

RECOMMENDATION MONITORING REPORT 2021/22

39

Meeting date Recommendations Made	Portfolio Holder / Directorate Responsible	Agenda Item Title	Recommendation Made	Action Taken	Progress Status
7 JULY 2021	Climate Change Working Group / Place and Economy	TO INFORM STRATEGIC DIRECTION IN RESPONSE TO THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH INDEPENDENT COMMISSION ON CLIMATE'S INTIAL REPORT	To consider the capacity of Peterborough City Council to play its full part in developing and implementing an area wide action plan with a view to making recommendations regarding officers' skills and availability.	Due to be considered by a meeting of the Climate Change Working Group in November 2021, in line with the publication of the final report of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate. Comprehensive briefing pack on climate work, including response to recommendation, to be provided in January 2022.	Ongoing
7 JULY 2021	Climate Change Working Group / Place and Economy	TO INFORM STRATEGIC DIRECTION IN RESPONSE TO THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH INDEPENDENT COMMISSION ON CLIMATE'S INTIAL REPORT	Alongside a Carbon Management action plan, the City will need an emergency resilience and adaptation plan which considers in detail and addresses the impact of climate change our community and considers the impact on our most vulnerable communities.	Due to be considered by a meeting of the Climate Change Working Group in November 2021, in line with the publication of the final report of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate. Comprehensive briefing pack on climate work, including response to recommendation, to be provided in January 2022.	Ongoing
7 JULY 2021	Climate Change	TO INFORM	Recommend engagement with	Due to be considered by	Ongoing

	Working Group / Place and Economy	STRATEGIC DIRECTION IN RESPONSE TO THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH INDEPENDENT COMMISSION ON CLIMATE'S INITIAL REPORT	tenant farmers and partner landowners at an early stage, e.g., to encourage non- traditional use of land.	a meeting of the Climate Change Working Group in November 2021, in line with the publication of the final report of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate. Comprehensive briefing pack on climate work, including response to recommendation, to be provided in January 2022.	
7 JULY 2021	Climate Change Working Group / Place and Economy	TO INFORM STRATEGIC DIRECTION IN RESPONSE TO THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH INDEPENDENT COMMISSION ON CLIMATE'S INITIAL REPORT	Recommend that Peterborough City Council works with the Combined Authority to transform the road network to favour pedestrians and cyclists.	Due to be considered by a meeting of the Climate Change Working Group in November 2021, in line with the publication of the final report of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate. Comprehensive briefing pack on climate work, including response to recommendation, to be provided in January 2022.	Ongoing
8 SEPTEMBER 2021	Councillor Simons, Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment	TREE MANAGEMENT – POTENTIAL REVIEW OF THE TREE AND WOODLAND STRATEGY, SCOPING	The Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee recommended to the Strategic Planning Manager that the replacement tree policy should	Response received from the Strategic Planning Manager below:	Completed*

FOR APPROPRIATE EXCEPTIONS AND REVISED TREE PLANTING TARGETS

not be just based on numbers but on the benefits and impacts such as biodiversity, mitigating the impact of climate change, net carbon benefits and net gain and should be in line with the current planning policy.

The replacement tree policy is a policy established in the Trees and Woodland Strategy, a Strategy reserved for Full Council approval only. As such, only Full Council could adopt such a change. Nevertheless, the suggestion is intended to be included as part of a wider tree related report to Cabinet scheduled for 15 November. In that report, it will refer to the Scrutiny Committee recommendation together with an officer comment on whether it is recommended that Cabinet make such a recommendation up to Full Council for incorporation in an updated Trees and Woodland Strategy. That report to Cabinet has not yet been finalised at officer level. However, officers are presently minded not to recommend such a change to the policy. This is because officers opinion is that the practical implementation of this approach would be difficult, as replacing one tree for several trees in a specific location is not always possible. The costs would also be considerably more (once maintenance has been factored in), and no budget is available for this. Moreover, officers are conscious of the substantial increase in tree planting as being recommended by the Climate Cross Party Working Group, which will require widespread planting throughout the city in any event. Attempting to factor in a further large scale tree planting programme via a greater than 1-for-1 replacement policy will place further demands to implement, both financially and officer time. On balance, therefore, Scrutiny Committee’s request is not presently minded to be supported by officers.

