

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: Wednesday 23 June 2021
Time: 2.00 pm
Venue: Shire Hall, Warwick - Shire Hall

Membership

Councillor Jeff Clarke (Chair)
Councillor Jonathan Chilvers (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Richard Baxter-Payne
Councillor Jackie D'Arcy
Councillor Jenny Fradgley
Councillor Dave Humphreys
Councillor Bhagwant Singh Pandher
Councillor Daren Pemberton
Councillor Tim Sinclair
Councillor Andrew Wright

Items on the agenda: -

1. General

(1) Apologies

(2) Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

(3) Chair's Announcements

(4) Minutes of Previous Meeting

5 - 14

(i) 17th February 2021

(ii) 25th May 2021

2. Public Speaking

3. Questions to Portfolio Holder

15 - 16

(1) Economic Development Update

17 - 24

4. Bermuda Project update (briefing note)

25 - 28

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|--|---------------|
| 5. Developer Design Guide | Verbal Report |
| Presentation to take place in the meeting. | |
| 6. Warwickshire Recovery Investment Fund (feasibility update) | Verbal Report |
| Presentation to take place in the meeting. | |
| 7. Year End Council Plan 2020-2025 Quarterly Progress Report (April 2020 to March 2021) | 29 - 44 |
| 8. Communities OSC Work Programme | 45 - 48 |
| 9. Urgent Items | |

Monica Fogarty
Chief Executive
Warwickshire County Council
Shire Hall, Warwick

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Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Members are required to register their disclosable pecuniary interests within 28 days of their election of appointment to the Council. Any changes to matters registered or new matters that require to be registered must be notified to the Monitoring Officer as soon as practicable after they arise.

A member attending a meeting where a matter arises in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest must (unless they have a dispensation):

- Declare the interest if they have not already registered it
- Not participate in any discussion or vote
- Leave the meeting room until the matter has been dealt with
- Give written notice of any unregistered interest to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of the meeting

Non-pecuniary interests relevant to the agenda should be declared at the commencement of the meeting.

The public reports referred to are available on the Warwickshire Web <https://democracy.warwickshire.gov.uk/uuCoverPage.aspx?bcr=1>

Public Speaking

Any member of the public who is resident or working in Warwickshire, or who is in receipt of services from the Council, may speak at the meeting for up to three minutes on any matter within the remit of the Committee. This can be in the form of a statement or a question. If you wish to speak please notify Democratic Services in writing at least two working days before the meeting. You should give your name and address and the subject upon which you wish to speak. Full details of the public speaking scheme are set out in the Council's Standing Orders.

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Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Wednesday 17 February 2021

Minutes

Attendance

Committee Members

Councillor Clare Golby (Chair)
Councillor Dave Shilton (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Margaret Bell
Councillor Jenny Fradgley
Councillor Seb Gran
Councillor John Holland
Councillor Andy Jenns
Councillor Keith Kondakor
Councillor Andy Sargeant
Councillor Bhagwant Singh Pandher

Portfolio Holders

Councillor Peter Butlin (Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property)
Councillor Jeff Clarke (Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning)
Councillor Andy Crump (Portfolio Holder for Fire & Community Safety)
Councillor Isobel Seccombe OBE (Leader of the Council)
Councillor Heather Timms (Portfolio Holder for Environment, Heritage & Culture)

Officers

Kieran Amos, Chief Fire Officer
David Ayton-Hill, Assistant Director - Communities
Mark Ryder, Strategic Director for Communities
Chris Egan, Lead Commissioner Strategic Growth and Infrastructure
Dr Nadia Inglis, Consultant in Public Health
Ian Marriott, Legal Service Manager
Isabelle Moorhouse, Trainee Democratic Services Officer
Graham Palmer, Infrastructure Strategy & Commissioning Lead
Alison Robinson, Strategy and Commissioning Manager (Economy & Skills)
Margaret Smith, Team Leader Transport Planning
Nichola Vine, Strategy and Commissioning Manager - Legal and Democratic

External Speakers

Dr Paul Coleman, Public Health Registrar and Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Warwick

1. General

(1) Apologies

Councillor Andy Wright who was substituted by Councillor Margaret Bell
Scott Tompkins (Assistant Director – Environmental Services)

(2) Member's Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-pecuniary Interests

None.

(3) Chair's Announcements

The Chair informed the committee of a briefing note that provided an update for the Bermuda Connectivity project. This was virtually shared in the meeting and would be shared after the meeting as a correction was needed regarding the location of a pedestrian crossing.

(4) Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.

2. Public Speaking

None.

3. Questions to Portfolio Holder

In response to Councillor Jenny Fradgley's questions about the Council's CO2 reduction efforts and where to find this information, Councillor Heather Timms (Portfolio Holder – Environment, Heritage & Culture) stated that the Council remained committed to being carbon neutral by 2030 (regarding scopes one (WCC estate) and two (WCC energy use). Between 2013 and 2018 it reduced its carbon emissions by over 50%, which was informed by information gathered using the Environmental Management System which is ISO (International Organization for Standardization) 14001 accredited. Improvements for gathering information for scope 3 (WCC services e.g. waste) was underway. In February 2021 the Council's £1m Green Shoots community climate action grant scheme was launched to fund local community projects aimed at mitigating climate change as well as the Solar Together initiative which helped Warwickshire homeowners buy solar panels to produce green energy. With central government funding, the Council will develop proposals to reduce the carbon impact of its corporate estate. The Council secured a Low Carbon Skills Fund grant to carry out building surveys to inform projects on decarbonising their buildings. Work was carried out with the District and Borough Councils in Warwickshire, such as a joint baseline for their carbon footprints, tree planting, linking biodiversity and joining up green corridors.

In response to Councillor Keith Kondakor, Councillor Jeff Clarke (Portfolio Holder – Transport & Planning) confirmed that it was agreed that a bid would be submitted to implement a cycle lane on the upcoming Bermuda Bridge project. The Chair added that because the briefing note was shared on screen in a public livestream, this meant the note was publicly published.

Following a question from Councillor Kondakor, Councillor Andy Crump (Portfolio Holder – Fire & Rescue and Community Safety) noted that the two new SAFER officers will focus of safe access to schools but the implementation of 20pmh zones outside schools would need to be evidence based. Councillor Peter Butlin (Portfolio Holder – Finance & Property) added that the 20mph zones mentioned in the Council's budget were advisable as it would help implement them quicker.

David Ayton-Hill (Assistant Director – Communities) confirmed that the enforcement of 20mph zones outside schools could begin in the next financial year.

Councillor Dave Shilton praised the Jaguar/Landrover (JLR) factory in Baginton for making electric batteries for their cars. Councillor Isobel Seccombe OBE (Leader of the Council) concurred with this and added that the giga battery factory would cause a shift in the types of jobs and make them greener.

In response to Councillor Kondakor, Councillor Seccombe stated that it would be confidential at that stage if the batteries from the factory would be used in public modes of transport.

In response to Councillor John Holland, David Ayton-Hill clarified that there was a demand for battery giga factories in the Midlands so any bids should be successful with planning applications.

Councillor Shilton praised the work of the gritting teams for their success at vaccination centres.

(1) Economic Development Update

Councillors Kondakor and Andy Jenns praised the update.

In response to Councillor Kondakor, David Ayton-Hill stated that he was not sure if Norton had resolved their trade issues from Brexit.

Following a question from Councillor Jenns, David Ayton-Hill agreed to provide a breakdown of digital training provided to businesses and more details on the businesses who received this help.

(2) Warwickshire Towns Update

Councillor John Holland noted the economic hit that town centres took and that air quality in Warwick and Leamington needed improvement due to the slow progression in the programmes to improve it. David Ayton-Hill stated that a holistic approach was needed to improve all of Warwickshire's town centres so they are economic and green; congestion and traffic in town centres was also being reviewed but there was no simple option to resolve all the issues together. Councillor Clarke added that air quality and active travel, including cycle lanes, would be part of the LTP (local transport plan).

Councillor Kondakor queried about how cycling friendly the Vicarage Street development would be. David Ayton-Hill stated that the plan was subject to change and would include cycle lanes.

4. (External) Workplace travel planning intervention

Dr Paul Coleman (Public Health Registrar and Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Warwick) noted the work that was undertaken with Dr Nadia Ingles (Consultant in Public Health) and the air quality monitors as part of the project. Paul Coleman raised the following points:

- The scheme took place over a year with 30 employees from Warwickshire County Council and Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council
- Air pollution was linked to 28,000-36,000 deaths a year in the UK and was the leading cause of environmental deaths
- Air pollution was worse in town centres in Warwickshire, especially during commuting periods
- Air pollution in Warwickshire contributed to 1500 deaths in 10 years
- More people in Warwickshire travelled by car to work than the national average
- Over the last decade there was an increase in people using cars for short journeys

- 63% of people commuted to work by car in the UK, 67% of these journeys were under five miles
- Shorter journeys contributed most to air pollution
- The scheme was done with the Universities of Coventry and Birmingham
- A baseline questionnaire was done in May 2019, followed by air pollution monitors (which contained a GPS) being worn by participants for two weeks, then 1-1 planning assessments with all participants including journey plans and any cycling training needed
- After four months another questionnaire was done by participants which showed that participants were driving less, walking/cycling more and were less exposed to air pollution
- Reasons as to why the participants were not walking/cycling before included: childcare responsibilities, fixed working hours, transporting work equipment, safety concerns with walking/cycling and a lack of secure cycling storage facilities at the workplace
- Suggestions to make people want to walk/cycle to work included: a park and ride system (for people who wanted to walk to work but lived too far away), being able to leave equipment at work, flexible working hours, financial incentives e.g. council employees getting discounts at cycling shops so they can afford bikes, improved workplace facilities for active travel commuters e.g. showers/changing and clothes drying facilities
- The schemes recommendations were as follows:
 - All council staff are encouraged to plan alternative walking, cycling and public transport options for their commute to work before returning to work in central office locations following the COVID-19 pandemic. This can be done via WCC's Active Travel resource (<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/activetravel>), which needs to be reviewed regularly. It should also be considered how key elements identified in this study, such as role of air pollution monitors in educating employees about the impacts of air pollution and role of travel planning sessions in changing travel behaviour, can be integrated into future workplace travel interventions.
 - Steps should be taken to continue to address the barriers identified in this study that participants reported as reasons for being unable / unwilling to cycle or walk to work. These include safety concerns and lack of cycle infrastructure, financial incentives (such as discounts at local cycle stores) and improved workplace facilities such as showers, changing facilities and a drying room.

