

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: Wednesday 8 February 2023
Time: 2.00 pm
Venue: Committee Room 2, 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 Tim Sinclair
Councillor Mejar Singh
Councillor Andrew Wright

Items on the agenda: -

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 - (1) Apologies**
 - (2) Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**
 - (3) Chair's Announcements**
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Monica Fogarty
 Chief Executive
 Warwickshire County Council
 Shire Hall, Warwick

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- 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

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<https://democracy.warwickshire.gov.uk/uuCoverPage.aspx?bcr=1>

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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 9 November 2022

Minutes

Attendance

Committee Members

Councillor Jeff Clarke (Chair)
Councillor Jonathan Chilvers (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Richard Baxter-Payne
Councillor Jenny Fradgley
Councillor Dave Humphreys
Councillor Marian Humphreys
Councillor Bhagwant Singh Pandher
Councillor Tim Sinclair
Councillor Andrew Wright

Portfolio Holders

Councillor Andy Crump, Portfolio Holder for Fire & Rescue and Community Safety
Councillor Wallace Redford, Portfolio Holder for Transport & Planning
Councillor Heather Timms, Portfolio Holder for Environment, Climate and Culture

Officers

David Ayton-Hill, Assistant Director - Communities
Louise Church, Delivery Lead - Admissions
Jagjit Mahal, Delivery Lead Flood Risk Management
Isabelle Moorhouse, Democratic Services Officer
Margaret Smith, Lead Commissioner - Transport Planning
Scott Tompkins, Assistant Director for Environment Services

1. General

(1) Apologies

Councillor Mejar Singh who was substituted by Councillor Marian Humphreys
Councillor Martin Watson (Portfolio Holder for Economy)

(2) Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None.

(3) Chair's Announcements

The Chair wished the Leader of the Council a swift recovery following her operation.

(4) Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a correct record.

2. Public Speaking

None.

3. Questions to Portfolio Holder

In response to Councillor Bhagwant Pandher, Councillor Wallace Redford (Portfolio Holder – Transport & Planning) agreed to get an update on the puffin crossing on Coventry Road in Exhall. Councillor Pandher noted that this crossing was meant to be installed a few years ago.

(1) Economic Development Update

David Ayton-Hill (Assistant Director – Communities) informed the committee that:

- Warwickshire County Council (WCC) won two out of four awards at the Federation of Small Business Awards (Best Business Friendly Council and best Business Support Programme in the Midlands)
- Three events were held for businesses to help them during the current emergency and economic crisis
- The manufacturing event was cancelled because not enough businesses signed up for it; this event was being run by the University of Warwick
- They were planning to get feedback on why businesses did not sign up for these events
- Members were asked to help make these events public knowledge to boost business attendance from their area
- An agriculture event was planned but not enough people were signed up for it yet
- The launched a green recovery grant scheme from Covid recovery funds to provide free energy audits for businesses
- Grants to help implement energy efficiency measures within those businesses were also made available. £300,000 were put into these schemes
- These grants were to help businesses who were struggling with energy bills and had difficulties from the impact of Covid-19. There was a uptake of businesses signing up for these schemes
- WCC had a short period to respond to central government's investment zones initiative. WCC put forward several sites in Warwickshire to be considered but this new scheme may be scrapped by central government in their November financial statement

In response to Councillor Tim Sinclair, David Ayton-Hill said that some aspects were difficult to put into a table to compare things regionally and simple enough to understand. David Ayton-Hill requested that Councillor Sinclair work with them on this table so it would be easy enough to understand.

4. Flood Drainage Policies

Scott Thompkins (Assistant Director – Environmental Services) informed the committee that this paper was a result of a motion passed by Full Council in December 2021. Meetings were held with the Environmental Agency (EA) and Severn Trent (ST) which helped cooperation moving forward.

Jagjit Mahal (Delivery Lead Flood Risk Management) added that:

- In addition to the meeting with EA and ST, several operational meetings were held with ST to discuss sewer flooding issues as this was not in WCC's remit so they cannot resolve it
- Regular scheduled meetings were held to talk through these operational issues and get more frequent updates than they had before
- The paper included some key achievements that County Highways had in terms of their drainage works, and the Flood Risk Team had in terms of what they managed to do over the past five years
- The paper outlined some key partners that had a role to play with flood risk in Warwickshire some of their key responsibilities
- National Highways got some feedback from national public satisfaction surveys that were included in the paper too

In response to Councillor Jenny Fradgley, Scott Tompkins said that reoccurring drainage problems were in this remit and climate change was exacerbating this. Highway infrastructure was built to survive a typical 1 in 10 year event, and drainage systems were judged on how long it took for puddles to disappear off roads. County Highways had their recent NHT Survey results back and this showed that Warwickshire was No1 in the country for keeping their drains clean from a customer service point of view.

Councillor Redford added that any drainage problem should be reported to the relevant locality officer as soon as possible so it could be actioned or through the Council's website.