Cabinet Recommendations from 15 November 2021:

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** to:

1. Endorse the tree planting and other related recommendations of the Climate Member Group to Full Council, as set out in Appendix 1, subject to the following change:

“6. That Council investigates all reasonable options to secure additional external revenue funding, of around £70,000 per annum, in order to secure (a) additional staffing support (cost c£50,000 pa) to: undertake the work required to bid for funds; to maintain the evidence base to support locations to deliver new planting; undertake ground truthing of sites identified for potential planting; and overall manage the delivery of the ambitious tree planting programme, the scale of which will be similar to that achieved under the Development Corporation programme of the 1970s/80s; and (b) a small funding pot (c£20,000 pa) to be used to help directly deliver the tree planting targets in any particular year where 100% grant funding cannot be secured.”
2. Recommend to Full Council that the Trees and Woodland Strategy, in addition to any amendments arising from recommendation 1, be further amended by way of (a) an updated Tree Risk Management Plan, as set out in Appendix 2; and (b) introduction of new operational guidelines in respect of daylight loss and vegetation encroachment, as set out in para 4.24.
3. Welcome the national ‘Queen’s Green Canopy’ scheme, and instruct officers to (a) take all reasonable opportunities to promote the scheme with the public, encouraging the public and businesses to ‘plant a tree for the Jubilee’; (b) determine whether any of the council’s land holdings due to have tree planting introduced over the next two winters be specifically designated (with appropriate signage) as a ‘Queen Green Canopy’ planting (such as a

new copse, woodland or orchard), and (c) where appropriate, submit where appropriate tree planting done by the council over the next 2 winters to the national Queen's Green Canopy database, so that the council's contribution can be recognised.

Response to Scrutiny recommendation in Cabinet report (agenda item 6).

4.21 On 8 September 2021, the Scrutiny Committee had a wide-ranging discussion relating to tree matters, including consideration of whether the Trees and Woodland Strategy had the right policy framework to tackle nuisance trees (such as whether exceptions to standard policy be introduced).

4.22 Officers did not recommend making such changes to the Strategy, and this was, following discussion, endorsed by Committee. However, as an alternative way to tackle the 'nuisance' issues raised by Scrutiny, officers did recommend greater clarity in the Strategy in respect of operational guidelines to which Aragon work to, specifically in relation to encroaching trees and loss of daylight. Scrutiny Committee endorsed these new proposed guidelines, and recommended them to Cabinet.

4.25 The aforementioned Scrutiny Committee discussed a number of other potential amendments to the Trees and Woodland Strategy, and one aspect in particular was recommended. The Committee was concerned that the current Strategy operated on the basis that when a council owned tree was felled, a replacement was on the basis of 1 for 1, and the replacement potentially being a very small tree. The precise reference within the Strategy is para 9.2.24, bullet points 1 and 2, which state as follows:

- Council owned street trees that are removed will be replaced on a one for one basis, using established nursery grown standard trees.
- Trees felled owing to them being inappropriate for their location will replanted on a one for one basis, typically elsewhere within the ward. The size of nursery stock used within these location will vary to the planting location.

4.26 The Committee recommended that the replacement tree policy should not be just based on numbers but on the benefits and impacts such as biodiversity, mitigating the impact of climate change, net carbon benefits and net gain, and should be in line with the current planning policy (whereby developers must replace trees on a development site on a greater than 1-for-1 basis).

4.27 Officers opinion is that the practical implementation of this approach would be difficult, as replacing one tree for several trees in a specific location is not always possible. The costs would also be considerably more (once maintenance has been factored in), and no budget is available for this. Moreover, officers are conscious of the substantial (10-20x fold) increase in tree planting as being recommended by the Working Group, which will require widespread planting throughout the city in any event. Attempting to factor in a further large scale tree planting programme via a greater than 1-for-1 replacement policy will place further demands to implement, both financially and officer time. On balance, therefore, Scrutiny Committee's request is therefore not supported by officers, and Cabinet are not asked to recommend any changes to Full Council in this regard.

Full Council Decision on 8 December 2022:

A vote was taken on the recommendation and Council **RESOLVED** (unanimous with no Members indicating to vote against or abstain) to agree that the Trees and Woodland Strategy, in addition to any amendments arising from Cabinet resolution 1, be further amended by way of (a) an updated Tree Risk Management Plan, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report; and (b) introduction of new operational guidelines in respect of daylight loss and vegetation encroachment, as set out in para 4.24 of the report.

