



Borough of Tamworth

Marmion House,
Lichfield Street, Tamworth,
Staffordshire B79 7BZ.

Enquiries: 01827 709 709
Facsimile: 01827 709 271

**INFRASTRUCTURE, SAFETY AND GROWTH
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

11 January 2022

Dear Councillor

A Meeting of the Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee will be held in **Council Chamber, Marmion House, Lichfield Street, Tamworth, B79 7BZ on Wednesday, 19th January, 2022 at 6.00 pm.** Members of the Committee are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized initials and a long horizontal stroke.

Chief Executive

A G E N D A

NON CONFIDENTIAL

- 1 Apologies for Absence**
- 2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pages 5 - 12)**
- 3 Declarations of Interest**

To receive any declarations of Members' interests (personal and/or personal and prejudicial) in any matters which are to be considered at this meeting.

When Members are declaring a personal interest or personal and prejudicial interest in respect of which they have dispensation, they should specify the nature of such interest. Members should leave the room if they have a personal and prejudicial interest in respect of which they do not have a dispensation.

4 Update from the Chair

To receive an update from the Chair

5 Responses to Reports of the Infrastructure Safety & Growth Committee

To receive an update on any recommendations taken to Cabinet since the previous Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny Committee meeting.

6 Consideration of Matters referred to the Infrastructure Safety & Growth Committee from Cabinet or Council

(Discussion item)

7 Recovery & Reset (Pages 13 - 18)

To receive an update on Reset & Recovery including on the Building Utilisation and Economy & Regeneration Workstreams.

8 Castle Curtain Wall Tender

(To receive an update from the Assistant Director, Regeneration & Growth)

9 Update on Council Housing Repairs Policy

(To receive an update from the Assistant Director, Assets)

10 Fireworks working group

To receive an update from the working group.

11 Focus Half Day

To consider any specific topics / areas for the Committee's February 2022 Focus Half Day.

12 Forward Plan

(Discussion item – link to Forward Plan is attached)

<http://democracy.tamworth.gov.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RPId=120&RD=0&bcr=1>

13 Working Group Updates

To receive updates from any Working Groups

14 Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny Committee Work Plan (Pages 19 - 20)

(Update and discussion on the Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny Work Plan)

Access arrangements

If you have any particular access requirements when attending the meeting, please contact Democratic Services on 01827 709267 or e-mail democratic-services@tamworth.gov.uk. We can then endeavour to ensure that any particular requirements you may have are catered for.

Filming of Meetings

The public part of this meeting may be filmed and broadcast. Please refer to the Council's Protocol on Filming, Videoing, Photography and Audio Recording at Council meetings which can be found [here](#) for further information.

If a member of the public is particularly concerned about accidental filming, please contact a member of Democratic Services before selecting a seat

FAQs

For further information about the Council's Committee arrangements please see the FAQ page [here](#)

To Councillors: S Goodall, T Clements, J Chesworth, R Claymore, A Cooper, D Maycock, Dr S Peale, B Price and M Summers

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE, SAFETY AND GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 23rd NOVEMBER 2021

PRESENT: Councillor S Goodall (Chair), Councillors T Clements, J Chesworth, R Claymore, D Maycock, Dr S Peple, B Price, M Summers and R Ford

CABINET: Councillor Jeremy Oates
Councillor Stephen Doyle

The following officers were present: Matthew Fletcher (Head of Economic Development and Regeneration), Nigel Harris (General Manager, Joint Waste Service), Richard Powell (Planning Policy and Delivery Team Leader) and Jo Hutchison (Democratic Services, Scrutiny and Elections Officer)

45 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A Cooper and Councillor R Ford attended as his substitute.

46 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 10th October 2021 were approved as a correct record.

(Moved by Councillor Dr S Peple and seconded by Councillor R Claymore)

47 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

48 UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR

There was no updated from the Chair.

49 RESPONSES TO REPORTS OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY & GROWTH COMMITTEE

No recommendations from the Committee had been presented to Cabinet since the previous meeting.

50 CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS REFERRED TO THE INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY & GROWTH COMMITTEE FROM CABINET OR COUNCIL

No Matters had been referred to this Committee by Cabinet or Council since the previous meeting.