Councillor Holland praised presentation and stated that he asked for a travel plan for the MASH when it launched due to the amount of people who would be commuting to it. Paul Coleman concurred with Councillor Holland over the large amounts (29,000) people who commuted in, out and through Warwick district by car to get to work.

Councillor Andy Sargeant informed the committee of issues he experienced when he cycled to work with not being able to dry his clothes, the lack of bike secure storage and shelters at past workplaces. He added that things were easier to find when driving and there was a lack of bus services that went near or via large workplaces. Paul Coleman concurred with this and added that some participants stated that some bus routes finished before people finished work.

Councillor Kondakor agreed that there was a need for secure bike storage at workplaces and added that local cycling shops closing made things difficult for people who wanted to cycle, therefore infrastructure to support cyclists needed building. He added that the air quality monitors did not work as well for cyclists as they did for pedestrians. Paul Coleman agreed, stating that the portable monitors were not as accurate at the stationary ones.

Kieran Amos (Chief Fire Officer) informed the committee that Warwickshire County Council's cycling to work scheme was relaunched in November 2020 and included hiring a bike for 12 months tax free with an option to purchase at the end.

In response to Councillor Shilton, Paul Coleman confirmed that car sharing was not considered during the scheme. Councillor Margaret Bell expressed her concerns with particulate matter and its effects on environmental health and hoped the project would have a wider impact. The Chair informed the committee that as planning and development of new workplaces was administered by the districts and boroughs, secure bike storage could be implemented into their planning requirements.

5. Developer Contributions Reporting

Chris Egan (Lead Commissioner Strategic Growth and Infrastructure) stated that the report summarised the annual infrastructure statement (AIS) which must legally be provided by all local authorities and show all the developer contributions the local authority receives annually. The statement provided current CILs (community infrastructure levy) implemented. The 2019/20 AIS was approved by Cabinet on the 10th December 2020 and published on the 31st. The production of the 2020/2021 statement aimed to reduce the burden of producing the statement in the future through improved monitoring processes and provide greater transparency. The committee was asked to note the recommendations as printed.

Following several queries from Councillor Kondakor, Graham Palmer (Infrastructure Strategy & Commissioning Lead) stated that 'trigger points' were implemented with all developments so the money would be brought in at points when the infrastructure will be provided. Flexibility agreements were brought in around the times that the funding could be spent to ensure infrastructure is provided at the right time. Funding was often held by the council so it could be provided at the correct time.

Mark Ryder (Strategic Director – Communities) added that there were specific requirements on where and how developer contribution money can be spent, which stops the money being spent on other services. However, it can be added with other funding to link schemes together, for example the Europa Way scheme.

Councillor Holland praised the report and raised whether the NHS could receive contributor's money. Chris Egan noted that Section 38 funding was not covered by the AIS and requests for funding from developers for the NHS/CCGs needs to come from the organisations themselves.

In response to Councillor Shilton, Chris Egan noted that road agreements came under the section 38 agreements which is when the developer designs and implements a road with the permission of the local authority; as this process is done outside section 106, it makes it difficult for the road to be adopted. Graham Palmer clarified that unadopted roads do not stop section 106 contributions. Mark Ryder added that there was no legal requirement for developers to adopt roads, but this was encouraged by the Council.

Councillor Bell noted that developments felt 'ad hoc' so building conditions should be reviewed instead and a plan be formulated. Mark Ryder noted that as developer contributions were negotiated it was difficult to get them to pay more than compulsory; he agreed that there was a need to look at schemes interacting with each other. Graham Palmer noted that current legislation allowed multiple projects to be carried out from one contribution pool.

Resolved:

1. The committee note the production and publication of the Annual Infrastructure Statement 2019/20.
2. The committee note the approach to be taken to publish developer contribution data in future years.
3. The committee is asked to provide feedback on the statement and suggestions to improve future Annual Infrastructure Statements

6. 'Nuckle' Line Update (briefing note)

Margaret Smith (Lead Commissioner - Transport Planning) informed the committee that the Nuckle line would allow two hourly trains to run between Coventry and Nuneaton with a new bay platform at Coventry Station. The line and platform projects were run by Coventry City Council and Warwickshire County Council was a partner in the scheme, which was delayed in February 2020 due to the tender cost being higher than the budget. Work was undertaken with Coventry and Network Rail to reduce costs, but this was delayed due to disputes over where the funding sat and transferring it to Network Rail. Residual funding from an earlier stage was used to resolve the issue, a future meeting with Coventry and the Nuckle Board was soon due.

In response to Councillor Shilton, Margaret Smith clarified that the bay platform was not needed for the line to go through to Leamington. In response to Councillor Kondakor, Margaret Smith stated that National Rail frequently reviewed the freight train lines and timetables frequently to check where cross-savings could be made and worked around.

Following a question from Councillor Shilton, Nadia Ingles agreed to get information on the trainline between Kenilworth and Nuneaton from her health and transport colleagues. Margaret Smith added this suspended route was brought up with West Midlands Trains (WMT) to resolve. Councillor Seccombe stated that WMT informed them that the line was suspended due to Covid-19 which stopped them from being able to train new drivers, however, the bus replacement service will continue. In response to Councillor Kondakor's points about these buses being empty, Margaret Smith agreed to bring it to the next meeting, but they likely had to run these services as they had a commitment to provide this service. The Chair informed the committee that WMT published online that their lines were constantly being reviewed.

In response to Councillor Sargeant's points on support being given to people who want to train up to be train and bus drivers, David Ayton-Hill agreed to bring this to the employability and localities team.

7. Update on Scrutiny Review

Nichola Vine (Strategy and Commissioning Manager (Legal and Democratic)) stated that Dr Jane Martin CBE was appointed to provide advice on scrutiny at Warwickshire County Council and how to move forward with its approach. The work started in February 2020 but was delayed due to Covid-19. The feedback was largely positive, especially with the Covid-19 recovery groups, TFG's and member training. Suggestions for improvement included greater alignment with corporate objectives, more utilisation of technology, a Chair's panel for the OSCs, a dedicated scrutiny team and getting more out of the committees, as stated in the report.

Councillor Kondakor raised that OSC meetings needed to be spread out more as this was his second OSC of the day and that they should be more cross-party. He disagreed with the Chair's

group as all OSC Chairs were from the ruling party as of February 2021. Councillor Holland agreed that members from other parties should be committee Chairs to create a cross-party balance. The Chair clarified that all committee Chairs being from the ruling party had not always been the case.

Councillor Jenns stated that Dr Martin's recommendations should be enforced post-election. The Chair concurred with this.

Resolved:

The Committee considers and comments upon the findings of the independent review into Overview and Scrutiny

8. Communities OSC Work Programme

In response to Councillor Kondakor, the Chair stated the briefing note will be discussed in April's chair and spokes meeting and June's OSC meeting as agreed in February's chair and spokes.

Councillor Shilton proposed that the work programme be taken as read. This was seconded by Councillor Seb Gran.

A debate followed regarding viewing the briefing note before June's meeting.

Councillor Kondakor proposed formally discussing the Bermuda Bridge briefing note as part of urgent items. This was not seconded.

9. Urgent Items

None.

The meeting rose at 16:13

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Chair

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Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday 25 May 2021

Minutes

Attendance

Committee Members

Councillor Jeff Clarke (Chair)
Councillor Jonathan Chilvers (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Richard Baxter-Payne
Councillor Jackie D'Arcy
Councillor Jenny Fradgley
Councillor Dave Humphreys
Councillor Bhagwant Singh Pandher
Councillor Daren Pemberton
Councillor Tim Sinclair
Councillor Andrew Wright

1. General

(1) Apologies

None.

(2) Members' Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None.

2. Election of Chair

Councillor Bhagwant Singh Pandher proposed that Councillor Jeff Clarke be Chair of the Committee and was seconded by Councillor Tim Sinclair.

Resolved

That Councillor Jeff Clarke be Chair of the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the ensuing municipal year.

3. Election of Vice-Chair

Councillor Clarke proposed that Councillor Jonathan Chilvers be Vice-Chair of the Committee and was seconded by Councillor Jenny Fradgley.

Resolved

That Councillor Jonathan Chilvers be Vice-Chair of the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the ensuing municipal year.

The meeting rose at 11:35

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Chair

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

23 June 2021

Questions to Cabinet and Portfolio Holders

Recommendation

That the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers the forthcoming Cabinet and Portfolio Holder decisions relevant to its remit, asking questions and considering areas for further scrutiny, where appropriate.

1.0 Cabinet and Portfolio Holder Decisions

1.1 The decisions relevant to the remit of the Committee are listed below. Members are encouraged to seek updates on decisions and identify topics for pre-decision scrutiny. They are also encouraged to submit questions to Democratic Services two working days before the meeting, in order that an informed response may be given. The responsible Portfolio Holders have been invited to the meeting to answer questions from the Committee.