3 NOVEMBER 2021	Councillor Simons, Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment	PORTFOLIO PROGRESS REPORT FROM THE CABINET MEMBER FOR WASTE, STREET SCENE AND THE ENVIRONMENT	The Growth, Environment and Resources Scrutiny Committee considered the report and RESOLVED to recommend to Cabinet the suspension of the zero charge for bulky waste collection and the use of these resources to salvage more and increase recycling and re-use in Peterborough. Meanwhile, the Committee encourages the Cabinet Member to explore better enforcement measures that are efficient, economic and effective. The Committee encourages all councillors to promote recycling measures in their wards and use the revision of policies as an opportunity to educate residents.	Recommendation sent to Cabinet Member and Officers. Response pending.	Ongoing
17 NOVEMBER 2021 – JOINT SCRUTINY OF THE BUDGET	Councillor Andy Coles, Cabinet Member for Finance	MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2023 TO 2024/25 – PHASE ONE	It was recommended to the Cabinet Member for Finance that no proposals on the hydrotherapy pool funding would be put to Council until the users' group and wider disability communities that may be affected had been fully consulted and reported back.	Jamie Fenton (Partnership Manager) has been meeting with Karen Oldale (Chair of the Friends Group) every 3-4 weeks. When our proposal was published it was immediately shared with the Pool's Friends email group with a link to the consultation. Karen posted the news with a link to the Budget Consultation on their website - http://www.hydrotherapy-peterborough.com/com	Completed*

				<p>munity/st-george-s-community-hydrotherapy-pool-12973/news/possible-sale-of-st-george-s-community-hydrotherapy-pool-50054</p> <p>The same information was shared on their Friends and Service Users Twitter and Facebook accounts.</p> <p>Karen was questioned by the Peterborough Disability Forum about the sale as there were concerns but everyone seemed genuinely happy after she had explained her view and what was planned.</p> <p>Users have been contacted by the purchaser via Karen, to ask what they would like to see in a refurbishment.</p>	
17 NOVEMBER 2021 – JOINT SCRUTINY OF THE BUDGET	Councillor Andy Coles, Cabinet Member for Finance		It was recommended that the Cabinet Member for Finance consider a differential charge for a replacement green and black bin and that the proposed charge would be less for the green bin than the black bin. This was hoped to encourage residents not to put recycled waste into their black bin.	We will look at a different cost model for the replacement of recycling bins as opposed to residual bins, whilst still ensuring this delivers the same level of financial benefit as the proposal included within phase one. The current	Ongoing

				<p>proposal for replacement bins is based on the current true costs of this service, when we complete the modelling to look at this recommendation one of the options, we will consider is to increase the costs of the replacement residual bins, which would allow us to reduce the cost of the recycling bins. Options will be drafted by officers in Place & Economy and Finance, with the options being presented to the Financial Sustainability Working Group for review. it is important to remember the Council needs to work on the delivery of Financial Sustainability, therefore we need to ensure any options presented are delivering to that priority.</p> <p>For some additional context last financial year the Council replaced roughly the same of each bin type with 1054 residual and 908 recycling bins being replaced</p>	
--	--	--	--	---	--

RECOMMENDATION MONITORING REPORT 2020/21

Meeting date Recommendations Made	Portfolio Holder / Directorate Responsible	Agenda Item Title	Recommendation Made	Action Taken	Progress Status
11 NOVEMBER 2020 – JOINT SCRUTINY OF THE BUDGET	Cllr Cereste, Cabinet Member for Waste, Street Scene and the Environment James Collingridge – Head of Environmental Partnerships Richard Pearn – Head of Waste, Resources and Energy	MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2021/22 TO 2023/24 PHASE ONE	The Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny Committees RESOLVED to recommend that the proposals for the increase in fees for the brown bin waste collection be reviewed and a cost benefit analysis be completed with a view to removing the fees altogether, the outcome of which to be provided to the Committee.	Waste slide deck received on 4 December 2020 and sent out to Committee on 4 December by D Beauchamp	Ongoing

46 * = Pending Committee's approval