



Public Document Pack STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices • Ebley Mill • Ebley Wharf • Stroud • GL5 4UB
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23 March 2022

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Environment Committee will be held on **THURSDAY, 31 MARCH 2022** in the Council Chamber, Ebley Mill, Ebley Wharf, Stroud at **7.00 pm**

Kathy O'Leary
Chief Executive

Please Note: The meeting is being held in the Council Chamber at Stroud District Council and will be streamed live on the Council's [YouTube Channel](#). A recording of the meeting will be published onto the [Council's website](#). The whole of the meeting will be recorded except where there are confidential or exempt items, which may need to be considered in the absence of press and public.

If you wish to attend this meeting, please contact democratic.services@stroud.gov.uk
This is to ensure adequate seating is available in the Council Chamber.

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES**
To receive apologies of absence.
2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**
To receive declarations of interest.
3. **MINUTES (Pages 3 - 8)**
To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2021.
4. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**
The Chair of the Committee will answer questions from members of the public submitted in accordance with the Council's procedures.

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF QUESTIONS Noon on Friday, 25 March 2022

Questions must be submitted to the Chief Executive, Democratic Services, Ebley Mill, Ebley Wharf, Stroud and can be sent by email to Democratic.services@stroud.gov.uk

5. **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT Q3 2021/22 (Pages 9 - 16)**
To present the 2021/22 forecast outturn position against the revenue budgets and Capital Programme that the Committee is responsible for, in order to give an expectation of possible variances against budget.

6. **COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) – PROJECT VARIATION : CAM & DURSLEY RAIL STATION (Pages 17 - 32)**

In December 2020, Environment Committee approved the project Bid to create improvements at Cam and Dursley Rail Station that would encourage sustainable travel. The County Council are requesting SDC's support in making some changes to the project works delivered.

7. **2030 ANNUAL REPORT (2021-2022) (Pages 33 - 74)**
To present the 21-22 Annual Report on the 2030 Strategy and Master Plan for approval

8. **WALKING AND CYCLING TASK AND FINISH GROUP: FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS (Pages 75 - 88)**
To report the findings of the Walking and Cycling Task and Finish Group and make subsequent recommendations

9. **MEMBER REPORTS**
 - (a) Strategic Planning Advisory Board
 - (b) Stroud Regeneration Committee (Pages 89 - 90)
 - (c) Performance Monitoring (Pages 91 - 106)

10. **MEMBER QUESTIONS**
See Agenda Item 4 for deadlines for submission.

Members of Environment Committee

Councillor Chloe Turner (Chair)

Councillor Natalie Bennett
 Councillor Martin Brown
 Councillor Christopher Evans
 Councillor George James
 Councillor Haydn Jones
 Councillor Norman Kay

Councillor Robin Layfield (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Dave Mossman
 Councillor Ashley Smith
 Councillor Haydn Sutton
 Councillor Brian Tipper
 Councillor Tricia Watson



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ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

09 December 2021

7.00 - 9.46 pm

Council Chamber

Minutes

Membership

Councillor Chloe Turner (Chair)

Councillor Natalie Bennett
Councillor Martin Brown
Councillor Christopher Evans
Councillor George James
Councillor Haydn Jones
Councillor Dave Mossman

*= Absent

Councillor Robin Layfield (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Norman Kay
Councillor Ashley Smith
Councillor Brian Tipper
Councillor Tricia Watson

* Councillor Haydn Sutton *

Officers in Attendance

Strategic Director of Place
Head of Community Services
Accountant
Managing Director, Ubico

Community Services Manager
Senior Community Infrastructure Officer
Democratic Services and Elections Officer

An information sheet was distributed before Committee on the progress on the Mitigation Strategies. Councillor Haydn Jones expressed his discontent on the timescale for the Severn Estuary Strategy and requested that the Strategy should be progressed on a shorter timescale. The Chair proposed a meeting take place in January to with Lead Officers, Councillor Haydn Jones, Councillor Kay and the Chair to discuss outside of Committee.

EC.025 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dave Mossman and Haydn Sutton.

EC.026 Declaration of Interests

Councillor James expressed an interest in item 9 as he is a Governor for Archway School.

EC.027 Minutes

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2021 were approved.

EC.028 Public Question Time

Public questions were submitted. They were answered by the Chair, Councillor Turner. Supplementary questions were also answered. ([Refer to the recording of the meeting](#)).

EC.029 Ubico Annual Presentation

The Managing Director of Ubico provided a verbal update on the Business Plan for 2022-23 outlining the new vision for the company, underpinned by four pillars (people, operational excellence, climate and business development) and thirty four objectives associated under twelve sub pillars to the main four.

The Managing Director of Ubico in conjunction with the Head of Community Services and Community Services Manager answered Members which included: converting old refuse trucks from diesel to electric, number of Councils Ubico work with and their benchmarking, containers fit for purpose, collaborative working on recycling niche items and funding across the county, retaining fleet drivers and how staff wellbeing is looked after in physically demanding jobs and proposed future developments at Gossington.

RESOLVED To note the verbal update

EC.030 Budget Monitoring Report Q2 2021/22

The Accountant presented the report advised members of the projected net £201k underspend with additional narrative on the significant variances.

Councillor Kay asked for more context relating to theft of fuel from Gossington. The Community Services Manager advised diesel is held in a tank onsite, and a vehicle Tanker pumped the diesel from a layby directly outside Gossington. The depot has introduced better security measures, invested in additional CCTV and extended the fence boundary.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Kay and seconded by Councillor James.

On being put to the vote, the motion was passed unanimously.

RESOLVED To note the outturn forecast for the General Fund Revenue budget and the Capital Programme for this Committee.

EC.031 Environment Committee Revenue Estimates – Revised 2021/22 and Original 2022/23

The Accountant explained there were two additional recommendations in the decision relating to new waste and recycling rounds for provision of a new street cleaning crew and cost associated with replacing three diesel vehicles with electric. An additional table had been included to report on the Ubico budget changes. The Accountant provided further narrative to the budget pressures and savings listed under table three of the report.

The Chair expressed her thanks to the Accountant for the budget setting briefing she ran ahead of Committee.

2021/22

Councillor Tipper what the cost to the Council was to collect fly tipping, if there are analytics of items being fly tipped and what revenue is received from bulky collections. The Community Services Manager advised the bulky collection service covers its own cost and are broken down to service level and he would circulate the information sheet on fly tipping.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Layfield and seconded by Councillor Brown.

On being put to the vote, the motion was passed unanimously.

- RESOLVED**
- a) That the revised Environment Committee revenue budget for 2021/22 and original 2022/23 revenue budget are approved.
 - b) That the Fees and Charges list as shown at Appendix B is approved
 - c) The inclusion of £176k within the Ubico contract for new waste and recycling rounds, and an additional £52K for the provision of a new street cleaning crew.
 - d) An addition to the 2022/23 Capital budget of £106k, funded through additional budgeted income, to meet the extra cost of replacing 3 diesel powered vehicles with electric equivalents (in line with Council Plan objective 6.3).

EC.032 Council Plan and Performance Indicators relevant to this Committee

The Strategic Director of Place advised the Council Plan was adopted at Council in October and Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) had been produced to measure the success of the plan and advised the KPI's have flexibility to be changed if approved with additional training being given to performance monitors on the performance management framework. Thanks were given to Members and Officers involved with producing the KPI's.

Councillor Haydn Jones asked if the Council measures net gain in relation to renewable energy, in particular land taken out of agricultural production for solar developments. The Strategic Director of Place will investigate and provide a response outside of Committee.

Councillor Brown asked whether details on the number of partnerships could be included in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy objective and whether measurables in carbon reduction or biodiversity gain could be added to EC1.5 rather than just money measurables. The Chair advised these comments were raised at the KPI meeting and confirmed several measures were not currently satisfactory and would be reviewed once projects have been established.

Councillor Kay advised of a problem with the Cotswold National Landscape Board's Planning Officer objecting to the draft Local Plan advising it was not consistent with the law. The Strategic Director of Place explained the draft Local Plan is expected to be reviewed by Government next spring and the Council would be defending the plan.

Councillor Watson gave thanks to Officers however typos and missing comments need to be included and would send to the Strategic Director of Place for amending.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Bennett and seconded by Councillor Haydn Jones.

Councillor James advised he would've liked to see more robust objectives and have an achievable target base when referring to percentage measurables.

On being put to the vote, the motion was passed unanimously.

- RESOLVED To:**
- a) **Agree on the performance indicators that are relevant to this committee, and**
- RECOMMENDED TO STRATEGY AND RESOURCES that:**
- b) **These performance indicators are incorporated in the Council Plan and updated and monitored according to the Council's Performance Management Framework.**

EC.033 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) - Spending Allocations for 2022/2023

The Chair thanked the Senior Community Infrastructure Officer for the information evening held and questions and answers asked at the session would be included in the Members weekly update.

Councillor James left the Council Chamber before discussing the item because of his interest declared at the beginning of the meeting.

The Senior Community Infrastructure Officer explained CIL was a financial contribution made by developers to help deliver the infrastructure needed to support new development achieved under Local Plan growth strategies, partially replacing S106 arrangements and primarily linked to residential developments. Nine formal bids were received for the next financial year and a panel met to review the bids against the assessment matrix and recommended fully funding four of the nine bids which include: Nailsworth Flood Prevention and Drainage Scheme, Archway School 3G AstroTurf Pitch, Stratford Park Outdoor Pool heat exchange and Cainscross Cycle Scheme Feasibility Study.

The Senior Community Infrastructure Officer responded to Members questions which included concerns and comments relating to money raised in one area of the district being spent elsewhere rather than reinvested in same area, clarification on discrepancy in figure for Stratford Park Outdoor Pool (£10k or £20k), confirmation 25% of CIL raised goes to Parish/Town Councils with an adopted Neighbourhood Development Plan and 15% if they don't, if there is a combined heat power source at Stratford Park and what the heat source is and confirmation the development of a new waste site is at Gossington not Frampton.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Watson and seconder Councillor Smith.

On being put to the vote, the motion was passed unanimously.

- RECOMMENDED TO STRATEGY & RESOURCES that funding commitments are agreed according to the report.**

2021/22

The meeting adjourned at 9.15pm and resumed at 9.20pm. Councillor James re-entered the Chamber.

EC.034 **Establishment of Strategic Planning Advisory Board**

The Strategic Director of Place presented the report advising the board will consider matters of Strategic Planning Policy, reviewing implementation and making recommendations to Environment Committee. The board wouldn't be decision-making, and the proposed name change will replace the formerly known Planning Review Panel (PRP).

Councillor Kay advised he asked for clarification regarding the board's confidentiality and for confirmation through the Chair the confidentiality requirement was within Council and not just the board. The Chair confirmed that confidentiality in this context refers to the public.

Councillor Haydn Jones advised PRP discussed matters of enforcement and appeals and expressed his concern the board's revised name only suggests strategic matters. The Strategic Director of Place referred to bullet point three in the appendix which includes reviewing planning appeal decisions, and that a separate body would be established for Development Management and Enforcement with a report in the new year to establish the group to Development Control Committee.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Smith and seconded by Councillor Bennett.

Councillor Haydn Jones advised a mechanism might need to be established to feedback to political groups Officers thoughts when changes are identified in planning for the future.

On being put to the vote, the motion was passed unanimously.

- RESOLVED**
- a) Establish the Strategic Planning Advisory Board**
 - b) Approve the draft Terms of Reference for the proposed new Board, attached as Appendix A.**

EC.035 **Member/Officer Report (to note)**

- a) Planning Review Panel

The panel will be replaced by the Strategic Planning Advisory Board.

- b) Stroud Regeneration Committee

Councillor Layfield advised Committee discussed budget investments in air quality monitoring, Christmas lights, town centre clean up and the development of Stroud Subscription Rooms forecourt, new welcome signage being added to Stroud car parks, an application to the levelling up fund to develop the Subscription Room forecourt, Stroud Social Event being held and the Rotary Clubs proposal to tidy up Stroud.

- c) Performance Monitoring

Agenda Item 3

2021/22

The Member report had been circulated prior to Committee. Councillor Bennett advised the Youth Council fed into the report and would be included in future reports.

d) CIL Bid Allocations 2022-23 Information Sheet

The information sheet was circulated prior to Committee.

EC.036 **Work Programme**

The Chair advised the February agenda didn't contain any reports for decision. A decision in January on cancelling the meeting unless Members added items to the agenda.

Councillor Haydn Jones advised of a potential report on the Severn Estuary Mitigation Strategy following the proposed meeting in January.

Councillor Kay asked for the Glover Review to be removed from future meetings and for a comprehensive report on air quality management be added which includes reports from the Environment Agency and firms obtaining permits for emissions. The Chair advised there wasn't a decision for Committee to make however suggested the Environmental Protection Manager investigate financials for monitors measuring smaller particulates.

Councillor Watson asked for the Litter Pin Policy title to be amended. The Chair advised she would liaise with the Community Services Manager.

Councillor Smith highlighted Planning Review Panel needed to be amended to Strategic Planning Advisory Board.

RESOLVED To note the above update to the Work Programme.

EC.037 **Member Questions**

There were none.

The meeting closed at 9.46 pm

Chair

STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 31 MARCH 2022

Report Title	BUDGET MONITORING REPORT Q3 2021/22			
Purpose of Report	To present the 2021/22 forecast outturn position against the revenue budgets and Capital Programme that the Committee is responsible for, in order to give an expectation of possible variances against budget.			
Decision(s)	The Committee RESOLVES to note the outturn forecast for the General Fund Revenue budget and the Capital Programme for this Committee.			
Consultation and Feedback	Budget holders have been consulted about the budget issues in their service areas. The feedback has been incorporated into the report to explain difference between budgets and forecast income and expenditure.			
Report Author	Adele Rudkin, Accountant Email: adele.rudkin@stroud.gov.uk			
Options	None			
Background Papers	None			
Appendices	Appendix A – Detailed breakdown of revenue position			
Implications (further details at the end of the report)	Financial	Legal	Equality	Environmental
	No	No	No	No

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This report provides the third monitoring position statement for the financial year 2021/22. The purpose of this report is to notify members of any known significant variations to budgets for the current financial year, highlight any key issues and to inform members of any action to be taken if required.
- 1.2 **Due to the volume of information contained in the report, it would be helpful where members have questions on matters of detail if they could be referred to the report author or the appropriate service manager before the meeting.**

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The monitoring position for the committee at 31 December 2021 shows a projected net revenue **underspend of (£327k)** against the latest budget, as summarised in Table 1.
- 2.2 The capital programme is showing a forecast underspend of £5.194m against a budget of £6.815m. The variance of (£1.620m) relates to re-profiling of timings, predominantly on the Canal project, Stroud & District Walking Plan and the Multi Service Contract vehicles.
- 2.3 Table 2 shows the capital spend and projected outturn for the Environment Committee for 2021/22.

Agenda Item 5

3. REVENUE BUDGET POSITION

- 3.1 Council approved the General Fund Revenue budget for 2021/22 in February 2021 including budget proposals of the administration.
- 3.2 The latest budget for Environment Committee taking into account the adjustments for carry forwards is **£5.917m** (Original Budget was **£6.172m**).
- 3.3 The monitoring position for the committee at 31 December 2021 shows a **projected net underspend of (£327k)** against the latest budget, as summarised in Table 1.
- 3.4 The outturn position is mainly attributable to those items outlined in Table 1 with an explanation of the significant variances (including any Covid related issues) that have arisen (a significant variation is defined as being +/- £20,000 on each reporting line).
- 3.5 Appendix A provides a more detailed breakdown on the Committee's budgets.

Table 1 – Environment Revenue budgets 2021/22

		2021/22 Original Budget (£'000)	2021/22 Revised Budget (£'000)	2021/22 Forecast Outturn (£'000)	2021/22 Reserve Transfers (£'000)	2021/22 Outturn Variance (£'000)
Environment Committee	Para Refs					
Canal		379	(120)	(141)	20	(1)
Carbon Management		110	173	181	(5)	4
Development Control		197	197	196	0	(1)
Economic Development		101	111	124	(22)	(9)
Health & Wellbeing	3.6	830	941	719	220	(2)
Land Charges & Street Naming		(18)	(18)	(37)	0	(19)
Planning Strategy/Local Plan	3.7	370	430	239	189	(2)
Statutory Building Control		(137)	(137)	(140)	3	0
Waste & Recycling: Other		12	12	27	0	16
Waste and Recycling: MSC	3.8	4,329	4,329	4,016	0	(314)
Environment TOTAL		6,172	5,917	5,185	405	(327)

3.6 Health & Wellbeing – (£220k) Reserve transfer

Sarah Clark, sarah.clark@stroud.gov.uk

The overall forecast variance is insignificant, but it does reflect a (£220k) reserve transfer. (£93k) of this relates to COMF (Contain Management Outbreak Funding) which is in place to continue the council's operational covid prevention, response and outbreak management function in the financial year 2022-23. The money was passported to SDC from GCC's Public Health COMF through business cases, to provide pandemic environmental health and licensing resource. The council is retaining a core team of specialist staff who will be repurposed to help other environmental health priorities such as licensing and health and safety at work interventions, and this core team could be stood back up to lead on covid response if another more severe variant emerges in the coming year. This meets SDC's responsibilities in the Living with Covid Plan, as well as providing resilience for future outbreak situations. The Leader of GCC has confirmed that this passported COMF is permitted to be carried forward in to 2022-23 and this has been further supported by written confirmation from DHSC.

The remaining (£127k) is directly attributable to Land Drainage Projects and is requested to be a carried forward to 2022/23. This is external funding earmarked to fund SDC contributions to partnership flood alleviation schemes and opportunities which arise in

future particularly where match funding is required. An underspend on partnership funding for Rural Suds has also been identified.

