

A meeting of the **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH)** will be held in **CIVIC SUITE, PATHFINDER HOUSE, ST MARYS STREET, HUNTINGDON PE29 3TN** on **WEDNESDAY, 2 JUNE 2021** at **7:00 PM** and you are requested to attend for the transaction of the following business:-

AGENDA

APOLOGIES

1. MINUTES (Pages 5 - 12)

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Performance and Growth) meeting held on 3rd March and 19th May 2021.

Contact Officer: B Buddle 01223 752549

2. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

To receive from Members declarations as to disclosable pecuniary and other interests in relation to any Agenda item.

Contact Officer: B Buddle 01223 752549

3. NOTICE OF KEY EXECUTIVE DECISIONS (Pages 13 - 18)

A copy of the current Notice of Key Executive Decisions is attached. Members are invited to note the Plan and to comment as appropriate on any items contained therein.

**Contact Officer: H Peacey
388169**

4. EAST WEST RAIL MAKING MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS NON-STATUTORY CONSULTATION (Pages 19 - 36)

The Panel is invited to comment on the route alignments for the proposed East West Rail route set out in the current non-statutory consultation.

Contact Officer: C Kerr 01480 388430

5. A428 DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER UPDATE AND DELEGATED AUTHORITY (Pages 37 - 50)

The panel is invited to note the update and next steps on the A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Improvements Scheme.

Contact Officer: C Kerr 01480 388430

6. TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21

To receive the Treasury Management Annual Report 2020/21.

(Report to follow).

Contact Officer: C Edwards 01480 388822

7. CORPORATE PERFORMANCE REPORT 2020/21 (QUARTER 4) (Pages 51 - 94)

The Corporate Performance Report 2020/21, Quarter 4 is to be presented to the Panel.

Contact Officer: D Buckridge 01480 388054

8. FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2020/21 (QUARTER 4)

The Financial Performance Report 2020/21, Quarter 4 is to be presented to the Panel.

(Report to follow).

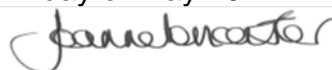
Contact Officer: C Edwards 01480 388822

9. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 95 - 102)

The Panel are to receive the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme.

Contact Officer: B Buddle 01223 752549

24 day of May 2021



Head of Paid Service

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Non-Statutory Disclosable Interests

Further information on [Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Non - Statutory Disclosable Interests is available in the Council's Constitution](#)

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Please contact Mrs Beccy Buddle, Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny), Tel No. 01223 752549/e-mail Beccy.Buddle@huntingdonshire.gov.uk if you have a general query on any Agenda Item, wish to tender your apologies for absence from the meeting, or would like information on any decision taken by the Committee/Panel.

Specific enquiries with regard to items on the Agenda should be directed towards the Contact Officer.

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting as observers except during consideration of confidential or exempt items of business.

Agenda and enclosures can be viewed on the [District Council's website](#).

Emergency Procedure

In the event of the fire alarm being sounded and on the instruction of the Meeting Administrator, all attendees are requested to vacate the building via the closest emergency exit.

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HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH) held in the Remote Meeting via Zoom on Wednesday, 3 March 2021

PRESENT: Councillor S J Corney – Chairman.

Councillors E R Butler, B S Chapman, D B Dew,
I D Gardener, Dr P L R Gaskin, M S Grice, J P Morris,
A Roberts, T D Sanderson and S Wakeford.

APOLOGY: An apology for absence from the meeting was submitted on behalf of Councillor D J Wells.

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor R Fuller and J Neish.

66 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings held on 3rd February 2021 and 23rd February 2021 were approved as a correct record by the Panel.

67 MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillor S J Corney declared a non-statutory disclosable interest in relation to Minute Number 72 by virtue of being the Mayor of Ramsey and having participated in discussions in relation to the Covid-19 recovery projects in Ramsey.

Councillor T D Sanderson declared a non-statutory disclosable interest in relation to Minute Number 69 by virtue of being a Member of Huntingdon Town Council.

68 NOTICE OF KEY EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

The Panel received and noted the current Notice of Key Executive Decisions (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) which had been prepared by the Executive Leader for the period 1st March 2021 to 30th June 2021.

69 CALL-IN - COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY SPEND ALLOCATION

With the aid of a report by the Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny) (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Call-In in relation to the Community Infrastructure Levy Spend Allocation was presented to the Panel. Members were reminded that the reason for the Call-In was the decision relating to the Cricket Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, which was not approved by Cabinet at their meeting on 11th February 2021. During his introduction, the Chairman outlined the Call-In process and the options available to the Panel.

The Members who Called-In the item were invited to address the Panel and outline their reasons for doing so.

Councillor Chapman stated that he believed that the facility would be beneficial in supporting the Cancer Care Network, as well as accommodating sports which currently are not accommodated in Huntingdon

Councillor Morris stated that he believed Cabinet had misunderstood the scheme. He added that Huntingdon is lacking in certain facilities and that the scheme would provide a place for wheelchair cricket, as well as meeting space for the Cancer Care Network.

Councillor Wakeford stated that he had Called-In the decision for procedural reasons. He explained that the scheme had been through the process and had received approval from Officers, only for the Cabinet to not approve the scheme. He questioned that were the reasons for not approving the scheme clear and could they have been identified at an earlier stage of the process.

At this stage, the Chairman clarified to Members that he had attended the Cabinet meeting at which the decision was taken and that he had accurately presented the Panel's comments on the report to the Cabinet.

The Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning, Councillor Jon Neish, addressed the Panel and explained the reasoning behind Cabinet's decision. He explained that the Council had £28m of CIL receipts to spend on various infrastructure projects and that there is a need to achieve a balance financially. He added that the Cabinet viewed the scheme as desirable but not essential and that it did not significantly contribute to improving infrastructure in the Huntingdon area.

Councillor Wakeford asked whether the documentation for the invitation of bids should be amended to reflect the need for a scheme to significantly contribute to improving infrastructure. In response, the Executive Councillor explained that the Council has only a finite amount of CIL receipts and that the Council would have to be mindful of balancing competing priorities.

Following on, Councillor Morris asked for more guidance and clarification on what is considered an essential infrastructure project. In addition, he added how much would the Council want to contribute to the major infrastructure schemes from the CIL fund and wouldn't this preclude investment in other schemes. In response, the Executive Councillor explained that the Council is not only funding major projects and CIL will fund a wide variety of schemes.

Councillor Roberts explained that, according to his understanding, there are two reasons why a decision is Called-In. They are that either, the process wasn't followed or the decision was unreasonable or uninformed. Councillor Roberts then went on to explain that he believed neither was the case with the decision before them and that the avenue available to Huntingdon Town Council was to submit a new application.

Following on, Councillor Dew explained that in the format the application was received the Cabinet made the correct decision.

Councillor Sanderson explained that he believed that too much emphasis was placed on the cricketing element of the scheme and not enough on the cancer care network element. He asked if the scheme would have been approved if the

amount requested was reduced but it was explained that Huntingdon Town Council would have to resubmit their application if there was a material change.

A comment was made, by Councillor Butler, on whether funding could be applied for from an alternative source.

The Panel,

RESOLVED

that the decision is not referred back to the Cabinet for reconsideration and therefore the decision shall take effect from the date of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel meeting.

(At 7.08pm, during the consideration of the item, Councillor E R Butler entered the meeting.)

70 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY SPEND ALLOCATION - BUCKDEN-HUNTINGDON SAFE CYCLING AND WALKING ROUTE

By means of a report by the Strategic Growth Manager (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Community Infrastructure Levy Spend Allocation, Buckden to Huntingdon Safe Cycling and Walking Route was presented to the Panel.

Following the introduction, Councillor Roberts stated that although there are some elements that are not completely satisfactory, the benefits of the scheme outweigh any negatives.

Councillor Morris stated that it was pleasing to see this scheme return for consideration, particularly as he considered it to be a potentially lifesaving scheme. Councillor Morris thanked everyone involved in making the reconsideration possible and expediting the process.

Following a question, from Councillor Wakeford, on whether it was the intention to bring the scheme back for consideration, it was confirmed that following a communication exchange between the Council, Brampton Parish Council and Buckden Parish Council it was possible to bring the scheme back for reconsideration sooner than anticipated.

Councillor Gardener expressed his support for the bid but stated that the maximum that the District Council should contribute was £80k. The Panel,

RESOLVED

that the Cabinet be recommended to approve the allocation of £100,000 of CIL towards the scheme, subject to the conditions as outlined in the recommendations.

71 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY SPEND ALLOCATION - B1040 WHEATSHEAF ROAD/SOMERSHAM ROAD, ST IVES ACCIDENT REDUCTION SCHEME

By means of a report by the Strategic Growth Manager (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Community Infrastructure Levy Spend Allocation, the B1040 Wheatsheaf Road/Somersham Road St Ives Accident Reduction Scheme was presented to the Panel. In introducing the report, the Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning stated that the scheme is required particularly as there have been fatalities at the junction in the past. Members were reminded that the application is for £500,000 of CIL and that Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) will match fund 58.33% of the project's anticipated cost.

Councillor Chapman praised the scheme and asked if the Parish Councils were contributing any funding, even it was only a fraction of the amount required. In response, it was confirmed that the funding would be provided by HDC and CCC and that none would come from Parish Councils.

The Panel expressed support for the scheme and

RESOLVED

that the Cabinet be recommended to approve in principle the allocation of up to £500,000 of CIL funding to the scheme, subject to the conditions as outlined in the recommendations.

72 ACCELERATED COVID-19 TOWNS PROGRAMME

With the aid of a report by the Interim Corporate Director (Delivery) (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) Accelerated Covid-19 Towns Programme was presented to the Panel. The Executive Councillor for Housing and Economic Development appraised Members of background to the report.

Following a question by Councillor Morris, regarding the split of funds, it was clarified that the remaining Master Planning work would be used to bring the allocation, as close as possible, to an even split.

Councillor Chapman thanked the Executive Councillor and Officers for attempting to acquired additional funding from the Combined Authority for St Neots. It was clarified that there was no further funding available beyond the £3.1m that St Neots had already received from the Combined Authority for the Future High Street Bid.

The Panel were supportive of the scheme and

RESOLVED

that the Cabinet be encouraged to endorse the recommendations within the report.

73 COMBINED AUTHORITY'S A141 CONSULTATION

The Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning and the Service Growth Manager gave the Panel a verbal update on the Combined Authority's A141 Consultation. It was explained that, from a HDC perspective, a new link road is crucial to unlock growth. The Combined Authority have outlined six options and launched a

consultation on 22nd February, which will run until 15th March. The Panel was informed that the Council would prefer either options one, two or three but that an official Council response would require Cabinet endorsement.

Councillor Morris asked if the Combined Authority could tweak the questionnaire so that residents are able to better understand the options presented. In response, the Panel was informed that Councillor Morris' concerns would be forwarded to the Combined Authority but that the consultation was already live.

74 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

With the aid of a report by the Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny) (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme was presented to the Panel.

In response to a question by Councillor Chapman, in relation to whether the Executive Councillor for Operations and Environment had provided an update regarding parking charges, the Panel was informed that there had not been a response.

75 MR A GREEN

In noting that Mr A Green would be leaving the District Council, the Panel expressed its gratitude for the support and assistance he had provided and extended their best wishes to him for the future.

Chairman

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HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH) held in the Burgess Hall, Westwood Road, St Ives, Cambs PE27 3WU on Wednesday, 19 May 2021

PRESENT: Councillor S J Corney – Chairman.

Councillors E R Butler, B S Chapman, D B Dew, Dr P L R Gaskin, M Haines, A Roberts, T D Sanderson and D J Wells.

APOLOGIES: M S Grice, J P Morris and S Wakeford.

1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

that Councillor S J Corney be elected Chairman of the Panel for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Councillor S J Corney in the Chair.

2 MEMBERS INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were received.

3 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

that Councillor E R Butler be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Panel for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Chairman

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NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE KEY DECISIONS INCLUDING THOSE TO BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE

Prepared by: Councillor R Fuller, Executive Leader of the Council
Date of Publication: 19 May 2021
For Period: 1 June 2021 to 30 September 2021

Membership of the Cabinet is as follows:-

Councillor Details		Councillor Contact Details
Councillor Mrs M L Beuttell	Executive Councillor for Operations and Environment	Care of Huntingdonshire District Council Pathfinder House St Mary's Street Huntingdon PE29 3TN Tel: 01480 388388 E-mail: Marge.Beuttell@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
Councillor S Bywater	Executive Councillor for Community Resilience and Well-Being	9 Crabapple Close Sawtry Huntingdon PE28 5QG Tel: 07984 637553 E-mail: Simon.Bywater@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
Councillor R Fuller	Executive Leader of the Council and Executive Councillor for Housing and Economic Development	8 Sarah Grace Court New Road St Ives Huntingdon PE27 5DS Tel: 01480 388311 E-mail: Ryan.Fuller@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Councillor J A Gray	Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources	Vine Cottage 2 Station Road Catworth Huntingdon PE28 OPE Tel: 01832 710799 E-mail: Jonathan.Gray@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
Councillor D Keane	Executive Councillor for Corporate Services	1 Bells Villas Mill Street Houghton Cambridgeshire PE28 2BA Tel: 01480 467147 E-mail: David.Keane@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
Councillor J Neish	Deputy Executive Leader and Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning	7 Willow Green Needingworth St Ives Cambridgeshire PE27 4SW Tel: 01480 466110 E-mail: Jon.Neish@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
Councillor K Prentice	Executive Councillor for Leisure and Regulatory Services	2 Ushers Court 89 Great North Road Eaton Socon St Neots PE19 8EL Tel: 01480 214838 E-mail: Keith.Prentice@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Page 14 of 1022

Notice is hereby given of:

- Key decisions that will be taken by the Cabinet (or other decision maker)
- Confidential or exempt executive decisions that will be taken in a meeting from which the public will be excluded (for whole or part).

A notice/agenda together with reports and supporting documents for each meeting will be published at least five working days before the date of the meeting. In order to enquire about the availability of documents and subject to any restrictions on their disclosure, copies may be requested by contacting the Democratic Services Team on 01480 388169 or E-mail Democratic.Services@huntingdonshire.gov.uk.

Agendas may be accessed electronically at the [District Council's website](#).

Formal notice is hereby given under The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 that, where indicated part of the meetings listed in this notice will be held in private because the agenda and reports for the meeting will contain confidential or exempt information under Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended) and that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it. See the relevant paragraphs below.

Any person who wishes to make representations to the decision maker about a decision which is to be made or wishes to object to an item being considered in private may do so by emailing Democratic.Services@huntingdonshire.gov.uk or by contacting the Democratic Services Team. If representations are received at least eight working days before the date of the meeting, they will be published with the agenda together with a statement of the District Council's response. Any representations received after this time will be verbally reported and considered at the meeting.

Paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended) (Reason for the report to be considered in private)

Page 15 of 102

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the Financial and Business Affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information)
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations or contemplated consultations or negotiations in connection with any labour relations that are arising between the Authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of or office holders under the Authority
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings
6. Information which reveals that the Authority proposes:-
 - (a) To give under any announcement a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - (b) To make an Order or Direction under any enactment
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

Huntingdonshire District Council
Pathfinder House
St Mary's Street
Huntingdon PE29 3TN.

- Notes:-
- (i) Additions changes from the previous Forward Plan are annotated ***
 - (ii) Part II confidential items which will be considered in private are annotated ## and shown in italic.

Subject/Matter for Decision	Decision/ recommendation to be made by	Date decision to be taken	Documents Available	How relevant Officer can be contacted	Reasons for the report to be considered in private (paragraph no.)	Relevant Executive Councillor	Relevant Overview & Scrutiny Panel
Community Chest Grant Aid Awards 2021/22	Grants Panel	23 Jun 2021 21 Jul 2021 18 Aug 2021 15 Sep 2021		Claudia Deeth, Community Resilience Manager Tel No: 01480 388233 or email: Claudia.Deeth@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		S Bywater & J Gray	Customers & Partnerships
East West Rail Making Meaningful Connections Non-Statutory Consultation	Cabinet	17 Jun 2021		Clara Kerr, Service Manager - Growth Tel No: 01480 388430 or email: Clara.Kerr@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		J Neish	Performance and Growth

Subject/Matter for Decision	Decision/ recommendation to be made by	Date decision to be taken	Documents Available	How relevant Officer can be contacted	Reasons for the report to be considered in private (paragraph no.)	Relevant Executive Councillor	Relevant Overview & Scrutiny Panel
A428 Development Consent Order Update and Delegated Authority	Cabinet	17 Jun 2021		Clara Kerr, Service Manager - Growth Tel No: 01480 388430 or email: Clara.Kerr@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		J Neish	Performance and Growth
Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan Consultation	Cabinet	17 Jun 2021		Clara Kerr, Service Manager - Growth Tel No: 01480 388430 or email: Clara.Kerr@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		J Neish	Performance & Growth
Homelessness Review and Strategy***	Cabinet	15 Jul 2021		Jon Collen, Housing Needs and Resource Manager Tel No: 01480 388220 or email: Jon.Collen@huntingdonshire.gov.uk		R Fuller	Customer & Partnerships

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Public
Key Decision - Yes

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: East West Rail - Making Meaningful Connections
Non-Statutory Consultation

Meeting/Date: Overview & Scrutiny (Performance & Growth) – 2
June 2021

Executive Portfolio: Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning

Report by: Strategic Growth Manager

Ward(s) affected: All Wards

RECOMMENDATION

The Overview and Scrutiny Panel is invited to comment on the route alignments for the proposed East West Rail route set out in the current non-statutory consultation from the Cabinet report attached at Appendix A.

Public
Key Decision - Yes

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: East West Rail - Making Meaningful Connections
Non-Statutory Consultation

Meeting/Date: Overview & Scrutiny (Performance & Growth) – 2
June 2021
Cabinet – 17th June 2021

Executive Portfolio: Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning

Report by: Strategic Growth Manager

Ward(s) affected: All Wards

Executive Summary:

This report considers the route alignments being consulted on for the East West rail route based on the previously chosen Route E option.

