Planning Manager	To be shared once consultation is public
28 November	OS.10 The Democratic Services Officer added that Member training had been arranged on Biodiversity Net Gain and Retrofitting Historic Buildings but was not aware of decarbonisation training, and would follow this up with the Head of Climate Action.	Democratic Services Officer/ Head of Climate Action	This is being looked into, Biodiversity Net Gain training will take place on 17 January.
<b>Closed Actions</b>			
28 November 2023	OS. 10 For future reports to be reconfigured to show that the council tax collection figures are cumulative over the financial year.	Chief Executive	Updated 'background' section of report and will incorporate into future reports.

28 November 2023	OS.9 To amend the report recommendation to remove 'to note'	Assistant Director for Planning and Sustainability	Completed
28 November 2023	OS.8 Update the figures local housing need on page 25, annex A of the report and ensure clarity of the figures within the annexes (under delegated authority)	Forward Planning Manager	Updated report
28 November 2023	OS. 11 That future financial performance reports provide accessible information with a visual representation and verbal summary.	Deputy Chief Executive	To be reflected in future reports

**OS.10** During the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on the 28 November, the Chief Executive agreed to provide a written response to Members on the following;

Members discussed the report and raised the following points, which the Chief Executive Officer stated written responses would be provided to;

**'Deliver our Climate Change Action Plan' was considered to be off-target, but did not contain an update, could this be provided?**

- In order to embed Climate Change across the Council, actions targeting carbon reduction and the Climate Emergency are incorporated into all aspects of the business and reported on via the Corporate Plan Action. This includes a number of projects, which fall under the Climate Change Action Plan and are individually reported on. As not all the individual actions are on target this has been marked as off-target. We are reviewing governance and reporting around actions being taken relating to Climate Change and intend for more details to be shared in the near future.

**On the asset management strategy, the report stated that costs were being finalised with the consultant, Members asked for more details on this cost.**

- The total cost is £40,000. This includes two pieces of work, the preparation of an Asset Management Strategy and an Implementation Plan which will focus on an approach for the properties within the Councils asset portfolio.

### **The 'Make My House Green' scheme was considered to be a success, what were the KPIs?**

- KPIs were discussed early in the scheme creation, and it was decided not to set explicit KPIs for the first, or pilot, phase of the project. KPIs were therefore not included in the Council report of June 2023. The logic of not setting KPIs to start with was simply that the point of the pilot is to learn what works and what doesn't, and since the scheme has a very low direct cost it is not necessary to set KPIs linked to revenue or investment recovery. The intention is to adopt project KPIs following the first systematic review of the scheme, which will be held in Q4, to which interested Members will be invited. KPIs to be adopted for the continuing scheme will be considered at that point, and are likely to include both qualitative and quantitative KPIs, strongly focused on the participating residents' experience of the scheme and satisfaction with outcomes, alongside KPIs relating to the number of installations achieved, carbon and energy saved, etc. Notwithstanding the absence of formal KPIs at this pilot stage, we can note that direct marketing costs were limited to £2k, and with a £50 contribution to the Council per successful installation, 40 installations are required in order to cover the direct marketing cost. To date, some 30 residents are confirmed going through the customer journey, with first installations happening in January, meaning that we can have high confidence that the direct marketing cost outlay will be recovered. KPIs will be agreed in discussion with the scheme partner, MakeMyHouseGreen, recognising that this scheme is experimental for them also – this is the first such local authority collaboration they are doing.

### **Who were the EV charging points being installed by?**

- EVCPs to provide public access to electric vehicle charging at Trinity Road Cirencester and Rissington Road, Bourton on the Water are being installed by Connected Kerb. After some delays, works commenced at Trinity Road on 18th December. This same supplier is providing countywide on-street electric vehicle charging infrastructure for the County Council.

**'Work with Ubico to adopt ultra-low emission vehicle technology', as the delivery of this was constrained by the technology available, should the action be removed.**

Officers are aware of potential alternative fuel replacement vehicles for some of CDC's waste fleet. Officers plan to review options and develop a replacement vehicle strategy which will be available later in 2024/25.

Further details were requested on the ecological emergency work, in relation to what this included.

- The agenda papers state –

Adopt and implement the ecological emergency action plan. Update: The Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) mitigation strategies are complete for Cotswolds Beechwoods and North Meadow so planning applications can be determined. A briefing note for HRA issues has been circulated to management. The Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) project is progressing, and interim guidance for developers has been completed.

And under the table - Cotswold District Council Corporate Plan 2020-2024 Update: Progress by end of Q2 2023-2024 -

Line CC19 includes –

Our aims - Take a leadership role on the ecological emergency and nature recovery in the Cotswold

Our actions - Adopt and implement the ecological emergency action plan

The Council declared an Ecological Emergency in July 2020 and an Ecological Emergency Action Plan was agreed as part of that declaration. The action plan can be found at <https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/media/au2c514i/ecological-emergency-action-plan.pdf> . This provides a set of fairly high level actions to deliver on the ecological emergency and nature recovery.

Over the last year the main focus of activity has been on resolving the following issues, as well as the day to day work of Development Management and Planning Policy –

- Habitats Regulations and our internationally important biodiversity sites – further information can be found at <https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/planning-and-building/wildlife-and-biodiversity/habitats-regulations-assessment/> .

- Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG). This becomes mandatory in January 2024 and has required a high level of preparatory work, for example procuring the appropriate software, staff training, preparation of guidance for developers etc. Training on BNG is being held for Members on 17th January.

In the coming year biodiversity work will focus on

- BNG and its implementation
- Embedding further biodiversity and green infrastructure issues into the review of the Local Plan and the design code

- Progressing Habitats Regulations work including delivering mitigation
- The enhanced biodiversity duty for Local Authorities and the related reporting requirements
- Delivering biodiversity enhancements through Development Management
- The Council's role as a "supporting authority" in the preparation of the county Local Nature Recovery Strategy

**More details in the narrative were requested generally, and the Chief Executive Officer stated that this would be taken forward for future reports.**

Action noted and will be passed to Assistant Directors to communicate to report writers during CDC LMT.

**Further details were requested on decarbonisation, and work to deliver decarbonisation, including a member briefing. The Chief Executive Officer stated that in light of recruitment of the sustainable transport officer, the Council, alongside the County Council, were ensuring work was still being carried out.**

Steps are being taken to review the district's carbon emissions, and with a clearer baseline we shall be able to track progress towards our carbon reduction targets. We would be happy to provide a member briefing at an appropriate time. A Sustainable Transport Officer hasn't been appointed as work across the County provides resources and work streams that we are able to feed into, whilst continuing work on projects within the district ourselves.