



# STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices • Ebley Mill • Ebley Wharf • Stroud • GL5 4UB

Telephone 01453 766321

www.stroud.gov.uk

Email: democratic.services@stroud.gov.uk

## Performance Monitoring Report Q4: Environment Committee

<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>	17 June 2021
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<b>Members:</b> to be appointed at the June 2021 meeting <b>Officers:</b> Brendan Cleere
<b>PERFORMANCE UPDATE</b> ( <i>please give a brief progress update on the following areas</i> )	
<b>CDP PRIORITIES</b> (see <i>Excelsis</i> )	<p><b><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></b></p> <p>The 2030 Strategy and Master plan was adopted by Full Council on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021. The strategy includes within its 75 commitments a number relating to council own estates and social housing energy programmes, in combination these constitute a Carbon Neutral master plan for the Council. The remaining 75 commitments focus on what it takes to achieve a carbon neutral, resilient and ecologically diverse district where carbon neutral activity and progress is to be achieved in balance with ecological restoration, social justice and inclusion. Overall the Master Plan requires the ongoing development of a number of strategies and action plans (CN action plans being one, tree, food and economic strategies being other examples but not a comprehensive list).</p> <p><b><i>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.</i></b></p> <p>Following requests from GCC for CIL funding, further match funding has been allocated from the cycling and walking budget to progress several routes as outlined in the route summaries below.</p> <p><b>Dudbridge-Nailsworth:</b> Following allocation of £116k from CIL and £40k from the cycling and walking budget (total £156k) works to Newman Henders bridge have been completed. Further track improvement works to be completed from this allocation are under way or due to commence during Q1 2021.</p>

<p><b>CDP PRIORITIES</b> (see <i>Excelsis</i>)</p>	<p><b>Dursley-Cam-Uley:</b> Sections of track requiring highways design work have been agreed. This is to be funded through £25k from CIL and £25k from the cycling and walking budget (total £50k). Work has commenced which should be completed Q1 2021, with any remaining funding going towards implementation. Formal public consultation on work to footpath CDU14 to make it suitable for cycling and re-designate it is yet to commence. The £50k allocated from the cycling and walking budget to complete these works remains in place.</p> <p><b>Cainscross segregated cycleway:</b> Following an allocation of £25k from CIL and £25k from the cycling and walking budget (total £50k) for the upgrading of 1.25km of existing advisory cycle lanes to provide light segregation between Lansdown and Cainscross Roundabout, work has yet to commence but has an estimated start of Q2 2021.</p> <p><b>Frampton Cycle Path:</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Wotton-Kingswood-Charfield:</b> Sustrans are nearing completion of the design phase for this project. SDC has committed a further £10k on top of £8k already allocated to complete this work.</p> <p><b>Stroud-Chalford:</b> Meetings with the local parishes leading this project are due to be held to coordinate this route with the proposed redevelopment of Brimscombe Port.</p> <p><b>Stroud Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP):</b> A draft Stroud LCWIP produced by GCC focusing on Stroud town centre, Stonehouse, and with links to Nailsworth, Chalford, and Hardwicke via Standish is to be presented to Environment Committee in June 2021 with a view to adopting the plan as a focus for future cycling and walking infrastructure investment. Further LCWIPs for Cam and Dursley and Wotton are to be produced through 2021/22.</p>
<p><b>PROJECTS / CAPITAL PROGRAMME</b> (if not covered in CDP)</p>	<p><b>Assess air quality within the District in line with the requirements of Defra and prepare an annual report on air quality in the District</b></p> <p>Monitoring of NO<sub>2</sub> across the district using passive detectors was successfully completed for the year 2020/21. Bias-adjusted levels of NO<sub>2</sub> for 2020 demonstrate that all sites comfortably comply with the Air Quality Objective.</p> <p>Continuous monitoring of particulates at two sites on behalf of the Javelin Park Community Liaison Group recommenced in early 2021 and has continued thereafter. Levels measured to date comfortably meet Air Quality Objectives.</p>

<p><b>PROJECTS / CAPITAL PROGRAMME</b> <i>(if not covered in CDP)</i></p>	<p><b><i>Establish a working group and governance structure for the development of work plans to deliver the 2030 Carbon Neutral commitment.</i></b></p> <p>The timeline for successful completion of this task has always been inextricably linked to adoption of 2030 Strategy and Plan and the scheduled completion date should therefore be reconsidered. The 2030 Strategy and Master Plan was adopted March 2021 and with it an agreed overall approach to community governance which is currently being pulled together. There are in fact 2 strands of activity to be simultaneously evolved to fulfil this action comprehensively: Community governance and; council activity coordination. A 2030 Community Action Officer has recently been recruited to join the team this Summer to help take plans forward for community governance by the Core Group defined in the strategy. Council Coordination plans are being refined by 2030 Manager in consultation with Managers, Heads of Service and Directors and in the interim a number of officer groups are working informally on key priority areas of Built Environment (retrofit group); Mobility (EV Infrastructure group); Natural Environment (Salmon Springs/Tree strategy group). The 2030 Manager is across these groups and their activity and this gives a test bed for how more formal approaches might work. An Environmental Performance Officer, also recruited to commence early summer will support 2030 Strategy coordination and monitoring, helping to establish ISO14001; master plan monitoring and carbon accounting for the council estate.</p> <p><b><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></b></p> <p>Funding secured from Severn Wye Regional Flood and Coastal Committee through the Environment Agency to fund revenue and capital for the next 6 years of the project. Project Officer confirmed in post on a permanent contract with SDC. Project officer will continue to deliver projects on the ground.</p> <p><b><i>Manage the delivery of the 'Warm Homes Fund' project</i></b></p> <p>6 gas central heating systems and 1 air source heat pump system installed this quarter. Delivery has been slow due to the further Covid lockdown rules and the anxiety by the largely older vulnerable clients to allow access to their homes at this time. This has been recognised by the funders and the project deadline has been extended for a further 12 months to the 31st May 2022. The full Warm &amp; Well Q4 and year-end report is available on the website.</p>
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<b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES (see <i>Excelsis</i> where applicable)</b>						
Indicator	Target	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
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	100	100	88	😊
Percentage of MINOR applications determined within 8 weeks.	70	96	95	94	96	😊
Percentage of 'other' applications determined within 8 weeks	70	97	98	99	95	😊
Residual household waste per household. (kgs)	63	77	75	78.2	76.3*	😞
Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting	60	60.5	60.9	58.11	57.83	😞

\* 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.

<b>RISKS</b> (see <i>Excelsis</i> )	<p><b>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.</b></p> <p><b>Risk Score - 6</b></p> <p>Further consultations on proposed changes to waste legislation are open and SDC will respond alongside partners within the Gloucestershire Resources and Waste Partnership. It seems more 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 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>
<b>FOLLOW UP</b>	None at the time of writing

<b>ANY ISSUES OF SIGNIFICANT CONCERN TO BE REPORTED TO AUDIT AND STANDARDS</b>	
None	
<b>ANY ACTIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE COMMITTEE</b>	
None	
<b>REPORT SUBMITTED BY</b>	Brendan Cleere (with input from relevant lead officers)
<b>DATE OF REPORT</b>	28/05/2021