1.2 The list was last updated from the Forward Plan on 15th June 2021.

Decision Title	Description	Date	Decision Maker
West Midlands Rail Collaboration Agreement	West Midlands Rail is required to negotiate a renewed collaboration agreement with the Department for Transport. The purpose of the Agreement is to ensure meaningful local democratic influence over the operation and development of the rail network in that area and in particular to enable the Parties to collaborate on the running of rail services in that area for the benefit of passengers and the regional economy.	8 July 2021	Cabinet
Policy for the Installation of Tourism and Leisure Signs on WCC Highways	Proposed policy to formalise the procedure to allow tourism and leisure destination operators to apply for tourism signs, and to improve the decision-making process for engineers dealing with applications.	8 July 2021	Cabinet
Professional Services Contract for Communities 2022	A report seeking authorisation to begin appropriate procurement process for the provision of suitable professional services arrangements particularly in the fields of planning, design and provision of highway, transport and flood risk infrastructure and management. The aim is to have the arrangements in place by 1 st June 2022	8 July 2021	Cabinet
Transforming Nuneaton: Royal Mail Relocation	Seeking approvals required to progress with the re-location of Royal Mail and other tenants on Vicarage Street Development Site	8 July 2021	Cabinet

(Exempt) Warwickshire Property and Development Company - Management of Assets Report	An exempt report regarding the WPDC Business Case, seeking approval to the transfer of the Estate Management (Landlord) Duties to WPDC.	8 July 2021	Cabinet
Rugby Parkway Station (exempt)	The purchase of additional land required for the development of Rugby Parkway Station at Crick Road, Rugby	8 July 2021	Cabinet
Policy for the Installation of Tourism and Leisure Signs on WCC Highways	Proposed policy to formalise the procedure to allow tourism and leisure destination operators to apply for tourism signs, and to improve the decision-making process for engineers dealing with applications.	8 July 2021	Cabinet
A46 Strategic Link Road Consultation	Report setting out consultation results and next steps.	9 September 2021	Cabinet

2.0 Background Papers

None

	Name	Contact details
Report Author	Isabelle Moorhouse	isabellemoorhouse@warwickshire.gov.uk
Assistant Director	Sarah Duxbury	

Communities O&S – June 2021

Economic Development Update

The following briefing note provides an update to the Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee on recent economic development activity in Warwickshire. It covers work undertaken by County Council officers and partners across a range of services and areas as well as other key pieces of relevant news and information.

ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Adapt & Diversify Grants – To date, a further £738,963 has been awarded to 54 businesses as part of Round 2 of WCC’s “Adapt and Diversify” grant scheme. The scheme – which was set up to complement the various Government grants available via the District & Borough Councils – provides grants of £5,000 towards the costs of accessing specialist external advice and up to £20,000 for projects which involve specialist advice and/or the purchase of equipment or the refurbishment of property. It was open to all retail, hospitality, tourism and leisure businesses and certain identified businesses in their supply chains that have also been affected by Covid-19. Applicants had to be able to demonstrate that they have been negatively affected by Covid-19, and have clear plans to adapt and diversify their business.

As with Round 1 held in February, Round 2 of the scheme was overwhelmed with applications; 211 applications worth over £2.7 million were submitted on the first day and the scheme had to be closed again by 6pm. A budget of £850,000 was available in Round 2 and we expect this will be allocated in full. The Round 2 awards follow grants of £594,389 to 51 businesses in Round 1 earlier in the year and WCC’s successful Retail & Hospitality grant scheme in Summer 2020 which awarded £222,378 to 40 businesses.

Coventry and Warwickshire Redundancy Support Service is now a well-established service. Whilst the number of redundancies in Warwickshire remains low compared to the national picture, we are mindful this may change as the Furlough Scheme draws to a close. A number of new resources are due to launch soon with downloadable support packs and YouTube clips of advice and guidance aimed to be accessible for all.

Warwickshire County Council and Coventry City Council have joined an initiative from Solihull MBC called the [CSW COVID Business Pledge](#). By taking the pledge, businesses make a positive commitment to social distancing, hygiene, face coverings, ventilation, testing and health and well-being of staff. Businesses can sign up online. In Warwickshire those businesses signing up are automatically enrolled in the EAP (Employee Assistance Programme) for small and micro businesses. The pledge was launched in April, to coincide with the reopening of non-essential retail and personal care and beauty.

The pledge in Warwickshire was extended to create the [Warwickshire COVID Secure Community Pledge](#), where community facilities in the county can sign up and display the poster.

PLACE SHAPING & ECONOMIC RECOVERY FUND

The **Survive, Sustain and Grow** business support programme (which is funded by £295,000 from the Place Shaping and Economic Recovery Fund) continues to see high demand. The programme has had just under 600 enquiries since August 2020 and 574 businesses have now been supported by the programme across a range of sectors and geographies. 173 businesses have now worked with one of WCC's specialist, industry-specific consultants to develop and implement a dedicated economic recovery plan, helping safeguard 369 jobs. Grants worth over £330,000 have also been awarded to 55 businesses on the programme to support the costs of implementing their recovery plans. The programme will now run until the end of June. A number of case studies have been produced and are available on WCC's web site: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/SSG>

The **Future Careers Digital Market Place** project recently commenced filming again including the Warwickshire Police and Fire Service working with us to film their career opportunities. A steady stream of new businesses has engaged with the team including Hello Fresh and JLR who are considering the types of roles they wish to showcase. The project now has over 30 films available for schools and employment groups to access. All available through the Warwickshire Skills Hub website.

The **Tech Challenge Fund** was set up after a business survey undertaken by CWLEP identified the need for digital products to help support and promote town centres following the end of national lockdowns, engaging existing and new customers, and improving consumer confidence. After a competitive process, three projects were offered funding to progress their projects. The first project to complete was the Leamington LYT Festival which brought together Local Young Talent with existing businesses to create a shop window trail around Leamington throughout the month of May. More information can be found at <https://lytevents.co.uk/> The other projects, Myndy and Maybe loyalty rewards, are preparing for launch with more details available shortly as the projects roll out.

Support under the **Employee Assistance Programme** has been extended to include all Warwickshire small businesses (50 staff or less) and all hospitality businesses (100 employees or less).

New Economic Recovery Projects – Cabinet approved the funding for three new business support projects in April:

- £107,524 to support Coventry and Warwickshire Reinvestment Trust with the delivery of their JumpStart project. The £275k project is one of two economic recovery projects designed to help people start a business, increasing the number of sustainable new businesses. This community-based project will offer support to individuals starting a business for the first time. It will complement the county-wide start-up service delivered by the Chamber of Commerce on behalf of WCC by focusing on underrepresented groups and hard-to-reach individuals in certain parts of the county.
- £513,622 for a new Tourism and Leisure scheme. The project will establish and deliver a dedicated programme to support the recovery and future growth of the tourism and leisure sector. This initiative builds on the Survive, Sustain and Grow programme which offers industry-specific support to tourism business and complements the new "Visit Warwickshire" marketing campaign. The investment from the Place-Shaping Fund and Economic Recovery Fund will also allow WCC to apply for further funding from the European Regional

Development Fund to increase the scale and reach of the programme. The new programme will be launched in the Summer once a specialist delivery organisation has been appointed, following a procurement exercise.

- £38,514 to support Coventry and Warwickshire Co-operative Development Agency with the delivery of their social enterprise support programme in Warwickshire for a further 12mths along with a small number of new services to be developed specifically for social enterprises in the county. The funding will bridge the gap between current budgets which ended in March 2021 and the commissioning of WCC's new third sector support contracts from April 2022.

ECONOMIC & BUSINESS SUPPORT

WCC's "**CW Business Start, Grow and Scale**" project – which is part funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) – continues to see high demand despite a difficult year for the economy. 169 businesses completed the intensive support provided by the programme in 2020/21 and 52 new jobs were created. The programme provides three areas of support:

- Warwickshire Start-Up Support Service – One-to-one support and workshops/masterclasses for start-up businesses in their first 24 months of trading and Warwickshire residents looking to start a business. The service is delivered by the Chamber of Commerce on behalf of WCC.
- Business Ready – Support for tech-based and other innovation-led early-stage businesses in Coventry and Warwickshire. Business Ready is delivered by University of Warwick Science Park
- Advice and support for other businesses looking to grow with focus on access to finance. This support is delivered by WCC's Business Support Team.

WCC recently submitted a request to the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government for an 18mth extension until June 2023. The £1m extension, if approved, will lever a further £0.59m of investment from the ERDF and partners as well as increasing the scale and reach of WCC's new tourism and leisure programme.

The Inward Investment team recently provided support to the **Variants of Concern Stand-up Activity** in the Nuneaton town centre. The team helped identify and contact businesses in the key wards and made introductions to the WCC Business Centres.

EMPLOYABILITY & SKILLS SUPPORT

The **Warwickshire Skills Hub** continues to grow. Now a team of six, there are two further roles to fill, specialising in funding and careers. The Skills Hub's social media platforms continue to increase their reach, gaining over 40 new followers each week.

- The most popular service continues to be the "Business Skills Review" service with 90% of businesses calling for this support. Over 80% of businesses who use this service remain engaged with the team and go on to feature in campaigns and access further support as part of their growth journey.
- General enquiries have also significantly increased with businesses reaching out for support to recruit and re-train employees. The team currently host up to 5 virtual calls per day, with common topics being Apprenticeships and Kickstart.

Further to the launch of **Inclusive apprenticeships**, we have received a great level of interest from the NHS, Warwickshire Police and various manufacturing organisations. 7 of the 15 places are now taken. Such positive early interest is really encouraging, allowing consideration around the permanent transition journey those with SEND could follow and how we might want to scale up this offer across the county.

Following on from the success of last year's **Future Careers Fund** (a £2000 grant made available to schools to switch careers to digital delivery), this year's theme is around "building back". The fund once again offers schools the opportunity to apply for up to £2000 to build back their careers provision adapting their content and delivery to meet the additional needs of young people who have been negatively impacted by the pandemic and the evolving shape of Warwickshire's economy. The first round of applications are invited for July with a second round in September.

