



Public Document Pack STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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12 April 2023

STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Strategy and Resources Committee will be held on **THURSDAY, 20 APRIL 2023** 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. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
To receive declarations of interest.
3. **MINUTES (Pages 3 - 12)**
To approve the Minutes of the meetings held on 2 February 2023.
4. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**
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, 14 April 2023

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

6. **PROCUREMENT STRATEGY REVIEW (Pages 13 - 16)**
To propose a review to update the Council's Procurement Strategy in line with the LGA's National Procurement Strategy for Local Government published in August 2022.
7. **BUDGET MONITORING REPORT Q3 2022/23 (Pages 17 - 32)**
To present to the Committee a forecast of the outturn position against the General Fund revenue budget, Housing Revenue Account and capital programme for 2022/23, in order to give an expectation of possible variances against budget.
8. **KINGSHILL HOUSE (Pages 33 - 36)**
To update Committee on the Community Asset Transfer of Kingshill House, Dursley and seek approval to enter negotiations to consider potential terms for a new lease.
9. **STROUD CEMETERY CHAPEL (Pages 37 - 42)**
To consider options for the future use of Stroud Cemetery Chapel.
10. **MEMBER / OFFICER REPORTS (TO NOTE)**
 - (a) Performance Management (Pages 43 - 62)
 - (b) Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee (GEGJC) - 9 February and 15 March 2023 (Pages 63 - 70)
 - (c) Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee (GEGSC) (To Follow)
 - (d) Canal Update (To Follow)
 - (e) Fit For the Future Update (Pages 71 - 72)
 - (f) Regeneration and Investment Board (Pages 73 - 74)
 - (g) Leadership Gloucestershire (Pages 75 - 76)
11. **WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 77 - 78)**
To consider the work programme.

Members of Strategy and Resources Committee

Councillor Catherine Braun (Chair)

Councillor Chris Brine
Councillor Doina Cornell
Councillor Gordon Craig
Councillor Stephen Davies
Councillor Laurie Davies
Councillor Lindsey Green

Councillor Natalie Bennett (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Nicholas Housden
Councillor Martin Percy
Councillor Keith Pearson
Councillor Mattie Ross
Councillor Ken Tucker
Councillor Chloe Turner



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STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Thursday, 2 February 2023

7.00 - 9.31 pm

Council Chamber

Minutes

Membership

Councillor Catherine Braun (Chair)

Councillor Chris Brine

Councillor Doina Cornell

Councillor Gordon Craig

Councillor Stephen Davies

Councillor Laurie Davies

* Councillor Nicholas Housden

*Absent

Councillor Natalie Bennett (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Nick Hurst

Councillor Martin Percy

Councillor Keith Pearson

Councillor Mattie Ross

Councillor Ken Tucker

Councillor Chloe Turner

Officers in Attendance

Chief Executive

Strategic Director of Resources

Corporate Director (Monitoring Officer)

Principal Accountant

Senior Democratic Services & Elections Officer

Accountancy Manager

Senior Community Infrastructure Officer

Revenue & Benefits Manager

Human Resources Manager

SRC.131 Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Housden.

With agreement from the Committee, the Chair advised that the Community Infrastructure Levy would be moved to the beginning of the meeting following Agenda Item 5.

Councillor Davies asked whether anything on the agenda could have been considered at an earlier or later meeting due to the length of the agenda. The Chair and Chief Executive confirmed that as the items related to the budget they needed to be discussed at this meeting.

The Strategic Director of Resources advised that Agenda Item 13, Council Tax Premium – Second Homes, had been withdrawn from the agenda as the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill was unlikely to receive Royal Assent before the 31st March 2023.

SRC.132 **Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

SRC.133 **Minutes**

RESOLVED **That the Minutes of the meetings held on 24 November 2022 were approved as a correct record.**

SRC.134 **Public Questions**

There were none.

SRC.135 **Member Questions**

There were none.

SRC.136 **Strategy and Resources Budget Monitoring Report Q2 2022/23**

The Accountancy Manager drew Members attention to the following sections of the report:

- Table 1 on page 16 showed that the general fund was expected to have an overspend of £319k.
- Key areas of variance were set out in the report, they looked at ways to include these in the budget which would be highlighted in the budget setting report.
- Table 3 on page 19 gave a summary of the Strategy and Resources Committee budget areas which showed a current variance of £138k underspend.
- The HRA was expected to have an overspend of £559k.
- The Capital Programme was highlighted on page 23 in the summary table. Within the General Fund there was an area of expected slippage for the multi service contract vehicles and an area of additional in year spend for the Brimscombe Port Development.

In response to Councillor Davies, the Accountancy Manager confirmed that she would respond outside the meeting regarding whether it was a record low overspend on the ICT budget and whether any electric vehicle chargers had been installed. Councillor Turner confirmed that the Electric Vehicle Strategy was expected to be discussed at Environment Committee in March 2023 and that electric vehicle chargers hadn't yet been installed. They had been waiting for the strategy to be in place and to have clearance from the County Council and their supplier to have access to their strategy.

Councillor Hurst questioned whether the move to hybrid working would allow more areas within Ebley Mill to be rented out. The Strategic Director of Resources confirmed that they were looking to condense working space to the Long Block at Ebley Mill so additional opportunities to rent areas within Bodley Block could emerge.

In response to a further question from Councillor Hurst, the Accountancy Manager confirmed that the business case for the in-house service and maintenance was produced a number of years ago, prior to Covid-19 and the current period of high inflation. Due to this, a number of the assumptions had changed but they would be continuing to review this.

Proposed by Councillor Bennett and seconded by Councillor Percy.

2022/23

Councillor Percy thanked the finance team for the comprehensive report. Councillor Bennett echoed Councillor Percy's comments.

Councillor Tucker left the meeting and gave his apologies.

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

- RESOLVED**
- a) To note the outturn forecast for the General Fund Revenue budget.
 - b) To note the outturn forecast for the Housing Revenue Account
 - c) To note the outturn forecast for the Capital Programme.

SRC.137 General Fund Budget 2023/24, Capital Programme and Medium-Term Financial Plan

The Strategic Director of Resources introduced the report and highlighted the following key areas:

- Paragraph 2.1 included the main highlights of the local government financial settlement and the finance policy paper issued in December 2022. The settlement received was slightly better than expected.
- The report proposed a 2.99% increase in Council Tax.
- The Council Tax Base had been recalculated using 98.5% collection.
- Appendix A had been adjusted following the withdrawal of Agenda Item 13, Council Tax Premium – Second Homes.
- On average across Stroud District the rateable value of businesses had increased by 21.9% meaning that many businesses would see increases. The government had introduced a transitional scheme which meant the increase would be phased over a number of years.
- The increase in business rates would not bring additional income to the Council as they would be required to pay a higher tariff to Central Government.
- The New Homes Bonus was expected to continue to decrease.
- Other non-ringfenced grants were set out in the report and it was confirmed that the Council would receive an element of Revenue Support Grant again.
- The council were still expecting a fundamental review of Local Government finance and a reset of business rates growth, this would lead to an expected decrease in funding received.
- Inflation was high and therefore adjustments were being made to the amounts for the government pay award and contracts.
- Additional budget allocations were set out in the report and Appendix B, these included:
 - An additional £250k for walking and cycling schemes as requested at Environment Committee.
 - Additional support for the Regeneration and CN2030 Teams.
 - Additional support for the Climate Leadership Gloucestershire.
 - A Damp and Mould officer to look at issues in private sector housing.
 - Proposal for replacing heating systems at the leisure centre and Museum in the Park. A full report would be taken to Council including a business case.
 - Reserves had been highlighted in Section 4 of the report.
 - The Statement of the Chief Financial Officer had been included in Section 6.

Councillor Davies asked whether there had been any feedback given to Members on the consultation with residents and businesses. The Strategic Director of Resources confirmed

that the information had been provided during a Members Briefing and published on the Members Hub. The Council had not carried out a separate consultation regarding the budget as this was included as part of the annual residents and business survey.

In response to further questions from Councillor Davies, the Strategic Director of Resources confirmed that he would send a copy of the financial implications included in the previous Political Balance Report which laid out the changes to the political structure and number of Group Leaders. It was also confirmed that the planning application fees were set by statute and could not be altered by the Council.

The Strategic Director of Resources confirmed, in response to Councillor Hurst, that section 2.11 should refer to Band 'D' properties and that the last sentence in 4.2 should have advised the increase was to mitigate the risk created by the funding reductions which were anticipated in the later years of the Medium Term Financial Plan.

Councillor Craig asked whether competitive quotes for the Ubico contract were sought. The Strategic Director of Resources advised that as they were a shareholder they did not seek competitive quotes but would carry out a value for money check when the contract was due for renewal.

Proposed by Councillor Braun and seconded by Councillor Turner.

Councillor Turner referenced other Councils who were having to make tough decisions regarding their finances and thanked Officers for the careful financial management at the Council that allowed them to invest in the Councils priorities and maintain Council Tax Support for residents.

Councillor Davies asked the Committee to acknowledge the good settlement they had received from Central Government and was happy to see that car parking charges had been frozen. He advised that Members of the Conservative Group would be abstaining as they had not yet discussed the contents of the budget at their group meeting.

Councillor Hurst welcomed the report to council regarding the proposed heating system at the leisure centre and Museum and asked whether there was an opportunity to look at the insulating qualities of the building.

Councillor Cornell was pleased to see the additional investment into play areas and Kingshill House.

The Chair, Councillor Braun, advised that it was a challenging time due to inflationary pressures on the Council and that although they were not facing some of the cuts like other Local Authorities they would need to be careful because of the threats to their longer term funding.

On being put to the vote, the Motion was passed with 8 votes in favour, 0 against and 4 abstentions.

- RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL**
- a) To approve the updated Medium-Term Financial Plan as set out in Appendices A-D
 - b) To increase the council tax by 2.99% to £229.17 at Band D, an increase of less than 13p per week for the services provided by Stroud District Council;
 - c) To note the uncertainty around the impact of changes to

- future local government funding
- d) To approve the Capital Programme, as set out in Appendix E
 - e) To approve the planned changes to the reserves as set out in Section 4 of the report and Appendix F
 - f) To approve the fees and charges policy and list of Council fees and charges as set out in Appendices G and H

SRC.138 Housing Revenue Account Budget Estimates – Revised 2022/23 and Original 2023/24 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2022/23 – 2026/27

The Accountancy Manager introduced the report and advised that the position had worsened since the previous year. She highlighted the following key areas:

- Rent increases had been limited by Central Government to 7% which was lower than the normal amount which would have been 11.1%.
- This lower increase would have an impact of how we could support the maintenance and tenancy management of the properties.
- New tenancies were not limited to 7% and it was recommended that these were increased by 11.1%.
- Proposed that Shared Ownership Rents were increased by 7% instead of 13.1%
- There were five Independent Living schemes that had district heating systems, a cap had been introduced to protect tenants from the increase in costs in the short term. Changes in gas prices would be reviewed during the year, and if necessary, a revised charge would be applied in year.
- Exceptionally high increase in costs in repairs and maintenance due to the cost of labour and materials.
- The New Build and Development programme budget had been realigned, this would result in an increase in the budget and an effect on the viability of some schemes.
- Proposed increase to the acquisitions budget in line with the local authority housing fund.
- Increases in charges for tenants were unavoidable due to the increase in cost of providing services.
- Section 11 highlighted the MTFP position for the HRA, which showed a negative forecast for future years.

In response to Councillor Pearson regarding the Capital Programme and the New Build and Regeneration Programme, the Accountancy Manager confirmed that there had been some slippage from 2022/23 however there was a good chance that the schemes would be delivered next year. She advised that she could get more detail if Members required.

The Accountancy Manager confirmed in response to Councillor Hurst that she could provide a further breakdown on the works related to Radon which were included in the overall repairs and maintenance budget.

Proposed by Councillor Ross and seconded by Councillor Cornell.

Councillor Davies thanked the Accountancy Manager for their hard work and stated that he was glad they were making difficult decisions in terms of increasing rent by 7%.

Councillor Ross offered her thanks to the finance team and budget holders for putting the report together. She endorsed the difficult decision that had been made and drew Members attention to the difficult decisions which would have to be made in the future.

On being put to the vote, the Motion was carried unanimously.

- RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL**
- a) The revised HRA revenue budget for 2022/23 and original budget 2023/24 are approved
 - b) The movement to and from HRA balances and capital reserves as detailed in Appendix B and section 9 are approved
 - c) That from 1 April 2023:
 - i. Social rents and affordable rents are increased by 7%, in line with national rent guidance
 - ii. Garage rents are increased by 7%
 - iii. Landlord service charges are increased by 7%, except Independent Living Scheme charges and district heating charges which are increased as set out in Appendix B
 - iv. Shared ownership rents are increased by 7%
 - d) That the HRA Capital Programme for 2022/23 to 2026/27, as detailed in Appendix C, be included in the Council's Capital Programme.

The meeting adjourned at 8.47pm and resumed at 8:58pm.

SRC.139 Stroud District Council Capital Strategy

The Principal Accountant introduced the report and drew Members attention to the following key points:

- This was the 5th annual update of the Strategy.
- CIPFA had changed the Prudential Code in 2021 and the strategy had been updated and agreed by Council in February 2022.
- There were no significant recommended changes to the strategy.

Councillor Percy asked whether Environmental, social and governance (ESG) needed to be included in the Capital Strategy. The Principal Accountant advised that it had to be included in the Treasury Strategy. Councillor Percy advised that he would check the recording of the training to confirm this.

Proposed by Councillor Turner and seconded by Councillor Cornell.

On being put to the vote, the Motion was carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL **To approve the Capital Strategy at Appendix A.**

SRC.140 The Fair Pay and Senior Pay Policy Statement 2022/23

The Head of Human Resources (HR) presented the report and explained that the Council were required under section 38 of the Localism Act 2011 to approve and publish a policy statement on Senior Pay for each financial year. The following points, that the statement must address, were also highlighted:

- The Council's policy on remuneration of its chief officers for the financial year.
- A definition of its lowest paid employees and their remuneration.
- Make clear the relationship of the higher and lowest paid group of employees.

2022/23

Councillor Cornell asked whether there was only one apprentice as the report stated there was only one person on the apprentice grade. In response to this the Head of HR stated that there was only one person on this grade because once the apprentices progress through their qualification they move onto Stroud 1 or Stroud 2.

Proposed by Councillor Turner and seconded by Councillor Pearson.

Councillor Pearson commented that it was good to see that the Council maintained a much lower ratio between the lowest grade and the top grade compared to other Councils.

Councillor Braun also stated that it was pleasing to see that there was a smaller ratio between the pay grades.

Councillor Turner added that she was always grateful for the transparency of this report and echoed the comments made regarding the ratio. She also said she was pleased to see that the Council had brought forward the living wage uplift to December rather than waiting for April for the lower income staff as it would have made a difference for them.

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

**RECOMMENDED That this statement is approved.
TO COUNCIL**

SRC.141 Council Tax Support Scheme

The Revenue and Benefits Manager introduced the report and advised that they were not recommending any change or reduction in the support that the council currently provided. The current scheme allowed them to provide up to 100% support to help protect the most vulnerable residents. At present it was not felt appropriate to reduce the levels of support however they would look at other options in future years.

Proposed by Councillor Bennett and Seconded by Councillor Cornell.

Councillor Cornell, Davies, Percy and Bennett offered their support for the scheme.

On being put to the vote, the Motion was carried unanimously.

**RECOMMENDED That it adopts the scheme for 2023/24.
TO COUNCIL**

SRC.142 Council Tax Support Fund

The Revenue and Benefits Manager advised that the government had announced £100m additional funding for councils to support vulnerable households, the allocation for Stroud District Council was £148,746 for the 2023/24 financial year. The additional award would be for working and pension age claimants, they would make automatic awards to those who were eligible. As the fund and the software to issue the funds was new he requested that the Committee approve the delegation to the Strategic Director of Resources to make minor changes to the scheme.

In response to questions from Councillor Hurst and Cornell the Revenue and Benefits Manager confirmed that this fund would only be for those who are already in receipt of Council Tax support and that it could be used to further top up their support. They would review the scheme later in the year to ensure they were utilising all of the fund received.

Proposed by Councillor Bennett and seconded by Councillor Cornell.

Councillor Cornell was pleased that the decision allowed flexibility so that the team could revisit the scheme later in the year.

Councillor Davies noted the generosity of Central Government and recognised the hard work of the Revenues and Benefits Team in distributing the funds.