51 FUTURE HIGH STREETS FUND UPDATE

The Chair welcomed the Leader of the Council and the Head of Regeneration and Growth to the meeting. The Committee received the Report of the Leader of the Council which updated it on the progress of the Future High Streets Fund programme. The Leader highlighted:

- That the Council had appointed McBains as the lead consultant to the project and work was underway to ensure that the project continued to deliver against the programme timeline.
- That the College had submitted its round 2 funding bid and expected a response in the new year. Through a separate procurement process the Leader reported that the College had appointed McBains as their lead consultant.
- A business engagement event was held on 13th October and a new website had been launched, Transforming Tamworth, where regular updates focussing on regeneration, would be posted.
- That there had been an increase in building costs across the market and the project plan was under review by McBains.
- Two new Officer appointments had been made to the project team.

The Committee sought clarification in the following areas:

- That the engagement activities undertaken had been aimed at current businesses within the town, as opposed to new businesses.
- The costs associated and who was leading on the various planning applications required.
- That the appointment of McBains and the recruitment of two new Officers had been achieved within budget.
- When the costs versus the designs would become available which it was reported was expected would be later in the project and the importance of recognising this in the communication of the project.
- Whether any divergence in project timelines and requirements to spend funding between the Council part of the project and the College part raised further complications where it was reported that whilst this could add complexity, the Council part of the projects, including the location of the enterprise centre in the Co-op building, could be delivered to its timelines.
- What was demand take up at the current enterprise centre and what was take up expected to be in the new area, where it was reported that the current enterprise was at capacity and demand was strong particularly for space for businesses with 5-20 employees. It was further reported that the project did intend to have synergies with the College.

- The Principal of the College would not be present at any discussions at the project board if there were any discussions which directly affects the college in terms of the Council's expenditure, they would not be present.

The Committee noted the Report and thanked the Leader and Officer for the update who then left the meeting.

52 INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING STATEMENT 2020/21

The Chair welcomed the Portfolio Holder for Regulatory and Community Safety and the Planning Policy and Delivery Team Leader to the meeting who introduced the Report which informed the Committee on the recommendations that will be put before Cabinet on 2 December 2021 in relation to the spending of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) income and the publication of the Infrastructure Funding Statement.

The Report set out a summary of how the funds were collected, allocated and spent in respect of infrastructure projects. The Report further recommends that the priorities for the strategic spend of CIL be retained as agreed in April 2021.

The Committee sought clarification in the following areas:

- Whether funds could be used to provide additional electric vehicle charging points in Council owned housing developments, where it was confirmed that the under the strategic element it would be likely to be possible to allocate funds to such projects.
- Whether the CIL funds accumulated could be allocated to town centre regeneration projects if required, and when reports to allocate such funding would be likely to be presented to Cabinet. It was reported that whilst these funds would be, in the longer term, finite, consideration would be given to projects proposed to improve any developments.
- The process for allocating the spend and the involvement of all members in that process, where it was reported that the aim of the funding was to improve developments in the community, and that the allocation of the funds was a matter for other portfolio holders.
- Whether CIL funds were utilised for long term maintenance requirements, where it was reported that whilst s106 funds were used for that, this was not how CIL funding was planned to be used.

RESOLVED that the following be recommended to Cabinet that:

1. Cabinet regularly review how to spend the funds accumulated; and
2. the process for member involvement and the spend of CIL is clarified by the relevant Portfolio Holder.

(Moved by Councillor S Goodall and seconded by Councillor T Clements)

The Committee noted the report and thanked the Portfolio Holder and Officer for their attendance.

53 UPDATE ON DRY RECYCLING CONTRACT

The Chair welcomed the General Manager of the Joint Waste Service to the Committee to provide an update on the Dry Recycling Contract. The Chair reported that quarterly updates were agreed following the 27 September meeting of this Committee which followed the call-in of the Cabinet decision and this was the first of those.

The General Manager reminded the Committee of the key drivers for changing the service which included the delivery of higher quality materials, as well as the options which had been considered. An overview of the work underway to deliver the project was provided including the procurement of the bags, bins and twin pack trucks, as well as developing a communications plan and recruiting and training staff, developing provisional rounds and developing plans for communal properties. It was reported that the project team had been established, orders for five new twin pack vehicles had been placed, an extension for 12 months of the existing vehicle contract had been agreed and a three year disposal contract (with an option to extend for a further three years) had been procured.

The General Manager highlighted the areas where further input was sought in terms of implementation dates, any changes to the days of rounds following review, the communication plan, bin presentation arrangements and the roll out plan for communal properties. The General Manager updated the Committee on the steps the project was taking to identify and mitigate risks.

