

Performance Monitoring Report: Q1 2021/22

Environment Committee

DATE OF MEETING	9 September, 2021
ATTENDEES	Members: Cllr Natalie Bennett; Cllr George James Officers: Brendan Cleere
PERFORMANCE UPDATE <i>(please give a brief progress update on the following areas)</i>	
CDP PRIORITIES	<p><i>CDP3.11 Implement the revised Environment Strategy and develop an action plan with partners to incorporate our commitment to being a Carbon Neutral district by 2030 (CN2030).</i></p> <p>SDC was recently shortlisted as a finalist in the Municipal Journal national awards for Leadership in the Climate Emergency Response.</p> <p>The approved (March 2021) 2030 Strategy and Master Plan consolidates, enhances and expands the action from every quarter of the Council to support our 2030 aims. We are planning new internal working groups and communications structures to enable more consolidated, coordinated approaches to all this activity. Projects already under the coordination of 2030 Team include: rewilding of Salmon Springs; Community Energy Retrofit at Draycott, Cam; Solar Together (due diligence phase – private domestic renewables retrofit scheme) and; in the community, electric car club viability work. This against the background of a 2030 focused corporate plan in development and a number of emerging new strategies such as: The Local Plan; Food strategy and, the Community and Leisure Services Strategy are being built in reference to 2030 strategy.</p>

**CDP
PRIORITIES**

CDP3.12 Work with partners to implement the next phase of the cycling and walking strategy, focussing on routes between Dudbridge-Nailsworth; Dursley–Cam-Uley; Wotton-Kingswood-Charfield.

Current progress with strategic and local cycling routes is as follows:

Dudbridge-Nailsworth: Urgent repair works are ongoing, being led by GCC who are in the process of issuing tenders.

Dursley-Cam-Uley: Design work for sections of track requiring highway improvements is currently being undertaken by Atkins on behalf of GCC.

Cainscross segregated cycleway: Following updated guidance, the proposed soft-segregated solution for Cainscross Road is to be updated with a more robust solution. Designs are to be proposed by GCC.

Frampton Cycle Path: Detailed design work is yet to commence following an allocation of £10k from CIL and £10k from the cycling and walking budget (total £20k) to implement a safe link from the canal to the village in association with the completion of the canal restoration work.











Wotton-Kingswood-Charfield: Sustrans are nearing completion of the design phase for this project.

Stroud-Chalford: The intention is coordinate this route with the proposed redevelopment of Brimscombe Port, with on-going consultation with local cycling groups

Stroud Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP): A draft Stroud LCWIP produced by GCC focusing on Stroud town centre, Stonehouse, and with links to Nailsworth, Chalford, and Hardwicke was presented to Environment Committee on 17th June. It was agreed that Council would support the emerging LCWIP going forward and use it as the basis for focused funding. Further LCWIPs for Cam and Dursley and Wotton are to be produced through 2021/22.

<p>PROJECTS / CAPITAL PROGRAMME <i>(if not covered in CDP)</i></p>	<p>Assess air quality within the District in line with the requirements of Defra and prepare an annual report on air quality in the District</p> <p>Monitoring of NO2 across the District using passive detectors was successfully completed for the year 2020/21. Bias adjustment corrections are now available and an Annual Status Report for 2020 will consequently be produced by the Autumn. A briefing of Environment Committee members has been arranged for 4 November 2021.</p> <p>Monitoring of NO2 across the District using passive detectors continues for 2021 across a total of 30 sites. Unadjusted NO2 levels for Q1 suggest that Air Quality Objectives are not being exceeded. Four new sites have been established - at Cam, Dursley, Wotton-under-Edge and Hardwicke.</p> <p>Continuous monitoring of particulates at two sites on behalf of the Javelin Park Community Liaison Group continues and levels measured to date comfortably meet Air Quality Objectives.</p> <p><i>Establish a working group and governance structure for the development of work plans to deliver the 2030 Carbon Neutral commitment.</i></p> <p>The community governance structures are in final planning stages in consultation with members. The process to establish this group will run until late Autumn and involve establishing a third party panel to help steer a recruitment process that will focus on trying to find key community leaders/influencers a key requirement being their ability to acts as agents for change. These people will be recruited through a formal process of advertising with job and person specifications and an interview. The group is envisaged to be no more than 20 persons including elected members and key officers with a focus on District wide action.</p>
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PROJECTS / CAPITAL PROGRAMME (if not covered in CDP)	<p><i>Deliver and secure the long term sustainability of the rural SuDS project in partnership with the EA, working closely with land owners and communities using innovative land and flood management techniques.</i></p> <p>The current post holder will be leaving the Council on the 13th August and recruitment for a replacement will be carried out shortly. Projects continue to be delivered on the ground and arrangements have been made with Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust and the EA to cover these projects in the interim. The project continues to attract national attention and accolades and we recently hosted a very successful visit from Luke Pollard MP (Shadow Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs)</p> <p><i>Manage the delivery of the 'Warm Homes Fund' project</i></p> <p>With the easing of lockdown measures and some confidence returning the number of installs has been steady across the project. The full Warm & Well Q1 report is available on the website.</p>
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	PERFORMANCE MEASURES (see <i>Excelsis</i> where applicable)			
Indicator	Target	2020/21 outturn	Q1 2021/22	
Percentage of MAJOR planning applications determined within 13 weeks. This also takes into account Planning Performance Agreements which allow for longer than 13 weeks but will be counted positively.	60	88	80	 
Percentage of MINOR applications determined within 8 weeks.	70	96	85	 
Percentage of 'other' applications determined within 8 weeks	70	95	96	 
Residual household waste per household. (kgs)	63	76.3*	77.6*	 
Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting	60	57.83	59.77	 

* The number of kgs per household remains increased compared to previous years, due to the number of residents working from home. This has prompted an increase of waste into the residual stream that would normally be disposed of via commercial collections.

RISKS (see <i>Excelsis</i>)	<p>CCR9 WASTE MANAGEMENT: Cost of providing waste and recycling services to the district currently constitutes around a third of the organisation's budget. As such any budgetary implication is of significant consequence to the MTFP.</p> <p>Risk Score - 6</p> <p>Consultation responses on proposed changes to waste legislation have been submitted in collaboration with partners of the Gloucestershire Resources and Waste Partnership. Detail isn't due to be published until 2022 but it seems likely that local authorities will be mandated to collect garden waste for free, which could have a major financial impact. Government have said that this would be fully funded but at present it is unclear how this would be calculated. There are other potential changes which will be impactful too, such as a deposit return scheme that will at the very least, alter the composition of kerbside recycling.</p>
RELEVANT FINANCE ISSUES	See - Budget Monitoring Report 2021/22 Q1
FOLLOW UP (any issues for consideration at the next meeting)	None at the time of writing

ANY ISSUES OF SIGNIFICANT CONCERN TO BE REPORTED TO AUDIT AND STANDARDS	
None	
ANY ACTIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE COMMITTEE	
None	
REPORT SUBMITTED BY	Brendan Cleere (with input from relevant lead officers)
DATE OF REPORT	31 August 2021