Councillor Bennett thanked the Revenue and Benefits Manager and stated that she would be interested to see the results of the scheme.

On being put to the vote, the Motion was carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL a) **That it adopts and implements the scheme for 2023/24**
b) **Delegates to the Strategic Director of Resources the ability to make minor changes to the scheme to ensure funding is used effectively.**

SRC.143 Council Tax Premium - Second Homes

As advised by the Chair and Strategic Director of Resources at the beginning of this meeting, the item was withdrawn.

SRC.144 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) - Spending Allocations For 2023/2024

The Senior Community Infrastructure Officer advised that the results of allocations made during previous years could be found in Appendix C. She confirmed that there was just over £1m which could be allocated during this financial year however they were recommending that some was rolled over to be allocated in following years. Following the close of the bids in September 2022, Members were invited to attend a members briefing to discuss the project bids which had been received, copies of the bids were also posted on the Members Hub. Officers assessed the bids according to their ability to support the delivery of priority planning objectives, the recommended projects had been included in Appendix A and included the following:

- Berkeley Town Improvement Project
- Dudbridge to Ryeford Cycle Trail Surface Improvement
- SGS Stroud College 14-16 Create Centre (toilet provision)
- Wotton Community Sports Foundation – The New Barn

Councillor Davies asked whether they were spending CIL fast enough and whether enough projects were coming forward. The Senior Community Infrastructure Officer confirmed that they worked closely with all of the strategic infrastructure provider organisations and that there was a thorough awareness across the organisations of CIL. However due to the sizes of the capital projects involved many of the projects had long lead in times. She advised Members that many capital projects had been included in Appendix B which may require CIL allocations in future years.

Councillor Davies asked for further information regarding paragraph 2.9 in relation to conversations had with Gloucestershire County Council (GCC). The Senior Community Infrastructure Officer confirmed that positive discussions had been held with GCC and they were taking steps forward to develop project bids. The Chief Executive advised that they had reminded GCC of the protocol in place that highlighted the collaboration needed and have suggested a further meeting to help the County understand how CIL works. The Chief Executive affirmed that they were responding to GCC in a constructive and positive way.

In response to questions from Councillor Hurst the Chief Executive advised that CIL was set to transform into the National Infrastructure Levy however this had not yet passed through parliament. They therefore would not be able to confirm how many further rounds of CIL there would be but expected some transitional arrangements to be put in place.

Councillor Craig asked questions regarding the reduction in the allocation offered to Stroud College. The Senior Community Infrastructure Officer advised that CIL was allocated to address additional pressure due to housing growth and as they were unable to base the need for the whole project on housing growth they contacted Stroud College to see whether a partial allocation would still be meaningful. The College agreed that a partial funding offer would help to attract further investment which had now started to come forward.

Proposed by Councillor Turner and seconded by Councillor Brine.

Councillor Davies thanked Officers for all of the work that had been carried out as CIL was hugely important to committees.

Councillor Ross offered thanks to the Senior Community Infrastructure Officer and reflected on the funding which had been allocated in previous years.

The Chair, Councillor Braun, confirmed that she had attended a meeting of Wotton Town Council Planning Committee regarding the New Barns planning application and stated that there had been enthusiasm from the whole community for the project.

Councillor Turner stated that there was a large range of high quality projects proposed for funding in this round and echoed the Committees thanks to Officers.

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

RESOLVED

- a) **To note the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding recommendations made by Environment Committee; and**
- b) **agree to the individual project funding allocations according to the report below.**

SRC.145 Member / Officer Reports (To Note)

a) Leadership Gloucestershire Update

The report had been included in the reports pack.

Councillor Cornell informed the Committee that she would be reporting back to Committee or Council regarding the Strategic Migration Partnership.

The Chief Executive advised that there would be a report to Council regarding an extension to the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee.

b) Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee (GEGSC)

The report had been circulated to Members and published on the website prior to the meeting, there were no questions.

c) Regeneration and Investment Board

The report had been included in the reports pack, there were no questions.

d) Brimscombe Port Redevelopment

Councillor Hurst asked for further information regarding costs and compensation for the asbestos at Brimscombe Port. The Strategic Director of Resources advised he would ask the team to respond to Councillor Hurst outside of the meeting.

e) Canal Update

Councillor Davies asked for an updated on the planning permission. Councillor Braun advised that they were waiting on further information but would ask the Canal Manager to respond outside of the meeting.

f) Fit For the Future Update

The report had been included in the reports pack, there were no questions.

SRC.146 **Work Programme**

Councillor Cornell asked for dates for the next civic year to be added to the Work Programme. The Chair confirmed that these would be added following approval at Council in February 2023.

Councillor Pearson questioned whether the next meeting of Strategy and Resources could be cancelled due to lack of business. The Chair advised that they would consider this request and ensure there were no items of business that needed to be added.

RESOLVED To note the above updates to the Work Programme.

The meeting closed at 9.31 pm

Chair

STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL
STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, 20 APRIL 2023

Report Title	Procurement Strategy Review			
Purpose of Report	To propose a review to update the Council's Procurement Strategy in line with the LGA's National Procurement Strategy for Local Government published in August 2022.			
Decision(s)	The Committee RESOLVES to approve the review to update the Council's Procurement Strategy.			
Consultation	Annual updates on procurement to the Strategy & Resources and Audit & Standards Committees. Consultation will be undertaken as part of the review of the Procurement Strategy			
Report Author	Sarah Turner, Senior Policy and Governance Officer Email: sarah.turner@stroud.gov.uk			
Options	None.			
Background Papers	The Local Government Association's - National Procurement Strategy for Local Government in England 2022 – link here .			
Appendices	None.			
Implications (further details at the end of the report)	Financial	Legal	Equality	Environmental
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The primary function of the council's Procurement Strategy 2019-2023 is to provide a clear vision for the overall direction of procurement across the authority with a specific focus on demonstrating value for money through the effective procurement of goods, services and works on a whole life basis in terms of generating benefits to the community and the organisation, whilst minimising impacts to the environment.
- 1.2 The importance of procurement in the public sector continues to grow and there is increasing pressure to improve procurement performance. This has been recognised in the Council Plan, and the Equality Action plan with specific actions relation to procurement:
- ER4.3 Support procurement from local businesses and drive local spending on low carbon goods and services to create stronger supply chains within the local economy. This may include collaborative partnerships with local anchor institutions to encourage community wealth building.
 - EQ2.2 Embed the use of the Social Value Portal, a tool which enables the Council to monitor the additional community benefits of Council procurement.
- 1.3 The National Procurement Strategy (NPS) for Local Government in England has been developed by councils and endorsed by the Local Government Association's Procurement National Advisory Group. The NPS was published in August 2022 and sets out recommendations for district councils in relation to procurement and contract management activity. The new national strategy builds on the procurement aims from the two previous national procurement strategy of 2014 and 2018, where the key themes have remained

the same as the last strategy and are: **showing leadership; behaving commercially; achieving community benefits.**

- 1.4 This report sets out a proposal to carry out a thorough review of the Council's Procurement Strategy to ensure that the refresh of the National Procurement Strategy is considered and improvements identified to ensure the council's procurement activities continue to be undertaken to a high standard, efficiently and effectively to achieve best value, and to support social value benefits.

2. REVIEW OF THE PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

- 2.1 In order to conduct a thorough review of the Procurement Strategy, the following key actions have been identified:

- 2.1.1 **Complete the LGA Self-assessment toolkit:** The LGA have created a procurement toolkit which enables the councils to understand the maturity of the procurement function, set goals and assess progress. The toolkit is for guidance only and essentially, the self-assessment will help us identify areas of improvement. The results of the assessment are therefore crucial in informing the development of the revised procurement strategy and action plan. to make self-assessment relating to the maturity of procurement and contract management activity across the Council. This self-assessment will be undertaken, and the results in the development of the strategy and procurement action plan.

- 2.1.2 **Complete the TIDE assessment:** TIDE (Talent, Inclusion and Diversity Evaluation) is a self-assessment and benchmarking tool developed by the Employers Network for Equality and Inclusion (ENEI) and contributes to the work of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Working Group. The assessment will measure the organisation's approach and progress on diversity and inclusion in 8 areas, one of which is procurement. The procurement element encourages the Council to engage with suppliers in the development and implementation of their equality and diversity policies.

- 2.1.3 **Develop a Forward Procurement Plan:** We aim to produce a Forward Procurement Plan which will require consultation with SLT and managers, finance colleagues and cross reference with the corporate contracts register. The Forward Plan will be produced annually and will enable us to properly plan for procurement, provide a level of transparency of the council's procurement and raise awareness of suppliers to the council's procurement activities.

- 2.1.4 **Work with the Corporate Governance Group:** A Corporate Governance Group has recently been established, and part of this group's role will be to have oversight of procurement and contract management activity across the authority; and to identify where additional support for services may be needed. It is anticipated that the Governance Group will review the current strategy and assist in identifying improvements, the role of the governance group will also need be reflected in the revised procurement strategy.

Development of the Social Value Portal: The Social Value Portal usage in procurement processes will continue to be developed and measured to increase the amount of community benefits achieved across the district as a result of procurement and contract management activity.

2.1.5 Review Procurement guidance: Guidance provided to officers undertaking procurement is currently under review and consultation with officers as part of this process will inform amendments to the strategy. Training provision to improve and develop procurement skills for officers will also form part of the review and be incorporated into the revised Strategy.

2.1.6 Develop measures to monitor performance: Metrics will be developed to measure the effectiveness of the Council's procurement and contract management activity and allow us to set more specific targets going forward. For example, performance measures could include the annual percentage of local spend, and the amount of social value brought to the district.

2.2 It is anticipated that a full review of the Procurement Strategy and development of the reviewed Strategy will take 6 months. Following this, the revised Procurement Strategy including the findings of the above assessments will be presented to Strategy and Resources Committee for approval.

3. IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications to this decision. Any implications of the new Strategy will be considered when it is reported back to committee.

Andrew Cummings, Strategic Director of Resources
Tel: 01453 754115 Email: andrew.cummings@stroud.gov.uk

3.2 Legal Implications

One Legal welcomes the opportunity to comment on the procurement strategy and be involved in the review of the procurement guidance and development of the forward plan given our important role in the procurement process. When drafting this strategy, regard will need to be had to the potential impact of the changes to the procurement legislation coming into forces in 2024.

These changes will also require the Council's Contract and Procurement Procedure Rules to be updated which will require input of One Legal.

Donna Ruck, Senior Lawyer, One Legal
Tel: 01684 272017 Email: legalservices@onelegal.org.uk

3.3 Equality Implications

There are not any specific changes to service delivery proposed within this decision.

3.4 Environmental Implications

There are no significant implications within this category. Environment and sustainability considerations form part of the Council's procurement and contract management processes.

The use of the Social Value Portal in procurement and contract management activity enables the Council to measure the amount of Social Value across the district through the Themes, Outcomes and Measures selected by the successful supplier.

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STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL
STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

20 APRIL 2023

Report Title	Budget Monitoring Report Q3 2022/23			
Purpose of Report	To present to the Committee a forecast of the outturn position against the General Fund revenue budget, Housing Revenue Account and capital programme for 2022/23, in order to give an expectation of possible variances against budget.			
Decision(s)	The Committee RESOLVES: a) To note the outturn forecast for the General Fund Revenue budget. b) To note the outturn forecast for the Housing Revenue Account c) To note the outturn forecast for the Capital Programme.			
Consultation and Feedback	Budget holders have been consulted about the budget issues in their service areas. The feedback has been incorporated into to the report to explain difference between budgets and actual income and expenditure.			
Report Author	Adele Rudkin, Accountant Tel: 01453 754109 Email: adele.rudkin@stroud.gov.uk Jon Coldridge, Principal Accountant Tel : 01453 754030 Email: jon.coldridge@stroud.gov.uk			
Options	None			
Background Papers	None			
Appendices	Appendix A – Other Service Committee Summaries Appendix B – Strategy and Resources Committee Detailed Breakdown Appendix C – Housing Revenue Account Breakdown Appendix D – Capital Programme			
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 2022/23. 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.

2. Summary

- 2.1 The monitoring position for the General Fund at 31 December 2022 shows a projected net revenue variance £304k against the latest budget, as summarised in Section 3.
- 2.2 The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) shows a forecasted overspend of £46k, as shown in Section 5.
- 2.3 The capital programme, as detailed in Section 6 and Appendix D, shows a forecast spend of £23.864m against a budget of £29.243m.

3. Revenue Budget Position

- 3.1 Council approved the General Fund Revenue budget for 2022/23 in February 2022. The budget has been revised as approved by Council in February 2023, which includes the agreed pay award (£1,925) funded from reserves set aside from the Outturn position from 2021/22.
- 3.2 The monitoring position for the General Fund at 31 December 2022 shows a **projected net overspend of £304k** against the latest budget, as summarised in Table 1.

Table 1 – General fund Summary

	2022/23 Original Budget £k	2022/23 Revised Budget £k	2022/23 Forecast Outturn £k	2022/23 Reserve Transfers £k	2022/23 Outturn Variance £k
GENERAL FUND					
Community Services and Licensing	3,307	3,747	4,085	331	669
Development Control	220	278	704	(70)	356
Environment	6,465	6,742	6,727	22	7
Housing General Fund	890	1,122	867	63	(192)
Strategy and Resources	8,807	8,675	8,309	(37)	(403)
Support service charges to HRA	(2,408)	(2,408)	(2,408)	0	0
Net Revenue Expenditure	17,281	18,156	18,284	309	437
Funding from Govt Grants/Council Tax	(16,039)	(16,039)	(16,172)	0	(133)
Transfers to/(from) Earmarked Reserves	(1,242)	(2,117)	(2,117)	0	0
Total General Fund	0	0	(5)	309	304

- 3.3 Key areas of variance:

3.4 CS&L – Revenues and Benefits - £415k overspend

A pressure of £263k is expected for Housing Benefit payments for higher cost supported housing, where the additional cost of the charges is only reimbursed by Government at 60%. The remaining 40% is borne by SDC.

Administration of the Governments Council Tax Energy Rebate scheme enforced some changes to the software which restricted being able to carry out normal statutory recovery runs leading to a forecast deficit in income of £68k. There are also additional audit costs relating to the Housing Benefit subsidy audit.

3.5 **CS&L – Sports Centres - £229k overspend/reduced income**

A reduced level of income for The Pulse is expected due to the cost of living crisis, with income forecasts showing a loss against budget of £53k. Utilities are expected to cost £46k more than budget, and other costs such as equipment hire, course costs and essentials such as chemicals and building cleaning are expected to be £40k higher than budget.

An allowance has also been made for additional costs at Stratford Park for roof repairs and water monitoring as well as a contribution towards utility costs, which may be payable under the contract with SLM.

3.6 **DCC – Development Control - £432k loss of income/overspend**

Income is expected to reduce by £323k due to reduced planning applications linked to the cost of living crisis. This has increased from £173k at Q2. There is also additional staff costs to support enforcement and consultant fees for the planning peer challenge.

3.7 **Environment – Waste and Recycling – (£72k) net additional income**

Recycling credits and income from the sale of materials, although higher than budget (£165k), has dropped from Q2 due to a downturn in recycle income. Reduced gate costs on disposal have continued (£219k). The cost of bins and receptacles is over budget by £80k (which is taken into consideration in next years budget). The forecast for income from garden waste collection has been increased by £120k from Q2 to give additional income of £135k.

There is currently an expected overspend of £363k on the Ubico contract. This is predominantly due to rising costs of fuel and hire and repair costs for vehicles, as well as the increased pay award for staff which has been included at Q3. An allowance was made from the outturn position for inflationary pressures for Ubico and this will be monitored.

3.8 **Environment – Planning Strategy - £75k overspend**

Grant funding for Neighbourhood Development Plans has decreased and no longer covers SDCs costs. This is due to both reduced grant levels and the number of NDPs reaching the referendum stage decreasing over time.

3.9 **Housing – Housing Advice – (£132k) underspend**

The cost of temporary accommodation is currently forecast to be £70k under budget and there is also additional grant income of £62k in this year.

3.10 **S & R – Covid-19 Impact/Car Parks – (£226k) underspend**

A budget allowance of £500k was approved to offset Covid related expenditure or loss of income by Council in February 2022.

Currently the only identified pressure relating to Covid-19 is a loss of car parking income of £274k. User numbers remain suppressed post pandemic, as people work in different ways, with less reliance on town centre locations. We now believe the current levels are likely to illustrate a new normal.