3.7 Planning Strategy – (£189k) Reserve transfer

Mark Russell, mark.russell@stroud.gov.uk

A (£165k) favourable variance is forecast, this is to be transferred to reserves to contribute to the cost of local plan examination and additional transport modelling in 2022/23, with any surplus to cover economic development projects. The remaining (£24k) is related to Standish referendum and Stroud examination funds, this is requested to be carried over to 2022/23.

3.8 Waste and Re-cycling - Multi Service Contract – (£314k) additional income/overspend

(Mike Hammond , mike.hammond@stroud.gov.uk)

This underspend is made of several offsetting variances. Recycling is forecasting an additional (£220k) of income due to a more buoyant than expected paper re-cycling market. A (£130k) forecast variance on Recycling Credits has also been identified, this is a reflection of the increased tonnage being collected at the kerbside, whilst this is generally speaking proportionate to residual waste increases and therefore is driving up recycling rate improvements. Increased demand for bulky waste collections has indicated a (£21k) favourable variance, the service income continues to be inflated post pandemic. Sustained growth of garden waste subscriptions will impact the forecast income variance by (£122k) along with general savings across all of the contracts of (£29k). A £89k overspend is estimated on replacement refuse receptacles due to the ageing wheelie bin infrastructure.

The Ubico contract continues to be monitored closely on a monthly basis, the current forecast is showing an overspend of **£118k** due to several factors, including an outstanding insurance dispute claim of £50k, theft of diesel from the Gossington site £25k and in addition, Ubico have raised the issue of the national shortage of drivers and rates of pay. A proposal has now been put in place across the contract, in effect this means supplementary costs of circa £45k this financial year. This has now been built into the budget for 2022/23.

4. CAPITAL PROGRAMME

4.1 Table 2 below shows the Capital Outturn forecast for 2021/22 with a projected outturn variance of (**£1.620m**).

Table 2 – Environment Committee Capital Programme

Environment Capital Schemes	Para Refs	2021/22 Original Budget (£'000)	2021/22 Revised Budget (£'000)	2021/22 Forecast Outturn (£'000)	2021/22 Outturn Variance (£'000)
Canal	4.2	6,631	4,814	4,263	(551)
Market Town Centres Initiative Fund	4.3	50	40	40	0
Multi-Service Contract Vehicles	4.4	859	1,513	763	(750)
Rural SuDS Project	4.5	30	30	30	0
Stratford Park Acquisition of Machinery	4.6	0	14	14	0
Stroud District Cycling & Walking Plan	4.7	200	404	55	(349)
Wallbridge-Gateway	4.8	100	0	30	30
Environment Capital Schemes TOTAL		7,870	6,815	5,194	(1,620)

Agenda Item 5

4.2 Canal

Following the successful bid to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for grant funding for Phase 1B of the Cotswold Canal Connected Project, work is underway.

The variance relates to a final payment on Phase 1A of the project for construction costs at Wallbridge Lower Locks.

4.3 Market Town Centres Initiative Fund

The Distribution of Market Towns Funding was agreed at the January 2019 by Strategy and Resources Committee. In order to be able to distribute the funds to the relevant Town Councils, written confirmation was sought as to how would spend the funds for agreement. Some responses were received after the relevant financial year, resulting in a variance against the profiled budget, this has been taken into account in 2021/22 and the remaining budget will be spent in this financial year.

4.4 Multi-Service Contract Vehicles

The current forecast reflects a number of vehicles that were due to be delivered before the 31 March, these have now been delayed due to the current global issues within the vehicle manufacturing industry. Delivery for the majority is now projected in the first quarter of the new financial year. Members will recall that the revised budget includes an additional Garden Waste RCV and the supplementary cost of the Electric Truck Sweeper. This was approved as part of the overall 5 year Capital Plan to S & R in January 2022 and Council in February 2022.

4.5 Rural SuDS Project

Four schemes have been completed in the first quarter of this financial year with 16 leaky dams and 3 small attenuation areas created plus additional small works. This has involved working with 5 new private landowners and 3 new contractors. There are currently 7 new schemes in planning stages for delivery later in the year.

4.6 Stratford Park Acquisition of Machinery

The overall Capital project of £95k was approved in 2020-21 for the transfer of grounds maintenance contract for Stratford Park and Brimscombe Cemetery to Ubico. The remaining £14k is earmarked for site enhancements and options are currently being reviewed.

4.7 Stroud District Cycling and Walking Plan

Progress is being made on delivering improvements to the cycling and walking network, working with Gloucestershire County Council and local groups. Despite some large allocations a significant underspend is currently forecast for 2021/22 due to delays to projects caused by the Covid 19 pandemic and changes to national design guidance on cycling and walking. Future expenditure is expected to be aligned with Local Cycling and Walking Plans (LCWP) and the findings and recommendations of the Cycling and Walking Task & Finish Group which are due to be presented to Environment Committee on 31st March.

4.8 Wallbridge Gateway

The £30k forecast variance is attributable to procuring consultants to deliver a design brief for this scheme and to support the Levelling Up Fund bid and progress the delivery of a scheme on the site. The remaining budget is to be spent in 2022/23.

5 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report as it looks at current revenue and capital forecasts for this committee's budgets.

Lucy Clothier, Accountancy Manager

Tel: 01453 754343 Email: lucy.clothier@stroud.gov.uk

5.2 Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising from this report as it looks at current revenue and capital forecasts for this committee's budgets.

One Legal

Tel: 01684 272012 Email: legalservices@onelegal.org.uk

5.3 Equality Implications

An EIA is not required because there are not any specific changes to service delivery proposed within this decision.

5.4 Environmental Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

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	Para Refs	2021/22 Original Budget (£'000)	2021/22 Revised Budget (£'000)	2021/22 Forecast Outturn (£'000)	2021/22 Reserve Transfers (£'000)	2021/22 Outturn Variance (£'000)
Environment Committee						
Canal Restoration Project		379	(120)	(141)	20	(1)
Canal		379	(120)	(141)	20	(1)
Energy Efficiency		110	173	181	(5)	4
Carbon Management		110	173	181	(5)	4
Development Control		197	197	187	0	(10)
Planning Appeals		0	0	9	0	9
Development Control		197	197	196	0	(1)
Economic Development		35	45	60	(22)	(7)
Regeneration		66	66	64	0	(2)
Economic Development		101	111	124	(22)	(9)
Contaminated Land		30	30	30	0	0
Dog Warden Service		95	95	98	0	3
Environmental Protection		182	182	177	0	(5)
Food Safety		151	151	58	94	0
Head of Health and Wellbeing		76	76	76	0	0
Health & Wellbeing		113	113	104	0	(9)
Health and Safety		82	90	90	0	(1)
Land Drainage		41	145	22	127	3
Pest Control		6	6	9	0	3
Planning Liaison		15	15	15	0	0
Port Health		2	2	(1)	0	(3)
Public Health		36	36	42	0	6
Health & Wellbeing	3.6	830	941	719	220	(2)
Land & Property Custodian		12	12	(22)	0	(34)
Street Naming		(30)	(30)	(15)	0	15
Land Charges & Street Naming		(18)	(18)	(37)	0	(19)
Planning Strategy		370	430	239	189	(2)
Planning Strategy/Local Plan	3.7	370	430	239	189	(2)
Building Control		(179)	(179)	(182)	3	0
Building Regulation Enforcement / Advice		32	32	33	0	1
Securing Dangerous Structures		10	10	9	0	(1)
Statutory Building Control		(137)	(137)	(140)	3	0
Waste & Recycling: Other		12	12	27	0	16
Waste & Recycling: Other		12	12	27	0	16
MSC: Bulky Waste		10	10	(11)	0	(21)
MSC: Food Waste		747	747	820	0	73
MSC: Garden Waste		(94)	(94)	(203)	0	(109)
MSC: Recycling		1,544	1,544	1,232	0	(311)
MSC: Refuse Collection		1,412	1,412	1,446	0	34
MSC: Street Cleansing		710	710	732	0	22
Waste and Recycling: MSC	3.8	4,329	4,329	4,016	0	(314)
Environment TOTAL		6,172	5,917	5,185	405	(327)

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STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

31 MARCH 2022

Report Title	COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) – PROJECT VARIATION : CAM & DURSLEY RAIL STATION			
Purpose of Report	In December 2020, Environment Committee approved the project Bid to create improvements at Cam and Dursley Rail Station that would encourage sustainable travel. The County Council are requesting SDC's support in making some changes to the project works delivered.			
Decision(s)	The Committee RESOLVES to note the CIL funding Project Variation Form submitted by GCC and agree to the amended project proposals			
Consultation and Feedback	1. The Project Variation request has been passed to relevant officers in SDC's Planning Strategy Service who support the suggested amendments 2. Cam Parish Council is being consulted on the works directly by GCC			
Report Author	Krista Harris, Senior Community Infrastructure Officer Email: krista.harris@stroud.gov.uk			
Options	Options are: 1. Approve the proposed CIL Project Variation request; or 2. Refuse the proposed CIL Project Variation request; or 3. Delay the proposed CIL Project Variation request pending further information			
Background Papers	The following papers are on the Members Hub: 1. CIL Strategic Funding Scheme Guidance Notes for applicant organisations			
Appendices	Appendix A – Copy of the Project Variation Form sent by the project applicant, Gloucestershire County Council Appendix B – Project Works Layout for Cam & Dursley Train Station			
Implications (further details at the end of the report)	Financial	Legal	Equality	Environmental
	No	Yes	No	Yes

1. INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

- 1.1** In December 2020, Environment Committee considered a report which related to the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Project Spending Allocations for 2021/22. One of the Projects that was discussed and supported by committee was a bid made by Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) to improve the facilities at Cam & Dursley Train Station.

Agenda Item 6

- 1.2 This project bid proposed to create new cycle racks, a passenger shelter and the creation of a 25 space car park on GCC owned land. Environment Committee voted unanimously to support this project, awarding £75,050 to fund the works to be delivered in 2021/2022 financial year.
- 1.3 GCC have contacted SDC's CIL Team and reported that works to the cycle shelter are complete along with other supporting improvement works. Following further engineer's studies however, the proposed 25 space car park cannot be delivered under this current programme of works. The County Council would like to use the funding allocation made for the car park under this current bid to contribute towards other passenger travel infrastructure, and request SDC's permission to do so. This does not preclude the car park area being re-examined for delivery at a future time.
- 1.4 This report requests that the details presented in the Project Variation Form (Appendix A) are considered by Environment Committee and, if supported, permission is granted for the requested alternative works to proceed with immediate effect.

2. MAIN POINTS

- 2.1 The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) was introduced by government in 2010 as a mechanism to fund the infrastructure required to deliver new development achieved under Local Plan growth strategies. Stroud District Council implemented its CIL Charging Schedule in April 2017, and started to collect CIL from planning permissions approved and implemented from this date.
- 2.2 For the last three years, the Council has invited partner delivery organisations to bid for CIL project funding through a formal bidding process which is explained in the scheme's Guidance Notes. This funding scheme has been able to support the delivery of some excellent local infrastructure projects in the District and the scheme is considered to be a great success. A monitoring report updating Council on CIL project delivery is provided to Environment Committee every 6 months, in April and October.
- 2.3 As with all capital delivery schemes, sometimes project delivery does not proceed according to the original anticipated plan. Unforeseen circumstances mean that project changes are necessary. SDC's CIL Team work with the project delivery organisations to assess any changes and provide the Council's formal feedback / and or approvals.
- 2.4 Requests for SDC's support for project changes must be done through the Project Variation Form. Where project changes are relatively minor, the Head of Planning Strategy may approve these changes. To ensure transparency and support for the democratic process, any significant changes to project outcomes must be presented to committee.
- 2.5 The Project Variation Form shown as Appendix A explains how the County Council were unable to provide for a 25 space car park, but wish to repurpose the remaining allocated funding to provide for alternative passenger provision at the train station.
- 2.6 Car parking provision at Cam and Dursley Train Station remains a priority and repurposing the allocated funding for this current Bid does not mean that future car park improvement works would be unsupported by CIL. A separate Bid would be necessary when the County feel that the more technical aspects of the site are more fully assessed and new design works are developed.

- 2.7** The revised proposals fit with SDC's Planning Policy objectives around sustainable travel and align with the original intention of the project bid: to promote better access and comfort for local people using the train station. The County have provided preliminary design works (attached as Appendix B) and are consulting with Cam Parish Council.
- 2.8** The area around Cam is a key growth area for the district and, as such, sustainable travel initiatives that promote better connectivity and user comfort for residents using the train station is a local priority both within SDC's Local Plan and the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) on which CIL funding is assessed.

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1** It is the recommendation of CIL and Planning Strategy Officers that this Project Variation request is approved. The amended project proposals strongly align with planning policy and the CIL funding scheme's aims and SDC are pleased to be working with partners to improve facilities for local people using Cam & Dursley Train Station.
- 3.2** There are no additional funding requirements to facilitate this project change; the newly proposed works can be accommodated in the current CIL commitment for passenger improvement works at the train station. Subsequently there will be no impact on the overall CIL budget as previously approved by committee. If the project variation is not approved, the newly suggested improvements to the train station would be denied and an underspend of the CIL budget is likely.
- 3.3** There are also no identified risks in approving these proposed project changes. GCC have promised quick delivery of the alternative works, so the community benefits could be realised very soon after committee approval.

4. IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications associated with this report as the CIL budget is already secured.

Jon Coldridge, Principal Accountant

Tel: 01453 754030 Email: jon.coldridge@stroud.gov.uk

4.2 Legal Implications

CIL contributions may only be spent on infrastructure projects in accordance with the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended). The levy can be used to fund a wide range of infrastructure, including transport, flood defences, schools hospitals and other health and social care facilities pursuant to Section 216(2) of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 59 of the Regulations.

The levy can, therefore, be used to fund a very broad range of facilities such as play areas, open spaces, parks and green spaces, cultural and sports facilities, healthcare facilities, academies and free schools, district heating schemes and police stations and other

Agenda Item 6

community safety facilities. This flexibility gives the Council the ability to choose what infrastructure it needs to deliver the Local Plan.

Charging authorities may not use the levy to fund affordable housing.

The levy can be used to increase the capacity of existing infrastructure or to repair failing existing infrastructure, if that is necessary to support development.

Local authorities must spend the levy on infrastructure needed to support the development of their area, and they will decide what infrastructure is needed in line with adopted policy.

One Legal

Tel: 01684 272203 Email: legal.services@onelegal.org.uk

4.3 Equality Implications

CIL funding is based on growth and infrastructure requirements set out in the Local Plan, which has been subject to EIA. Consequently, there are no actions in or as a result of this report that will have a negative impact on Equalities or any groups recognised in an EIA.

4.4 Environmental Implications

The recommended projects invest in infrastructure that promise to bring significant positive benefits to the Environment. Facilities that reduce the need for motorised travel, supporting public transport and promoting clean travel (walking and cycling) and flood management schemes.

There are no perceived negative implications that would directly result from supporting any of the projects and environmental considerations are promoted throughout the scheme.

CIL Strategic Infrastructure Funding Scheme Project Variation Request Form

1. What was the name given to this Project?

Cam & Dursley Railway Station enhancements

2. a) How much CIL Funding was allocated to this project? b) Which financial year was this allocated for delivery?

£ 71,050 was allocated in 2021/22 financial year

3. Applicant / Project Delivery Organisation

The principal contact should be of the lead Project Officer. They must either have the authority to manage project changes, or should ensure that this form is accompanied by written confirmation from a manager who can authorise this form as a formal variation request.

Principle contact name:	Sarah Williams
Job Title:	Principal Planning Officer
Service area / department:	Strategic Planning
Organisation:	Gloucestershire County Council
Email address:	Sarah.williams3@gloucestershire.gov.uk
Telephone number:	01452 426793
Secondary contact name:	Jonathan Roberts
Job Title:	Transport Infrastructure Officer
Service area / department:	Integrated Transport
Organisation:	Gloucestershire County Council
Email address:	Jonathan.Roberts@gloucestershire.gov.uk
Telephone number:	01452 425628

4. What were the main delivery objectives of this project?

Provide a summary of the works that were outlined in the original Bid.

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Appendix A

(you may use bullet points if appropriate)	
Delivery Objective / or project phase	Relative Cost (for that phase or portion)
Car Park Expansion	£25,000.00
Cycle Racks	£4,000.00
Passenger Shelters	£20,000.00
A 45% optimism bias was applied to the original CIL Bid to cover installation/construction costs and other unknown costs that might arise, as per the industry standard. Optimism Bias is usually reduced once the project and its costs is better understood, as has been done here. GCC are doing their utmost to ensure all committed CIL funding is spent on the best possible improvements to the rail station car park.	£22,000.00

5. Which of the above Delivery Objectives have been completed?

The following purchase orders have been raised:

Location and Description	Cost	RELATION TO BID
New cycle shelter Cam & Dursley (36)	£12,900	Cycling Improvements
Carry out groundworks for cycle shelter	£3,397	Cycling Improvements
Carry out fence alterations behind bus shelter	£1,870	Pedestrian access improvements
Relocate existing 5 hoop bus shelter to motorcycle area	£1,695	Cycling Improvements
Create safe walking route from entrance	£1,980	Pedestrian access improvements
Total	£21,842	
Remaining budget (£71k)	£49,158	

6. Which of the above Delivery Objectives have NOT been completed?

- Car Park Expansion
- Passenger Shelters

Please explain why:

- Car Park Expansion:
A site visit identified that the area proposed in in fact heavily wooded and at a far steeper gradient than originally anticipated.
- Passenger Shelters:
Awaiting confirmation of the below proposed changes before procurement.

