



**PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, 20 NOVEMBER 2019**

**10.00 am COMMITTEE ROOM - COUNTY HALL, LEWES**

MEMBERSHIP - Councillor Bob Bowdler (Chair)  
Councillors Godfrey Daniel (Vice Chair), John Barnes, Martin Clarke,  
Chris Dowling, Nigel Enever, Darren Grover, Pat Rodohan, Stephen Shing,  
Andy Smith and Barry Taylor

**A G E N D A**

- 1 Minutes of the previous meeting (*Pages 3 - 12*)
- 2 Apologies for absence
- 3 Disclosures of interests  
Disclosures by all members present of personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the member regards the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct.
- 4 Urgent items  
Notification of items which the Chair considers to be urgent and proposes to take at the appropriate part of the agenda. Any members who wish to raise urgent items are asked, wherever possible, to notify the Chair before the start of the meeting. In so doing, they must state the special circumstances which they consider justify the matter being considered urgent.
- 5 Scrutiny Review of the Effectiveness of School Travel Plans - update report (*Pages 13 - 20*)  
Report by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport.
- 6 Review of Service Changes at Household Waste Recycling Sites (HWRS) (*Pages 21 - 24*)  
Report by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport.
- 7 Review of Grass Cutting and Roadside Vegetation Management Service (*Pages 25 - 30*)  
Report by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport.
- 8 Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR) 2020/21 (*Pages 31 - 48*)  
Report by the Chief Executive.
- 9 Work programme (*Pages 49 - 76*)
- 10 Any other items previously notified under agenda item 4

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12 November 2019

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## PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Place Scrutiny Committee held at Committee Room - County Hall, Lewes on 18 September 2019.

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PRESENT Councillor Bob Bowdler (Chair) Councillors Godfrey Daniel (Vice Chair), John Barnes, Colin Belsey (substituting for Nigel Enever), Phil Boorman (substituting for Martin Clarke), Chris Dowling, Darren Grover, Pat Rodohan, Stephen Shing, Andy Smith and Barry Taylor

LEAD MEMBERS Councillors Nick Bennett, Bill Bentley and Rupert Simmons

ALSO PRESENT Becky Shaw, Chief Executive  
Kevin Foster, Chief Operating Officer  
Rupert Clubb, Director of Communities, Economy and Transport  
Katy Thomas, Team Manager Economic Development  
Karl Taylor, Assistant Director Operations  
Dale Poore, Contract Manager Highway Infrastructure Services  
Mathew Jasper, Team Manager Asset Management

## 12 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

12.1 The Committee RESOLVED to agree the minutes of meeting held on 11 June 2019 as a correct record.

## 13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

13.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Martin Clarke (Councillor Phil Boorman substituting) and Nigel Enever (Councillor Colin Belsey substituting).

## 14 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

14.1 There were none.

## 15 URGENT ITEMS

15.1 There were none notified.

## 16 RECONCILING POLICY, PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES (RPPR) 2020/21

16.1 The Chief Executive introduced the report. The purpose of the report is to provide the Committee with information on the expenditure and performance plans for services within its remit, the Core Offer, and the current savings plan. Cabinet discussed the State of the County report at the meeting on 16 July 2019 which sets out the financial position for the Council. Subsequent to this, the new Chancellor has announced a spending round, the details of which have been circulated in a briefing note to all Councillors. The additional funding that has been announced in the headline figures is very welcome, but Officers do not know yet how much of this additional funding East Sussex County Council (ESCC) will receive. The announcement also includes the ability set a Council Tax precept for Adult Social Care above the current cap on general Council Tax increases. As the settlement is for the next financial year only, all additional funding announced will be one-off in nature.

16.2 The Scrutiny Committee will be updated when there is more certainty on the funding settlement for ESCC for 2020/21. There is also a commitment to ensure Scrutiny will remain involved in the draft budget proposals.

16.3 The Lead Member for Resources welcomed Scrutiny's involvement in the RPPR process and looks forward to hearing Scrutiny's ideas, as there are significant stresses across the services and budget. There is a degree of variability due to changes announced in the financial settlement for Local Government. The next steps for the Council will be to plan the budget in detail once further information is available.

### Discussion by the Committee

16.4 The Committee discussed the report and commented that there are a lot of unknowns regarding the budget. The Committee agreed to defer a detailed discussion of the budget until the more detailed figures from the financial settlement are known. It observed that if the more detailed financial information is not available until close to the budget setting meetings, it is more difficult to work up alternatives especially with one-off funding for another year. The Committee also raised the question of how the Council is going to apply the one-off funding and the impact on current savings plans.

16.5 The Chief Executive reassured the Committee that the Council is used to dealing with one-off funding and is careful not to create a continuing revenue commitment from the use of one-off monies. The Committee were invited to contribute any suggestions for areas that may be worth exploring for further savings or investment.

16.6 The Committee discussed forming an RPPR Board to consider the budget proposals in more detail. The Committee agreed to form an RPPR Board comprised of Councillors Bob Bowdler, Godfrey Daniel, John Barnes, Chris Dowling, Pat Rodohan and Stephen Shing. The Democratic Services Adviser is to contact Councillors Martin Clarke and Nigel Enever to see if they wish to take part in the RPPR Board.

16.7 The Committee RESOLVED to agree to:

1) Request further information on how the one-funding, announced in the financial settlement, will be applied when more detailed information is available; and

2) Establish an RPPR scrutiny review board comprised of the Committee members listed in paragraph 16.6 (above) to consider the developing Portfolio Plans, Core Offer, and savings proposals as they emerge in December and to submit Scrutiny's final comments on them to Cabinet in January 2020.

## 17 CLIMATE CHANGE NOTICE OF MOTION: CLIMATE EMERGENCY

17.1 The Director of Communities, Economy and Transport introduced report. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report stated that far reaching changes will happen unless we tackle climate change. The public are becoming more concerned about environmental issues and in particular climate change. Most local authorities in the South East have declared a climate emergency. It is important to set out the actions the Council is going to take to become carbon neutral. The Council has a good track record in putting in place measures to reduce our carbon footprint and working in partnership with others to bring about change. It is recommended that the Committee recommend Council agree the combined motion in paragraph 3.1 of the report.

17.2 Councillor Bennett as proposer of the Conservative Group Motion outlined that the Motion emanates from a Notice of Motion that was made at the Local Government Association (LGA) conference which received cross party support. He confirmed that he is happy with the principle of a joint motion as this not a political issue and there is a responsibility to work together on this issue. He added that there is also a report going to the Lead Member for Resources meeting that will enable the Council to procure electricity from renewable sources.

17.3 Councillor Godfrey Daniel speaking on behalf of the proposer of the Labour Group Motion commented that it is good to work together on this issue. The only minor disagreement between the two Motions is on the target date of 2050 rather than 2030. The Labour Group would like the target reviewed to an earlier date if possible, but recognise that this may be challenging given the current level of information and funding.

17.4 The Director of Communities, Economy and Transport outlined that overall the proportion of greenhouse gases is increasing. The IPPC report has given 12 years in which to make the necessary changes. So the pace of change will be crucial and a step change like this will have its challenges. However, tackling climate change is the right thing for the Council to be doing.

17.5 The Committee discussed the report and made a number of comments on the contents of the report.

17.6 The Committee asked for clarification whether other greenhouse gases as well as CO<sub>2</sub> are included in the Council's work on climate change. The Director of Communities, Economy and Transport responded there are some issues, which are outside of ESCC's control which will need to be tackled through regulatory control or other legislation. Where the issue is within ESCC's control then action can be taken by the Council. For example, ESCC has moved away from landfill to dispose of domestic waste which is an emitter of methane gas. Transport is an overall emitter of greenhouse gases and the Council can reflect this in Transport policies.

17.7 It was clarified that the Council will develop an action plan to tackle climate change and this will include issues such as transport and other greenhouse gas emissions. The Council is also in the process of refreshing the Environmental Strategy with its partners, through the work of the Environment Board, which will address climate change and other environmental issues in East Sussex.

17.8 The Committee discussed the target date for achieving carbon neutrality and noted that most of the District and Borough Councils in East Sussex have agreed a 2030 target date. The Committee expressed the view that it would like an earlier target date if possible. The Committee discussed whether it would be possible to add the wording "or earlier if possible" or other similar wording to item (iii) of the joint Motion.

17.9 Councillor Bennett commented that the Motion is about setting out the overall corporate ambition to tackle climate change. In principle he is comfortable working towards an earlier date

for carbon neutrality if that is possible, but would like some time to consider and reflect on the implications to be sure that this is achievable. He suggested a revised wording of the joint Motion could be agreed between Conservative and Labour Groups before the Motion is debated at Council.

17.10 In the interim, Councillor Godfrey Daniel proposed that the wording of item (vi) of the joint Motion be amended by adding the wording “*and will consider whether the target date remains appropriate*” at the end of the current text. Councillor Bennett and the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport indicated that they would be happy to revise the wording of the joint Motion in this way. The Director of Communities, Economy and Transport added that how quickly the Council is going to be able to achieve carbon neutrality will depend on national policy changes and it is likely that a lot will be happening in this area. The Committee agreed the revised wording of the Motion.

17.11 The Committee discussed the scope of a potential scrutiny review of climate change. It was noted that the Committee has established a scoping board comprised of Councillors John Barnes, Bob Bowdler, Martin Clarke and Stephen Shing to examine this issue. It was agreed that the scoping board would consider the scope of any scrutiny review work in this area.

17.12 The Committee RESOLVED to:

- 1) Agree that the principles of the Motions as set out in paragraphs 1.1 and 1.2 of the report are supported;
- 2) Agree to recommend the County Council agree the adoption of the Motion set out in paragraph 3.1 of the report with the addition of the wording in paragraph 17.10; and
- 3) Refer the scoping of any scrutiny review work on Climate Change to the Scoping Board established by the Committee.

*(Post Meeting Note: Following discussion after the meeting it was agreed to amend item (iii) of the joint Motion to read “will set a target of achieving carbon neutrality from its activities as soon as possible and in any event by 2050, in line with the new target for the UK agreed by Parliament in 2019” instead of amending item (vi) as outlined in paragraph 17.10).*

## 18 SCRUTINY REVIEW OF SUPERFAST BROADBAND - UPDATE REPORT

18.1 The Team Manager, Economic Development introduced report. The purpose of the report is to provide an update on the implementation of the recommendations from the scrutiny review completed in March 2017. Further work has been undertaken on the redesigned web site which now provides information on the history of project; how to get the best out of broadband; detailed information on the roll out programme at property level; and a news section to announce when structures go live and other important updates.

18.2 The first two contracts undertaken as part of the Broadband Project have been completed on target, and Contract 2 will come in ahead of target in terms of the number of properties reached. As set out in the report, the delivery of Contract 3 has been delayed slightly. The Team Manager, Economic Development outlined that for Contract 3 the Council wanted more clarity on what is going to be delivered and required the successful bidder to complete a survey of all the remaining properties without superfast broadband. This will provide information on the estimated cost of reaching the remaining properties and will help to target resources cost effectively. This is the only contract nationally that has this requirement.

18.3 Unfortunately there were some issues with the quality of the information from the survey, but this has now been reworked to remove duplicates and other properties where broadband services are not required e.g. landfill sites. This has led to some delays in agreeing a

deployment plan. However, BT Openreach has continued with preparations to deliver the contract, and has submitted revised proposals for deployment. These have been examined and are acceptable. The supplier will be issuing a change request to implement changes to the contract following the data corrections. Consequently, the Council will soon be able to let communities know whether they are included in the deployment plan.

18.4 The coverage achieved by the Broadband Project as at July 2019 is 97.3%, compared to 65% in July 2013. The take up rate for superfast broadband services is 64% against a national benchmark of 20%. This means that there is good superfast broadband coverage across the County and people are using it.

18.5 The Committee discussed the report and noted the excellent work that had been undertaken on the Project to reach as many properties as possible. It was clarified that there will be a map, or other tool, that will identify those properties that will not be covered by the deployment plan agreed for Contract 3. The Committee commented that as coverage was now just over 97% and most of the work had been done, it might be better for Scrutiny to focus work on the remaining hard to reach properties after the completion of Contract 3.

18.6 The Director of Communities, Economy and Transport outlined that the Project has done a lot for the rural community through the roll out of the various contracts, but the last 3% of properties will be more expensive to connect. The Project still has to apply a value for money cut off for the cost of service provision of £2,600 per property. So there may be properties that are out of reach of the Project due to the value for money cap. It was clarified that although the cost cap is important, it is the average cost to cover properties that is crucial as this is the measure used to ensure the project does not go over budget and ensures as many properties as possible are covered.

18.7 The aim is still to try and enable superfast broadband services for 100% of properties in East Sussex, so there may be another round of work once the deployment of Contract 3 is completed. The introduction of a Universal Service Obligation by the Government for Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to provide 10Mbps broadband services may change the emphasis of the work. ESCC is one of a few Local Authorities that have gone further than the first contract and there is a clawback mechanism in the contracts, so the Council may have further money available for investment.

18.8 The Lead Member for Economy added that ESCC has been alone in championing rural economies to the extent that it has. The Broadband Team has made a great effort to get to at least 99% coverage. It is recognised that having superfast broadband services is important for rural businesses. However, there may be more innovation required to reach the last premises.

18.9 One of the Committee members commented that communications about the project were not as good as they could have been, especially regarding the connection fees charged by ISPs for fibre to the premise (FTTP). The Council should make it clear that the householder may have to pay for the final connection by the ISP. The Economic Development Team Manager commented that extra payments by the householder are very rare and that the Openreach team have specifically built in order to avoid this happening.

18.10 The Committee commented that it is important to try to reach everybody especially as the Council seeks to digitise more of its services. There is also an issue of equity to ensure that everyone has access. The Director of Communities, Economy and Transport responded that it is challenging to get superfast broadband (24Mbps) to everyone. The Council is constrained by Treasury limits but there are alternatives (e.g. satellite or paying directly for service provision). There is information on e-Sussex web site about broadband coverage and broadband speeds. The website also gives advice to communities about alternative technologies.

18.11 The Committee thanked the Broadband Team for their work and congratulated them on their success in reaching and exceeding the coverage targets.

18.12 The Committee RESOLVED to note the progress on the implementation of the recommendations made in the Scrutiny Review Board report on the Superfast Broadband Project in March 2017.

## 19 HIGHWAY DRAINAGE - UPDATE REPORT

19.1 The Contract Manager Highway Infrastructure Services introduced the report. The report provides an update on the strategy set out in 2017 to improve highways drainage. It is a significant area of expenditure which uses £3.2million per annum of capital and revenue funding. The main elements of the strategy are:

- identifying, prioritising and resolving drainage issues, including dealing with known flooding hot spots;
- improving our drainage asset knowledge through investigation and encapsulation of historic records and knowledge; and
- working with partners and local communities to understand and proactively manage drainage together.

19.2 The report sets out how the work to improve highway drainage has been tackled. The Asset Management Team has been learning as work has progressed and invested in new techniques and technology. The strategy and approach is working quite well and has included work in the following areas:

- The approach to blocked gullies and drain outlets has been changed by using more powerful jetting equipment and camera surveying blockages at same time.
- Of the 157 flooding hotspots originally identified, 97% will be resolved by end of this year.
- The fence to fence design approach is now working very well for carriageway investigations and designs.
- A lot of time and energy has been dedicated to improving the ditch and grip network. This is an area of maintenance that has not received as much attention as it may have needed in the past. This has now been corrected with programmes of ditch reconstruction and the reforming of grips (the channels that run between the edge of the road and the ditch).
- Work to improve the knowledge and understanding of the drainage network has included digitising all paper based records to help investigations and design. The Asset Team is capturing new information on drainage network through the survey work involved in investigations of flooding hot spots and blocked outlets. The Team is following a best practice approach to information gathering focussing on problem areas. Due to the time and cost that it would take to get a complete understanding of the drainage network, it will take some time to achieve this.
- The Asset Team is engaging with Borough, District and Parish councils to work on drainage issues such as highway flooding, road sweeping and improving knowledge.

19.3 The Committee noted the scale of improvements outlined in the report and commented on the excellent ditching work that had taken place. In discussion, the Committee outlined that it is sometimes difficult to know where the boundary is between the work of East Sussex Highways and the Asset Management Team, especially in situations where drainage problems may need to be escalated for resolution. The Contract Manager Highway Infrastructure Services responded that for drainage issues the first point of contact should be the Highway Steward or Customer Service Manager. If Councillors are not getting the information they need, then they should raise it with either himself or the Assistant Director, Operations. Sometimes there is a lot



of history behind a particular drainage problem and it may be necessary to obtain further information from the Asset Management Team before responding.