3.11 **S&R – Facilities Management - £116k overspend**

Due to empty office space at Ebley Mill there is a loss of income of £69k. There is also a pressure on the electricity budget of £67k.

3.12 S&R – Corporate Expenditure and Income – (£337k) net underspend

Increased investment income is expected, currently forecast at £317k. This is partially offset by increased Minimum Revenue Provision (provision put aside to repay borrowing for the capital programme) of £112k. The final figure will depend on capital spend in year.

There are also additional vacancy savings of £150k against the Modernisation savings target.

4. Strategy & Resources Committee Revenue budget

4.1 The latest budget for Strategy and Resources Committee is £8.675m. The monitoring position at Quarter 3 shows a projected (£403k) variance against the latest budget.

4.2 The below table gives a summary by service, with narrative given for major variances. Appendix B gives a further breakdown of the Strategy and Resources revenue budget.

Table 2 – Strategy & Resources Revenue budgets 2022/23

Strategy & Resources Committee	2022/23 Original Budget (£'000)	2022/23 Revised Budget (£'000)	2022/23 Forecast Outturn (£'000)	2022/23 Reserve Transfers (£'000)	2022/23 Outturn Variance (£'000)
Car Parks	(659)	(653)	(379)	0	274
Commercial Properties	(136)	(123)	(132)	0	(8)
Communications	169	173	188	0	15
Corporate Expenditure & Income	1,486	1,178	841	0	(337)
Corporate Policy & Governance	1,162	1,181	1,203	0	22
Corporate Services (Legal)	512	512	511	0	(0)
Covid-19	500	500	0	0	(500)
Facilities Management	434	448	610	0	162
Financial Services	873	889	908	0	19
Fit for the Future	334	427	416	0	(11)
Human Resources	659	680	662	0	(18)
Information & Communication Technology	1,900	1,918	1,934	0	16
Other Operating Income & Expenditure	0	0	0	0	0
Other Properties	(768)	(757)	(754)	(37)	(34)
Pension Lump Sum	1,156	1,156	1,156	0	0
Property Services	590	554	546	0	(8)
Senior Leadership Team	591	589	596	0	7
Youth Councils	3	3	4	0	0
Strategy and Resources TOTAL	8,807	8,675	8,309	(37)	(403)

4.3 Car Parks - £274k income shortfall

(Mike Towson, xtn 4336, michael.towson@stroud.gov.uk)

User numbers remain suppressed post pandemic, as people work in different ways, with less reliance on town centre locations. We now believe the current levels are likely to illustrate a new normal. Income budgets have been reduced in the 2023/24 budget.

4.4 Corporate Expenditure & Income – (£337k) underspend

(Lucy Clothier, xtn 4343, lucy.clothier@stroud.gov.uk)

Increased investment income is expected due to the increase in base and interest rates, currently forecast at £317k. This is partially offset by increased Minimum Revenue Provision

(provision put aside to repay borrowing for the capital programme) of £112k. The final figure will depend on capital spend in year.

The Quarter 3 position estimates that there will be approximately £500k of vacancy savings at the end of the year, giving additional savings of £150k over the Modernisation savings target for 2022/23 of £350k. It should be noted that this amount could change further by the end of the year.

Table 3 - Current estimate of vacancy savings

Service	Vacancy Saving Forecast £k
Neighbourhood Wardens	20
Customer Services	55
Community Services	23
Revenues and Benefits	100
Youth service	39
Land Charges	11
Biodiversity	42
Planning Strategy	5
Housing Advice	27
Finance	29
HR	46
ICT	82
Property Services	21
Total	500

4.5 Corporate Policy & Governance – £22k overspend (Hannah Emery, xtn 4383, hannah.emery@stroud.gov.uk)

Following a review of the Members' Scheme of Allowances, Council approved the Independent Remuneration Panel's recommendations in July 2022 to increase the Basic Allowance for 2021/22 by £132 and 2022/23 by £250 Special Responsibility Allowances were also increased which has resulted in a predicted overspend of £28k. There are a small number of offsetting underspends within the service contributing to the overall variance.

4.6 COVID 19 – (£500k) underspend (Lucy Clothier, lucy.clothier@stroud.gov.uk)

A budget allowance of £500k was approved to offset Covid related expenditure or loss of income by Council in February 2022.

Currently the only identified pressure relating to Covid-19 is a loss of car parking income of £274k which can be funded from the allocated budget allowance.

4.7 Facilities Management - £162k unachieved income

Brian McGough, xtn 4411, brian.mcgough@stroud.gov.uk

The variance is primarily a consequence of the lack of income from rental and service charges in respect of both the New Build and ground floor Bodley Block spaces.

In addition the rising cost of wholesale electricity supplies and the Mill's greater reliance on electricity to heat the building has compounded the variance.

The New Build has however been successfully let to a new tenant commencing in March 2023, whilst the Bodley Block continues to be actively marketed through a commercial agent.

4.8 Human Resources – (£18k) underspend

(Lucy Powell, xtn 4286, lucy.powell@stroud.gov.uk)

This forecast underspend is due to the service carrying several vacancies in this financial year. The current establishment has been considered and proposals raised as to what is needed going forward to ensure that the service is fully staffed in the near future. This saving has been included in the overall vacancy savings reported in 4.4.

4.9 ICT – £16k overspend

(Adrian Blick, xtn 4282, adrian.blick@stroud.gov.uk)

The principal variance is concerned with several software contracts including Gladstone, Civica and Uniform seeing a significant increase in their renewal costs. An underspend in salaries has been forecast due to in year vacancies that are actively being recruited to. This saving has been currently included in the overall vacancy savings reported in 4.4.

4.10 Other Properties – (£34k) underspend

(Alison Fisk, xtn 4430, alison.fisk@stroud.gov.uk)

The Old Town Hall was a part of the One Public Estate (OPE) project where the building has been subject to a number of detailed condition surveys and we are now in receipt of the final reports. Any planned works were held in abeyance until completion of the OPE project (due 31st March 2023) and the surveys and reports will form the basis of planned works for 2023-24.

5. Housing Revenue Account Budget Position

- 5.1 The budget monitoring position for the HRA at Quarter 3 shows a projected net overspend of £46k (0.2% of gross spend) against the current budget, as shown in Table 4. This is a much improved position from Quarter 2 (overspend of £559k).

Table 4 - HRA Revenue Summary

Housing Committee	2022/23 Original Budget (£'000)	2022/23 Revised Budget (£'000)	2022/23 Forecast Outturn (£'000)	2022/23 Reserve Transfers (£'000)	2022/23 Outturn Variance (£'000)
Total Income	(24,058)	(24,058)	(24,250)	0	(192)
Total Expenditure	11,551	11,741	11,834	60	153
Total Other Costs and Income	14,673	14,019	13,849	0	(170)
Total Net Expenditure	2,166	1,702	1,433	60	(209)
Transfers to/from Earmarked reserves	(1,158)	(90)	164	0	0
Transfers to/from General Reserves	(1,008)	(1,612)	(1,612)	0	0
Total Housing Revenue Account	0	0	(15)	60	46

- 5.2 A more detailed breakdown of this table can be found in Appendix C.
- 5.3 Key areas of variance of variance are set out below. Further detail can be found in the Housing Committee report.
- 5.4 **Rents and Service Charges – (£192k) additional income**
Void levels have reduced down and rental income is on target to overachieve by £69k. It is also expected that provision for non payment of rents will be lower than budgeted by £100k, although this will be reviewed at year end.
- 5.5 **Supervision and management – (£553k) underspend**
There are estimated net vacancy savings of £368k, predominantly relating to Contract Services (£147k), New Build team (£99k) and the Systems Team (£39k). There are also savings across the service, including £120k in IT costs pending implementation of the new housing management system.
- 5.6 **Repairs and maintenance – £592k overspend**
Vacancies within the operatives at Property Care continue to be covered with subcontractors. Additional subcontractors totalling £189k are forecast over and above the budget for vacancy savings and base allowance for subcontractors.
The cost of revenue void works is over budget by £162k and there is also additional council tax payable on void properties of £75k.
The reported overspend relates to insurance works on the property at Church View which suffered from an explosion last year (+£140k). These works were reported in 2021/22, and have continued into 2022/23.
- 5.7 **Utilities - £230k overspend**
The increase in cost for gas and electricity has impacted both Independent Living, where there is a £179k overspend for gas and electricity within the independent living properties and communal areas, along with £51k in communal areas of general needs properties. Tenants have been protected from these increases in 2022/23.

6. Capital Programme

6.1 General Fund Capital Programme

- 6.2 The current capital programme, following changes proposed as part of budget setting is £12.854m. This includes reprofiling of the Canal project, the addition of a new Warm Homes Low Carbon Initiative grant scheme for private sector housing, and the addition of a budget for the purchase of Bath Place.
- 6.3 There is slippage/revised timings on the Stratford Park Lido, the Canal project, Ubico multi service contract vehicles and Bath Place scheme. The externally funded Housing Committee programmes will be carried forward into next financial year, with an extended deadline of June 2023. Any remaining funding would then return to government.
- 6.4 Previously reported additional spend on Brimscombe Port redevelopment will be funded from the existing project funding.

6.5 HRA Capital Programme

- 6.6 The Major Works programme is currently expected to have slippage of £726k on the kitchens and bathrooms contract and an overspend of £699k on external works due to increased costs and additional works identified.
- 6.7 The New Homes and Development is showing slippage of £278k on the current phase (Glebelands, Cambridge House and Gloucester St/Bradley St), and an underspend of £536k on Ringfield Close.
- 6.8 The previously reported purchase of three properties build under section 106 obligations in Wotton-under-Edge is nearing completion. It is likely that this will be early in the next financial year and the relevant funding would be requested to be carried forward at year end in order to support this.
- 6.9 A breakdown of the Capital Programme can be found in Appendix D.

7. Strategy and Resources Capital Programme

- 7.1 Table 6 below shows the Capital Forecast position at Quarter 3 for Strategy and Resources Committee and shows a projected outturn of **£2.131m**.

Table 5 – Strategy and Resources Capital Programme

	2022/23 Original Budget (£'000)	2022/23 Revised Budget (£'000)	2022/23 Forecast Outturn (£'000)	2022/23 Outturn Variance (£'000)
Strategy & Resources Capital Schemes				
Bath Place	0	1,535	1,370	(165)
Brimscombe Port Redevelopment	174	175	761	587
Strategy and Resources Capital Schemes	174	1,710	2,131	422

7.2 Bath Place

Council approved a budget of £1.535m for the purchase of Bath Place, Cheapside and associated purchase costs and redesign fees including architect's fees and planning fees and the purchase was completed on the 13 December 2022. The purchase price was £1.285 m and associated purchase cost were £66k leaving a balance of (£165k) for the design and planning fees. Due to the decision to look at the Bath Place and Cheapside and station car parks as one project, the majority of the remaining fees will not be spent in this financial year, as the initial scoping work needs to be completed first including a transport assessment and parking study and master planning.

7.3 Brimscombe Port Redevelopment

The majority of the variance is due to the demolition costs being considerably more than anticipated. Legal fees are a lot higher than projected due to the complexities of the project becoming more apparent as it has progressed. In addition the change in programme (delays to demolition and extended procurement) resulted in re-profiling of the costs moving from 21/22 to 22/23.

8. IMPLICATIONS

8.1 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report as it reports on previous financial activities, and expected forecasts.

Lucy Clothier, Accountancy Manager
Email: lucy.clothier@stroud.gov.uk

4.1 Legal Implications

The Council must set a budget in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Finance Act 1992. The Council has a statutory responsibility to set and approve a balanced budget each year. Section 25 Local Government Act 2003 require that the Council, in setting its budget, must have regard to the report of its s151 officer as to the robustness of the estimates made for the purposes of the calculations and the adequacy of its proposed financial reserves.

One Legal
Tel: 01684272691 Email: legal.services@teWKesbury.gov.uk

4.2 Equality Implications

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

4.3 Environmental Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

Other Service Committee Summaries

Community Services & Licensing Committee

	2022/23 Original Budget £k	2022/23 Revised Budget £k	2022/23 Forecast Outturn £k	2022/23 Reserve Transfers £k	2022/23 Outturn Variance £k
Community Services Committee					
Community Safety	171	192	189	0	(3)
Cultural Services - Arts and Culture	410	419	461	(26)	17
Cultural Services - Community Health & Wellbeing	165	301	(50)	351	0
Cultural Services - Sports Centres	(90)	51	302	(23)	229
Customer Services	475	520	501	0	(19)
Grants to Voluntary Organisations	330	330	330	0	0
Licensing	(44)	(39)	(71)	29	(4)
Public Spaces	1,401	1,439	1,475	0	35
Revenues and Benefits	380	420	835	0	415
Youth Services	109	114	113	0	(1)
Community Services and Licensing TOTAL	3,307	3,747	4,085	331	669

Environment Committee

	2022/23 Original Budget £k	2022/23 Revised Budget £k	2022/23 Forecast Outturn £k	2022/23 Reserve Transfers £k	2022/23 Outturn Variance £k
Environment Committee					
Canal	170	20	(18)	38	0
Carbon Management	224	231	121	103	(6)
Economic Development	236	293	470	(225)	(48)
Health & Wellbeing	858	940	901	43	4
Land Charges & Street Naming	(14)	(10)	(42)	30	(2)
Planning Strategy/Local Plan	365	627	769	(67)	75
Statutory Building Control	(131)	(114)	(106)	45	53
Waste & Recycling: Other	26	26	28	0	2
Waste and Recycling: MSC	4,730	4,730	4,603	55	(72)
Environment TOTAL	6,465	6,742	6,727	22	7

Development Control Committee

	2022/23 Original Budget £k	2022/23 Revised Budget £k	2022/23 Forecast Outturn £k	2022/23 Reserve Transfers £k	2022/23 Outturn Variance £k
Development Control Committee					
Development Control	220	278	704	0	356
Development Control TOTAL	220	278	704	0	356

Housing Committee – General Fund

	2022/23 Original Budget £k	2022/23 Revised Budget £k	2022/23 Forecast Outturn £k	2022/23 Reserve Transfers £k	2022/23 Outturn Variance £k
Housing Committee					
Housing Advice	562	569	438	0	(132)
Housing Strategy	166	336	234	43	(59)
Private Sector Housing	163	217	196	20	(1)
Housing General Fund Total	890	1,122	867	63	(192)

Strategy and Resources Committee – Detailed Breakdown

	2022/23 Original Budget (£'000)	2022/23 Revised Budget (£'000)	2022/23 Forecast Outturn (£'000)	2022/23 Reserve Transfers (£'000)	2022/23 Outturn Variance (£'000)
Strategy & Resources Committee					
Car Parks (Other)	55	55	50	0	(5)
Car Parks (Stroud)	(763)	(763)	(484)	0	278
Car Parks Enforcement	50	55	56	0	0
Car Parks	(659)	(653)	(379)	0	274
Brunel Mall	(66)	(57)	(55)	0	2
Gossington Depot	(66)	(62)	(70)	0	(7)
Littlecombe Development, Dursley	(4)	(4)	(7)	0	(3)
Commercial Properties	(136)	(123)	(132)	0	(8)
Communications	169	173	188	0	15
Communications	169	173	188	0	15
Corporate Expenditure & Income	1,486	1,178	841	0	(337)
Corporate Expenditure & Income	1,486	1,178	841	0	(337)
Democratic Services	115	118	129	0	11
Elections	102	103	72	0	(31)
Electoral Registration	116	120	121	0	1
Executive Support	85	89	88	0	(1)
Members Expenses	364	364	381	0	17
Policy	380	387	411	0	25
Corporate Policy & Governance	1,162	1,181	1,203	0	22
Legal Services	512	512	511	0	(0)
Corporate Services (Legal)	512	512	511	0	(0)
Covid-19	500	500	0	0	(500)
Covid-19	500	500	0	0	(500)
Ebley Mill	411	425	584	0	159
Emergency Management	22	22	26	0	4
Facilities Management	434	448	610	0	162