7. What Project Changes do you wish SDC to grant approval for?

Additional proposals that remain in line with original bid:

- **Car Park Expansion** - £7910 (accounts for 3 additional car parking spaces, 2 of which are replacements for those lost through motorcycle parking area so we gain 1 additional space).
- **Cycling (including motor cycles) Improvements** - £43,470 (Includes not just cycle racks but a host of improvements including ground works facilitating new infrastructure)
- **Bus shelter improvements** - £10,000 (Entails removal and replacement of existing bus shelter with new modern Externiture 'Mono' shelter).

Additional proposal outside the scope of the original bid:

- **Pedestrian access improvements – £9,620** (Amendments to existing car park to make life easier and safer for pedestrians using the station including bus users).
- **Total spend = £71,000**

8. What evidence (eg, plans, designs, etc) will you attach to this form that evidence these changes are well planned for?

Plans are currently being drawn up at present, copies of these will be provided to SDC by 23/03/22.

9. Explain why these proposed changes are necessary:

The original request was considered feasible at the time, but soaring costs and closer inspection with professional guidance have rendered the project unfeasible. Trees and gradient mean the proposed land for additional car parking would require extensive groundwork at a far greater expense than previously anticipated.

Project changes will create more cycle parking and a safer more accessible walking link, direct from the Box Road entrance to the platform. These improvements will future proof the rail station for government ambitions to make walking and cycling the first choice for shorter journeys and an anticipated increase in these modes as a result of the future Greenway

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Appendix A

10. What are the risks that these proposed changes may not be implemented exactly as stated (eg, on time, on budget) and how are these risks being managed?

There is now no time to implement these changes in this financial year, however there are now more developed details of project delivery available so we have absolute confidence that the works outlined will be completed within this year 2022/23. Works are being carefully planned for and managed by the relevant teams and managers.

11. Please state all the relevant consultations that have taken place regarding this project change (please state the person's name / organisation and date)

Liaison with Stroud District Council, Cam Parish Council, GCC officers and vendors to ensure approval, feasibility, and technical assessment.

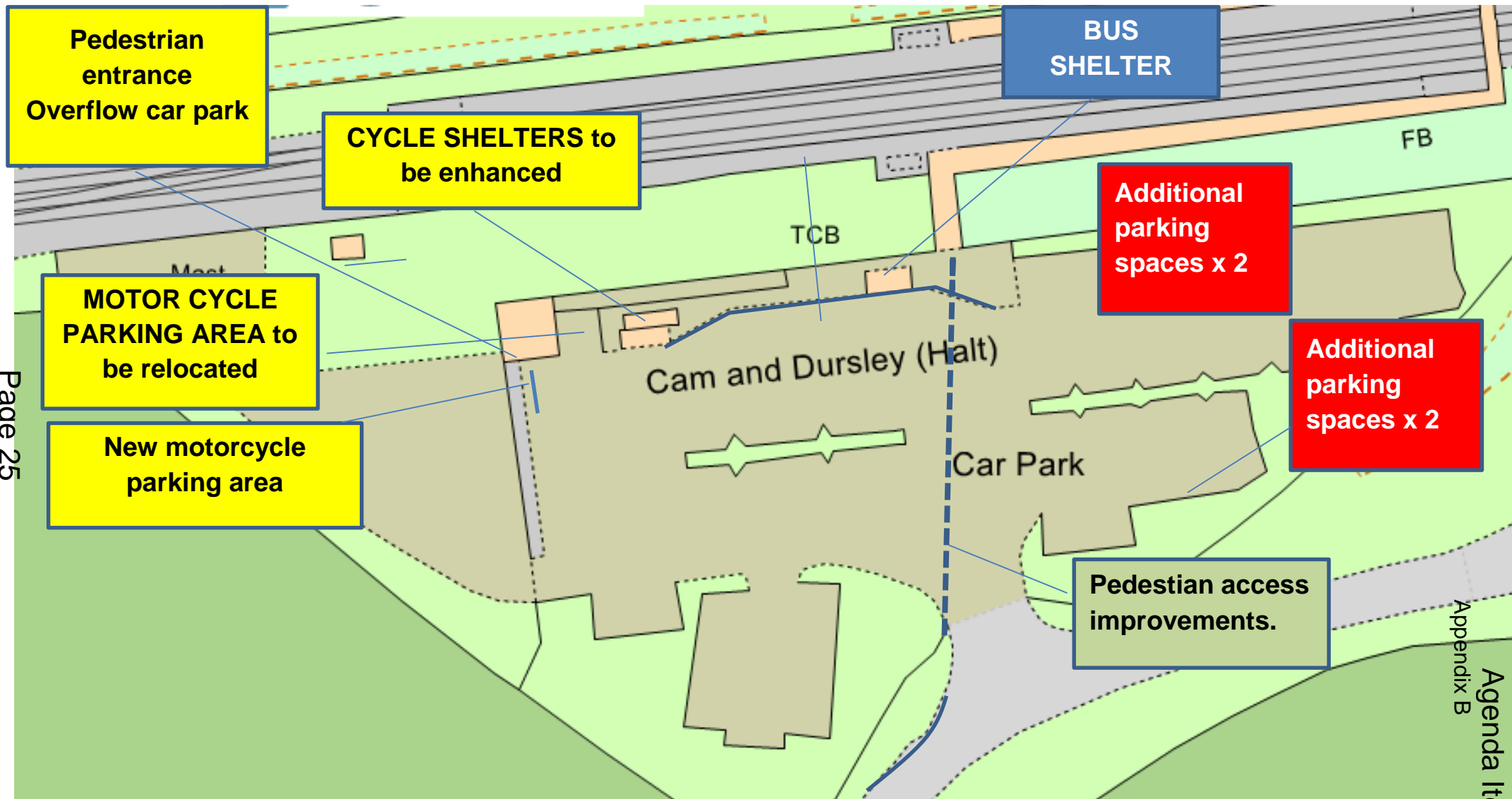
12. Any other project information you would like to tell us about?

You may attach any supplementary information you think may be of interest, this may include photographs, project plans, proof of match funding, tender documents, etc.

Transport requirements change endlessly and have done so immeasurably in the past couple of years, with new guidance on cycling infrastructure and a far greater emphasis on active travel, this has taken all transport professionals some time to absorb. Costs have also increased substantially as a result of supply chain issues. In addition, it is difficult to resource the planning of multiple schemes in detail and therefore there is the need to make project estimates based on previous experience, which are subject to many technical eventualities that can impact proposals and result in amendments.

In future years, funding requests will undoubtedly change and adapt to meet new and improving guidance and to fulfil the ever changing nature of transport and travel behaviour. SDC's support in helping us to accommodate these changes to benefit the community is appreciated.

Cam & Dursley Station overview of works



Car Park Expansion - £7910 (accounts for 3 additional car parking spaces, 2 of which are replacements for those lost through motorcycle parking area so we gain 1 additional space).

Cycling (including motor cycles) Improvements - £43,470 (Includes not just cycle racks but a host of improvements including ground works facilitating new infrastructure)

Pedestrian access improvements – £9,620 (Amendments to existing car park to make life easier and safer for pedestrians using the station including bus users).

Bus shelter improvements - £10,000 (Entails removal and replacement of existing bus shelter with new modern Externiture ‘Mono’ shelter).

Total spend = £71,000

Purchase Orders already raised

Location and Description	Cost	PO	RELATION TO BID
New cycle shelter Cam & Dursley (36)	£12,900	4100421605	Cycling Improvements
Carry out groundworks for cycle shelter	£3,397	4100421604	Cycling Improvements
Relocate existing 5 hoop bus shelter to motorcycle area	£1,695	4100421603	Cycling Improvements
Carry out fence alterations behind bus shelter	£1,870	4100421601	Pedestrian access improvements
Create safe walking route from entrance	£1,980	4100421602	Pedestrian access improvements

Total £21,842

Remaining budget (£71k) **£49,158**

Purchase Orders currently on hold

Location and Description	Cost	PO	RELATION TO BID
Additional 16 capacity cycle shelter	£12,980	On hold	Cycling Improvements
Ground works for additional shelter	£5,665	On hold	Cycling Improvements
Relocation of motor bike stand	£4,678	On hold	Cycling Improvements
Vegetation removal for new shelter inside p.spaces	£2,155	On hold	Pedestrian access improvements
Dropped kerbs	£3,420	On hold	Pedestrian access improvements
Add safe walkway	£2,350	On hold	Pedestrian access improvements
Additional parking spaces	£7,910	On hold	Car Park Expansion
Total	£39,158		

Remaining budget (£49,158)

**£10,000 (to be used
towards purchase of new
bus shelter)**

Improvements to be led by GCC in conjunction with these works (separate from bid) –

Road sweep of entire car park to clear mulch improving appearance and functionality of the car park.

Sleeper repairs to improve appearance and functionality of car park.

Vegetation clearance including outside the station (overhanging tree branches)

CYLING IMPROVEMENTS £43,470

New 36 capacity 2 tier cycle shelter and 16 capacity shelters. Existing damaged shelter to be removed from site. Relocation of motorcycle parking area. Road lining amendment for swept path of buses. Crash barrier to protect motorcycle parking area which will have added benefit of a shelter with roof overhang to keep cycles dry.

Swept path for buses – lining to be installed

New motorcycle parking area



CYLING IMPROVEMENTS £43,470



Shelter to be refurbished and used in Motorcycle Parking Area

Existing damaged cycle shelter to be removed from site and replaced with new 2 tier capacity shelter



Motorcycle parking area to be used for additional 16 capacity cycle shelter. Area to be relocated to 2 parking spaces adjoining overflow pedestrian access. Relocated shelter to be made safe with protection barrier



PEDESTRIAN ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS £9,620

Area behind bus shelter to be cleared of vegetation and fencing repaired to improve access. Bus stop clearway markings to be amended.

New dropped kerb within layby.

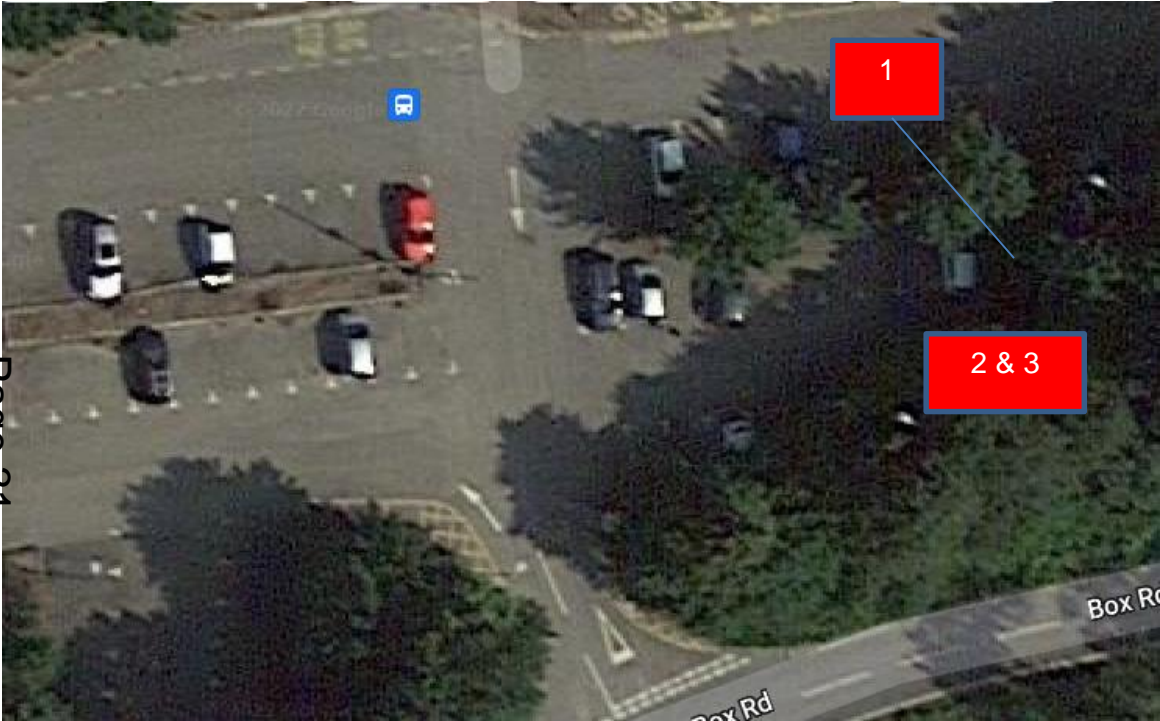
Safe pedestrian walking route from platform to Box Rd entrance

Left directional arrow to be relocated towards Box Rd



New dropped kerb within layby. Bus Stop clearway line markings to be amended

Car Park Expansion - £7,910



Parking space currently unusable. To be completely redesigned



Area for x 2 parking spaces to be created



BUS SHELTER REPLACEMENT - £10,000

Existing shelter



Indicative design for new bus shelter – Externiture 'MONO'



STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL**ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE****THURSDAY, 31 MARCH 2022**

Report Title	2030 ANNUAL REPORT (2021-2022)			
Purpose of Report	To present the 21-22 Annual Report on the 2030 Strategy and Master Plan for approval			
Decision(s)	The Committee/Council RESOLVES to note and approve the 2021-2022 Annual Report for the 2030 Strategy and Master Plan.			
Consultation and Feedback	The draft report has had the inputs of managers and core delivery staff. As a largely reflective document formal public consultation has not been deemed necessary. Our ongoing community engagement work has informed our understanding about what the interested public want to know.			
Report Author	Rachel Brain, 2030 Strategy Manager Email: rachel.brain@stroud.gov.uk			
Options	This first report of annual progress is focused on one year of action under Phase 1 of the masterplan. It reviews progress on the key priorities and commitments in that document and concludes that these remain relevant for the coming year. This means that we are proposing a sustained approach under the approved strategy and that delivery is as expected. The committee's options are: to approve the report; to ask officers to consider amendments or, to reject the report.			
Background Papers	Nothing specific for this covering report. The 21-22 Annual Report for 2030 Strategy and Masterplan include its own list of reference documents and links.			
Appendices	Appendix A – 2030 Strategy Annual Report 2021-22, Limiting, Adapting, Recovering and Responding in a Changing Climate			
Implications (further details at the end of the report)	Financial	Legal	Equality	Environmental
	No	No	No	No

1. INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The formal adoption of the 2030 Strategy and Masterplan in February 2021 followed on from the climate emergency declaration in November 2018 and was set within the context of post-COVID recovery and a heightened awareness of the importance of biodiversity and the role of nature in adaptation and mitigation. The 2021-2022 Annual Report reflects on the progress across the 7 key priorities that were identified and takes a forward look to how action will continue to progress over 2022-2023.

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It is intended as a public-facing report and will be disseminated via our website and communications activity.

2. MAIN POINTS

- 2.1 The report suggests that there is a significant amount of progress on all priorities. This has added conviction when the externally assessed achievements of the Green Flag Award, Climate Disclosure Project grades, Climate Scorecards results and MJ Award Finalist nomination are taken into account. It is further substantiated when all the success there has been in generating project pipeline and securing of funds is also considered.
- 2.2 Whilst the report contains more in-depth lists of activity, the following presents a highlight for each theme as a flavour of the content:

Key Priority	Sample Highlight
The Retrofit Challenge	> £14.9m secured towards countywide retrofit measures which will support our vulnerable communities and tenants.
Mainstream Renewables	Circa 100tCO _{2e} to be saved each year through our Water Source Heat Pump installs
Nature knows no boundaries	> 5,000 trees planted in our community woodland project at Salmon Springs
Increase Travel Options	Salary Sacrifice scheme enabling staff to consider an EV as their personal vehicle now live
Detail the Economic Vision	An economic development strategy is drafted which prioritises the green economy
Communicate the waste hierarchy	This is embedded to 2030 communications approach and delivered through partnership with GCC with a special campaign currently focused on reuse repair but with other waste themes also planned.
District Dialogue	External review from Climate Scorecards gave our approach top marks for 'community engagement and communications'

- 2.3 In consideration of the masterplan commitments and Phase 1 timescale to end of 2023 it is considered that the identified priorities remain relevant and that forward look shows a healthy foundation for progressing them further over the next reporting period.
- 2.4 Own estates carbon accounting figures are of limited value this year given the change in the way our offices and services were used through the pandemic and the major installation work for water source heat pumps (WSHP). This meant our heating provision was both interrupted and then utilised in ways that will not reflect normal practice whilst systems were tested and re-set. However, we can be confident that the WSHP will have a positive impact for the future.
- 2.5 A further significant factor in what comprises our data has been the move from contracted out services in Housing (Scope 3) to in-house provision (Scope 1). This increases our emissions, but also our level of control.

2.6 This year’s data includes some estimations and predictions. This annual report is being delivered earlier in the year to the cycle we have established for carbon accounting, so data has been estimated or predicted where required, but only for a couple of months. Headline figures are below:

% Difference between 2006-now (based on actual data and predicted data where missing) – 34% overall carbon reduction

% Difference between 20-21 and 21-22 (based on actual data and predicted data where missing) – 11% overall carbon reduction

Reduction in reliance on natural gas 2022 vs 2006 – approximately 265 tCO₂e (includes estimated data)

Based on actual and predicted data where data missing (% difference compared to 20-21):

2021-2022 tCO₂e		
Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3
307.65	185.71	1076.74
9%	-9%	-15%

3. CONCLUSION

3.1 The reporting period 2021-2022 saw council and community dealing with continued pandemic disruption and consequences. In other districts across the nation, this diverted efforts from the climate emergency and slowed progress. There is still an immense challenge for the world to face, but Stroud District Council is making good on its commitment to do all it can to rise to this.