19.4 The Committee commented that it would also be helpful to have a list, or breakdown, by Division of known flooding problems together with the work planned or completed to resolve them. This could include the results of investigations even if no immediate solution is possible. Having more information on drainage issues would enable Local Members to respond appropriately to enquiries and they can also help publicise the action that is being taken. The Contract Manager Highway Infrastructure Services agreed to investigate ways to provide this information to Local Members.

19.5 The Committee discussed the problem of leaf fall and the blocking of drains. It was clarified that the Highways Team does communicate locally with District and Borough councils to clear gullies and to identify problem areas. Leaf clearance is done through the waste collection or street cleansing contracts, which tend to concentrate on urban areas. The Contract Manager Highway Infrastructure Services outlined that generally there does not appear to be a frequent problem with leaves blocking drains, and District and Borough councils seem to be quite good at targeting them for clearance.

19.6 It was clarified that if gullies are not collecting water, the Team is made aware of them and they will be dealt with. The Council does carry out work to improve drainage where falls are incorrect and carriageways regularly flood. The Director of Communities, Economy and Transport added that as most highway drains are only 150mm in diameter, it means that there is the possibility that there will be temporary flooding during extreme rainfall events. Consequently, it is important to make sure expectations of the highway drainage network are realistic.

19.7 In terms of communication, it is best for members of the public and Parish councils to contact the Council through the Highways Contact Centre, rather than going to the Highway Steward directly to avoid problems if they are not at work. Unfortunately it is not possible to keep the contact telephone numbers and email addresses for Stewards covering a given area constant when they change roles, or when new Stewards are recruited.

19.8 The Committee RESOLVED to note:

- 1) The good progress made on the action plan agreed by Cabinet;
- 2) Progress since the last Highways Drainage Service update as part of Scrutiny Review of Road Repairs; and
- 3) Progress on the actions arising out of recommendations from the report of the Scrutiny Review of Road Repairs in March 2019.

## 20 HIGHWAYS ASSET PLAN

20.1 The Contract Manager Highway Infrastructure Services introduced the report. ESCC has been an early adopter of the asset management approach, which is now linked to the Department of Transport (DfT) incentive funding. The incentive funding was introduced in 2014 and is assessed by a set of 22 self-assessment questions which are submitted to DfT each year. Evidence is required to support the assessment and the submission is verified by the Council's Section 151 Officer, the Chief Finance Officer. If the Council had not achieved band 3 status, it would have lost £1.73 million of DfT revenue funding from the incentive fund.

20.2 It was clarified that in order to achieve band 3 funding the Council has to meet band 3 in 18 out of 22 questions. Currently the Council has been assessed as achieving band 3 in 19 out of the 22 questions. The Contract Manager Highway Infrastructure Services outlined that the Council has achieved band 3 so will not drop down to band 2 funding levels, and the Team are working on the remaining questions to be guaranteed band 3 status in future. It is likely that the

Council will be able to achieve band 3 scores in resilient network and drainage. The final area is developing longer term forward programmes of work. At present there are well developed forward work programmes in some areas such as carriageway repairs, but there are others where more work is needed.

20.3 The Assistant Director Operations added that in future the incentive funding may be linked to the Well Managed Highways Infrastructure Code of Practice. The Council is in a good position should this be the case. The early adoption of an asset management approach by the Council is paying dividends and has enabled the Council to maintain 100% of the available DfT funding.

20.4 The Committee discussed the report on the Highway Asset Plan and the DfT incentive funding. The following points were made during the discussion of the report.

- The information for the DfT incentive funding has to be submitted annually at the end of the financial year.
- The road network classifications used in the road network hierarchy are reviewed at regular intervals and the Team Manager, Asset Management confirmed that the Team are currently updating road network hierarchy.
- It was clarified that concrete roads in appropriate conditions (e.g. housing / industrial estates with low statutory undertakers renewals) have a long lifespan, but they take much longer to construct due to curing times and are difficult to repair, so this method is rarely used outside of motorways and industrial estates.
- The resurfacing programme usually employs around three teams to carry out resurfacing across the County.
- Thin surfacing (e.g. surface dressing) and other specialist treatments like jet patching usually involves using specialist equipment which is delivered using one team to carry out a programme of work once a year, usually during summertime due to materials being temperature sensitive.
- The Council does use night time working for busy roads, but this costs more and there are limitations on working at night due to need to undertake the work at the right temperature and humidity levels.
- The Highways Team do react quickly to reports of road subsidence via the Contact Centre and will send a Steward to investigate. If an emergency repair is needed then it will be carried out.
- Officers are aware of the issue on the A259 at Rushy Hill where there is a long term problem with carriageway movement. It requires significant investment to investigate and resolve this problem, but in the meantime the condition of this section of road will be monitored. The situation in Rodmill Drive, Eastbourne is under investigation as the work is still under guarantee.

20.5 The Committee commented that when a surfacing request is passed to the Asset Management Team by the Highway Steward, there is often little feedback on whether or when the work will be done. It would be helpful if Local Members could have some feedback from referrals made by the Highway Steward. The Assistant Director Operations agreed to investigate finding a better way of informing Local Members about planned and referred work.

20.6 The Committee welcomed the amount of resurfacing work that is taking place across the County. However it became apparent during the discussion of the Asset Management Plan that some members of the public, Parish Councils, ESCC Councillors and Place Scrutiny Committee members not involved with the recent Scrutiny Review of Road Repairs, do not have a clear understanding of the prioritisation process used in the Asset Management Plan. For example, how work programmes are developed; the different maintenance techniques used and; why some sections of road are resurfaced or surface dressed and others nearby are not. A better understanding would enable Local Members to explain the approach to their constituents and local communities.

20.7 The Assistant Director Operations offered to repeat the presentation on the asset management approach that was given to Scrutiny Review of Road Repairs review board. It was explained that sometimes the Highways Team may carry out thin surfacing on a reasonable section of road (preventative treatment) rather than full resurfacing (which is a more expensive treatment) of a poor section of road in order to prolong the life of the better road and stop it falling into poor condition. Road surfaces that are on cusp of becoming brittle and breaking down can be treated to rejuvenate them. In these situations it is possible to still see the road markings after the treatment as the treatment penetrates rather than covers the existing surface material. Whereas surfacing dressing which involves spraying liquid bitumen and then rolling chippings into the surface will obscure the road markings unless they are masked off.

20.8 Some Committee members stated that they would like more communications and information for Local Members on work programming and how we are prioritising work. The Assistant Director Operations explained that the Members guide that is currently on the intranet and that was sent to all Councillors clarifies these issues. There is also a wealth of information on ESCC website and a public version of the Members guide is available which can be used with Parish, Borough and District councils, and Strengthening Local Resources (SLR) meetings. It was also clarified that a link to the recent video made on the resurfacing and surfacing dressing programme was sent to all Councillors. The Highways Team not only repair roads that need resurfacing, but also following an evidence based asset management approach, focus on preventative work to reduce the need for more expensive work in the future.

20.9 The Lead Member for Transport and Environment commented that it appeared that there is a need to provide more information on asset management to the whole Committee. It would be helpful if the Committee could have the same presentation as the Road Repairs Review Board. She suggested sending a link to the Members highways guide to all Councillors and to re-send a link to the video on the surfacing programme. The Assistant Director Operations confirmed that he could re-run presentation after the end of the next Committee meeting and could re-send the links to all Members. The Committee agreed to have a presentation on the asset management approach after the next Committee meeting on 20 November 2019.

20.10 The Committee commented that the Council appeared to be quite good at repairing A roads, but unclassified roads seemed to be falling behind in terms of planned repair work. Most Councillors are not getting a positive response from Stewards on the repair of unclassified roads. The Assistant Director Operations responded that work is prioritised for A and B roads as they carry the most traffic, but the Council does undertake work on other roads such as unclassified roads. For instance, Cabinet agreed an extra £5 million investment in the capital programme for 2 years for unclassified roads, which has led to an improvement in their condition as measured by the percentage in need of repair.

20.11 The Committee asked for clarification on the way the asset management approach is applied to pavements. The Assistant Director Operations responded that the Team applies same process to pavements as it does to roads, but the budget is much bigger for carriageways, hence the appearance that less planned pavement repairs are undertaken. Pavements are maintained on a priority basis in accordance with the agreed policy. In the last year £800,000 was spent on pavements in Eastbourne out of a total budget of £1.6million. The Scrutiny Committee can recommend more money is spent on pavements, but it would need to identify where this additional expenditure would come from, as the Council cannot always borrow more money to fund capital expenditure due to the capital financing impact on the revenue budget.

20.12 The Committee RESOLVED to note the role of the Asset Plan in Highway's Asset Management approach and how this is evidenced to meet the DfT incentive fund requirements.

## 21 WORK PROGRAMME

21.1 The Committee discussed the work programme and reviewed the reports coming to the future meetings. Under the Reference Group section it was suggested that the Committee form a Review Board to examine the work being undertaken to make savings in the Archives and Records Service (including the services provided at The Keep), and to prepare for changes in digital communications for future archivists. The Committee agreed to form Review Board to examine this issue comprised of Cllr Barnes and Cllr Smith.

21.2 The Committee enquired about the timing for a meeting of the Review Board to consider the Parking Charges consultation. The Director of Communities, Economy and Transport responded that the Board will have the opportunity to see the report on the consultation and proposals before it goes to the decision making meeting.

### Orbis Scoping Board

21.3 The Committee received a report back on the scoping work that had been undertaken which focussed on the capacity of Orbis to increase traded services. The Scoping Board heard that there is already considerable work underway to assess business readiness and develop a strategy to increase the amount of traded services provided by Orbis. Therefore the recommendation of the Scoping Board is not to proceed with a scrutiny review at this stage but to establish a reference group to monitor the delivery of this work.

21.4 The Committee agreed to establish a reference group comprised of Councillors Martin Clarke, Nigel Enever and Andy Smith.

### Road Markings Scoping Board

21.5 The Committee received a report back on the scoping of a potential scrutiny review of road markings. The recommendation from the Scoping Board is to proceed with a scrutiny review of this service area, with the initial lines of enquiry being:

- the prioritisation of the existing programme for renewing road markings;
- the materials used;
- funding levels and;
- options for improving road marking maintenance.

21.6 The Committee agreed to proceed with a scrutiny review of road markings with the Review Board comprised of Cllr Taylor, Cllr Shing and Cllr Daniel. It was agreed that Councillor Godfrey Daniel will Chair the Review Board.

21.7 The Committee RESOLVED to amend the work programme with the items agreed in paragraphs 22.1, 21.4 and 21.6 above.

The meeting ended at 12.01 pm.

Councillor Bob Bowdler (Chair)  
Chair

**Report to:** Place Scrutiny Committee  
**Date of meeting:** 20 November 2019  
**By:** Director of Communities, Economy and Transport  
**Title:** Update - Scrutiny Review of the effectiveness of School Travel Plans  
**Purpose:** To provide the committee with an update on the recommendations identified through the review of the effectiveness of School Travel Plans.

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**RECOMMENDATIONS: Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:**

- (1) Note the updates in relation to the agreed recommendations identified through the review of the effectiveness of School Travel Plans, as set out in Appendix 2.**
  - (2) Note the potential opportunities in relation to school travel regarding future transport infrastructure projects and initiatives.**
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**1. Background**

1.1 The Place Scrutiny Committee, at a meeting on 19 March 2019, outlined a series of seven recommendations, which were developed by a Review Board and Communities, Economy and Transport (CET) officers to scrutinise the effectiveness of School Travel Plans. The Review recommendations encompassed the monitoring of School Travel Plans secured through the planning process, and the existing information available in relation to school travel initiatives and school travel guidance for schools, parents and carers. These are as outlined in Appendix 1.

1.2 The Review Board was comprised of three members of the Place Scrutiny Committee: Councillors Claire Dowling, Nigel Enever and Godfrey Daniel, alongside officers across the teams of Strategic Economic Infrastructure (SEI), Transport Development Control (TDC) and Planning Policy & Development Management.

1.3 The seven recommendations were agreed, alongside a commitment to provide updates on progress in relation to these.

**2. Supporting information**

2.1 The agreed recommendations are as outlined in Appendix 2, alongside an update on progress.

2.2 In addition to the seven recommendations, we will publish our Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) shortly. This will outline a number of potential transport infrastructure projects to support greater levels of cycling and walking, alongside initiatives to encourage and enable people to start using these travel modes for everyday journeys. Some of the proposals will benefit schools and capitalise on the existing work which is being undertaken. The LCWIP will be used to support future applications for government funding.

**3. Conclusion**

3.1 The Committee is asked to note the updates to the recommendations and to acknowledge that future opportunities for school travel initiatives to support cycling and walking will be managed through the County Council's LCWIP, for which the SEI team will be seeking approval from the Lead Member for Transport & Environment early in 2020.

**RUPERT CLUBB**

**Director of Communities, Economy and Transport**

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**LOCAL MEMBERS**

ALL

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Scrutiny Review of the Effectiveness of School Travel Plans. March 2019.

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PLACE SCRUTINY REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SCHOOL TRAVEL PLANS – ACTION PLAN			
SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION		DIRECTOR'S RESPONSE AND ACTION PLAN	TIMESCALE
R1	The Board recommends that schools continue to return data on pupils' modes of travel through the annual school census, to enable schools which have travel plans to monitor these with a consistent set of data.	The Research and Information Team will continue to encourage schools to complete this question and can analyse the data and present it in a GIS format, on request.	Ongoing
R2	The Board recommends that Communities, Economy and Transport Officers encourage schools to nominate a senior post-holder to have responsibility for the review of the School Travel Plan, and for this to be included in the School's Development Plan.	This will be included in the updated guidance for school travel planning, which will be published on Czone.	May 2019
R3	The Board recommends further promotion of the active travel initiatives offered by the Active Access for Growth Programme 2017-2020 to educational establishments.	This is part of the existing ESCC Active Access for Growth Programme. The next event schools can participate in is Sustrans 'The Big Pedal', which will be launched on 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2019.	Ongoing
R4	The Board recommends that future external funding be sought to support active travel with schools and other organisations, alongside signposting to schools of other funding streams which they can apply for, to support these types of measures.	A new programme is being developed during 2019, which will be scalable according to the external funding that ESCC and other key partners, including schools, can secure in the future.	July 2019
R5	The Board recommends the Planning Team include a Condition requiring a new or revised (as appropriate) School Travel Plan, including a stipulated review period. Consideration should also be given to including an Informative, encouraging schools to nominate a senior post-holder to undertake responsibility for its review, and for this to be included in the School Development Plan.	Where considered necessary and appropriate, a condition requiring the revision/submission of a School Travel Plan will be imposed on planning permissions for new schools or expansions to existing schools which result in an increase in pupil/staffing numbers. The Planning Team will, through the imposition of Informatives, encourage schools to identify a nominated person to regularly review its Travel Plan.	Ongoing

**PLACE SCRUTINY REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SCHOOL TRAVEL PLANS – ACTION PLAN**

PLACE SCRUTINY REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SCHOOL TRAVEL PLANS – ACTION PLAN			
SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION		DIRECTOR’S RESPONSE AND ACTION PLAN	TIMESCALE
R6	The Board recommends that the Communities, Economy and Transport department ensure that advice and guidance to develop School Travel Plans and Walking Buses is available electronically, on CZone (the Intranet for schools) and the East Sussex County Council website.	This is currently being updated and will be published via ESCC website and Czone.	May 2019
R7	The Board encourages staff to continue to co-ordinate work in relation to active travel, to support the delivery of key departmental objectives relating to the economy, planning, the environment and health.	<p>This is undertaken through numerous programmes of work including:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Delivery of cycling and walking infrastructure schemes included in ESCC local Transport Capital Programme.</li><li>• Delivery of ESCC current travel behaviour change programme - ‘Active Access for Growth’.</li><li>• Supporting district and boroughs in the development of their Local Plans, and ensuring policies will enable active travel will be a key element of future development.</li><li>• Input into other key departmental strategies relating to the economy, environment and health.</li></ul>	Ongoing



## Appendix 2

Recommendation		Update Oct 2019
R1	<b>Schools are to be strongly encouraged to return data on pupils' modes of travel through the annual school census, to enable schools which have travel plans, to monitor these with a consistent set of data.</b>	Currently promoted via ESCC 'Active Access for Growth' Access Fund Programme, through the work undertaken by Sustrans and Living Streets officers.
R2	<b>Schools are to be encouraged to nominate a member of staff or post to have responsibility for the review of the School Travel Plan, and for this to be included in the School's Development Plan.</b>	Initial discussions have taken place with Children's Services to introduce dedicated area on Czone to provide advice related to the development and monitoring of School Travel Plans. This should be available towards the end of 2019, and will include advice on what roles/posts are best placed to have the 'responsibility' for the School Travel Plan.
R3	<b>The Board encourages further promotion of the active travel initiatives offered by the "Active Access for Growth" Programme 2017-2020 to educational establishments.</b>	Active Travel initiatives are offered to schools through ESCC 'Active Access for Growth' Access Fund Programme. This is further supported by ESCC 'Bikeability' Programme. The Access Fund Programme was due to end in March 2020, but the Department for Transport has advised that they are recommending approval of continued funding for 2020/21 for Local Authorities with existing programmes. This is subject to ministerial sign off.
R4	<b>The Board recommends that future external funding be sought to support active travel with schools and other organisations, alongside signposting to schools of other funding streams which they can apply for, to support these types of measures</b>	ESCC anticipates extended external funding being available from Department for Transport in 2020/21 to enable the continuation of a number of the Active Access for Growth initiatives with schools and other organisations. Work to signpost schools to other funding streams is in progress and should be available by end of March 2020.