	2022/23 Original Budget (£'000)	2022/23 Revised Budget (£'000)	2022/23 Forecast Outturn (£'000)	2022/23 Reserve Transfers (£'000)	2022/23 Outturn Variance (£'000)
Strategy & Resources Committee					
Financial Services	873	889	908	0	19
Financial Services	873	889	908	0	19
Fit for the Future	334	427	416	0	(11)
Fit for the Future	334	427	416	0	(11)
Human Resources	659	680	662	0	(18)
Human Resources	659	680	662	0	(18)
Information & Communication Technology	1,900	1,918	1,934	0	16
Information & Communication Technology	1,900	1,918	1,934	0	16
Brimscombe Port Business Park	30	31	68	(37)	0
Bus Stations/Shelters	8	(0)	(4)	0	(4)
May Lane	0	0	3	0	3
Miscellaneous Properties and Land	(806)	(787)	(821)	0	(34)
Other Properties	(768)	(757)	(754)	(37)	(34)
Pension Lump Sum	1,156	1,156	1,156	0	0
Pension Lump Sum	1,156	1,156	1,156	0	0
Building Maintenance	118	72	72	0	0
Head of Property Services	74	75	75	0	0
Property Services	398	407	399	0	(8)
Property Services	590	554	546	0	(8)
Chief Executive	171	166	167	0	1
Director of Communities	117	117	120	0	3
Director of Place	124	124	124	0	(1)
Director of Resources	121	121	125	0	5
Director of Transformation	58	60	60	0	0
Senior Leadership Team	591	589	596	0	7
Youth Councils	3	3	4	0	0
Youth Councils	3	3	4	0	0
Strategy and Resources TOTAL	8,807	8,675	8,309	(37)	(403)

Housing Revenue Account

	2022/23 Original Budget £k	2022/23 Revised Budget £k	2022/23 Forecast Outturn £k	2022/23 Reserve Transfers £k	2022/23 Outturn Variance £k
Dwelling rents and service charges	(23,615)	(23,615)	(23,684)	0	(69)
Other charges and income	(644)	(644)	(666)	0	(22)
Provision for bad debt	200	200	100	0	(100)
Total Income	(24,058)	(24,058)	(24,250)	0	(192)
Supervision and management	4,538	4,642	4,088	0	(553)
Repairs and maintenance	5,294	5,362	5,894	60	592
Independent Living service	692	711	836	0	126
Other expenditure	575	575	648	0	73
Independent Living Modernisation	452	452	368	0	(84)
Total Expenditure	11,551	11,741	11,834	60	153
Support Service Charges from the GF	2,408	2,408	2,408	0	0
Interest payable/receivable	3,359	3,359	3,359	0	0
Provision for repaying debt	1,012	1,012	1,012	0	0
Revenue funding of capital programme (Depn & RCCO)	7,894	7,240	7,070	0	(170)
Total Other Costs and Income	14,673	14,019	13,849	0	(170)
Total Net Expenditure	2,166	1,702	1,433	60	(209)
Transfers to/(from) HRA earmarked reserves	(1,158)	(90)	164	0	254
Transfers to/(from) HRA general reserves	(1,008)	(1,612)	(1,612)	0	0
Total Housing Revenue Account	0	0	(15)	60	46

Capital Programme

	2022/23 Original Budget £k	2022/23 Revised Budget £k	2022/23 Forecast Outturn £k	2022/23 Outturn Variance £k
Community Buildings Investment	0	17	17	0
Decarbonisation SPLC/MIP/The Pulse	0	0	0	0
Stratford Park Lido	190	220	20	(200)
Community Services Capital Schemes TOTAL	190	237	37	(200)
Canal	7,259	2,550	2,089	(462)
Community Infrastructure Levy Grants	0	0	0	0
Multi-Service Contract Vehicles	466	1,188	868	(321)
Rural SuDS Project	30	70	70	0
Stratford Park Acquisition of Machinery	0	0	0	0
Stroud District Walking & Cycling Plan	0	130	130	0
Wallbridge-Gateway	100	27	1	(26)
Environment Capital Schemes TOTAL	7,855	3,965	3,157	(808)
Better Care Fund Projects	0	0	15	15
Disabled Facilities Grant Scheme	350	330	250	(800)
Green Home LADS Park Homes	0	90	90	0
Green Homes LADS 3	1,030	945	700	(245)
Health through Warmth Grants	200	200	200	0
Home Upgrade Grant - Sustainable Warmth	4,218	4,133	2,900	(1,233)
Private Sector Housing Loans	15	15	15	0
Temporary Accommodation	0	190	190	0
Warm Homes	0	40	40	0
Warm Homes-Low Carbon Initiatives	0	1,000	1,000	0
Housing General Fund Capital Schemes TOTAL	5,813	6,943	5,400	(1,543)
Bath Place	0	1,535	1,370	(165)
Brimscombe Port Redevelopment	174	175	761	587
Electric Vehicle Acquisition	0	0	0	0
ICT Investment Plan	0	0	0	0
Water Source Heat Pump-Ebley Mill & Brimscombe Port	0	0	0	0
Strategy and Resources Capital Schemes TOTAL	174	1,710	2,131	422
TOTAL GENERAL FUND CAPITAL SCHEMES	14,032	12,854	10,725	(2,129)
Major Works	8,425	11,093	11,098	5
Other Capital Works	0	435	162	(273)
New Build and Development	10,571	2,213	1,401	(812)
Independent Living Modernisation	648	648	478	(170)
Acquisitions	2,000	2,000	0	(2,000)
TOTAL HRA SCHEMES	21,644	16,389	13,139	(3,250)
TOTAL CAPITAL SCHEMES	35,677	29,243	23,864	(5,379)

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STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL
STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 20 APRIL 2023

Report Title	Kingshill House, Dursley			
Purpose of Report	To update Committee on the Community Asset Transfer of Kingshill House, Dursley and seek approval to enter negotiations to consider potential terms for a new lease.			
Decision(s)	<p>The Committee RESOLVES:</p> <p>a) To note the current position in respect of Kingshill House</p> <p>b) To note that a Community Asset Transfer is no longer feasible</p> <p>c) To delegate authority to the Head of Property Services to enter into negotiations with Kingshill House Limited with a view to agreeing Heads of Terms for a revised Lease of Kingshill House;</p> <p>d) That no Lease shall be entered into until such time as the Heads of Terms have been reported to and approved by the Strategy and Resources Committee.</p>			
Consultation and Feedback	Consultation has taken place with the Strategic Director of Resources and the Leader of the Council.			
Report Author	Jill Fallows, Property Manager Email: jill.fallows@stroud.gov.uk			
Options	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enter into negotiations for a new lease. 2. Do not enter into negotiations for a new lease with Kingshill House Ltd and wait until the lease expires. 3. Complete a full review of the asset with a view to exploring alternative options for its use. 			
Background Papers	None			
Appendices	None			
Implications (further details at the end of the report)	Financial	Legal	Equality	Environmental
	Yes	Yes	No	No

1. INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Kingshill House is a Georgian Grade II* listed mansion constructed in the early 1700's. Formerly a family home, the site includes a 16th century cottage and outbuildings. The house was used as offices by SDC but for over 20 years it has operated as an arts centre providing the community with classes and workshops. It also offers room hire for general use and social events. The property is on the register for Assets of Community Value. The house is run by a charity, Kingshill House Ltd which has a 25-year full repairing and insuring lease with effect from October 1999 at a rental of £5 per annum which is due to expire in October 2024. The Council has supported the charity over many years through capital (ad hoc) and revenue (core grant) contributions and advice.
- 1.2 Kingshill House is a surplus asset, i.e. the Council has no operational use for it. A listed building of this nature needs a significant amount of money spent on it to maintain and keep the fabric of the building in good repair.

- 1.3 The building is subject to a restrictive covenant to only use the building as offices or other users considered suitable by the Council. The Covenant states that it cannot be disposed of without the consent of RA Lister and Company Ltd, the previous owners, however our legal advice is that it is highly unlikely that the covenant is now enforceable.
- 1.4 Community Services and Licensing Committee appointed Councillor Trevor Hall as a member representative to the Board of Directors for Kingshill House Ltd who reports back regularly to the Committee on trust activities.

2. CURRENT POSITION

- 2.1 Members will be aware that officers have been working closely with Kingshill House Ltd towards a Community Asset Transfer (CAT) for several years but there were delays because of the impact of the Covid 19 Pandemic upon their financial situation. There were also changes to the Board of Trustees and senior staff. Following discussions with the Chair and Vice Chair of Strategy and Resources and senior officers last year, additional time was given for the Trust to finalise their business plan. Whilst they have gone some way to achieving this, officers are still waiting for a fully costed long term plan.
- 2.2 The Council currently provides Kingshill House Ltd with a general revenue grant to support their operational activities. This has been reducing on a sliding scale as part of a funding package that was agreed as part of the CAT. This is currently £10k pa for 22/23 reducing to £5k in 23/24. The Council has also released £17k over and above grant funding to assist with urgent repair costs (drains) this financial year.
- 2.3 Kingshill House Ltd recently approached the Council and asked it to consider additional grant funding towards their revenue costs. Councillors have been considering additional resource as part of the budget setting process which was reported to Strategy and Resources in February. A freeze in the grant reduction has been agreed and it will remain at £10k per annum from now on. An additional £20k grant has also been agreed with £10K payable in 22/23 and £10k in 23/24 with the decision on when to release further support lying with the Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Chair of Strategy & Resources Committee. £10K of this has just been approved as urgent support based on the Trust's most recent cashflow forecast (£5K, 1st instalment of annual grant and £5K emergency support).
- 2.4 In view of the challenges currently facing Kingshill House Limited and the absence of a fully costed long term business plan officers do not believe that the Trust is in a position to take on the freehold interest of the property and the Trust is no longer seeking a transfer.
- 2.5 The grant funding will enable the Trust to continue to operate and allow time for it to explore other sources of revenue funding. No additional funding from the Council will be considered without a fully costed long term business plan. If short term support helps and a robust business plan is in place, officers' recommendation would be to grant a new short-term lease to the Kingshill House Limited in 2024 rather than a Community Asset Transfer.

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 Kingshill House Ltd has been running Kingshill House and providing valuable community facilities successfully for over 20 years now, albeit with the Council's ongoing support. This is an impressive achievement bearing in mind the size and condition of this listed building when the original Trust took it on.

- 3.2 However, the Trust requires additional revenue funding to help with cash flow pressures, without which there is a risk of closure. Under the circumstances a Community Asset Transfer of the freehold is not realistic for the foreseeable future.
- 3.3 If the Council is able to offer short term support it is hoped that Kingshill House Limited will continue to operate and the grant of a new lease in 2024 could be considered instead, although the Trust is likely to require on-going funding together with support to maintain the structure and fabric of the building. Any additional funding request would be subject to a further report to Committee.
- 3.4 It is recommended that officers enter negotiations to consider potential terms for a new short-term lease of Kingshill House subject to a further report to a future meeting of the Strategy and Resources Committee.
- 3.5 Should the Trust fail or chose to cease trading or if the parties are unable to agree terms for a new lease, the building would revert to the District Council as freeholder and further consultation on the options for the long-term future of the building would take place.

4. IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications of this decision. Any potential new lease arrangements would be considered by the committee by a later date with full financial implications.

Andrew Cummings, Strategic Director of Resources

Email: andrew.cummings@stroud.gov.uk

4.2 Legal Implications

Before further funding is given to Kingshill House Limited, advice should be sought from One Legal to ensure compliance with the Subsidy Control Act 2022. This Act regulates the giving of financial assistance by public bodies. Provided that the use of the building is for community purposes then there should not be a subsidy to which the Act applies. A grant agreement will need to be prepared by One Legal setting out the obligations for use of the grant and to secure repayment if the grant terms are not met.

The current lease is one which benefits from rights to re-new the tenancy under the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954 and there are limited grounds to oppose such renewal. This would not however prevent the negotiation of terms for an entirely new lease which may be more suitable to the purposes of the Trust going forward. The grant of a new lease would have to be considered in the context of the above legislation, the legislative provisions relating to disposals at an under-value and the covenants on the title to the property.

One Legal

Tel: 01684 272017 Email: legalservices@onelegal.org.uk

4.3 Equality Implications

There are not any specific changes to the facilities already provided within this decision; Kingshill House Ltd would continue to provide the same activities and facilities if a new lease is granted.

4.4 Environmental Implications

There are no significant implications arising from this report.

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STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL
STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 20 APRIL 2023

Report Title	Stroud Cemetery Chapel			
Purpose of Report	To consider options for the future use of Stroud Cemetery Chapel			
Decision(s)	<p>The Committee RESOLVES to:</p> <p>a) Grant a Lease of the Cemetery Chapel to the Stroud Preservation Trust on terms to be agreed by the Head of Property Services (subject to any objections received in response to the advertisement referred to in the legal implications being satisfactorily dealt with);</p> <p>b) Subject to the advice from One Legal on Subsidy Control, agrees to use the Repairs and Replacements reserve to fund a Grant of £75,000 payable over a 5-year period to the Stroud Preservation Trust for essential works to the Cemetery Chapel during the Lease period; and</p> <p>c) Delegate authority to the Director of One Legal in consultation with the Head of Property Services and the Director of Resources to enter into the relevant legal documents in respect of the Lease and Grant funding.</p>			
Consultation and Feedback	Consultation has taken place with the local community (in 2019) and by Stroud Preservation Trust in 2021/22 as detailed in the report.			
Report Author	Jill Fallows, Property Manager Email: jill.fallows@stroud.gov.uk			
Options	The Council could <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grant a lease to the Stroud Preservation Trust 2. Attempt to dispose of the property on the open market 			
Background Papers	Feasibility Reports by Donald Install Associates			
Appendices	Appendix A – Site Plan			
Implications (further details at the end of the report)	Financial	Legal	Equality	Environmental
	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

1. INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Cemetery Chapel of Rest is a Grade II listed building dating from the mid-19th century located in a prominent position in Stroud cemetery overlooking the town and countryside (see Appendix A). Stroud Cemetery was transferred to Stroud Town Council in 2017 further to them managing it for a number of years. The Chapel was retained by the District Council and used by Stroud Town Council as a ground's maintenance depot for a number of years until it relocated it.
- 1.2 The Chapel is a surplus asset, i.e. the Council has no operational use for it, and it needs significant money spent on it to maintain, convert or renovate it. There is a risk that the Council will be exposed to significant costs to keep the fabric of the listed building in good repair if it retains ownership of the Chapel. The decision to dispose of the Chapel on the open market was originally made by made by the Strategy and Resources Committee in

October 2016. The Town Council was given first refusal but declined to acquire the property because the costs were too high. It was allowed to remain in occupation until it had found and moved to a new grounds maintenance depot in 2018.

- 1.3 Once vacant, the intention to dispose of the Chapel was advertised, as part of the property could be deemed to be open space. This resulted in many objections from the local community. Following a public consultation event in 2019 (held by the District and Town Councils to discuss the future of the building) the District Council offered the community time to come up with a proposal as there was local opposition to the disposal of the building and tarmac areas surrounding the Chapel in particular. Representatives from the Stroud Preservation Trust attended this meeting and later confirmed their interest in carrying out a more detailed feasibility study.
- 1.4 In October 2020 Committee resolved to agree terms for a transfer of the Cemetery Chapel to the Stroud Preservation Trust for £1 subject to detailed feasibility studies, further public consultation, a further report to Strategy and Resources Committee and compliance with S123 of the Local Government Act (by securing the promotion or improvement of the economic social or environmental well-being of the area).

2. MAIN POINTS

- 2.1 Over the last 2 years the Trust has commissioned a feasibility study and held public consultation events. The feasibility study has provided the Trust with clear and current information of the buildings condition, maintenance needs and large conservation deficit. The conclusions of that study were that short term uses would be possible if essential works (estimated at £29-50K) were carried out. Full repair and conversion to best contemporary standards was estimated to be £1.3 to £2.2 million which isn't financially viable.
- 2.2 Instead of a transfer, the Trust has now asked the Council to consider the grant of a 5-7 year lease to enable it to carry out physical improvements to the Chapel which would make it viable for simple community use and provide time for it to explore end use options. The Trust's experience of the refurbishment and re-use of the Brunel Goods Shed in Stroud has led it to conclude that undertaking basic essential work may unlock a long-term future for the building. This would entail; roof patching and clearing of rainwater gullies and soakaways, external pointing, work on external doors, opening blocked window openings and installing temporary glazing and internal removals and preliminary works.
- 2.3 Without these essential repairs the building is unusable. The works would only be possible with a Grant of £75K from the Council payable in stages allowing the Trust to raise funds (using it as match funding). This would enable the Trust to plan and manage the works, seek out users and research the effective use of the building which would save it from further deterioration.
- 2.4 The position would be reviewed after 5 years to assess the repairs, the community use and fundraising potential and to agree on the future of the building. The Trust has also asked that the Council's planned maintenance programme continues. This is currently approximately £5k per annum.