The **Further Education Transitions Fund** is a new £80,000 fund for Further Education Providers to bid into. Providers are encouraged to build events and interactions to support young people (yr11) transition into college life.

INWARD INVESTMENT

The **Invest in Warwickshire** service works with the **Department for International Trade** (DIT) service to promote the local area and provide support to overseas owned businesses (any business with a 10% or higher ownership) to set up in Warwickshire and Coventry. DIT recently ran a second round of the High Potential Opportunity Programme where local areas can collaborate on specific investment propositions.

- Warwickshire was selected as a **High Potential Opportunity (HPO)** area for the promotion of Video Games. The HPO programme is intended to develop bespoke propositions for areas of excellence to attract potential investors to this location first above any other region in the UK. The bespoke proposition has now been finalised and presentations have been given to the Central European Network, Skane region of Sweden and at the end of June they will be hosting an investor webinar for the markets of Europe & the USA.
- Warwickshire wrote a bid in collaboration with CCAV (Centre for Connected and Autonomous Vehicles), OXLEP and SEMLEP areas and West Midlands Growth Company for a **HPO covering the Connected and Autonomous Vehicles (CAV) opportunity**. The bid was successful and the HPO proposition is close to completion and launch. We've already been able to make use of the draft content when speaking with investors.

A new investment showcase called the **Invest Midlands Conference** took place online in May, organised by magazine Business Desk. Warwickshire was represented through the Invest Coventry & Warwickshire partnership, showcasing opportunities across the sub region. We promoted Sarah Windrum, CWLEP Chair as a speaker and supported the automotive session, with speakers from HORIBA-MIRA and Norton Motorcycles. The event's keynote speaker was Business Secretary Kwasi Kwarteng.

Invest in Coventry & Warwickshire is joining up with the DIT Midlands Engine Investment Hub to exhibit at **Rail Live**, on June 16th and 17th at Long Marston, near Stratford-upon-Avon. The annual event will be one of the first UK trade shows to go ahead since the lockdown. It is a showcase of UK rail technology and is the rail equivalent of the aerospace showcase Farnborough Air Show.

Invest in Warwickshire has submitted a joint bid with Coventry City Council around a **joint presence at COP26** in Glasgow in November. The City Council brought together

a group of local stakeholders and a number of submissions were made under a joint banner, also referencing WMCA activity at COP26. Whilst the bid wasn't successful, we have since submitted another bid to DIT to promote low carbon technologies in Warwickshire & Coventry, to be used by DIT around COP26.

The Invest team provided input and introductions to businesses for Transport Innovation Showcase, led by Coventry City Council and Culture Coventry, for **Coventry UK City of Culture 2021**. The showcase will launch in July as [Our Future Moves](#). Warwickshire businesses have provided physical content for the exhibition and digital content for the online showcase.

Input has been provided to a variety of Midlands initiatives ensuring the Strengths of Warwickshire's economy are reflected in their work, these include:

- Midlands Engine Tech consultation; ensuring that local strengths are represented across the region for further promotion
- West Midlands Growth Company (WMGC) are updating their collateral and we have contributed on Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering, Future Mobility and Digital Creative industries
- Create Central, The West Midlands Screen Industry body has conducted a review

Work continues with number of new and potential investors to identify suitable commercial property and help facilitate a 'soft landing'. We recently supported Malaysian company **Petra Modular**, a manufacturer of offsite housing units, to locate at Hams Hall, near Coleshill.

BUSINESS NEWS – Major business headlines from around Warwickshire
(more business news items available from [Warwickshire Means Business](#))

Digital sector update

REPL Group, a Warwickshire-based systems integrator has been snapped up by acquisitive multi-national, Accenture. Based in Henley in Arden, REPL specialises in Blue Yonder software, which principally supports blue chip customers in the retail, convenience and logistic sectors on their digital transformation. The company employs more than 400 people.

Skyfarer to conduct the drone trials in Warwickshire to test the capability of drones in delivering urgent medical supplies, working with, among others, the NHS on the possibility of using drones to reduce the time it takes to move medical critical supplies to where they are needed urgently. That includes plasma, blood, organs and samples that could be delivered to locations much more quickly than by road. The Business has been supported by Business Ready, a programme which is supported by WCC. The company recently received a £50,000 grant from Innovate UK.

The University of Warwick has announced that is investing £275,000 of its own earned income into establishing a new esports centre to be located at the Warwick campus. It will operate alongside new facilities to stimulate innovation in the newly named 'Junction' facility.

IT consultancy, Tata Consultancy Services has agreed a ten-year lease at the Aura building at Precision Park, a former HQ building for Wolseley. The Mumbai headquartered company is consolidating under one roof following its move from Victoria Court and Bishops House in Leamington.

Automotive/ Future Mobility

Proposals for a **Gigafactory** in Warwick District have accelerated following the launch of a public consultation. The consultation aims to understand the views of residents and the local community before a planning application is submitted in the coming months. In February, Coventry Airport was announced as the preferred site for a West Midlands Gigafactory with Coventry City Council and Coventry Airport Ltd forming a joint venture partnership to bring forward a planning application.

REE Automotive UK (REE), a leader in e-Mobility, has announced the establishment of a new £66m state-of-the-art Engineering Centre of Excellence at MIRA Technology Park, on the outskirts of Nuneaton. The company plans to create 200 new jobs. It follows the announcement that **Britishvolt**, the battery maker start-up, will also locate its R&D and HQ at MIRA.

Warwickshire's MIRA Technology Park is now home to the development programme of a 1100bhp hydrogen-powered hypercar from nascent engineering firm **Viritech**, which aims to become "the world's leading developer of hydrogen powertrain solutions."

Croatian tech company and electric supercar firm Rimac (pronounced 'Rimat') announced it has set up a **UK Technical centre at University of Warwick Wellesbourne Innovation Campus** after Lotus Engineering also created a base there last year. 'We are of the strong opinion that British engineers are worldclass in the field of electrification and future of mobility,' said Mate Rimac, CEO and Founder.

Well-known automotive consultancy and specialist manufacturer, **Penso Consulting**, went into liquidation in May. The company had been hit by pandemic effects on multiple product activities. The company is well-known for its Mercedes Vito 'hackney carriage' conversions, but also produced aircraft seats and last mile light-weight delivery van conversions, and engineering services to JLR and others. The company employed about 200 staff.

Warwickshire company **Shield Manufacturing Technologies recently secured £11.3m of investment for motorsport-inspired energy recovery system** for electric vehicles. The e-MOTIF project led by the Southam company combines lightweight energy recovery technology from motorsport with a new motor and inverter for electric cars and vans to cut energy consumption and CO2 emissions.

WMG and the School of Engineering at the University of Warwick have been awarded just over £5m of funding and a key coordinating role in the Government's Driving the Electric Revolution Industrialisation Centre programme. WMG at the University of Warwick has been selected to provide leadership to the Midlands Driving the Electric Revolution Centre, which is one of four across the UK.

OTHER NEWS

One of the latest investments from the Midlands Engine Investment Fund was a **£250,000 funding package for Fertility Focus**. The Warwickshire business is responsible for creating revolutionary fertility monitoring products and is set to use the finance to invest in further research and development.

Baxi Heating's development of a boiler fuelled by hydrogen has won the Innovation category at the Gas Industry Awards. Baxi's Hydrogen boiler has been developed as part of its commitment to be a cleaner, greener manufacturing business. Karen Boswell OBE, Managing Director of Baxi Heating, said: "As a leading player in the British heating and hot water industry we are determined to play our part in achieving the goal of being a net-zero economy.

A recent report from [Beauhurst](#) shines a light on high growth Midlands businesses. Warwickshire is top the Midlands local authority area for share of high growth businesses as a percentage of the total number of businesses (6.8%) and is second after Nottinghamshire for equity invested (£282m and £323m). Meanwhile University of Warwick tops the 16 Midlands universities listed with 40 spinout companies 2011-2020.

Originally due to open in July 2020, but delayed due to COVID-19, **MOTO opened a flagship EV charging motorway service area in Rugby on April 30th** following a £40m site investment creating 120 jobs. Located at Junction 1 of the M6 it features 24 ultra-rapid electric vehicle charging points, 12 Tesla & 12 Electric Highway, making it the largest ultra-rapid charging site on the motorway network.

Construction of the new £33m Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research Building at the University of Warwick has recently been completed. The building brings together up to 300 researchers will also house world-class research in neuroscience, microbiology and infection, cell biology, and disease models.

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COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY

Bermuda Connectivity

23 June 2021

1. The Scheme

- 1.1 Bermuda Connectivity is a highway scheme, focused on opening up the existing bridge to two-way traffic, delivering additional highway capacity, and improved connectivity between West Nuneaton and Griff roundabout.

The scheme will deliver the following range of benefits for the local community in the wider West Nuneaton area:

- Contribute towards reducing journey times for local residents on a number of routes in the West Nuneaton area
- Contribute towards reducing congestion in parts of the town centre, thus improving links onto the A444 in Nuneaton for residents in other parts of the town
- Enhance accessibility to local businesses, amenities and residential areas, particularly in Bermuda and adjoining areas
- Support economic growth in Nuneaton by enhancing accessibility to existing and future local jobs
- Improve connectivity to Bermuda Park Rail Station
- Provide an improved environment for cyclists and pedestrians to increase mode choice and accessibility
- Drive forward further economic growth in Nuneaton, including potential employment and housing development along the new highway link route
- Complement the wider economic aspirations of the Coventry and Warwickshire subregion, such as Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership (CWLEP) Strategic Economic Plan

2.0 Progress update

- 2.1 CR Reynolds were appointed as Principal Contractor with work commencing in the last week of April 2021. Works have started later than had been anticipated in the contractor's tender programme and additional items such as the monitoring and design around an existing gas barrier now need to be taken into account, as a result an initial exercise to update the contractor's programme is being carried out. The first phase of work, between now and Winter 21/22 is the completion of improvements to St Georges Way and the opening of the Bermuda Bridge.