In 2018, the Department for Transport created the East West Railway Company (EWRC) to look at plans being developed for a new railway between Oxford and Cambridge. The original plans were developed by the Department for Transport, Network Rail and the East West Rail Alliance. EWRC is now responsible for planning the section of East West Rail (EWR) between Bletchley and Cambridge, while overseeing delivery of the section between Bicester and Bletchley, which is being delivered by the East West Rail Alliance.

The EWR proposal is a nationally significant infrastructure project. It will enable faster journey times, lower transport costs and ease pressure on local roads. Locally, it will also open up jobs and growth opportunities and support opportunities for existing and new communities. It will support economic growth in the area as part of the wider aspirations of the Oxford-Milton Keynes-Cambridge (OxCam) Arc.

Cabinet previously considered the principle of the project and has supported Route E through the 2019 consultation by EWRC ([See Minute 62](#)). The responses to the 2019 consultation can be found at Appendix 1.

In January 2020 the preferred route was announced as Route E, which would serve:

- Bedford Midland station, providing interchange with Thameslink and Midland Main Line services

- A new station between the existing Sandy and St Neots stations, providing interchange with the East Coast Main Line
- A new station at Cambourne
- Cambridge station, after connecting to the West Anglia Main Line to the south of Cambridge, with at least some EWR services also expected to serve the proposed new Cambridge South station that is being promoted separately by Network Rail.

The provision of an east-west rail link is a key component of the Oxford to Cambridge Arc. It has been supported through the Council's own Corporate Plan, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Transport Plan (CPCA, 2020), and the England's Economic Heartland's Transport Plan (EEEH, 2021).

EWRC is currently undertaking a non-statutory consultation, the subject of this report. This report considers the current, non-statutory consultation on the EWR proposals on nine option alignments that have been considered for the new rail link based on the preferred Route E within the section passing through Huntingdonshire, called the Clapham Green (north of Bedford) and The Eversdens (northwest of Harlton) section. Appendix 2 includes a plan of the five shortlisted route alignments from the nine options considered. Specialist officers have reviewed the current consultation documents and this report outlines key elements highlighted noted. This along with the ongoing discussions with neighbouring authorities, including the Cambridgeshire County Council, will help to inform and guide the final response to be submitted by the Council, as noted in the recommendations below.

Recommendation(s):

The Cabinet is recommended to:

- a) Note the information provided in relation to the current consultation regarding potential route alignment
- b) Consider the key elements noted to be referenced in the Council's response following consultation with specialist officers and provide direction or comment.
- c) Confirm the Council's continued support of the EWR scheme including a new station to the south of St Neots
- d) Delegate authority to the Executive Leader and the Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning in consultation with the Managing Director and Strategic Growth Manager to complete and finalise the Council response to the consultation following ongoing discussions.

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides an outline of the details set out in the non-statutory consultation on the East West Rail (EWR) proposals. It sets out the background and outlines the route alignment options presented by EWR. It considers the advantages and disadvantages of the options in so far as possible with the information available at this time and current context. Recommendations on the response on behalf of Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) to the consultation are set out. If further information becomes available a further update will be provided before or at the meeting.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The EWR proposal is recognised as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). It is a key component within national transport corridor improvements, which also includes the A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Improvement Scheme, addressing the connectivity opportunities identified in the Oxford to Cambridge (OxCam) Arc Economic Prospectus. The Arc is a national economic priority area between Cambridge, Milton Keynes and Oxford – an area that spans the counties of Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire.

- 2.2 The vision for the Arc is that:

“By 2050, the Arc will be the world leading place for high-value growth, innovation and productivity. A global hub where ideas and companies are generated and thrive, home to exemplary models of 21st century development, with a high-quality environment and outstanding quality of life, and with a strong economic focus that drives inclusive clean growth. The Arc accounts for 7.1% of England’s economic output (measured by Gross Value Added, or GVA) and it is home to some of the country’s fastest growing and most innovative places. However, it is constrained by inadequate infrastructure and escalating housing costs, amongst other matters.”

The EWR proposal may open up a range of growth opportunities. The scale of this growth will be highly dependent upon the precise alignment and its relationship with the proposed A428/A421.

- 2.3 In 2019 EWR consulted on route options for EWR. A joint response by Bedford Borough Council, Huntingdonshire District Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council, and Cambridge City Council was issued along with one directly from the Council. This included reference to:

- support of additional development associated with a NSIP such as this provided there are specific identified benefits to Huntingdonshire that outweigh the overall cost
- support of the route providing the potential for growth at the junction of the East Coast Mainline, East West Rail, A1, A428/A421 between St Neots and Sandy.

- 2.4 This collective support from the Council and its neighbouring authorities noted in the above paragraph was for Route E. It also set out the shared view that the interchange with the East Coast mainline should be a new station south of St Neots; and that the route through South Cambridgeshire should be to Cambourne but must be sensitive to the relationships with existing villages and should tie in with a Cambridge South station at the biomedical campus. The full responses are shown at Appendix 1.
- 2.5 In January 2020 it was announced that the preferred route as Route E (Bedford Midland – south of St Neots / Tempsford area – Cambourne – Cambridge). EWRC has since worked on identifying alignments for the route.
- 2.6 The current consultation details can be found on the [EWR website](#). It covers customer experience, railway operations and a range of infrastructure proposals. These include route alignments, stations and level crossings. The route has been divided into six geographical areas. Project Section D covering Clapham Green to the Eversdens includes the part of the route within Huntingdonshire. Nine alignment options have been considered which have been shortlisted to five. Alignments 1 (dark blue) and 9 (purple) have been identified as the emerging preferences by EWRC (See consultation doc page 23 for reasons). A plan of the five shortlisted route alignments can be seen at Appendix 2.
- 2.7 Due to the pandemic, the usual public consultation events cannot be held but virtual consultation rooms can be visited from the EWR website. A number of events have been held that have included stakeholders and ward members to the south of the district.
- 2.8 The public consultation period is 31st March 2021 – 9th June 2021. EWRC have approved a later submission by the Council to enable Cabinet to consider the proposals.

3. ALIGNMENT PROPOSAL

- 3.1 The alignments proposed by EWR can be viewed via the consultation documents and an [Interactive Map](#). Due to information from Highways England on the A428 scheme and comments received from the 2019 consultation, EWR has considered how potential alignments in the area of the proposed A428 scheme might also perform compared to those wholly within the Preferred Route Option area. The opportunity, by working with Highways England, to modify the design of the A428 Improvement Scheme to better accommodate the new railway is noted which could:
- Allow the railway to run closer to ground level, particularly in the areas around the proposed A428 Improvement Scheme junctions and reduce the volume of earthworks and number / length of structures required for EWR.
 - Allow EWR to consider moving the railway closer (horizontally) to the road alignment where possible which may have benefits for construction and reduce overall impacts of the Project.

- Allow integration of the construction programme for both schemes, to be more efficient and minimise the overall period of time for which residents are affected by construction.
- Create efficiencies arising from joint arrangements to divert underground and overhead utility services

3.2 The nine alignments considered were assessed against a series of factors to reach the short list being consulted on (see Technical Report Chapter 9, section 9.6). These factors were transport user benefits (journey time and modal shift); contribution to enabling housing and economic growth including best serving areas benefiting from developable land; capital cost (including programme risk); overall affordability (maintenance and renewal); performance (infrastructure reliability, and resilience); safety risk (operations and maintenance); and environmental impacts and opportunities. The shortlisted five options now being consulted are noted below with information of the part of the route within Huntingdonshire to Cambourne:

- **Route Alignment 1 (dark blue)** – St Neots South Option A station to Cambourne North station
Within the district a new St Neots South Option A station is proposed where the alignment crosses the East Coast Main Line (ECML). The alignment follows the same corridor as the proposed A428 scheme running to the north of the dual carriageway and continues to the north of Cambourne where a further new station is proposed. A viaduct is proposed between the A1/Black Cat junction and the ECML.
- **Route Alignment 2 (red)** St Neots South Option A station to Cambourne South station
Within the district a new St Neots South Option A station is proposed where the alignment crosses the ECML. The alignment follows the same corridor as the proposed A428 scheme running to the north of the dual carriageway before turning south to cross the A428 scheme on a viaduct to the west of Cambourne. A new station would be located to the south of Cambourne. A viaduct is proposed between the A1/Black Cat junction and the East Coast Main Line (ECML)
- **Route Alignment 6 (light blue)** St Neots South Option B station to Cambourne South station
This alignment includes a proposed viaduct to the south of St Neots between the A1 Black Cat Junction and the ECML. It includes viaduct crossings of the A1 and the River Great Ouse. A new St Neots South Option B station would be provided where the alignment crosses the ECML. The alignment crosses under the A428 Improvement Scheme and passes to the south of Abbotsley. The alignment passes between Great Gransden and Eltisley and curves to the south to pass between Caxton and Cambourne. A station would be located south of Cambourne.
- **Route Alignment 8 (yellow)** Tempsford Option B station to Cambourne South station
This alignment proposes viaducts over the A421 and A1 roads and the River Great Ouse. The alignment passes Brickhill Country park and affects Willow Cottage Cattery. North of Tempsford the alignment passes near to a sewage treatment works before crossing the ECML

on a viaduct where a new station would be provided. The alignment curves to pass south of Abbotsley and passes between Great Gransden and Eltisley. A station would be located to the south of Cambourne.

- **Route Alignment 9 (purple)** Tempford Option A station to Cambourne North station
This alignment proposes viaducts over the A421 and A1 roads and the River Great Ouse. The alignment passes Brickhill Country park and affects Willow Cottage Cattery. North of Tempford the alignment curves to the north and crosses the ECML on a viaduct, where a new station would be provided. The alignment crosses under the proposed A428 Improvement Scheme and under the B1046. The alignment follows the same corridor as the A428 Improvement Scheme, running to the north of the new dual carriageway and continuing to the north of Cambourne. The alignment impacts the Papworth Inn to the north west of Cambourne. A station would be provided to the north of Cambourne.

3.3 EWR has identified the dark blue and purple alignments (Alignment 1 and Alignment 9) as the emerging preferences for the following reasons:

- Joined up infrastructure – they benefit from a shared ‘travel corridor’ with the proposed A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Improvement Scheme, meaning they already cover a route used regularly to connect people to places
- New housing and communities – there are more potential for new homes and communities in the area (particularly for Cambourne North compared to Cambourne South)
- Economic growth – alongside the development of new housing, a new station could bring economic growth to the community, creating more jobs and prosperity
- Value for money – they are expected to be less costly to deliver than other alignments connecting to the same station pairings.

3.4 The consultation document states that whether a new station should be at St Neots South or Tempford is still being considered. EWR have noted that there could be substantial advantages to choosing to go via Tempford but are awaiting further evidence.

4. ANALYSIS

4.1 The consultation documents have been reviewed by specialist technical officers at the Council and initial comments provided. Key areas for consideration are:

- Air quality
- Land contamination
- Vibration effects
- Lighting
- Electromagnetic radiation and odour from diesel engines
- Noise
- Landscape and Visual impacts

- Ecology and Biodiversity
 - Cultural Heritage:
 - Health Impacts including walking/cycling opportunities
 - Climate change
- 4.2 It is evident that the Arc, including EWR provides significant potential economic opportunities that weigh in favour of continued support of EWR.
- 4.3 Huntingdonshire Economic Growth Strategy signposts infrastructure improvements as one of the districts conditions for economic growth. Improved road and rail infrastructure is viewed as an essential ingredient to aid the growth of the district. An improved A428 and East West Rail is cited as an important part of this package.
- 4.4 A new station closest to St Neots (Option A St Neots South) would provide an opportunity to establish north/south and east/west connectivity within close geographic proximity. However, limited availability of evidence means that the economic advantage or disadvantage of either of the stated preferred options of Alignment 1 or Alignment 9 is difficult to assess at this stage.
- 4.5 As highlighted in the 2019 response, the risk of coalescence between St Neots and any growth has been cited. It could, with careful planning, provide a corridor to form a spinal buffer zone between existing and future development with a new station accessible to both communities. Alignments 1 & 9 have similar impacts on St Neots and are closely co-located with the A428 improvement scheme. Environmental aspects are a key consideration. Opportunities to combine mitigation to maximise environmental benefits may also be possible.
- 4.6 A key concern is the lack of detailed information evidencing how the assessments in the consultation document were made and supporting detail on the impacts and mitigation of the scheme. Of particular note is the lack of detail regarding land considered for housing and growth despite conclusions being drawn on this assessment factor in Table 9.2 of the Consultation Technical Report. As the East West Rail proposal forms part of the wider OxCam Arc growth aspirations the absence of this is critical to the ability to make fully informed judgements and responses to the choice of alignment that should be supported.
- 4.7 The consultation notes that growth potential around Tempsford has been identified in local development plans, which is not yet the case around the St Neots South station option. However, given the timeline for progressing the East West Rail project compared to that for bringing forward a replacement local plan this should not be considered a significant drawback. The potential capacity of this area will be affected by the land take necessary for the A428 and East West Rail projects and as EWR develop their proposals further it is expected that there will be continued discussions relating to anticipated growth.
- 4.8 It is considered that the EWR proposal is seen as a key opportunity to improve east-west connectivity and unlock growth opportunities. At this

time, while recognising that this is a non-statutory consultation and at the very early stages of engagement, the East West Rail consultation document states that Alignment 1 demonstrates preferable environmental improvements on air quality, climate, historic environment and water resources and flooding in comparison to Alignment 9. It goes on to say that Alignment 9 would result in a slight worsening of the impact on ecology and biodiversity, which would not be in line with the ambitions of the OxCam Arc prospectus and it would cost more. However, more detail will be required in order for officers to fully assess the alignments proposed and the necessary mitigation required, including the consideration of the economic, environmental and existing and future community needs.

5. COMMENTS OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY

- 5.1 The comments of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel will be included in this section prior to its consideration by the Cabinet.

6. KEY IMPACTS / RISKS

- 6.1 The level of future growth within the District will need to be considered. The Council will continue to work in co-operation with neighbouring authorities to understand the implications for the wider area. This is especially important in the context of the OxCam Arc and ensuring that the benefits of the Arc are fully realised for Huntingdonshire and any obstacles overcome. The EWR consultation comes ahead of a consultation on the proposed spatial framework for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc, planned for later this year.

- 6.2 Lack of detailed information is noted and, whilst it is acknowledged that this is an early stage of the EWR programme, it is key that any relevant information be made available to enable fully informed decision making. It is hoped that further detail will be provided by EWRC prior to any decision on the final alignment and station location. This is especially so as it relates to future growth and any potential environmental impacts. Officers will work with the EWR company and neighbouring authorities in seeking to ensure that these risks are adequately addressed, preferably ahead of the next stage of consultation.

7. WHAT ACTIONS WILL BE TAKEN/TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

- 7.1 The Council response will be submitted before the end of June as agreed with EWRC.

- 7.2 Following this non-statutory round of consultation, there will then be a statutory consultation at the end of 2021/early 2022, prior to submitting detailed plans to government for a development consent order (DCO). The DCO is likely to be developed and considered by stakeholders with EWR between 2022-2024. Should the DCO be approved, it is anticipated that construction on the new railway will start in 2025.

8. LINK TO THE CORPORATE PLAN, STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND/OR CORPORATE OBJECTIVES
(See Corporate Plan)

- 8.1 This helps to deliver across a number of the Council's priorities for 2018 - 2022 but specifically:
- Support development of infrastructure to enable growth.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 None currently for the Council, as this is a non-statutory consultation response. Part 6 of the Planning Act 2008 sets out the legal requirements regarding Development Consent Order applications.
- 9.2 As the DCO progresses there may be a requirement for legal representation at the Examination

10. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 There are no resource implications for the Council at this stage. As the scheme continues to be developed, more officer time will be required. This is in addition to the ongoing DCO for the A428.
- 10.2 Specialist external officer advice, including legal advice, may be required for the DCO at the Council's cost.

11. HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 The Government has recognised the need to plan for and deliver substantial new infrastructure ahead of the arrival of new communities, including necessary transport infrastructure, utilities, digital connectivity, health and education. The EWR project has potential to remove motor vehicle trips from the road and, if appropriately located and designed, encourage people to arrive at any train station by non-motorised means or public transport, with benefits to the environment air quality and health through encouraging active lifestyles.

12. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

- 12.1 It is considered there is not enough information provided in relation to how the alignments were assessed by EWRC. The Council will continue to work with EWR as further supporting material used in EWRC's assessments is made available. Similarly, further detail is required to enable fuller consideration of the potential environmental impacts.
- 12.2 At the time of drafting this report, ongoing dialogue is continuing with our neighbouring authorities and for that reason our recommendations are for the following reasons.
- The Council remains supportive of the EWR project as part of the OxCam Arc

- Support for a new station south of St Neots has previously been given by Members.
- Until such time as more detailed information is provided by EWR, it is not possible to respond in terms of stating a preferred alignment and station location
- The Council would welcome the opportunity to provide further response on this as detailed information is provided.

13. LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED

Appendix 1 – Plan of the five shortlisted route alignments

Appendix 2 – Letter responding on behalf of HDC to the 2019 consultation

14. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- [Cabinet Report February 2019](#)
- [East West Rail Consultation website](#)
- [East West Rail Consultation Technical Report](#)
- [East West Rail Interactive Map](#)

CONTACT OFFICER

Name/Job Title: Claire Burton, Implementation Team Leader
Tel No: 01223 616841
Email: claire.burton@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Appendix 1

Huntingdonshire District Council response to the 2019 consultation



Pathfinder House, St.Mary's Street
Huntingdon PE29 3TN
www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk

contact@eastwestrail.co.uk

Date: 11th March 2019

Dear Sirs

Huntingdonshire District Council's response to the East West Rail Bedford to Cambridge Route Option Consultation

Following careful consideration of the 5 proposed options, Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) supports Routes B or E on the basis that:

- **HDC is keen to welcome additional development provided there are specific identified benefits to Huntingdonshire that outweigh the additional cost, and Routes B and E have the potential to do this.**
- Along with the A428/A421, these routes would provide a key, single, multi-modal east-west transport corridor along which to concentrate connected, sustainable (economic, social and environmental) growth hubs, and encourage modal shift. This would promote real choice of transport type and costs (to the traveller). A new station south of the District's largest town, St Neots, also provides a significant and powerful opportunity to enable sustainable east-west and north-south travel and thereby expansion of that functional economic and housing market geography. A new station on the East Coast Mainline at Alconbury Weald to the north of Huntingdon would also connect the 150ha Enterprise Zone at Alconbury Weald to this North-South and East-West network.
- They provide the potential for growth at the junction of the East Coast Mainline, East-West Rail, A1, A428/A421 between St Neots and Sandy, not as further extensions to existing towns but as a new connected, sustainable settlement(s).
- We support South Cambridgeshire District Council's view that a station at Cambourne rather than Bassingbourn would be preferable to build upon the existing settlement strategy in the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan. In addition to the benefits of a single multi-modal corridor highlighted above, a single multi-modal corridor also has an important environmental benefit in that it significantly

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mail@huntsdc.gov.uk DX 140316 Huntingdon SC

reduces the visual and climate change impact compared to having two entirely separate transport/growth corridors.

- The responsibility here and now that must not be missed is the much greater and holistic opportunity to deliver the future growth and community connectivity opportunities, not just a simplistic transport operating cost/time efficiency solution.
- Route E has the collective support of South Cambridgeshire District Council, Cambridge City Council, Huntingdonshire District Council and Bedford Borough Council.

Whilst East-West Rail undoubtedly provides the opportunity for further growth, given that the consultation does not make clear what scale of growth would be needed to support any one route, it is not currently possible to say whether such growth could be physically accommodated, or whether it would be environmentally or socially acceptable.

It is essential that, following the close of this consultation period, East-West Rail Co. collaborates with local authorities along the route at each stage of the project's progression.

Yours sincerely



Graham Bull
Executive Leader

 01480 388047

Email: graham.bull@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Joint authorities' response to the 2019 consultation



Huntingdonshire
DISTRICT COUNCIL



South
Cambridgeshire
District Council



East West Railway Company Ltd
Via Email

Antoinette Jackson
Chief Executive, Cambridge City Council
Antoinette.jackson@cambridge.gov.uk
01223 457001
(on behalf of:
*Bedford Borough Council,
Huntingdonshire District Council,
South Cambridgeshire District Council, and
Cambridge City Council*)

08 March 2019

Dears Sirs

Re: East West Rail Bedford to Cambridge Route Option Consultation

The public consultation is now underway for the route options and the undersigned councils have established a common understanding of local principles that we wish to collectively register.

There is an understanding that with infrastructure investment there is an expectation of housing growth. All the councils are currently delivering significant housing growth and are continuing to work with other councils in the development of the OxCam Arc. There is already significant latent capacity within this area with thousands of new homes already "live" in the planning system. The critical measure of success for all of us is that the delivery of these new homes is accelerated. We believe this can be achieved effectively through confident and definitive decisions about investment in strategic infrastructure accompanied by a planned and sustainable approach to community development. What is important is that future growth is accompanied by the local and the strategic infrastructure expected by communities. In this way, housing should be seen as just one part of a planned approach to developing economically successful, sustainable and healthy places where people want to live and work.

Consensus has also been reached on the value of some of our existing landscapes and there is a preference for routes that do not despoil currently undeveloped countryside and make maximum use of existing corridors, so protecting existing rural communities from encroachment by urban and suburban expansions. The obvious corollary to this is that there is then a significant opportunity to enhance natural capital and reduce environmental impact.

The technical report accompanying the consultation contains limited detail on the spatial, economic and environmental considerations underpinning the development of the route options to date. It also recognises the theoretical basis for several assumptions underpinning the route identification methodology.

The consultation proposals omit significant and important detail on the environmental effects of the route options and the expectations around housing delivery. Significant further work will be required to assess the impact and acceptability of the options.

In respect of locational points we collectively agree that:

- The interchange in Bedford should serve the existing Bedford Midland station
- The interchange with the East Coast mainline should be a new station south of St Neots
- The route through South Cambridgeshire should be to Cambourne but must be sensitive to the relationships with existing villages and should tie in with a Cambridge South station at the biomedical campus.

This leads to only one conclusion which is that route E represents the Councils' favoured route based upon the material to date. There are however many nuances to this position which will be referenced by the individual council submissions, which will support the specific locational points. Given the significant work underway to consider growth in the corridor and beyond, we would also highlight the need for continued and richer engagement with the local authorities in the area as the evidence base and critical delivery requirements emerge. The decisions on strategic infrastructure cannot be taken in isolation but must have regard to local authority plans.

We look forward to continuing a positive dialogue as matters move forward.

Yours faithfully,



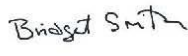
**Cllr Dave
Hodgson MBE**

Elected Mayor and
Leader of Council,
Bedford Borough
Council



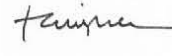
Cllr Graham Bull

Executive Leader,
Huntingdonshire
District Council



**Cllr Bridget
Smith**

Leader, South
Cambridgeshire
District Council



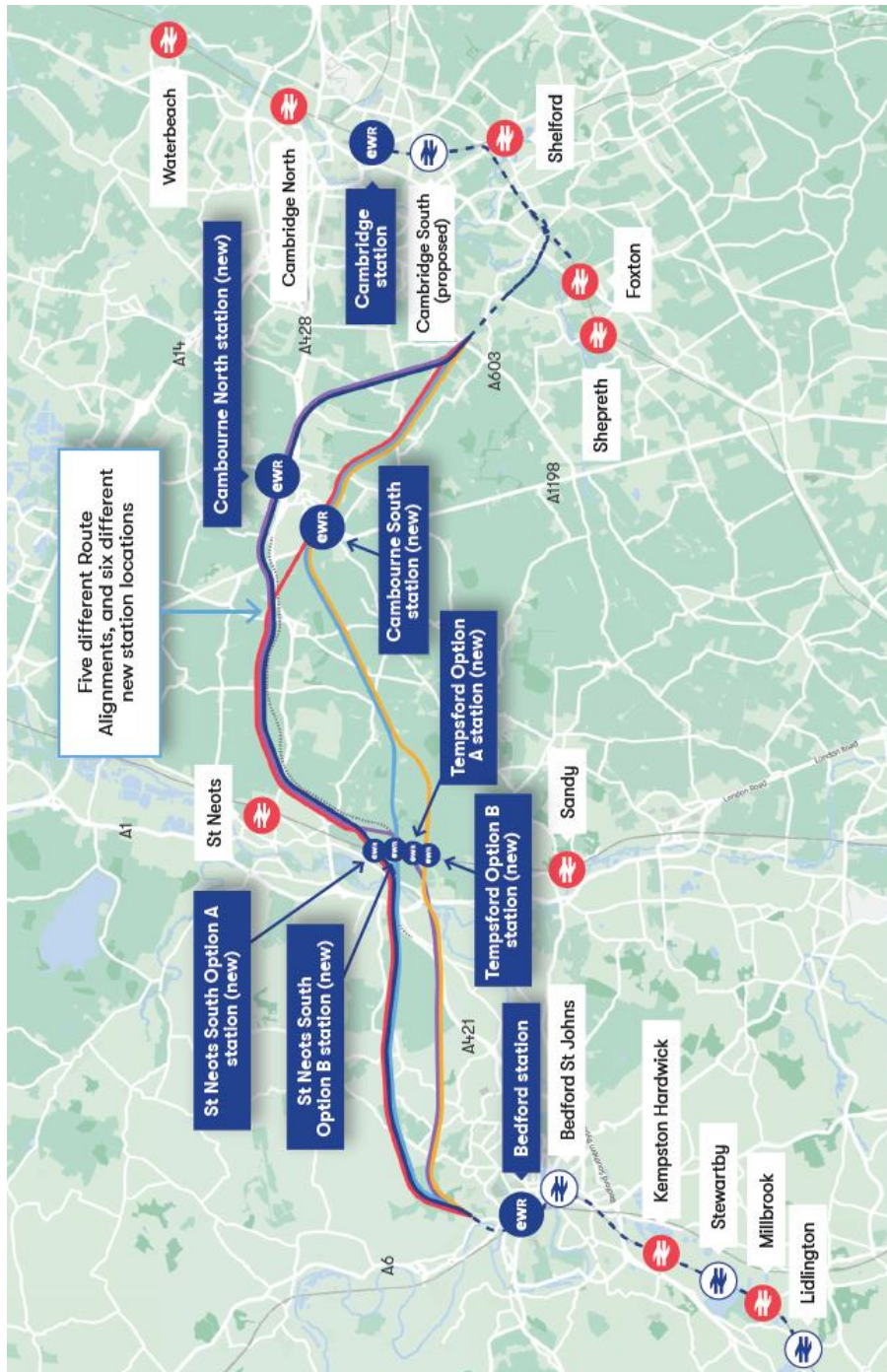
**Cllr Lewis
Herbert**

Leader,
Cambridge City
Council

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Appendix 2 – Plan of the five shortlisted route alignments



Legend

- Route Alignment 1 - Emerging preference**
St Neots South Option A station to Camboorne North station
- Route Alignment 2**
St Neots South Option A station to Camboorne South station
- Route Alignment 6**
St Neots South Option B station to Camboorne South station
- Route Alignment 9 - Emerging preference**
Tempsford Option A station to Camboorne North station

Other area of East West Rail

Station used by East West Rail services

Station that may be used by East West Rail services

Proposed A428 Alignment

Station used by National Rail

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Public
Key Decision - Yes

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Improvements Scheme

Meeting/Date: Overview & Scrutiny (Performance & Growth) – 2 June 2021

Executive Portfolio: Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning

Report by: Strategic Growth Manager

Ward(s) affected: All Wards

RECOMMENDATION

The Overview and Scrutiny Panel is invited to note the update and next steps on the A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Improvements Scheme from the Cabinet report attached at Appendix A.

Public
Key Decision - Yes

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Improvements Scheme

Meeting/Date: Overview & Scrutiny (Performance & Growth) – 2 June 2021
Cabinet – 17 June 2021

Executive Portfolio: Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning

Report by: Strategic Growth Manager

Ward(s) affected: All Wards

Executive Summary:

Proposals have been submitted to upgrade the route between the Black Cat roundabout and Caxton Gibbet roundabout with a new 10-mile dual carriageway and a number of junction improvements. The scheme is one of the key investment programmes in the area. It will improve journey times for residents, businesses and visitors and support economic growth in the area between Milton Keynes and Cambridge as part of the wider aspirations of the Cambridge-Milton Keynes-Oxford (CaMkOx) Arc.

The Council has responded to three consultations on the proposed scheme to date:

- 2017 non- statutory consultation on preferred route options. This was reported to Cabinet on 20 April 2017 ([Minute 98 refers](#)).
- 2019 statutory consultation, following announcement of the preferred, providing outline detail on the route alignment, junction designs, routes for walkers, cyclists and horse riders and plans for environmental mitigation. This was reported to Members on 18 July 2019 ([Minute 22 refers](#)).
- 2020 statutory supplementary consultation outlining a number of changes to the development boundary and to the design of the scheme. This was approved by the Leader and Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning as technical matters only.

Details of the scheme and consultations held can be found on [Highways England A428 website](#) .

The Development Consent Order (DCO) was submitted by Highways England (HE) to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) on 26th February 2021. All documentation in relation to the DCO can be viewed on the [National Infrastructure Planning website](#) . On 12th March 2021, the Council issued a response on the Adequacy of Consultation. This was approved by the Leader and Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning in consultation with the Corporate Director (Place) and the Strategic Growth Manager. The DCO application was formally accepted by PINS on the 23rd March 2021.

A briefing for members was held by Highways England on 24 March 2021 and a further round of engagement is anticipated.

This report includes an update on the Council's progress in negotiations with HE in our role as a Tier 1 Stakeholder and a statutory consultee in relation to the overall project. Recognising the strategic nature of this project throughout the process the Council has collaborated with Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) in their role as the Local Highway Authority and South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC). There have been joint discussions relating to highway matters between Highways England, CCC, and the Bedford authorities.

The report outlines next steps and key milestones in the process. It notes the key issues identified to date from analysis of the information submitted and seeks member endorsement. Recognising this is a statutory process and may include the fixed timescales for formal Council responses on matters, such as but not limited to the Joint Local Impact Report (Joint LIR), it is recommended that authority is delegated to the Executive Leader and the Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning in consultation with the Managing Director and the Strategic Growth Manager. It is important to note that both the (Draft) Joint LIR and the (Draft) SoCG will remain continually evolving documents between now and during the Examination process as matters are negotiated as far as possible towards final agreement during the coming months.

RECOMMENDED

The Cabinet is recommended to:

- a) Note the update on the A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Improvements Scheme Development Consent Order application to the Planning Inspectorate and the next stages and timescales in the process
- b) Note the emerging principles of concern identified from the technical analysis and provide member direction and comment on the key issues as outlined at paras 5.1-5.2 and any other areas for consideration.
- c) Confirm the Council's continued support of the A428 Scheme, subject to reaching agreement on identified issues with Highways England
- d) Delegate authority to the Executive Leader and the Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning in consultation with the Managing Director and the Strategic Growth Manager to finalise the preparation and submission of the documents required from the Council as part of the legal Development Consent Order process, including the joint response with Cambridgeshire County Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council including the Local Impact Report, the Statement of Common Ground and Relevant and Written Representations.

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Improvements Scheme Development Consent Order (A428 DCO) application and the next stage as the programme moves into the pre-examination stage and Examination in Public.
- 1.2 It notes the key issues identified to date from analysis of the information submitted and seeks member direction and comment on these.
- 1.3 Due to the tight timeframes that will be stipulated by the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) as the process progresses, it is recommended delegated authority is provided to ensure adherence to the short timescales for responses on matters such as, but not limited to, the responses, to be prepared with Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) and South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC), on the Joint Local Impact Report (Joint LIR), the Statement of Common Ground (SofCG) and Relevant and Written Representations.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The current A428 acts as an important route to connect to the A14 in the east, and onwards to international hubs such as Felixstowe and Harwich ports, as well as linking Bedford, Milton Keynes and the M1 to Cambridge and the M11. The stretch of A428 between the Black Cat junction on the A1 and Caxton Gibbet is the only remaining element of single carriageway and has approximately 22,000 vehicles using it every day. With considerable local housing and job growth expected in the region, this number is likely to grow to 27,000 vehicles by 2038¹. This level of use causes regular congestion and significant delays to residents, businesses, visitors and the public both at a local level and wider regional and national levels.
- 2.2 The proposed A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Improvement Scheme is a key project within national transport corridor improvements, as part of the Oxford to Cambridge (OxCam) Arc. The Arc is a national economic priority area between Cambridge, Milton Keynes and Oxford – an area that spans the counties of Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire.
- 2.3 The Government's ambition for the Arc is to unlock transformational economic growth, supported by delivery of new housing and infrastructure. Delivery of growth in the Arc provides an opportunity to deliver exceptional design and placemaking, underpinned by sustainable transport (road and rail) and environmental enhancement. The proposed A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Improvement Scheme will be a key element to achieving that vision. The Arc accounts for 7.1% of England's economic output (measured by Gross Value Added, or GVA) and it is home to some of the country's fastest growing and most innovative places. However, it is constrained by inadequate infrastructure and escalating housing costs, amongst other matters.

¹ [Highways England A428 Scheme Information web page](#)

- 2.4 Potential growth opportunities may be opened up as a result of the A428 improvement scheme. The scale of this growth will be highly dependent upon the precise route and any opportunities that may arise from co-location of the East-West Rail route with the A428 improvement scheme. However, an improved A428 will improve connectivity between Bedford and Cambridge for existing users of the network.
- 2.5 The scheme is recognised as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). Under the Localism Act 2011, the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) is the government agency responsible for operating the planning process for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs). Such projects require a type of consent known as a 'development consent' under procedures governed by the [Planning Act 2008](#) (PA2008). Development consent, where granted, is made in the form of a Development Consent Order (DCO).
- 2.6 To date there have been three key consultations on the scheme:
- 2017 non- statutory consultation on preferred route options. This was reported to Cabinet on 20 April 2017 ([Minute 98 refers](#)).
 - 2019 statutory consultation, following announcement of the preferred, providing outline detail on the route alignment, junction designs, routes for walkers, cyclists and horse riders and plans for environmental mitigation. This was reported to Members on 18 July 2019 ([Minute 22 refers](#)). Delegated authority was agreed for a response to be issued following consultation with Executive Leader and the Deputy Executive Leader.
 - 2020 statutory supplementary consultation outlining a number of changes to the development boundary and to the design of the scheme. This was approved by the Leader and Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning as technical matters only.
- 2.7 Highways England (HE) submitted the Development Consent Order (DCO) application to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) at the end of February 2021. Following this the Council was invited to submit a response on the Adequacy of Consultation. A [letter of response](#) was issued on 12 March 2021 by the Council to PINS enclosing a joint response with CCC and SCDC. This was approved by the Leader and Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning as technical matters only.
- 2.8 A member briefing on the scheme was held by Highways England on 24 March 2021 and a further one is planned in the coming month.

3. PROPOSED SCHEME

- 3.1 The A428 DCO, if approved, would authorise a new 10 mile (16km) dual 2-lane carriageway from the Black Cat roundabout in Bedfordshire to Caxton Gibbet roundabout in Cambridgeshire, to be known as the A421 (new dual carriageway) and in addition approximately 1.8 miles (3km) of tie-in works (the Scheme). Details of the scheme and the consultations held can be found on [Highways England A428 website](#) .