The General Manager reported on the recent visit to Newcastle-under-Lyme which had implemented dual stream recycling, utilising a bag and a bin, which demonstrated, even in challenging weather conditions, that the service was clean, tidy, safe and efficient, with good participation by residents delivery high quality recycling.

The Committee sought clarification in the following areas:

- Presentation of both the bag and the bin together even when limited content within the bin, where it was reported that this would be preferred operationally, so the bag could be trapped securely inside the bin once collected, and to avoid the requirement for replacement bags.
- The importance of training to ensure that the bags, once emptied, would be trapped under the lid of the bin to prevent the bag falling to the bottom of the bin, and becoming difficult to retrieve.
- The implementation plan for communal properties, particularly when co-located with other properties, where it was reported that all communal properties would be visited and assessed and until that point remain on single stream.
- Whether there were any UK based suppliers for these bags where it was confirmed that this option had been explored but no UK suppliers had tendered to provide these bags.
- Whether the new trucks were diesel where it was confirmed that this was the case. It was reported that the technology in this area was fairly new and the risk of sourcing new electric vehicles would be significant and

would involve significant additional infrastructure at the depot. It was reported that work was starting to explore the possibility for future fleet to be electric.

- The importance of promotional videos to help residents, where it was reported that the communications plan would be likely to be brought back to the next meeting.
- Whether future recycling requirements, for example in terms of food waste, had been considered in the procurement of the new fleet and how, if necessary, any additional requirements could be added. The General Manager reported that the service was currently focussed on delivering the dual stream, and when Government guidance was released for any additional requirements this would be considered.

RESOLVED that the following be recommended to Cabinet:

that Cabinet take note of the need for all areas of Council activity to be looking for opportunities to be more green, noting this as an example of an area.

(Moved by Councillor Dr S Peuple and seconded by Councillor T Clements)

The Committee noted the report and thanked the Officer for his attendance.

54 FORWARD PLAN

The Committee identified that it would be considering the Castle Curtain Wall report at its January 2022 meeting prior to Cabinet's decision. It further noted the item on Economic Development Service Workplan.

55 WORKING GROUP UPDATES

The Chair proposed that the outcomes of the Fireworks working group be considered at the January 2022 meeting.

The Chair reported that officers were expecting to provide further details to the Travellers working group in the new year.

Councillor Price reported that he would be inviting working group members to a Facilities for HGV drivers in Tamworth working group.

56 INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY & GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

The Chair updated the Committee on the proposed Community Safety Focus Half Day which would take place in February 2022 and to which partners, including the Police and crime Commissioner and representatives of Staffordshire Police, would be invited as well as all councillors.

The Committee considered the work plan and updated it as follows:

Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Work Plan

Work Plan 2021 - 2022	
DATE	SUBJECT
Quarterly updates	Future High Street Fund (Growth) – Quarterly updates – starting March 2021
Date to be confirmed 2021/22	Review of Taxi Licensing Policy – Points System
January 2022	Curtain Wall Tender
January 2022	Fireworks
Early 2022 (tbc)	Economic Development Service Workplan
Date be confirmed 2021 / 22	Review of Council Housing Repairs Policy
Date to be confirmed – February 2022	Community Safety overview to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation to Tamworth Police Commander • Invitation to Police, Crime and Fire Commissioner • CCTV update • E-Scooters and E-Bikes • Modern Slavery update • Business Crime Reduction Partnership Update
24th March 2022	Future High Streets Fund update
24th March 2022 (tbc)	Waste Management update
Date to be confirmed - 2021 /22	Garage Sites
Date to be confirmed	Review of policy / engagement with stakeholders relating to Travellers
July 2022 (tbc)	Fire Safety Update
Date to be confirmed - 2022	EV Charging update
Quarterly updates commencing pre 31.12.21	Waste Management

Working Groups		
Topic	Possible WG Members	Target IS&G Com meeting date
Fireworks	Open to all	January 2022
Review of policy / engagement relating to Travellers		
Facilities for HGV Drivers in Tamworth	Cllrs B Price (WG chair) Dr S Peaple and R Claymore	

Joint Task Group – Waste Management (with Lichfield District Council)	To be confirmed	
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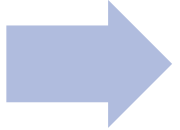
Upcoming Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee Meetings
19 th January 2022
24 th March 2022

Chair

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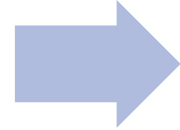
Reporting