Works to date include:

- Establish the site compound to the rear of Bookers Ltd on St George's Way.
- Management of street works applications required to start works and confirm traffic management arrangements,
- Removal of existing kerbs and footway on the west side of St George's Way, including the removal of non-scheme related waste from site.
- Commence works on the west side of St George's Way to establish off road foot/cycleways.

3.0 Current Issues

3.1 Anticipated delay with the signing of the Basic Asset Protection Agreement (BAPA) with Network Rail was later than expected and this has prevented construction of a gabion wall, adjacent to the rail track on St George's Way, which is required to construct a section of footway/cycleway. However, the signed BAPA has now been received and the work can be programmed accordingly.

3.2 Outstanding land agreements are to be finalised on the following plots, these are not currently creating delay for the scheme but have the potential to cause delay at a later point:

- Temporary land adjacent to Holland and Barrett's offices, required for works on The Bridleway (Phase 2 work)
- Access to land owned by Deeley's, for completion of the gas barrier runs (Phase 2 works)

These two agreements have been nearing completion for some time and are currently under consultation with Legal Services

3.3 There is a potential need to amend the expected traffic management arrangements on the A444 to include some periods of complete road closure rather than single lane closure whilst the bridge bearings are replaced. The issue is that the bridge bearings, which are large rubber pads, have been in situ for 40 years and it is not clear without exposing them how easily they will be replaced. A road closure would allow for the installation of a protective barrier, and safe working zone, in order for the contractor to work safely on the A444 under the bridge. The WCC teams are working together to minimise delay and disruption and the proposal will be shared publicly in advance of any closure.

3.4 A gas barrier, providing gas venting for the previous land fill site, which sits to the west of Bermuda Bridge has been subject to monitoring over the last 5 months. This monitoring was required to determine whether the gas barrier was functioning correctly and to confirm a suitable

design where it will be extended to allow for the new road levels. The design of the gas barrier is ongoing and is anticipated to be completed during the summer.

- 3.5 Additional work has been identified to construct an extension to the shared foot/cycleway and to provide an additional crossing point on Bermuda Rd. If, following initial design and pricing, this work is added to the project then further land is likely to be required and funding identified. Project Board will be presented with the findings and will determine a way forward.

4.0 Next Steps

- 4.1 The contractor's tender programme is currently under review, to consider contract award and some of the issues listed above.

The current projected milestones are:

Works Description	Completion
Phase 1 - St George's Way	Winter 21/22
Bermuda Bridge Works	Winter 21/22
Phase 2 – The Bridleway etc	Late 2022

5.0 Finance

- 5.1 The scheme has a budget of £10.359M, which can be broken down as:

WCC Growth Fund	£3.202M
WCC CIF	£5.657M
CWLEP Growth Deal	£0.5M
CWLEP Growing Places Infrastructure Fund	£1.00M

- 5.2 Current spend against the scheme stands at £2.95M, which includes for the design and development of the scheme including some of the land acquisition.

- 5.3 The scheme estimate, including spend to date, is broken down as follows:

Scheme Development – WCC	£1.793M
Scheme Development – External	£1.456M
Land Acquisition	£0.664M
Works	£4.834M
Part 1 Compensation Claims	£1.5M
Contingency	£0.112M

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Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee

23rd June 2021

Council Plan 2020 – 2025 Quarterly Progress Report Period under review: April 2020 to March 2021

Recommendation

That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- (i) Considers and comments on the progress of the delivery of the Council Plan 2020 - 2025 for the period as contained in the report.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Council Plan Year End Performance Report for the period April 1st, 2020 to March 31st 2021 was considered and approved by Cabinet on 17th June. The report provides an overview of progress of the key elements of the Council Plan, specifically in relation to performance against Key Business Measures (KBMs), strategic risks and workforce management. A separate Financial Monitoring report for the period covering both the revenue and capital budgets, reserves and delivery of the savings plan was presented and considered at the 17th June Cabinet meeting.
- 1.2. This report draws on information extracted from both Cabinet reports to provide this Committee with information relevant to its remit.
- 1.3. Comprehensive performance reporting is now enabled through the following link to Power BI [full OSC Year End 2020/21 Performance Report](#).

2. Council Plan 2020 - 2025: Strategic Context and Performance Commentary

2.1 The Council Plan 2020 – 2025 aims to achieve two high level Outcomes:

- **Warwickshire’s communities and individuals are supported to be safe, healthy and independent;** and,
- **Warwickshire’s economy is vibrant and supported by the right jobs, training, skills and infrastructure.**

Progress to achieve these outcomes is assessed against 58 KBMs.

Outcome	No. of KBMs	No. of KBMs available for reporting at Year End
Warwickshire’s communities and individuals are supported to be safe, healthy and independent	28	23
Warwickshire’s economy is vibrant and supported by the right jobs, training, skills and infrastructure	12	9
WCC making the best use of its resources	18	16

2.2 Overall, the Council has sustained robust performance across the board in the face of the challenges posed by the pandemic, including increasing demand, new service delivery to meet the challenges of the pandemic and significant changes in how services are delivered. As WCC returns towards a more business as usual situation as restrictions are loosened, Services are redirecting their focus onto their core work and this is reflected in KBM performance. At Year End there has been an improvement in the number of KBMs reported as being On Track.

2.3 Of the 58 KBMs, 11 are in the remit of this Overview and Scrutiny Committee. 55% (6) of reportable KBMs are On Track and 45% (5) KBMs are Not on Track which has been a relatively static position across the year.

Chart 1 below summarises KBM status by quarter since the introduction of the Commissioning Intentions Framework.

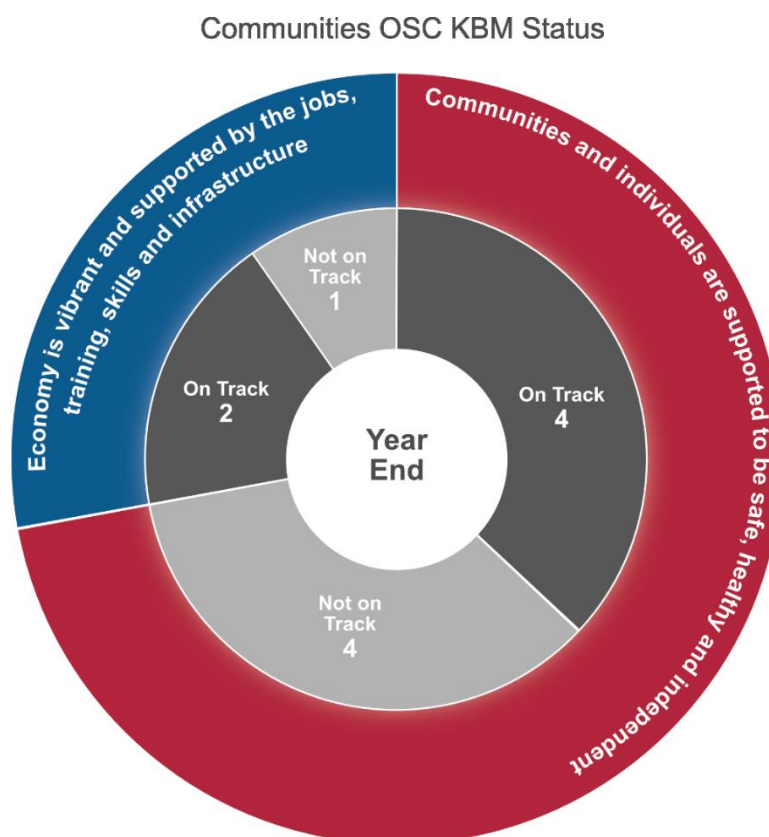


Chart 1

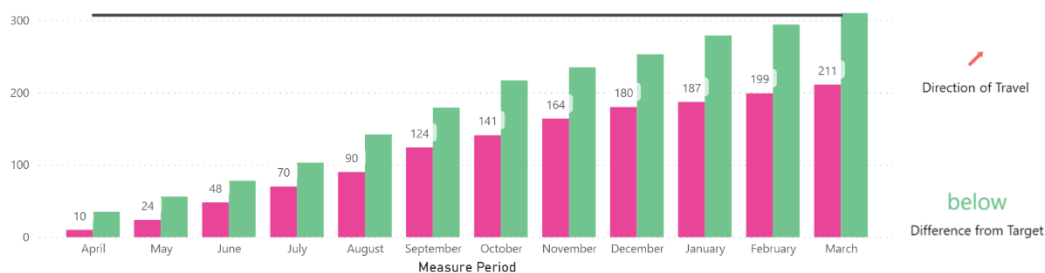
2.4 Of the 55% (6) KBM's which are On Track there are 4 measures where performance is of note and these are detailed in Table 1 below:

Warwickshire's communities and individuals are supported to be safe, healthy and independent

No. of people killed or seriously injured on our roads

No. of people killed or seriously injured on our roads

● 2020-21 Actual ● 2019-20 Actual ● 2020-21 Target



As at March the latest result was 211, this is currently below the target

Projection over next quarter - On track - Remaining Static.

Current performance narrative:

There has been a significant decrease in the number of people killed or seriously injured on Warwickshire roads in the year 2020/21 (211) compared to 2019/20 (313) This can, almost entirely, be attributed to the reduction of traffic on the roads during the first and third lockdowns (Covid-19).

The largest area that experienced a reduction was car drivers, which dropped from 96 in 2019 to 57 in 2020. There was also a large drop in Motorcycle >500cc from 36 to 18. The only group to see an increase were cycle riders which increased from 24 to 33, in particular in the age group 60 –79 which saw a jump from 3 to 16. All age groups saw an overall reduction in numbers. As always with the casualty figures there is the possibility of these numbers changing with next month's report.