3.2 In Stroud District the pandemic effects doubled the focus on community and increased the resolve to look to a better future. This, coupled with the long track record and grounding in sustainability related action has kept the district well placed to achieve highly in its 2030 endeavours. This report, a summary of just one working year offers evidence that progress is being made in all areas and our role as exemplar is placing the council on a good trajectory towards its commitment.

4. IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial Implications

There are no direct Financial Implications directly related to this report.

Adele Rudkin, Accountant

Tel: 01453 754109 Email: adele.rudkin@stroud.gov.uk

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4.2 Legal Implications

There are no significant implications within this category. Actions and decisions arising from the implementation of the strategy may have legal implications, which will need to be considered at the relevant time.

One Legal

Tel: 01684 272691 E-mail: legalservices@onelegal.org.uk

4.3 Equality Implications

An EIA is not required because there are no recommended actions as a direct result of this report.

4.4 Environmental Implications

There are no significant implications within this category. Actions and decisions arising from the implementation of the strategy may have environmental implications, which will need to be considered at the relevant time.

Rachel Brain, 2030 Strategy Manager

Tel: 01453 754 521 E-mail: rachel.brain@stroud.gov.uk

2021-2022

Annual Report

2030 Strategy

Limiting, Adapting, Responding and Recovering in a Changing Climate

Stroud District Council



Agenda Item 7

Appendix A

Published March 2022

Contact: 2030@stroud.gov.uk

Visit: www.stroud.gov.uk

[#StroudDistrict2030](https://twitter.com/StroudDistrict2030)

Foreword Appendix A

CLLR. DOINA CORNELL, LEADER OF STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL – LABOUR & COOPERATIVE PARTY



The latest report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change was stark - many of the impacts of global warming are now "irreversible". Yet the report also states that there is still a brief window of time to avoid the very worst. From the moment that Stroud District Council declared a climate emergency in 2018, we've always recognised that we cannot make a significant impact on reducing carbon emissions or reversing ecological damage on our own, but must work in partnership across our district, with public, private and

community sectors.

In 2020 we adopted a detailed strategy and plan to map a pathway to what could be achieved together in our district. You will find in this report the progress that has been made since then on all aspects of the plan, on energy, retrofit, travel, the economy, waste, nature's recovery and much more. As households face rising fuel bills, I'm especially glad to see how we are combatting fuel poverty by investing in

CLLR. CHLOE TURNER, CHAIR OF ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – GREEN PARTY

Councils across the UK are grappling with how to play their part in tackling the climate and ecological emergencies. Stroud District Council was among the first to acknowledge the urgency and scale of action required. A year on from publishing the Strategy and Plan that so many of you helped us shape, it's time to look closely at how we're doing.

You'll see that we have been busy. We've put our industrial heritage to good use by heating our offices with the mill streams alongside them, and used our Local Plan policies to promote renewable energy generation across the district. We've begun the huge task of making our council homes energy efficient, working with partners and piloting new technologies. We have active projects in every theme you helped us identify.

But with most of the district's greenhouse gas emissions outside the Council's direct control, we always knew we couldn't do it alone. So, we now have a 2030



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Introduction

SINCE THE ADOPTION OF OUR 2030 STRATEGY AND MASTERPLAN IN MARCH 2021 WE HAVE BEEN BRINGING EVEN MORE ENERGY AND FOCUS TO OUR EFFORTS TO LOWER CARBON, ENHANCE BIODIVERSITY AND BUILD RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY IN OUR DISTRICT.

It cannot be ignored that there are significant, multiple challenges facing us all. It is therefore important to take stock of the progress being made despite these and, to recognise and understand more about how we are, already, adapting, limiting and recovering.

This report revisits the key priorities set out under each of the 7 organising themes of the Masterplan to provide an overview of what has been happening, what is coming and the things we can all do towards the 2030 ambition.

CARBON NEUTRAL & NET ZERO

Stroud District Council has been monitoring its emissions for nearly 15 years. Global understanding of emissions monitoring has evolved rapidly and continues to do so. Confusion surrounding terminology is inevitable when things accelerate as quickly as this. Therefore, it's important we clarify our own position.

We committed to working towards a carbon neutral district by 2030 and therefore set a localised interim target to the national Net Zero by 2050 goal. This means we must reduce our emissions, as far as is reasonably possible, and offset what remains. Reduction is prioritised over offsetting.

There are 3 scopes under which emissions reduction can occur:

- **Scope 1 is emissions as a direct result of onsite activity (e.g. gas firing a boiler for heat);**
- **Scope 2 is indirect emissions (e.g. those associated with generation of electricity bought in for heat and power)**
- **Scope 3, indirect emissions by association (e.g. procurement or employee commuting).**

Scopes 1 and 2 are where we have the most influence and where we have made the most gains, but we are continuing to learn more about how we can increase our influence and impacts over Scope 3.

Plan On A Page - The 2030 Vision

Energy
consumed in
the district is
locally and
renewably
generated
and energy
waste is
minimised.

Retrofit in
the *built*
environment
is achieving
low carbon
operation.
The district
benefits from
efficient,

We are
protecting
and nurturing
the *natural*
environment
whilst
mitigating
and adapting
with

*Tackle the
Climate and
Ecological
Emergency:*
Achieve the
commitments
set for 2021-
2024 of The

*Sustainable
Construction
& Retrofit:*
Use
partnerships
and establish
a sustainable
construction

Biodiversity:
With
communities
& partners
protect green
infrastructure
and
biodiversity

Networks for *transport of all kinds* favour no and low carbon travel choices.

Locally based employment and purchasing drives a circular *economy* helping us deliver on

Waste from manufacture and use is disappearing as products last longer and are designed to be re-used. People are

The council and district *communities* are collaborating in an inclusive way with an ethos of respect for

Mobility:
Support integrated travel systems and the development of electric vehicle

Circular Economy:
Develop foundations of circular economy.

Renewable Energy:
Increase the proportion of energy generated and explore decarbonisin



The First Next Step

GOVERNANCE AND COMMUNITY

WE SAID...

We will expand our 2030 governance systems to include public representation



WE HAVE:

- Taken our place to play an active part in the Leadership Gloucestershire Climate Group to join up public sector approaches and increase our influence
- Established the 2030 Community Action Officer role to focus on engagement and an Environmental Performance Officer to work on quality management systems.
- Put 2030 at the forefront of 'The Council Plan'. Its Environment and Climate theme embeds our priorities as part of our whole council business.
- Ensured we are well informed, being active in networks and forums that offer technical and specialist insights and continued professional development.
- Supported the Local Economic Partnership Energy Sector Group as Co-Chair to be at the centre of Gloucestershire's business and industry discussions.
- Recruited community representatives to establish the 2030 Community Engagement Board (2030

WHAT'S COMING UP (2022-23)?

- With broad ranging expertise and a wealth of professional and community-based networks, the 2030 CEB will be developing their work-plan over 2022.
- Officer leadership and performance management will be further established formalising our processes and information gathering.
- Quality Management and environmental performance systems, such as ISO 14001:2015 will standardise systems and compliance for environmental management across more of the council.

ENCOURAGING ...

The first thing to do is, to reduce your demand for energy to reduce your reliance on grid top ups to your supply.

Make savings towards future investments by making improvements to your insulation levels (walls, draughts, hot water tanks, pipes); lighting (replacing with low energy lamps) and heating controls (room and radiator thermostats and a good heating/hot water programmer).

Always consult with experts. We support a free at point of use, impartial advice and grants service available to all householders:

Warm and Well, free-phone: 0800 500 3076, www.warmandwell.co.uk

TOP MARKS FOR 'COMMITMENT AND INTEGRATION'

[www https://councilclimatescorecards.uk/](https://councilclimatescorecards.uk/)



Everything
In
Our Power

Council

2030 Strategy is reported to Environment Committee
The delivery approach is embedded through the members' Council Plan. Delivery action is subject to the governance procedures of our constitution
High level decisions will be made

Community

The 2030 Community Engagement Board is integrating into our progress monitoring and project development processes and will interact with governance on this basis.
Our partnership works and projects establish oversight boards and steering

County

Stroud District Council is leader on the retrofit theme in Countywide Climate Leadership Group alongside other sector leaders, the Local Economic Partnership and Local Nature Partnership.
We are working

Governance

Appendix A



IN OUR EXEMPLAR ROLE WE STRIVE TO BE A PATHFINDER, SHARING OUR LESSONS LEARNED TO HELP OTHERS TACKLE THE CHALLENGES.

IN OUR ENABLER ROLE WE OUTREACH TO PARTNERS AND WORK WITH THEM TO SHARE AMBITIONS AND CREATE SOLUTIONS



IN OUR ROLE AS ENCOURAGER WE MUST CREATE THE MOTIVATION AND THE RIGHT CONDITIONS FOR SOLUTIONS TO GROW.

A Few Highlights



Built Environment—The Retrofit Challenge

>£14.4M SECURED FOR COUNTYWIDE RETROFIT



Energy—Mainstream Renewables

ESTIMATE 100 TONNES OF CARBON SAVED/YEAR THROUGH 2 WATER SOURCE HEAT PUMPS



Natural Environment—Nature knows no Boundaries

>5,000 TREES PLANTED IN COMMUNITY WOODLAND AT SALMON SPRINGS



Mobility—Increase Travel Options

ENABLING ELECTRIC VEHICLES FOR ALL STAFF THROUGH SALARY SACRIFICE SCHEME



Economy—Detail the Economic Vision

AN ECONOMIC STRATEGY DRAFT PRIORITISING THE GREEN ECONOMY



Communicate the Waste Hierarchy

COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGNS FOCUSED ON WASTE THEMES










Community—District Dialogue

TOP MARKS FROM CLIMATE SCORECARDS - ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATIONS

Appendix A

OUR SUCCESS IN NUMBERS

 <h2 style="margin: 0;">GREEN FLAG AWARD</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">Stratford Park has been granted Green Flag status</p>	 <p style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;">Secured more than £14.9m of funding for home energy efficiency support</p>	
 <h2 style="margin: 0;">1 FINALIST AWARD</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">1 Finalist Award for Leadership in Climate Emergency</p>	 <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">12 Community Representatives recruited (including Stroud District Youth Council)</p>	 <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">INCREASE IN COMBUSTION VEHICLES</p>
 <p style="margin: 0;">265 TONNES The amount we have reduced our reliance on natural gas vs 2006</p>		 <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">5000 trees planted</p>

The increase in combustion engine vehicles is because the housing maintenance service, requiring vehicles of significant load capacity, cease to be a contracted service. However, this puts us more in control in future over vehicles and Scope 1 emissions associated with this.



The Retrofit Challenge

TO GENERATE BOTH DEMAND AND CAPACITY IN SERVICES REQUIRED FOR LARGE SCALE RETROFIT

WE SAID...

We would be a pathfinder on our own estates for renewable energy projects; push forward a progressive Local Plan and explore how we can encourage private investment in renewables.

WE HAVE:

EXEMPLAR...

- Accelerated the path to 2030 by setting the investment plan for housing to support the 2030 target.
- Committed to ensuring our retained housing stock portfolio will be improved to achieve an average rating of SAP C by 2030, We will invest over £180 million over the next 30 years. To achieve this.
- Our 'independent living' pilot will establish a beacon project for those living in similar accommodation and help us work with tenants to demystify technology for others like them.

ENABLER...

- Taken the overarching lead on the retrofit theme for the county's 'Climate Leadership Group' to safeguard and accelerate the rate of progress on partnerships for retrofit action.
- Been chairing the award-winning affordable warmth partnership securing £10.5m of countywide funding (Local Authority Development and the Warm Homes Funds). This will be focused on the poorest performing properties and support those at risk from fuel poverty.
- A smaller grant of £80k in partnership with Gloucester City is boosting Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards enforcement and working with private sector landlords.
- Taken the lead in securing countywide partnerships and Social Housing Decarbonisation Funds (£4.414 m) to enable social landlords like ourselves work on their stock improvements.
- Secured £215k of grant money for capacity building under the 'Innovate to Renovate' initiative, addressing the challenges to setting up a local authority endorsed 'front door' to services for the private householder. This is a partnership of the district authorities of Gloucestershire along with S. Glos. developed and coordinated by Stroud District Council.

WHAT'S COMING UP (2022-23)?

- The Draft Local Plan, containing net zero sustainable construction standards will be at examination during 2022 and into 2023 and adopted later that year although exact timescales are unknown at present.
- We are scoping options with 'One Public Estate' funding to find blended solutions that support our council's low carbon aims and encourages similar in other public partners. This work also examines how we can build on our council home new-build experience of involving apprentices in these schemes.
- Skills issues are an indelible part of the retrofit challenge so, we are also supporting SGS College in pursuit of funding for facilities at the Berkeley Green UTC site and working with Active Building Centre as experts in the field.
- We are developing work with Local Partnerships and Cotswold District Council that will help us bring the strands of activity across skills, social, private and public sectors into focus and identify the route to healthier local provision in the district.

ENCOURAGING ...

The first thing to do is, to reduce your demand for energy to reduce your reliance on grid top ups to your supply.

Make savings towards future investments by making improvements to your insulation levels (walls, draughts, hot water tanks, pipes); lighting (replacing with low energy lamps) and heating controls (room and radiator thermostats and a good heating/hot water programmer).

Always consult with experts. We support a free at point of use, impartial advice and grants service available to all householders:

Warm and Well, free-phone: 0800 500 3076, www.warmandwell.co.uk

If you own a business and are looking for advice:

Target 2030, 01452 835 060 or, visit www.target2030.co.uk

A Retrofit Case Study

Over the past year, Stroud secured domestic retrofit funding from the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme to improve the energy efficiency of some of the District's least efficient housing stock: park home properties.

Mostly situated off the gas grid and reliant on inefficient heating sources, park homes are not only carbon intensive to heat – but low levels of insulation mean heating needs to remain on for much of the winter. Residents of park homes suffer disproportionately from poor health outcomes, too – so supporting the retrofit of these properties delivers health and social benefits alongside carbon reductions.

Properties across two of Stroud District's most inefficient park homes sites were retrofitted with external wall insulation, delivered through the Warm and Well service and funded by the Scheme. With this insulation in place, these homes will collectively emit 970 tonnes less CO₂ – over 30 tonnes saved in the District per year.

And the benefit to the residents is tangible, too. One resident suffering with diabetes and arthritis felt that the changes had already had a positive impact on their day-to-day life and noted they strongly feel 'happier', 'less worried about heating bills' and thought that the work 'improved their mental wellbeing' and that they felt 'healthier (less likely to suffer with a cold) post insulation.'

Although it has been a cold winter, I have remained quite warm and cosy, even at night when the heating is on low the heat is retained. I can't say how pleased I was with the service.







Mainstream Renewables

Appendix A

RENEWABLE ENERGY NEEDS TO BECOME THE STANDARD CHOICE FOR ALL OF OUR ENERGY NEEDS

WE SAID...

We would increase renewable generation through new projects, a revised local plan and through working with distribution networks and Community Energy organisations.

WE HAVE:

EXEMPLAR...

- Our Ebley and Brimscombe Port Mill buildings are now heated utilising the historic power source through water source heat pumps to save some 97 to 156 tonnes of carbon/year.
- We are pathfinding on an innovative technology mix of fabric improvements, PV systems, ground source heat loop systems/ air source heat pumps and battery storage in our independent living accommodation. This includes our work as one of only 18 projects across England and Scotland to have secured the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund Demonstrator grants.
- We have signed up to the Climate Disclosure Project (CDP Cities) giving our emissions transparency and providing feedback. Our 2020-2021 entry gave us a great starting point at grade C as we are being compared to much larger councils with more under their direct influence.

ENABLER...

- Our Draft Local Plan is founded upon evidence of renewable generation potential and includes policies and tools (e.g. the Policies Map) to support those wishing to build or renovate to low carbon standards as well as identifying landscape sensitivities to renewables.
- Co-Chairing the LEP Energy Sector Group whose membership include both Wales and West and, Western Power Distribution Network operators keeps us in touch as a central stakeholder.
- We have built a good relationship with Gloucestershire's Community Energy Co-Operative working to support them to secure feasibility work for a housing focused project. Whilst this eventually proved unworkable both parties remain keen to pursue different opportunities.
- We are networked to SW Energy Hub and taking advantage of their expertise to inform project design and to access their funding.

WHAT'S COMING UP (2022-23)?

- We aim to have our local plan approved and in action to steer district development to a carbon neutral 2030
- We will be improving energy efficient practices by raising awareness of how we use energy through training and energy bulletins.
- We are reviewing our own utility supply options with the need to be both ethical and sustainable in our choices as some key criteria in this decision-making process.
- We are aiming to improve our CDP Cities score

ENCOURAGING ...