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 This is an opportunity to work with a local, well thought of, and experienced Trust to bring this landmark building back into use by carrying out basic essential repairs and preventing further deterioration for a relatively small amount of money.
- 3.2 Should the Trust conclude that there is no viable community use, the Council's investment would have been used for essential repairs and maintenance to the building.
- 3.3 It is therefore recommended that the Council grants a lease of the Cemetery Chapel to the Stroud Preservation Trust on terms to be agreed together with a £75k staged Grant.

4. IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial Implications

The recommendation is to make a payment of £75k which would be used for essential repairs to a Council owned property, potentially to unlock further long term uses. This funding will be taken from the repairs and replacements reserve.

The annual maintenance cost of £5k per annum would continue and is included within existing budgets.

Andrew Cummings, Strategic Director of Resources
Tel: 01453 754115 Email: andrew.cummings@stroud.gov.uk

4.2 Legal Implications

Prior to the payment of the £75,000 grant to the Trust, advice should be sought from One Legal to ensure compliance with the Subsidy Control Act 2022. This Act regulates the giving of financial assistance by public bodies. Provided that the intended use of the building once operational, is for community use, then there should not be a subsidy to which the Act applies. A grant agreement will need to be prepared by One Legal setting out the obligations for use of the grant and to secure repayment if grant terms are not met.

As the owner of the property, the Council should ensure that it approves the plans for the works via a licence for alterations granted pursuant to the lease. The Council should also seek collateral warranties from those contractors carrying out significant or structural works for the Trust. This will give the Council a contractual relationship with those carrying out the works enabling it to take any action in respect of any defects discovered after the proposed lease expires.

Under Section 123(2A) of the Local Government Act 1972, before disposing of public open space, the Council must advertise the proposed disposal for a period of 2 consecutive weeks in a local newspaper circulating in the area in which the land is situated and consider any objections. It is noted that this process was undertaken in 2019 but given that some time has elapsed and a number of objections were received, and that the proposed disposal is on different terms and for different purposes than as originally advertised, the Council should repeat this process to advertise this specific disposal.

Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires the Council to secure the best consideration reasonably obtainable when disposing of land. However, land can be disposed of at less than best consideration with the consent of the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State has given a general consent to disposals where the purpose for which

the land is to be disposed is likely to contribute to the improvement of economic, social or environmental wellbeing and the difference between the value of the land and the consideration for the disposal does not exceed two million pounds. This should be taken into consideration when agreeing terms, and advice sought from One Legal where appropriate. Secretary of State consent is not required for leases for a term of less than 7 years. If any disposal is for less than best consideration and does not meet these criteria, specific consent will need to be requested from the Secretary of State.

One Legal

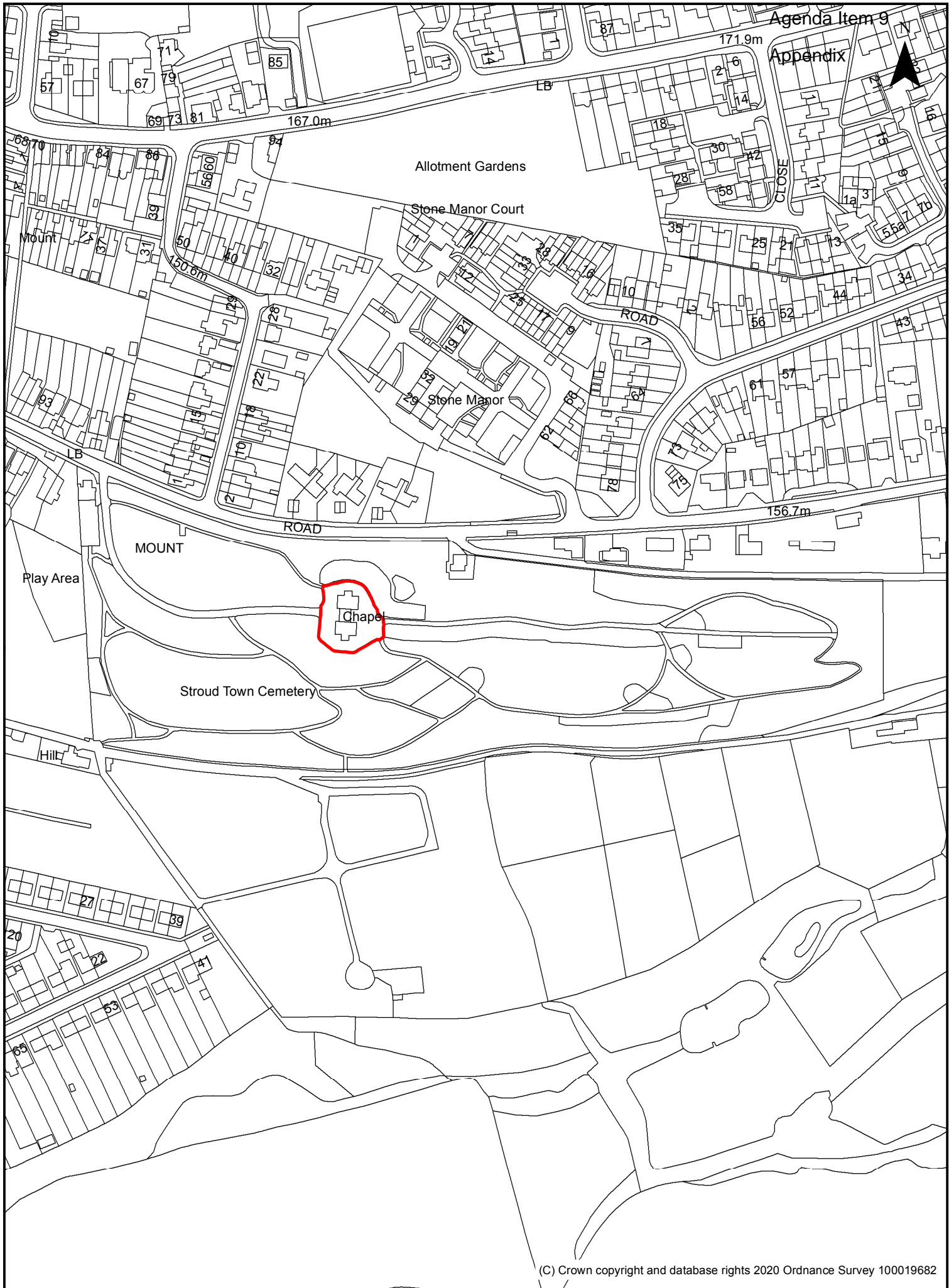
Tel: 01684 272017 Email: legalservices@onelegal.org.uk

4.3 Equality Implications

There are not any specific changes to service delivery proposed within this decision. Access around the chapel would be maintained.

4.4 Environmental Implications

Implications will need to be addressed as part of any listed building applications. There are bat species present in the chapel and further surveys will need to be undertaken and mitigation measures agreed if the project proceeds.



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STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ebley Mill • Ebley Wharf • Stroud • Gloucestershire • GL5 4UB

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Performance Monitoring Report Q3: Strategy & Resources Committee

Date of Meeting	21 st March 2023	
Performance Monitors & Officer(s)	Members: None Youth Council: Cate James-Hodges, Brandon Watkins Officers: Andrew Cummings, Adrian Blick, Amy Beckett, Steve Miles Apologies: Cllr Nick Housden	
Performance Update (<i>See report below for full details</i>)		
Council Plan Priorities (see performance management system)	Summary:	Progress & RAG Status
	Action Plans: (30)	25 On Target
		3 Completed EC1.2; EC6.2; ER3.4
		1 Overdue EC1.4
		1 Not started
Council Plan Performance Indicators or Milestones (see performance management system where applicable)	Summary:	Progress & RAG Status
	Milestones: (68) <i>(C) indicates that SDC can only contribute to the measure</i>	27 On Target
		21 Completed
		7 Overdue CW3.2.1; CW3.2.2; CW3.2.3; EC1.4.2; ER2.2.2; ER2.2.3; ER3.2.2
	Performance Indicators: (11)	13 Not started
10 No data available Officers are in the process of collecting numerical data 1 reported – 2021/22 figure down on previous year. (CDPER4.3)		
Risks	Risk Register presented to Audit & Standards Committee	
Relevant finance issues	See Q3 Budget monitoring report	


<p>Abbreviations used in the report:</p>	<p>ACV Asset of Community Value CCC – Cotswold Canals Connected DCC – Development Control Committee DEFRA – Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs EDI Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Gfirst LEP – Gloucestershire First Local Enterprise Partnership M&E – Monitoring and Evaluation (in relation to Canal delivery) NHLF – National Heritage Lottery Fund UKSPF – UK Shared Prosperity Fund</p>
<p>Comments arising from the monitoring meeting:</p>	<p>As requested by District Councillors at the last meeting, this monitoring meeting had a primary focus on Economic Development. Amy Beckett, Senior Economic Development Specialist, attended and gave Youth Council members a full update on all of the items taking place in relation to these actions on The Council Plan. This included discussions on how we also work with partners in an enabling role on many of those actions. In discussion with Youth Council members there was consideration of how the voice of the young people in the District can be an active element of the economic development work.</p> <p>There was also discussion on how part of the economic development work includes consideration of the accessibility of public spaces, something which can be a challenge in some of our market towns. Amy was able to update on some of the work that we are doing in that field.</p> <p>As a further item currently showing as red, Adrian Blick presented the current position in relation to the Contact Centre vision and what is now happening to bring that work forward. There was a good debate on how we can build on relationships within the Youth Council to ensure that consideration is given to how young people may like to interact with the Council, particularly through social media.</p> <p>Progress on the Town and Parish Councils charter was also discussed with now more than 20 T&PCs being signed up to the charter.</p> <p>There was also an update on the Council’s ethical investment policy and Youth Council members wanted to ensure that the Council is being proactive in this area.</p> <p>This is the last Performance Monitoring report which will be produced within Excelsis. Youth Council members were very interested in the statistics that could be produced by the new system and it was agreed that this would be considered as part of future meetings.</p> <p>Youth Council members did have more questions than time allowed for in the meeting and the Director of Resources confirmed he would be very happy to consider these outside of the meeting.</p>
<p align="center">Any issues of significant concern to be reported to Audit and Standards</p>	
<p> </p>	
<p align="center">Any actions/recommendations for the Committee</p>	
<p> </p>	
<p>Report submitted by</p>	<p>Andrew Cummings</p>
<p>Date of report</p>	<p>31/03/2023</p>

Strategy & Resources Committee





Q3 Performance Monitoring Report 2022/23

Action Plans, Milestones and Indicators (109)

CW3: Community engagement: Strengthen local democracy by developing a culture of community engagement to enable greater involvement of residents, council tenants, communities and businesses in decisions on council services and priorities.








Code	Action Required / Description	Deadline	% Complete	Lead Officer	Status	Comments
CW3.2	Improve customer service for residents by procuring a Digital Platform that provides for centralised first contact ensuring an easier access to services and that provides additional support for those with complex needs.	31/03/2023	40	Adrian Blick	On Target 	24/01/2023: Quarter 3: Major milestone completed (Contact Centre Vision) and this plus gained experience over the period will result in updated actions
» CW3.2.1	First 2 contact services centralised by end of 2022	31/12/2022	10	Adrian Blick	Overdue	23/01/2023: Note: Task to be reviewed and updated next period to reflect revised plans with explanation below. The vision for how we transform our Customer Services function into a Customer Contact Centre is now signed-off and this includes an approach to improve the equivalent services, performed by teams outside Customer Services, before they are transferred to Customer Services. This means the plan needs to be re-evaluated.
» CW3.2.2	Straightforward processes identified and made available for self-service via the internet	31/12/2022	20	Liz Shellam	Overdue	23/01/2023: Note: Task to be reviewed and updated next period to reflect revised plans with explanation below. To date, three straightforward processes have been built as on-line services. However, the workstream responsible for this task has been affected by three main issues: - Service lines have needed to prioritise operational work ahead of these tasks - The work to define the vision for Customer Services has been affected by operational priorities and inexperience - The lead time to train staff and the learning curve to develop on-line services was under-estimated.


» CW3.2.3	Repetitive processes identified and automated	31/12/2022	10	Liz Shellam	Overdue	23/01/2023: Note: Task to be reviewed and updated next period to reflect revised plans with explanation below. To date, three straightforward processes have been built as on-line services. However, the workstream responsible for this task has been affected by three main issues: - Service lines have needed to prioritise operational work ahead of these tasks - The work to define the vision for Customer Services has been affected by operational priorities and the time required to fully understand the function of the current and future service provision. - The lead time to train staff and the learning curve to develop on-line services was under-estimated.
» CW3.2.4	Resource capacity increased to serve those with complex needs	31/03/2023	0	Liz Shellam	Not Started	23/01/2023: Note: Task to be reviewed and updated next period to reflect revised plans with explanation below. This will be an on-going task that fast follows upstream improvements such as channel shift to more on-line service and process re-engineering of "back office" tasks. As the impact on officer productivity is likely to be in relatively small increments, the Directorates will need to decide when there is sufficient improvement to allow release of people to higher value activity.
CW3.3	Work with Town and Parish Councils to develop, agree and implement a new strategic approach for partnership working between district, towns and parishes including specific support for rural communities.	31/12/2023	85	Hannah Emery	On Target	18/01/2023: Quarter 3: TPC charter approved at Council in December 2022. First TPC strategic forum also took place in December 2022 with the themes of CoL and setting precepts
» CW3.3.1	Over 50% of Town and Parish councils participate in developing a new strategic framework to identify key issues and ways of working jointly with district (end 22)	31/12/2022	100	Hannah Emery	Completed	24/01/2023: 27 (out of 51) Town and Parish Councils contributed to the development of the Town and Parish Charter. The Charter has now been adopted by Council and Town and Parish Councils will be invited to sign up to the Charter. Uptake to this will be reported in the next quarter
» CW3.3.2	Positive feedback received from more than 50% of Parish & Town Councils on partnership working with district (end 2023)	31/12/2023	10	Hannah Emery	On Target	24/01/2023: Now the Charter has been adopted, the Council and Parish Councils will monitor the effectiveness of the Charter together. Parish Councils and Service areas will be invited to provide feedback on an annual basis, this will be done initially by a survey followed by a forum open to all parish councils to discuss the effectiveness of the Charter. The parish councils will decide whether or not, on balance, whether the Charter has been upheld by SDC. SDC, will also conduct an annual monitoring exercise, reviewing from their perspective, their relationship with the parish councils and their commitments set out in the Charter. The outcome of this review will be reported in Q2.

» CW3.3.3	Market Town meetings and other town and parish meetings convened by SDC	31/12/2022	50	Hannah Emery	On Target 	24/01/2023: The Charter has now been approved and the first Strategic Forum was held in early December 2022. We are now developing the Annual Schedule of events for 2023/24 and will be able to report the next quarter the number of events that have been scheduled.
» CDPCW3.3	% of Town and Parish Councils signed up to the Charter	N/A	N/A	Hannah Emery	Target: Actual:	To be reported in Q4
CW3.4	Provide dedicated support to communities for the registration of community assets so communities have more control and ownership of local buildings, land and community shops as well as protecting publicly owned land and assets.	31/03/2023	60	Simon Maher	On Target 	25/01/2023: Quarter 3: 1 application received and processed
» CW3.4.1	Monitor the number of community assets registered • % of Communities which provide positive feedback on support received from SDC to register community assets (target 75 %)	31/12/2022	60	Simon Maher	On Target 	04/10/2022: Monitoring of applications ongoing
» CW3.4.2	Communications campaign publicising the process by September 2022 to include engaging with relevant community, social and recreational groups who may wish to register assets specific to their interest area	30/09/2022	100	Simon Maher	Completed 	04/10/2022: Information sheets on the ACV process sent out to relevant groups and members






CW5: Equality, diversity and inclusion: Embed equality, diversity and inclusion as a priority across the Council and the District with targeted support for those who experience the most disadvantage in our communities.