5 Casualty Reduction Schemes have been implemented (cost in brackets), they include Signs/Markings at A428 Lawford Road (£30,000), Signs/Markings at A428 Lawford Heath Road (£30,000), Queensway/Kingsway, Leamington Mini Roundabout (£120,000), Blythe Bridge, Coleshill Interactive Signs and Vehicle Restraint System (£110,000) and Junction realignment and Signs at Bromsgrove Road, Studley (£60,000).

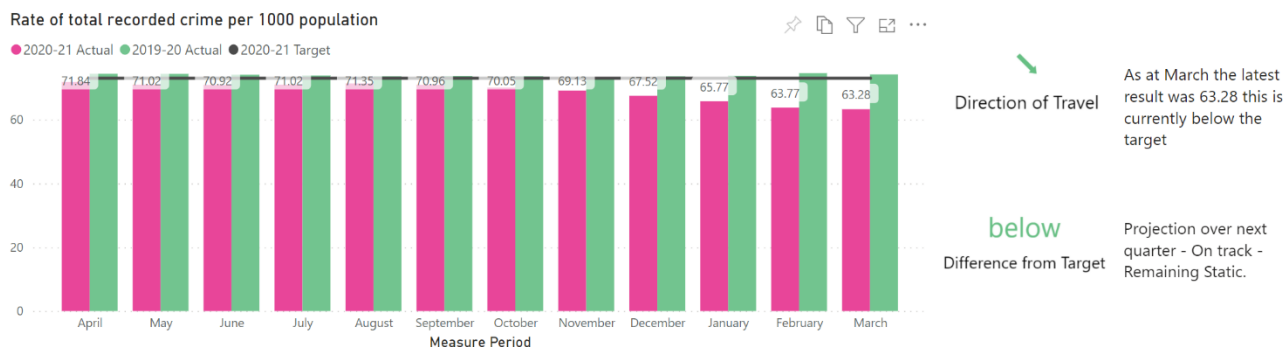
Improvement activity:

Despite the lockdown WCC are starting a project to look at collision levels in relation to traffic volumes during the period. From an engineering side there are currently 12 Casualty Reduction Schemes being evaluated or awaiting funding to progress further.

Explanation of the projected trajectory: On track – remaining static

Traffic levels due to Covid-19 are lower than last year so KSI's are expected to remain static.

Rate of total recorded crime per 1000 population



Current performance:

The impact of Covid-19 has resulted in a significant change in crime patterns in Warwickshire. Total recorded crime is down 13%, key crimes of note include: Violence with injury down 16%, Rape down 26%, Other sexual offences down 11%, Burglary residential down 4%, Vehicle crime down 34%, Business crime down 33%.

The national lockdowns and changing in working patterns have reduced the opportunity for some crimes to occur, particularly high-volume acquisitive crime.

There have been some crime types which have had a greater fluctuation throughout the year. These include:

Domestic abuse- where we are working closely with strategic commissioners' partners as part of a countywide emerging trends to assess all forms of familial abuse. The aim of the group is to assess current trends, assessing resource pressures and deliver a coordinate partnership response.

Violence without injury up 7.3%, Anti-social behaviour up in all 3 categories - overall up 45.3%, Hate crime up 20%. It should be noted that reports of hate crime have returned to levels that are more consistent with previous years.

Improvement activity:

The Safer Warwickshire Partnership will monitor and respond to changes in these crime types as lockdown eases in April 2021. Our focus will be to:

- Support victims to report historic crimes and be able to access local services. This is significantly important for victims in familial settings.
- work in partnership to respond to emerging trends such as ASB, violence without injury and hate crimes incidents.

The key areas for the Safer Warwickshire Partnership in 2021 are:

- A strategic review of the partnership and its priorities including the development of a new Community Safety Agreement which aligns with the new Police and crime plan
- The development of a violence prevention strategy
- Work around safer streets, ensuring residents feel safe and their voice is part of the solution.

Explanation of the projection trajectory: On track – remaining static

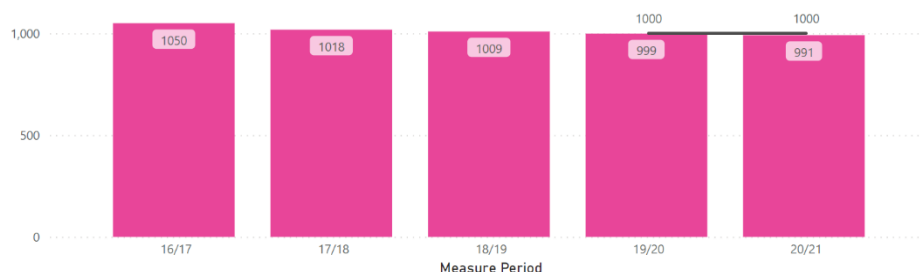
It is anticipated crime rates will continue to return to more typical levels from pre Covid-19.

Warwickshire's economy is vibrant and supported by the right jobs, training, skills and infrastructure

Total waste (kg) per household

Total waste (kg) per household

● Actual ● Target



Direction of Travel
 As at Year End the 20/21 results are 991 Kg, this is currently below the target

below
 Difference from Target
 Projection over next quarter - On track - Remaining Static.

Current performance narrative:

Forecast currently based on April to January figures. Complete year figures will be available mid-May. Projection of 2020/21 performance is 991kg of household waste per household. Actual household waste tonnage is projected to increase by about 5% but this could well change as further data becomes available. WCC have had an increase of around 4,500 households from the year before (261,000 households).

Improvement activity:

Activity continues to promote waste reduction, and this includes reuse. However, the changes seen this year are largely due to the impact of Covid-19. More waste is being collected at the kerbside and less at the recycling centres.

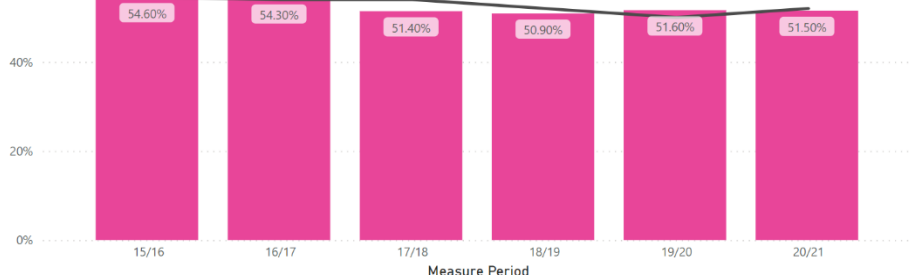
Explanation of the projected trajectory: On track – remaining static

The trajectory is based on actual figures for the first 10 months of 2020/21. The recycling centres were open for the whole of June and June data onwards has been used to project for the rest of the year.

% of household waste reused, recycled and composted

% of household waste reused, recycled and composted

● Actual ● Target



Direction of Travel
 As at Year End the 20/21 results are 51.50%, this is in line with the target

in line
 Difference from Target
 Projection over next quarter - On track - Remaining Static.

Current performance narrative:

Projection of 2020/21 performance is now 51.5%. Recycling has increased by about 7% but residual waste is up by about 5% and this has reduced the overall recycling %.

Overall composting has almost remained the same, 1% up from last year across both the (Household Waste Recycling Centres) HWRCs and Districts although much less is collected at the HWRCs and more is collected at the kerbside.

The HWRC recycling rate after Quarter 3 was about 56% so below the HWRC target of 59%. Wood is being partly recycled again at the HWRC which has helped the recycling rate after the drop in HWRC green waste due to lockdown.

Improvement activity:

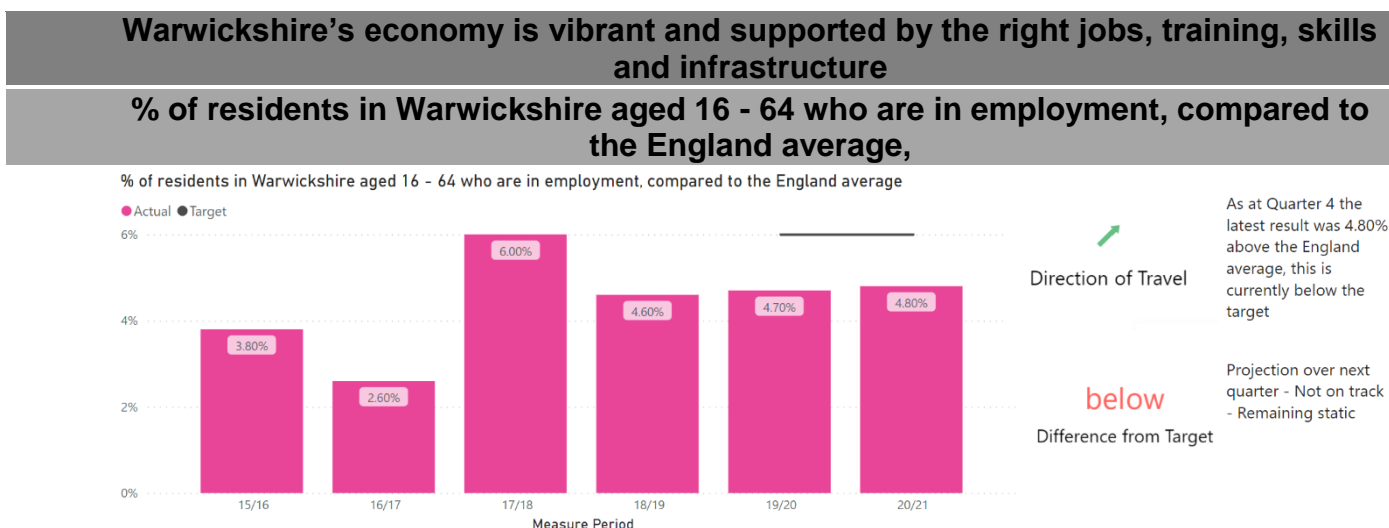
Activity continues to promote waste reduction, and this includes reuse. However, the changes seen this year are largely due to the impact of Covid-19. More waste is being collected at the kerbside and less at the recycling centres.