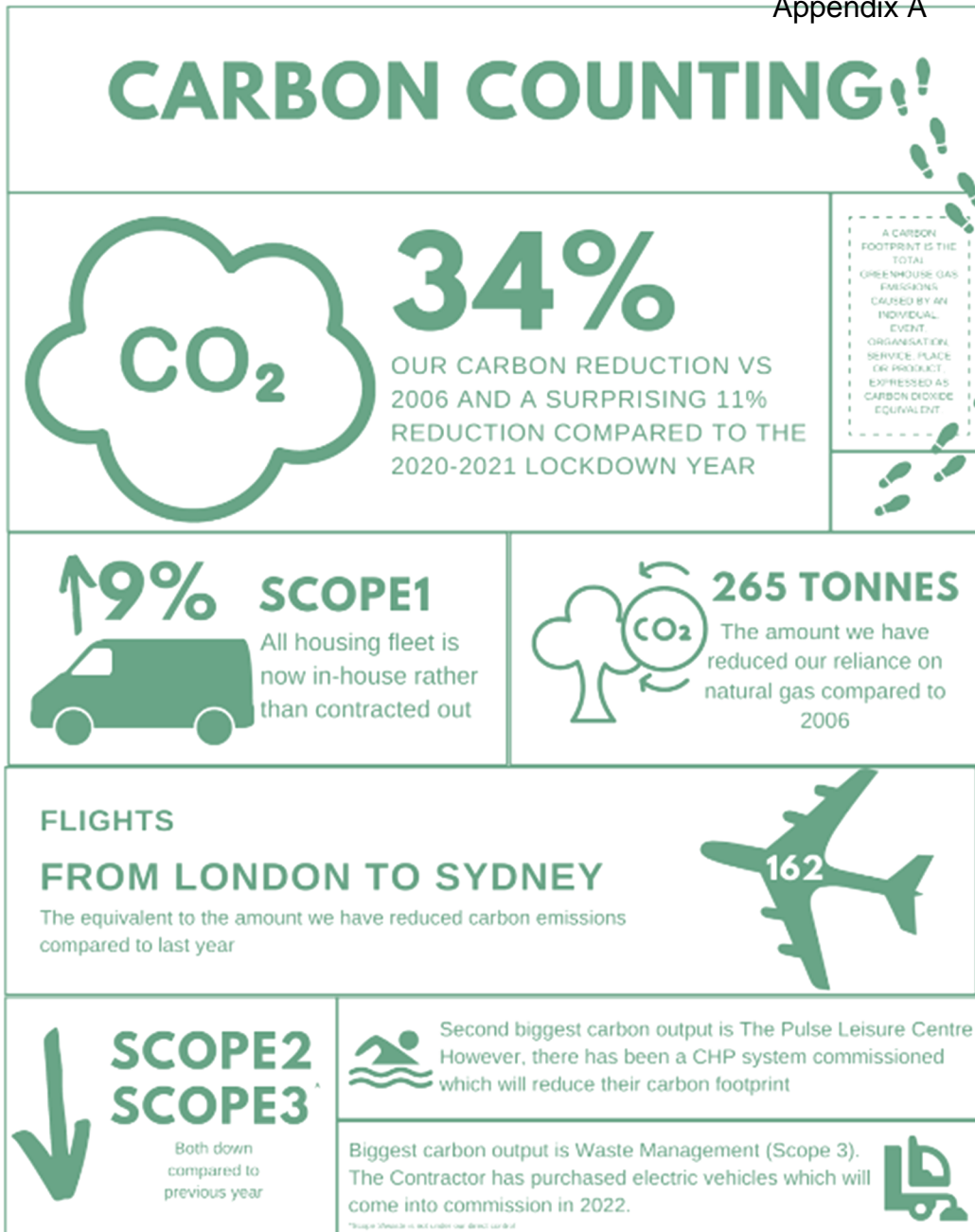
There is always a lot of potential in all buildings for improving sustainability. Something we could all do is to choose a 'deep green' renewable energy tariff to be part of the solution to climate and ecological emergency.

To find advice on switching your tariff:

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/advice/switching-your-energy-supplier/>



Appendix A



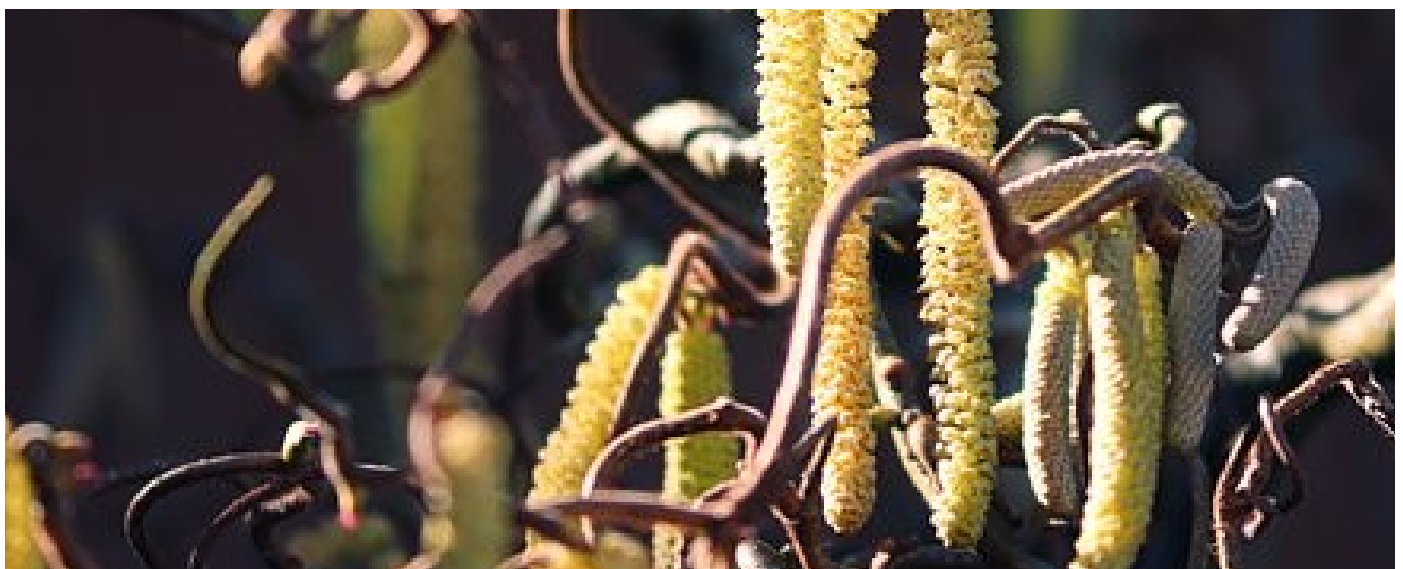
The transition to Water Source Heat Pump (WSHP) for heating the 2 mills removes natural gas from our heating needs. The WSHP uses waterpower to generate electricity for heat purposes.

The installation process saw gas turned off and then, no central heating used between August and October. This, added to the overall decrease in use of the office space means energy data is not easily compared to previous years.

DID YOU KNOW...?

The orchard trees at Museum in the Park link to our local heritage.

In addition to the 'Lodgemore non Pareil', the Stroud Apple, all the trees are purchased locally on advice from Days Cottage and are from Gloucestershire and the SW of England. Most are in the 'endangered' or 'rare' list.





Nature knows no Boundaries

PARTNERSHIPS AND PROJECTS THAT LOOK WIDER THAN OUR OWN DISTRICT BOUNDARY ARE CRITICAL

WE SAID...

We will examine the potential in our estates and land management practices and collaborate widely to improve biodiversity.

WE HAVE:

EXEMPLAR...

- Worked with 'Stroud Valley Project' , volunteers and local businesses to plant over 5,000 trees at Salmon Springs including the creation of a Tiny Forest for a quick time ecosystem.
- The Draft Local Plan "strongly encourages" strategic scale development to follow Building with Nature standards. These are a requirement at the proposed settlements at Sharpness and Wisloe as well as at, Brimscombe Port.
- Demonstrated 'No Mow May' in the care of verges in the district to support the pollinating insects that are vital to food systems.
- Delivered to Green Flag Award status in our care of Stratford Park.

ENABLER...

- An active member of the Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership (LNP), supporting their development of the free-to-use online mapping tool which is available to landowners and farmers to view the habitat potential and connectivity of land.
- Also supported the LNP/ GFirst Local Economic Partnership to develop a Gloucestershire Nature and Climate Fund (GNCF), which is designed to create a carbon market for the county.
- Leading the Canal Restoration work, which will link up the Severn Estuary and the Severn Vale with the expertise of Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, so that wildlife is conserved, protected and enhanced, creating new habitats that mitigate the impact of the restoration and ensuring the canal provides a corridor for wildlife.
- Secured a further six years of Flood Grant in Aid Funding to continue Stroud Valleys Natural Flood Management working until 2027 and four years of capital funding from Gloucestershire County Council

WHAT'S COMING UP (2022-23)?

- Officer resource and expertise for biodiversity and estates management is at capacity working to keep our green spaces safely maintained and our new developments in line with planning policies for conservation. We are increasing our capacity with a new post focused on biodiversity and nature recovery. This post will help us shape strategy and action plans and coordinate efforts across the council for improved outcomes.
- An existing Sustainable Development Checklist will be updated in 2023 following the adoption of the Local Plan as a supporting document for District developments.
- Greater evaluation will help evaluate the benefits of the natural flood management work in reducing flood risk.
- Practical action projects to physically improve environments will continue such as pond creation schemes

ENCOURAGING ...

Whether or not you have green space of your own there is still scope to get involved:

Visit the walled garden at the Museum in the Park for inspiration of gardening for wildlife. We have a sloping garden, like many people in the district, so the walled garden gives people ideas about what they might try to plant.

Take part in community planting initiatives by volunteering

<https://www.stroudvalleysproject.org/volunteer>





Increase Travel Options

Appendix A

REDUCE CAR JOURNEYS, ESPECIALLY COMBUSTION VEHICLES; SUPPORT ACTIVE AND PUBLIC TRAVEL

WE SAID...

We would start with the council culture around travel for work and engage with our contractors about their vehicles. We would work in partnership and create new ones to explore community travel options.

WE HAVE:

EXEMPLAR...

- Established a salary sacrifice scheme to encourage staff to consider an electric vehicle as their next car through tax a leasing system. This widens the support that continues to be available for purchasing bikes and e-bikes and accessories under the cycle-to-work scheme.
- Begun to scope the options for EV Infrastructure in readiness for expected proposals for on street provision from Gloucestershire County Council and the Highways Authority. Allocating £12k for the commissioning of expertise to support this.
- Set up a Walking and Cycling Task and Finish Group, with a focus on how to prioritise future spending and unlock constraints.
- Started work on producing a strategic outline business case for the re-opening of Stonehouse Bristol Road railway station – which would re-establish a Bristol-Birmingham mainline rail service for the Stonehouse-Stroud (Stroudwater) area.

ENABLER...

- We are supporting emerging community car clubs to increase access to electric vehicles and enable households to decrease or even, relinquish ownership of a personal car.
- The Council's taxi and private hire vehicle policy is being reviewed to move from an age policy to an emissions policy. The aim is to reduce the number of higher emission vehicles licensed and to look at a longer-term strategy for encouraging ultra-low emission vehicles.
- The Council monitors NO₂ levels across the district throughout the year. The raw data for 2021 has been collected but currently awaits the publication of a 'bias adjustment factor' by DEFRA

WHAT'S COMING UP (2022-23)?

- Implementation of any recommendations brought to Environment Committee by the Cycling and Walking Task and Finish Group
- Finalise a development strategy through the Draft Local Plan that concentrates on the need to minimise the need for travel and plans for the development of multi-modal interchanges to facilitate public and active travel. The Sustainable Transport Strategy which supports the Local Plan will be updated in 2022.
- Establish a working group for vehicle licensing to develop and consult on an emission policy.
- Identify strategy and projects for EV Infrastructure.
- We are delivering new build social housing that is 'EV Ready'
- Continue to find community transport projects that pool the use of vehicles through concepts like car clubs to support those choosing to reduce pollution, congestions and be more active in the way they travel.
- We are considering the area around Stroud Rail Station for improvements in terms of layout, access,

ENCOURAGING ...

Many of us are not returning to an everyday commute; this will be good for road transport associated emissions, but we will all need to think more about how we use energy at home to safeguard any overall carbon benefit.

If you do have to travel, please consider the benefits of a more 'active' journey, even if you can only do it for part of the way.

Tools to help you plan a journey that could lower your carbon footprint, increase your daily activity, or give you time for a sit-down while a bus driver takes on the frustration of the rush hours.

Plan a journey with train times or bus journeys by selecting a 'mode' of travel when you use online maps
Download the stagecoach app for real time information on when that bus will come:

<https://www.stagecoachbus.com/promos-and-offers/national/stagecoachbusapp#>

Explore Sustrans website for routes on the National Cycle Network (for cycling and walking) and lots of support articles on bike maintenance and how to support employees to cycle to their workplace:

<https://www.sustrans.org.uk/>



Detail the Economic Vision

DEVELOP ECONOMIC STRATEGY IN LINE WITH 2030 STRATEGY

WE SAID...

We would review our procurement policies, review waste monitoring whilst building on our district wide track record of recycling and reusing and exploring new potentials in our waste.

WE HAVE:

EXEMPLAR...

- The council ethical investment policy was approved by council in February 2022
- Written and consulted upon an Economic Development Strategy which prioritises the green economy sector and recognises that all businesses can become more sustainable through changes in working practices.
- Introduced a hybrid working policy and are streamlining service provision for better efficiency and data security. These measures support staff lifestyle choices and reduce some of our environmental impacts such as reducing print and paper waste.
- We have invested in the Social Value Portal system, this supports procurement processes to develop and monitor positive social impacts.
- We have increased staff capacity to include roles focused on delivering better sustainability outcomes through work in tourism and with tenants on home energy efficiency support.
- Developed a Draft Canals Strategy for making the most of our canal network to include an analysis of the carbon footprint of our canal-side communities, to identify interventions to reduce long term impacts.

ENABLER...

- Facilitated and supported exciting new projects for investment in the area including the Severn Edge bid for Nuclear Fusion to come to Berkeley.
- Set up a Market Towns Forum to work with town councils and local businesses to support investment in our market towns, including developing digital marketing and local sustainable

Appendix A WHAT'S COMING UP (2022-23)?

- The Ethical Investment Policy will be reviewed annually, performance reporting will be part of the annual outturn report and quarterly reports to Audit and Standards Committee.
- The Economic Development strategy action plan is in its early implementation. This focuses on:
 - How to improve digital connectivity
 - facilitating business development without travel
 - Work with Growth Hubs to support green businesses through sector focussed business groups
 - Work with higher education providers, particularly in terms of land management

ENCOURAGING ...

If you are a business decision-maker we encourage you to think about your spheres of influence. Consider where you can encourage more sustainable practice by managing the things under your direct control and by encouraging, advising, and incentivising your suppliers and customers to make more sustainable choices.

If you are an employee, think about the way you use the work environment, could you print less, use less packaging in your lunchbox, turn more equipment off at the switch at the end of the day?

If you are a consumer then your everyday choices are an incentive to businesses to do better. Shop local, invest in more durable items and pay attention to the 'story' behind the products you choose.





Communicate the Waste Hierarchy

Appendix A

RAISE THE PROFILE OF THE WASTE HIERARCHY TO REDUCE AND AVOID WASTE

WE SAID...

We would consider waste reduction opportunities on our own estates and work closely with our waste partner on our 2030 efforts and explore the opportunities in our communities better.

WE HAVE:

EXEMPLAR...

- We are reviewing our service provision with a focus on providing better service to our communities. We are trying to reduce the number of steps in our processes, increasing access by providing more channels to engage with us. A common benefit in this is reducing the need to print and mail information.

ENABLER...

- Working with contractors supporting the maintenance of our social housing properties to monitor recycling rates in relation to the waste streams associated with property decoration. Last year 99.65% of waste was recycled, equivalent to 364.14 tonnes.
- Revising KPI targets, aimed at recognising new 'normal' waste levels post-covid working with our waste partner, Ubico.
- Committed to several electric fleet vehicles, particularly for our street cleansing fleet. An electric road sweeper is expected to become operational in the coming months, which will be one of the

COVID-19, PPE, TEST KITS AND, MORE PEOPLE SPENDING MORE TIME AT HOME HAS INCREASED KERBSIDE WASTE RATES.

first



Appendix A WHAT'S COMING UP (2022-23)?

- An officer action group with cross-council membership will enable us to understand more about the waste issues across our estate and how we can baseline and target these.
- Community engagement will promote positive action and encourage waste saving ideas to come forward.
- We are committed to digitising waste service processes, introducing on board technology in our waste vehicles to increase information flow and improve customer service. The procurement process for this technology is underway and configuration will start in 2023. The ways this can support us in

ENCOURAGING ...

SDC is working with GCC and the other 5 local authorities in the county to deliver a communications campaign promoting waste reduction.

The current campaign is re-use and repair, although other themes will be covered, including food waste, which following compositional analysis, we know is still prevalent in the residual (grey bin) stream.

<https://www.gloucestershirerecycles.com/repair/>

Also, check out the Repair Café and its pop-up sessions calendar:

<http://www.atelierstroud.co.uk/repair-cafe/>





WE SAID...

We would ensure the climate emergency response is central to the Council Plan with public representation in 2030 governance and activity to encourage stakeholders throughout the district to take action

WE HAVE:

EXEMPLAR...

- Adopted the plan for the council (referred to in the Strategy document as 'The Corporate Development Plan', this is now called the 'Council Plan'). The plan spans Oct 2021 to 2025. Environment and Climate Change is one out of the three overarching themes, with several objectives including the establishment of 2030 Community Engagement Board and informative community webpages.
- Recruited an Environmental Performance Officer to monitor our carbon reducing progress and lead on the development of environmental management to the ISO14001:2015 standards.
- Completed research into domestic and business attitudes to energy efficiency and incentives and the challenges and opportunities of the council tax, business rates and social return on investment processes.

ENABLER...

- Integrated 2030 Strategy to internal communications channels including a section on our intranet and staff information sessions on our strategy and the steps they can take to support it.
- Established the 2030 Community Engagement Board which is made of 10 volunteer community reps, plus 4 cross-party members and 2 youth council members, all with wide spheres of influence and knowledge of social issues.
- Continued our support to the Transition Stroud led Climate Action Network Forum
- Bought licences to use 'Grantfinder' services that enable us to identify funding stream potentials for project ideas in the community. We have also re-worked Community Grant Scheme and Capital Infrastructure Levy application processes to include 2030 ambition into the criteria.
- Re-worked our website to give clearer and broader reference for those wishing to engage in the 2030 agenda.