R5	<p><b>The Board encourages the Planning Team to include a condition requiring a new or revised (as appropriate) School Travel Plan, including a stipulated review period. Consideration should also be given to including an Informative, encouraging schools to nominate a member of staff or post to undertake responsibility for its review, and for this to be included in the School Development Plan.</b></p>	<p>Approvals of relevant planning applications have included conditions relating to School Travel Plans. Where necessary this has included reference to monitoring, reviewing and a named post as a Travel Plan Coordinator.</p> <p>An example of where such a condition has been used relates to a site in Hailsham, where planning permission for a new school was granted in September 2019. The following condition was attached to the planning permission: "The approved Travel Plan, which stipulates an annual review and a named post as the Travel Plan Co-Ordinator, shall be implemented and thereafter reviewed in accordance with the approved details."</p> <p>Separately, the Local Validation List (which is a list of documents that should be submitted with a planning application) is currently being updated/reviewed and this will include details of when a planning application for a school should be accompanied by a School Travel Plan.</p>
R6	<p><b>The Board recommended that the Communities, Economy and Transport department ensure that material supportive of efforts to develop School Travel Plans and Walking Buses is available electronically, on Czone and the ESCC website</b></p>	<p>This is in progress and should be available towards the end of 2019.</p>

R7	<p><b>The Board encourages staff in Communities, Economy and Transport and in Public Health to continue to co-ordinate work, in relation to active travel to support the delivery of key departmental objectives in relation to the economy, planning, the environment and health.</b></p>	<p>This is ongoing, as Public Health currently provides officer time to CET's Access Fund Programme. A new group has also been established between Public Health, the Environment Team and the Strategic Economic Infrastructure Team to seek and secure future funding, which is complimentary to existing work streams, supporting key outcomes in relation to the economy, health and the environment.</p> <p>These departments are also supporting the Strategic Economic Infrastructure Team in the development of the County's first Local Cycling &amp; Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP). ESCC 'Active Access for Growth' Access Fund Programme, which will include future initiatives for schools.</p>
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<b>Report to:</b>	<b>Place Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	<b>20 November 2019</b>
<b>By:</b>	<b>Director of Communities, Economy and Transport</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Review of service changes at Household Waste Recycling Sites</b>
<b>Purpose:</b>	<b>To provide an update on the implementation of changes to the service</b>

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**RECOMMENDATION:** Place Scrutiny Committee is recommended to note and comment on the report

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## **1. Background Information**

1.1. In 2017 a review of the Household Waste Recycling Site (HWRS) service was carried out. A consultation on potential changes to the service followed in February 2018 and in June 2018 Cabinet resolved to make several changes to the service to meet the agreed reduction in the waste budget of £720,000.

1.2. Cabinet agreed the following changes to the service –

- Full closure of the two part-time HWRSs in Forest Row and Wadhurst
- A reduction in opening hours at the Lewes and Mountfield HWRSs
- The introduction of a charging scheme for rubble and soil, tyres, plasterboard and asbestos at all HWRSs

1.3. The service changes were advertised during August and September 2018 and were implemented at beginning of October 2018.

1.4 Full year savings from all three HWRS service changes are forecast to deliver savings of £610,300. The shortfall against the £720,000 target is mitigated by reduced household waste volumes at HWRSs which is forecast to deliver an additional £115,000 in disposal savings.

## **2. Supporting Information**

### **Closure of Forest Row and Wadhurst HWRSs**

2.1. In 2014 Cabinet resolved that Forest Row and Wadhurst HWRSs would reduce opening days and open on Friday, Saturdays and Sundays only. Following this change the Forest Row and Wadhurst sites continued to have fewer visitors per hour during opening hours than all the other sites and were more expensive to run.

2.2 A 2017 review of the household waste recycling sites showed that if these sites closed, the displaced visitors and waste could be accommodated at nearby sites. Following the closures, over 98 per cent of East Sussex residents are still able to reach a site within a 20-minute drive of their home.

2.3 The remaining 10 Household Waste Recycling Sites continue to operate effectively and provide a good service for residents.

2.4 Since the sites were closed the Waste Team have worked with Veolia to successfully surrender the Environmental permits and site leases at Forest Row and Wadhurst. This allows East Sussex County Council (ESCC) Property Services to consider future options for both sites. Forest Row Parish Council operated a 'pop up' event at the old site for 2 weekends in October. The Parish Council would like to reopen the site to be run by and for the local community. The events were held to gauge interest and identify the kinds of facilities that a future service might offer.

### **Reduced opening times at Lewes and Mountfield HWRSs**

2.5 Automated traffic monitors at these sites showed us that 9am-4pm was when most people visited. There was less demand at the very start and end of the day at 8am-9am and 4pm-5pm. From 1 October 2018, the opening hours at these two sites changed to 9am-4pm every day, all year round.

## **Charging for non-household waste at East Sussex HWRSs**

2.6 The charging scheme has delivered approximately £371,000 of savings in the first ten full months of operation between November 2018 and August 2019 and is predicted to deliver up to £448,000 after twelve months.

2.7 The full year saving of £570,000 projected by the Waste Team will not be met. This is primarily because of under recovery of income for chargeable materials.

2.8 An element of under recovery of income against tonnage received at the HWRSs was always factored into the modelled savings as the £4 charge is less than the actual costs. In the first year of operation we have found that several things influence the income and tonnage received. When income received at sites is compared with actual tonnages weighed out, the scheme has so far (10 months data) under-recovered by about £78,000. This is £68,000 higher than anticipated. The primary reasons for under-recovery are:

- The charge for hardcore and soil is rounded down to £4/bag to make transactions easier and the service more affordable to all residents. The original estimated cost to ESCC of a bag of soil / hardcore is £4.37.
- Several types of material deposited in rubble containers are classified as 'household waste'. This includes things like crockery and clay flowerpots and are all deposited free of charge.
- The scheme charges by part bag, full bag and estimated load. The use of volumetric conversions is simple and quick to administer for residents and site staff, but it is not precise.

2.9 The charging scheme has had a significant impact on tonnages received at the sites –

- Chargeable waste tonnages are down by 77%
- Other waste types collected at the sites are down by 8%

This tonnage will not have disappeared. Anecdotal evidence suggests -

- Higher use of skip companies
- Reuse of soil in other parts of the garden
- The scheme will have forced traders who may have been illegally using the HWRSs to use commercial outlets
- Legitimate outlets are being used. The Waste Team and Veolia are not experiencing issues with chargeable waste appearing in significant quantities in other waste streams
- Across all East Sussex HWRS in the first 10 months of the chargeable waste stream non-household tonnage has fallen by 5,273 tonnes, a diversion rate of about 77%. In the first 12 months of the scheme the total decrease in tonnage is forecast to be about 6,400 tonnes.

Throughout all waste streams due to the various service changes it is forecast that there will be an 8.2% decrease in HWRS tonnage during 2019/20 when compared to 2018/19.

2.10 The first year of the charging scheme has been successful. However, by operating a simple system that is easy for staff and residents to use, we are aware that there are areas that can and should be improved. The net effect is that for 'full' bags of hardcore and soil, the bag price of £4 may need to be revised.

## **Charity Waste**

2.11 A report was taken to the June 26th Cabinet meeting (2018) as part of the wider Household Waste Recycling Site (HWRS) review to consider how charity waste permit holders use our Household Waste Site network. Cabinet resolved to 'ask the East Sussex County Council Waste Team to continue to engage with Charitable Organisations currently using ESCC facilities for the disposal of their waste to understand the sources of this waste better and the impact the introduction of any restrictions may have on their organisation.

2.12 Permits are important for charities by providing a means of disposing of items that they have attempted to resell / reuse but are unable to do so. Many charities lack space on the shop floor or a warehouse to store items that they are unable to resell. Without a permit scheme, many charities would be less inclined to take the risk of collecting items that are not guaranteed to sell. This will limit the throughput of material handled by furniture reuse charities. Local residents unable to take their waste to HWRSs or pay the charge for a bulky waste collection also benefit from having charities willing to collect unwanted domestic items for free.

2.13 Approximately 70% of current permit holders are charities that have links to County Council services, particularly those in Adult Social Care & Health and Children's Services. Some of these charities are directly contracted to provide services to vulnerable groups. Most permit holders are local organisations or have strong local or regional connections.

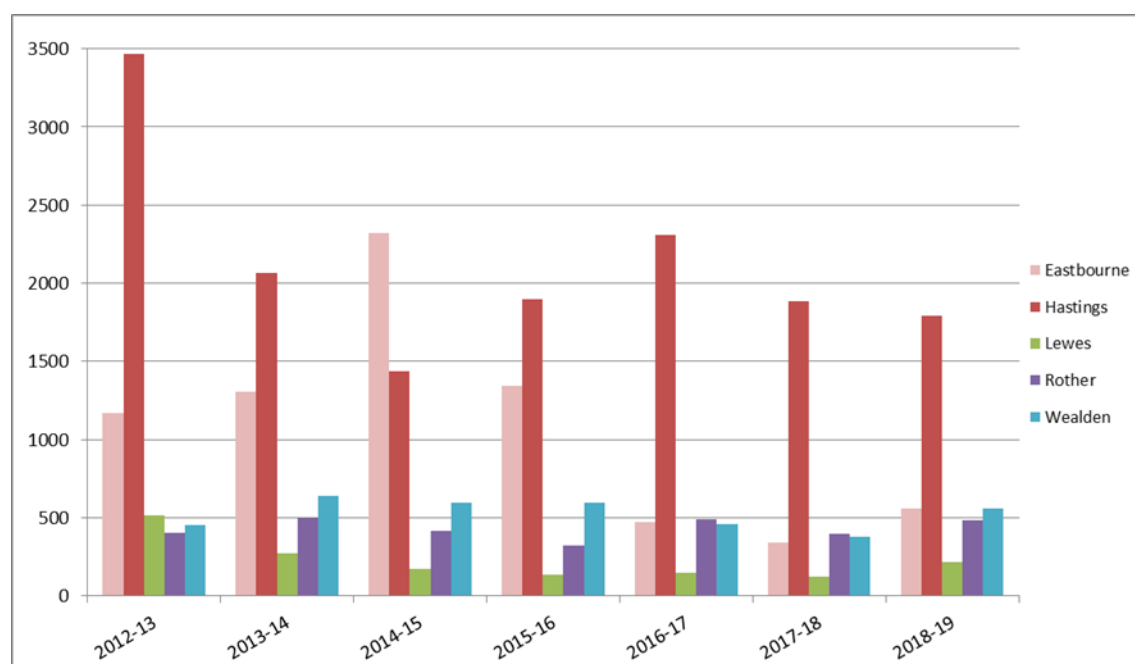
2.14 The charity permit scheme is a popular service, valued by organisations and waste officers concluded that waste brought into HWRS via charities did not constitute 'extra waste' as this waste would otherwise enter the disposal contract either via residents taking it to HWRSS themselves or via kerbside collections.

2.15 Kent, Surrey and West Sussex all maintain their own charity waste permit schemes so East Sussex is not operating in isolation. Only Hampshire County Council is a relatively nearby authority who does not accept Charity Waste.

### Flytipping

2.16 After charges were introduced, the Waste Team was asked to look at fly tipping trends across the County in order to consider if the charges may have resulted in increased incidents.

2.17 The graph below shows total incidents of fly tipping across all East Sussex Authorities between 2012-13 and 2018-19.



2.18 As can be seen from the graph above the amount of fly tipping varies from year to year. Analysis shows that in 2018/19 there was a small rise in overall fly tipping when compared to the previous year. However, this increase started in early 2018, many months before the charging scheme came into operation in October 2018. Fly tipping has also been increasing nationally.

2.19 The waste team do not believe that the changes at the HWRSS have resulted in increased fly tipping across the county and that the data available on fly tipping supports this view. The increase in flytipping is associated with non chargeable waste types. In 2018/19 'household' waste types including items like black bags, mattresses and sofas accounted for 72% of flytipping. There has been little change in the level of flytipping for the chargeable waste types like rubble and soil and tyres which account for 12% of all fly tips.

2.20 East Sussex will continue to work with District and Borough councils to monitor fly tipping data and the reasons for any increases or decreases.

## **Resident contact arising from HWRS Service changes**

2.21 The Waste Team have been monitoring and responding to enquires and complaints around the HWRS service changes. The below shows HWRS related correspondence into the Waste Team over the past 13 months. This volume of emails is significantly less than incoming emails regarding other routine aspects of our waste service.

- An average of 3 emails per week
- 12 formal complaints
- 1 x FOI
- 1 x Ombudsman complaint.

2.22 The complaint to the Ombudsman claimed that charging for non-household waste at HWRS was not legal. The Ombudsman did not uphold the complaint.

## **Impact on Brighton HWRSs and other cross-border HWRS changes.**

2.23 Both HWRSs in Brighton and Hove still offer free disposal of non-household waste. The ESCC Waste Team is monitoring waste levels on an ongoing basis with officers at Brighton and Hove City Council (BHCC) to assess whether the chargeable waste scheme has had any impact.

2.24 West Sussex County Council have already implemented reduced opening of their HWRSs and a van permit scheme. In December 2019 residency checks will also be introduced at all of their HWRS sites. This additional measure may further increase tonnages into BHCC / ESCC sites as any residents from BHCC / ESCC using West Sussex sites will no longer be able to access West Sussex sites.

2.25 Kent County Council introduced their own charging scheme on 3 June 2019 for soil and hardcore (£4/bag) and plasterboard (£6/bag or sheet). Kent already charged £2.50 per tyre.

## **3 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations**

3.1 All three HWRS Service Changes were successfully implemented with no adverse effects on the HWRS network which, 12 months on, continues to operate efficiently and effectively.

3.2 It is recognised that for some residents the changes have meant a less convenient service. However, the implementation of the changes has enabled the service to continue to provide a good network of sites and a wide range of materials for recycling and disposal. The changes also mean that East Sussex County Council continues to comply with its statutory obligations to provide sites that are reasonably accessible to residents of East Sussex and available for the free disposal of household waste.

3.3 The Waste Team will continue to monitor and improve income recovery associated with the Chargeable Waste Scheme, whilst ensuring that charges remain fair, proportional and equitable.

3.4 ESCC will continue to closely monitor levels of flytipping and take appropriate action with all relevant partner authorities and agencies where necessary.

3.5 The Place Scrutiny Committee is invited to note and comment on the report.

## **RUPERT CLUBB**

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## **LOCAL MEMBERS**

All

## **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

None.



**Report to:** Place Scrutiny Committee

**Date of meeting:** 20 November 2019

**By:** Director of Communities, Economy and Transport

**Title:** Review of Grass Cutting and Management of Roadside Vegetation

**Purpose:** To provide an update on the implementation of changes to the service

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Place Scrutiny Committee is recommended to note and comment on the report

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## 1 Background Information

1.1. The East Sussex County Council (ESCC) Management of Vegetation Policy, approved by Lead Member on 21 May 2018, provides for two urban cuts and two rural cuts of grass verges to be carried out every year.

1.2. Urban grass is generally defined as verges in built up areas on roads with a speed limit of 40mph or under. Rural grass is generally defined as verges on roads outside built up areas with a speed limit greater than 40mph.

1.3. This report provides an update on the grass cutting service following the change of policy and the reduction in the number of cuts in urban areas from six cuts to two cuts.

## 2. Supporting Information

2.1. Following the change of policy, the Highways Service consulted with local councils about them taking on the grass cutting service on behalf of the County Council, or paying for additional cuts.