Code	Action Required / Description	Deadline	% Complete	Lead Officer	Status	Comments
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CW5.4	Work with partners to improve the accessibility and welcome of public spaces and shops, and improve awareness of impairments both visible and invisible.	31/03/2025	10	Amy Beckett	On Target 	24/01/2023: Quarter 3: No further progress has been made, the sight loss simulation awareness walk is still due to take place February 2023 in Berkeley.
» CW5.4.1	Measured campaign relating to increasing awareness of invisible impairments including neurodiversity	31/03/2023	10	Amy Beckett	On Target 	06/02/2023: The Equality Diversity and Inclusion working group has an awareness walk arranged in partnership with Gloucestershire Sight Loss Council in Berkeley for February 2023. This is available for officers and councillors to attend and understand what life is like for people with visual impairments.
» CW5.4.2	Future bids for public space improvements to include consideration of accessibility	31/03/2024	15	Amy Beckett	On Target 	06/02/2023: Working with parish and town councils through the UK Shared Prosperity Funding to offer funding opportunities to progress regeneration ambitions of the local high streets that improve accessibility for all
» CW5.4.3	Working with business owners / community groups / community organisations (C)	31/03/2024	15	Amy Beckett	On Target 	06/02/2023: Continuing to engage with businesses across the district. Working with tourism and visitor economy businesses to offer support through the tourism officer and the associated work programme, including the place making app and social media content. Working with business support provider the growth hub to deliver fit for purpose support and determine how to improve delivery through the UKSPF package.
CW5.6	Support our Armed Forces Champion and provide help as needed to former members of the armed services who need extra support and continue to deliver the Armed Forces Covenant across the local area.	31/03/2024	95	Michelle Elliott	On Target 	02/02/2023: Quarter 3: The Council website has details of support available. See https://www.stroud.gov.uk/community-and-living/armed-forces-community-covenant
» CW5.6.1	Feedback on SDC support provided to be part of an annual update report	31/03/2023	20	Michelle Elliott	On Target 	02/02/2023: Briefing paper to be presented to Housing Committee in Q4
» CW5.6.2	Re-introduce a support officer from the Royal British legion back into Ebley Mill reception now that Covid-19 restrictions are lifted	29/04/2022	100	Helen Scullard	Completed 	

» CW5.6.3	Resigning of the armed forces covenant by all partners in Gloucestershire (currently expected to be 22 March 2022)	31/03/2022	100	Helen Scullard	Completed 	
» CDPCWS.6	Number of veterans referred for support within one working day of request	N/A	N/A	Keith Gerrard	Target: Actual:	Data not yet available





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	90	Rachel Brain	On Target 	25/01/2023: Quarter 3: The 2030 Community Engagement Board fulfil the core group function and are working on their plans for 2023
» EC1.1.1	Establish the Community Engagement Board with a cross-section of community members.	31/03/2022	100	Rachel Brain	Completed 	10/10/2022: The Community Engagement Board was established before the deadline and is operating successfully
» EC1.1.2	Community Governance Group work plan identified and reviewed quarterly by Spring 2022	31/03/2023	75	Rachel Brain	On Target 	25/01/2023: Work with the facilitator continues and the group have begun to consider how the individual action areas they have identified can be joined up for greater impact.
» EC1.1.3	Community Governance Group progress to plan included to 2030 annual reporting to Full Council in October	31/03/2022	100	Rachel Brain	Completed 	10/10/2022: Completed in 2022. Annual reports will continue to be submitted in Spring each year.
» EC1.1.4	Participation in Climate Leadership Gloucestershire Group and leader / convenor of retrofit theme (C)	31/03/2024	100	Rachel Brain	Completed 	10/10/2022: SDC is leading on the retrofit theme and presents regular updates to Climate Leadership Gloucestershire.
» CDPECE1.1	% 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:	The Community Engagement Board has been established (EC 1.1.1) and a meaningful target for this KPI is currently under review. The workplan for CEB is not due until 2023

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	31/12/2022	100	Rachel Brain	Completed 	18/10/2022: Quarter 2: Quarter 2: We continue to report via the council plan and excelsis
EC1.3	Plan and implement the community engagement aspect of the Strategy, to include a 2030 community website and direct activities with residents, linking to the Community Engagement Strategy (CW3.1)	31/12/2022	85	Rachel Brain	On Target 	23/01/2023: Quarter 3: The "near complete status" of this action reflects its "ongoing" nature. 2030 Coms plan is under continual review. This quarter has seen the review of approach ahead of plans for the new year and a continued effort to achieve join up through Climate Leadership Group communications planning.
» EC1.3.1	2030 web pages live Spring 2021 with target of unique visits within the first year.	31/12/2022	90	Rachel Brain	On Target 	23/01/2023: Website hits are driven by campaigns that site people towards the website for specific purpose. Since we are not running 2030 team related services through our own website this is not appropriate. Largely SDC web content is dedicated to giving overview of our strategic approach and achievements and we add pages when necessary to meet current information needs. For example, our pages on EV and home energy issues.
» EC1.3.2	Resident survey at end of 2022 aims for at least satisfied or very satisfied level of community engagement on climate and nature emergency.	31/12/2022	100	Rachel Brain	Completed 	23/01/2023: 64% of residents are satisfied that SDC is working to improve the environment (65% in 2021).
» EC1.3.3	Number of activities and residents engaged in community engagement aspect of 2030 strategy.	31/12/2022	20	Rachel Brain	On Target 	23/01/2023: This remains a problematic milestone to capture data on. Ongoing engagement mechanisms such as the 18 Climate Action Neighbourhoods and The 2030 Community Engagement Board continue, the latter are well on their way to developing their action plan which will identify "actions" for which engagement targets can be set in 2023.
» CDPEC1.3	Number of residents engaged in community engagement aspect of 2030 strategy	N/A	N/A	Rachel Brain	Target: Actual:	This target is under review to understand how it can be improved by identifying measurables that are aligned to the need for meaningful engagement action and holistic implementation through all council projects. Since 2030 Strategy is about all council delivery not a specific project it is currently hard to define one or two specific community engagement work pieces and not clear which level of 'engagement' (from general awareness to deep understanding and action), should be monitored. In the meantime many projects have their own communication and dissemination actions and objectives in terms of community outreach and we continue to be proactive in our communications approach.


EC1.4	Establish an ethics policy for our investments, incorporating work within the Brunel Partnership to divest pension funds from fossil fuels	31/03/2022	90	Lucy Clothier	Overdue	27/10/2022: Quarter 2: Further engagement attempts will be made in the upcoming quarter and reported back to this committee.
» EC1.4.1	Establish draft Ethics Policy for investments by December 2021 to become a core part of Treasury Management for 2022/23.	31/03/2022	100	Lucy Clothier	Completed	27/10/2022: Quarterly updates to audit committee on progress and activity, including compliance with the policy.
» EC1.4.2	Engage through dialogue with County Council Pensions Committee and Brunel Partnership towards divestment of pensions in partnership with others (C).	31/03/2022	40	Lucy Clothier	Overdue	
EC1.5	Explore and progress additional projects for carbon reduction and /or biodiversity net gain and funding opportunities to deliver them.	31/03/2026	50	Rachel Brain	On Target	25/01/2023: Quarter 3: Current development work is focused on retrofit with bids in progress for affordable warmth (HUG/SHDF); Own estates (PSDF) and work with householders (UKSPF/MCS Trust)
» EC1.5.1	Money leveraged through successful funding bids and level of associated council investment approved by Councillors £s (ongoing 2026)	31/03/2025	20	Rachel Brain	On Target	25/01/2023: We are currently in bidding processes for funds through Home Upgrade Grants and Social Housing Decarbonisation Funds and reprofiling a grant proposal which has been offered a partial award towards working with private householders.
» CDPE1.5 (C)	Number of external projects SDC has worked on with partners for carbon reduction (C)	N/A	N/A	Jenny Youngs	Target: Actual:	KPI and progress against it under review as projects specifically linked to carbon reduction as a primary purpose are few and we are working to orientating all council projects to limit carbon through design stage but it will only be possible to monitor carbon reductions in a very small number of cases.
» CDPE1.5a	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:	KPI and progress against it under review in consideration of the parameters for which project development areas should be in focus.
» CDPE1.5b	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:	KPI and progress against it under review, to bring in line with metrics that are available to us.

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
EC3.2	In line with the Zero Carbon Public Estate project, produce blueprints for the retrofitting of identified public buildings such as Beeches Green and the Rail Station/Cheapside areas of Stroud as well as identifying other opportunities across the district.	31/03/2026	50	Alison Fisk	On Target 	30/01/2023: Quarter 3: Action again in two specific areas. Cheapside - Purchase of the land at Bath Place completed on the 13 December 2022 and site secured. Draft procurement documents prepared by LCR for the master planner and transport consultant for the exploratory work for the land around the station to include Bath Place. GWR has commissioned Oxford Architects to look at the options for step free access across the station to support the Access for All bid to the Dept for Transport. Agreement in principle from Network Rail to dispose of land adjacent around the station car park to the Council to facilitate the wider regeneration plans for this area. ABC – Positive progress - Temporary staffing issues resolved, information on the four listed properties has been collated and shared, just awaiting annual heating costs, on two STC properties. Then ABC will complete phase one of the retrofit assessment through the provision of the Building Performance Evaluation (BPE). For phase two ABC have had a preliminary visit review and risk assessment, followed by a full energy efficiency survey of the Old Town Hall on 16/01/23. We expect the BPE and the Old Town Hall feasibility study to be completed by February / March 2023.
» EC3.2.1	Blueprints produced for identified buildings within the Zero Carbon Public Estate Project by 2026.	31/03/2026	20	Alison Fisk	On Target 	
» EC3.2.2	At least XX other opportunities identified for retrofitting of public buildings, with blueprints produced by 2026	31/03/2026	0	Alison Fisk	Not Started 	
EC3.4	Work with partners to position Stroud District as a Retrofit Centre for Excellence which provides training and develops the skills needed to retrofit homes and businesses.	31/03/2026	75	Rachel Brain	On Target 	25/01/2023: Quarter 3: In November a regional round table was hosted at SDC to deep dive into the issues of retrofit skills. What research and strategy is being developed and how provision is being shaped in Gloucestershire and SW were focal points. The event was a huge success in bringing the green skills conversation into focus on retrofit and joining up different strands of work to identify skills strategy. In Gloucestershire SDC is working hard to secure buy-in via Climate Leadership Croup to resource our coordination efforts so that we are able to ride the momentum we are creating forward.







» CDPEC3.5	Number of new dwellings that have achieved a net zero carbon standard by 2026	N/A	N/A	Mark Russell	Target: Actual:	The draft target in the Draft Local Plan is 100% of major development (dwellings of 10+ dwellings and employment floorspace of 1000 sq.m or sites of 1 Ha or more). The draft target has yet to be endorsed by the Inspector.
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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
EC6.2	Deliver the water source heat pump projects at Ebley and Brimscombe Port Mills	31/03/2022	100	Alison Fisk	Completed 	21/04/2022: Quarter 4: WSHP's installed and commissioned
» CDPEC6.2	At least 97 tonnes of carbon saved per annum for Ebley and Brimscombe Port Mills combined	N/A	N/A	Alison Fisk	Target: Actual:	

ER1: Economic recovery: Support our high streets and businesses to enable recovery of the local economy from the impacts of COVID-19 and build foundations for a sustainable and inclusive local economy







Code	Action Required / Description	Deadline	% Complete	Lead Officer	Status	Comments
ER1.1	Develop and implement an inclusive and sustainable 'Economic Development Strategy' including supporting market towns and sectors most impacted by the pandemic.	31/03/2023	40	Amy Beckett	On Target 	24/01/2023: Quarter 3: Work is continuing on the implementation of the ED Strategy action plan including, but not limited to, supporting to increase footfall in market towns, working with partners to deliver business support across the district.
» ER1.1.1	10 year Economic Development Strategy shared for consultation, revised and adopted by March 2022	31/03/2022	100	Amy Beckett	Completed 	
» ER1.1.2	Regular market town forums	31/03/2023	60	Amy Beckett	On Target 	14/10/2022: Regular meetings still taking place, engaging market towns regularly.
» ER1.1.3	% of actions in each prioritised annual action plan are delivered within the Civic Year (80% target)	31/03/2023	0	Amy Beckett	Not Started 	

ER1.2	Continue to support high street businesses to increase their digital and online visibility.	31/03/2026	80	Amy Beckett	On Target 	24/01/2023: Quarter 3: Support is still available through Maybe* for high street businesses to maximise online visibility and translate into sales. Courses are also available through the Growth Hub to offer support within digital presence of all businesses.
» CDPER1.2	10 % increase in online visibility for high street businesses annually	N/A	N/A	Amy Beckett	Target: Actual:	
ER1.3	Support local high streets through the 'Think Local, Shop Local' campaign and local initiatives to increase footfall such as markets, events and community-led initiatives.	31/03/2024	85	Amy Beckett	On Target 	24/01/2023: Quarter 3: Continued use of the place making app to encourage footfall to the town centres alongside the tourism social media pages.
» ER1.3.1	Implement the Economic Development Strategy and adopt the Action Plan • Monitor against performance targets within the Strategy	31/03/2024	10	Amy Beckett	On Target 	14/10/2022: Continuing to progress actions from the Economic Development Strategy including: business engagement across all sectors, working with partners including the parishes, growth hub, local higher and further education provisions, community hubs. We have recruited a tourism officer and implemented actions related to this, worked with colleagues to support develop the cultural strategy.
» ER1.3.2	Social media reach of Shop Local messages	31/03/2023	100	Ben Falconer	Completed 	
ER1.5	Consult with all types of businesses on how to improve business services, for example by providing a 'one door' access point into the Council, direct engagement from Councillors and in particular actions to address the needs of small businesses.	31/03/2024	15	Amy Beckett	On Target 	24/01/2023: Quarter 3: Engaged with business groups to understand the needs of different business communities and working with business support organisations such as the growth hub to consider how both the council and partners meet these needs.
» ER1.5.1	Implement regular business engagement through face to face and online methods to understand how the District can provide a meaningful one door access point to the Council.	31/12/2022	20	Amy Beckett	On Target 	14/10/2022: Regular business engagement through one to one meetings with the economic development team - both the tourism officer and senior economic development specialist.







ER2: Regeneration: Deliver key regeneration sites across the district, especially brownfield sites and long-term empty properties, for local jobs, homes, community facilities and green spaces






Code	Action Required / Description	Deadline	% Complete	Lead Officer	Status	Comments
ER2.1	Develop Brimscombe Port as a key strategic site to support a thriving community, in line with project milestones which include securing a development partner and delivering infrastructure works.	31/03/2026	75	Leonie Lockwood	On Target 	16/01/2023: Quarter 3: St Modwen Homes has carried out various focus groups, a South West Design Review Panel has been held and a pre app with highways and planning. All of which will feed into the detailed design ready for a further public consultation event in February/March 2023.
» ER2.1.1	Year 1 • Demolition completed • Procurement process for developer commenced	31/12/2022	100	Leonie Lockwood	Completed 	12/07/2022: Final tenders have been received by the three shortlisted tenderers and these have been evaluated and moderated. A recommendation is to be made to Strategy and Resources Committee on the 12 July to approve the preferred bidder. Demolition is complete. All on target within the key milestones set.
» ER2.1.2	Year 2 • Developer selected and appointed • Submission of planning application for redevelopment	31/05/2023	80	Leonie Lockwood	On Target 	20/10/2022: The selection of a developer for the redevelopment was approved by Strategy and Resources on the 12 July 2022 and The planning application is due to be submitted by St Modwen Homes in May 2023.
» ER2.1.3	Year 3 • Planning approval for redevelopment • Commencement of construction of the redevelopment	31/03/2024	10	Leonie Lockwood	On Target 	16/01/2023: Focus groups, a South West Design Review Panel and pre apps with highways and planning have taken place all to help inform the detailed design for the planning application. Planning application still due to be submitted in May 2023.
» ER2.1.4	Year 5 • Completion of redevelopment	31/03/2026	0	Leonie Lockwood	Not Started 	
ER2.2	Deliver Phase 1b of the Canal Project (Cotswold Canals Connected), incorporating land acquisition, planning application for the 'missing mile', Ocean Bridge works and a range of activities including five local activity hubs along the canal.	31/03/2025	20	Chris Mitford-Slade	On Target 	09/01/2023: Quarter 3: Project has been delayed due to COVID and Planning Approval on the Missing Mile. However, progress has been made on Ocean Rail Bridge (completed in April 2022) and numerous projects taken on by volunteers. Revised Engineering programme now extends the project into 2026, however this will be dependent on Planning Approval for the Missing Mile and securing the additional funding required to deliver the project.