Councillor Jonathan Chilvers informed the committee that there was a good map on Compass which showed flood risk in areas cross-county per km². In response to Councillor Chilvers, Jagjit Mahal stated that mini-suds/retrofit-suds were there to help provide additional capacity as it is very difficult to increase capacity of historic drainage systems. Examples of retrofit SuDS being used elsewhere were 'rain gardens', 'tree pits', or permeable paving which held water until it could be properly disposed of into drains at a slower rate. WCC did not get involved with driveway flooding, but national policy stated that all driveways that were hard standing should either have a permeable surface or drainage system.

Scott Tompkins added that nationally, gullies used to be cleaned out up to four times annually, but this was reduced in most authorities when austerity started in the 2000s. Most were only cleared out when they needed to be. WCC has resisted this change and clears gullies up to three times annually on a risk management basis; they were able to do this due to budget management. New legislation was due to come out regarding suds in 2023 which would mean the Council's Flood Risk Management Team would have the responsibility to maintain and adopt SuDS. WCC would get no additional funding to manage this so it will be a financial burden. Before this legislation, WCC's current role is to check the design of sustainable drainage on major developments.

Following a supplementary from Councillor Chilvers, Jagjit Mahal stated that they started to draw up locations where frequent flooding occurred on highways and to residential properties from highways. Severn Trent Water were being worked with on this and they were planning to meet with Balfour Beatty's (Balfour's) to assist with the design and construction of temporary flood water holders.

In response to Councillor Sinclair, Scott Tompkins stated that in 2021 there was an issue with Poor performance from a subcontractor of Balfour's as they were not making enough money from the contract for the work they were doing; therefore, performance dipped. Balfour's changed subcontractor and WCC put more money in, so this increased performance. He agreed to clarify the performance figures on page 39, which appear to be calculated incorrectly in the report pack for the committee².

Following a supplementary from Councillor Sinclair, Scott Tompkins reiterated that WCC had a good working relationship with ST, but it was up to the OSC if they wanted to invite them to a future meeting.

Councillor Sinclair formally proposed that the OSC invite Severn Trent to a future meeting of Communities OSC. This was seconded by Councillor Dave Humphreys.

Councillor Chilvers proposed an amendment to extend the invite to the Environmental Agency to discuss any mismanagement.

This amendment was accepted by Councillor Sinclair.

Vote

The Communities OSC voted unanimously in favour for Severn Trent and the Environmental Agency to be invited to a future meeting of the OSC.

Resolved

That Severn Trent and the Environmental Agency be invited to attend a meeting of the Communities OSC.

In response to Councillor Richard Baxter-Payne, Jagjit Mahal said that they spoke to Severn Trent Water around their staff turnarounds, and they were picking up longstanding issues from the past. He agreed to pick up any specific issues directly with Severn Trent Water.

In response to Councillor Marian Humphreys, Scott Tompkins stated that the new legislation would focus on drainage in new housing estates. For other areas, the team had a list of areas to prioritise that flooded frequently or internally. They were working through this to getting funding and schemes out to areas who needed this fixed.

The Chair requested that the Flood Team engage with any issues with raw sewage.

In response to Councillor Jonathan Chilvers, Jagjit Mahal noted that their work was mainly reactive, and they focused on areas that were more likely to get flooded internally. WCC do serve notices and use enforcement powers to remind people of their responsibilities under the Land Drainage Act 1991 to keep ditches and culverts clear. People emptying ditches on their land into rivers may increase the problem as flows get to rivers more quickly. Therefore, natural flood management was being looked at, with examples dotted around the county. This was to stop properties getting flooded by slowing the flow in the upper catchment.

Councillor Andy Crump (Portfolio Holder – Fire & Rescue and Community Safety) informed the committee that he attended flood risk forums with ST and EA. They both improved their communication, especially the EA who were working with trading standards over water pollution in Wellesbourne division. The forum's purpose was to protect as many properties as possible, there were a few schemes around the county that needed community engagement. Help was needed from councillors in these communities to help with engagement from enough properties to make

the schemes viable. He praised ST and EA being invited to a future meeting as there were issues with accountability and staffing within their organisations. He suggested that proposed questions be put into categories as residents had issues with the lack of communication. He praised the work done by the officers of this paper and the work done.

The Chair concurred with this.

In response to Councillor Pandher, Scott Tompkins stated that WCC do not have any authority to get ST to fix pipes in a specific timeframe. ST are allowed emergency access to the network to fix problems. The only enforcement WCC had was to impose enforcement fines if they overstayed their welcome on the network. This influenced them to fix things in a certain amount of time.