2.2. A total of 87 local councils who have urban grass verges are contacted on an annual basis and offered the following service options:

- To purchase four additional cuts to 'top up' the standard two cuts provided by the County Council, bringing the total number of cuts to be received back to the previous level of six cuts per season; or
- To receive a financial contribution from the County Council equivalent to the cost to the Council of standard two cuts per season, and to undertake their own urban grass cutting service i.e. self-deliver the service; or
- To receive only the two cuts per season provided by the County Council's maintenance contract.

2.3. The results of the consultation for the 2019/2020 service year compared to 2018/2019 service year are summarised in the table below:

Grass Cutting Service Option	2018/2019 Number of Parish, District, Borough or Town Council responses	2019/2020 Number of Parish, District, Borough or Town Council responses
Agreed to pay ESCC for an additional four cuts in 2019/2020	42 (of which 24 are parishes/towns in Rother District area with the District Council funding the additional four cuts on behalf of the local councils for one year).  Hailsham Town Council and Long Man Parish Council paid for one additional cut rather than four. (This option will not be	51 (of which 26 are parishes/towns in Rother District area with the District Council funding the additional four cuts on behalf of the local councils for one year).

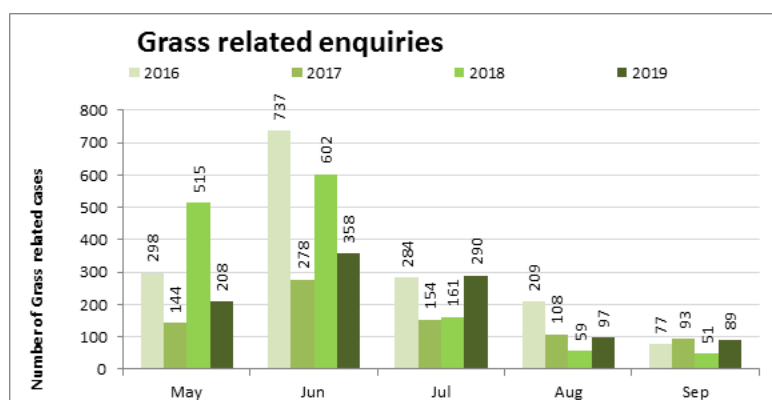
	available for 2019/2020)  Lewes Town Council paid for two additional cuts. (This option will not be available for 2019/2020)	
Receive a contribution from ESCC and manage the grass cutting service in their area directly	16 (including the 8 historical agreements with Parishes and Eastbourne Borough Council).	18 (including Eastbourne Borough Council).
Opted for 2 ESCC cuts only	26	18

2.4 In the current financial year only 18 parish / town councils are receiving the basic two cuts of urban grass verges.

### 3 Grass Cutting Delivery in 2019

3.1 Grass cutting has always attracted a great deal of communication with the public, whether that be about the number of cuts, the quality of those cuts or simply to enquire when a particular verge is to be cut. Following the change of policy and the reduction in number of urban cuts provided the Highways Contact Centre has recorded customer contact.

3.2 The below table shows that there has been a decrease in overall amount of grass cutting enquiries received in 2019 compared to 2018. This is most likely a result of the increase in the number of local councils opting to pay for additional cuts or taking on grass cutting themselves, and therefore residents not detecting any change in the level of service. The reduction also probably reflects a general change of attitude across the country:



3.3 Last year when the level of cuts was reduced, there were a number of unforeseen breakdowns of the grass cutting machinery as a consequence of the longer length of the grass in those areas only receiving two cuts. However, these breakdowns were managed by the grass cutting subcontractor, and had little impact on the grass cutting schedule. This has continued to be the case for 2019, with the cost and impact of breakages being negligible.

3.4 Temperatures were generally high in 2018 which affected the growth rates of grass verges. By comparison, in 2019 the weather has been more variable, and conditions have been better for grass growth. However, there has been a reduction in the number of reported safety / visibility problems this year which suggests the timing of the cuts and operational planning this year has been better managed.

3.5 Feedback from local councils last year was that the timing of the consultation with them came too late for them to make any allowance in their precepts that had already been set. This year local councils were contacted much earlier in the year allowing them time to consider and make provisions in their budget setting.

## **4 Wildlife Verge Social Media Campaign**

4.1 In recent months there has been a targeted and concerted social media campaign to promote designated 'Wildlife' verges across the County and highlight the positive impact these designated areas have on the county's environment, particularly in allowing wildflowers to bloom and the increase in the number of potential habitats.

4.2 The campaign included regular social media posts over the summer months, a video report on the Wildlife verge project and the positive impact a reduction in the grass cutting has had on the environment. Feedback from this campaign is summarised in appendix 1. This information and feedback will be used to help shape future designation of wildlife verges across the County as well as any future changes to policy.

## **5 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations**

5.1 There has been a noted decrease in the volume of customer enquiries relating to grass cutting received over the year and a much smaller number of safety / visibility complaints raised.

5.2 The grass cutting service continues to be delivered on time with minimal reported impact or disruption to residents.

5.3 The success of the targeted communication campaign promoting wildlife verges suggests that residents, businesses and local councils support the changes to the service.

**RUPERT CLUBB**

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LOCAL MEMBERS

ALL

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

[Lead Member report on Management of Vegetation Policy, 21 May 2018](#)

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## Social Media Campaign: Wildlife Verges and Urban Grass Cutting

Complementing the reduced grass cutting service being delivered across the County, East Sussex County Council (ESCC) have an initiative known as Wildlife Verges. These are designated areas which are cut only once a year, usually around October/November, having been left throughout the summer to bloom.

With a recent increase of support across the Country for these types of initiatives, particularly with the publication of Plantlife's report into grass cutting and Highways England opting to reduce the amounts of grass cuts they deliver, the Place Scrutiny Committee wanted to understand whether residents supported the idea of Wildlife Verges, particularly since the reduction in urban grass cuts in 2018.

As such a targeted social media campaign was delivered in September 2019. During this campaign the Highway's department pushed key messages on Twitter and Facebook about the benefits of Wildlife Verges and a short video was produced by the Council's Marketing and Communications Team and released on the ESCC social media channels. The video was presented by the Chair of the Place Scrutiny Committee and the County Ecologist. A dedicated inbox was also created, where residents were invited to submit their opinions, and ask any questions around the initiative.

Below outlines the response to the video;

- The video has had just over 10,000 views, 124 shares and 42 comments on social media and 17 emails received.
- Feedback received from residents included;
  - *"Let them grow!"*
  - *"I love the wild verges and would like it if we have more."*
  - *"Thank goodness you're cutting the verges less often. Please don't be put off by people wanting them to be more 'tidy'. I recognise that there's a need to cut back at some corners for sightlines, but no more than that."*
  - *"I strongly support a cutting regime that is designed to benefit wildflowers and wildlife, as far as is consistent with safety."*
  - *"I love the meadow flowers that are grown on the verges. It's such a beautiful thing to see. Good to know safety is paramount too. Good work much valued."*
  - *"Less mowing, more flowers, grasses and wildlife please."*

Just over 86% of feedback received was positive and supportive of wildlife verges and the reduction of urban grass cuts. Most responses acknowledged that for safety reasons grass cutting could not be stopped all together, and that they did not want the Council to start cutting the grass for aesthetic purposes.

People were also interested in what more they and their communities could do to support verges for wildlife and improve their diversity.

Some comments did raise concerns regarding the timing of cuts being too early in the season. There was a suggestion that ESCC could do more to improve the biodiversity of verges, and look to remove the grass debris once the cut is complete. There was also support to control some plant species more stringently and explore the option to sow meadow and wildflower seeds on the verges.

### Conclusion

The above suggests that, similar to the rest of the Country, there has definitely been an increase in support for this type of project, and ESCC will look to use the comments received to influence future decisions made in relation to the designation of wildlife verges in the County and any policy changes.

The Highway Department will run another Communications campaign which will continue to promote the wildlife verge initiative and how local communities can support this.

The Council are still required to maintain a safe Highway network, and there is a fine balancing act to be struck between this and the need to develop projects with the aim of protecting our environment.

**Report to:** Place Scrutiny Committee

**Date of meeting:** 20 November 2019

**By:** Chief Executive

**Title:** Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR)

**Purpose:** To provide an update on the Council's business and financial planning process, Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR), and the Committee's comments and requests for further information.

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## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Scrutiny Committee is recommended to consider the information in the attached RPPR Cabinet report of 12 November 2019 (appendix A) and:

- (1) review the updated Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP);
  - (2) comment on the options for the use of one-off funding and consider any alternative proposals Cabinet should consider; and
  - (3) identify any further work or information needed to aid the Scrutiny Committee's contribution to the RPPR process for consideration at the December RPPR Board, or as part of the Committee's ongoing work programme.
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## **1. Background**

### **Spending Round Announcements**

1.1 The Spending Round 2019 contained additional funding for Social Care for next year, to be funded in part by the ability to levy an additional 2% precept for Adult Social Care and in part by a one year social care grant. It also included the roll-over of Better Care Funding for one year and additional funding for the SEND High Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant.

1.2 The new funding for local government is very welcome, but with the exception of money raised locally through Council Tax, is for one year only. Whilst it provides us with the opportunity to reprofile savings decisions or to make one-off investments next year, the funding does not change the picture over the medium term financial planning period.

### **Options for using one-off funding**

1.3 The RPPR report to Cabinet sets out a number of options for utilising the one-off funding announced for 2020/21. The options have an aggregate estimated cost of £12.720million against anticipated available funding of £6.313 million, once savings have been made and pressures in budgets addressed. Choices will need to be made between the options once the final local government finance settlement is known.

1.4 The Scrutiny Committee is asked to comment on the options and identify any other areas Members believe could be explored for one-off funding or investment.

## **2. Scrutiny engagement in RPPR**

2.1 At the September meeting the Scrutiny Committees reviewed the current Portfolio Plans, MTFP, savings plan and Core Offer contained in the State of the County report. The Place Committee requested further information on the MTFP and how one-off funding is to be used, once the details of the local government finance settlement for 2020/21 are known. It is likely that full information on the finance settlement will not be received by the Council until the end of December or early January.

2.2 The **November 2019 Scrutiny Committees** are invited to:

- review the updated MTFP (see Appendix 4 of the Cabinet report attached as Appendix A);
- comment on the options for the use of one-off funding (see Appendices 2 and 3 of the Cabinet report attached as Appendix A);
- identify any further work or information needed to aid the Scrutiny Committee's contribution to the RPPR process for consideration at the December RPPR Board; and
- fine tune the Scrutiny Committee's work programme to ensure the Committee is in the best position to contribute to the ongoing RPPR process.

**Appendix A** contains the 12 November Cabinet RPPR report, which details the updated MTFP for the Council and the options for using the one-off funding.

2.3 The Committee's **RPPR Board** will meet on 17 December 2019 to agree detailed comments and any recommendations on the budget proposals and emerging portfolio plans to be put to Cabinet on behalf of the committee in January 2019. The Chairs of the People and Place Scrutiny Committees are invited to attend the RPPR boards of both Committees.

2.4 The **March 2020 Scrutiny Committees** will review the process and their input into the RPPR process and receive feedback on how scrutiny input has been reflected in final plans. Any issues arising can be reflected in the future committee work programme.

2.5 Running alongside this process, there will be a number of opportunities for all Members to engage in the RPPR process.

**BECKY SHAW**  
**Chief Executive**

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Local Member: All

Background Documents:

None



**Report to:** Cabinet

**Date of meeting:** 12 November 2019

**By:** Chief Executive

**Title:** Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR) update

**Purpose:** To update on the latest Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and options for use of one-off funding

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Cabinet is recommended to

1. welcome the additional one-off funding expected for 2020/21 but note that it is one off and does not affect the savings position over the next Medium Term Financial Plan;
  2. agree that planning continues on the basis that the 2% Adult Social Care precept is agreed by County Council when setting the budget;
  3. agree that, subject to funding being available, the savings in relation to Early Help family key workers (£0.981m) are not implemented in 2019/20 or 2020/21;
  4. ask officers to continue to develop proposals for the one-off expenditure set out in paragraphs Q to AD in appendix 3 and to invite Scrutiny Committees to consider the suggested proposals, along with any others suggested by Members; and
  5. agree that lobbying should continue for a sustainable funding regime to meet the needs of the residents of East Sussex.
- 

**1. National Context Update**

1.1 Since the State of the County report in July there have been some developments which affect our business and financial planning.

**Spending Round**

1.2 The Chancellor of the Exchequer delivered his Spending Round to Parliament on 4 September. With respect to Local Government the announcement contained additional funding for Social Care for next year, to be funded in part by the ability to levy an additional 2% precept for Adult Social Care and in part by a one year social care grant. The social care grant will not, however, be ring-fenced and there are not expected to be conditions attached to it. The Spending Round also included the roll-over of Better Care Funding for one year and additional funding for the SEND High Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant.

1.3 The Spending Round included announcements that the current business rate pilots would end, except for mayoral areas, but that authorities would be able to revert to previous pooling arrangements. The Government announced its intention to continue the Troubled Families Grant for another year. It has also been announced that the Public Health Grant will be increased by inflation plus 1%, but there is speculation that conditions on the grant may include a requirement for councils to cover the cost of pay rises of public health provider staff and costs associated with the expansion of impact trials for the anti HIV drug PrEP.

1.4 Funding increases were also announced for schools, housing and the police and the fair funding review was delayed until April 2021.

1.5 The new funding for Local Government is very welcome but, with the exception of money raised locally through Council Tax, is for one year only. Whilst it provides us with the opportunity to reprofile savings decisions or to make one-off investments next year, the funding does not change the picture over the medium term financial planning period. This means we do not have the sustainable funding needed to avoid making more savings and to enable us to invest long term in prevention and local priorities. More details of

the funding announcements and the anticipated impact on the County Council's budget are set out in paragraph 3 below.

### General Election

1.6 The General Election on 12 December adds to current uncertainty as the provisional Local Government settlement will be delayed until after the election and any change in Government could clearly impact on spending plans. A settlement is unlikely to be announced until late December and could be later if there were to be a change of Government. This uncertainty cannot be avoided and planning will continue on the basis of the current Government's announcements.

## **2. Local Context Update**

2.1 Our Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR) process ensures that both spending and savings proposals are aligned with our priorities: driving sustainable economic growth; keeping vulnerable people safe; helping people help themselves; and making best use of resources, with the latter being the test applied to all our activities.

2.2 The scale of the savings the Council has delivered over an extended period means the scope for making savings in non-priority areas is very constrained and therefore savings in areas which support our priorities have been inevitable. It was in the light of this challenge that the Core Offer was developed last year, to set out as clearly as possible the services the Council believes local people need as a reasonable minimum in a period of austerity.

2.3 The Council Plan and medium term financial plan (MTFP) agreed by Council in February are designed to ensure that the Council could still deliver its Core Offer at the end of the 2021/22. The consequent indicative savings for the next two years at that time are set out below.

	<b>2020/21 £m</b>	<b>2021/22 £m</b>	<b>Total £m</b>
Communities, Economy & Transport	1.462	0.917	2.379
Children's Services	2.337	0.268	2.605
Adult Social Care	0.248	0.000	0.248
Business Services / Orbis	1.161	0.787	1.948
<b>Total Departments</b>	<b>5.208</b>	<b>1.972</b>	<b>7.180</b>

2.4 These are the current assumptions underlying our plans. The additional funding announced for next year remains uncertain, but will need to be allocated in line with our priorities and with the aim of ensuring the Council can maintain its Core Offer for as long as possible.

2.5 Our Council and portfolio planning will also need to take account of the Council's recent resolution in relation to climate change and consider what additional actions need to be taken to achieve the target set and how any additional costs arising are to be met.

## **3. Medium Term Financial Plan Update**

3.1 In the State of the County report the MTFP for 2020/21 to 2022/23 showed a total deficit of £34.4m. There have been a number of national announcements since this report which have now been incorporated in the MTFP. A summary of the movements is shown at Appendix 1.

3.2 The Spending Round 2019 included the allocations for 2020/21 set out in the table below:

<b>Funding 2020/21</b>	<b>National Funding £m</b>	<b>ESCC Estimated Allocation £m</b>
<b>Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF):</b>		
Improved Better Care Fund	1,513	15
Supplementary iBCF	324	4
ASC Winter Pressures	240	3
<b>Total Improved Better Care Fund</b>	<b>2,077</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Social Care Grant:</b>		
New Funding 2020/21	1,000	10
Social Care Support Grant	410	4
<b>Total Social Care Grant</b>	<b>1,410</b>	<b>14</b>
SEND High Needs Block Additional funding <sup>1</sup>	700	1
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>4,187</b>	<b>37</b>

<sup>1</sup> The estimated one-off allocation is £5.8m; until permitted use is known, £1.276m has been allocated to offset SEND pressures.

