



Dear Councillor

CABINET - THURSDAY, 9 DECEMBER 2021

I am now able to enclose for consideration at the above meeting the Overview and Scrutiny Panel comments that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

**Agenda Item
No.**

- 3. HOUSING STRATEGY ONE YEAR ON (Pages 3 - 4)**
- 4. INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING STATEMENT (Pages 5 - 6)**
- 5. LITTER MINIMISATION STRATEGY 2021-2025 (Pages 7 - 8)**

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COMMENTS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH)

HOUSING STRATEGY ACTION PLAN UPDATE

- 3.2 The Panel discussed the Housing Strategy Action Plan Update at its meeting on 1st December 2021.
- 3.3 Following a comment from Councillor Roberts on positive messaging around the development of rural exception sites, the Panel heard that all parishes are communicated with on this matter. It was stressed that these types of developments are positive for local communities in providing much needed housing options for those who have a connection with the parish. The Panel was also advised that HDC aims to involve local communities and parishes from the outset to allow for their engagement and to work together towards a positive outcome.
- 3.4 Following a further question from Councillor Roberts, it was clarified that some sites identified under the Longhurst contract were not financially viable for this type of development but that alternative development options were being investigated.
- 3.5 In response to a question from Councillor Wakeford, the Panel heard that the figures in point 1.1 of the Action Plan were not comparable with the figures in 1.2 . Although an affordable housing target is set for each development, every development is unique and has many different factors to be considered, therefore a target of 40% is not always achievable. However, the Panel also heard that some developments are able to overdeliver on this target thereby the overall target is being met. The Panel were informed that the purpose of the Housing Strategy Action Plan is to boost the affordable housing already being committed to by developers.
- 3.6 Following further questions from Councillor Wakeford regarding the green status of point 1.1, the Panel were informed that the target was an average in order to ensure that the lifetime target of the Local Plan be met. It was clarified that factors outside of the control of the Council must be taken into account, and that the overall target is on track. The point of how this was monitored and recorded was noted and will be discussed separately.
- 3.7 The report was welcomed by Councillor Dew, who stated that with only being one year into the plan the progress was as expected. He reminded the Panel that planning lag and the delays to housing caused by the pandemic must also be taken into account, furthermore, those developments being approved now will help to ensure targets are met in the future.
- 3.8 The Panel welcomed the report and encourage the Cabinet to endorse the recommendations contained within the report.

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COMMENTS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH)

INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING STATEMENT

- 4.2 The Panel discussed the Infrastructure Funding Statement at its meeting on 1st December 2021.
- 4.3 Councillor Roberts praised the report and expressed particular satisfaction that the progress delivery could be tracked.
- 4.4 This sentiment was echoed by Councillor Corney, who agreed that the report did a good job of collating the information.
- 4.5 Councillor Sanderson commented that it was pleasing to see a variety of projects of varying sizes and spread throughout the district.
- 4.6 Following a question by Councillor Sanderson, the Panel were advised that the application process was available on the Council's website and that the application process was communicated to Town and Parish Councils.
- 4.7 Councillor Dew commented on a well presented report and reiterated that it was pleasing to see a variety of projects throughout the district.
- 4.8 The Panel welcomed the report and encourage the Cabinet to endorse the recommendations contained within the report.

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COMMENTS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERSHIPS)

LITTER MINIMISATION REPORT

- 3.2 The Panel discussed the Litter Minimisation Strategy at its meeting on 2nd December 2021.
- 3.3 Following a question from Councillor Gardener, the Panel heard that there were plans to roll out bin sensors in bins beyond town centres and that it was hopeful that grants would be available to fund this. The Panel also heard that the Council were working together with National Highways to find a solution to littering in laybys along major routes across the district.
- 3.4 Having heard concern from Councillor Alban regarding the low number of prosecutions for fly tipping offences despite the hard work from the Enforcement Team, the Panel were assured that the team continues to work diligently to ensure fly-tippers are held to account. Members also heard that intelligence was shared with neighbouring authorities and that a revised enforcement policy would be developed next year.
- 3.5 Following a comment from Councillor Gardener regarding human waste being thrown from HGVs into residential land, the Panel were advised that such acts could be reported on the Council's website.
- 3.6 Councillor Banks enquired if there were known littering hotspots across the district and the Panel heard that the team were aware of hotspots and continued to share intelligence to monitor this situation.
- 3.7 Councillor Wilson observed that education and changing behaviours would be key to successfully reducing waste across the district. The Panel heard that the team currently work with schools to help educate young people but that this needs to extend to adults and that several schemes are being developed to assist with the implementation of this. Members heard that plans to reduce litter bins were being developed with the onus on the public to take rubbish home with them and allow for more efficient recycling due to a reduction in contamination of recyclable waste.
- 3.8 Councillor Tysoe praised the hard work of Officers and the associated teams for all their efforts in minimising litter across the district.
- 3.9 The Panel welcomed the report and encourage the Cabinet to endorse the recommendations contained within the report.

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