5. EV Charging Points - Task and Finish Group Findings

Councillor Sinclair (who sat on the TFG) informed the committee that:

- In February's Communities OSC they committee voted to monitor the roll-out of the charging points in a TFG
- Monthly meetings were held between May-July 2022 and a range of concerns were considered across several subjects
- The TFG made eight recommendations that focused on ensuring equality of EV charging points cross-county and how to increase the amount of charging points
- In 2020 1% of vehicles were EVs, in 2030 this is expected to increase to 41%, 70% of charging points were predicted to be in private residencies so the Council needed to make up the rest
- A comprehensive network needed to be set up before this to encourage drivers to switch to EVs
- The eight recommendations are;
 - o That elected members are updated regularly on a quarterly basis of the roll-out.
 - o That officers should continue to seek funding opportunities to support that (a bid was planned for the Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Fund)
 - o Officers provide more information of the EV network to the public
 - o Nuneaton and Bedworth are prioritised with EV points as they were behind on a charge points per 100,000 residents
 - o Officers would monitor trials elsewhere e.g. the gully solution for charging with on-street parking
 - o Members write to central government to ask for a change in the required planning act so that charging points could be closer to the highway's boundary
 - o Increase staff resourcing when funding permitted (the suggestion was a three-year fixed contract for an engineer to take on this work)
 - o Look into traffic regulation orders (TROs) that allow EV only parking

In response to Councillor D Humphreys, Councillor Tim Sinclair stated that residents with EVs and on-street parking would be able to charge their cars from lampposts or the new gully system that was being investigated. The gully system allows a cable to be plugged into the house and go into the pavement to the car. The chargers themselves will be and will need to be a mixture of ultra-fast charging and trickle charging (charging overnight). These would need to be in different locations too.

Following a supplementary from Councillor D Humphreys, Margaret Smith (Lead Commissioner - Transport Planning) noted that there were grants for landlords who owned a carpark to put EV charging infrastructure in. One thing that was being looked at was EV charging points in

supermarkets so someone doing the weekly shop with an EV could charge their car at the same time. EV owners only needed to charge their cars once a week.

In response to Councillor Chilvers, Councillor Sinclair noted that they briefly spoke on EV charging points in supermarkets and WCC has a limited influence over getting supermarkets to implement EV charging points in their carparks. He concurred with the issue that his residents had with EV charging points being broken.

Margaret Smith stated that there were national issues with one of the providers (BP Pulse) but there were KPIs (key performance indicators) within their contract. These stated that their charging points must be working for a high percentage of the time and if they are not then WCC get compensation. Working charging points would make residents less anxious over switching to EVs.

In response to Councillor D Humphreys, Margaret Smith stated that the 41% statistic came from a report that WCC commissioned Cenex to do on EV charging points in Warwickshire. This was predicted because central government are going to ban the production of new petrol and diesel cars. It was unknown how long it would take for petrol stations to phase out either so increasing the amount of charging points would ease this transition.

In response to Councillor Sinclair, Margaret Smith agreed that BP Pulse will be spoken to about ensuring their charging points work.

Councillor Baxter-Payne noted that the debate being had in the meeting was like the meetings the TFG had. He supported recommendations five and eight as five would help residents who lived in terraced housing and a common issue, he noticed was non-EVs parking in EV charging point bays.

Councillor Redford suggested that the OSC receive an update on the rollout of EVs in future. The Chair suggested that this be a briefing note and be received after a year as one of the recommendations was for members to receive quarterly updates.

In response to the Chair, Margaret Smith stated that the TFG agreed that the TROs for EV-only bays would be rolled out incrementally. For example, a row of bays would not be all made to be EV-only. The situation would be monitored where necessary as there were concerns over this from both sides.

The Chair thanked the TFG for their work.

Vote

The Communities OSC voted unanimously for the recommendations in the report.

Resolved

That Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee support the recommendations set out in in paragraph 5 of the Task and Finish Group's report attached at Appendix 1.

6. WRIF Update

David Ayton-Hill informed the committee that:

- There was already a member oversight group that monitored the WRIF (Warwickshire Recovery Investment Fund)

- The Business Investment Growth Fund had £19 million allocated to it over a five-year period. Its aim was to provide bigger loans to big companies who were looking to grow their business post-Covid
- The Property and Infrastructure Fund will be launched soon and this was worked on with CBRE advising on it so it has the desired impact on the market
- The Local Communities and Enterprise Fund was designed to provide small loans to smaller businesses or start-ups. These loans were more likely higher risk so there would be higher interest rates but more of them could be done. This was delivered by a third-party agent on behalf of WCC
- There was a concern from the group as the larger fund had less demand for loans. In just over a year, it only gave out one loan. Other businesses were interested but did not make it through to getting the loan
- Three companies were being spoken to on this fund
- The group had concerns over the communication plan because of the lack of loans given out
- The group requested an overview on the state of the economy which officers were doing for December's meeting, this would cover September and include whether there was a desire for loans still
- In September the economy changed a lot due to turbulence in the financial markets, which had a material impact on the WRIF as the cost of living increased
- They were planning a review of the WRIF, particularly the business investment growth strand because of the challenges in the market
- There was a concern over whether the WRIF needed adjusting to make sure it was still relevant to the market
- The findings will be presented to the group at December's meeting

In response to the Chair, David Ayton-Hill stated that the interest rate for a business depended on the strength of a business, their security and how long they wanted the loan for. The longer the period the higher the loan. The variable interest rates offered went from 6% to 11%, this was caused by the national increase in interest rates.