3.3 The option to raise additional funding by way of a 2% Adult Social Care (ASC) precept was also announced. Cabinet is asked to confirm that the RPPR planning should continue on the basis that the 2% ASC precept is agreed by County Council in February 2020. Whilst pressure is created on individuals by any increase in Council Tax, given the continued pressure on the Council's budget and the lack of certainty about future funding, there is a need to ensure that the Council's base budget is maximised in line with the Government's anticipated view of its spending power. The ASC Precept will raise an additional £18m over the MTFP period.

3.4 The authority is part of the East Sussex Business Rates Pilot for 2019/20. The Government has said that the 2019/20 pilot schemes will not continue. MHCLG has announced that authorities can revert to pre-pilot pooling arrangements. East Sussex Councils have told MHCLG that they would like to do this and are currently awaiting confirmation.

3.5 The technical consultation on the proposed Local Government finance settlement suggests that the Social Care grant is distributed on the basis of the current ASC relative needs formula, adjusted for presumed use of the ASC precept. This would give East Sussex County Council one-off funding of £10.2m.

3.6 It also suggests that Supplementary improved Better Care Fund and ASC Winter Pressures funding will be rolled over into the Better Care Fund for future years, rather than being one-off. This is reflected in the MTFP assumptions.

3.7 More detail has also been provided about the formula for distribution of Revenue Support Grant (RSG); with the proposal to add inflation nationally to the Spending Formula Assessment and not just to authorities with negative RSG, resulting in a fairer distribution of resources nationally. This has been one of ESCC's lobbying points, and will result in an estimated additional £1.5m for the Council in 2020/21.

3.8 The MTFP currently assumes that the proposed savings of £7.180m set out in paragraph 2.3 above will be delivered. Some options for use of the one-off funding propose reprofiling some of the £1.855m of savings (Appendix 3 paragraphs Q-S)

3.9 Other revisions to the MTFP include normal updates to ongoing models for inflation, Council Tax and Business Rates.

3.10 Quarter 1 monitoring, reported to Cabinet in October, highlighted the significant in-year pressure on Children's Service Social Care. An overspend of £5.6m in Children's Services Looked After Children budget was reported. Actions to reduce the service and financial pressure continue and those identified at Q1 included:

- Contract awarded to London Care Solutions to provide some independent provision to commence in November.
- Exploring the business case for expanding in-house residential provisions.
- Review current procurement approach and ensure learning used from adult services' dedicated team.

3.11 Work is ongoing to identify improvements to forecasting Children's Social Care needs to improve the prediction of future demand and future pressures. It is important that the MTFP is soundly based on evidence and £4.9m has been included in 2020/21 as pressure funding, with a further £2.5m in 2021/22.

3.12 The updated MTFP at Appendix 4 shows a revised deficit position of £25.4m over the period, with additional funding of £6.3m in 2020/21. The additional funding, whilst helpful, is one-off. It will not, therefore, change the Council's savings requirement; neither is it sufficient to close the budget gap over the MTFP period. If the additional one-off funding announced were to become permanent, the Council would still have a deficit of £10.729m over the MTFP period (see table below):

	£m			
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Total
Revised MTFP - current position	(6.313)	21.204	10.468	25.359
MTFP if additional one-off funding was permanent	(6.313)	6.574	10.468	10.729

3.13 The current MTFP is not final as new information and updates are ongoing including: emerging pressures; the outcome of the pensions triennial valuation; confirmation of business rates pooling and the provisional Local Government finance settlement and other Local Government announcements.

## 4. Public Health

4.1 The public health Core Offer sets out how we will meet our mandated responsibilities and make the best use of the resources available by targeting action where health inequality is greatest and by using evidence to ensure that interventions are effective. Currently our public health work is funded by a ring-fenced Government grant. As part of the Spending Round, the Government announced its intention to increase the grant by inflation plus 1% in 2020/21, but there may be conditions attached to how the grant is spent. Longer term, the Government's current proposal under the fair funding review is that it is subsumed into local funding. If the specific grant continues, it is expected to reduce over the next few years. While we do not anticipate savings to be needed in Public Health in the next year, the review of services will continue to ensure that whatever resources are available are focused on areas of highest priority, support the ambitions described within the recently published NHS long term plan where appropriate and deliver on actions that will make the most difference to residents' long term health.

## 5. Options for the use of one-off funding

5.1 The one-off funding for 2020/21, announced in the Spending Round, offers the opportunity for Members to review current savings plans. The funding can only be used once and therefore does not change the savings requirement or budget gap over the MTFP period. The funding does provide an opportunity to:

- Reprofile savings;
- Invest in services to reduce future demand; and/or

- Make one-off capital investment.

5.2 Chief Officers have developed options for use of the funding that are a combination of the three and are set out in Appendix 3, paragraphs Q to AD. Chief Officers have developed these options with consideration of the following principles:

- No ongoing revenue costs which add to future savings are created;
- Future pressures and/or demand are reduced;
- The effect on partners is considered; and
- Recognising the MTFP is for 3 years, the funding does not have to be spent in year one.

5.3 The total cost of the options is £12.72m and our current estimate is that there will be £6.313m available, once savings identified in paragraph 2.3 above have been made and Children's and Adult Social Care base funding is increased to take account of pressures.

5.4 It is recommended that, subject to funding being available in the budget setting process, Cabinet agree at this meeting not to take the savings identified in the Early Help Keywork 2020/21 (Option R in Appendix 3) in 2019/20 or 2020/21. This service meets the criteria of managing demand and reduces the need for families to draw on more costly social care. The Early Help Review evidenced the impact targeted keywork has in preventing families from needing more intensive social work interventions, and that it helps the Council step families down safely from social work to Early Help (see report to Lead Member, Children and Families [7 October 2019](#)). Early Help keywork helps to support vulnerable families, avoid child safety concerns, and manage the demand for statutory services. Continued investment in keywork staffing and associated costs will help maintain resilience in families.

5.5 Other choices between the proposals will need to be made once the final Local Government finance settlement is known. In the meantime, Cabinet is asked to agree that Chief Officers continue to develop the proposals in Appendix 3 and invite Scrutiny Committees to consider the suggested proposals, along with any others suggested by Members.

## **6. Lobbying and Communications**

6.1 Stability and sustainability of funding continues to be urgently needed for Local Government. In the short term, this means pressing the new Government for an early settlement at least equivalent to that announced in the Spending Round. In the longer term we will continue lobby for a future funding settlement which meets the growing needs of our population and which enables us to plan over a medium term period to make the best use of the money we have and which recognises that locally raised business rates and Council Tax cannot meet those needs on their own.

## **7. Next Steps**

7.1 The RPPR options will be reported to People Scrutiny Committee on 14 November 2019 and Place Scrutiny Committee on 20 November 2019 for their review and input. The Council will, as usual throughout RPPR, engage with its partners about their views.

## **8. Conclusion**

8.1 The MTFP has been updated to reflect announcements since State of the County was presented to Cabinet on 16 July 2019. The position now shows a revised total deficit over the three-year MTFP of £25.4m. However, due to the nature of the one-off funding projected to be received in 2020/21, there is a surplus of £6.3m in 2020/21. This provides an opportunity to explore options for the use of this one-off surplus. The report sets out the options put forward to date.

**BECKY SHAW**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

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## Appendix 1 - MTFP Movements

Movement since State of the County	Ref	2020/21 Estimate £million	2021/22 Estimate £million	2022/23 Estimate £million	Total Estimate £million
<b>State of the County, Cabinet 16 July 2019 DEFICIT/(SURPLUS) - excluding savings</b>		<b>20.418</b>	<b>5.470</b>	<b>8.532</b>	<b>34.420</b>
Add back Savings 2020/21-2021/22	A	(5.208)	(1.972)		(7.180)
<b>State of the County, Cabinet 16 July 2019 DEFICIT/(SURPLUS) - after savings</b>		<b>15.210</b>	<b>3.498</b>	<b>8.532</b>	<b>27.240</b>
<b>UPDATES TO THE MTFP</b>					
<b>Pressures added to the MTFP</b>					
Pay Award Inflation increase to 2.5% for 2020/21	B	0.658	0.714	0.769	2.141
Update of staff data	C	0.500	0.010	0.011	0.521
Children's Services Structural Pressure (LAC)	D	4.900	2.500		7.400
<b>Total Pressures added to the MTFP</b>		<b>6.058</b>	<b>3.244</b>	<b>0.780</b>	<b>10.062</b>
<b>REVISED DEFICIT/(SURPLUS)</b>		<b>21.268</b>	<b>6.722</b>	<b>9.312</b>	<b>37.302</b>
<b>Spending Round Funding</b>					
Improved Better Care Fund: Supplementary amount roll in	E	(3.649)			(3.649)
Improved Better Care Fund: Winter Pressures roll in (after specific use in 20/21)	F		(2.586)		(2.586)
Social Care Grant 2020-21: Social Care Support Grant (one-off)	G	(4.417)	4.417		0.000
Social Care Grant 2020-21: New Funding (one-off)	H	(10.213)	10.213		0.000
SEND High Needs Block Additional funding <sup>1</sup> (one-off)	I	(1.276)	1.276		0.000
Revenue Support Grant (RSG) additional inflation	J	(1.526)	(0.088)	1.005	(0.609)
<b>Total Spending Round Funding</b>		<b>(21.081)</b>	<b>13.232</b>	<b>1.005</b>	<b>(6.844)</b>
<b>Other Changes</b>					
Business Rates adjustment	K	(0.616)	0.701	0.002	0.087
Council Tax normal adjustment e.g. growth	L	0.292	0.302	0.329	0.923
Adult Social Care Precept	M	(5.814)	(0.175)	(0.180)	(6.169)
General Contingency	N	0.060			0.060
Children's Services Pressure Dedicated Schools Grant reprofile	O	(0.422)	0.422		0.000
<b>Total Other Changes</b>		<b>(6.500)</b>	<b>1.250</b>	<b>0.151</b>	<b>(5.099)</b>
<b>DEFICIT/(SURPLUS) AFTER UPDATES TO THE MTFP</b>		<b>(6.313)</b>	<b>21.204</b>	<b>10.468</b>	<b>25.359</b>

<sup>1</sup> The estimated one-off allocation is £5.8m in 2020/21; until permitted use is known, £1.276m has been allocated to offset SEND pressures already included in the MTFP in 2020/21. Noting that there are further pressures in the MTFP for 2021/22 and 2022/23 which cumulatively total £6.318m

## Appendix 2 - Options for the use of one-off funding

Description	Ref	£m			
		2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Total
<i>Revised MTFP - current position</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>(6.313)</i>	<i>21.204</i>	<i>10.468</i>	<i>25.359</i>
<b>ONE-OFF FUNDING REQUESTED</b>					
<b>Reprofile of savings in base budget:</b>					
CSD - total Safeguarding savings	Q	0.586			<b>0.586</b>
CSD - family key worker element of Early Help savings	R	0.981			<b>0.981</b>
CET - part of Libraries savings	S		0.288		<b>0.288</b>
<b>Subtotal reprofile of savings</b>		<b>1.567</b>	<b>0.288</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1.855</b>
<b>Revenue:</b>					
ASC - Assessment & Care Management journey	T	0.226	0.226		<b>0.452</b>
ASC - Behavioural Insight across the health and social care system	U	0.250	0.250		<b>0.500</b>
ASC - Bedded Care	V	0.359	0.300	0.196	<b>0.855</b>
ASC - Home Care Commissioning	W	0.110			<b>0.110</b>
ASC/CS - Accommodation and Floating Support	X	0.978	0.582	0.160	<b>1.720</b>
ASC/CS – IT Care Management System	Y	0.165	0.048	0.048	<b>0.261</b>
CS - No Wrong Door model (support for vulnerable adolescents)	Z	1.125	1.125	1.125	<b>3.375</b>
CS - Family Group Conferencing expansion	AA	0.350			<b>0.350</b>
<b>Subtotal revenue</b>		<b>3.563</b>	<b>2.531</b>	<b>1.529</b>	<b>7.623</b>
<b>Capital:</b>					
CET - Economic Development	AB	1.000			<b>1.000</b>
CS - Disability Children's Homes	AC	0.242			<b>0.242</b>
CET - Highways Works Programme Management	AD	2.000			<b>2.000</b>
<b>Subtotal capital</b>		<b>3.242</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>3.242</b>
<b>TOTAL ONE-OFF FUNDING REQUESTED</b>		<b>8.372</b>	<b>2.819</b>	<b>1.529</b>	<b>12.720</b>



## Appendix 3

### MTFP Assumptions and Information

#### A Savings

Savings identified as part of the Core Offer work undertaken by CMT and Services during 2019/20 RPPR. Further work has been undertaken to confirm the deliverability of these savings and, at this point in time and subject to ongoing consultations, all identified savings are expected to be delivered in-year. Noting that some departments have submitted options to reprofile certain savings – these are detailed at Appendix 2. A breakdown by department is shown below; subject to update should any reprofiling be approved:

	Approved Savings at Council Feb 19		
	2020/21 £m	2021/22 £m	Total £m
Communities, Economy & Transport	1.462	0.917	2.379
Children's Services	2.337	0.268	2.605
Adult Social Care	0.248	0.000	0.248
Business Services / Orbis	1.161	0.787	1.948
<b>Total Departments</b>	<b>5.208</b>	<b>1.972</b>	<b>7.180</b>

#### B Pay Award

The service inflation model has been updated for a 2.5% pay award; this will be subject to any union pay claim and the negotiated offer. National pay settlements for the public sector are running at 2.5% and above. A further 0.5% to increase the award to 3% annually would be in the region of £0.7m per annum.

#### C Rebase of Staff Data

Current estimates have been updated for rebased staff data and known changes to Teachers and Soulbury pay scales.

#### D Children's Services Structural Pressure (LAC)

Quarter 1 Monitoring showed structural pressure within Children's Services relating to Looked After Children (LAC). Principally due to the increases continuing from 2018/19 in agency placements for LAC with complex needs and an increasing number of semi-independent placements as children get older. There is also an emerging pressure around Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers reaching the age of 18 where costs are greater than the Government subsidy received.

#### E Improved Better Care Fund (IBCF) – Supplementary

It was announced in the technical consultation that Supplementary IBCF and Winter Pressures have been rolled into Better Care Fund (BCF). Therefore it is assumed that this is ongoing funding, whilst Government is still to confirm its status. This is because its removal would be a significant change in resources (and therefore this remains a risk). Inflation continues to be modelled at zero for the funding; this may change in future years.

#### **F IBCF – Winter Pressures roll in**

As stated at para E, Supplementary IBCF and Winter Pressures have been rolled into Better Care Fund (BCF). Use of Winter Pressures has already been agreed for 2020/21, consideration should be given around options for its use in future years.

#### **G Social Care Support Grant**

This grant was introduced for 2019/20 and will continue for 2020/21, resulting in an additional £4.4m. This has been merged with the Adult and Children's Social Care Grant.

#### **H Adult and Children's Social Care Grant**

The Spending Round announced a new £1bn funding for Social Care grants. The technical consultation, published on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019, suggests that the preferred distribution methodology is based on the current ASC relative needs formula, adjusted for presumed use of the ASC Precept. This results in additional one-off funding of £10.2m.

#### **I SEND High Needs Block additional funding**

Funding of £700m for SEND will be distributed as part of the high needs block. Based on current distributions this could result in an additional £5.8m for the Council, which could offset the current MTFP pressure and potential future years' pressures. However, the amount, distribution method and permitted use for this funding have yet to be confirmed.

#### **J Adjustment to Revenue Support Grant (RSG)**

The Spending Round announced £300m uprating of the core settlement. In the technical consultation more detail has been provided around the formula for distribution of this; Government is proposing to add inflation nationally to the Spending Formula Assessment and not just to authorities with negative RSG, resulting in a fairer distribution of resources nationally. This has been one of the ESCC's lobbying points, and will result in an extra £1.5m for the Council in 2020/21. The assumption thereafter is that RSG decline will have shifted on a year but be at the same rate as previously reported; ahead of any reform.

#### **K Business Rates**

Business rates have been updated for the latest information from Districts and Boroughs, which suggests the risk of a deficit occurring on the collection fund as a result of the pilot have not materialised.

#### **L Council Tax normal adjustment**

The previous estimated growth of 1.1% has been reduced to 1.0% given the lower than expected outturn in 2018/19 and estimates of growth provided by LG Futures showing a decline.