- 3.2 The Scheme also includes the following components:
- A new three-level grade separated junction at Black Cat roundabout, with the A1 at the lower level, the new dual carriageway on the upper level and a roundabout between the two at approximately existing ground level. In addition to slip roads, a new free flowing link between the A421 eastbound carriageway and the A1 northbound carriageway will also be provided.
 - A new grade separated all movements junction will be constructed to the east of the existing Cambridge Road roundabout to provide access to the new dual carriageway and maintain access to the existing A428.
 - At the Caxton Gibbet roundabout, a new grade separated all movements junction will be constructed, incorporating the existing roundabout on the south side of the new dual carriageway and a new roundabout on the north side. The new dual carriageway will then tie-in to the existing A428 dual carriageway to the east of the new Caxton Gibbet junction.
 - In the vicinity of the new Black Cat junction, direct access onto the A1 from some local side roads and private premises will be closed for safety reasons. A new local road will provide an alternative route. The existing Roxton Road bridge will be demolished and replaced with a new structure to the west to accommodate the realigned A421.
 - New crossings will be constructed to enable the new dual carriageway to cross the River Great Ouse, East Coast Main Line railway, Barford Road, the B1046/Potton Road, Toseland Road and the existing A428 at Eltisley. The existing A428 between St Neots and Caxton Gibbet will be de-trunked and retained for local traffic and public transport with maintenance responsibility transferred to the local highway authorities.
 - An alternative access will be provided to side roads at Chawston, Wyboston and Eltisley.
 - There will be safer routes for walkers, cyclists, and horse riders.
 - The Scheme also involves changes to a number of existing utilities, including the diversion of a high pressure gas pipeline operated by Cadent Gas Limited which runs parallel to the East Coast Main Line east of the River Great Ouse in Tempsford in Central Bedfordshire.

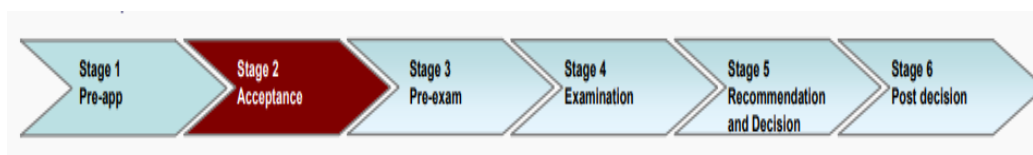
3.2 Highways England has identified six key benefits and objectives in developing the A428 scheme, as follows;

- Enabling economic growth
- A safe and serviceable network
- A more free-flowing network
- An improved environment
- A more accessible and integrated network
- Customer satisfaction

3.3 Throughout the process the Council has collaborated with CCC, as Local Highways Authority, and SCDC on the consideration of this scheme. The position jointly has been one of strong support for the overall aim of the scheme whilst recognising the need to hold Highways England to account on all matters as the A428 DCO has progressed. Over the past year, the Council has continued to engage with Highways England (HE) in our role as a key Stakeholder and a statutory consultee in relation to the overall project.

4. THE DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER PROCESS

4.1 The consenting process has six key stages.



4.2 The process is currently in stage 3, the pre-examination stage. Further detail on the stages and role of the Council during each of these stages is shown at Appendix 1.

4.3 A Preliminary Meeting will be held shortly before the Examination starts which will cover technical and procedural matters and outline the timetable for consideration of the A428 scheme by the Inspector. In order to ensure compliance with the short timescale permitted to respond to PINS, it is recommended that delegated authority is agreed.

4.4 A Planning Performance Agreement was negotiated with Highways England between the Council, SCDC and CCC to cover costs of non-statutory areas of work and advise during the pre-examination stage.

4.5 All documentation in relation to the A428 DCO submitted by Highways England and responses received by PINS can be viewed at the [National Infrastructure Planning website](#) .

5. ANALYSIS OF THE A428 SCHEME FOR CONSIDERATION

5.1 The A428 DCO was submitted by Highways England to the Planning Inspectorate (PINs) on 26th February 2021 following which the specialist officers at Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) along with colleagues at Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC), as Local Highways Authority, and South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC), have been analysing the information provided. The key matters for consideration are:

- Biodiversity
- Landscape
- Air quality
- Contaminated Land
- Cultural Heritage
- Non-motorised use/ Rights of Way
- Cycling
- Highway Network Impact
- Carbon/Climate change

5.2 Other key areas identified, which are the specific responsibility of CCC are:

- Minerals and Waste
- Flooding and Drainage
- Modelling
- Highway Design

- The agreement of protective provisions
- 5.3 The above are the key issues but this is an ongoing process and as such matters will evolve as the DCO is progressed. It is for that reason that delegated authority is recommended.
- 5.4 Specialist officers from HDC, SCDC and CCC attend Local Technical Working Group meetings together in order to ensure a consistent approach in the preparation of the joint Local Impact Report, the Statement of Common Ground and Written Representations as the A428 DCO moves into the Examination stage.
- 5.5 The Relevant Representations have to be submitted to PINs by the 10th June. At the time of drafting this report, these are still being drafted and as per recommendation and para 1.3 above, the completion of this requirement will be delegated accordingly. A further update to Cabinet will be provided at or before the meeting.
- 5.6 Members are asked to consider the issues identified and endorse the approach as set out in this report.

6. COMMENTS OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY

- 6.1 The comments of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel will be included in this section prior to its consideration by the Cabinet.

7. RISKS

- 7.1 In the event HDC does not provide formal comments within the prescribed timescales the views of the Council may not be considered at key stages of the process. Meetings between stakeholders and HE will be held regularly to reach resolution or further discussion through the examination process.
- 7.2 The timetable as outlined below is set by PINS and out of the control of the Council. Requirements will need to be addressed as set out by PINS and will need to be addressed as a priority by officers across the Council, with potential impacts on the timeline of other areas of work.

8. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

- 8.1 The Relevant Representations have to be submitted to PINs by the 10th June as referenced at para 5.5.
- 8.2 A timetable will be set for the next stages within the examination by PINs at the Preliminary Meeting, likely to be in the summer 2021. Following the Examination, the final decision on the application for development consent submitted by Highways England is expected to be made by the Secretary of State for Transport, early in 2022.
- 8.3 Indicative timelines for the A428 DCO process as part of the OxCam Arc are shown at Appendix 2.

9. LINK TO THE CORPORATE PLAN, STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND/OR CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

(See Corporate Plan)

- 9.1 This helps to deliver across a number of the Council's priorities for 2018 - 2022 but specifically:
- Support development of infrastructure to enable growth.

10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 Part 6 of the Planning Act 2008 sets out the legal requirements for deciding applications for orders granting development consent.
- 10.2 As the DCO progresses there may be a requirement for legal representation at the Examination.

11. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 A Planning Performance Agreement was negotiated with Highways England to cover the cost of non-statutory engagement and collaboration prior to the submission. External support in specialist areas such as ecology may continue to be required in order for the Council to meet its statutory responsibilities.
- 11.2 Specialist officer time across the Council will need to be prioritised to accord with the timetable set by the Planning Inspectorate.
- 11.3 In addition to this DCO, East West Rail are due to submit a DCO application which will require more officer time but from the same resources.

12. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

- 12.1 The A428 scheme is an infrastructure proposal of national significance. The Council has continued to support the proposal on the basis that it will, with other interventions, provide transport capacity to support the significant levels of growth planned for the district as detailed in the Huntingdonshire Local Plan 2036 and relieve existing congestion that constrains GVA productivity.
- 12.2 The proposed scheme is part of a coherently planned local and regional transport network, that of necessity should interact and integrate with capacity being provided elsewhere including:
- East West Rail Central Section between Bedford and Cambridge
 - The A1 East of England Study improvements
- 12.3 Delegated authority is recommended in order to meet the short timescales to be set by PINS through the examination process.

13. LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED

Appendix 1 – Stages of the Development Consent Order
Appendix 2 – A428 Indicative Timeline

14. BACKGROUND PAPERS

[Planning Act 2008](#)

[Highways England A428 website](#) .

[National Infrastructure Planning website](#) .

CONTACT OFFICER

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Email: claire.burton@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Appendix 1

Stages of the Development Consent Order

Stage 1 Pre-app – now complete

As a statutory consultee, this has included consideration of the Statement of Community Consultation, negotiation on the Planning Performance Agreement with HE and attendance at a range of meetings at a Strategic Board level and a specialist level through Technical Working Groups and Work Package consideration.

Stage 2 Acceptance – now complete

Following the submission of the DCO application by HE to the Planning Inspectorate (PINs), the work moved into the acceptance stage. During the acceptance stage, which was required to be completed by PINs within 28 days, local authorities had the opportunity to make representations on the adequacy of the applicants consultation, as outlined in Section 55 of the Planning Act 2008. This was submitted 12 March 2021 and can be viewed with all other documentation on the PINS website as noted at para 4.5 in the main report. At this time local authorities are also advised to start thinking about the content of the Local Impact Report which will be requested at the next stage.

Stage 3 Pre-examination – current stage

This stage can take around 3 months. At this stage the application has been accepted and interested parties have the opportunity to register their interest in the application with PINS. Key elements of work during this stage will be to continue working with CCC and GCSPS to engage with HE on the Statement of Common Ground, the Local Impact Report and any Written Representations and the attendance at a Preliminary Meeting with all parties and PINS to discuss process matters including the forward timetable of the examination. The Preliminary Meeting could be held in the summer 2021.

Stage 4 Examination

The examination stage can take between three and six months, up to February 2021. The key roles for the Council at this time will be in relation to the Local Impact Report, Statement of Common Ground and Written Representations.

Stage 5 Recommendation and Decision

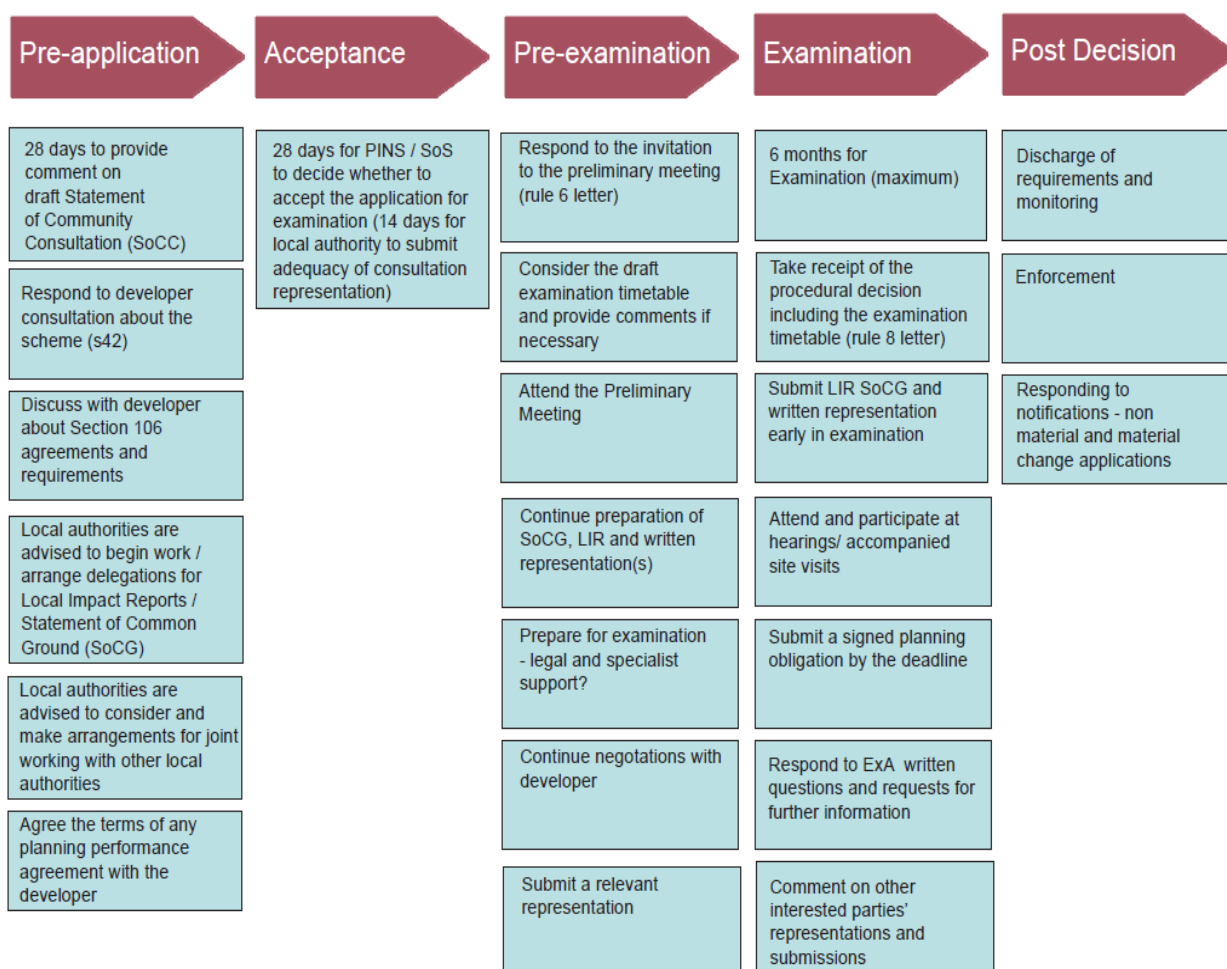
Following the examination, a recommendation will be issued by PINs within 3 months. The Secretary of State then has a further 3 months to issue a decision on the proposal.

Stage 6 Post Decision

Working with HE as the proposal moves into construction.

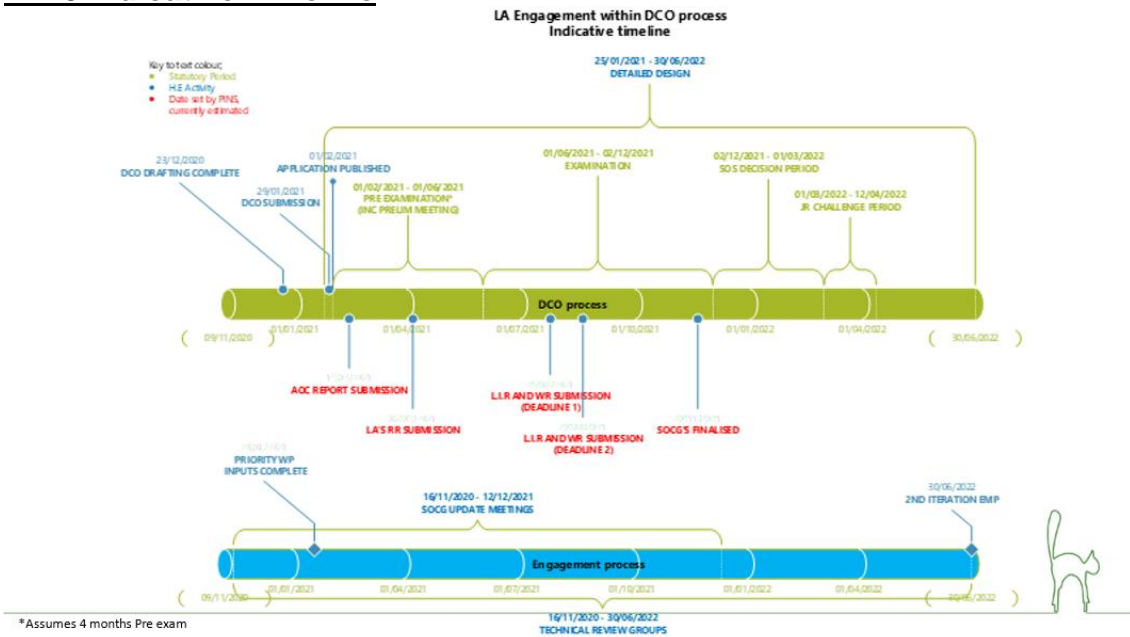
The diagram below provides more detail on the role of the Council during the DCO process.

The role of local authorities



Appendix 2

A428 Indicative Timeline



The above is an indicative timeline only from Highways England. The application was submitted one month later than shown. Acceptance by PINs was within the statutory 28-day period.

Construction is due to start in 2022 with the road opening in 2025/26.

Public
Key Decision - No

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: Corporate Performance Report, 2020/21 Quarter 4

Meeting/Date: Overview and Scrutiny (Performance and Growth) Panel, 2 June 2021

Executive Portfolio: Councillor Jon Neish, Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning

Report by: Business Intelligence & Performance Manager

Ward(s) affected: All

RECOMMENDATION

The Overview and Scrutiny Panel is invited to comment on details of delivery of Corporate Plan key actions and corporate indicators and current projects from the Cabinet report attached.

Please note the report does not incorporate the usual Financial Performance Monitoring Suite information setting out the financial position at the end of the Quarter. This information is being reported as a separate item to Overview and Scrutiny (Performance and Growth) Panel and Cabinet, due to the need for separate focus on financial matters as a result of the impact from Covid-19.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter:	Corporate Performance Report, 2020/21 Quarter 4
Meeting/Date:	Cabinet, 17 June 2021
Executive Portfolio:	Councillor Jon Neish, Executive Councillor for Strategic Planning
Report by:	Business Intelligence & Performance Manager
Ward(s) affected:	All

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to brief Members on results at the end of the financial year for the Key Actions and Corporate Indicators listed in the Council's Corporate Plan 2018/22 and progress on current projects being undertaken.

Key Actions, Corporate Indicators and targets are as included in the Corporate Plan Refresh 2020/21, as approved by Council on 14 October 2020.

The report does not incorporate the usual Financial Performance Monitoring Suite information setting out the financial position at the end of the Quarter. This information is being reported as a separate item to Overview and Scrutiny (Performance and Growth) Panel and Cabinet, due to the need for separate focus on financial matters as a result of the impact from Covid-19.

Recommendations:

The Cabinet is invited to consider and comment on progress made against the Key Actions and Corporate Indicators in the Corporate Plan and current projects, as summarised in Appendix A and detailed in Appendices B and C.

