



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE, SAFETY AND GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 26th SEPTEMBER 2022

PRESENT: Councillor S Goodall (Chair), Councillors R Ford, M Cook, A Cooper, S Daniels, J Harper, S Peple, B Price and P Turner

CABINET: Councillor Jeremy Oates

The following officers were present: Anna Miller (Assistant Director – Growth & Regeneration), Alice Poulton (Future High Streets Fund Project Officer) and Jo Hutchison (Democratic Services, Scrutiny and Elections Officer)

Guests: Ms Kirsten May, Ms Courtney Szanto and Ms Liz Warren

40 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies.

41 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 August 2022 were approved as a correct record.

(Moved by Councillor R Ford and seconded by Councillor J Harper)

42 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor S Peple declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Future High Streets Fund Quarterly Update item, as a Director of Tamworth Co-operative Ltd.

43 UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR

There was no update from the Chair on any items not otherwise covered on the Agenda.

44 RESPONSES TO REPORTS OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY & GROWTH COMMITTEE

The Chair reported that at the August meeting, the Committee had considered 2 local plan related reports;

(i) Statement of Community Involvement and Local Development Scheme Report, and

(ii) Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation Report

The recommendations from this Committee relating to item (i) in terms of the time for / number of public speakers at Planning Committee were made and were supported by Cabinet.

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

None.

46 NET ZERO CARBON - BASELINE REPORTING

The Chair invited the Leader of the Council and the Assistant Director, Regeneration and Growth to introduce the Net Zero Carbon – baseline report.

The Assistant Director highlighted that the baseline report had been commissioned following a competitive tender around a year ago and the Consultants were in attendance to provide an overview of the findings of the report to the meeting.

The Consultants explained the following aspects from the baseline report:

1. Key definitions used;
2. An overview of the declarations of net zero emissions made by local authorities across the United Kingdom
3. The Declaration made by Tamworth Borough Council to make the Council's activities net-zero carbon by 2050 with aspiration to achieve that by 2030 should the council be financially able to do so;
4. The process followed by the Consultants to compile the evidence base;
5. The areas of emissions within scope, which included council owned operational buildings, the communal areas of council owned property, relevant streetlighting, waste, the council fleet and other forms of council travel and direct emissions from specific suppliers;
6. The process undertaken to collect the relevant data;
7. The baseline data for 2019/20 where the two key areas identified as the largest sources of emissions were building related and related to the council waste collection service;
8. Recommendations for improving the evidence base, in terms of collecting data from missing sources, for example working from home emissions and better seeking improved data from procurement activities.
9. In terms of Housing, energy efficiency and decarbonisation of housing stocks was reported to be a thread of housing management over a 30 year

- plan, and it would be important to have projects ready to move as funding became available from central Government
10. In terms of non-domestic council building, the importance of undertaking an energy audit of the estate and to explore the building stock required.
 11. In terms of business transport and travel where the core objective would be to reduce the number and distance of such journeys and replacing short journeys with alternative methods of travel; cycle and walking and use of public transport.
 12. In terms of leisure and street lighting, the programme to replace street lights with LED lights would positively impact, and whilst the council did not operate leisure services currently if it did this would tend to be a large contributor to emissions and would need to be accounted for.
 13. In terms of waste this was a significant part of the carbon baseline and a shared service with Lichfield District Council and therefore recommendations would be to work jointly. Areas to consider; the transport side looking at ultra low vehicles and ensuring any depot had the ability to charge those vehicles and to look at the location of the depot to minimise emissions to the joint service, and also to consider other areas of waste recycling which could be available.
 14. In terms of procurement, to look at working with neighbouring authorities to increase purchasing power in procuring low carbon goods and services, and look at national frameworks, such as the National Social Value Taskforce framework and also directly engaging with suppliers.
 15. Consideration had also been given to methods for embedding low carbon in policies and decision making, and suggestions included building carbon literacy throughout the organisation and using tools to raise the visibility of climate considerations into decision making, and working in partnerships across other councils and also the health and voluntary sectors.

The Chair thanked the Consultants on behalf of the Committee for their report and attendance and the Consultants left the meeting at 7.10pm.

The Committee commented and sought clarifications in the following areas:

1. How this authority compared with other authorities where it was reported that it was very difficult to compare, and different council's included different areas of activities within their methodologies for compiling their baseline data.
2. The date of finalisation of the report given some data sets were estimated and the request to include a note to reflect the date of finalisation within the report.
3. Further information on the methodology for collecting better data on procured activities, where it was reported that for the Council to receive better data in this area would require significant additional data from

contractors and there was a recommendation on how the council could start to collect that.