#### **M Adult Social Care Precept**

Announced in the Spending Round was the option to raise £0.5bn by way of a 2% Adult Social Care Precept. This will be consulted on through the Local Government settlement. As stated at paragraph H, the presumption is that Councils will apply the precept, as the distribution of the Adult and Children's Social Care Grant has been adjusted for this.

#### **N General Contingency**

The general contingency is currently set at 1% of net budget less treasury management, and has been updated to reflect changes in the MTFP since State of the County.

#### **O Children's Services Dedicated Schools Grant reprofile**

Use of the grant has been reprofiled, and reduces in 2020/21; the balance of £0.422m has been slipped to 2021/22.

## Summary of Options for the Use of One-off Funding

### **P Hold 2020/21 surplus for future years**

Given the level of uncertainty for future years' funding; other pressures arising through the pressures protocol that are yet to be assessed for inclusion in the MTFP; and the impact of decisions that are yet to be made regarding capital investment requirements, the surplus funding could be used to mitigate these risks. In effect the surplus would be held in reserve until there is more certainty around future funding.

### **Q One-off funding: CS reprofile of safeguarding savings (£0.586m in 2020/21)**

Reprofile the entirety of Safeguarding savings from 2020/21 to 2021/22. This would allow a more cost effective response and a greater capacity to manage demand and mean fewer children will become subject to Child Protection Plans or not enter (or stay for less time in) the care system.

### **R One-off funding: CS reprofile of family key worker savings (£0.981m in 2020/21)**

Reprofile the key worker element of Early Help savings (£0.981m out of total savings of £2.610m) from 2020/21 to 2021/22. Delaying level three key work savings would enable the department to preserve the capacity of early help teams to divert referrals away from social care. What this means in operational terms is that we will be able to recruit key workers to posts that have been held vacant to avoid the need for compulsory redundancies during the Early Help Review.

### **S One-off funding: CET reprofile of libraries savings (£0.288m in 2021/22)**

Reprofile part of the Libraries savings (£0.288m out of £0.528m) from 2021/22 to 2022/23. This would still deliver £0.240m of savings in 2021/22, to allow for a comprehensive review of the strategic library commissioning strategy and allow a phased approach to the review of options in respect of the Ropemaker Park lease and better manage any impact on the 'back office' team (Librarians and Ropemaker Park team).

*NB: should options Q-S be approved, the savings table would be revised as follows:*

	<b>Revised Savings</b>			
	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>2022/23</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
<i>Communities, Economy &amp; Transport</i>	1.462	0.629	2.091	0.288
<i>Children's Services</i>	0.770	1.835	2.605	
<i>Adult Social Care</i>	0.248		0.248	
<i>Business Services / Orbis</i>	1.161	0.787	1.948	
<b>Total Departments</b>	<b>3.641</b>	<b>3.251</b>	<b>6.892</b>	<b>0.288</b>

### **T One-off funding: ASC Assessment & Care Management journey (£0.452m over two years from 2020/21)**

Proposal to accelerate and expand current work with regards to channel shift, systems change and digital improvements supporting core ASC business; resulting in an improved client journey and reduced entrants into the social care system.

### **U One-off funding: ASC Behavioural Insight (£0.500m over two years from 2020/21)**

Proposal to implement a behavioural insight project across the health and social care system to identify areas of focus and efficiency in: single health and social care economy; processes, systems, communications; Public Health interventions. This would deliver reduced demand

entering the system, improved flows within the system, improved outcomes for residents in the health and social care system and reduced late/non-payment of debt.

**V One-off funding: ASC Bedded Care (£0.359m, £0.300m, £0.196m in 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23 respectively)**

Investment in the Bedded Care Team to increase brokerage capacity to purchase residential and nursing beds for ASC and the NHS. Also requested is investment in programme and project support to manage the work. This would facilitate a more efficient use of resources and timely hospital discharge.

The resources will increase capacity to ensure patients are able to be discharged from hospital in a timely way. Improving our contract management arrangements will also ensure we are able to purchase beds from the market to better meet changing demands and needs.

Increasing brokerage capacity within the bedded care team will have a direct and positive impact on patient flow out of hospital. Securing appropriate bedded care placements within a community setting to enable timely hospital discharge reduces the length of stay in hospital beds. This releases hospital bed capacity which is generally more costly than community based care and also ensures people are not staying longer in hospital than is necessary, which is often detrimental to people who are frail and elderly. The estimated cost to healthcare providers of one non-elective admission is £1,609 per admission and the cost of one excess bed day is £346 per day (£2,422 per week). The brokerage team ensure a consistent, whole system approach to purchasing beds.

**W One-off funding: ASC Home Care Commissioning (£0.110m in 2020/21)**

A project to work with providers to test different ways of working alongside the current core home care business model. The four areas to be tested are; complex cases, reviews, hospital discharge and Occupational Therapy involvement, with the aim to support people to live independently at home and reduce admissions to care homes. The learning will inform development of the service specification for the new contract.

The Home Care recommissioning work has commenced. The investment will enable ASC to test out new ways of working, including an outcomes based approach.

Best practice theory promotes outcomes-based commissioning, specifically in terms of reducing ongoing reliance on services and therefore reducing overall demand over time. This will directly and positively impact on Community Care budget spend.

**X One-off funding: ASC/CS Accommodation and Floating Support (£0.987m, £0.582m, £0.160m in 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23 respectively)**

A project to test alternative referral and access routes into floating and accommodation based support to ensure the service model is fit for purpose; meeting the needs of the people the service is designed to support and to establish links / protocols with other pathways (e.g. Rough Sleeping Initiative). This would mitigate demand and provide more appropriate and effective signposting and support for people who are currently presenting to floating support services and District and Borough Housing services, with complex needs, and/or who are at risk of homelessness.

This investment will enable ASC/CS to test new models of service delivery and evaluate their effectiveness prior to producing the future specification and contracts for these services. The models that will be tested will aim to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of

accommodation pathways for people with complex needs, including how they are supported to move-on into general needs housing, with reduced reliance on Adult Social Care.

**Y One-off funding: ASC/CS IT Care Management System (£0.165m in 2020/21 and £0.048m in each of 2021/22 and 2022/23)**

Investment to use the existing framework agreement with Liquidlogic (who supply ASC & CS case management system) to procure and implement the software called the 'Delegation Portal', for both ASC & CS. Funding is sought for a three-year period to determine the effectiveness of the portal; any recurrent costs beyond 2022/23 will be funded through social work force efficiencies.

This would give both ASC & CS the ability to electronically obtain multi-agency contributions from external professionals and providers into operational practice forms, which could save staff time in collating this information from professionals/providers, improve data quality/integrity and help manage the demand (e.g. in ASC reviews could be delegated from operational staff to care providers/other professionals to complete, rather than ASC staff doing this activity).

If the project progressed with just the ASC element, the costs would be reduced to £0.083m, £0.024m and £0.024m.

It is likely that in practice there could be efficiency savings of £0.010m-£0.050m p.a. from 2021/22 enabling a better Core Offer to be delivered from within existing resources, rather than cashable savings realised by reducing staffing levels.

***NB: the outcomes of all work/projects/investment described at T-Y will be assessed and reflected in the MTFP as they emerge.***

**Z One-off funding: CS No Wrong Door (£3.375m over the three years to 2022/23)**

Investment in a No Wrong Door model – an innovative model developed by North Yorkshire CC to work with adolescents experiencing complex challenges with an innovative multi-agency “hub” at the heart of the service. This would use short-term placements and edge of care support (in and out of care) and a range of services, support and accommodation options always progressing to permanence where young people’s aspirations drive practice. If the model is successful it would become part of Core Services and would therefore be an ongoing cost, offset by savings; the full impact will be modelled should this option be taken forwards.

**AA One-off funding: CS Family Group Conferencing expansion (£0.350m in 2020/21)**

Investment to expand the existing Family Group Conferencing service to Children in Need which is the most cost effective way to reduce risks and the likelihood of children being placed on CP plans or becoming LAC, and as a result reducing social care costs. The investment is expected to deliver non-cashable efficiency savings of £1.224m from 2021/22 resulting from reductions in Social Worker caseloads.

**AB One-off funding: CET Economic Development (£1.000m in 2020/21)**

The East Sussex Economic Intervention Fund (EIF) consists of: the ESInvest Business Grants and Loans fund; Stalled sites fund; and upgrading empty properties and business incubation unit fund. It has been running for 6 years and directly addresses one of the four Council priorities “driving sustainable economic growth” by supporting local businesses through capital investment to grow and create jobs. It is a key plank of Economic Development which is considered by the Council to be part of the Core Offer. In order to provide the baseline finance required to meet the demand for the EIF, there is a need for a

£1.000m injection into the scheme. Failure to have the correct resource in place will have a detrimental impact to deliver the additional jobs and economic growth this initiative is forecast to achieve. This will be a contribution to the project grants and loans within the Capital Programme.

**AC One-off funding: CS Disability Children's Homes (£0.242m in 2020/21)**

Investment to remodel the Children's Disabilities Children's Homes to create additional capacity and reduce the costs of residential care placements in the independent sector by keeping more children in local provision within the county. This would create an extra 3 beds and provide greater options for keeping children within local provision, minimising existing and onward costs and delivering better outcomes for them in the longer term. It is expected to achieve net savings of £0.352m p.a. from 2020/21.

**AD One-off funding: CET Highways Works Programme Management (£2.000m in 2020/21)**

A contribution towards the agreed basic need investment to be funded in the Capital Programme for Highways Works Programme Management in order to achieve agreed condition targets. The £2.000m could facilitate early investment to support management of the programme of works and avoid the need to borrow early with the associated borrowing costs.

## Appendix 4

Medium Term Financial Plan	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
	Approved Budget	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
	£million	£million	£million	£million
<b>TAXATION &amp; GOVERNMENT FUNDING</b>		(375.145)	(388.290)	(397.278)
Business Rates (Inclusive of BRR Pilot)	(83.761)	4.133	(1.615)	(1.740)
Revenue Support Grant (RSG)		(3.561)	1.418	1.534
Council Tax	(290.498)	(8.234)	(8.919)	(9.188)
Adult Social Care Precept		(5.814)	(0.175)	(0.180)
New Homes Bonus	(0.886)	0.331	0.303	0.138
<b>TOTAL TAXATION &amp; GOVERNMENT FUNDING</b>	<b>(375.145)</b>	<b>(388.290)</b>	<b>(397.278)</b>	<b>(406.714)</b>
<b>SERVICE PLAN</b>				
Service Expenditure	340.888	341.236	351.315	383.859
<b>Inflation</b>				
Pay Award	3.635	3.366	3.025	3.127
Contractual inflation (contract specific)	0.889	1.005	0.958	0.916
Normal inflation for contracts	6.270	9.537	8.782	9.154
<b>Adult Social Care</b>				
Growth & Demography	3.538	3.840	3.500	3.500
Adult Social Care Winter Pressures		2.586	(2.586)	
<b>Children's Services</b>				
Dedicated Schools Grant	4.891	1.778	0.422	
Growth & Demography	1.656	1.555	1.070	2.822
Looked After Children	1.043	4.715	1.909	
Post 16 i-Send (New Responsibility)	0.269			
Fostering	0.374			
Care leavers (New Responsibility)	0.163			
Home to School Transport	0.726			
<b>Communities, Environment &amp; Transport</b>				
Waste Housing Growth	0.233	0.174	0.213	0.200
Street lighting Electricity/Re-payment of Investment		(0.195)	(0.655)	
Libraries Hastings rates and utilities	0.046			
<b>Business Services</b>				
IT & Digital Licences	0.297			
IT & Digital Data Centre		0.093		
Apprenticeship Team		0.117		
<b>Savings</b>				
Savings 2019/20	(5.131)			
<b>Specific Grants</b>				
Improved Better Care Fund	(18.551)	(2.586)		
Social Care Grant 2020-21		(14.630)	14.630	
SEND High Needs Block Additional funding <sup>1</sup>		(1.276)	1.276	
<b>NET SERVICE EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>341.236</b>	<b>351.315</b>	<b>383.859</b>	<b>403.578</b>

Corporate Expenditure		33.909	35.870	35.490
Treasury Management	17.696	0.687	(0.179)	0.221
Funding Capital Programme - New Homes Bonus		0.555	(0.303)	(0.138)
General Contingency	3.570	0.130	0.090	0.090
Contribution to balances and reserves	0.908	(0.216)		
Pensions	10.338	0.785		
Apprenticeship Levy	0.600			
Levies & Grants	0.797	0.020	0.012	0.012
<b>TOTAL CORPORATE EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>33.909</b>	<b>35.870</b>	<b>35.490</b>	<b>35.675</b>
<b>TOTAL PLANNED EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>375.145</b>	<b>387.185</b>	<b>419.349</b>	<b>439.253</b>
<b>CUMULATIVE DEFICIT/(SURPLUS)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(1.105)</b>	<b>22.071</b>	<b>32.539</b>
<b>ANNUAL DEFICIT/(SURPLUS)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(1.105)</b>	<b>23.176</b>	<b>10.468</b>
Savings 2020/21-2021/22		(5.208)	(1.972)	
<b>CUMULATIVE DEFICIT/(SURPLUS) after savings</b>		<b>(6.313)</b>	<b>14.891</b>	<b>25.359</b>
<b>ANNUAL DEFICIT/(SURPLUS) after savings</b>		<b>(6.313)</b>	<b>21.204</b>	<b>10.468</b>

<sup>1</sup> The estimated one-off allocation is £5.8m in 2020/21; until permitted use is known, £1.276m has been allocated to offset SEND pressures in 20/21. Noting that there are further pressures in the MTFP for 2021/22 and 2022/23 which cumulatively total £6.318m.



<b>Report to:</b>	<b>Place Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	<b>20 November 2019</b>
<b>By:</b>	<b>Assistant Chief Executive</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Place Scrutiny Committee future work programme</b>
<b>Purpose:</b>	<b>To review and agree items for the Place Scrutiny Committee's future work programme.</b>

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:** The Place Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

**1) Review and agree agenda items for the future Committee meetings, including items listed in the work programme in appendix 1;**

**2) Agree topics for Scrutiny Reviews to be included in the Committee's future work programme; and**

**3) Review upcoming items on East Sussex County Council's (ESCC) Forward Plan in appendix 4 to identify any issues that may require more detailed scrutiny.**

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## **1 Background**

1.1 The work programme is an important tool in ensuring the correct focus and best use of the Committee's time in scrutinising topics that are of importance to the residents of East Sussex, and the efficient and effective working of the Council. It also provides clarity for those who may be requested to give evidence to the Committee on the issues under review, and the questions the Committee requires answers to.

1.2. Discussion of the work programme provides the Committee with the opportunity to examine topics that it may be of value to scrutinise, and to decide whether further scoping work is required. This provides a basis for deciding the best way of scrutinising a topic, the timescale, and who from the Committee will be involved in carrying out the review work. If there are a number of topics for review, the Committee can determine the priority of the work within the resources available to the Committee.

## **2 Work programme and future scrutiny reviews**

2.1 The Committee is asked to review the items in the work programme contained in appendix 1 of the report and agree the future agenda items and other scrutiny work of the Committee.

2.2 The Committee is asked to consider whether there are any potential topics for future scrutiny reviews, or agenda items for future meetings, that should be included in the work programme. This can include any topics or issues identified through the Committee's work on the Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR) process.

### ***Scrutiny Reviews***

Report back from the Climate Change Scoping Board

2.3 The Scoping Board comprised of Councillors John Barnes, Bob Bowdler, Martin Clarke, Pat Rodohan and Stephen Shing have met with Officers to carry out the initial scoping of a potential scrutiny review of Climate Change. The scoping work has focussed on exploring a potential review of the work being undertaken to reduce the Council's greenhouse gas emissions (CO<sub>2</sub>e) and the actions needed to achieve a target of net zero emissions as soon as possible or any event by 2050. The Scoping Board recommends that the Committee proceed with a scrutiny review of the actions needed for the Council to become carbon neutral in its own operations.

2.4 The Place Scrutiny Committee is asked to agree whether it wishes to proceed with the scrutiny review. A copy of the draft terms of reference for the review is attached as appendix 2. If the Committee agrees to proceed with a review, the Committee is asked to also agree the following:

- membership of the Review Board;
- chair of the Review Board;
- the scope of the review; and
- the timescale for reporting back to the Committee with the report of the Review Board.

#### Scrutiny Review of Road Markings

2.5 At the meeting held on 18 September 2019 the Committee agreed to proceed with a scrutiny Review of Road Markings. A copy of the terms of reference for this review is attached for information in appendix 3.