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present details of delivery of the Corporate Plan 2018/22, and project delivery.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council's Corporate Plan has been refreshed to reflect the impact of Covid-19 on services and was approved at the Council meeting on 14 October 2020. The performance data in this report and its appendices relates to the indicators and actions selected for 2020/21. The information in the summary at **Appendix A** relates to Key Actions and Corporate Indicators and the performance report at **Appendix B** details the year end results.
- 2.2 As recommended by the Project Management Select Committee, updates for projects based on latest approved end dates are included at **Appendix C**. Across all programmes there are currently 26 projects which are open, pending approval or pending closure.

3. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

- 3.1 Members of the Overview and Scrutiny (Performance and Growth) Panel have an important role in the Council's Performance Management Framework and a process of regular review of performance data has been established. The focus is on the strategic priorities and associated objectives to enable Scrutiny to maintain a strategic overview. Their comments on performance in Quarter 4 will be added to section 4 of this report following the Overview and Scrutiny meeting on 2 June 2021.
- 3.2 Progress against Corporate Plan objectives is reported quarterly. The report at **Appendix B** includes details of all Key Actions and Corporate Indicators at the end of Quarter 4. **Appendix C** provides information about projects, including the purpose of the project and commentary from the project managers as to the current status of each project.
- 3.3 Performance Indicator data has been collected in accordance with standardised procedures.
- 3.4 The following table summarises final outturn progress in delivering Key Actions for 2020/21:

Status of Key Actions	Number	Percentage
Green (on track)	27	71%
Amber (within acceptable variance)	9	24%
Red (behind schedule)	2	5%
Awaiting progress update	0	0%
Not applicable	1	

Most key actions were on track at the year end, with two significantly behind schedule. Both 'Red' actions were due to the impact of the lockdown requiring the leisure centres to close. Without these facilities open, the Council's ability to work with partners to provide greater leisure and health opportunities (KA 1) and to take actions to aid

recovery from the pandemic around promotion of health and wellbeing, sport and fitness activities, weight loss and healthy eating (KA 3) was significantly hampered.

Actions which had positive progress in 2020/21 include:

- KA 2. A Healthy Open Spaces Strategy and Plan were approved in October 2020.
- KA 4. We awarded £287k from the Discretionary Hardship Fund to help people in need with their housing costs in addition to £632k in Hardship Fund payments to working aged people claiming Council Tax Support.
- KAs 5-7. Strategic and practical work has helped to reduce homelessness, with a new Lettings Policy adopted in March 2021, action taken to house rough sleepers as part of the 'Everyone In' pandemic response and efforts with a range of partners continuing to identify early intervention opportunities to prevent homelessness.
- KA 8. Six community-based job clubs are due to be launched across the district.
- KA 10-12. Support for voluntary and community organisations has been invaluable in delivering local, community-led responses to the impacts of Covid-19.
- KA 15. A new Waste Minimisation Strategy and Action Plan have been approved.
- KA 16. Electric vehicle charging points have now been installed in car parks in St Neots, St Ives and Huntingdon, with energy supplying over 3,000 miles of cleaner travel enabled in the first 5-6 weeks of operation.
- KA 21. An Economic Growth Strategy for Huntingdonshire has been adopted.
- KA 22-25 & KA 27. The Growth team continues to work with partners including the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority and key transport providers to secure funding and delivery of projects to support the development of infrastructure to enable growth. This includes over £6m of funding for Future High Streets Fund projects in St Neots. Masterplanning continues in other market towns.
- KAs 30 & 31. Work to improve the supply of new and affordable housing has included approval gained for the sale of Council-owned land to deliver affordable homes and the adoption of a new Housing Strategy in October 2020.
- KAs 33, 34, 37 & 38. Progress has continued with actions to improve the Council's use of data, digital skills and understanding of residents and customers, including the transition of the contact centre onto a new digital platform alongside the creation of more self-service forms to improve efficiency and customer experience.

Most of the Key Actions that have been given an Amber status relate to impacts from the effects of the national lockdown and the impacts of Covid-19 on our activities, including the need to divert resources from planned activities to aid emergency and recovery work. The pandemic has been a factor in delays to KA 11 (working with partners to improve opportunities for residents in the Oxmoor area), KA 14 (planning to protect and increase biodiversity in our parks and open spaces), KA 26 (preparing and implementing an updated Section 106 Supplementary Planning Document and Community Infrastructure Levy charging schedule) and KA 32 (managing non-operational assets), KA 36 (developing a workforce strategy).

3.5 Final outturn results for 2020/21 Corporate Indicators are shown in the following table:

Corporate Indicator results	Number	Percentage
Green (achieved)	21	60%
Amber (within acceptable variance)	12	34%
Red (below acceptable variance)	2	6%
Awaiting progress update	0	0%
Not applicable (data/target unavailable)	2	

This shows the Council achieved the majority of its targets in 2020/21, while only two indicators had a Red status due to performance being below an acceptable variance.

A summary of the performance indicators follows below with more detail provided in Appendix B. It should be noted that some targets had previously been revised to account for the impacts of the pandemic/lockdown on services, where possible.

Indicators where services met or exceeded their targets last year include the following:

- PIs 1 & 2. The Benefits Team's processing times for new claims and changes of circumstance remained within target despite significant increases in volume.
- PI 3. The number of homelessness preventions was higher than in 2019/20 despite court action being suspended and the pandemic/lockdown restrictions limiting some prevention activities.
- PI 9. 90% of areas sampled were clean or predominately clean, with continued regular cleaning and additional resource leading to high levels of cleanliness in open spaces and rural areas despite an increase in use of open spaces.
- PI 10. A combination of the new in-cab technology system and monitoring from waste managers resulted in a reduction in the number of missed bin collections.
- PI 15. There were no costs awards against the Council from planning appeals.
- PIs 17-19. There were improvements in the processing speeds of all types (major, minor, household extensions) of planning application when compared to 2019-20.
- PI 22. The amount of energy used in Council buildings in 2020/21 was significantly lower than in previous years. While much of this related to the closure of leisure centres due to lockdown restrictions, both Pathfinder House and Eastfield House used less energy despite remaining open throughout the year.
- PI 26. Satisfaction with ICT support services remained on target despite service outages in Q3 which had been expected to affect performance.
- PI 28. The annual staff sickness rate is the lowest ever reported, although non-sickness absences related to Covid-19 are not included in this figure.
- PI 29. Estate rental income remained above the revised target with better than expected letting numbers but was lower than the performance reported in 2019/20.
- PIs 30, 33, 35 & 36. Customer Services have reported good performance in several areas, including 89% of calls to the Call Centre answered in the year, although there are concerns about the accuracy of the data recorded which will be resolved through a move to a new system by October 2021. The target for responding to Stage 1 complaints was met, the number of avoidable contacts was reduced and there are now over 24,000 accounts on our customer portal, equivalent to over 30% of households if each account relates to a separate household.

Indicators where services are below their targets as a direct result of the impact of Covid-19 are:

- PI 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8. Lockdown restrictions and closures affected Leisure Centre and Active Lifestyles activities throughout most of 2020/21. While reduced targets had been met at the end of Quarter 3 for most of these performance indicators, the third lockdown prevented most activities and classes from taking place during Quarter 4.
- PI 13. Lockdown has resulted in fewer taxi/hackney carriage/private hire vehicle licence applications, so fewer newer vehicles licensed has meant fewer meeting low vehicle emission standards than expected when the target was set.
- PI 20. Covid-19 is said to have affected the number of new affordable homes built.

- PI 23. Despite significant issues affecting many local businesses during the year, the target to collect 99% of Business Rates in year was only just missed (98%) while the team was also able to award around £22m of reliefs to qualifying firms.

There was one Red indicator with performance below acceptable variance that was not directly linked to Covid-19 or the impact of the lockdown on services:

- PI 27. Only 76% of invoices from suppliers were paid within 30 days, with a significant number of invoices still not issued according to the agreed process. Retrospective invoicing (not raising a purchase order until after the invoice has arrived) and non-timely receipting of goods/services received are the key issues.

3.6 The status of corporate projects at the end of March is shown in the following table.

Corporate project status	Number	Percentage
Green (progress on track)	11	42%
Amber (progress behind schedule, project may be recoverable)	15	58%
Red (significantly behind schedule, serious risks/issues)	0	0%
Pending closure	0	
Closed (completed)	0	
Awaiting progress update	0	

There are no projects showing as Red at the end of Quarter 4.

Details of all projects can be found in **Appendix C**.

4. COMMENTS OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANELS

4.1 The Overview and Scrutiny (Performance & Growth) Panel is due to receive this report at its meeting on 2 June 2021. Comments from the Panel will be inserted here after that meeting.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 The Cabinet is invited to consider and comment on progress made against Key Actions and Corporate Indicators in the Corporate Plan and current projects, as summarised in **Appendix A** and detailed in **Appendices B and C**.

6. LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED

Appendix A – Corporate Performance Summary, Quarter 4, 2020/21

Appendix B – Corporate Plan Performance Report, Quarter 4, 2020/21

Appendix C – Project Performance, March 2021

CONTACT OFFICERS

Corporate Plan Performance Monitoring (Appendices A and B)

Daniel Buckridge, Business Intelligence and Performance Manager ☎ (01480) 388065

Project Performance (Appendix C)

Manjit Pope, Programme Delivery Manager, email manjit.pope@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

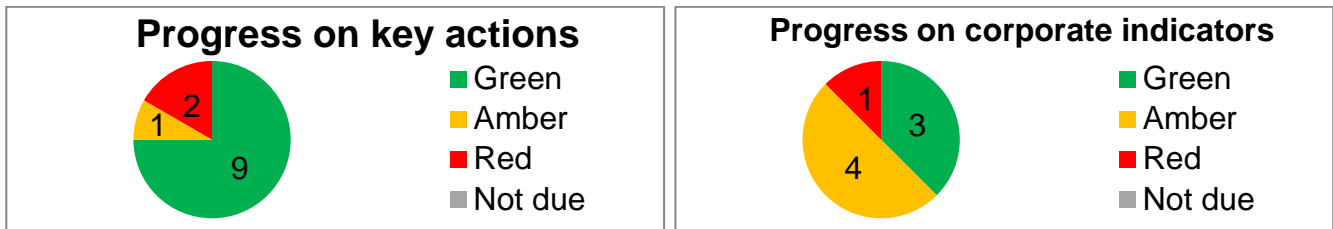
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Appendix A

Corporate Performance Summary Quarter 4, 2020/21

People

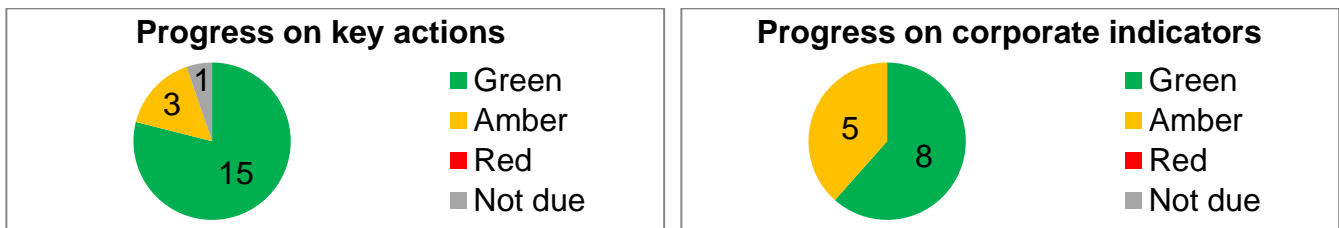
We want to make Huntingdonshire a better place to live, to improve health and well-being and for communities to get involved with local decision making



Highlights include improved processing speed for new Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support claims despite an overall 25% increase in volume mainly attributable to the pandemic.

Place

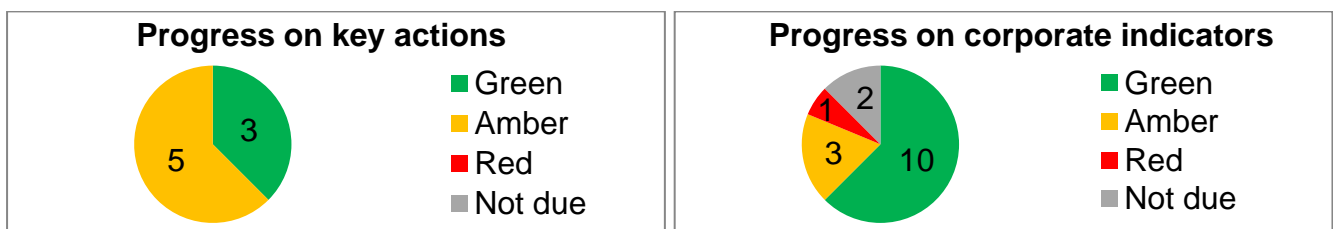
We want to make Huntingdonshire a better place to work and invest and we want to deliver new and appropriate housing



Highlights include the completion of electric vehicle charging point installation in car parks in St Neots, St Ives and Huntingdon.

Becoming a more efficient and effective council

We want to continue to deliver value for money services



Highlights include a further reduction in the annual sickness absence rate among staff (note: this excludes non-sickness absences related to Covid-19, such as those required to shield or isolate who were unable to work from home).

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STRATEGIC THEME – PEOPLE

Period January to March 2021

Summary of progress for Key Actions

G	Progress is on track	A	Progress is within acceptable variance	R	Progress is behind schedule	?	Awaiting progress update	n/a	Not applicable to state progress
	9		1		2		0		0

Target dates do not necessarily reflect the final completion date. The date given may reflect the next milestone to be reached.

Summary of progress for Corporate Indicators

G	Performance is on track	A	Performance is within acceptable variance	R	Performance is below acceptable variance	?	Awaiting performance update	n/a	Not applicable to assess performance
	3		4		1		0		0

WE WANT TO: Support people to improve their health and well-being

Status	Key Actions for 2020/21	Target date	Portfolio Holder	Head of Service	Progress Update to be reported each Quarter
R	KA 1. Work in partnership to provide greater leisure and health opportunities to enable more people to be more active, more often	Ongoing	Cllr Prentice / Cllr Bywater	Jayne Wisely	Closures to the leisure industry dictated that the service was only able to deliver face to face activity for 5 months of the year with severe restrictions around what could and could not be delivered during those months. Online services were developed but had limited uptake as customers responded to

Status	Key Actions for 2020/21	Target date	Portfolio Holder	Head of Service	Progress Update to be reported each Quarter
					surveys stating that they valued the human interaction and therefore found alternatives during periods of closure.
G	KA 2. Establish a Healthy Open Spaces Strategy and Plan to maximise the health benefits of the Council's Parks and Open Spaces	Strategy to Cabinet, 22/10/2020	Cllr Beuttell	Neil Sloper	Approved 22nd October.
R	KA 3. Recovery Action (One Leisure and Active Lifestyles – e.g. promoting health and wellbeing, sport and fitness activities, weight loss, healthy eating)	Ongoing	Cllr Prentice / Cllr Bywater	Jayne Wisely	Whilst recovery commenced on two occasions, subsequent decisions to shut down facilities and activities meant that by the end of the financial year only outdoor activities had resumed (for 3 days). Online services via the Training Shed App and Classes were delivered as an alternative for those that were seeking support.
G	KA 4. Provide financial assistance to people on low incomes to pay their rent and Council Tax	Ongoing	Cllr Gray	Amanda Burns	Maximised spend on Discretionary Hardship Fund to help people with their housing costs - £287k awarded. Continued to award Hardship Fund payments to working age people claiming Council Tax Support - £632k awarded.
G	KA 5. Ensure that the principles of earlier interventions aimed at preventing homelessness are embedded within public sector organisations and other stakeholder partners	Ongoing	Cllr Fuller	Jon Collen	The focus of our work is on earlier intervention where possible to help achieve successful homelessness preventions. This has been aided by multi agency pathways and protocols across a range of other partners to help identify earlier intervention opportunities. This has been a key part of our Covid-19 response in particular to ensure that those most at risk to the threat of rough sleeping have been assisted during the pandemic.
G	KA 6. Adopt a new Homelessness Strategy and a new Lettings Policy	December 2020	Cllr Fuller	Jon Collen	Lettings Policy was adopted in March 2021 and will be fully implemented once all the Home-Link partner local authorities take the policy through their Member processes. Consultation on the Homelessness

Status	Key Actions for 2020/21	Target date	Portfolio Holder	Head of Service	Progress Update to be reported each Quarter
					Strategy approved by Cabinet in February 2020 was delayed by our Covid-19 response and is still to go ahead. A revision of the strategy in response to the pandemic's impact on homelessness is also being considered prior to full adoption of the new strategy.
G	KA 7. Identify and implement solutions to eradicate the need to place homeless families in B&Bs	Ongoing	Cllr Fuller	Jon Collen	Although use of hotels and B&Bs increased for single rough sleepers as part of the 'Everyone In' pandemic response, this accommodation is not used for families with children. A further 22 short term lets provided by Chorus will come on line in April 2021 as the conversion of an outdated Sheltered scheme to this use is completed.

WE WANT TO: Develop a flexible and skilled local workforce

Status	Key Actions for 2020/21	Target date	Portfolio Holder	Head of Service	Progress Update to be reported each Quarter
G	KA 8. Recovery Action (Community / Economic Development – e.g. promoting opportunities for local people to improve their skills and experience)	Ongoing	Cllr Neish	Finlay Flett / Clara Kerr	A plan has been developed around the implementation of six community based job clubs across Huntingdonshire. Social Echo located in Yaxley launch on 1st June 2021 with face to face and online courses, skills and employment support available. Brampton have received their training and will also launch on 1st June 2021. Discussions underway with St Neots partners in relation to a shared offer with Diamond Hampers. 'Payment by Results' type funding offered to the Job Clubs by Cambridgeshire Skills.