- Programme Team schedule a monthly meeting with Tamworth Assistant Directors (AD)
- TC and AD's complete Highlight Report, update Project Plan



Reviewing

- Programme Lead reviews Highlight Reports and team completes Programme Summary in readiness for monthly R&R ops meeting



Evaluating

- Programme Team prepare R&R pack for bi-monthly R&R board and routine via John Day for Scrutiny updates (with usual performance packs)

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Corporate Scrutiny (inc Budget review)

Recovery & Reset Programme

Finance

Service Redesign

Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny

SMART Working

Third Sector & Vulnerability

Customer Service Offer

Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny

Building Utilisation

Economic & Regeneration

Audit Governance Committee

Links to corporate planning routine update

Recovery & Reset Board & Scrutiny Proposals for discussion @ December Board following discussion Scrutiny Chairs

Agenda Item 7

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Transformation Programme Highlight Report

Recovery & Reset Programme & Project Highlight Report

Project:	Building Utilisation	
Key Workstreams	Workstream Lead	Highlights
Desktop review of all council assets	Paul Weston	Completed and circulated for review.
Options for Marmion house (including wider office requirements)	Paul Weston	Initial advice around the leases and masts. Looking to appoint specialist surveyor to deal with the negotiations. Early advice is that the cost could be £200-300k, RAG amber.
Opportunities to link to the future high street fund	Paul Weston	FHSF added as dependency on R&R programme and project plans aligned. Ongoing activity.
Major activity to date		Planned Activities for next period
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Available locations scoped, Tamworth Town Centre potential identified, major dependency on Smart working, customer services and MH regen outcomes. Legal advice re MH Mast leases sought and preparations being made for final decision New location refurb, relocation and MH security costs estimated and scoped with final cost dependent on decisions. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staffs County Council to confirm space requirements Ongoing available property monitoring to ensure TBC makes best decision available at the time ICT and server relocation planning
Amber/Red Areas		Risks including Stakeholder Issues
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May require specialist legal advice re mast leases. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial savings will not be realised Cost assumptions not yet market tested Market construction costs are variable Risk of challenge re mast notices – potential costs. Project is dependent on MH decisions, Smart working and customer services requirements Pandemic constraints
Recovery & Reset Programme Issues		Resourcing Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External legal resource (South Staff) to start serving mast notices, cost approx. £15-20k – now in place. This could increase if we have to go externally. Estate agent support to help identify properties and negotiation process, cost approx. £5,000 – pushed back, waiting for process to start. Project Support resource to continue

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Transformation Programme Highlight Report

Recovery & Reset Programme & Project Highlight Report

Project:	Economic & Regeneration	
Key Workstreams	Workstream Lead	Highlights
Business Intervention	Anna Miller Matt Fletcher	Research and impact assessment arising from the Pandemic being scoped. Circulated for feedback.
Economic Recovery & Development	Anna Miller Matt Fletcher	Research and impact assessment arising from the Pandemic being scoped. Designed to establish a base line and forecast, to enable an economic recovery plan to be proposed and implemented that supports the council's strategic priorities. Linked to Business Intervention Workstream 1.
Town Centre Regeneration (Master Plan)	Anna Miller Matt Fletcher	Maximise regeneration and inward investment on town centre infrastructure and where possible align to Recovery & Reset programme, particularly around asset use and review. This is the outputs and outcomes of workstreams 1&2.
Marmion Regeneration	Anna Miller Matt Fletcher	MH constraints scoping ongoing with Council and Cabinet support for April 2023 deadlines to vacate.
Major activity to date		Planned Activities for next period
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scoping paper and discussion with ELT. • Timeline for the regeneration of the site • Commissioned detailed viability of MH scope • Commissioned constraints mapping exercise for the site • Narrowed options for MH to feasible options 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constraints and feasibility studies to be analysed • March Cabinet planned for decisions on MH proposal
Amber/Red Areas		Risks including Stakeholder Issues
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial savings will not be realised • Feasibility and/or site constraints may increase costs or reduce options for regeneration • Reputational management – empty property concerns to be mitigated by public comms and rapid demolition plans • Dependency risk with building utilisation • Dependencies and shared risks with FHSF, Regeneration Agenda
Recovery & Reset Programme Issues		Resourcing Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constraints and feasibility have been commissioned with industry-specific consultants • Major resourcing for vacation, security, demolition and regeneration dependent on eventual final decisions.

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19 th January 2022 24 th March 2022