### **3 Forward Plan**

3.1 A copy of the Council's Forward Plan of executive decisions for the period 1 November 2019 to 29 February 2020 is included in appendix 4. The Committee is requested to review the forthcoming items on the Forward Plan to identify any issues that may require scrutiny work. The Forward Plan is revised and published on a monthly basis, and Committee members should regularly review the Forward Plan.

### **4 Conclusion and reasons for recommendations**

4.1 The Place Scrutiny Committee is recommended to agree the agenda items and topics for scrutiny reviews to be included in the future work programme, as described in this report and appendices. The Committee is also recommended to review the Council's Forward Plan of decisions to identify any issues that may require more detailed scrutiny.

**PHILIP BAKER**

**Assistant Chief Executive**

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#### BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None.

## Place Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme

Current Scrutiny Reviews		
Title of Review	Detail	Proposed Completion Date
Scrutiny Review of Road Markings	Some white lines and road markings, particularly at zebra crossings and road junctions, are wearing out and are no longer visible. The scrutiny review will examine the prioritisation of the existing programme for renewing white lines; the materials used; funding levels and; the options for improving road marking maintenance.	March 2020
Initial Scoping Reviews		
Subject area for initial scoping	Detail	Proposed Dates
Climate Change	The Committee would like to examine what actions the Council is taking on climate change. The potential review could focus on issues including reducing the Council's carbon footprint and greenhouse gas emissions to net zero and providing a leading example to others.	4 November 2019
List of Suggested Potential Future Scrutiny Review Topics		
Suggested Topic	Detail	
To be agreed		

<b>Scrutiny Reference Groups</b>		
<b>Reference Group Title</b>	<b>Subject Area</b>	<b>Meetings Dates</b>
On-street car parking charges and tariff review	A Board has been established to examine the results of the six week consultation on the proposals on increasing parking pay & display charges and the proposed changes to permit charges. The Board will comment on the proposals before consideration by the Lead Member for Transport and Environment.	To be agreed
Orbis Traded Services	To monitor the progress of work underway to expand traded services provided by the Orbis Partnership.	To be agreed
Archives and Records Service	The Committee has established a reference group to examine the work being undertaken to make savings to the service, including services provided at The Keep, and to provide digital access to archival material.	To be agreed
Highway Maintenance Contract - Communications	The Committee offered to form a working group with officers to explore how the Council could better communicate its highway maintenance work. This is part of one of the recommendations of the Scrutiny Review of Road Repairs.	To be agreed
<b>Reports for Information</b>		
<b>Subject Area</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Proposed Date</b>
Highways Contract performance data	An annual update on the achievement against key performance indicators (KPI's) for the Highways Maintenance Contract.	November/December 2019
<b>Training and Development</b>		
<b>Title of Training/Briefing</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Proposed Date</b>
Highways Asset Planning Briefing	A briefing on the highway asset planning process to cover the different types of road surfacing techniques that are used, and how planned repairs are assessed and prioritised.	20 November 2019

<b>Future Committee Agenda Items</b>		<b>Author</b>
<b>18 March 2020</b>		
Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR)	The Committee will review its input into the RPPR budget setting process, and the impact of any recommendations or comments made by the Committee.	Chief Executive / Senior Democratic Services Adviser
Scrutiny Review of Road Repairs	To receive the first update monitoring report on the implementation of the recommendations of the scrutiny review.	Assistant Director, Operations
Work Programme	To consider items for inclusion in the Committee's work programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports for future meetings</li> <li>• Scrutiny reviews and potential scrutiny reviews</li> <li>• Items from the Forward Plan</li> <li>• Reports for information</li> </ul>	Senior Democratic Services Adviser
<b>24 June 2020</b>		
Scrutiny Review of the Effectiveness of School Travel Plans	To receive the second update monitoring report on the implementation of the recommendations of the scrutiny review.	Assistant Director, Economy
Work Programme	To consider items for inclusion in the Committee's work programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports for future meetings</li> <li>• Scrutiny reviews and potential scrutiny reviews</li> <li>• Items from the Forward Plan</li> <li>• Reports for information</li> </ul>	Senior Democratic Services Adviser
<b>23 September 2020</b>		
Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR)	To start the Committee's work on the RPPR process for 2021/22, by reviewing Portfolio Plans and service based information.	Chief Executive / Senior Democratic Services Adviser
Scrutiny Review of Road Repairs	To receive the second update monitoring report on the implementation of the recommendations of the scrutiny review.	Assistant Director, Operations
Work Programme	To consider items for inclusion in the Committee's work programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports for future meetings</li> <li>• Scrutiny reviews and potential scrutiny reviews</li> <li>• Items from the Forward Plan</li> <li>• Reports for information</li> </ul>	Senior Democratic Services Adviser

25 November 2020		
Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR)	The Committee will examine any additional information requested at the September meeting and consider any updated RPPR information for 2021/22.	Chief Executive / Senior Democratic Services Adviser
East Sussex Road Safety Programme	To receive progress report on the East Sussex Road Safety Programme including an update on the outcomes of Behavioural Change and Speed Management projects.	Head of Communities/Project Manager Road Safety
Work Programme	<p>To consider items for inclusion in the Committee's work programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports for future meetings</li> <li>• Scrutiny reviews and potential scrutiny reviews</li> <li>• Items from the Forward Plan</li> <li>• Reports for information</li> </ul>	Senior Democratic Services Adviser

## Scrutiny Review Terms of Reference Document

<b>Scrutiny Review</b>	<b>Scrutiny Review of Becoming a Carbon Neutral Council</b>
<b>Responsible Committee</b>	Place Scrutiny Committee
<b>Author</b>	Martin Jenks, Senior Democratic Services Adviser
<b>Version</b>	Draft 1.0
<b>Date</b>	6/11/19

### Background

At the meeting held on 11 June 2019, the Place Scrutiny Committee agreed to establish a Scoping Board to explore undertaking a scrutiny review of climate change, and in particular the actions the Council is taking to reduce its CO<sub>2</sub> and other greenhouse gas emissions. This was in response to increasing public concern linked to the publication of the IPCC report which highlighted that urgent action is needed to address climate change.

On the 15 October 2019 East Sussex County Council unanimously agreed a Motion on climate change. In agreeing the Motion, the Council declared a climate emergency and agreed to:

- *set a target of achieving carbon neutrality from its activities as soon as possible and in any event by 2050, in line with the new target for the UK agreed by Parliament in 2019.*
- *build upon the work we have undertaken to date, will commit resources where possible and will align our policies to address the Climate Emergency.*
- *set out a clear plan of action to reduce our carbon emissions.*
- *report annually at the May County Council Meeting on its progress towards the target.*
- *investigate all possible sources of external funding and match funding to support this commitment, as well as writing to central government with respect to the emergency to request funding to implement swift appropriate actions”.*
- *use our Environment Strategy to provide a strong unified voice in lobbying for support to address this emergency, sharing best practice across East Sussex and more widely through other partners”.*

The Scrutiny Committee held a Scoping Board meeting on 4 November 2019 and agreed to recommend that a scrutiny review be undertaken of the actions needed for the Council to achieve carbon neutrality in its own operations by 2050 or earlier if possible.

The Scoping Board considered that it will be difficult for the Council to show leadership and to advise or influence others without addressing work to reduce its own carbon emissions. Therefore, the review should focus first on how the Council is going to achieve carbon neutrality in its own operations and the gaps in our knowledge, before working on wider issues.

The Scoping Board also agreed that the scope of the review should include acting as a reference group to work with officers, the Executive and others to comment on and have input into the development of a plan or 'road map' for the Council to achieve carbon neutrality in its operations.

### **Scope of the Review**

The scope of the review will focus initially on what actions are needed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve carbon neutrality from the Council's:

- building energy use;
- staff business travel; and
- own fleet vehicles.

The review will then look at where there are gaps in our knowledge of the emissions for the Council's:

- supply chain and purchasing decisions;
- staff commuting; and
- waste disposal.

The review will also consider the training and support that Councillors will need on climate change in order to support them in their community leadership role, and the measures that will be necessary to mitigate emissions and then offset any unavoidable carbon emissions.

In considering the categories of emissions listed in the scope of the review (above), the Review Board may need to consider ways of engaging with staff on these issues.

### **Outcomes**

- To have a better understanding of the actions, costs, benefits and timescales for achieving carbon neutrality, as well as the choices that may be involved.
- To contribute to the development of a 'road map' or plan of actions to reduce the Council's carbon emissions.
- To identify 'easy wins' and priorities for investment in carbon reduction in the next 5 years.
- To enhance Member understanding of the issues to equip them for their role as community leaders.

### **Outside the scope of the review.**

Divesting the East Sussex Pension Fund of fossil fuel investments. This issue is being addressed by the Pension Committee and is outside the remit of the Place Scrutiny Committee.

Measures to make the whole county of East Sussex carbon neutral.



## **Review methods**

It is anticipated that the Review Board will review documentary evidence, question witnesses and undertake research in order to gather evidence to inform its recommendations.

The following list is not exhaustive and will change and develop as the review progresses. As part of the review the Board members will:

### **Building energy use**

Take evidence from Property Services to examine the work undertaken so far to reduce energy use and explore the options to achieve carbon neutrality across the Council's operational buildings and maintained schools. This will include building utilisation and agile working; the use of renewables and alternative energy sources; the replacement of gas/gas oil heating systems; energy efficiency measures and the scale of any likely need to offset unavoidable emissions.

### **Staff business travel**

Examine current business travel patterns and carbon emissions. Explore changes needed to reduce emissions from leased vehicles for personal business use, essential users, and casual users who may claim vehicle mileage (both staff and councillors). Examine the use of public transport and the measures that may be needed to reduce or offset unavoidable emissions. This may require taking evidence from officers who compile the current emissions data; finance teams involved in processing travel claims; and Human Resources and Organisational Development staff on current staff travel policies and entitlements.

### **The Council's own vehicle fleet**

Take evidence from the Council's Fleet Management Team/Transport Hub on the options to reduce emissions from vehicles for service staff and the transport fleet used for Adult Social Care and Children's Services. This will include the use of electric vehicles and the likely feasibility/costs of replacing the fleet with low emission or zero emission vehicles.

### **Supply chain and purchasing decisions**

Explore the evidence available on the carbon footprint of the Council's existing supply chain, including major contracts. Examine how the procurement of goods and services can be used to reduce the Council's carbon emissions and how the Council can use its purchasing power to influence suppliers. Take evidence from the Council's Procurement Team on existing environmental and social value provisions in contracts and explore how procurement can support the achievement of carbon neutrality in all the Council's operations. This will include feasibility, costs and timescales of introducing measures to support the Council's aspirations, such as carbon reporting and carbon neutral contracts.

### Staff commuting

Undertake work to understand current staff commuting patterns and incentives to use public transport and low carbon modes of transport. Explore staff attitudes towards making changes in their commuting and working patterns (e.g. working from home). This may involve work to gather evidence from staff if not available from other sources.

### Waste disposal from direct Council operations (excluding contracted out services)

Take evidence from the Council's Facilities Management Team on waste from operational buildings and maintained schools (e.g. do we know how much waste is collected and recycled, and what is the existing carbon footprint of this waste). Engage with managers and staff to explore ideas for waste minimisation strategies to reduce carbon emissions.

### Development of Road Map and support for Councillors

The likely Review Board activity in this area will include taking evidence/receiving briefings from experts on the development of a road map, commenting on the proposed plan, and assessing Councillors' training and support needs.

For all of the above it will be important for the Review Board to examine any best practice and build on the experience of others in tackling these issues. It will be particularly relevant to be aware of the work being undertaken in this area by other East Sussex local authorities such as the District and Borough Councils.

### Documents and research:

*To be identified.*

### Reporting

Given the scope of the review, the Review Board may wish to consider reporting in stages as the work on the review progresses.

## **Review Organisation and Responsibilities**

### Review Board

The Review Board is comprised of: *To be agreed by the Place Scrutiny Committee*

The Chair of the Review Board is: *To be agreed by the Place Scrutiny Committee*

The Review Board is responsible for:

- Making decisions regarding the scope and direction of the review;
- Monitoring and control of the overall progress of the review;
- Agreeing where Board members will undertake evidence gathering activities as required by the review;
- Considering and providing challenge to all evidence presented to it; and

- Developing and agreeing the final report, including the findings and recommendations of the review.

### **Scrutiny Review Support**

Support for the review will be provided by the Member Services Team to:

- Manage the review process;
- Undertake research as agreed by the Board;
- Draft the final report

The Lead Officer who will support the review from the Member Services Team is Martin Jenks, Senior Democratic Services Adviser. Their role is to manage the review, ensuring its aims and objectives are met and that the final report is delivered to the Place Scrutiny Committee within the agreed timescales.

### **Scrutiny Review Completion**

When the review has been completed the Lead Officer will co-ordinate the production of a final report outlining the findings and recommendations for agreement by the Review Board. Once agreed, the Review Board will present this to the Place Scrutiny Committee for it to agree the recommendations.

The report will then be presented to Cabinet for comment and County Council for approval. Progress updates on how the recommendations are being implemented by the department will be presented to the Place Scrutiny Committee in due course (usually six and twelve months after the review has been approved by County Council). In this instance, progress may also be incorporated in the annual report to Full Council.

## **Review Timetable**

Based on the initial scoping of the review, the Review Board aims to submit the final report to the Place Scrutiny Committee at the meeting to be held on *[date(s) to be agreed]*.

An initial timetable of the meetings and activities required to complete the review is outlined below. *[To be completed. The number of review board meetings is not fixed and there can be more or less depending on the nature of the review. The Review Board should agree the number and content of the meetings and review activity].*

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Timescale/Date</b>
<b><u>Review Board Meeting</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consider initial evidence</li><li>• Review lines of enquiry/terms of reference</li><li>• Agree further evidence gathering/requirements.</li></ul>	To be agreed
<b><u>Review Board Activity/Meeting</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To be agreed.</li></ul>	To be agreed
<b><u>Review Board Activity/Meeting</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To be agreed.</li></ul>	To be agreed
Draft scrutiny review report and finalise findings and recommendations of the review.	To be agreed
<b><u>Final Review Board Meeting to agree Report</u></b> Review Board meeting to agree draft report, findings and recommendations with input from key officers.	To be agreed
Deadline for Report Dispatch	To be agreed
<b><u>Report to Place Scrutiny Committee for agreement</u></b>	To be agreed
<b>Report to Cabinet</b>	To be agreed
<b>Report to Council</b>	To be agreed

## **Scrutiny Review Terms of Reference Document**

<b>Scrutiny Review</b>	<b>Scrutiny Review of Road Markings</b>
<b>Responsible Committee</b>	Place Scrutiny Committee
<b>Author</b>	Martin Jenks
<b>Version</b>	Version 1.1
<b>Date</b>	2/10/19

### **Background**

The Scrutiny Committee has noted that road markings and, in particular, is concerned with those that relate to crossings and road safety, are becoming worn out and less visible. This appears to be a consistent issue across the County and there are concerns that this will have an impact on road safety, the ability to enforce parking restrictions and may lead to reputational damage.

### **Scope of the Review**

A Scoping Board meeting was held on 4 September 2019 and examined information on:

- Paint specification and physical equipment used for road markings
- Frequency of refreshing white lines and other road markings
- Enforcement difficulties caused by poor road markings
- Safety records where road markings are a factor
- The number of complaints and reputational impact
- Budget provision
- National studies and research

From a review of this information and evidence presented by Officers the Scoping Board identified the following lines of enquiry:

- Could the current system of prioritisation for routine maintenance work to refresh/renew road markings be improved?
- Why do some road markings appear to wear out more rapidly than expected?
- How frequently are parking enforcement road markings renewed and are there additional road markings that could be paid for from the parking budget?
- What do other local authorities spend on road markings and is the ESCC level of expenditure adequate?

The desired outcomes from the review are to improve the maintenance of road markings, clarify the prioritisation process for renewals and reduce the number of service requests.

It is acknowledged that there may be little scope for increasing the level of funding in this area, so the focus of the review will be on changes that could improve the maintenance/renewal, longevity and appearance of road markings, without significantly increasing costs.

## **Review methods**

It is anticipated that the Review Board will review documentary evidence, question witnesses and undertake research in order to gather evidence to inform its recommendations.

The following list is not exhaustive and will change and develop as the review progresses. As part of the review the Board members will:

### **Prioritisation of Work.**

Investigate whether the current system of prioritisation for routine maintenance work to refresh/renew road markings can be improved.

- Examine how the programme to refresh road markings is prioritised.
- Explore how frequently road markings are refreshed/renewed, taking into account the experience gained since the commencement of the current highways maintenance contract.
- Explore the way in which safety defect work is carried out and whether this is communicated effectively.