7. Average Speed Cameras

David Ayton-Hill informed the committee that:

- The note covered the implementation of the roll out on the average speed camera pilot scheme
- WCC secured funding to implement speed cameras across four routes in Warwickshire and it tracked speed averages
- If a vehicle is travelling above that average speed on the route, then fines are issued
- The paper included the criteria for why these routes were chosen which will feed into potential future deployment of average speed cameras
- The pilot will run for 12 months, personal injury, collisions and average speeds will be monitored before and after the cameras were installed
- Anecdotal evidence stated that the cameras were having a positive impact especially with reducing speeds
- If proven to be successful, then they will look at further roll out of these cameras
- The cameras were expensive to implement so they needed to be installed where they would have the biggest impact

In response to Councillor Sinclair, David Ayton-Hill confirmed that there were cameras all along the routes as there were multiple entry and exit points. He agreed to bring the results of the pilot back to the committee when it finished.

In response to Councillor D Humphreys, David Ayton-Hill confirmed that all the cameras were already installed.

Councillor Heather Timms (Portfolio Holder – Environment, Climate & Culture) suggested residents could test whether the cameras were on by testing them.

In response to Councillor Chilvers David Ayton-Hill stated that he believed the cameras could be redeployed but would need to check.

The Chair noted that these cameras were just placed on roads with high collisions and speeds so not every road in Warwickshire would get one.

In response to Councillor Pandher, David Ayton-Hill stated that they did look at what neighbouring authorities were doing and looked at the feedback received from their speed cameras. Most of Warwickshire's roads were semi-urban so it was sometimes difficult to compare to Coventry whose roads were all urban.

Councillor Crump informed the committee that in 2019 34 people were killed in road collisions in Warwickshire, there were 14 in 2020 and 15 in 2021. The speed cameras should influence drivers to drive safer and the areas were targeted where accidents occurred. These cameras worked well in Coventry so this pilot should be successful too.

Councillor Redford supported Councillor Crump's comments.

The Chair requested feedback from the trial after it finished. David Ayton-Hill said this should be available in early 2024.

8. Communities OSC Customer Feedback Report 2021/22

Louise Church (Delivery Lead – Admissions) informed the committee that:

- Feedback increased from 2021 and was now at 50% of pre-pandemic levels
- Most feedback received was online
- Almost all feedback that required responses were responded to inline with the service level agreement
- Most complaints received were related to communication, physical environment issues and community protection issues

Councillor Sinclair noted that the same issues from last year's report were in this one too and this implied that the changes that were promised were not acted upon. The case management system did not exist yet and the root causes were not mentioned in the report.

In response to Councillor Sinclair, Louise Church agreed to respond to his comments by email.

They were working hard with ICT with the planned case management system so members of the public could easily submit their feedback through it. They managed to get a new reporting tool which was why some figures did not look the same as last year, but they were still waiting for this system. It should be launched in mid-late 2024. Most complaints received by the Communities

Directorate were not valid e.g. there were a lot of complaints about civil enforcement (parking tickets).

Scott Tompkins added that most feedback they dealt with were in direct emails from all teams to members of the public. None of these emails are recorded so they were not able to see what worked well with responses in one team and what did not work well in other teams. He agreed to raise this with Mark Ryder and contact ICT to find out why the feedback system took so long to implement. David Ayton-Hill concurred with this.

Following a supplementary from Councillor Sinclair, Louise Church noted that customer relations had experienced an increase in feedback. There were uncategorised complaints because the system was not good, and it was more important to respond to this feedback then categorise it. Customer relations worked with all teams across the Council so if something was not categorised then it meant customer relations could respond themselves.

Scott Tompkins added that actions were implemented after last year's report e.g. three day responses to emails and implementing their own response monitoring system within the directorate. Their responses were monitored by their directorate leadership team.

Louise Church noted that the Customer Relations Team were part of the Resources Directorate. Change was planned through feedback and redesigning their service so it would be more like NHS Pals.

Councillor Chilvers concurred with the points raised by Councillor Sinclair and said the report needed to be more qualitative.

In response to Councillor Chilvers, Louise Church stated that the new system should help provide more qualitative data. With outcomes not quite matching, there is an oddity whereby a complaint can be closed (whether upheld or not) with no reason given. Staff were discouraged from doing this, but they naturally wanted to defend their service. Apologising is not an admission of guilt, and the Council is sorry that someone felt a complaint needed to be made.