Explanation of the projected trajectory: On track – remaining static

The trajectory is based on actual figures for the first 10 months of 2020/21. The recycling centres were open for the whole of June and June data onwards has been used to project for the rest of the year.

Table 1

2.5 Of the 5 KBMs that are Not on Track at Year End 2 KBM's require highlighting in Table 2 below which details the current performance narrative, improvement activity and explanation of projected trajectory:



Current performance narrative:

This measure initially examines the difference between the Warwickshire and England employment rate for those aged 16-64, which currently stands at 4.8% and has remained fairly stable as both England and Warwickshire actual overall employment rates have risen together. When then looking to the total employment rate for each individual area, the data shows that as of Quarter 4, 80.5% of Warwickshire residents aged 16-64 are in employment, a fall from 81.2% in Quarter 3. England has followed a similar trend falling from 76% to 75.7%

Due to the makeup of the Warwickshire economy, the Service predicted the county would be disproportionately affected, particularly for hospitality & tourism. There remains a significant risk therefore, that the county's true employment situation will only be fully exposed once government support through the furlough scheme is withdrawn at the end of September 2021.

Improvement activity:

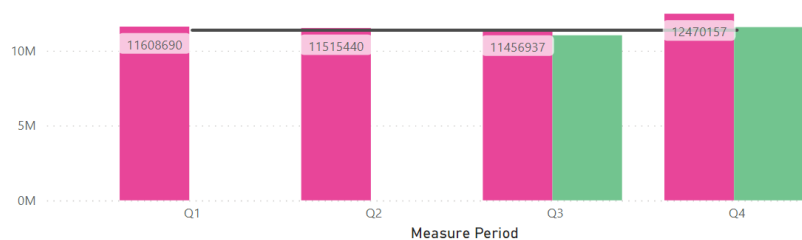
In line with the roadmap for reopening, an employer group has been set up to look at hospitality jobs, including workshops to explore the various talent pools open to this sector. Coventry and Warwickshire Redundancy Support Service is now a well-established service and continues to update the offering as the situation evolves. Future Jobs Pledge programme is in development which will allow employers to advertise future vacancies today allowing candidates to identify and target future roles early.

Explanation of the projected trajectory: Not on track - remaining static
 Difficult to predict until the impacts of the government's furlough scheme tail off.

Cost (£) of SEND Home to School transport provision

Cost (£) of SEND Home to School transport provision

● 2020-21 Actual ● 2019-20 Actual ● 2020-21 Target



Direction of Travel
 As at Quarter 4, the latest result was £12,470,157, this is currently above the target.
 Target is £11,371,918.
 above
 Difference from Target
 Projection over next quarter - Not on track - remaining static

Current performance narrative:

The final position of the accounts as at year end for 20/21 is £12.470M with an overspend of £1.098M. This is a significant increase on the overspend predicted earlier in the year. For the current year, we are incorporating the use of data from the transport modelling tool, Flexi Route to inform or forecasting and better predict future activity and cost.

Improvement activity:

SEND Transport arrangements are currently under review as part of the SEND change programme. This is an "end to end" process review, including: application of policy; decision making; commissioning and procurement. Recommendations from the review will be considered and implemented as appropriate as a project within the SEND change program.

Explanation of the projected trajectory: Not on track – remaining static

This is an area where WCC has overspent over the last few years. The current projection is that WCC will continue to overspend. However, this will be mitigated as far as possible by implementing the recommendations of the transport review.

Table 2

2.6 Of the remaining 3 KBMs that are Not on Track, forecast performance is projected to remain Not on Track but static:

- No. of properties better protected from flooding;
- No. of journeys on public transport services supported by WCC; and,
- % biodiversity net gain in Warwickshire.

2.7 Chart 2 below illustrates the considered forecast performance projection over the forthcoming reporting period compared to projection at previous quarters.

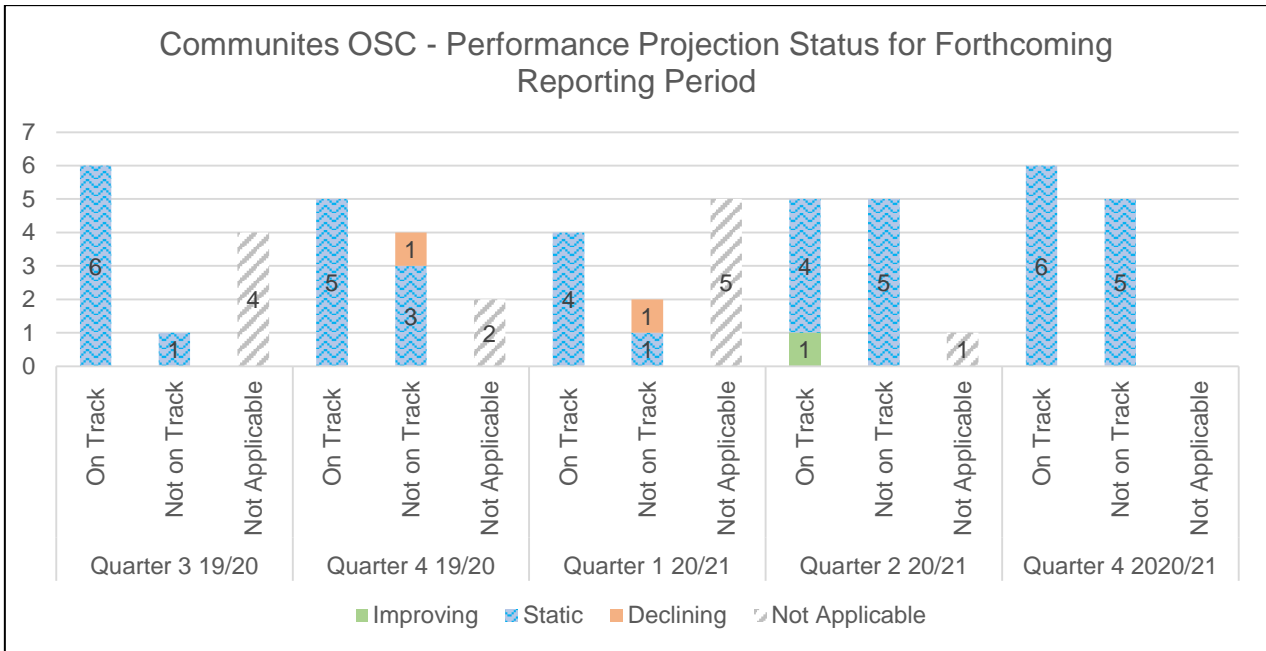


Chart 2

11 KBM’s have a forecast performance projection for the forthcoming reporting period, this includes annual measures where data is not available until the end of the year. 55% of the measures that have forecast performance projection have a status of being On Track and remaining static. There are 5 KBMs which have a forecast of being Not on Track and are expected to remain Not on Track during the next Quarter and 2 of these have been fully detailed in 2.5.

2.8 The pandemic has impacted the majority of these measures leading to delays in programmes of activity and changing service demands. Positively, none are projected to decline further and improvement activity is in place to improve performance across all measures and this is under constant review to ensure it is robust. Full context on all measures is provided in the Power BI reports.

As the Organisation continues to transform the Performance Framework evolves providing a sharpened focus on performance and supports delivery of the Organisation’s priorities. The light touch review of the Performance Framework for the 2021/22 period has been conducted with Strategic and Assistant Directors and Cabinet approved the new Framework as attached in Appendix A. A comprehensive review of the entire Framework is already in progress ready for implementation in 2022/23.

3. Financial Commentary – relevant finance information taken from Cabinet report

3.1 Revenue Budget

3.1.1 The Council has set the following performance threshold in relation to revenue spend: a tolerance has been set of zero overspend and no more than a 2% underspend. The following table shows the forecast position for the Services concerned.

	2020/21 Budget £'000	2020/21 Outturn '000	Revenue Variance £'000 %	Retained Reserves £'000	Financial Standing £'000
Communities	22,376	27,313	4,937 22.06%		4,937
<p>Strategic Commissioning for Communities – (£4.937m net overspend; +22%. £5.917m Covid pressures)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Covid pressures are largely the same as previously reported and comprise of income losses from Parking, Country Parks, Waste Services, Speed Awareness and Business Centres (£4.283m), and the costs predominately made up of support to businesses, increased waste kerbside collections and social distance modelling (£1.634m). Covid pressures have reduced compared to the last report due to the timing of finalising £1.441m of grants to local businesses. The second round of applications to the Adapt and Diversify grant scheme is in May 2021. The above reduction was partially offset with an increased income loss within Speed Awareness (£0.251m) due to the refund of course fees and increased costs and income in waste services (£0.399m). After removing the Covid related pressures, the underspend (£0.982m) is largely driven by staffing underspends due to delays in service redesign and recruitment and projects that have been delayed due to Covid, for which carry forwards have been requested (£0.416m). The changes in Covid pressures and project delays are the main cause of the change to the Q3 forecast position. 					
Environment Services	26,363	26,178	(185) -0.70%		185
<p>Environment Services - (£0.187m net underspend; -1%. £2.986m Covid pressures)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Covid related pressures are largely as previously reported and consist of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Payments to Bus Operators (£1.492m) Reallocation of road space and works in town centres (£0.729m) Income losses within Forestry, Community Safety, Planning Delivery and Trading Standards (£0.351m) Emergency highways maintenance and compensation payments for highways contracts (£0.190m) Other operational Covid related pressures totalling (£0.224m). 					