Take evidence from Officers on the current prioritisation process and the way in which is work programmed.

Establish if there are viable alternatives to the current geographical based system?

### **Road Marking Materials.**

Examine the factors behind why some road markings appear to wear out more rapidly than expected.

- Examine how the specifications for road markings are applied and examine the systems in place to ensure the correct thickness and techniques are applied.
- Explore whether utility company reinstatement works are replacing road markings adequately.

Take evidence from Costain/Highways Client Team on quality assurance systems. Undertake site visit to see road marking crew in action.

### **Parking Enforcement Road Markings.**

Explore how frequently parking enforcement road markings are renewed and if there are additional road markings that could be paid for from the parking budget.

- Examine what road markings the Parking Team is responsible for and the programme of maintenance (e.g. double yellow lines etc.) and those funded by the Road Safety Team.

Take evidence from Officers in the Parking Team (Daniel Clarke, Parking Team Manager) and the Road Safety Team (Brian Banks, Team Manager Road Safety).

Could the planned work programmes for highway and parking enforcement road markings be combined?

#### Funding.

Examine what other local authorities spend on road markings and explore whether the ESCC level of expenditure on road markings is adequate for the number in the County and the rate of wear.

- Explore how East Sussex compares with other councils
- Examine ways the Council could potentially increase funding or the effectiveness/value for money of the expenditure on road markings.

Review levels of expenditure by other local authorities if available. Take evidence from Officers on the scope to increase expenditure/value for money e.g. by organising work differently.

#### Documents and research:

Traffic Signs Manual Chapter 5 – Road Markings 2018 (Department for Transport)

### **Review Organisation and Responsibilities**

#### Review Board

The Review Board is comprised of: Councillors Godfrey Daniel, Stephen Shing and Barry Taylor.

The Chair of the Review Board is: Cllr Godfrey Daniel

The Review Board is responsible for:

- Making decisions regarding the scope and direction of the review;
- Monitoring and control of the overall progress of the review;
- Agreeing where Board members will undertake evidence gathering activities as required by the review;
- Considering and providing challenge to all evidence presented to it; and
- Developing and agreeing the final report, including the findings and recommendations of the review.

#### Scrutiny Review Support

Support for the review will be provided by the Member Services Team to:

- Manage the review process;
- Undertake research as agreed by the Board;
- Draft the final report

The Lead Officer who will support the review from the Member Services Team is Martin Jenks. Their role is to manage the review, ensuring its aims and objectives are met and that the final report is delivered to the Place Scrutiny Committee within the agreed timescales.

### **Scrutiny Review Completion**

When the review has been completed the Lead Officer will co-ordinate the production of a final report outlining the findings and recommendations for agreement by the Review Board. Once agreed, the Review Board will present this to the Place Scrutiny Committee for it to agree the recommendations.

The report will then be presented to Cabinet for comment and County Council for approval. Progress updates on how the recommendations are being implemented by the department will be presented to the Place Scrutiny Committee in due course (usually six and twelve months after the review has been approved by County Council).

### **Review Timetable**

Based on the initial scoping of the review, the Review Board aims to submit the final report to the Place Scrutiny Committee at the meeting to be held on 18 March 2020. An initial timetable of the meetings and activities required to complete the review is outlined below.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Timescale/Date</b>
<u>Review Board Meeting 1</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consider evidence on prioritisation, work programming and parking enforcement road markings.</li><li>• Agree findings and further evidence gathering requirements.</li></ul>	To be agreed
<u>Review Board Meeting 2</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consider evidence on road marking materials, techniques and quality assurance.</li><li>• Site visit?</li></ul>	To be agreed
<u>Review Board Meeting 3</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Examine evidence on funding.</li><li>• Review all evidence and</li><li>• Discuss findings and recommendations to include in the draft report.</li></ul>	To be agreed



Draft scrutiny review report and finalise findings and recommendations of the review.	
<b><u>Final Review Board Meeting to agree Report</u></b> Review Board meeting to agree draft report, findings and recommendations with input from key officers.	To be agreed
Deadline for Report Dispatch	10 March 2020
<b><u>Report to Place Scrutiny Committee for agreement</u></b>	18 March 2020
<b>Report to Cabinet</b> (dispatch 13 April 2020)	21 April 2020
<b>Report to Council</b> (dispatch 1 May 2020)	12 May 2020

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## EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL'S FORWARD PLAN

The Leader of the County Council is required to publish a forward plan setting out matters which the Leader believes will be the subject of a key decision by the Cabinet or individual Cabinet member in the period covered by the Plan (the subsequent four months). The Council's Constitution states that a key decision is one that involves

- (a) expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the expenditure of the County Council's budget, namely above £500,000 per annum; or
- (b) is significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more electoral divisions.

As a matter of good practice, the Council's Forward Plan includes other items in addition to key decisions that are to be considered by the Cabinet/individual members. This additional information is provided to inform local residents of all matters to be considered, with the exception of issues which are dealt with under the urgency provisions.

For each decision included on the Plan the following information is provided:

- the name of the individual or body that is to make the decision and the date of the meeting
- the title of the report and decision to be considered
- groups that will be consulted prior to the decision being taken
- a list of other appropriate documents
- the name and telephone number of the contact officer for each item.

The Plan is updated and published every month on the Council's website two weeks before the start of the period to be covered.

Meetings of the Cabinet/individual members are open to the public (with the exception of discussion regarding reports which contain exempt/confidential information). Copies of agenda and reports for meetings are available on the website in advance of meetings. For further details on the time of meetings and general information about the Plan please contact Andy Cottell at County Hall, St Anne's Crescent, Lewes, BN7 1UE, or telephone 01273 481955 or send an e-mail to [andy.cottell@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:andy.cottell@eastsussex.gov.uk).

For further detailed information regarding specific issues to be considered by the Cabinet/individual member please contact the named contact officer for the item concerned.

EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL  
County Hall, St Anne's Crescent, Lewes, BN7 1UE

For copies of reports or other documents please contact the officer listed on the Plan or phone Aaron Sams, Democratic Services Officer on 01273 335274.

## **FORWARD PLAN – EXECUTIVE DECISIONS (including Key Decisions) – 1 November 2019 TO 29 February 2020**

Additional notices in relation to Key Decisions and/or private decisions are available on the [Council's website](#).

Cabinet membership:

Councillor Keith Glazier - Lead Member for Strategic Management and Economic Development  
Councillor Nick Bennett – Lead Member for Resources  
Councillor Bill Bentley – Lead Member for Communities and Safety  
Councillor Rupert Simmons – Lead Member for Economy  
Councillor Claire Dowling – Lead Member for Transport and Environment  
Councillor Carl Maynard – Lead Member for Adult Social Care and Health  
Councillor Sylvia Tidy – Lead Member for Children and Families  
Councillor Bob Standley – Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability

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Date for Decision	Decision Taker	Decision/Key Issue	Decision to be taken wholly or partly in private (P) or Key Decision (KD)	Consultation	List of Documents to be submitted to decision maker	Contact Officer
4 Nov 2019	Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability	Admission arrangements 2021/21 - approval to consult  To approve the annual consultation on admission arrangements for East Sussex Community and Voluntary Controlled schools for the 2021/22 academic year.	<b>KD</b>		Report, other documents may also be submitted	Jo Miles 01273 481911
4 Nov 2019	Lead Member for Education and	Proposed SEN (Special Educational Needs) facilities at Priory School and Robertsbridge	<b>KD</b>		Report, other documents may	Gary Langford 01273 481758

	Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability	Community College.  To consider the outcome of the consultations on establishing SEN facilities at Priory School and Robertsbridge Community College, and, if appropriate, to seek approval to publish statutory notices.		<i>Local Members</i>	also be submitted	
4 Nov 2019	Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability	SEN (Special Educational Needs) facility at Peacehaven Heights Primary School  To provide the Lead Member with an update on the establishment of an SEN facility at Peacehaven Heights Primary School.		<i>Local Members</i>	Report, other documents may also be submitted	Gary Langford 01273 481758
11 Nov 2019	Lead Member for Transport and Environment	Implementation of the Well Managed Highway Infrastructure Code of Practice Updates on the implementation of the New Well Managed Highway Infrastructure Code of Practice and to seek approval for proposed changes to highway policies and practices in response to the Code's 36 recommendations.			Report, other documents may also be submitted	Pippa Mabey 01273 335506
12 Nov 2019	Cabinet	Deed of Variation to the Integrated Waste Management Services Contract To seek delegated authority from Cabinet for the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport to make the arrangements for the Deed of Variation to the Integrated Waste Management Services Contract (IWMSC) to be executed.	<i>P</i>		Report, other documents may also be submitted	Justin Foster 01273 335805

12 Nov 2019	Cabinet	Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR) Update To consider an update in relation to Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR) including an update on the latest financial position.	<b>KD</b>		Report, other documents may also be submitted	Jane Mackney 01273 482146
12 Nov 2019	Cabinet	Scrutiny Review – Changing Care Market: Adult Social Care Workforce			Report, other documents may also be submitted	Stuart McKeown 01273 481583
12 Nov 2019	Cabinet	Scrutiny Review – Support for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC)			Report, other documents may also be submitted	Stuart McKeown 01273 481583
12 Nov 2019	Leader and Lead Member for Strategic Management and Economic Development	Local Growth Fund (LGF) Round 3b - Grant agreement for Bexhill Creative Workspace project  To seek approval for the County Council to enter into grant agreements to transfer LGF round 3b monies as approved by the South East Local Enterprise Partnership to the Bexhill Creative Workspace project		<i>Local Members</i>	Report, other documents may also be submitted	Marwa Al-Qadi 01273 336439
10 Dec 2019	Cabinet	Annual Audit Letter 2018/19 To consider the Annual Audit Letter for 2018/19.			Report, other documents may also be submitted	Ian Gutsell 01273 481399
10 Dec 2019	Cabinet	Council Monitoring: Quarter 2 2019/20 To consider the Council Monitoring report for the second quarter of the financial year 2019/20.			Report, other documents may also be submitted	Jane Mackney 01273 482146

10 Dec 2019	Cabinet	<p>Joint East Sussex Heath and Social Care Plan</p> <p>To agree priorities for integrating the commissioning and delivery of health and social care services, for three years from April 2020.</p>	<b><i>KD</i></b>		Report, other documents may also be submitted	Vicky Smith 01273 482036
10 Dec 2019	Cabinet	<p>Looked After Children Annual Report</p> <p>To consider the annual LAC (Looked After Children) report</p>			Report, other documents may also be submitted	Liz Rugg 01273 481274
10 Dec 2019	Cabinet	<p>Treasury Management Annual Report 2018/19 and mid-year report 2019/20</p> <p>To consider a report on the review of Treasury Management performance for 2018/19 and the outturn for the first six months of 2019/20, including the economic factors affecting performance, the Prudential Indicators and compliance with the limits set within the Treasury Management Strategy.</p>			Report, other documents may also be submitted	Ian Gutsell 01273 481399
11 Dec 2019	Lead Member for Economy	Business Services in East Sussex	<b><i>P</i></b>		Report, other documents may also be submitted	Katy Thomas 01273 482645
16 Dec 2019	Lead Member for Transport and Environment	<p>Carbon reduction opportunities</p> <p>To determine whether ESCC should support and promote the iChoosr and</p>			Report, other documents may also be submitted	Andy Arnold 01273 481606

		Warmer Sussex schemes, which will enable residents to cut their domestic carbon and energy costs				
16 Dec 2019	Lead Member for Transport and Environment	On-street car parking charges and tariff review  To consider the consultation on proposed changes to on-street parking permit and parking tariff charges	<i>KD</i>		Report, other documents may also be submitted	Carl Valentine 01273 336199
16 Dec 2019	Lead Member for Transport and Environment	Revision of Waste and Minerals Local Plan To seek approval to publish for an eight week consultation period the draft revised policies in the East Sussex, South Downs and Brighton & Hove Waste and Minerals Local Plan.			Report, other documents may also be submitted	Ed Sheath 01273 481632
16 Dec 2019	Lead Member for Transport and Environment	Sussex Local Natural Capital Investment Strategy  To consider endorsement of the Strategy			Report, other documents may also be submitted	Andy Arnold 01273 481606
16 Dec 2019	Leader and Lead Member for Strategic Management and Economic Development	SELEP Legal Personality To approve changes to the Joint Partnership agreement between the six upper-tier authorities of the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) such that SELEP can become a Company Limited by Guarantee			Report, other documents may also be submitted	Dave Evans 01273 335706
20 Jan 2020	Lead Member for Transport and	Guidance on Travel Plans for new development			Report, other documents may	Claire Warwick 01273 482239



	Environment	To seek approval of the updated guidance for travel plans relating to new development			also be submitted	
20 Jan 2020	Lead Member for Transport and Environment	Local Flood Risk Management Strategy delivery plan A report on progress made in delivering against the Local Flood Risk Management and to consider the next Delivery Plan, which will be for the period to the end of 2020/21	<b>KD</b>		Report, other documents may also be submitted	Ed Sheath 01273 481407
20 Jan 2020	Lead Member for Transport and Environment	Proposed Policy position on connections to highway drainage  To adopt a County Council Policy position for how it will consider and determine requests for new developments to connect to and dispose of surface water to the highway drainage.	<b>KD</b>		Report, other documents may also be submitted	Ed Sheath 01273 481407
28 Jan 2020	Cabinet	Conservators of Ashdown Forest Budget 2020/21 To consider the Conservators of Ashdown Forest budget for the financial year 2020/21.	<b>KD</b>	<i>Local Members</i>	Report, other documents may also be submitted	Ian Gutsell 01273 481399
28 Jan 2020	Cabinet	East Sussex Environment Strategy Endorsement of the Environment Strategy and action plan	<b>KD</b>		Report, other documents may also be submitted	Andy Arnold 01273 481606
28 Jan 2020	Cabinet	Reconciling Policy, Performance and			Report, other	Jane Mackney

		Resources (RPPR) 2020/21: Draft Council Plan  To consider the revenue budget, savings proposals, capital programme and draft Council Plan for 2020/21 (including Equality Impact Assessment, Engagement and Scrutiny feedback).	<b><i>KD</i></b>		documents may also be submitted	01273 482146
28 Jan 2020	Cabinet	Transport for the South East (TfSE) Transport Strategy consultation  To agree ESCC's response to the Transport for the South East (TfSE) Transport Strategy consultation.			Report, other documents may also be submitted	Jon Wheeler 01273 482212
28 Jan 2020	Cabinet	Treasury Management Strategy 2020/21 To consider the Treasury Management Strategy for the financial year 2020/21.	<b><i>KD</i></b>		Report, other documents may also be submitted	Ian Gutsell 01273 481399
30 Jan 2020	Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability	Final decision on establishing SEN (Special Educational Needs) facilities at Priory School and Robertsbridge Community College  to consider comments or objections received during the representation period following the publication of notices, and to seek a final decision on establishing an SEN facility at each school.	<b><i>KD</i></b>	<i>Local Members</i>	Report, other documents may also be submitted	Gary Langford 01273 481758

30 Jan 2020	Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability	To Approve the ESCC Funding Formula for 2020/21  After consulting with ESCC Schools and Academies, approval is now being sought from Lead Member to change the ESCC Funding Formula factors for 2020/21.			Report, other documents may also be submitted	Ed Beale 01273 337984
30 Jan 2020	Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability	To approve the DSG Budget for 2020/21  The DSG allocations are notified to the Local Authority in December and the DSG budget requires approval.			Report, other documents may also be submitted	Ed Beale 01273 337984
30 Jan 2020	Lead Member for Communities and Safety	Petition for pedestrian crossing - Lindfield Road, Eastbourne  To consider the request for a pedestrian crossing at Lindfield Road, Eastbourne		<i>Lead Petitioner</i>  <i>Local Members</i>	Report, other documents may also be submitted	Victoria Bartholomew 01424 724284
30 Jan 2020	Lead Member for Communities and Safety	Petition for pedestrian crossing - Little Ridge Avenue, Hastings To consider the request for a pedestrian crossing to be provided in Little Ridge Avenue, Hastings		<i>Lead Petitioner</i>  <i>Local Members</i>	Report, other documents may also be submitted	Victoria Bartholomew 01424 724284
30 Jan 2020	Lead Member for Communities and Safety	Petition for pedestrian crossing - St Helen's Park Road, Hastings To consider the request for a pedestrian crossing at St Helen's Park Road, Hastings		<i>Lead Petitioner</i>  <i>Local Members</i>	Report, other documents may also be submitted	Victoria Bartholomew 01424 724284

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