WHAT'S COMING UP (2022-23)?

- We must continue to build on our efforts in the commitments we made as exemplar so that community engagement action is well supported by our understanding of progress and, through staff training, the agenda itself.
- 2030 CEB will be working and consulting with their communities to deliver a workplan in 2023 and the board is linked to our Equality Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) workstream.
- Our communications efforts will be built upon embedding #StroudDistrict2030 as a means of raising awareness of what everybody is doing.
- Our 2030 Community Engagement Officer will continue to engage with groups and networks to support community activity like the Nature Festival being planned for the Spring.
- Stroud District Youth Council are being supported by officers to evolve their plans to deliver on their commitment.



TOP MARKS FOR 'COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATIONS'

WWW.COUNCILCLIMATESCORECARDS.UK/



ENCOURAGING ...



The famous Ghandi quote...

‘Be the change you want to see’

...is full of wisdom as people are more likely to follow a good example.

Choose from some simple actions and take a leap at: www.takethejump.org

1. **End Clutter—keep things at least 7 years**
2. **Eat Green—more plants in your diet**
3. **Travel fresh—no more dependence on personal vehicles**
4. **Dress Retro—only 3 new items a year**
5. **Holiday local—reducing flights, 1 every 3 years**
6. **Change the system—use your behaviour to nudge for a change.**



If you have an idea for your community, it is important to get an understanding of whether they also feel that need and vision. The extent to which you go about finding the community perspective depends on whether you are hoping to make a change in a small group of friends or at a larger scale. Both small scale and large-scale change is needed as the cumulative effect of individuals and their communities is

FIND OUT ABOUT AND SUPPORT THE GREAT COMMUNITY PROJECTS WORKING IN OUR DISTRICT SUCH AS:



Built Environment—The Retrofit Challenge

[Gloucestershire Rural Community Council](#)

Local people solving local housing problems, creating genuinely affordable homes and strong communities. The Community-led Housing



Energy—Mainstream Renewables

[Gloucestershire Community Energy Cooperative](#)

Supporting the development of renewable energy via community shares.



Natural Environment—Nature knows no Boundaries

[Stroud Valleys Project Ltd](#)

Opportunities for people to become involved in environmental improvement through local practical action.



Mobility—Increase Travel Options

[Access Bike Project](#)

Community bike workshop that turns old bikes into opportunities for young and disadvantaged people.



Economy—Detail the Economic Vision

[Stroud Community Agriculture.](#)

Community-led farming enterprise to produce fresh organic/biodynamic produce for its members.



Communicate the Waste Hierarchy

[Freegle](#)

Don't throw it away, give it away.



Community—District Dialogue

[Climate Action Forum](#)

Share information and learning, and discuss the potential for initiatives that can help tackle the Climate Emergency.

Summing Up

OVERVIEW AND IMPLICATIONS FOR THE KEY PRIORITIES

External assessment through the Green Flag, CPD Cities, Climate Scorecards and MJ Awards processes are evidence that the council is heading in the right direction and on a firm footing with the challenges it is facing.

There has been significant progress in all areas and an increase in terms of council capacity for delivering on 2030 agendas. This has been achieved by increasing dedicated 2030 Team officer roles by 2 full time posts and, by engineering cross council support into the strategic delivery planning for the council through the Environment and Climate pillar of the Council Plan. This helps us live up to the 2030 Strategy aspiration that all council resources are mobilised in consideration of how to support 2030 agenda delivery in the district.

Looking back on 21-22 we can see how we have moved on from merely taking stock of our starting point following our declaration. and how we are even more active on problem solving; developing and sharing strategy; raising funds, securing the future of what has been working well and, developing new partnerships and programmes to take our work forward.





The First Next Steps

OUR STARTING POINT FOR 2022-23

- **Coordination:** To meet the future requirements of wider scale action in Phase 2 we must maximise on each services efforts, resources and, reach into different communities. This will help us identify opportunities and, to realise these through the benefits of shared experience; collaboration and, co-production. This will be driven by establishing more officer action groups within the council. These groups bring together officers from across our council directorates to focus on key priority areas. In 2021-22 we have worked with groups focused on retrofit and EV Infrastructure and in 22-23 we will build on this for other priority areas.
- **Monitoring:** to support coordination efforts and underpin our communications to communities we need to continue to improve our understanding of the current situation. This means we have some more work to do on performance and environmental management, implementing feedback and recommendations from our work with CDP Cities and ISO activity.



Reference Documents

Document	Topic
Envi. Committee Report 06/06/19	Council response and proposed framework
2030 Strategy and Master Plan	For a description of our rationale and all our commitments
2030 Background Paper	Overview of research that informed the plan
The Council Plan	Overview of how 2030 Master Plan is embedded to the council's delivery and performance management plan
The Draft Local Plan Review	A District wide plan for managing development and conserving the environment.
Council Tax and Business rates Feasibility and Design Study	Domestic and business attitudes to energy efficiency and incentives and the challenges and opportunities of the council tax, business rates and social return on investment processes.
Ethical Investment Policy	An appendix to the Treasury Management Strategy, Annual Investment Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement 2022/23, item 6C

Questions or comments to:

2030@stroud.gov.uk

STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 31 MARCH 2022

Report Title	FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WALKING AND CYCLING TASK & FINISH GROUP			
Purpose of Report	To report the findings of the Walking and Cycling Task and Finish Group and make subsequent recommendations			
Decision(s)	The Committee RESOLVES to: a. Thank the Task and Finish Group for its work and its recommendations; b. Support the recommendations as set out in Appendix A; c. Request an annual report on progress with walking and cycling schemes.			
Consultation and Feedback	Recommendations are a result of 3 meetings of the Walking and Cycling Task and Finish Group			
Report Author	Simon Maher, Senior Neighbourhood Planning Officer Email: simon.maher@stroud.gov.uk			
Options	The Group considered a range of options around the prioritisation of projects, interventions to unblock constraints and ways of promoting walking and cycling to a wider audience.			
Background Papers	N/A			
Appendices	Appendix A – Recommendations from the Walking and Cycling Task and Finish Group Appendix B – Equality Impact Assessment			
Implications (further details at the end of the report)	Financial	Legal	Equality	Environmental
	No	No	Yes	Yes

1. INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

- 1.1** The Walking and Cycling Task & Finish Group met three times between September 2021 and January 2022 with the role to drive delivery on the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP) for the District (as issued by Gloucestershire County Council), and to help realise Stroud District Council's wider Active Travel ambitions.
- 1.2** The Terms of Reference of the Group identified 6 functions which were discussed at the meetings. A series of actions was derived from these discussions. The functions and actions are set out in section 2.
- 1.3** The resulting recommendations are shown in Appendix A.

Agenda Item 8

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE FUNCTIONS AND ACTIONS

2.1 *Reviewing progress on existing cycling infrastructure projects, and considering and supporting options for budgeted but not yet allocated cycling spend.*

Developing a prioritised 'pipeline' of cycling and walking schemes and opportunities, aligned with the LCWIPs for the district (and going beyond, where appropriate, for example where a hyper-local scheme is considered a priority but is not included on the local LCWIP)

- 2.1.1 The Group received reports on progress with the development by the County Council of LCWIP for the District and spending of the District Council's walking and cycling capital budget.
- 2.1.2 The Group put out a request to town and parish councils and known local walking and cycling groups to submit existing and potential future projects to improve the walking and cycling network. This was an information gathering exercise, not a formal request for bids for funding.
- 2.1.3 A total of 37 projects were submitted by Parish and Town Councils, including 16 walking projects, 9 cycling, and 12 covering both walking and cycling.
- 2.1.4 Two prioritisation tools (one for strategic projects and one for local projects) were developed by the Group. Existing known strategic and local projects were assessed using the tools to test the tools and to develop an indicative pipeline of schemes for further consideration.
- 2.1.5 Recommendations included the continued support for the development of LCWIPS, and a streamlined approval process for the distribution of the existing capital budget.

2.2 *Discussing and agreeing the nature of interventions and investments required to unblock constraints and accelerate delivery of the pipeline.*

- 2.2.1 The Group discussed the subject at its meeting on 24 November 2021. It was felt that two of the most important physical constraints preventing more use of our walking and cycling routes relate to safety/accessibility (and the perception of safety) and the legibility of our routes (need for waymarking and signposting). Access for all was recognised as an important equality consideration which would need to be reflected when considering all walking and cycling projects. Improving the width and surfacing of routes, providing safe and convenient crossings of busy roads and achieving direct access to shops and public transport interchanges (bus/railway station) were identified as key ingredients for future success. Whilst leisure and commuting needs may differ, there is an important connection between the two – safe and attractive leisure routes will improve confidence and increase the propensity for people to look to walking and cycling for other types of journeys.
- 2.2.2 Technical design guidance published in July 2020 by the Department of Transport for the provision of walking and cycling infrastructure (LTN1/20) lays out design requirements of a much higher standard than some projects have previously proposed. Meeting these standards is important for leveraging future

central government funding. There is therefore a need to produce appropriate feasibility and design studies, and in some cases revisit proposed designs in order to meet these requirements.

2.2.3 The group agreed that a key recommendation when considering unblocking constraints was to ensure that the equality considerations arising from walking and cycling projects are taken into account at an early stage in the planning and design process – including consulting with representative groups (e.g. visually impaired users, pedestrians with limited mobility) and addressing access and parking for larger bikes, and the affordability of e-bikes.

2.2.4 Other recommendations included gaining momentum through “quick win” schemes, working to unlock land-ownership constraints, and exploring opportunities for match funding.

2.3 *Identifying ways to promote pipeline priorities to a wider audience (Gloucestershire County Council, Siobhan Baillie MP) to gain necessary support.*

2.3.1 The Group discussed the subject at its meetings in November 2021 and January 2022 as well as more general ways of promoting walking and cycling.

2.3.2 Recommendations included appointing a cycling mayor, working with health and well-being teams to promote active travel, increased publicity for schemes we are working on, and supporting the provision of initiatives to build confidence for walking and cycling.

2.4 *Providing a point of contact for community groups to promote local schemes for consideration*

2.4.1 The Group included representatives from outside bodies and invited town and parish councils and other known walking and cycling groups to share existing and potential future local schemes for information. It was clear from discussions that there is a particular requirement to consider the walking and cycling needs of hard to reach and disadvantaged groups in future discussions.

2.4.2 Recommendations included communicating with town and parish councils to clarify how SDC can provide assistance and funding for local walking and cycling projects, and how future District Council initiatives could provide opportunities for further discussion on the provision of mobility and active travel projects (e.g. through the delivery of the CN2030 Strategy).

2.5 *Making recommendations to the Environment Committee, where any decisions resulting from any of the above functions are required.*

2.5.1 The Group concluded that many of the recommendations can be delivered immediately through the more focussed operation of existing policies and funding streams. However, to achieve a step change in delivery and to raise the profile of walking and cycling within the District will require additional measures, where the support of Environment Committee would be welcomed.

Agenda Item 8

3. NEXT STEPS

- 3.1 A series of recommendations from the Task and Finish Group are set out in Appendix A.
- 3.2 Members of the Group expressed a wish to discuss opportunities to expand walking and cycling budgets for future years through the budget setting process during autumn 2022. An annual report to Environment Committee on progress with walking and cycling schemes is also proposed.
- 3.3 In terms of future working with communities around walking and cycling, the Community Engagement Board set up to deliver the CN2030 Strategy will provide an opportunity to discuss mobility and active travel opportunities within our communities and an officer action group centred on mobility will take these issues forward.

4. IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications within the report. Any future changes to the budget must be recommended by Environment Committee to Council for approval. If additional resource is necessary for the project, this will need to be funded and addressed through the budget setting process for 2022-23.

Adele Rudkin, Accountant

Tel: 01453 754109 Email: adele.rudkin@stroud.gov.uk

4.2 Legal Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

One Legal

Tel: 01684 272203 Email: legalservices@onelegal.org.uk

4.3 Equality Implications

An EqlA has been carried out by Officers in relation to the decision made in this report and due regard will be given to any implications identified in it. The group identified the importance of inclusivity and equality in walking and cycling in the early stages, and this is reflected in the subsequent recommendations. The EqlA identifies potential positive impacts for protected groups in the categories of age, disability and sex, as well as groups affected by rural considerations.

4.4 Environmental Implications

The recommendations of the Group are designed to unlock constraints and drive delivery of walking and cycling schemes in the District. Providing active travel options will encourage a shift away from car use, particularly for short journeys, and thus a reduction in emissions associated with those journeys.

Item 8 - Appendix A

Recommendations of the Walking and Cycling Task and Finish Group

1. *Reviewing progress on existing cycling infrastructure projects, and considering and supporting options for budgeted but not yet allocated cycling spend.*

Developing a prioritised 'pipeline' of cycling and walking schemes and opportunities, aligned with the LCWIPs for the district (and going beyond, where appropriate, for example where a hyper-local scheme is considered a priority but is not included on the local LCWIP)

The Group recommends that the District Council should:

- 1.1. Continue to support the development of LCWIPs covering the main areas of the District and related plans and strategies which prioritise walking and cycling infrastructure to achieve sustainable transport and health and wellbeing outcomes;
 - 1.2. Continue to operate a walking and cycling capital budget to fund extensions and improvements to the strategic and local walking and cycling networks. Further monies should be allocated to this budget for future years;
 - 1.3. Organise the allocation of funding to ensure that the top strategic projects and the top local projects are funded, with a smaller allowance for promoting and marketing the network;
 - 1.4. Utilise the two prioritisation tools discussed by the Group to assess initially the relative merits of individual walking and cycling projects, but to base final decisions on deliverability and geographical coverage;
 - 1.5. Focus on the practical and timely delivery of schemes, with a streamlined approval process for the existing capital budget through the Chair and Vice Chair of Environment Committee;
 - 1.6. Follow up potential projects with town and parish councils to explore the feasibility and design work required to progress schemes to delivery;
2. *Discussing and agreeing the nature of interventions and investments required to unblock constraints and accelerate delivery of the pipeline*

The Group recommends that the District Council should:

- 2.1. Ensure that the equality considerations arising from walking and cycling projects are taken into account at an early stage in the planning and design process – including consulting with representative groups (e.g. visually impaired users, access and parking for larger bikes, access issues for pedestrians with limited mobility, and affordability of e-bikes)

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- 2.2. Look for the low hanging fruit/shovel ready/quick win schemes to provide initial momentum;
 - 2.3. Provide and/or promote community design guidance and other tools (e.g. LCWIPs will include a cycling/walking route audit tool);
 - 2.4. Continue to support policies and design guidance that prioritises walking and cycling over the use of the private car within new developments
 - 2.5. Consider the evidence for varying local play and sports standards to allow new housing developments to deliver cycle circuits rather than traditional sports facilities;
 - 2.6. Consider ways of utilising the canal network for walking and cycling where separated multi-user paths and LT1/20 compliant standards are not possible;
 - 2.7. Work with partners to resolve/unlock land-ownership constraints;
 - 2.8. Consider expanding walking and cycling budgets for future years;
 - 2.9. Work with communities to explore opportunities for match funding e.g. use of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), S106 agreement monies, other grant schemes
3. *Identifying ways to promote pipeline priorities to a wider audience (Gloucestershire County Council, Siobhan Baillie MP) to gain necessary support*

The Group recommends that the District Council should:

- 3.1. Invite Chris Boardman, national commissioner for Active Travel England to visit Stroud;
- 3.2. Lobby our MP for central government funding;
- 3.3. Appoint a Cycling Mayor – a voluntary role, profile raiser, champion for inclusion, to promote cycling within the District;
- 3.4. Work with health and wellbeing and community teams to promote active travel
- 3.5. Publicise the schemes we are supporting more – “signposted by SDC as part of the walking and cycling programme”;
- 3.6. Support Bikeability to provide cycling initiatives within the District with a focus on building confidence and access to schools and businesses;
- 3.7. Develop a dedicated walking and cycling page on the Council’s website and consider newsletters – promote case studies of how we can help;
- 3.8. Produce walking and cycling maps – we currently have one which would require updating – possibly include grading of routes and segregated sections, and safer/quieter routes to schools;
- 3.9. Encourage local groups to produce videos of routes to publish on youtube etc.
- 3.10. Ensure the Council is doing the best it can to promote walking and cycling to work e.g. Bike to work scheme;
- 3.11. Consider ways that members of the Task & Finish Group can continue to promote walking and cycling in the District.

4. *Providing a point of contact for community groups to promote local schemes for consideration*

The Group recommends that the District Council should:

- 4.1.** Invite representatives from local walking and cycling groups, local accessibility groups and health & wellbeing community groups to future Council meetings on mobility matters;
- 4.2.** Hold a session for town and parish councils to discuss cycling and walking needs and clarify the position of SDC re: funding and support;
- 4.3.** In the longer term, consider the pros and cons for setting up and promoting a more formal application process for annual walking and cycling grants.

5. *Making recommendations to the Environment Committee, where any decisions resulting from any of the above functions are required.*

The Group recommends that Environment Committee should:

- 5.1.** Consider expanding walking and cycling budgets for future years to increase the funding for the delivery of strategic and local routes and to provide the resources required to raise the profile of walking and cycling within the District.
- 5.2.** Consider how the Council can continue to provide a point of contact for local community groups to promote local schemes for consideration and to discuss ways of promoting walking and cycling to a wider audience

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Item 8 – Appendix B - Equality Analysis Form

By completing this form you will provide evidence of how your service is helping to meet Stroud District Council's General Equality duty:

The Equality Act 2010 states that:

*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 the Equality Act 2010;

(b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

(c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The protected characteristics are listed in Question 9

Stroud District Equality data can be found at: <https://inform.gloucestershire.gov.uk/equality-and-diversity/>

Please see Appendix 1 for a good example of a completed EIA.

