

2023-2024 REVIEW OF THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE'S WORK, ACTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS – APPENDIX 1

1.0	<p>Throughout the year a number of reports were scrutinised by this Committee and recommendations made, this appendix details these recommendations and progress made since in order to support the committee to determine its priorities and approve a draft work programme for the year ahead:</p>
1.1	<p>Introduction to Carbon Literacy and Carbon Literacy Training</p> <p>A report was presented to the committee to provide an overview of the council's Carbon Literacy training programme which is being delivered to Councillors and Officers across the organisation.</p> <p>Subsequently work has been undertaken to roll out further training. This includes the recruitment of a dedicated officer to deliver this training both internally and across the city via an 8 hour course. Shorter workshops and training materials are also in development to support alternative learning styles with materials available post-project to support further learning.</p> <p>Training will shortly be delivered to Parish Councils and Community Groups, with promotion of these opportunities accelerating following the pre-election period. A course has been developed aimed at local SMEs; this will undergo an accreditation period (estimated to be completed in July).</p>
1.2	<p>Eco Homes</p> <p>A report was presented to committee asking for members to review and comment on the proposed approach to the delivery of the Eco Homes project. This included consideration of: definition of 'Eco Home' for Peterborough, objectives for the project and next steps. The Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee requested a briefing note detailing timelines for the establishment of an officer working group, the project brief, suitable sites and project partners.</p> <p>Subsequently work has been undertaken to identify a suitable location and the potential scale of development that can be accommodated. Alongside this work has commenced to identify a suitable architect for the scheme.</p>
1.3	<p>Peterborough Climate Adaption Plan</p> <p>A report was presented to committee in September to review and comment on the proposed approach to the development of the Peterborough Climate Adaptation Plan. The work will involve the creation of an adaptation plan for Peterborough to ensure that the Council and city can best adapt to the current and future risk of extreme weather events linked to climate change.</p> <p>Subsequently workshops have been held with local public sector organisations across the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area to determine the priorities for this work. There have been delays in delivery of the council's work due to waiting to align with the Combined Authority's plans to create a climate adaptation plan. The Combined Authority funding has not yet been decided upon, therefore Peterborough City Council will proceed with the procurement of this piece of work. Whilst the work will not be integrated, the consultant will be required to discuss with the Combined Authority and will ensure that the work links with, and is shared with, relevant public sector organisations. A procurement route has been discussed with procurement colleagues.</p>
1.4	<p>Recycling and Waste Policy Guide</p> <p>The revised Recycling and Waste policy guide was reviewed by the committee. The guide aims to provide a clear overview of the waste policy and services provided by Peterborough City Council, ensuring residents understand what actions are required of them and what they can expect from the Council. The document will also support the activity of the new Recycling Education Officers, providing a clear foundation to support their efforts to drive behaviour change and increase recycling rates across the city.</p>

	<p>Subsequently work has been undertaken to introduce charges for residents who need to replace any of their bins and for developers when new houses are sold. This has been implemented successfully. Alongside this the council now has a team of 4 employees delivering recycling education work. To date they have undertaken over 70 educational visits, including workshops, assemblies, community events and undertaken several hundred visits to residents in flats and individual visits based on complaints or contamination issues.</p>
1.5	<p>Cabinet Portfolio Update – Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change</p> <p>A report detailing progress made against this portfolio was presented to the committee in November. The committee considered and scrutinised the report and endorsed the approach being taken under the portfolio of Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change. Work on the portfolio continues.</p>
1.6	<p>Pension Scheme Responsible Investment Policy Update</p> <p>An update on this item will be made verbally at the meeting.</p>
1.7	<p>Procurement Service and Climate Change Criteria</p> <p>An update on this item will be made verbally at the meeting.</p>
1.8	<p>National Waste Strategy</p> <p>A report detailing the current position on the National Waste Strategy was discussed by the committee who were asked to provide comments on the impacts of the National Waste Strategy on Peterborough and offer advice, guidance and ideas to support the implementation of the food waste service to all flats in line with the requirements of the Simpler Recycling Plan.</p> <p>Subsequently the council has been awarded a grant of £329,857 to roll out food waste to the remaining flats in the city who do not currently receive a food waste collection scheme. Work is now underway to implement this including recruiting a dedicated officer and procuring the necessary equipment.</p>
1.9	<p>Peterborough Integrated Renewable Infrastructure (PIRI)</p> <p>This was presented to the committee in January 2023 and the committee resolved to support the proposal to establish a cross-party working group to inform and guide the progress of PIRI throughout the development of the Full Business Case stage.</p> <p>Subsequently the proposal and terms of reference for the group were approved by the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change (Decision - Establishment of informal Cross Party Working Group for the PIRI project - MARCH24/CMDN/86 Peterborough City Council).</p> <p>A cross-party working group has been established and the first meeting has been scheduled for 12 July 2024.</p>
1.10	<p>City Climate Change Action Plan</p> <p>The committee reviewed and commented on the proposed approach to developing a city-wide Climate Change Action Plan and were asked to support a recommendation made by officers to prepare the plan in line with the aspiration to be a net zero carbon city by 2040, in line with the scenario proposed in the Local Area Energy Plan.</p> <p>Subsequently officers have commenced work to develop this plan and intend to bring a draft to the committee for review later this year.</p>

1.11	<p>Local Nature Recovery Strategy</p> <p>The committee were briefed on the progress made to-date with the drafting of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS). It also allowed members to ask questions and seek clarification from officers of Cambridgeshire County Council, who are leading on the delivery of the strategy and presented the item.</p> <p>The committee asked for: a copy of the online LNRS be circulated to all members of the committee, which was actioned. In addition, officers were asked to review the work programme and timelines against Committee meetings.</p> <p>Subsequently the following activities have taken place:</p> <p>The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Nature Recovery Strategy team have been busy engaging with stakeholders through workshops, community events, meetings with farmers/landowners, and launching public surveys.</p> <p>A logo has been introduced for the LNRS, which represents the collaborative approach being taken by Cambridgeshire County Council and Natural Cambridgeshire in developing the strategy.</p> <p>The LNRS Production Team have been working with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Environmental Record Centre to focus on species recovery and has created a long-list of species in the county which will be reviewed and prioritised.</p> <p>The LNRS habitat prioritisation process has been approved and has commenced.</p> <p>Over 1000 responses have been received from public surveys.</p> <p>Work is ongoing with democratic services to explore if the publication and approval of the draft LNRS, prior to public consultation will allow prior presentation to the Scrutiny Committee.</p>
1.12	<p>Biodiversity Strategy Progress Report 22/23</p> <p>The Committee noted progress made against the Council's 2018 Biodiversity Strategy and made recommendations with regards the ongoing delivery of the Strategy.</p> <p>The Committee asked for: Officers to liaise with Democratic Services on timelines for the review of the objectives and requested that this was added onto the work programme for 2024/2025.</p> <p>Subsequently work has commenced to review the current strategy's objectives and actions, with the intention to present a draft revision to committee in late 2024 or early 2025.</p>
1.13	<p>Council Carbon Footprint 2022/2023</p> <p>The Council's Carbon Footprint is being used to inform the development of the organisational Roadmap to Net Zero, which is due to be discussed at Scrutiny, currently scheduled in September.</p>

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