In response to Councillor Fradgley, Scott Tompkins said that local authorities have a Section 58 defence. The Highways Act states that if the highway authority does what is required to inspect and maintain the network regularly, then they cannot be held liable for a defect that causes someone to fall on the pavement. As long as WCC can show they do regular inspections then they can use Section 58 defence which repudiates 98% of claims. Instead of this claim money being given out the authority can use it to fix the problems.

Following a supplementary from Councillor Fradgley, Scott Tompkins confirmed that if a utility operator has raised or damaged iron work which caused someone to fall then it would be their responsibility to resolve any claims. This came under Section 80 of the Act which stated that they must fix any raised surface work they cause.

Louise Church noted that all constituents should be treated with respect when making a claim. Councillor Fradgley confirmed they were.

9. Communities OSC Work Programme

- Severn Trent and the Environmental Agency to attend a future meeting
- A briefing noted on EV charging point rollout after a year of the report being approved
- Results of the Average Speed Camera pilot

In response to Councillor Sinclair, the Chair agreed to discuss at the next Chair and Spokes meeting whether the 20mph item planned for February 2023 would need to be delayed. Councillor Redford agreed with this suggestion.

10. Urgent Items

None.

The meeting rose at 15:54

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Chair

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

8 February 2023

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 30th January 2023.

| Decision Title | Description | Date | Decision Maker |
|---|---|------------------|---------------------------|
| Fees and charges report for Waste Management 2023/2024 | An overview of the fees and charges in place for waste management | 17 February 2023 | Portfolio Holder Decision |
| Country Parks Fees and Charges 2023/24 | Country Parks fees and charges from 1 April 2023 | 17 February 2023 | Portfolio Holder Decision |
| Proposed Puffin Crossing - Coventry Road, near Rectory Drive, Exhall Bedworth | That the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning approves the installation of a Puffin Crossing on Coventry Road, near Rectory Road, Exhall, Bedworth in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Section 23 | 17 February 2023 | Portfolio Holder Decision |
| Green Man, Coleshill, Signalised Junction (Casualty Reduction Scheme) | Transport Planning has been working with local members and WCC's Road Safety team on a solution to the capacity and safety issues around the Green Man junction in Coleshill. The Green Man, Coleshill, Signalised Junction Casualty Reduction Scheme (the Scheme) will reduce personal injury accidents within Coleshill | 10 March 2023 | Portfolio Holder Decision |
| Objection to Proposed Puffin Crossing A428 Rugby Road, Binley Woods, Coventry | To consider an objection raised during consultation on the proposed provision of a Puffin crossing on Rugby Road, Binley Woods in the vicinity of Ferndale Road junction | 10 March 2023 | Portfolio Holder Decision |
| Approval to remove flood risk schemes from the DEFRA programme | Following a request from the Environment Agency to remove low confidence schemes from the DEFRA programme, we are seeking | 10 March 2023 | Portfolio Holder Decision |

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| | approval to remove legacy schemes which we are not viable for delivery | | |
| CWLEP Transition & future approach to subregional economic development | CWLEP Transition & future approach to sub-regional economic development. Decision will be to note and approve the new structures and ways of working | 16 March 2023 | Cabinet |
| WRIF bids for approval - March 2023 | Seeking authorisation to commence statutory processes including land acquisition | 16 March 2023 | Cabinet |
| Free Bus Travel (Concessionary Travel) Scheme Review | Five yearly review of the free bus travel scheme for older people and disabled people. Results from the engagement exercise | 16 March 2023 | Cabinet |

2.0 Background Papers

None

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

Communities O&S – February 2023

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 as well as other key pieces of relevant news and information.

CONTENTS

1. Economic Overview
2. Business & Economy Support
3. Employability & Skills Support
4. Sector Development and Inward Investment

Appendix 1: Business News – Major business headlines from around Warwickshire

HEADLINES/ KEY SUMMARY POINTS

- **Launch of Digital Creative Co-Investment Fund** – WCC has launched its new digital and creative Co-Investment Fund earlier in January. The fund is aimed at businesses that are already looking to secure finance in order to grow their business but are facing challenges in securing private sector investment. There has already been a strong interest in the fund.
- **100th capital grant** – The small capital grants programme has reached a milestone achievement of funding its 100th project. So far £2,288,844 of capital investment grants have unlocked private sector investment of £4,466,679, whilst 210 new jobs have been created.
- **1,000 businesses supported by ERDF**– The start, grow and scale programme reached a milestone of 1000 businesses supported since its inception in 2016, the programme has seen a total of 470 residents in Warwickshire supported to start their own business, alongside creating 444 new jobs.

1. ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

National Overview

- **GDP** fell by an estimated 0.3% in August-October 2022 compared to the previous three-month period (May-July). This compares to growth of 0.3% in the Eurozone in Q3 2022.
- **Services output** was up by 2.4% in the three months to October 2022 compared to the previous year. **Manufacturing output** fell by 5.5%.
- **CPI inflation** was 10.7% in November 2022, down from 11.1% in October. Inflation in the Eurozone was 10.1% in November, down from a record high of 10.6% in October.
- The Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) raised **interest rates** to 3.5% on 15 December, up from 3.0%. This was the ninth rate rise in a row.
- **Average wages** excluding bonuses were 6.1% higher in the three months to October 2022 compared with the year before. CPI inflation for this period was 10.4%.
- 32.74 million people were in **employment** in August-October 2022, up 191,000 from a year before. The employment rate was 75.6%, up from 75.4% the previous year.
- 1.25 million people were **unemployed** in August-October 2022, a fall of 176,000 from the year before. The unemployment rate was 3.8%.
- **The value of sterling** rose by 1.4% between October and November 2022, following a rise of 0.8% between September and October. Compared with a year ago, it is 4.3% lower.

Local Overview

- The **latest Warwickshire unemployment rate** shows a slight reduction from 3% in Q2 2022 to 2.8% in Q3 2022. The local unemployment rate still remains low in line with the national trend and lower than the latest national rate of 3.8%.

All latest economic updates can be found in the [Economic Recovery Dashboard](#) developed by WCC's Business Intelligence team for CWLEP partners.

2. BUSINESS & ECONOMY SUPPORT

Access to Finance

Digital Creative Co-Investment Fund

WCC has launched a new grant scheme to support the recovery and future growth of the digital creative sector. The Warwickshire Digital Creative Co-Investment Fund will deliver over £200,000 in match funded grants for businesses in the sector. The scheme is an open competition, offering match funded grants of between £10,000 to £30,000 as part of Warwickshire County Council's overarching Covid-19 recovery and investment programmes. It is aimed at businesses that are already looking to raise finance to grow their business but are facing challenges in securing private

sector investment or to accelerate activities that put businesses in a position to raise additional finance.

The scheme has already had 15 expressions of interest since it was launched on 11th January 2023: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/3702/boost-for-digital-creative-sector-as-county-council-launches-new-investment>

This programme is funded by the COVID-19 General Grant.

Further details on the fund can be found at <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/dcfund>

For general information about the programme, contact Jon Stead in the Business & Economy team (jonstead@warwickshire.gov.uk).

To refer a Warwickshire business, contact Stacy O'Connor in the Inward Investment team (invest@warwickshire.gov.uk).

Green Recovery Grants

The Warwickshire Green Recovery Grants programme – which was launched in October last year – has now approved its first two grants to businesses awarding a total of £56,400. The grants are available to support businesses in the retail, tourism & leisure sectors with implementing the recommendations of free energy audits which WCC is able to offer by working with the Coventry and Warwickshire Green Business Programme.

The first two grants are expected to result in a yearly saving of 28.2 tonnes of carbon as well as help the businesses reduce their energy costs. A case study will be produced on both projects once the capital purchases have been made.

This programme is funded by the COVID-19 General Grant.

For full details on the programme including to access the guidance, please visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/greengrants

For general information, contact Jon Stead in the Business & Economy team (jonstead@warwickshire.gov.uk).

To refer a Warwickshire business, contact WCC's Business Growth Delivery team (business@warwickshire.gov.uk).

Duplex Fund

The Coventry and Warwickshire Duplex Investment Fund – which provides a combined loan and grant to businesses towards the costs of capital investments – has supported a further four businesses in Warwickshire with loans worth £398,567. This includes Leamington Spa-based Christopher Peters Kitchens & Interiors Ltd, specialists in the design and creation of bespoke kitchens & interiors, who received their £89,568 Duplex loan in November 2022. This investment has safeguarded two jobs and is forecasted to create nine new jobs.

Duplex has now provided loans worth £2,094,670 and a further £615,313 of grants to 22 Warwickshire businesses in a range of sectors since it was launched in 2019. This has safeguarded 149 jobs, created 61 new jobs and 106.5 jobs are forecasted to be created.

The Duplex Fund – which is delivered by Coventry and Warwickshire Reinvestment Trust (CWRT) – is funded by a £2 million loan from WCC's Capital Investment Fund as well as funding from Coventry City Council, the Growth Deal and CWLEP. It is expected to provide £10 million of investment to Warwickshire businesses over the next ten years and to create over 600 jobs by March 2033.

For more information visit: www.cwrt.uk.com/duplex or contact Jon Stead in the Business & Economy team (jonstead@warwickshire.gov.uk).

To refer a Warwickshire business, contact WCC's Business Growth Delivery team (business@warwickshire.gov.uk).

Small Capital Grants

WCC's Small Capital Grants programme is continuing to see a good level of interest. Enquiries continue to come from a range of sectors including engineering, manufacturing, food & retail, and education services. The most recent Grants Panel in November approved a further two investment projects worth over £70,000 with WCC agreeing to make total grant contributions of £28,322. The three projects, as well as unlocking over £48,000 of private sector investment, are expected to create three new jobs & two apprenticeships.