[Guidance available on the HUB](#)

1. Persons responsible for this assessment:

Name(s): Simon Maher	Telephone:
	E-Mail: simon.maher@stroud.gov.uk
Service: Planning Strategy	Date of Assessment: 15/3/22

2. Name of the policy, service, strategy, procedure or function:

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WALKING AND CYCLING TASK & FINISH GROUP

Is this new or an existing one? **New / Existing** (please delete as appropriate)

3. Briefly describe its aims and objectives

The Walking and Cycling Task & Finish Group met three times between September 2021 and January 2022 with the role to drive delivery on the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP) for the District (as issued by Gloucestershire County Council), and to help realise Stroud District Council's wider Active Travel ambitions. The Terms of Reference of the Group identified 6

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functions which were discussed at the meetings. A series of actions was derived from these discussions.

4. Are there external considerations? (Legislation / government directive, etc)

The delivery of walking and cycling infrastructure within the District requires working in partnership with local parishes, cycling and walking groups and accessibility groups. A key partner in delivery will be Gloucestershire County Council as the highway authority, and author of the Local Transport Plan, and emerging Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs).

5. Who is intended to benefit from it and in what way?

The delivery of accessible walking and cycling infrastructure will benefit all residents of Stroud District by providing a sustainable travel option for shorter journeys. This in turn will bring health and well-being as well as economic benefits to residents. A reduction in car use for short journeys will bring environmental benefits through the reduction in car emissions.

6. What outcomes are expected?

The recommendations made by the Task and Finish group are designed to fulfil the purpose of the group i.e. to drive delivery on the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans for the district (as issued by Gloucestershire County Council), and to help realise Stroud District Council's wider Active Travel ambitions.

7. What evidence has been used for this assessment? (eg Research, previous consultations, Inform (MAIDEN); Google assessments carried out by other Authorities)

Inform (Maiden)

A Guide to Inclusive Cycling (Wheels for Wellbeing, 2019)

Inclusive City Cycling. Women: Reducing the Gender Gap (Sustrans, 2018)

8. Has any consultation been carried out?

Yes

Details of consultation

The formation of the group, and its terms of reference was agreed at Environment Committee on 21st September 2021. It was agreed during the discussion at this meeting that the issue of equalities and inclusivity would be overseen by the Chair and Vice Chair of the group.

As well as Stroud District Councillors, 2 external groups were invited to have a representative within the group, those being Stroud Valleys Cycling Group and Stroud Active.

The Group put out a request to town and parish councils and known local walking and cycling groups to submit existing and potential future projects to improve the walking and cycling network. This was an information gathering exercise, not a formal request for bids for funding. A total of 37

projects were submitted by Parish and Town Councils, including 16 walking projects, 9 cycling, and 12 covering both walking and cycling.

If NO please outline any planned activities

N/A

9. Could a particular group be affected differently in either a negative or positive way?

(Negative – it could disadvantage and therefore potentially not meet the General Equality duty;

Positive – it could benefit and help meet the General Equality duty;

Neutral – neither positive nor negative impact / Not sure)

Protected Group	Type of impact, reason and any evidence (from Q7 & 8)
Age	<p>There were 120,903 residents in Stroud in 2020, approximately 12% more than 2001. This is below the county average of 13%.</p> <p>The proportion of people aged 65+ (22.2%) exceeds the County and national average of 21%. The second most common household composition is 'pensioner households' standing at 24.4% of households - 3.7% higher than the average for England.</p> <p>Paragraph 2.1 of Appendix A states that the District Council should: <i>“Ensure that the equality considerations arising from walking and cycling projects are taken into account at an early stage in the planning and design process – including consulting with representative groups”</i></p> <p>Paragraph 4.1 of Appendix A states that the District Council should: <i>“Invite representatives from local walking and cycling groups, local accessibility groups and health & wellbeing community groups to future Council meetings on mobility matters”</i></p> <p>Paragraph 3.6 of Appendix A states that the District Council should: <i>“Support Bikeability to provide cycling initiatives within the District with a focus on building confidence...”</i></p> <p>Potentially positive impact.</p>
Disability	<p>17% of residents in Stroud had a limiting long term illness/disability (LLTI) in 2017. This compares to 18% across England.</p> <p>The Task and Finish Group identified accessibility and the legibility of routes as two of the most important physical constraints to walking and cycling.</p> <p>Paragraph 2.1 of Appendix A states that the District Council should: <i>“Ensure that the equality considerations arising from walking and cycling</i></p>

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Appendix B

	<p><i>projects are taken into account at an early stage in the planning and design process – including consulting with representative groups”</i></p> <p>Paragraph 4.1 of Appendix A states that the District Council should: <i>“Invite representatives from local walking and cycling groups, local accessibility groups and health & wellbeing community groups to future Council meetings on mobility matters”</i></p> <p>Paragraph 3.6 of Appendix A states that the District Council should: <i>“Support Bikeability to provide cycling initiatives within the District with a focus on building confidence...”</i></p> <p>Potentially positive impact.</p>
Gender Re-assignment	The Findings and Recommendations of the Walking and Cycling Task and Finish Group is expected to have a neutral impact upon gender re-assignment groups. No specific impacts have been identified either through consultation or through equality analysis.
Pregnancy & Maternity	The Findings and Recommendations of the Walking and Cycling Task and Finish Group is expected to have a neutral impact upon pregnancy and maternity groups. No specific impacts have been identified either through consultation or through equality analysis.
Race	The Findings and Recommendations of the Walking and Cycling Task and Finish Group is expected to have a neutral impact upon different race groups. No specific impacts have been identified either through consultation or through equality analysis.
Religion – Belief	The Findings and Recommendations of the Walking and Cycling Task and Finish Group is expected to have a neutral impact upon religious groups. No specific impacts have been identified either through consultation or through equality analysis.
Sex	<p>A study by Sustrans in 2018 highlighted a gender gap between the number of men and the number of women who choose to cycle in “Bike life” cities. Safety and inadequate infrastructure were seen as two of the main barriers. Safety was identified as a key constraint by the Task and Finish Group (see para. 2.2.1 of report). The delivery of better walking and cycling infrastructure in the district, especially that which meets LTN1/20 design guidance, would be a step towards removing these barriers.</p> <p>Potentially positive impact.</p>
Sexual Orientation	The Findings and Recommendations of the Walking and Cycling Task and Finish Group is expected to have a neutral impact upon sexual orientation groups. No specific impacts have been identified either through consultation or through equality analysis.
Marriage & Civil Partnerships (part (a) of duty only)	The Findings and Recommendations of the Walking and Cycling Task and Finish Group is expected to have a neutral impact upon married and civil partnership groups. No specific impacts have been identified either through consultation or through equality analysis.

Rural considerations: le Access to services; transport; education; employment; broadband;	Stroud is a predominantly rural district which presents challenges to active travel through connectivity and topography. The delivery of walking and cycling infrastructure utilising the recommendations made by the Walking and Cycling Task and Finish Group will create more accessible active travel connections between settlements, urban centres, employment sites and transport hubs. Potentially positive impact.
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10. If you have identified a negative impact in question 9, what actions have you undertaken or do you plan to undertake to lessen or negate this impact?

Please transfer any actions to your Service Action plan on Excelsis.

Action(s):	Lead officer	Resource	Timescale
N/A			

Declaration

I/We are satisfied that an Impact Assessment has been carried out on this policy, service, strategy, procedure or function * (delete those which do not apply) and where a negative impact has been identified, actions have been developed to lessen or negate this impact.

We understand that the Equality Impact Assessment is required by the District Council and that we take responsibility for the completion and quality of this assessment

Completed by: Simon Maher	Date: 21/03/2022
Role: Senior Neighbourhood Planning Officer	
Countersigned by Head of Service/Director: Mark Russell, Head of Planning Strategy	Date: 21/03/2022

Date for Review:

Please forward an electronic copy to eka.nowakowska@stroud.gov.uk

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STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

MEMBER REPORT

NAME OF ORGANISATION/BODY	Stroud Regeneration Committee
DATE OF LAST MEETING ATTENDED	17/2/2022

BRIEF REPORT

Progress Report from Gloucestershire County Council on parking review

Alexis Newport reported on GCCs review around parking in the town centre. There are a lot of other projects taking place at the same time: Street scapes, Levelling up, STC parking review. Call for more partnership working. Proposing to set up a working group with key stakeholders.

Tony Davey (representing businesses) mentioned concerns around monetising streets and asked for a date for the report from the consultation.

There were 4589 letters dropped with a 28% response rate to the informal consultation. One street in the middle of the consulted area categorically didn't want to be included in any new parking zone.

David Drew mentioned EV parking and the need to get ahead of this in terms of support for EVs and on-street parking. Alexis Newport is working with the same Atkins project officer on both parking and EV charging to make sure that it's joined up.

Budget to end January 2021 received and noted

Project Officers' Report

This covered the London Road Temporary Closure Order, Stroud Town Council Parking survey, Real Time Passenger information boards at the station & bus station and Welcome Back Funding

Street closure on London Road due to end in March. Need for public awareness raising. Local businesses to respond to impact on trade of street closures.

Although not a formal discussion point of the meeting, concerns were raised about the proposed increase in parking charges in the District Council budget. Cllr Robin Layfield responded with a breakdown of the revenue implications, the 3% being less than the current rate of inflation and an outline of the partnership work that SDC is doing towards redeveloping the back of Brunel mall to permit access to the station car park and the Goods shed.

Clerk reminded group that only the Officer's report was subject to discussion in the group and that no actions could be agreed outside of noting the report.

Report on design work for the Subscription Rooms forecourt

Chris Woolner spoke about the Subscription Rooms forecourt development. He presented a design vision for the forecourt incorporating trees, benches, graduated steps and a rill to draw water away from the forecourt.

Leonie Lockwood suggested liaising between the subs forecourt design team and the Wallbridge team to establish a common design language for key sites in Stroud.

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Chris Woolner discussed the communications plan. They are using an online consultation platform called *Commonplace* for public consultation and will be promoting the consultation online, through the press and tv as well as informal anecdotal conversations on the street.

Progress report from SDC on Levelling Up Fund application

Leonie Lockwood (SDC) presented an update on Stroud's Levelling up bid. SDC are still awaiting for an announcement on Round 2. There has been a pre-announcement on the "Shared Prosperity Fund" which provides an opportunity for Capital and Revenue funding.

The Wallbridge Masterplan is in progress and there was a Stakeholder meeting on 16/2/2022. Gloucestershire County Council is working with Atkins on cycle routes at Wallbridge and on Brunel Mall development. Lansdown Hall work is progressing and SDC is looking at the Goods Shed.

SDC met with the Department of Transport, to explore submitting an Access for All bid to develop lifts at the station.

Consider a request from Stroud District Council for support for a waste storage area at Fawkes Place

There are real issues with fly tipping, waste and rats in Fawkes place which is immediately behind the Subscription Rooms.

SDC has put forward a proposal around building a lockable bin storage area with ongoing maintenance funded by neighbouring business users. STC does not feel that it has the capacity to manage a secure bin storage area but can hold keys if required.

The problems may be wider than commercial waste, with many neighbouring properties having nowhere to store refuse and persistent fly tipping on the site.

We were anecdotally informed that businesses may be open to contributing towards this. Commercial fly tipping is a big issue.

Helen Bojaniwska (Clerk) is going to reach out to other councils for advice. Robin Layfield suggested bringing in specific expertise to help to work up a solution to turn this space into an opportunity. It may be possible to bring this into the Levelling Up bid and Helen Bojaniwska will consult with Leonie Lockwood to see if there is anything that can be done.

Report on tourism support

Ally Rood presented a report on the Market Towns' Tourism Officer. £5k has been allocated towards a Tourism officer but the decision has been made to use this fund directly to promote tourism. Not all market towns in the district have committed to this fund.

Suggestions have revolved around articles promoting the market towns as well as a "place and experience" app to guide visitors around the district. The cost of developing an app across the district could be covered by the Welcome Back fund (£20k for the app).

There would be an ongoing annual hosting fee for the council of around £3k.

A decision was made around copywriting and spend of the initially allocated £5k with the Regeneration Committee voting unanimously to recommend that the money be allocated towards to copywriting.

In addition to the app, Tony Davey referred members to wonderful resources right under our noses in **VisitStroud.uk** and the **VisitStroud.uk/Discover** campaign.

The meeting concluded with a further discussion around parking issues, with a suggestion that GCC, SDC, STC and other stakeholders should work more closely together on exploring the options.

REPORT SUBMITTED BY	Cllr Robin Layfield
DATE	17/2/2022



STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Performance Monitoring Report Q3: Environment Committee

Date of Meeting			
Attendees	Members: Natalie Bennett & George James Officers: Brendan Cleere		
Performance Update (See report below/attached)			
Council Plan Priorities (see performance management system)	Summary:	Progress & RAG Status	
	Action Plans:	19 On Target	
	See detailed report below.	2 Not started	
	<i>Actions where no information has been provided will be highlighted</i>	0 Overdue	
		Total 21	
Council Plan Performance Indicators or Milestones (see performance management system where applicable)	Summary:	Progress & RAG Status	
	Milestones:	9 On Target	
		2 Completed	
		15 Not started	
	Performance Indicators:	2 Reported: 1 improved on last Qtr but below target 1 slightly down on last Qtr & below target	↑ ↓
		18 Not yet available	
	Total 46		
Reports being presented to this Committee associated with Council Plan:	EC1: 2030 Annual Report (2021/22) EC4.1: Walking and Cycling Task & Finish Group ER5.3: Standish Neighbourhood Development Plan: Progress to Referendum (16 June Committee)		
Risks	Corporate Risk Register presented to Audit & Standards Committee. <i>List any relevant Service specific risks.</i>		

Agenda Item 9c
Environment Committee Q3 Performance Monitoring Report 21/22

Relevant finance issues	See Q3 Budget monitoring report
Any other service issues considered at the meeting (eg staffing / resources)	
Follow up (any issues for consideration at the next meeting)	

Any issues of significant concern to be reported to Audit and Standards	
Any actions/recommendations for the Committee	
Report submitted by	
Date of report	

Please complete and return to the Democratic Services ASAP for circulation to the Committee




Environment Committee Q3 Performance Monitoring Report 21/22

Action Plans, Milestones & Indicators (67)

EC1: Tackle the Climate and Ecological Emergency: Achieve the commitments set for 2021-2024 of the Strategy to be a carbon neutral district by 2030

Code	Action Required / Description	Deadline	% Complete	Lead Officer	Status	Comments
EC1.1	Set up a 2030 Core Group to provide high level strategic overview on delivery, identify funding opportunities and develop communication and community engagement	31/03/2024	85	Rachel Brain	On Target	04/03/2022: Quarter 3: This quarter saw a recruitment campaign and third party panel shortlist 10 representatives to sit on the Community Engagement Board alongside members and youth council reps.
» EC1.1.1	Establish the Community Engagement Board with a cross-section of community members.	31/03/2022	100	Rachel Brain	Completed	04/03/2022: The first meeting of this board was held 01/03/2022
» EC1.1.2	Community Governance Group work plan identified and reviewed quarterly by Spring 2022	31/03/2022	10	Rachel Brain	On Target	04/03/2022: Task and Finish group appointing facilitator to achieve this
» EC1.1.3	Community Governance Group progress to plan included to 2030 annual reporting to Full Council in October	31/03/2022	50	Rachel Brain	On Target	04/03/2022: Note: 2030 Annual reporting is going to Envi Com. this year on 31st March.
» EC1.1.4	Participation in Climate Leadership Gloucestershire Group and leader / convenor of retrofit theme (C)	31/03/2024	100	Rachel Brain	Completed	04/03/2022: Brendan Cleere and Cllr Chloe Turner have taken their places on this group and SDC is retrofit theme lead.
» CDPEC1.1	% of CEG members who demonstrate participation in engagement with external stakeholders through participation in county / regional groups per year	N/A	N/A	Rachel Brain	Target: Actual:	

Environment Committee Q3 Performance Monitoring Report 21/22

EC1.2	Establish the performance management of the 2030 Strategy across the organisation to monitor and review progress towards the Strategy's aims and commitments	31/03/2022	85	Rachel Brain	On Target 	16/12/2021: Quarter 3: The key activities and measures associated with the 2030 Strategy have been integrated into the Council Plan primarily under the Environment and Climate Change priority. These will be reported to the relevant committees as part of the quarterly performance monitoring. Additional work is being carried out by the 2030 Team to establish ISO14000 across the whole organisation.
» EC1.2.1	Quarterly PM update reports on Council Plan to relevant Committee on progress for each activity / project	31/03/2022	70	Rachel Brain	On Target 	16/12/2021: The Performance Management Framework adopted by Committees in November 2021 sets out how the Council plans to monitor delivery of the Council Plan. Training has been provided for Members on the PMF. The Council Plan is currently being monitored through our PM system Excelsis. Officers will be given additional guidance on how to complete their quarterly monitoring in Excelsis.
EC1.5	Explore and progress additional projects for carbon reduction and /or biodiversity net gain and funding opportunities to deliver them.	31/03/2026	25	Rachel Brain	On Target 	04/03/2022: Quarter 3: There is a very proactive approach in the council to developing partnerships and leading on bids with relevant activity in most teams across the council. The formal systems for maintaining overview of pipeline and development in a pan-organisation way needs some refining to enable comprehensive pipeline reporting. In the meantime, headline areas of development include: - Partnership working through countywide coordination mechanisms to define projects and opportunities to take them forward. - Continued capacity building through Innovate to Renovate that will help us define future concepts and create the opportunities to realise them - Efforts to define the 2030 Community Engagement Board work-plan will also identify projects and opportunities - Partnership working to support community initiatives - Strategic partnership working such as work with SGS and OPE.