WE WANT TO: Develop stronger and more resilient communities to enable people to help themselves

Status	Key Actions for 2020/21	Target date	Portfolio Holder	Head of Service	Progress Update to be reported each Quarter
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Status	Key Actions for 2020/21	Target date	Portfolio Holder	Head of Service	Progress Update to be reported each Quarter
G	KA 9. Support community planning including working with parishes to complete Neighbourhood Plans	Ongoing	Cllr Neish	Clara Kerr	Bury and Buckden Neighbourhood Plans going to referendum on 6th May.
G	KA 10. Award and manage contracts for a public advice service and an infrastructure and support service for the voluntary sector	Ongoing	Cllr Gray / Cllr Bywater	Finlay Flett	Contract in place with CAB which has been flexed in line with the needs identified as a result of the pandemic. Contract in place with Hunts Forum who were heavily involved with the development of the Recognised Organisations as well as the ongoing development of these. They have offered key support and advice to the community and voluntary sector throughout the pandemic.
A	KA 11. Develop our asset-based approach to working with partners to improve opportunities for residents in the Oxmoor area, taking actions to increase community resilience and reduce demands and pressures on partner organisations	Ongoing	Cllr Bywater	Finlay Flett	Developing Oxmoor initiative has been slowed by the pandemic but initiatives have continued and a number of new projects have got underway. This includes the opening of a community fridge based within a primary school that since 25th March 2021 has issued 1418.43kgs of food that would have otherwise gone to landfill. The offer will expand to cover hygiene products from 25th May 2021. Funding has also been secured from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to jointly fund a post within St Peters school that will work directly with male pupils at risk of becoming a victim or a perpetrator of crime, disorder or anti-social behaviour (ASB). The project will focus on keeping aspirations high.
G	KA 12. Recovery Action (Community – e.g. work with Recognised Organisations or other community organisations to increase volunteering)	Ongoing	Cllr Bywater	Finlay Flett	Work underway with Hunts Forum to review the definition of Recognised Organisations potentially into a tier system. This will mean that more community and voluntary organisations will be eligible for receiving the recognition and in turn increase the opportunities for volunteering.

Corporate Performance and Contextual Indicators

Key to status

G	Performance is on track	A	Performance is within acceptable variance	R	Performance is below acceptable variance	?	Awaiting performance update	n/a	Not applicable to assess performance
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Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 1. Average number of days to process new claims for Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support (cumulative year to date) Aim to minimise	23	24	21	G

Comments: (Revenues & Benefits) There was an overall 25% increase in the volume of work received mainly attributable to the pandemic. Additional temporary staff were taken on to assist with this. Proactive work was carried out to encourage people claiming Universal Credit to claim Council Tax Support (CTS). Housing Benefit caseload has reduced as people gradually migrate to Universal Credit but CTS caseload has increased due to people not working as a result of the pandemic.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 2. Average number of days to process changes of circumstances for Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support (cumulative year to date) Aim to minimise	3.4	5.0	4.5	G

Comments: (Revenues & Benefits) There was an overall 25% increase in the volume of work received mainly attributable to the pandemic. Additional temporary staff were taken on to assist with this. Over 56,000 changes to claims were processed during the year.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 3. Number of homelessness preventions achieved (cumulative year to date) Aim to maximise	521	400	523	G

Comments: (Housing Needs & Resources) The cumulative number of successful homelessness preventions to the end of Q4 was 523 (119 in Q1, 113 in Q2, 142 in Q3 and 150 in Q4). Although prevention work has been impacted during the pandemic lockdown as Court action was suspended and prevention activities are also more limited, this has picked up in Q3 & Q4 with a higher number of successes in Q4 as landlords and agents have restarted possession action processes where we have then been able to positively intervene.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 4. More people taking part in sport and physical activity: Number of individual One Card holders using One Leisure Facilities services over the last 12 months (rolling 12 months) Aim to maximise	43,383	40,000	6,829	R

Comments: (Leisure and Health) The full year (April 20-March 21) has been affected by Covid-19. The service was unable to operate 'normally' at any point in the year. Activities were either not permitted or subject to restrictions (outdoor sessions, limited numbers, etc...). Staff were redeployed to other business areas (business grants, pharmacy deliveries, etc...) or furloughed.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 5. More people taking part in sport and physical activity: Number of individual One Leisure Active Lifestyles service users (cumulative year to date) Aim to maximise	4,023	1,400	824	A

Comments: (Leisure and Health) The full year (April 20-March 21) has been affected by Covid-19. The service was unable to operate 'normally' at any point in the year. Activities were either not permitted or subject to restrictions (outdoor sessions, limited numbers, etc...). Staff were redeployed to other business areas (business grants, pharmacy deliveries, etc...) or furloughed.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 6. Providing more opportunities for people to be more active: Number of sessions delivered by One Leisure Active Lifestyles (cumulative year to date) Aim to maximise	4,526	1,500	719	A

Comments: (Leisure and Health) See commentary for PI 5.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 7. People participating more often: Number of One Leisure Facilities admissions – swimming, Impressions,	1,425,633	350,000	304,290	A

fitness classes, sports hall, pitches, bowling and Burgess Hall (excluding school admissions) (cumulative year to date)				
Aim to maximise				

Comments: (Leisure and Health) See commentary for PI 4.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 8. People participating more often: One Leisure Active Lifestyles total attendances (cumulative year to date)	57,098	12,000	5,709	A
Aim to maximise				

Comments: (Leisure and Health) See commentary for PI 5.

STRATEGIC THEME – PLACE

Period January to March 2021

Summary of progress for Key Actions

G	Progress is on track	A	Progress is within acceptable variance	R	Progress is behind schedule	?	Awaiting progress update	n/a	Not applicable to state progress
15		3		0		0		1	

Target dates do not necessarily reflect the final completion date. The date given may reflect the next milestone to be reached.

Summary of progress for Corporate Indicators

G	Performance is on track	A	Performance is within acceptable variance	R	Performance is below acceptable variance	?	Awaiting performance update	n/a	Not applicable to assess performance
8		5		0		0		0	

WE WANT TO: Create, protect and enhance our safe and clean built and green environment

Status	Key Actions for 2020/21	Target date	Portfolio Holder	Head of Service	Progress Update to be reported each Quarter
G	KA 13. Establish a new park in St Ives	31 March 2021	Cllr Beuttell	Neil Sloper	The new park, named Berman Park, opened for public use on the Easter weekend.
A	KA 14. Adopt a plan and deliver increases in nature – protecting and increasing biodiversity within our parks and open spaces	30/06/2021	Cllr Beuttell	Neil Sloper	Work on hold due to Covid-19 and maintaining service delivery. Anticipated delivery now Q2 2021/22.
G	KA 15. Adopt Waste Minimisation Plan and deliver programme of waste	Strategy to Cabinet,	Cllr Beuttell	Neil Sloper	A new Waste Minimisation Strategy and a Waste Minimisation Action Plan were approved at Cabinet in

Status	Key Actions for 2020/21	Target date	Portfolio Holder	Head of Service	Progress Update to be reported each Quarter
	minimisation activities to encourage people to reduce, re-use and recycle	December 2020			December 2020. Projects are in place to support the objects set out in the strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the amount of waste that is collected from households through our kerbside collections. • Achieve a greater than 60% diversion of waste from landfill in line with the council's manifesto pledge. • Improve the quality of the recycling material we collect by maintaining contamination levels below 7%.
G	KA 16. Install electric vehicle charging points in specific council owned car parks	31 March 2021	Cllr Beuttell	Neil Sloper	<p>All installations have now been completed across car parks in St Neots, St Ives and Huntingdon. See press release for further details: https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/news/electric-vehicle-charging-points-rolled-out-across-the-district/</p> <p>All points are operational with the exception of Ingram Street in Huntingdon which is waiting for UKPN to attend to rectify a grounding issue on site. This piece of work is being managed by PodPoint on our behalf who will attend site after completion to commission the final charge point. Bay markings have been completed for Huntingdon and St Ives, with St Neots due to take place in the next 2 weeks. St Neots markings were delayed as the Town Council were looking to install a charge point at one of their own sites and, by completing the works at the time of their site, we were able to help them make a saving, however at this time their plans are not being progressed so we are proceeding without them.</p> <p>The great news is that these charge points are already being used and have provided the following energy to vehicles so far: April: 836kWh, May: 324kWh.</p>

Status	Key Actions for 2020/21	Target date	Portfolio Holder	Head of Service	Progress Update to be reported each Quarter
					With EV cars travelling between* 2.8 & 3.5 miles per kWh, this means that our total of 1,160 kWh supplied has enabled over 3,248 miles of cleaner travel in the 5-6 weeks they have been in operation. * https://www.whatcar.com/news/what-car-real-range-which-electric-car-can-go-farthest-in-the-real-world/n18159
N/a	KA 17. Install secure cycle storage facilities in specific council owned car parks	31 March 2021	Cllr Beuttell	Neil Sloper	This work has been moved to the CPCA funded projects.

WE WANT TO: Accelerate business growth and investment

Status	Key Actions for 2020/21	Target date	Portfolio Holder	Head of Service	Progress Update to be reported each Quarter
A	KA 18. Develop a Regeneration Plan	TBC	Cllr Fuller	Clara Kerr	Regeneration Plan with Senior Leadership Team.
G	KA 19. Prepare options reports for the redevelopment of the Bus Station Quarters in St Ives and Huntingdon	September St Ives, December Huntingdon	Cllr Fuller	Clara Kerr	Now part of KA 23, progress on this will be reported there.
G	KA 20. Work with partners across the Cambridgeshire economy to deliver the ambitions of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Economic Review / Local Industrial Strategy	Ongoing	Cllr Fuller	Clara Kerr	Awaiting further details of the Shared Prosperity Fund to inform Local Investment Fund bids. Regular dialogue in place with Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA). New Economic Development Manager recruited to and continuing working with CPCA to deliver ambitions, including reviewing impact of Covid-19.
G	KA 21. Recovery Action (Economic Development – Economic Growth Strategy)	Q3	Cllr Fuller	Clara Kerr	The Economic Growth Strategy has been adopted.

WE WANT TO: Support development of infrastructure to enable growth

Status	Key Actions for 2020/21	Target date	Portfolio Holder	Head of Service	Progress Update to be reported each Quarter
G	KA 22. Continue to work with partners and influence the Combined Authority (CA) and secure support and resources to facilitate delivery of new housing, drive economic growth and provide any critical infrastructure	Ongoing	Cllr Fuller / Cllr Neish	Clara Kerr	HDC has secured £3.7m MHCLG funding for the Future High Streets Fund (FHSF); £3.2m CPCA funding toward the FHSF. In addition, bids to the CPCA Market Towns Fund bid have been submitted, including the accelerated fund (across Huntingdon, St. Ives and Ramsey) and the longer term fund to initiate masterplan/feasibility studies for Huntingdon, St Ives and Ramsey. In addition, A141 study continues, and St Ives study to commence.
G	KA 23. Support the implementation of 'Prospectuses for Growth' for St Ives, Huntingdon and Ramsey and the St Neots Masterplan	Ongoing	Cllr Fuller	Clara Kerr	The FHSF has been confirmed for St Neots and the individual projects are being developed, along with a communications and engagement strategy. Masterplanning feasibility briefs are being developed for St Ives, Huntingdon and Ramsey. In addition, the accelerated towns programme (CPCA) is underway with a series of projects to be implemented by March 2022.
G	KA 24. Continue to provide active input into and work with partners on key transport developments, including the A428, East-West Rail (EWR) and A14 improvements	Ongoing	Cllr Neish	Clara Kerr	Development Consent Order (DCO) for A428 has commenced. Non-statutory additional EWR consultation live, and closing on the 9th June.
G	KA 25. Work with partners to develop Oxford-Cambridge Arc (Ox-Cam) growth corridor proposals and maximise the opportunities this can offer locally	Ongoing	Cllr Neish	Clara Kerr	Ox-Cam Non-Statutory Spatial Framework to launch and CEO engaged as lead on 'place shaping'. MHCLG discussions underway to review opportunities in the corridor.
A	KA 26. Prepare and implement an updated Section 106 Supplementary Planning	Ongoing	Cllr Neish	Clara Kerr	Paused in agreement with Portfolio Holder due to uncertainties of pandemic and impacts on land values and costs for infrastructure.

Status	Key Actions for 2020/21	Target date	Portfolio Holder	Head of Service	Progress Update to be reported each Quarter
	Document and Community Infrastructure Levy charging schedule				
G	KA 27. Recovery Action (Economic Development - enable growth through infrastructure development)	Ongoing	Cllr Neish	Clara Kerr	Officers continue to work with the CPCA (Market Towns, A141, St Ives study) to ensure infrastructure is enabled. In addition, working collaboratively with Highways England/Cambridgeshire County Council/South Cambridgeshire District Council on the A428 and will also work with partners on EWR as it moves toward DCO.

WE WANT TO: Improve the supply of new and affordable housing, jobs and community facilities to meet current & future need

Status	Key Actions for 2020/21	Target date	Portfolio Holder	Head of Service	Progress Update to be reported each Quarter
G	KA 28. Maintain a five-year housing land supply (5YHLS) and ensure that the Housing Delivery Test in the National Planning Policy Framework is met	Ongoing	Cllr Fuller	Clara Kerr	Annual Monitoring Report published in December. 5YHLS = 5.24yrs.
G	KA 29. Facilitate delivery of new housing and appropriate infrastructure	Ongoing	Cllr Fuller / Cllr Neish	Clara Kerr	A141 discussions ongoing and moving to Strategic Outline Business Case. St Ives Study to commence Q1 21/22; DCO for A428 commenced and EWR non-statutory consultation underway until 9th June 2021.
G	KA 30. Design and implement strategies to use Council assets to support the delivery of affordable homes	Ongoing	Cllr Fuller / Cllr Gray	David Edwards	The sale of 13 parcels of land held by the Council for the delivery of affordable homes was approved by Cabinet in October 2020.
G	KA 31. Recovery Action (Housing Strategy and/or Planning/Growth - e.g. prepare and adopt new Housing Strategy)	Ongoing	Cllr Fuller	Clara Kerr	New Housing Strategy adopted October 2020.

Corporate Performance and Contextual Indicators

Key to status

G	Performance is on track	A	Performance is within acceptable variance	R	Performance is below acceptable variance	?	Awaiting performance update	n/a	Not applicable to assess performance
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Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 9. Percentage of sampled areas which are clean or predominantly clean of litter, detritus, graffiti, flyposting, or weed accumulations (cumulative year to date) Aim to maximise	80%	80%	90%	G

Comments: (Operations) Continued regular frequency cleansing action has led to a high level of cleanliness in open spaces and rural areas. Additional resource has been deployed during the Covid-19 pandemic to counteract increase usage of open spaces.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 10. Number of missed bins per 1,000 households (cumulative year to date) Aim to minimise	0.79	0.75	0.57	G

Comments: (Operations) A reduction in the number of missed bin has been a result of the Alloy system and continued monitoring from the waste managers.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 11. Percentage of household waste recycled/reused/composted (cumulative year to date) Aim to maximise	60%	60%	58%	A

Comments: (Operations) The final figure is 58% of household waste recycled/reused/composted.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 12. Number of complaints about food premises (cumulative year to date) Aim to minimise	748	550	123	G

Comments: (Community) Due to Covid-19 and extended food business closures, food related complaints have reduced.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 13. Percentage of licensed taxi/hackney carriage/private hire vehicles that meet 'Euro 6' low vehicle emission standards (latest position at end of each quarter) Aim to maximise	N/a	40%	31%	A

Comments: (Community) 230 out of 739 licensed vehicles registered after 01/09/2015.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 14. Total number of appeals allowed as a percentage of total number of planning appeals decided (cumulative year to date) Aim to minimise	25% (4 out of 16)	15%	24%	A

Comments: (Development) 38 appeals, of which 9 were allowed

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 15. Number of costs awards against the Council where the application was refused at Development Management Committee contrary to the officer recommendation (cumulative year to date) Aim to minimise	1	0	0	G

Comments: (Development) In total, there were four costs appeals heard in 2020/21 (all cases, not just those refused at Development Management Committee) and none were allowed.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 16. The amount of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding allocated for small-scale infrastructure development (cumulative year	N/a	N/A	£7,975,727.31	A

to date)				
Aim to maximise				

Comments: (Growth) This figure is cumulative spend to date excluding Future High Streets Fund.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 17. Percentage of planning applications processed on target – major (within 13 weeks or agreed extended period) (cumulative year to date)	87%	86%	88%	G
Aim to maximise				

Comments: (Development) 37 of 42 majors were within 13 weeks or agreed extension of time (EOT).

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 18. Percentage of planning applications processed on target – minor (within 8 weeks or agreed extended period) (cumulative year to date)	78%	No target set due to impact of Covid-19 on planning services locally and nationally	88%	G
Aim to maximise				

Comments: (Development) 218 of 247 minors were within target date or EOT.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 19. Percentage of planning applications processed on target – household extensions (within 8 weeks or agreed extended period) (cumulative year to date) Aim to maximise	88%	No target set due to impact of Covid-19 on planning services locally and nationally	90%	G

Comments: (Development) 293 of 325 household extension applications were within target date or EOT.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 20. Number of new affordable homes delivered in 2020/2021 (cumulative year to date) Aim to maximise	440	338	274	A

Comments: (Growth) As reported previously, Covid-19 has affected delivery of affordable homes. At Q3, we estimated completions by year end would be 246 homes. In the event, the outturn has been better than expected with 274 homes completed. Bearing in mind the potential greater shortfall expected and that the programme can fluctuate in any event, this is considered to be a good performance.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 21. Net growth in number of homes with a Council Tax banding (cumulative year to date) Aim to maximise	1,185	No target set. Defer to AMR	1,038	G

Comments: (Growth) The total at 31 March 2021 was just over 1,000 higher than at 29 March 2020. The increase was similar to the previous year despite lockdown measures affecting house building. The Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) is indicating a 5.24 years housing supply.

STRATEGIC THEME – BECOMING A MORE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE COUNCIL

Period January to March 2021

Summary of progress for Key Actions

G	Progress is on track	A	Progress is within acceptable variance	R	Progress is behind schedule	?	Awaiting progress update	n/a	Not applicable to state progress
5		3		0		0		0	

Target dates do not necessarily reflect the final completion date. The date given may reflect the next milestone to be reached.