4. The importance of embedding in the Council's decision making process not just cost and delivering requirements but also climate aspects.
5. The importance of waste disposal in terms of the council's carbon footprint and the need to look at the disposal service not just from a cost neutral or profiting making aspect, but also from a climate aspect, and considering waste disposal from a carbon neutral perspective. The Leader agreed that there needed to be a fundamental review of waste at a national level, and there was expected to be new requirements in terms of food waste, and there was flexibility to respond to that.
6. That Tamworth Climate Action had been in contact with the Assistant Director, who had assisted with signposting to the relevant county council officer for some aspects and to officers within this council for others.
7. It was confirmed that whilst most streetlight was a county council responsibility, Tamworth Borough Council had streetlighting in our estates and in the Castle Grounds.
8. Whether any work had yet been started on the costings of the recommendations where it was reported that this would be the focus of the next phase of work to create the Action Plans.
9. The Committee sought clarification on the timescales for the next piece of work for the delivery of the Action Plans, where it was reported that this would depend upon the procurement process for this piece of work. However the Leader confirmed that there were aspects which could be addressed now in terms of our procurement processes and which could contribute without having an Action Plan.

The Committee considered the Report and **RESOLVED** that:

1. The baseline assessment was endorsed.
2. It recommended to Cabinet that an Action Plan be prepared by 31 December 2024.

(Moved by Councillor S Goodall and seconded by Councillor S Peuple)

The Chair thanked the Leader and Assistant Director for their report.

47 FUTURE HIGH STREETS FUND QUARTERLY UPDATE

The Leader introduced the Future High Streets Fund Project Officer who provided an overview of the report which updated the Committee on the progress of the Future High Streets Fund programme.

Councillor Sheree Peuple declared a non-pecuniary interest, as a Director of Tamworth Co-operative Ltd.

The Committee commented and sought clarifications in the following areas:

1. To understand how the team was seeking to continue to deliver the project within budget. It was reported that they would carefully scrutinise designs and if there were opportunities, through the iterative design process, to design aspects differently which could reduce costs, for instance in terms of internal layouts, whilst not impacting the overall scheme deliverables, these would be pursued.
2. The Committee sought further reassurance and further oversight. The Assistant Director reported that the Programme Board had the whole oversight of the project and that Board met monthly and received detailed dashboards through which all designs and cost decisions were considered.
3. The Committee sought clarification on activities which were running concurrently and whether that affected the budget or funding from Government, if we were not ready by 2024. The Leader reported that the project remained on target to deliver the relevant aspects funded by the Government on schedule noting that work in the town centre would continue beyond 2024 which was not funded by Government but funded by the Council. The Assistant Director further reported that it was now that the project was in RIBA stage 3 that detailed costings were becoming clearer.
4. The timeline for works in Middle Entry and the demolition to start and how this would affect the businesses in Middle Entry. It was reported that some of the assets remained in the ownership of Peer Group and that some aspects were in the Council's ownership and it was therefore possible that works would be undertaken at different times. However, the logistics had not yet been detailed in this area, but the aim would be to minimise the impact on local businesses.
5. The retention of the heritage parts of the Co-operative building, where it was confirmed that the heritage features were to be retained and it was hoped that additional features would be revealed through the works.

RESOLVED that the report be endorsed.

(Moved by Councillor S Goodall and seconded by Councillor P Turner)

The Committee thanked the Leader and Officers for their attendance who then left the meeting.

48 FORWARD PLAN

No further items were identified for the Committee's consideration at this time.

49 WORKING GROUP UPDATES

It was agreed that the Committee would receive an update from the Transport Integration working group at its next meeting. Councillor M Cook offered to join the working group. The Committee supported further work being undertaken by the working group in this area and noted that there were multiple forms of transport and transport providers in the locality.

50 INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY & GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

The Committee updated its work plan as follows:

Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Work Plan

Work Plan	
DATE	SUBJECT
11 October 2022	Amington local centre
11 October 2022	Dual Stream (recycling service) quarterly update
11 October 2022	Marmion House Disposal Routes
11 October 2022	Transport Integration working group report
Quarterly updates	Future High Street Fund
Quarterly updates	Dual Stream (recycling service) updates
Quarterly	Reset & Recovery updates
Date to be confirmed	Council Housing Repairs Policy
Date to be confirmed	Review of policy / engagement with stakeholders relating to migrant travelling community
Date to be confirmed	Fire Safety Update
Date to be confirmed	Town Hall
Date to be confirmed	Review of Taxi Licensing Policy – Points System
Date to be confirmed	CCTV update

Working Groups		
Topic	Possible WG Members	Target IS&G Com meeting date
Review of policy / engagement relating to migrant travelling community		
Facilities for HGV Drivers in Tamworth	Cllrs B Price (WG chair) Cllrs S Daniels and M Cook	
Transport integration	Cllrs R Ford (Chair), M Cook, S People and P	

	Turner	
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<p style="text-align: center;">Upcoming Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee Meetings</p>
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Meeting dates:

11 October 2022

22 November 2022

18 January 2023

23 March 2023

Chair