The Small Capital Grants programme has now reached a milestone achievement of funding over 100 projects since its launch in 2015. £2,288,844 of capital investment grants have unlocked private sector investment of £4,466,679 so far with a further £1.8 million of private sector match forecasted. This has helped create 210 new jobs with a further 133 forecast to be created over the next two years. The full story is in November's Warwickshire Means Business:

<https://business.warwickshire.gov.uk/november-2022/news-in-brief/small-capital-grants-scheme-raises-distinguished-century>

A further case study has also been produced about the grant recipient NPF Bassetts Pole Adventure Park: <https://business.warwickshire.gov.uk/november-2022/news-in-brief/brilliant-grant-support-enables-adventure-park-expansion>

For general information about the programme, contact Jon Stead in the Business & Economy team (jonstead@warwickshire.gov.uk).

To refer a Warwickshire business, contact WCC's Business Growth Delivery team (business@warwickshire.gov.uk).

WRIF

Local Communities & Enterprise Fund

The Local Communities and Enterprise Fund (LCE) pillar of the WRIF which was launched at the end of April 2022 has now awarded 13 loans worth £618,700 with a further five since the last Communities O&S. The 13 loans have unlocked over

£100,000 of private sector investment, safeguarded 60 jobs and are forecasted to create 50 new jobs in the future. The latest loans include **4 Site CCTV Ltd**, a provider of high volume 4G and wireless rapid, redeployable CCTV solutions operating in Nuneaton; **Entertainment Nation Ltd** a Stratford-upon-Avon based entertainment agency; and **TS Online Solutions Ltd** a legal recruitment specialist based in Warwick who offer a bespoke business-to-business consultancy service designed to specially support start-ups and established businesses.

The LCE fund continues to attract high levels of interest with a current pipeline of 14 businesses totalling over £700,000 of potential applications.

The LCE pillar of the WRIF provides loans of between £1,000 and £100,000 to help small businesses including social enterprises start, survive, and grow. The fund is managed by Coventry and Warwickshire Reinvestment Trust (CWRT) on behalf of WCC.

For general information about the LCE fund, contact Jon Stead in the Business & Economy team (jonstead@warwickshire.gov.uk).

For more detailed information, to register an interest or to refer a business, visit www.cwrt.uk.com/wrif-lce-fund

Business Investment Growth Fund

An internal review of the WRIF has been carried out, and the BIG fund has now been reduced to £40m and includes a small amount of Revenue funds of £4m. An engagement plan is being put into place including targeting key businesses and intermediaries at events alongside further targeted outreach activities. An external review is also being carried out to assess how the WRIF sits in the current lending market.

Property Infrastructure Fund

Following a procurement exercise, CBRE have been appointed to help Warwickshire County Council promote and manage the Property & Infrastructure Fund element of the WRIF. The fund will be launched in February, and will provide loans of up to £10m to support or facilitate the development of employment land within the county, or to help bring forward the necessary site infrastructure to bring a site to market. Between the County Council and CBRE, we have developed a pipeline of potential schemes that may be interested in the Fund, and market assessment has demonstrated a demand for this sort of funding, particularly for bringing forward speculative build schemes (those where there isn't an identified end user at the point of construction).

ERDF Business Support Programmes

CW Business – Start, Grow and Scale

A further 57 businesses completed the intensive support provided by the “CW Business – Start, Grow and Scale” programme during the last quarter of 2022 and a further five individuals were supported to start their own business. 15 new jobs were also created despite the uncertain economic situation. This brings the total number of businesses supported since 2016 to over 1,000. 444 new jobs have also been created and over 470 Warwickshire residents helped to start their own business

The start-up support strand (delivered by Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce on behalf of WCC) has been targeting businesses in the north of the county and an information event was also held in Rugby this quarter. <https://www.cw-chamber.co.uk/business-support/business-start-up>

Two new promotional video case studies have also been produced:

- James Horner <https://vimeo.com/741649739/ad89bd4f89>
- Bulkington Cafe <https://vimeo.com/755025402>

Shakespeare's England also hosted a networking forum as part of the Project Warwickshire programme for businesses in the tourism and leisure sector. This event was well attended, and two clients (Hart & Co & Delightful Desserts) spoke at the event and highlighted how the support they had received had helped their business. Three roadshows were also held in Atherstone, Coleshill and Nuneaton.

Further activities in the form of roadshow events are being planned for North Warwickshire (Polesworth and Water Orton) and Rugby (in partnership with Rugby Borough Council). These are scheduled for March 2023 to coincide with English Tourism Week. A further case study was also produced with Barbell Training Complex in Warwick: www.cw-chamber.co.uk/news/wcc-231122/

The current phase of the programme (to June 2023) is funded by £1.8 million from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) as well as WCC, University of Warwick Science Park, and the District and Borough Councils.