Summary of progress for Corporate Indicators

G	Performance is on track	A	Performance is within acceptable variance	R	Performance is below acceptable variance	?	Awaiting performance update	n/a	Not applicable to assess performance
10		3		1		0		2	

WE WANT TO: Become more efficient and effective in the way we deliver services

Status	Key Actions for 2020/21	Target date	Portfolio Holder	Head of Service	Progress Update to be reported each Quarter
A	KA 32. Actively manage Council owned non-operational assets and, where possible, ensure such assets are generating a market return for the Council	Ongoing	Cllr Gray	Justin Andrews	A further 4 new lettings and one lease renewal completed in Q4 at a total income of £193.2k p.a. (increase of £41.1k on previous annual rents). For the whole of 20/21, transactions amount to: 15 lettings (generating £133k annual rent and £37.6k service charge, an increase of £69.5k on previous rents and £37.6k on service charges), 8 rent reviews/lease renewals settled at a new rent of £465k p.a. (an

Status	Key Actions for 2020/21	Target date	Portfolio Holder	Head of Service	Progress Update to be reported each Quarter
					increase of £41.5k p.a. on previous rents), one off income of £5.5k has been received. Eleven units have been vacated during the year at a loss of annual income of £152.4k, the new lettings (including 6 of the vacated units), rent reviews and lease renewals completed have replaced this annual income, but higher than expected vacations and business failures have meant that the budgeted growth in income has been a struggle. Double the usual number of lettings has taken place but there is still a high rate of transactions not being completed due to a fickle market and offers being withdrawn.
G	KA 33. Develop the Council's approach to data and business intelligence to support efforts to improve organisational efficiency including the development of unit cost and value metrics to measure service performance	Ongoing	Cllr Gray	Tony Evans	Working with the Chief Operating Officer to develop better process for defining and iterating unit costs and a process for developing unit value metrics that focus on effectiveness. Data warehouse design has passed security review after being on hold while the alpha release has been supporting business grants delivery. Further work will be undertaken with HR and the workforce strategy to improve the skills within the wider organisation to support exploitation of data. Transformation resources are being upskilled via a degree apprenticeship scheme. Further MHCLG funding received to improve the usage of data to predict household vulnerability to enable early engagement.
G	KA 34. Develop the Council's approach and methodologies for business change, service design and user research to enable effective change management within the organisation	Ongoing	Cllr Keane	Tony Evans	Focus has been on supporting the implementation of the new environmental health and licensing system and looking to develop processes that will exploit the new functionality within the system. Focus will shift on working with services and 3C ICT on how to enable power user models within our systems that will allow

Status	Key Actions for 2020/21	Target date	Portfolio Holder	Head of Service	Progress Update to be reported each Quarter
					services to more rapidly iterate their system configurations to enable faster improvements to processes.
A	KA 35. Recovery Action (Finance e.g. respond to impact on budget)	Ongoing	Cllr Gray	Claire Edwards	Improvement on expected overspend from Q3 due to one-off funding received in Q4. Otherwise this is in line with expectations
A	KA 36. Develop Workforce Strategy including options for best use of apprenticeship levy	Ongoing	Cllr Keane	Justin Andrews	Current focus is to Future ways of working; and the broader workforce strategic work will need to align to Core Services Strategy, Digital Strategy and Vision.

WE WANT TO: Become a more customer focussed organisation

Status	Key Actions for 2020/21	Target date	Portfolio Holder	Head of Service	Progress Update to be reported each Quarter
G	KA 37. Develop our understanding of customer and resident needs and demands	Ongoing	Cllr Keane	Michelle Greet	A proposal is underway to introduce a customer forum to HDC. The forum will enable us to embed a culture of engagement which will widen and deepen the involvement of local communities in shaping the Council's future. Anyone can sign up to be part of the forum, but we are aiming for a diverse group of people so the views are as representative as they can be of different groups in the district.
G	KA 38. Expand how we offer online and out of hours access to our services via the customer portal and other solutions	Ongoing	Cllr Keane	Michelle Greet / Tony Evans	We have transitioned the contact centre onto the new digital platform and deployed further self-service forms for waste that will soon be integrated with back office systems, removing any re-keying and meaning actions taken by delivery officers within Operations automatically update the customer. This also allows for online payment for services.
G	KA 39. Introduce a new electronic pre-application planning advice service	2021/22	Cllr Neish	Jacob Jaarsma	Agreed with Chief Operating Officer and Portfolio Holder to put rolling out new electronic pre-app service on hold until next financial year due to

Status	Key Actions for 2020/21	Target date	Portfolio Holder	Head of Service	Progress Update to be reported each Quarter
					struggles with recruitment and to allow service to reduce the backlog of planning applications.

Corporate Performance and Contextual Indicators

Key to status

G	Performance is on track	A	Performance is within acceptable variance	R	Performance is below acceptable variance	?	Awaiting performance update	n/a	Not applicable to assess performance
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Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 22. Total amount of energy used in Council buildings (cumulative year to date) Aim to minimise	11,265,569 kWh (10% increase on 2018/19) *As at Q3 and compared with Q3 2018/19	9,710,467 kWh (5% down on 2018/19)	6,263,445 kWh (35% down on 2020/21 target)	G

Comments: (Corporate Resources) There has been a considerable reduction in energy usage over the last 12 months. This is can be contributed mainly to Covid-19 restrictions limiting the opening of the leisure centres. Both Pathfinder House and Eastfield House experienced reductions in energy usage despite remaining open throughout the year. This was also the first full year since OL Sawtry is no longer a HDC asset.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 23. Percentage of Business Rates collected in year (cumulative year to date) Aim to maximise	99%	99%	98%	A

Comments: (Revenues & Benefits) In view of the significant issues that a number of businesses faced during the year, the outturn performance is excellent. The team worked tirelessly with businesses to establish payment plans to enable the liability to be paid in-year. In addition, around £22m of reliefs were awarded to qualifying businesses.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 24. Percentage of Council Tax collected in year (cumulative year to date) Aim to maximise	98%	98%	98%	G

Comments: (Revenues & Benefits) During a difficult year for a number of our residents, the team were able to provide extra support by deferring instalments at the start of the financial year for 2 months, offering to increase the number of instalments from 10 to 12 months to reduce monthly payments, promoting the use of Direct Debits to help people who couldn't leave their homes and delaying sending reminders for non-payment until June. The approach then taken was to prompt customers to contact the team if they were having difficulty paying. Despite all of the challenges the team faced, the collection rate is virtually on target.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 25. Number of magistrates' court appeals against licensing decisions which have been upheld against the Council (cumulative year to date) Aim to minimise	N/a	10	1	G

Comments: (Community) Of 11 appeals to court, 10 decisions were in favour of HDC and one was in favour of the applicant on an appeal against a vehicle licence.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 26. Percentage satisfaction with ICT support services from feedback received (cumulative year to date) Aim to maximise	N/a	95%	95%	G

Comments: (3C ICT) Performance recovered during Q4 from just below target to just above target.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 27. Percentage of invoices from suppliers paid within 30 days (cumulative year to date) Aim to maximise	92%	98%	76%	R

Comments: (Corporate Resources) The Accounts Payable (AP) team are continuing to process invoices promptly, and are usually up to date on a daily basis. However, only invoices that are entering the payment process are capable of being processed by the AP team. Unfortunately there are a significant number of invoices that cannot be processed either because no purchase order has been raised/authorised or the good receipting process is not being completed in a timely manner by service teams, until reminded to do so by the AP team. Without these parts of the procurement process being completed the invoice cannot be paid. The continued reliance by service teams on retrospective ordering (i.e. order raised after the invoice has arrived), is an added contribution, since there is then a built-in delay while the invoice is raised and receipted, whereas if the order were already available the invoice could be matched to the order and put in the payment process straight away. Note that the March data is estimated, but the actual data is unlikely to alter the overall %.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 28. Staff sickness days lost per full time employee (FTE) (cumulative year to date)	6.5 days/FTE	9.0 days/FTE	5.1 days/FTE	G

Aim to minimise				
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Comments: (Corporate Resources) Absence management continues to be a key focus for the HR team and line managers, who take a very proactive approach with triggers and return to work processes. Covid-19 related absences (self-isolating and shielding) are excluded from these figures. For further information, see the Workforce Report to be published on June's Employment Committee agenda.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 29. Income generated from Commercial and Operational Estate Rental Income (cumulative year to date)	£4.9m	£3.9m	£4.8m	G
Aim to maximise				

Comments: (Corporate Resources) Approximately double rate of usual units vacated with larger rent units particularly impacted. Local tenants have continued to endeavour to meet rent payments in the main, although hospitality and retail sectors have been most impacted. Expected to continue to see turnover of tenants in smaller units, demand has been high for small unit space but there are signs this is softening. Income includes returns from CCLA Property Fund investment.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 30. Percentage of calls to Call Centre answered (cumulative year to date)	83%	80%	89%	G
Aim to maximise				

Comments: (Customer Services) We have been able to use Microsoft Teams to allow advisors to answer customer calls from home and maintain service. Some of the loss of functionality around call recording and advanced routing of calls has been challenging and we have experienced reliability issues with Teams and have some concerns about the accuracy of the data recorded. Customer Services will move to a new Call Centre system by the end of October 2021 which will greatly enhance functionality and our ability to manage the service.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 31. Call Centre telephone satisfaction rate (cumulative year to date)	89%	80%	N/a	N/a
Aim to maximise				

Comments: (Customer Services) We have decommissioned the old customer service CRM system that surveys were generated from. We are evaluating the option for surveying customers through the new OneVu Customer Portal.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 32. Customer Service Centre satisfaction rate (cumulative year to date)	95%	80%	N/a	N/a
Aim to maximise				

Comments: (Customer Services) We have decommissioned the old customer service CRM system that surveys were generated from. We are evaluating the option for surveying customers through the new OneVu Customer Portal.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 33. Percentage of Stage 1 complaints resolved within time (cumulative year to date)	87%	90%	93%	G
Aim to maximise				

Comments: (Customer Services) Of 113 Stage One Complaints received so far, only 8 this year have been responded to late, 4 of which are in Operations, 1 for Planning, 1 for Community and 1 for Covid-19 Grants. Development have received the most complaints with 30. Operations then follow with 22. There have been 21 complaints related to Covid/Discretionary Business Grants, though the majority of these

are related to non-eligibility for discretionary grant schemes.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 34. Percentage of Stage 2 complaints resolved within time (cumulative year to date) Aim to maximise	76%	90%	87%	A

Comments: (Customer Services) 31 Stage Two Complaints have been received, of which 4 were responded to late; 3 relating to Development and 1 related to Covid-19 Grants. 13 were related to Covid/Discretionary Business Grants and, as with Stage One complaints, the majority related to non-eligibility for discretionary grant schemes.

Page 88 of 102

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 35. Percentage reduction in avoidable contacts (cumulative year to date) Aim to maximise	2%	-15%	-15%	G

Comments: (Customer Services) The introduction of the integrated Operations forms took place in May 2020 and the continued development of the portal has helped reduce avoidable contact.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 36. Percentage of households with customer accounts generated (latest result) Aim to maximise	15%	25%	31%	G

Comments: (Customer Services) We now have 24.3K accounts on the OneVu platform. A small proportion of these are registered to addresses outside the district. Multiple residents of a property may also have their own accounts.

Performance Indicator	Full Year 2019/20 Performance	Annual 2020/21 Target	Outturn 2020/21 Performance	Outturn 2020/21 Status
PI 37. Percentage of all council services that have an end to end digital process (latest position at end of each quarter) Aim to maximise	N/A	20%	19%	A

Comments: (Transformation) Integrated forms within Operations were made live that support integrated payments and updates back to customers based on actions taken within their key systems. Work continues to develop improved processes of designing and implementing end to end digital processes. Resources that were earmarked to deliver this improvement have been committed to support business grants work so progress is slower.

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Project Name	Project Description	Original Approved End Date	Expected Delivery Date	RAG Status	Performance Summary	Last updated	Service Area	Project Sponsors	Project Managers
CPP - Core Portal Project	Part of the Customer Portal Project - Delivers the ability to create integrated dynamic eForms to the council with supporting people, process and technology. Additionally delivered forms for Operations Streets, Waste, Grounds.	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-21	A	Integrated waste forms are now live, with integrated payments. Finalising the ongoing processes for managing the project as a live Business As Usual (BAU) capability and then transitioning into ongoing operations. The project will close in Q1 21/22.	Mar-21	Transformation	John Taylor	Tony Evans
CPP - Dynamics Replacement	Replaces the system uses in the Call Centre (Dynamics) with one that both customers and staff can use to increase self-service (IEG4 CsVu)	31-Mar-21	30-Jun-21	A	We went live with IEG4's CsVu product on 12th April. There are some outstanding issues that are being worked through and these will be dealt with as part of Business as Usual (BAU) work. The project will close in Q1 21/22.	Apr-21	Customer Services	John Taylor	Michelle Greet
CPP - eBilling	Delivers an eBilling capability that will allow residents to request online council tax bills, letters and benefits statements and letters.	30-Sep-22	30-Sep-22	G	February - supplier has been selected for new Hybrid Mail contract, but still some issues on finalising contract - and work will begin with them shortly but annual billing is the priority for the rest of Q4. March - no further action taken.	Mar-21	Revenues & Benefits	John Taylor	Amanda Burns
CPP - Data & Analytics	Creates a unified view of demand across digital and phone channels that will provide the basis for understanding demand for services and unit cost of interaction.	30-Sep-22	31-Mar-22	A	Proof of Concept (PoC) deployment being reviewed for lessons learnt prior to build of final solution. Digital elements largely built but need to review and rebuild the data storage tier and its interface based on input from security and IG. Working with 3C ICT to prioritise the work alongside the digital work.	Apr-21	Transformation	John Taylor	Tony Evans
Retail in our Town Centres - St Benedicts Court regeneration	Investigate opportunities for working with the owners of St Benedicts Court in Huntingdon as part of a wider redevelopment 'quarter' approach to regenerate that part of the town centre (M25)		31-Mar-22	A	Council needs to consider the scope of the regeneration programme for Huntingdon as part of the Towns Programme. Levels of occupancy are now lower and this is a key gateway route into the town centre, especially for people using public transport. Market Towns Programme Board meets monthly. Contracts agreed with CPCA and being signed off. masterplan tender brief has been prepared and with leader for sign off. Expressions of Interest anticipated w/c 10th May. Proposed contract start date 26th July, with a view to completing exercise by 31st March 22 (in accordance with CPCA spend parameters). This is part of the Market Towns Programme, listed separately.	May-21	Development	David Edwards	Clara Kerr
One Leisure Ramsey - 3G Artificial Pitch	3G Artificial Pitch (2018/19 Capital programme) (M10)	31-Dec-18	31-Mar-21	A	Works started 22nd March with all pre-meets held and traffic management/health and safety documents produced by contractor. Build time currently scheduled for 19 weeks and due to be completed by the end of July.	May-21	Leisure & Health	Jayne Wisely	Martin Grey
New HR system	Full tender to replace the existing HR and Payroll system with a new, modern, cloud-based solution which better integrates with other systems (e.g. active directory, Tech1 etc.) Joint procurement with CCC and SCC, Procurement lead is CCC. Project Manager is external consultant.		01-May-21	G	System now live and in use. Solutions to document extract from previous system has been secured and planned into project plan, along with legacy data solution. Data load and extraction was delayed and quality of data caused issues, delaying the phasing of implementation. HDC mitigated by delaying implementation, within our existing contract provision. This has moved our go live back one month to May 2021 (parallel runs now March and April), but allowed longer for user testing. The future phasing (Learning & Development, Recruitment) are currently being reworked to allow for focus on core HR and payroll initially. There have been issues on the supplier side, but we now have a new dedicated project support and trainer. Supplier has underestimated a multi-council build and our testing has identified a number of areas the supplier has not built to our blueprint, which are being rectified. An issue has been identified with security controls in line with organisation policy and steps have been taken to add additional controls, until Active Directory Single Sign-On is implemented - unknown impacts on setting up users for go live - but priority work on this.	Apr-21	Corporate Services	Justin Andrews Fiona Bryant	Aileen Whatmore Randeep Singh (PM)