Environment Committee Q3 Performance Monitoring Report 21/22

» EC1.5.1	Money leveraged through successful funding bids and level of associated council investment approved by Councillors £s (ongoing 2026)	31/03/2025	0	Rachel Brain	Not Started		
» CDPEC1.5 (C)	Number of external projects SDC has worked on with partners for carbon reduction (C)	N/A	N/A	Jenny Youngs	Target: Actual:		
» CDPEC1.5a	Money leveraged through successful funding bids and level of associated council investment approved by Councillors (ongoing 2026)	N/A	N/A	Rachel Brain	Target: Actual:		
» CDPEC1.5b	Number of additional projects established or supported with an estimate given of bio-diversity net gain and / or carbon savings that will be achieved.	N/A	N/A	Jenny Youngs	Target: Actual:		


EC2: Biodiversity: Work with local communities and partners to protect and enhance the district's green infrastructure and biodiversity providing accessible environments that people can enjoy and which positively contribute to their good health and well-being

Code	Action Required / Description	Deadline	% Complete	Lead Officer	Status	Comments
EC2.1	Develop a district Local Nature Recovery Strategy (2030 commitment NE7) and seek opportunities for re-wilding to boost biodiversity in partnership with landowners, businesses, the farming community, parish and town councils and local environmental organisations.	31/03/2024	20	Conrad Moore	On Target	17/03/2022: Quarter 3: As detailed in milestones below.




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» EC2.1.1	District document developed, aligned with Gloucestershire Nature Recovery Strategy	31/03/2023	10	Conrad Moore	On Target 	10/03/2022: Discussions have taken place in the County regarding a Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS). Ahead of formal appointments of responsible authorities by the Secretary of State for the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), they have confirmed under the terms of the Environment Act 2021 that Gloucestershire County Council is considered the provisional responsible authority for the LNRS for Gloucestershire. The Local Nature Partnership (LNP) and wider partners will be instrumental in confirming the contents of the LNRS and owning it. The LNRS will probably need to be adopted formally by GCC before going live. SDC still await the legal regulations and guidance from the govt. however.
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


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» EC2.1.2	Progress on recreation and mitigation strategy works for the Severn Estuary, Rodborough Common and Cotswold Beechwoods	31/03/2024	30	Conrad Moore	On Target	 <p>10/03/2022: A member information sheet on mitigation strategy progress was produced and circulated on 09.12.21. Footprint Ecology working with other Councils in Gloucestershire are at final stages of drafting a Cotswold Beechwoods Mitigation Strategy, in accordance with Habitats Regulations Assessment recommendations accompanying the Local Plan. It is proposed that SDC seek to adopt this strategy in Summer 2022. In respect of Rodborough Common a new visitor survey was completed in 2019 which identified visitors are on site for a relatively short time, but they visit frequently and live very locally to the site. The data would suggest an average visitor makes 180 visits to the site per year, visiting for 60 minutes and lives within 3.9 km (75% of all interviewees, across all visitor types), most of whom are dog walking. This work is now being used to inform and draft a new mitigation strategy where adverse effects arising can be mitigated. It is proposed that SDC seek to adopt this strategy in Summer 2022. In respect of the Severn Estuary it straddles many administrative areas from local to national. With this in mind Stroud District is now working in partnership with Natural England, County Council and other relevant Local Planning Authorities to develop a wider strategic partnership approach. The Council has commissioned Footprint Ecology to carry out visitor surveys and from Summer 2022 develop a mitigation strategy for the Severn Estuary in Gloucestershire. The mitigation strategy should come for formal adoption at Environment Committee Spring 2023 and new governance and partnership arrangements will need to be put in place.</p>
» CDPEC2.1(C)	Hectarage of re-wilded land	N/A	N/A	Conrad Moore	Target: Actual:	



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» CDPEC2.1a	Number of re-wilding and bio-diversity partnerships and projects supported.	N/A	N/A	Conrad Moore	Target: Actual:	
» CDPEC2.1b	Estimate of bio-diversity net gain and/or carbon saving that will be achieved through strategy implementation.	N/A	N/A	Conrad Moore	Target: Actual:	
EC2.2	Deliver the natural flood management project (Stroud Rural SUDS) for the Frome Valley in Stroud in partnership with the Environment Agency, working closely with landowners and communities using innovative flood management techniques.	31/03/2026		Maria Hickman	Not Started 	
» CDPEC2.2a	Number of interventions installed as part of the natural flood management project	N/A	N/A	Maria Hickman	Target: Actual:	
» CDPEC2.2b	Number of landowners engaged with the natural flood management project	N/A	N/A	Maria Hickman	Target: Actual:	
EC2.3	Develop and establish an action plan to Increase our tree canopy, woodland and forestry in line with the Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership Tree Strategy ambition for 20% canopy cover across the County by 2030.	31/03/2023	10	Conrad Moore	On Target 	17/03/2022: Quarter 3: Worked with delivery partner's 'Stroud Valley Project' to plant over 5,000 trees on SDC land 'Salmon Spring', including the creation of a Tiny Forest which aims to create a thriving ecosystem in quick time. The trees that have been planted have been selected for their suitability to that land and adaptive to long-term climate changes. Community volunteers and local businesses have given many hours to planting and maintaining the land to ensure the woodland has a great start
» EC2.3.1	Increase canopy cover in Stroud District, towards the target of 20% county wide coverage by 2030 (interim targets for Stroud District will be identified)	31/12/2021	0	Conrad Moore	Not Started 	

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EC2.4	Work with partners to protect and enhance green spaces in residential neighbourhoods and town centres, promote 'No Mow May' and adopt best practice for road verges to encourage wildflowers and reduce pesticide use.	31/03/2023	5	Mike Hammond	On Target		03/03/2022: Quarter 4: Community services are due to meet with Gloucestershire CC (GCC) in the near future(weeks) to discuss the verge cutting that SDC undertake on behalf of GCC. This is likely to lead further discussion on implementing wild flower areas across the district.
» EC2.4.1	Development of a green spaces policy / strategy and implementation of action plan, conforming with the draft new Local Plan policies and thresholds on green infrastructure.	31/03/2023	0	Mike Hammond	Not Started		
EC2.5	Use the Building with Nature standards for key regeneration sites across the district	31/03/2026	60	Mark Russell	On Target		03/03/2022: Quarter 3: The output specification for Brimscombe Port includes using the Building with Nature Standards. The Draft Local Plan requires the standard for the proposed new settlements and strongly recommends it for other strategic sites.
» CDPEC2.5	% of strategic sites in the Local Plan that incorporate the Building with Nature standards	N/A	N/A	Mark Russell	Target: Actual:		

EC3: Sustainable Construction and Retrofit: Work with partners to retrofit our council housing stock and other public sector buildings, and investing in the skills and capacity in the local economy so all buildings across the district can become energy efficient

Code	Action Required / Description	Deadline	% Complete	Lead Officer	Status	Comments	
EC3.5	Develop planning policies and developer guidance to enable all new buildings to achieve a net zero carbon standard.	31/03/2023	60	Mark Russell	On Target		03/03/2022: Quarter 3: The Draft Local Plan, containing net zero sustainable construction standards, was approved by Council in April 2021 and was formally submitted for examination in October 2021.
» EC3.5.1	Develop Policy and guidance by 2023	31/03/2023	30	Mark Russell	On Target		04/03/2022: Planning policies have been drafted and are included within the Draft Local Plan, submitted to Government in October 2021. The public examination is likely to continue through 2022 until early 2023. Guidance will be produced once the policies have been approved.





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» CDPEC3.5	Number of new dwellings that have achieved a net zero carbon standard by 2026	N/A	N/A	Mark Russell	Target: Actual:	
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EC4: Mobility / Transport: Support development of an integrated active travel (walking and cycling) and public transport network and the development of electric charging infrastructure working with county and regional partners.

Code	Action Required / Description	Deadline	% Complete	Lead Officer	Status	Comments
EC4.1	Work with GCC and through the new Cycling & Walking Strategy Task & Finish Group to develop and implement three Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP) for Stroud; Cam, Dursley and Uley; Wotton-under-Edge and Kingswood, support safe cycling, and identify and prioritise the main strategic cycling routes within the district.	31/03/2023	30	Simon Maher	On Target	15/03/2022: Quarter 3: Concluded meetings of the Walking and Cycling Task and Finish Group. Provided input to GCC for Cam and Dursley LCWIP consultation.
» EC4.1.1	T&F group to recommend a prioritisation methodology to allocate funding for cycling and walking projects by March 2022	31/03/2022	0	Simon Maher	Not Started	
» EC4.1.2	Allocate funding to deliver improved and new priority strategic and local walking and cycling schemes by March 2023	31/03/2023	0	Simon Maher	Not Started	
» EC4.1.3	Provide input to GCC to aid the production of LCWIPs (C)	31/03/2023	0	Simon Maher	Not Started	
» EC4.1.4	Prioritise main strategic walking and cycling routes within the district, including accessibility (C)	31/03/2023	0	Simon Maher	Not Started	
» EC4.1.5	Identify local cycling and walking routes which link to, or will help to deliver strategic routes (C)	31/03/2023	0	Simon Maher	Not Started	



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EC4.2	In partnership with the County Council, encourage the expansion and improvement of public transport and links to walking and cycling routes – to include bus services and railway stations and services, and bids for new facilities that benefit residents of the District.	31/03/2026	10	Conrad Moore	On Target		17/03/2022: Quarter 3: The Council have commissioned LP evidence working with County and consultants on a Sustainable Transport Strategy. This describes methods to mitigate car use and promote alternatives modes of travel to the private car. This includes public transport and active travel (walking and cycling). Furthermore the Council is working with consultants to achieve a Restoring Your Railway bid for Stonehouse station re-opening.
» EC4.2.1	Publicity/information campaign promoting the use of public transport and links to active travel across the district	31/03/2023	0	Conrad Moore	Not Started		
» EC4.2.2	Submission of strategic outline business case to Department for Transport for the reopening of Stonehouse Bristol Road station by September 2022	30/09/2022	20	Conrad Moore	On Target		10/03/2022: Stantec were appointed as consultants to assist the formulation and drafting of the strategic outline business case at the beginning of the year. A Project Board to prepare the SOBC had a meeting on 16.02.22 which discussed membership and governance aspects. A programme of project board meetings has been developed which links to the methodology for developing the case for change. In addition potential project risks were discussed. A steering group was set up to support the bid. The Steering Group meeting took place on 01.03.22 which set out the project background, governance and the future work programme aspects. As part of this meeting a workshop was held to explore what are the issues that the project needs to address.
» EC4.2.3	Development of a prioritised programme of investment in walking and cycling projects by March 2022	31/03/2022	0	Simon Maher	Not Started		
» CDPEC4.2a (C)	5% Increase in public transport links to walking and cycling routes year on year	N/A	N/A	Conrad Moore	Target: Actual:		







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» CDPEC4.2b (C)	Number of new or improved facilities such as cycle lanes, cycle tracks, walking trails	N/A	N/A	Conrad Moore	Target: Actual:	
EC4.3	Working with partners, expand the network of Electric Vehicle charging points and increase support for low carbon transport, and a reduction in private car use and explore measures to reduce air pollution such as no-idling zones.	31/03/2023	2	Mike Towson	On Target 	03/03/2022: Quarter 4: Meetings with SW Energy Hub and various stakeholders have taken place with a view to engaging consultants to review EV charging need and feasibility across the car park estate. SW Energy Hub may consider funding this work and an application has been entered for assessment.
» EC4.3.1	Low Carbon Transport Strategy with agreed targets in place • Quarterly reporting to targets in the Low Carbon Transport Strategy	31/03/2023	0	Mike Towson	Not Started 	
» CDPEC4.3	Number of EV charge points installed in SDC car parks, work with town and parish councils	N/A	N/A	Mike Towson	Target: Actual:	

EC5: Circular economy: Develop the foundations of a sustainable circular economy for the district by minimizing consumption, reducing the quantity of resources sent to incineration and applying the waste hierarchy; prevent, reduce, reuse, recycle, recover and as a last resort, disposal.

Code	Action Required / Description	Deadline	% Complete	Lead Officer	Status	Comments
EC5.1	Further reduce the quantity of resources discarded as waste and minimise its environmental impact.	31/03/2023	5	Mike Towson	On Target 	03/03/2022: Quarter 4: Countywide communications plan in place, focusing on various related topics. SDC to highlight recycling contamination levels via a dedicated engagement programme.
» CDPEC5.1, NI191	% total household waste not sent for recycling, reuse or composting	N/A	N/A	Gemma Webb	Target: 63 Actual: 75.6 	The number of kgs per household remains increased compared to previous years, due to the number of residents working from home. This has prompted an increase of waste into the residual stream that would normally be disposed of via commercial collections.

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EC5.2	Work with our partner Ubico to identify joint opportunities for carbon reduction projects in household collection and management of public spaces.	31/03/2025	1	Mike Towson	On Target		03/03/2022: Quarter 4: As previous.
» CDPEC5.2	Number of carbon reduction projects scoped with Ubico, including analysis of potential carbon saving	N/A	N/A	Mike Towson	Target: Actual:		
EC5.3	Support the phasing out of single use plastics in the district and encourage and support local initiatives to 'reduce, repair and recycle'.	31/03/2023	5	Mike Towson	On Target		03/03/2022: Quarter 4: Current countywide communications campaign focuses on reuse and SDC will be sharing online content and promoting social media posts. SDC assets recorded on central database. The MST are supporting it using a dedicated email signature strapline.
» EC5.3.1	Local initiatives identified and promoted to reduce, reuse and recycle	31/03/2023	0	Mike Towson	Not Started		
» CDPEC5.3	Reduction in the percentage of plastic as a part of the overall composition of dry mixed recycling, against a 2020/21 baseline.	N/A	N/A	Mike Towson	Target: Actual:		
EC5.4	Continue to increase recycling rates across the district.	31/03/2023	5	Mike Towson	On Target		03/03/2022: Quarter 4: Working towards accepting an additional material at the kerbside. This will be housed in vehicle cages, which are being specified for the next round of capital fleet expenditure. Note* scheme change is the only recognised way to radically increase recycling rates. Rates tend to plateau and decline after scheme change and that is the current stage of the cycle.
» EC5.4.1	Introduction of an additional material at the kerbside	31/03/2023	0	Mike Towson	Not Started		
» CDPEC5.4, NI192	Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting	N/A	N/A	Gemma Webb	Target: 60 Actual: 59.03		

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


EC6: Renewable energy: Increase the proportion of energy generated by renewable sources in the district and work on decarbonizing existing networks.

Code	Action Required / Description	Deadline	% Complete	Lead Officer	Status	Comments
EC6.1	Continue to increase renewable generation in the district and to decarbonise existing networks, and support community-owned renewable energy schemes	31/03/2026	10	Rachel Brain	On Target	04/03/2022: Quarter 3: SDC have been exploring the potential to transfer innovations such as Solar Together into the District with our countywide partners.
» CDPEC6.1	Number of community owned or other renewable energy schemes supported by the council and the reported carbon saved/avoided.	N/A	N/A	Rachel Brain	Target: Actual:	
EC6.3	Increase the proportion of Council and partner fleet vehicles powered by zero or low carbon technologies.	31/03/2026		Joe Gordon	Not Started	
» CDPEC6.3	% increase of fleet vehicles powered by zero or low carbon tech	N/A	N/A	Joe Gordon	Target: Actual:	

ER5: Strategic Plan: Adopt the new Stroud District Local Plan

Code	Action Required / Description	Deadline	% Complete	Lead Officer	Status	Comments
ER5.1	Progress the Local Plan through public examination and secure its adoption.	31/03/2022	60	Mark Russell	On Target	03/03/2022: Quarter 3: The Draft Local Plan was approved by Council in April 2021 and was formally submitted for examination in October 2021. The Inspector has asked the Council to do some additional work before a timetable is published, expected April 2022.
» ER5.1.1	Local Plan recommended for adoption by Government Inspector	31/03/2022	20	Mark Russell	On Target	04/03/2022: The draft Local Plan is progressing through public examination
» ER5.1.2	Local Plan adopted within 3 months of receiving the Inspector's Report	31/03/2022	0	Mark Russell	Not Started	

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ER5.2	Support the delivery of strategic site allocations contained within the local plan and the key infrastructure required to support it.	31/03/2026	60	Mark Russell	On Target		03/03/2022: Quarter 3: As part of the Local Plan public examination process, the Council is working with site promoters and with stakeholders to resolve outstanding issues. The Council is also responding to formal scoping and pre-application requests through the development management process. A small number of planning applications on strategic sites have been submitted and are being considered.
» ER5.2.1	Number of houses built and hectareage of employment land developed annually compared with Local Plan requirements	31/03/2026	50	Mark Russell	On Target		04/03/2022: The number of homes and employment land delivered annually are set out in the Housing and Employment Land Availability Reports, commencing in April of each year, and published during the summer/autumn. The latest Housing Land Availability Report for 2020/21 was published in September 2021. Due to prioritising the Draft Local Plan for publication, the Employment Land Availability Report for 2020/21 has been delayed but will be published shortly.
ER5.3	Work with parish councils to develop Neighbourhood Development Plans and Orders to meet local development needs.	31/03/2026	30	Simon Maher	On Target		15/03/2022: Quarter 3: Working with Standish on later stages of NDP. Providing support to Brimscombe and Thrupp on early stages of NDP. Providing advice and support to Nibley who are exploring a potential NDP.
» ER5.3.1	Number of Neighbourhood Development Plans and Orders progressed or reviewed	31/03/2026	0	Simon Maher	Not Started		

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