- Excluding Covid the underspend of £3.171m is as a result of:
 - One off underspends on staffing due to delays in service redesign (£1.700m)
 - Income receipts (£0.683m) and grant funding received in March which is subject to a carry forward requests (£0.700m).
 - Since the Q3 report the non Covid underspend has increased by £1.762m due to the grant funding received for utilisation in 2021/22 as described above (£0.700m), and over-achievement of income within County Highways (£0.683m) was not included in the Q3 forecast as some has related to demand for permits and closures being higher towards the end of the year whilst roads are still quieter. The remaining increase in underspend (£0.379m) was largely related to continued staffing vacancies.

3.2. Delivery of the Savings Plan

3.2.1. The savings targets and forecast outturn for the Services concerned are shown in the table below.

	2020/21 Target £'000	2020/21 Actual to Date £'000	2020/21 Forecast £'000
Communities	0	0	0
Environment Services	200	200	200

3.3 Capital Programme

3.3.1. The table below shows the approved capital budget for the Services and any slippage into future years.

	Approved budget for all current and future years (£'000)	2020/21 Forecast £'000	Slippage from 2020/21 into Future Years (%)	Current quarter - new approved funding / schemes (£'000)	Newly resourced spend included in slippage figures (£'000)	All Current and Future Years Forecast (£'000)
Communities	92,103	(6,104)	-51%	12,705	(7)	104,801

This relates to delays on Transforming Nuneaton £2.163m and the acquisition of measurement equipment to tackle climate change £1.359m. The remainder relates to smaller delays over multiple projects. Please review the finance annexes for further details.

Environment Services	192,471	(17,960)	-25%	28,080	78	220,629
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£11.797m relates to S278 projects where there is little control over the timing of works. The A46 Stoneleigh junction scheme accounts for £1.165m as a result of the award of the main contract. There were delays of £1.2m relating to Area Delegated schemes due to changing prioritisation methodology. A46 Stanks Island in Warwick £0.990m delay on phase 2 resulting from slower than expected Highways England approval. There have some other small delays on projects less than £0.250m, please see the finance annexes for further details.

4. Supporting Papers

- 4.1 A copy of the full report and supporting documents that went to Cabinet on the 17th June is available via the committee system.

5. Environmental Implications

None

6. Background Papers

None

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WCC Outcomes and Objectives Performance Framework 21/22

Warwickshire's communities and individuals are supported to be safe, healthy and independent

Support our most vulnerable and disadvantaged children reducing the need for children to become, or remain looked after

% of placements in provision (agency foster care or residential) of Good or Outstanding quality as rated by Ofsted (CLA)

% of children and young people seen within 18 weeks (Referral to Treatment Time) amalgamated across the three Clinical Commissioning Group (CCGs)

No. of children open to an Early Help Pathway (KBM)

No of children in Care excluding unaccompanied asylum seeking children

% of children in Care aged under 16 who have been looked after continuously for at least 2.5 years, who were living in the same placement for at least 2 years, or are placed for adoption

% of care leavers (Relevant and Former Relevant 16-21) who are not in education, employment and training (NEET)

Support Warwickshire residents to take responsibility for their own health and wellbeing and reduce the need for hospital or long health care

% of carers in receipt of Self Directed Support on the final day of the reporting period

% of Women who smoke at the time of delivery across Warwickshire

% of Children receiving a 6-8 week health check (C8i)

% of Year 6 children (aged 10-11 years): prevalence of obesity (including severely obese)

% Population vaccination coverage – Measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) for two doses (5 years old)



Support the most vulnerable and disadvantaged adults in Warwickshire to enjoy life; achieve and live independently

- No. of permanent admissions to residential or nursing care: over 65
- No. of permanent admissions to residential or nursing care: under 65
- No. of people in receipt of an Adult Social Care Service
- % of people open to Adult Social Care over the age of 80 receiving care at home
- Suicide rate (Persons) per 100,000
- % of successful completions as a proportion of all in treatment (Opiates, Non Opiates, Alcohol and Non Opiates)
- No. of Domestic Abuse incidents reported
- % of residential placements for adults in provision of Good or Outstanding quality as rated by Care Commission
- No. of people with a learning disability or autism in an inpatient unit commissioned by the CCG
- No. of People assisted to live independently through provision of Social Care equipment (includes o



Work with communities to reduce crime and disorder and promote safety across Warwickshire

- % times an appliance arrives at life risk of property incidents within agreed response standards
- No. of fire related deaths
- No. of fire related injuries
- No. of people killed or seriously injured on our roads
- No. of properties better protected from flooding
- Rate of crime per 1000 population

Warwickshire's economy is vibrant and supported by the right jobs, training and skills and infrastructure

Attract economic investment and maximise the rate of employment, business growth and skill levels in Warwickshire

16 and 17 year olds who are Not in Education, Employment or Training (also a KBI in Communities)

No. of businesses supported to start and grow within Warwickshire through County Council activities

unemployment rate

Gross Value Added (GVA) per employee as a % of UK average

% of residents in Warwickshire aged 16-64 who are in employment compared to the England average

Increase reuse, recycling and composting rates and reduce waste across Warwickshire

% of household waste re-used, recycled and composted



Manage and maintain Warwickshire's transport network in a safe, sustainable and integrated way

- No. of journeys on public transport services supported by WCC
- % biodiversity net gain in Warwickshire
- % of road network meeting specified condition



Support communities and businesses to develop the digital skills and tools they need in an increasingly digital economy

- No. of providers that exit the care home, domiciliary care or Supported Living markets, in Warwickshire, through Business failure



Support and enable children and young people to access a place in high quality education settings

- % of children achieving GCSE level 4 in both English and Maths
- Progress 8 score
- % of children achieving the KS2 expected standard for combined reading, writing and maths

Partners

Making the best use of resources

Make it easy for customers to access our information and services so they have a positive experience of our services.

% customer satisfaction level with Customer Service Centre

No. of Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman, Judicial Review cases or Information Commissioner's Office adverse decisions for WCC



Put our resources in the right place to support the Organisation's priorities and balance the books

- No. of days sick absence per FTE (rolling 12 months)
- % of Capital Investment Projects delivered against Client Brief (time, cost, quality, realised)
- No. of WCC social media followers
- Value of debt over 35 days old as a % of debt raised in last 12 months
- % of Capital Expenditure Against Budget (setting baseline in 21/22)
- % General and Directorate Risk Reserves compared to the Net Revenue Budget
- % Variation DSG overspend compared to Budget Provision
- % Variation of Revenue Savings Achieved Against Agreed MTFS (Whole Council)
- % of Pension Fund Returns Compared to Target



Develop our workforce so that it has the right skills and capabilities to get the job done

- % Employee Engagement Score (Staff Survey)
- Gender Pay Gap (Mean Average) reported annually
- Ethnicity Pay Gap (Mean Average) Reported annually

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Work Programme

Date of next report	Item	Report detail
Standing items	Questions to Cabinet Portfolio Holders	The Committee may put questions to the Cabinet Portfolio Holders on issues within their remit. The report will set out the forthcoming items listed in the Council's published Forward Plan relevant to the Committee.
	Economic Development Update	To receive an update on economic development in Warwickshire. This has expanded from the previous Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership (CWLEP) update at the request of the Chair and Spokespersons. To be a briefing note to be sent to the Committee Members rather than an agenda item (allowing members to raise any issue/ ask questions at the Committee should they wish).
23 June 2021	Covid-19 People Counters	Information from the town centre people counters set up to monitor numbers during the Covid-19 period
23 June 2021	Bermuda Project update	An update on the Bermuda project that was approved by Cabinet in January 2021
23 June 2021	Developer Design Guide	For scrutiny to review before Cabinet from the Planning Team
23 June 2021	Year End Council Plan 2020-2025 Quarterly Progress Report (April 2020 to March 2021)	Report on Year End Council Plan 2020-2025 Quarterly Progress Report (April 2020 to March 2021)
22 September 2021	HS2 grants	To monitor the level of income from HS2 to seek reassurance that WCC is being fully reimbursed
22 September 2021	Road Space Allocation review	A review of the 'Road Space Allocation' including what has been done and lessons learnt/improvements that could be made. This will include the discussions regarding the 20mph zones in Warwickshire.

22 September 2021	Waste Management Review	Update on the review following the second government consultation
17 November 2021	Draft Report for Highway Schemes	Draft Report on highway schemes and ahead of the planned website for Summer 2021. This will include delegated budgets
17 November 2021	Air Quality Monitoring	To provide and update on air quality monitoring since the TFG recommendations in 2018
17 November 2021	Climate TFGs Report	A report stating what has been achieved by the cross-party working groups since the Climate Emergency was declared in July 2019

Items for future work programming and review

Item	Description
Planning	
HS2 grants	To monitor the level of income from HS2 to seek reassurance that WCC is being fully reimbursed.
Capital programme	How managed/ overall picture of schemes (Note Resources & Fire and Rescue are also getting regular update on capital slippage).
Economy	
Local Enterprise Partnerships	How effective are LEPs in delivering a geographically balanced level of investment across Warwickshire? Members suggested that there was scope for improved monitoring of the CWLEP and a request was made for projected completion dates and project targets to be included in future Economic Development Updates.
Strategic Investment	To monitor WCCs investment in priority road safety schemes across Warwickshire targeted at reducing the numbers killed or seriously injured on our roads. This includes monitoring investment in local highways priorities, spending on LED streetlights and investment in safer routes to schools.
Sub National Transport Body	Update when appropriate
Community Cohesion	
KSIs and Speed Limits	To review the Council's speed limit and speed camera policies.
Waste Management Review	For when the Government's Resources and Waste Strategy for England is published in 2021

Population statistics	To review to population growth in Warwickshire in relation to housing developments (briefing note)
Sustainable Transport	
The Clean Air Act	To consider the policy and implications of the new Government proposals.
Air Quality Progress on Recommendations	To consider progress on those recommendations agreed by Cabinet that require further action/outcomes (including information from personal monitors and progress on Supplementary Planning
Off-Street Parking Charges TFG Report	A report to be received from the TFG providing their recommendations before Cabinet

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