Project Name	Project Description	Original Approved End Date	Expected Delivery Date	RAG Status	Performance Summary	Last updated	Service Area	Project Sponsors	Project Managers
Bridge Place car park re-provision	Completion of property sale, re-provision of parking at alternative site (long stay car park serving Huntingdon). This will also involve setting up of a park alongside the car park.	30-Jun-21	31-Mar-22	A	Application has gone into Fields in Trust. We are currently in consultation for a change request. We are in discussions with 3rd party planning application to progress. Plans for alternative site (Riverside Huntingdon) underway with application to Fields in Trust for permission to allow planning design and consultation to be progressed. Draft requirements document in production for Design/Planning/Construction Design and Management (CDM) and Project Delivery in consultation with procurement and estates. Timeline is tight to match requirements of RGE sale. Critical path identified with built by date being July 2021. Progress impacted by COVID and recovery work, Design and Build Contract required. Tender for design, planning and clerk of works delayed due to COVID CPCA funding decision change at HDC, now due out 17th February to achieve build by end of year. Initial Request For Quotation (RFQ) for design, planning and CDM did not draw any bids, responses indicated a lack of capacity to undertake the works. Bid document reviewed and was re-issued 1st March with closing date 14th March.	Mar-21	Operations	Neil Sloper	Matt Chudley (site) George McDowell (Car Park works)
Environmental Health System Procurement / Implementation	Project has been broken down into two phases. Selection and Implementation. The Selection project is for the three Councils to choose a single supplier to replace current environmental health systems with a single system. SCDC is leading on the project on behalf of the three Councils.	31-Mar-20	31-Mar-21	A	HDC and Cambridgeshire Home Improvement Agency went live on 22nd March 2021. There are a number of issues with the data migration which are being addressed by the supplier, however the necessary supplier resources to deal with these issues have not been available to their Project Manager, which has resulted in our Project Sponsor having to escalate this to Director level with Idox to ensure these issues are reviewed and rectified. A Gap Analysis has been submitted to the supplier highlighting the areas that we believe have not been delivered by them in the required time frame and we are awaiting a meeting with them to rectify these issues. A review of the additional work required, such as integration with other systems, is taking place this month to plan the second phase of the project.	Apr-21	3C Shared Services	John Taylor	David Pope
Outsourced Hybrid Mail & Printing Project	Outsourced Hybrid Mail & Printing Project	31-Dec-20	30-Jun-21	A	Implementation discussions with new suppliers will commence as soon as contracts have been returned from the solicitors and signed. We are still waiting for Cambridge City to confirm when this is likely to happen. In the meantime, printing is still being fulfilled by emergency fulfilment contractors and limited in-house Document Centre facilities. Any further delays with the contacts may impact on full implementation dates, currently forecast during Q1 FY 2021-22.	Apr-21	Customer Services	John Taylor	Andy Lusha
Operations Back Office System - Yotta	Streets/Grounds/Recycling and Waste Services: Phase 1: Streets April 2019 / Phase 2: Grounds Sept 2019 / Phase 3: Waste Services May 2020 / 3C project across the three authorities.	07-May-19	31-Dec-21	A	Super User training complete. Configuration underway. Burndown list produced to track configuration. Configuration affected by key resource Josh completing integration testing with IEG4 forms and at risk due to Josh going down to 2 days per week. Sponsor decision to accept risk, configuration will take longer and look to involve Yotta in build. Workshop build process with Yotta agreed based on successes of Waste Implementation. Project definition implementation for back office (service) only does not include sprints or connectivity with IEG4, this will be a follow on project if justified - Yotta design will however include mapping and open Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) ready for this potential project in the future. Project also looking at separating instances of City and HDC for simplicity and ease moving forward.	Apr-21	3C Shared Services	Joel Carre (CCC) Neil Sloper	Tony Allen
One Leisure St Ives Changing Rooms	Capital 2019/20	31-Mar-21	30-Jun-21	G	April 2021: Work onsite ongoing. Programme indicating small delay (week) due to floor substrate works and drying times. Communications going out to customers ready for re-opening to set expectations.	Apr-21	Leisure & Health	Jayne Wisely	Paul France

Project Name	Project Description	Original Approved End Date	Expected Delivery Date	RAG Status	Performance Summary	Last updated	Service Area	Project Sponsors	Project Managers
Data Centre Migration	Data Centre Migration from Shire Hall to Peterborough (interim hosting)		31-Mar-21	G	Move from Shire Hall completed January 29th. Follow up tasks now being discussed with the board. Discussions taking place with the Intelligent Clients around a couple of failover tests, project closure report in draft pending timing of follow up tasks. Project closure report is in the process of being completed.	Apr-21	3C Shared Services	Oliver Morley	Peter Holmes
Godmanchester Sluice	Funding of repair/renovation to sluice structures, Mill Steps site, and potential additional fish/eel passage. None of this is HDC money.	30-Nov-20	31-Dec-21	G	April 07 update- The project is now entering the construction phase, the principle contractor (Breheny Civil Engineering) has been appointed and contracts have been signed by both parties. A principle designer has also been appointed who will also take responsibility of the CDM roles. The project equipment will be on site by the end of April with piling and construction starting in the first week of May 2021. There is a communication plan in place.	Apr-21	Operations	Neil Sloper	Andrew Rogan
Market Towns Programme	Programme to Regenerate St Neots, St Ives, Ramsey and Huntingdon. Building on the work of Prospectuses of Growth (St Ives, Ramsey and Huntingdon) and Masterplanning work undertaken for St Neots.		31-Mar-35	A	Update April 21 - Market Towns Programme is being developed to capture Portfolio for Growth ambitions into one programme, including on street WiFi and Covid-19 walking/cycling and Smart Towns as well as the Towns Accelerated Programme (see project below). The Programme also includes the St Neots Future High Streets Fund which received final approval from MHCLG on 3 April. Officers are now starting to draft the Delivery Plan and Communications, Marketing and Stakeholder engagement Plan. The Market Towns Programme governance arrangements are being established and Programme Board meetings are held monthly. Procurement Strategy for multi-disciplinary agency to undertake masterplanning and business case work for St Ives, Huntingdon and Ramsey has been agreed. A Visioning Exercise to inform the tender brief has been undertaken involving workshops (held in March) with the Town Councils, Ward Councillors and Leadership Team. The draft vision statements have been received and are being considered. A Programme Resource Plan has been prepared - resourcing requirements have been identified and are being discussed with the Chief Responsible Officer and Programme Sponsor. Resourcing is a key risk for the Programme.	Apr-21	Strategic Planning	Clara Kerr	Emma Taylor
COVID 19 Accelerated Programme	A programme of short-term interventions to support market towns of St Ives, Huntingdon and Ramsey respond to challenges associated with COVID 19.		31-Mar-21	A	Update April 21 - A bid for £1.8M value of projects was submitted to the CPCA on 18 December 2020. These have been accessed and all were approved by the CPCA Board on 27 January 2021. Draft funding agreements have been received from the CPCA and are being finalised. Discussions have taken place around addressing the unequal split across the market towns and potentially making a project substitution. Two bids for Ramsey were submitted to the CPCA and approved by the Board on 26 March for evaluation. Project Management arrangements are now in place and a workshop was delivered to all Project Sponsors and Project Managers on 8 April. Focus is now on delivery and identifying/developing bids for the remaining CPCA funds.	Apr-21	Development	Nigel McCurdy	Seamus Cleary
Cycle Route Improvements	Management of work with county on deliver cycling routes. 120 submitted to CCC.		31-Mar-22	A	<p>Consultation on the draft Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP), which sets out cycling and walking route improvements needed by priority for each district, is due to commence on 14th May 2021. Cabinet is due to consider the Council's response at its June meeting.</p> <p>Covid-19 measures have either been delivered, ruled as unfeasible, or moved to Tranche 2. Tranche 2 is now to be delivered by end of March 2022. Funding has been confirmed by Government under its Active Travel Fund, however Cambridgeshire did not secure the full amount it applied for. CCC has appointed contractors to assist with the detailed project work to ensure it can deliver schemes in this timescale. The initial list of scheme concepts has been analysed to assess deliverability challenges and sorted based on how challenging they are. All schemes for Huntingdonshire now fall into either the medium or most challenging categories. Further design work on these will take place between May - July 2021. Stakeholder engagement is to take place mid-May-end of June. Delivery of feasible schemes will be either in Oct-Dec 2021 or in first quarter 2022.</p>	May-21	Strategic Planning	Clara Kerr	Melissa Reynolds

Project Name	Project Description	Original Approved End Date	Expected Delivery Date	RAG Status	Performance Summary	Last updated	Service Area	Project Sponsors	Project Managers
Hinchingbrooke Country Park	Business Plan investment to return site to non-subsidy. Subject to agreement of long lease with County Council.		31-Mar-23	A	Lease to be written and agreed by CCC. Timeline for individual stages of the project created, starting with improvements to lakeside and footpaths, then play opportunities. Research currently being undertaken. Initial projects being scoped on timeline for end of Q3 so investment can be seen in 2021 season. Parking design and consultation next step. Due to Great Crested Newts build considerations on car park, earliest is Autumn 2021 depending upon survey work and advice underway. Draft Planning Consultant Document for Design/Application and Build underway. Possible CPCA project for key play which is 'shovel ready' in consultation with Mark Thompson to accelerate delivery for 2021 season. Combined Environment Agency (EA) and HDC project to re-invigorate fishing underway ready for 2021. Options being discussed with canoe club. Feature play being commissioned as part of recovery work to be in place for Summer 2021. Included speculatively in CPCA bids. Design and Build contract required. No progress due to concentration on other Recovery priorities. Small element on fishing enhancement with EA and Angling Club underway and also enhancement project for Canoe Club almost agreed. Plan and procurement for play element being progressed to achieve installation Q2. RFQ for design, planning and CDM out on 4th March, closing date 26th March.	Mar-21	Operations	Neil Sloper	Judith Arnold
Programme of COVID-19 related work Page 94 of 102	Package of projects that will be undertaken as the recovery work for the Council.		31-Mar-22	A	New Programme Manager appointed, due to start week commencing 19 April - current project manager to provide handover. Assistant Director Recovery appointment still to be confirmed, Oliver Morley covering in the meantime. Recovery group last met on 24 March - updated on Job Clubs and this is to be formalised with documented plan (Manjit Pope following up). Group were supportive of mapping walking / cycling routes to formalise our approach to a strategy - awaiting confirmation on funding options for this work. Group also supportive of work around digital connectivity and agreed project work / staffing in this area - again awaiting confirmation on funding options. Metrics ongoing. Business Customer Relationship Management (CRM) project being revised - contractor not carrying work as planned so likely that this will halt and be rescheduled. Initial risk register and issue log prepared - will need to be reviewed at the next Recovery Group meeting at end April.	Apr-21	Strategic Planning	David Edwards	Liz Smith
MHCLG data driven Covid-19 project	4 month project to test impact of proactive outbound contact with residents on basis of known risk factors. Project includes build of outbound digital communications.		31-Mar-21	G	April 21 Update: 6 day sprint with Unboxed completed that considered examples of proactive outbound contact and resulted in a mock up being tested as part of user research. We will now commence a test with 70 residents identified as vulnerable who will receive the email contact that has been developed. We will assess effectiveness/ impact of email by follow up communication. Work is underway to stabilise the structure and posts for the vulnerable team to continue this work.	Apr-21	Transformation	Oliver Morley	Claudia Deeth
Recovery Programme - Affordable Housing Delivery Project- 13 sites	Yr1: Review of 42 sites, establishing package of sites for affordable housing and competition to find delivery partner. Cabinet approved sale of 13 sites to Longhurst Group. Exchange of contracts target date Jan 2021. Project brief to come to WP Board on 15 December. Yr2: Longhurst to obtain planning permissions, complete land purchase of viable sites and start on site. Land value could be used for Private Rented homes. Yr3&4 Developments to be completed by March 2023.		31-Mar-23	G	Feb 21 Update: Heads of Terms signed by both parties. Signing of Exclusivity Agreement on course for end February 2021. Negotiation of stage two Conditional Land Sale Contract underway with exchange targeted for end of March 2021 or soon after. Tidying up licences, adverse possession risks and registering unregistered title being worked on, so that HDC can provide vacant possession of land to be sold. As previously reported: Cabinet approved sale of 13 sites for development of new Affordable Housing to Longhurst Group with option for HDC to receive Private Rented homes in lieu of capital receipt for land. HDC sales costs of circa £200,000 expected to be recouped from land sale. Total budget for development circa £20,000,000 to be funded by Longhurst and Homes England grant. Stage 1: Establishing package of sites, securing a delivery partner and Cabinet approval completed. Stage 2: Exchange of land contracts - Target January 2021. Stage 3: Obtaining planning applications, determining which of 13 sites are viable and completing land sales - Target Phase 1 December 2021 & Phase 2 September 2022. Stage 4: Completion of new homes - Target March 2023. Preliminary enquiries are with DM for consideration	May-21	Development	David Edwards	Adrian Davey

Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2020/21

Performance and Growth

In Progress

Topic	Membership & Scope	Lead Officer	Progress
Transport Strategy	Councillor S J Criswell Councillor I D Gardener Councillor P L R Gaskin Councillor M S Grice	Corporate Director Place	Study has not commenced.
Asset Management Strategy	Councillor I D Gardener Councillor D A Giles	Jackie Goldby/Justin Andrews	1st February 2021 – Members met with the Interim Commercial Estates Manager and provided input and feedback into the Strategy. Next Step The Strategy will be presented to Overview and Scrutiny in Autumn 2021.

Completed

Topic	Membership & Scope	Lead Officer	Progress
Housing Strategy to 2025	Councillor A Roberts Councillor S Wakeford Councillor D Wells Councillor Mrs S R Wilson <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comment and make suggestions on the emerging Housing Strategy. 	David Edwards/Liz Bisset	6th August 2020 – A meeting took place with Members; the Interim Corporate Director (Place), David Edwards and Liz Bisset. The vision for the strategy was outlined and Members had an opportunity to comment and make suggestions. 7th October 2020 – The Housing Strategy was presented to Overview and Scrutiny.

			22nd October 2020 – The Cabinet approved the Housing Strategy and the accompanying one year action plan.
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Customers and Partnerships

In Progress

Topic	Membership & Scope	Lead Officer	Progress
Digital Strategy	Councillor D M Tysoe Councillor R J West	Tony Evans	Next Step The Digital Strategy will follow the completion of the Core Service Strategy.
Climate Change Strategy	Councillor T D Alban Councillor Mrs S R Wilson One Vacancy	Neil Sloper	18th October 2020 – The Democratic Services Officer (Scrutiny) attended the Centre for Public Scrutiny and Local Government Association Scrutinising Climate Action Webinar on 18th September. Next Step The remit for strategy development has not been established.
Flooding Review	Councillor Mrs S J Conboy Councillor S J Corney Councillor I D Gardener Councillor D M Tysoe Councillor R J West Compile and review evidence (quantitative and qualitative) relating to the December 2020 flooding events, to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Understand what happened. 2) Review the response. 3) Consider future prevention/mitigation. 	Corporate Director Place	28th January 2021 – The Task and Finish Group met and began the review. 25th February 2021 – Quinton Carroll, Hilary Ellis, Sue Grace and Emyr Price of Cambridgeshire County Council attended the meeting and answered Members' questions. 11th March 2021 – Paul Burrows and Phillippa Hulme of the Environment Agency attended the meeting and answered Members' questions. Next Step

			A final report is in the process of being drafted.
Strategic Review of Markets	<p>Councillor B S Banks Councillor S J Corney Councillor Ms A Dickinson Councillor Mrs A Diaz (also the Executive Councillor for Operations and Environment, Councillor Mrs M L Beuttell)</p> <p>To conduct a Strategic Review of HDC Markets and produce a Vision statement and a Strategy.</p>	George McDowell	<p>5th November 2020 – The Panel received a report and suggested scoping document for the Strategic Review of Markets. Members agreed to endorse the approach and aims as set out in the scoping document and appointed five O&S Members to join the Executive Councillor for Operations and Environment in conducting the Strategic Review.</p> <p>18th February 2021 – The review commenced and Members discussed the survey.</p> <p>23rd March 2021 – Members reviewed the survey and provided feedback.</p> <p>Next Step The next meeting will take place on 22nd June 2021.</p>
Waste Strategy	<p>Councillor Ms A Dickinson Councillor D A Giles Councillor Mrs S Smith Councillor Mrs S R Wilson</p>	Neil Sloper	<p>Study has not commenced.</p> <p>Update (provided on 24th November 2020) – The delivery of HDC's Waste Strategy is linked to two other strategies. The first is DEFRA's Resources and Waste Strategy. This strategy determines any changes to waste collection practices and the options available for the collection</p>

			<p>of household waste. This has been delayed until spring 2021.</p> <p>The second is the RECAP (Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Waste Partnership) Waste Strategy, which is the parent strategy to HDC's Waste Strategy. The partnership has conducted modelling work with DEFRA to look at the impacts and alternatives of different approaches to waste and recycling collection models but is unable to continue the work until DEFRA's strategy is clear.</p> <p>The delay in the delivery of DEFRA's Strategy has had a knock-on effect for the expected date of RECAP's Strategy, meaning that the delivery of HDC's Strategy has been delayed until January 2022.</p>
Lifelong Health – Part Two	<p>Councillor S J Criswell Councillor Mrs A Dickinson Councillor K P Gulson Councillor Mrs S Smith Councillor Mrs J Tavener Councillor Mrs S R Wilson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify ways of developing better health outcomes for residents. 	Oliver Morley	<p>12th September 2019 – The Panel received the final report of Part One and agreed to continue the study under the guise of 'Part Two'.</p> <p>14th October 2019 – The Task and Finish Group met with Liz Robin, Public Health.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the benefits of a whole system approach for the Council. 		<p>10th December 2019 – Following the presentation of the Part One report to Cabinet and the meeting with the Director of Public Health, the Task and Finish Group met to refocus the scope of the study. The study will now focus primarily on collaboration with Parish & Town Councils and community groups in order to improve residents’ physical activity and well-being.</p> <p>13th January 2020 – The Task and Finish Group received a presentation from Active Lifestyles and assessed the interaction the service has with Parish & Town Councils and community groups.</p> <p>28th January 2020 – Alyce Barber, Community Development Officer, attended and informed Members of her work with projects that helps build social contact, builds support networks and addresses mental health issues. Members will also discuss the evidence that links an individual’s mental health with physical health.</p> <p>12th February 2020 – The Task and Finish Group received and discussed a number of case studies.</p>
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			<p>26th November 2020 – The Group met and conducted an evidence review. Members recognised that the health issues discussed were around before the pandemic, however they have been affected by it. Despite this, it was decided that any health plan for the District should look beyond the pandemic and be a post Covid-19 plan. The Group decided that the recommendations should be focused on the following themes: access to healthy food, mental well-being and physical health.</p> <p>Next Step – A final report is in the process of being drafted.</p>
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Completed

Topic	Membership & Scope	Lead Officer	Progress
Healthy Open Spaces and Play Strategy	Councillor Mrs A Dickinson Councillor K P Gulson Councillor Mrs S Smith Councillor Mrs J Tavener Councillor Mrs S R Wilson	Helen Lack	<p>11th March 2020 – A meeting took place with Working Group Members, the relevant Executive Councillors, Helen Lack and Sarah Wheale-Smith of PleydellSmithyman so that Members could give their views on the draft Strategy.</p> <p>29th July 2020 – A second meeting took place with Working Group Members, Helen Lack and Sarah Wheale-Smith of PleydellSmithyman. Members were</p>

			<p>shown the executive summary and a full draft of the Strategy.</p> <p>8th October 2020 – The Healthy Open Spaces Strategy was presented to Overview and Scrutiny.</p> <p>22nd October 2020 – The Cabinet endorsed the Healthy Open Spaces Strategy and 10 year action plan.</p>
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