» ER2.2.1	Completion of the Ocean Rail Bridge project (April 2022)	30/04/2022	100	Chris Mitford-Slade	Completed 	09/01/2023: Project complete. Network Rail are conducting further investigations on the leak so that they can develop a plan to fix the leak. This is taking a lot longer than expected but the leak is not getting any worse and is not posing a risk.
» ER2.2.2	Land acquisitions secured (April 2022)	31/12/2022	90	Chris Mitford-Slade	Overdue	09/01/2023: 1. Teasdale and Goldingham. Option Agreements have been signed. 2. Ecotricity. Option Agreement signed. 3. Ractliffe. Commercial framework agreed. Legal documents now being drawn up to purchase the land. 4. CPO objections withdrawn and PINS notified.
» ER2.2.3	Approval of the Missing Mile Planning Application (May 2022)	30/06/2022	75	Chris Mitford-Slade	Overdue	09/01/2023: Planning Approval is being held up by the Flood Risk Modelling. The Environment Agency (EA) have now requested further information and modelling of the baseline model; this was not anticipated as we had been verbally assured that the model had been accepted. The additional information requested on the baseline model was submitted on 4th December 2022, but the modelling cannot be completed until 20th January 2023. A minimum of 3 months is required between signing off the baseline model and submitting to DCC for approval; therefore, the earliest DCC date is April 2023. This remains as the biggest RISK to the project.
» ER2.2.4	Monitoring & Evaluation progress reports in place	01/09/2024	50	Chris Mitford-Slade	On Target 	09/01/2023: Quarterly review meetings with NLHF in place. Programme of regular quarterly reports have been put in place: - Q4 FY2022: Community Events - Q1 FY2023: Volunteering Formal M&E reporting framework to be developed
» ER2.2.5	The approved activity plan, focusing on social and community outcomes, is being delivered in line with the successful heritage lottery bid.	30/09/2023	75	Chris Mitford-Slade	On Target 	09/01/2023: The revised Activity Plan was approved in principle by NLHF on 1st November 2022 and will be developed by the Community Engagement Manager (Sarah Burgess) who started on 4th January 2023. Quarterly progress reports will be submitted to the CCC Project Board and NLHF.
ER2.3	Produce a pipeline of regeneration schemes progressing 'hard to develop' brownfield sites and long-term empty properties across the district, delivering quality local jobs and homes, while preserving and enhancing biodiversity.	31/03/2026	75	Leonie Lockwood	On Target 	17/01/2023: Quarter 3: Announcement for LUF delayed until the end of January 2023. Purchase of the brownfield site at Bath Place, Cheapside completed on the 13 December 2022. Continuing to work with LCR and Network Rail regarding the master planning of the area around the station to include the Bath Pace site. Bid has been made by GWR to the Dept for Transport for a bid for Access for All funding for step free access across the platforms. Options appraisal work to be carried out by GWR to establish the best option to take forward should the funding be successful. Agreed in principle with Network Rail to acquire the Goods Shed and the land around it adjacent to Brunel Mall car park to help facilitate the regeneration of the area. Highlight reports for the priority projects of Bath Place, Tricorn House, May Lane, OPE work, LUF and Brimscombe Port are to be presented to RIB on the 30 November setting out progress.




» ER2.3.1	SDC pipeline of regeneration schemes reviewed and reported twice per year	31/03/2026	15	Alison Fisk	On Target 	
» ER2.3.2	Annual progress achieved on each of the priority sites in accordance with approved milestones by 2026 and reported to RIB meetings	31/03/2026	75	Alison Fisk	On Target 	17/01/2023: Highlight reports presented to RIB on the 30 Nov 2022 for the priority projects and a new Project Charter presented for Bath Place. Reports to be presented with updated actions and next steps to RIB on the 25 January 2023.
ER2.4	Support the development of a diverse local economy of social enterprises, cooperatives and small businesses by working with others to increase commercial space available for expansion and by exploring the use of land for low cost sites and start-ups, as well as protecting existing employment sites.	31/03/2026	70	Mark Russell	On Target 	04/01/2023: Quarter 3: The draft Local Plan allocates an additional 90 hectares of employment land within the District and seeks to protect existing employment areas. The approved Economic Development Strategy identifies a commitment to work to increase commercial space for smaller businesses. The Council has submitted a proposal for new incubator space within the Levelling Up Bid for Stroud town centre and has prepared an investment plan to support social enterprises, cooperatives and small businesses through the proposed UK Shared Prosperity Local Investment Plan.
» ER2.4.1	Sq M of new commercial development and number of new jobs (create KPI)	31/03/2023	0	Alison Fisk	Not Started 	
» ER2.4.2	Land identified for low cost sites	31/03/2026	0	Mark Russell	Not Started 	
» ER2.4.3	Work with others (e.g. FSB) to offer appropriate advice to businesses, social enterprises and cooperatives (C)	31/03/2026	0	Mark Russell	Not Started 	








ER3: Investment: Promote the Stroud district to attract investment in key infrastructure and high quality jobs with a focus on environmental technologies, engineering and manufacturing and creative industries.








Code	Action Required / Description	Deadline	% Complete	Lead Officer	Status	Comments
ER3.1	Attract investment by setting out the offer of Stroud District in a new 'Place Prospectus' to showcase the district's achievements and future priorities.	31/03/2023	90	Mark Russell	On Target 	04/01/2023: Quarter 3: Consultants have undertaken a policy review, carried out stakeholder meetings and developed the content, reporting to Regeneration and Investment Board in November. The Prospectus material has been finalised with an initial soft launch envisaged for early 2023.
» ER3.1.1	Produce and share 'Place Prospectus' by end 2022	31/03/2023	90	Mark Russell	On Target 	04/01/2023: The Prospectus material has been finalised with an initial soft launch envisaged for early 2023.
» ER3.1.2	Positive feedback from external stakeholders (including potential investors) on Place Prospectus	31/03/2023	0	Mark Russell	Not Started 	
ER3.2	Promote prosperity and visitors to the district's waterways, by developing a Canal Strategy, which links to heritage and biodiversity objectives.	31/03/2023	90	Mark Russell	On Target 	04/01/2023: Quarter 3: The Canals Strategy was approved on 4 October 2022 and subsequently published. The Canals Action Plan is under development and a first draft has been produced.
» ER3.2.1	Canal Strategy adopted as a supplementary planning document by May 2022	06/10/2022	100	Mark Russell	Completed 	03/10/2022: The Canals Strategy was subject to public consultation which closed at the end of May 2022. The final document, including necessary changes as a result of public consultation, was published with the Environment Committee agenda in September 2022 and subsequently approved at the reconvened meeting on 4 October 2022.
» ER3.2.2	Action plan approved by December 2022	31/12/2022	70	Mark Russell	Overdue 	04/01/2023: A first draft Action Plan has been produced for review.
ER3.3	Work to secure external funding for priority projects, by establishing a task force to review bid options and developing a bid to the Government's Levelling Up Fund and other funding opportunities.	31/07/2022	95	Brendan Cleere	On Target 	23/01/2023: Quarter 3: The Council's Levelling Up Fund bid of £16.7m was submitted at the end of July 2022 and we heard on 18 January 2023 that our bid was unfortunately not successful. The reasons are yet to be confirmed but we do know that c.75% of all bids were also unsuccessful. The projects that were subject to the bid remain valid and necessary, and all delivery partners are committed to pursuing alternative means to deliver them.

» ER3.3.1	Levelling Up Bid prepared and submitted in line with Government deadlines when known	31/07/2022	100	Brendan Cleere	Completed 	21/10/2022: Bid submitted by deadline.
» ER3.3.2	Application made to GEGJC for green skills and retrofit local partnership – Spring 2022	30/06/2022	100	Brendan Cleere	Completed 	21/10/2022: An award of £450k was made in June for a new Green Skills and Retrofit Centre, to be created by SGS College at the Berkeley Science and Technology Park.
» ER3.3.3	Creation of a task force to succeed LUF working group	31/03/2022	100	Brendan Cleere	Completed 	
ER3.4	Work with partners to support the bid to the UK Atomic Energy Authority to secure the first prototype commercial fusion plant and associated research and innovation park at Oldbury & Berkeley.	31/03/2024	100	Mark Russell	Completed 	03/10/2022: Quarter 2: The Council has worked with partners to lobby Government for Severn Edge to be announced as the successful bid. However, on 3 October 2022 the Government announced that Severn Edge had not been successful.
» ER3.4.1	Support provided for UK Atomic Energy Authority bid by December 2022	23/12/2022	100	Mark Russell	Completed 	03/10/2022: The Council has worked with partners to lobby Government for Severn Edge to be announced as the successful bid. However, on 2 October 2022 the Government announced that Severn Edge had not been successful.

ER4: Support for Businesses: Champion local businesses of all types and sizes that lead on environmental and social good practice and support them to grow, keeping wealth in the district, strengthening local supply chains and offering rewarding local jobs.

Code	Action Required / Description	Deadline	% Complete	Lead Officer	Status	Comments
ER4.1	Create a 'favoured trader' list of local businesses and champion those businesses that are living wage employers and lead on environmental and social good practice.	31/03/2023	20	Amy Beckett	On Target 	27/01/2023: Quarter 3: Progress set out in milestones below.
» ER4.1.1	Favoured trader list on track to be developed and shared by March 2023	31/03/2023	0	Amy Beckett	Not Started 	14/10/2022: Not yet started, this is on schedule to be started this financial year. This will be focussed on once the Rural England Prosperity Fund addendum has been submitted.
» ER4.1.2	Increase in % of businesses that pay the living wage	31/03/2023	10	Amy Beckett	On Target 	14/10/2022: Working with teams across the council to understand how we understand the percentage of businesses who pay the living wage and consider the ways to encourage businesses pay the living wage.

» ER4.1.3	2 articles annually showcase businesses with environmental and social good practice in Stroud District in regional/national and trade press	31/03/2023	5	Amy Beckett	Not Started 	14/10/2022: Developing a business newsletter to inform businesses in the district of the good practice and business related updates from the Economic Development Team
ER4.2	Explore options for bringing more financial power and resilience to our district such as cooperative banking, credit unions, investment in local schemes including renewable energy projects, and local government bonds.	31/03/2025	20	Andrew Cummings	On Target 	20/10/2022: Quarter 2: A report has been added to the Strategy and Resources Work Plan for early 2023 to consider future community wealth building work.
» ER4.2.1	Increase in support (time) / funding year on year provided to Community Banks and Credit Unions	31/03/2025	10	Andrew Cummings	On Target 	20/10/2022: No further funding has been provided in the most recent quarter.
» ER4.2.2	Annual investment in renewable energy generation through treasury or capital investment	31/03/2024	25	Andrew Cummings	On Target 	20/10/2022: In September 2022 the Audit and Standards committee received the first ethical appraisal of treasury management investments. An all member training session was held on the subject offering members the chance to ask questions of the report author.
ER4.3	Support procurement from local businesses and drive local spending on low carbon goods and services to create stronger supply chains within the local economy. This may include collaborative partnerships with local anchor institutions to encourage community wealth building.	31/03/2026	75	Hannah Emery	On Target 	18/01/2023: Quarter 3: Annual spend analysis for 2021/22 reported to S&R Committee in November 2022, our local spend (with a GL postcode supplier) had reduced.
» ER4.3.1	Annual improvement in social value as measured through the Social Value Portal	31/03/2026	0	Hannah Emery	Not Started 	
» ER4.3.2	Partnering with local anchor institutions to support community wealth building	31/03/2026	0	Hannah Emery	Not Started 	

» CDPER4.3	% of overall annual spend from local businesses with a GL postcode.	N/A	N/A	Sarah Turner	Target: 42 Actual: 30	There has been a decline from 42% in 2020/21 to 30% in 2021/22.
ER4.4	Work with partners to support the development of skills and training for all ages, including the unemployed, young people and apprentices, and across key sectors including the low carbon sector and visitor economy.	31/03/2026	35	Amy Beckett	On Target 	24/01/2023: Quarter 3: Working with partners to support delivery of the multiply programme through UKSPF. Awarded Hartpury University UKSPF funding to delivery training for land based businesses in the district, looking to educate and enable businesses to take on new ways of working which are more productive and have a lower carbon footprint.
» ER4.4.1	Provide regular opportunities for partners to share information on their skills and training provision that are available for the residents of our District including through community groups	31/03/2026	5	Amy Beckett	Not Started 	14/10/2022: Meeting with businesses and attendance at LEP meeting to discuss skills gaps.
» ER4.4.2	Continued support for SDC apprenticeship scheme and volunteer opportunities	31/03/2026	0	Lucy Powell	On Target 	
» ER4.4.3	Collaboration with local training providers (C)	31/03/2026	15	Amy Beckett	On Target 	14/10/2022: Worked with training providers through the UKSPF Investment Plan to look at increasing provision and raising awareness of available courses.
» ER4.4.4	Input and support for Gloucestershire Skills Strategy (C)	31/03/2026	100	Lucy Powell	Completed 	14/07/2022: Worked with GCC and GFirst lep to develop their strategy
ER4.5	Work with trade unions to support fair employment, encouraging more local businesses and organisations to be real living wage employers.	31/03/2024	0	Lucy Powell	Not Started 	14/07/2022: Quarter 1: Not yet started
» ER4.5.1	Positive engagement with Trade Unions at SDC	31/03/2024	0	Lucy Powell	On Target 	
» CDPER4.5(C)	Number of businesses who have pledged to be real living wage employers	N/A	N/A	Amy Beckett	Target: Actual:	

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STRATEGY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MEMBER REPORT

NAME OF ORGANISATION/BODY	Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee
DATE OF LAST MEETING ATTENDED	9 February 2023

BRIEF REPORT:

A number of reports were received for information:

1. GEGSC recommendation on Food and Farming in Gloucestershire

Ben Dent of the Food and Farming Partnership gave a presentation previously received by the Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee about the partnership, launched last year, and in particular, a proposal to find integrated solutions to policy changes to promote economic development in the food and farming sector. Given complex structures, the proposal is to apply for Strategic Economic Development Fund (SEDF) money to undertake a collaborative mapping exercise.

Cotswold DC and Forest of Dean DC highlighted that similar things were happening in their districts so it was agreed that these would need to be looked at and a funding proposal brought forward to a future meeting, which it was confirmed would need to be proposed by one of the voting members of the GEGC Board.

2. GEGJC Governance Arrangements

Gareth Edmundson, CE of Cheltenham BC, updated the committee on proposals to replace the GEGJC with the City Region Board. There had been further engagement with Leaders since the last meeting which was reflected in his update paper.

Essentially the forum for economic development would be retained under the banner of the City Region Board, which would be chaired by GCC, would oversee SEDF proposals and anticipate any county deal which may later be agreed.

To ensure a smooth transition there would need to be a further extension of GEGJC by about 6 months to enable details to be agreed (see report to Council on 16 February).

3. Strategic Economic Strategy

David Owen, now Director at GCC as well as CE of the LEP, reported that the LEP's draft Local Industrial Strategy (LIS) had been stalled by Covid and that the new partnership of GCC and the LEP was leading on the preparation of a Strategic Economic Strategy which would have an overarching executive summary and a 5 year action plan. There would be detailed plans for each of 11 priorities, outlined as: local economy, inward investment,



STRATEGY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MEMBER REPORT

business support, skills & employment, sustainable growth, physical connectivity, digital strategy, rural economy, transition to a low carbon economy, a 2050 vision and then an overarching strategy.

A timetable was set out as follows:

- Jan- Feb – scope project, agree governance arrangements, stakeholder mapping, and agree areas to be covered within the themes.
- March-June – Stakeholder engagement, prepare consultation material and carry out external peer review.
- July – September – 6 week consultation.
- Oct – Dec – prepare detailed strategy documents and carry out external peer review prior to completion.

4. Gloucestershire Business Rates Pool Update

Andrew Cummings reported that there would be a pool gain of £3.5m, slightly lower than previously predicted, to be confirmed in the Summer as councils complete their year-end processes. He sounded a note of caution on the need for all local authority audits to be completed. Following this SEDF allocations of £710,000 could be confirmed.

As 2023-24 will be a revaluation year, this should lead to an increase in business rates although for councils this will be revenue neutral. It has been confirmed by Government that pooling will continue. Any changes are likely to be beyond the next General Election and so a projected allocation of £700,000 for 2024-25 had been included.

The estimated balance of SEDF is £889,000, with £710,000 already allocated and £179,000 currently unallocated for the year ahead.

5. GFirst LEP Update

David Owen gave a progress update, and highlighted that LEP funding for 2023-24 had not yet been confirmed.

6. Covid-19 and Economic Intelligence Dashboard

Kate Martin of GCC tabled an update on GCC's Economic Dashboard. She highlighted economic inactivity data from the census, the reasons for this increasing in the over 65s are quite varied, including that this is a very wide age group with many retired, in ill-health and / or studying. Gloucestershire is below both the national and South West average for economic inactivity.



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MEMBER REPORT

<p>There has been a small increase in those claiming unemployment benefits, the first since March 2021, mostly in the 16-24 age group but it is uncertain whether this is a trend or a blip.</p>	
FUTURE MEETINGS	15 March 2023
REPORT SUBMITTED BY	Cllr Catherine Braun, Leader Kathy O’Leary, Chief Executive
DATE	1 March 2023

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STRATEGY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MEMBER REPORT

NAME OF ORGANISATION/BODY	Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee
DATE OF LAST MEETING ATTENDED	15 March 2023

BRIEF REPORT:

1. **Aligning Gloucestershire's Food and Farming Policies**

A request for £20,000 of Strategic Economic Development Fund (SEDF) money for the Countryside and Community Research Institute to research and map farming and food-related policies in the county was deferred as further information to support the proposal had been requested from the Senior Officer Group.

2. **GFirst LEP – Gloucestershire's Local Enterprise Partnership**

The second six-month tranche of £125,000 SEDF matched core funding for the GFirst LEP for 2023-24 was agreed. At the November 2022 GEGJC meeting, a first six-month tranche of £125,000 was agreed with the second tranche deferred until Government funding for the LEPs was known and there was enough in the SEDF pot to be able to provide the match funding.

The Memorandum of Understanding between the LEP and councils would be corrected to include reference to SDC (omitted in error) and delete reference to the capital programme as this no longer exists.

3. **National Grid's Visual Impact Provision Project in the Cotswolds National Landscape**

Stuart Fox, Robbie Griggs and Mohammed Farooq of National Grid gave a presentation on the project for information.

National Grid is responsible for the electricity transmission network and this project is about putting high voltage lines underground in nationally protected landscapes. Between 2013-2021, £500m had been provided for 4 projects from the national shortlist of worst-affected areas, in Dorset, North Wessex, Snowdonia and the Peak District. Ofgem has signposted a further £465m for projects in 2021-2026 including a section of high voltage line between Postlip Mill, near Winchcombe at its northern end and the Cotswold plateau above Dowdeswell Farm near Cheltenham at its southern end, cutting through Cleeve Common. This represents a small proportion of the overhead line in the Cotswolds National Landscape, which totals 98km, more than any other protected landscape in England and Wales.

The visual impact of the Sealing End Compounds (SECs), where the cable transfers from overhead to underground, is one of the biggest issues. It was confirmed that the project would



STRATEGY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MEMBER REPORT

be linking with the 'missing mile' road development programme to minimise the overall impacts in the area.

Preliminary work has been carried out to identify constraints, map stakeholders and set up a stakeholder reference group (including the local councils affected), carry out preliminary surveys, contact 120 landowners, hold briefings, and appoint an engineering contractor. Further engagement is planned for 2023, with the planning submission scheduled for 2024, and construction programmed to start in 2025-26 and complete in 2029 with restoration of the landscape to leave it in better condition.

This is a major construction project to sink the encased cable in ducting 1.5m underground. It will take up a wide swathe and look like the construction of a motorway including a central haul road and will be constructed in challenging topography. The cables, then the towers will be removed once the underground cable is in place. It will be marked by overground posts in a similar way to underground gas and oil pipelines.

Further engagement this year will include setting up a website and community helpline, landowner and school engagement, public drop-in events in June and formal public consultation in October. Landowner engagement has been excellent to date with 100% agreeing access for surveys. A community grant programme will be set up for the vicinity of the electricity line and National Grid plan to use a local supply chain for much of the non-specialist activity such as cleaning, catering and management of compounds so there will be economic opportunities and benefits. There will also be local upskilling, investment in school STEM subjects and apprenticeships.

There are no detailed project costs yet but a similar 8.8km length of cable in Dorset cost £116m. The £465m for 2021-26 is ring-fenced by Ofgem for this project and cannot be used to address other issues such as grid capacity. It is paid for by all householders' electricity bills, the cost is about £20 per household per year.

4. Cirencester – Kemble Transport Study Report

Hannah Fountain and James Brain of Cotswold DC reported on the options evaluation funded by SEDF. Two-thirds of the £65,000 awarded had been spent on the work so far which has included:

- Cirencester interchange hub study, given that Cirencester has no bus station. 6 locations had been evaluated.
- Route options study, which had included looking at going out to Tetbury and encompassing the schools and college west of Cirencester.
- An access and movement study is still to be completed.



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Of the public transport options evaluated in accordance with DfT modelling, light rail and guided bus routes had been discounted as poor value for money, and the preferred options were scheduled hourly bus services between Cirencester, Kemble and Tetbury (two electric buses) with bus / rail integration or a combination of hourly scheduled bus services between Cirencester and Kemble and Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) onwards to Tetbury.

The estimated balance of SEDF is £889,000, with £710,000 already allocated and £179,000 currently unallocated for the year ahead.

5. GFirst LEP Update

Dev Chakraborty introduced a written update. Main points were:

- The LEP will now be working with GCC on the development of an Economic Development Strategy as a priority.
- It will be completing the delivery of the last three infrastructure projects (Gloucester railway station, Minster Interchange and SW bypass).
- The inward investment service will carry on for the next 12 months and then wrap up.
- Made In Gloucestershire branding is progressing well and now has 125 members.

6. Covid-19 and Economic Intelligence Dashboard

Katherine Martin of GCC tabled an update on GCC's Economic Dashboard. She highlighted:

- Unemployment has increased by 5.3% (430 people) since October 2022 to 8,740.
- Job postings are at a record high as of January 2023 at 24,888 (4,000 greater than any other figure at any other point)
- Recruitment / filling jobs is an issue. Broken down by 4 skill levels (where 1 is school leaver level, 2 is school leaver level plus some experience, 3 is post-school education and 4 is degree experience), the biggest driver of job postings is 2, school leaver level plus some experience which led to a discussion about whether another Kickstart programme was needed.
- The number of claimants (8,740) + the number of economically inactive (26,000) = 34,740 relative to job postings of 24,888 which suggests there are enough people to fill posts but may not be the right people and may not want to work.

Link to the meeting papers:

<https://glostext.gloucestershire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=725&MId=11202&Ver=4>

FUTURE MEETINGS	30 May 2023 10am 7 September 2023 10am
REPORT SUBMITTED BY	Cllr Catherine Braun, Leader & Kathy O'Leary, Chief Executive
DATE	22 March 2023

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STRATEGY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

OFFICER REPORT

Fit for the Future Programme Update

Overall, the programme has made satisfactory progress this period with notable highlights.

Service Delivery workstream:

Achieved

- Major focus on agreeing plans to complete re-engineering of priority processes
- Waste management project - first stage of the implementation delivered on schedule with next (main) stage on track for June
- Performance Management system (Pentana) implemented on schedule

Next Steps

- C/F: Building Control forms ready to implement
- C/F: Develop a plan for implementing the Customer Contact vision and begin work on first phase (started)

Community Connection workstream:

Achieved

- Updated workstream objectives approved by SLT
- Delivery plan completed
- 'Do and Learn' approach to improving connection started via pilot(s) and other activities with colleagues

Next Steps

- Start to sign-off our community engagement principles
- Pilot action planning with colleagues
- Develop council understanding of on-going work that is connecting with communities via storytelling to help drive culture change

People and OD workstream:

Achieved

- Values & Behaviours (V&B) workshops, with all officers, completing end April
- Annual leave iTrent implemented on schedule, improving HR efficiency and self-serve
- LEAP (cohort 2 of LDP) complete
- Staff survey results analysis indicating positive response to FFF well-being initiatives and appetite for forthcoming improvements in the people space



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STRATEGY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE OFFICER REPORT

Next Steps

- Consolidate V&B workshop write-ups to review themes with LMT
- Organise V&B workshops with Members
- Start action planning survey results with LMT
- Continue to progress iTrent roadmap including recruitment and on-boarding

Digital and Technology workstream:

Achieved

- Further reductions in security vulnerabilities
- Further upgrades to server estate to ensure in support/secure
- New joiner (Developer) accredited to work on Digital Platform
- Procured two tools that reduce risk of hacks and improve intel relating to successful hacks (should they occur)
- IT improvement plan drafted

Next Steps

- Ensure security work on track to submit PSN code of connection request
- Implement the two new tools
- Restart Disaster Recovery planning and testing
- C/F: Implement Service Desk chatbot

REPORT SUBMITTED BY	Adrian Blick, Interim Director of Change and Transformation
DATE	3 April 2023



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STRATEGY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

OFFICER REPORT

NAME OF ORGANISATION/BODY	Regeneration and Investment Board
DATE OF LAST MEETING ATTENDED	21 March 2023
BRIEF REPORT:	
<p>The following key items were discussed at the RIB meeting on 21 March 2023:</p> <p>UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund.</p> <p>A summary sheet was provided, outlining each of the 14 projects to be supported over the next three years by SDC's allocation of UKSPF funding. This would be administered by the Economic Development Team (Amy Beckett). Further details about the Rural England Prosperity Fund were awaited and would be shared with RIB when known.</p> <p>Levelling Up Fund</p> <p>Details were awaited from Government on the criteria for the final round (3) of this fund, with speculation that there may be a move towards a more 'allocative' approach to the distribution of funding to local authorities across the country, instead of a competitive bidding process.</p> <p>Tricorn House</p> <p>Progress with the re-development was noted. The current 'permitted development' consent required the development to be substantially completed by the end of May 2023 an assessment would be made by the planning (development management) team nearer that deadline. Ward members and Cainscross Town Council representatives were being kept updated on the redevelopment and FAQs had also been published and circulated widely: Tricorn House FAQs</p> <p>Brimscombe Port</p> <p>The Board received a Highlight Report which noted that the date for the public consultation event had been delayed. Because of the amount of information gathered from the focus groups, the feedback received from the South-West Design Review Panel workshop (a process that gathers feedback from independent industry specialists) and pre application advice from the planning team and highway authority, more time was required to review and update the proposals prior to the next stage of consultation. The Council continues to work hard with St Modwen Homes to minimise delays to the programme. Entering into the Development Agreement and Homes England Funding Agreement remains the important next step for the project and has moved to April/May 2023.</p> <p>Highlight Reports</p> <p>Highlight reports for the other priority regeneration projects were circulated and the key next steps were noted.</p>	
FUTURE MEETINGS	24 May 2023
REPORT SUBMITTED BY	Brendan Cleere
DATE	5 April 2023

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STRATEGY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MEMBER REPORT

NAME OF ORGANISATION/BODY	Leadership Gloucestershire
DATE OF LAST MEETING ATTENDED	1 March 2023

BRIEF REPORT:

There were verbal updates on the following:

Levelling Up, County Deals and Investment Zones

Pete Bungard, CE of GCC, advised that there was no further news on Levelling Up.

Following comments from the districts, GCC wrote to Secretary of State Michael Gove on 25 January suggesting a county deal. GCC received a reply on 15 February which said that the Government would be concentrating on those areas that wanted to embrace an elected mayor as part of a county deal, which GCC does not want at this stage.

It had been confirmed by the Government that Investment Zones introduced by the Truss Government would not be continuing and therefore the work done on Expressions of Interest in the county would not be being taken forward. The Autumn Statement referred to research-led Investment Zones but there is no new guidance yet.

Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee and City Region Board

Gareth Edmundson, CE of Cheltenham BC, gave a brief update. The outstanding issues of who chairs the new City Region Board and its name have been broadly agreed. An extension of GEGJC for a further 6 months is needed while the details of the City Region Board are agreed (see report to Council on 16 February where SDC agreed to this extension).

Western Gateway

Pete Bungard advised that:

- John Williamson is the new director of Western Gateway, seconded from DLUHC for 2 years.
- There had been a good meeting at Berkeley / Oldbury with Rolls Royce to discuss post fusion plans for the sites.
- Western Gateway was keen to push cyber development and in particular the Golden Valley development centred on GCHQ.
- He has joined the Severn Estuary Working Group of the Western Gateway.



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STRATEGY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MEMBER REPORT

Covid and Flu Vaccination Programme

Siobhan Farmer, GCC Director of Public Health, reported that 72.1% of those eligible for the Covid booster had had the jab, and that a similar proportion had had flu jabs which is a good uptake.

It is recognised that Covid vaccine protection is waning, community immunity is quite high and that Covid is now endemic rather than pandemic. In future the Winter Vaccination Programme will align eligibility for flu and Covid vaccines for vulnerable people and the over 50s, and Covid is expected to continue in shorter waves with flatter peaks. As Covid is endemic, GCC is ceasing local Covid reporting at the end of March.

Questions were asked about the impact of long Covid and preparedness for future pandemics. Further information on the former is to be provided and, on the latter, the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) is reviewing its plans and awaiting the outcomes of the current Covid Inquiry.

One Gloucestershire Integrated Care Partnership

Mary Hutton from the ICS advised that the ICS Strategy had now been published. Nationally, more money was being allocated by Government to deprived areas which meant that Gloucestershire is losing £15m of NHS funding. She reported that access to dental services across the county is abysmal especially for children and young people, and that attention is being given to that.

FUTURE MEETINGS	Tuesday 20 June, 10am – in person Tuesday 26 September, 2pm Tuesday 5 December, 10am
REPORT SUBMITTED BY	Cllr Catherine Braun, Leader Kathy O’Leary, Chief Executive
DATE	1 March 2023

STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL**STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE****WORK PROGRAMME**

Date	Matter to be considered	Reporting Member/Officer
15 June 2023	Appointment of Performance Monitoring Representatives	
	Brimscombe Port	Head of Property Services
	Member/Officer Update Reports: a) Performance Management Q4 b) Leadership Gloucestershire c) Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee (GEGJC) d) Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee (GEGSC) e) Regeneration and Investment Board f) Work Programme	Chair & Chief Executive Chair & Chief Executive Strategic Director of Place
11 July 2023	General Fund and Housing Revenue Account Outturn Report 2022/23	Accountancy Manager
	Leisure Review	Head of Community Services
	Member/Officer Update Reports: a) Leadership Gloucestershire b) Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee (GEGSC) c) Canal Update d) Fit for the Future Update e) Work Programme	Chair & Chief Executive Canal Manager Strategic Director of Transformation and Change
5 Oct 2023	Strategy and Resources Budget Monitoring Report Q1 2023/24	Accountancy Manager
	Budget Strategy	Strategic Director of Resources
	Corporate Asset Management Strategy	Senior Policy and Governance Officer
	Member/Officer Update Reports: a) Performance Management Q1 b) Leadership Gloucestershire c) Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee (GEGJC) d) Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee (GEGSC) e) Regeneration and Investment Board f) Canal Update g) Work Programme	Chair & Chief Executive Chair & Chief Executive Strategic Director of Place Canal Manager
23 Nov 2023	Social Value Update	Policy and Projects Officer
	Kingshill House	Property Manager

Agenda Item 11

	Annual Corporate Procurement and Contract Management Update	Senior Policy and Governance Officer
	Member/Officer Update Reports: a) Performance Management Q2 b) Leadership Gloucestershire c) Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee (GEGJC) d) Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee (GEGSC) e) Regeneration and Investment Board f) Canal Update g) Fit for the Future Update h) Work Programme	Chair & Chief Executive Chair & Chief Executive Strategic Director of Place Canal Manager Strategic Director of Transformation and Change
1 Feb 2023	Community Infrastructure Levy Spending Allocations	Senior Community Infrastructure Officer
	The Fair Pay and Senior Pay Policy Statement	HR Manager
	Council Tax Support Scheme	Revenue and Benefits Manager
	Budget Monitoring report Q2 2023/24	Accountancy Manager
	Capital Strategy	Principal Accountant
	General Fund Budget 2024/25, Capital Programme and Medium-Term Financial Plan	Strategic Director of Resources
	Housing Revenue Account Budget Estimates – Revised 2023/24 and Original 2024/25 and Medium-Term Financial Plan 2023/24-2027/28	Accountancy Manager
Member/Officer Update Reports: a) Leadership Gloucestershire b) Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee (GEGJC) c) Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee (GEGSC) d) Regeneration and Investment Board e) Work Programme	Chair & Chief Executive Chair & Chief Executive Strategic Director of Place	
7 Mar 2024	Budget Monitoring Q3 2023/24	
	Member/Officer Update Reports: a) Performance Management Q3 b) Leadership Gloucestershire c) Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee (GEGJC) d) Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee (GEGSC) e) Canal Update f) Fit for the Future Update g) Work Programme	Chair & Chief Executive Chair & Chief Executive Canal Manager Strategic Director of Transformation and Change