For more information and/ or to refer a business or Warwickshire resident, visit: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/cwbsp or contact Gillian Dale in the Business & Economy team (gilliandale@warwickshire.gov.uk).

Coventry and Warwickshire Innovation Programme

The Coventry and Warwickshire Innovation Programme, part funded by European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) provides a range of assistance for SME's to develop innovative and new to the market, products, services, or technologies. Grants of up to £100k are also available to support businesses on innovative projects. The programme is managed by Coventry City Council and a WCC Growth Advisor as part of the Business Investment Growth Team.

This quarter, we have engaged with 19 businesses, all in relation to the ERDF Grants. As the programme is ending in June 2023, we have seen a considerable number of applicants prior to the programme closing. Three businesses have been supported to secure grant funding to develop innovative products; the combined project size will be a total of £545,033. Which will see a total private sector investment of £364,039, a total grant funding of £180,994 (subject to remaining and available grant funds) and 13 new jobs created across the three Warwickshire businesses. The grants are all in the process of being finalised.

3. EMPLOYABILITY & SKILLS SUPPORT

Multiply Fund

Multiply, part of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, is a new Government programme aimed at helping adults to improve their numeracy skills. WCC is responsible for managing and administering the fund in Warwickshire including the development of an investment plan for the £2.5 millions of funding and selecting the activities to be funded from a national menu of interventions.

WCC ran a call for projects last year and, after a rigorous application process, the first three projects have now been approved. These are:

Pet-Xi (Warwickshire Counts)

Their programme is designed to help people to use maths in daily life. It will include personal tutoring, digital training and flexible courses that fit around their lives. Priority groups will be the over-50s, economically inactive & unemployed residents, adults with learning difficulties and disabilities. PET-XI will also work with employers to develop work specific programmes for the workforce.

Coventry & Warwickshire Co-operative Development Agency (Money, Money, Maths)

CWCDA will use their existing community links to ensure local intervention to help demystify maths by using it in everyday, relatable situations. There will be a combination of one-to-one and group activities aimed at the hardest to reach that will not use formal standard educational settings. Money, Money, Maths workshops will run in community venues and online with clients offered support, including support with budgeting skills, and a skills assessment.

Warwickshire Adult & Community Learning (Multiply plus)

The overarching aim is to provide innovative and accessible numeracy and maths activities that attract and engage residents with low or no numeracy/maths qualifications. Activities will include intensive individual support for residents who want to achieve a Functional Skills Qualification, targeting learners who can't attend a traditional class as their work commitments are not at fixed times, or they are experiencing mental ill health; and those who are geographically isolated. The programme will include four strands of activity: Intensive support; Family Learning; Workshops and courses for adults with learning difficulties and/or disabilities; Vocational/practical courses

For more information about Multiply, visit www.warwickshire.gov.uk/multiply or contact Claire Williams in Business & Economy team (multiply@warwickshire.gov.uk).

New Service – Warwickshire Supported Employment Service

Since the transfer of WEST (Warwickshire Employment Support Team) the Employability and Skills Team conducted a full-service improvement review in partnership with Base (British association of Supported employment) The service review supported the Employability and Skills team to understand a deeper

understanding of the functionality of the team and gain a clear vision of the improvements needed.

As agreed by the strategic group, the Employability and skills team would create an improvement plan which would consider how we build and shape a new service which improves the opportunities of employment for the customers being supported.

After conducting an employee consultation, the new proposed model was agreed and opportunity to build the new service and recruit to new roles began. The new team will consist of a blend of employment support and job coaching staff, providing one to one support and group activities such as job clubs and preparation for work sessions.

The new Warwickshire Supported Employment Service has successfully built collaborative relationships with Adult Community Learning, who will deliver preparation for work sessions. The Warwickshire Libraries team will continue to offer Warwickshire Community Skills Hubs as safe and accessible spaces for customer to engage with the services activities.

The new service will launch in February 2023 and aims to support over 400 young people and adults with learning disabilities and autism per year.

Ukrainian Employment Support

The Ukrainian Employment Programme is a piece of work delivered in partnership with the Warwickshire Resettlement Team. Funded by the “Homes for Ukraine Fund” the Employment and Skills team commissioned an external delivery partner (CWODA) to deliver employment support and highlight the inclusive jobs created by the Fair Chance Employer Programme. The programme has supported over 150 people from the Warwickshire Community Skills Hubs (based in our libraries) with over 70% having successfully moved into employment. The remaining 30% are committed to returning to Ukraine and unable to commit to employment opportunities. This 30% are however engaged in English classes and successfully completing ESOL programmes.

Due to the success of this targeted work, the Resettlement team would like to broaden this piece of work and introduce other groups such as Afghans and Hong Kongers to build a joined-up offer and one which is open to all.

Fair Chance Employer Programme New Jobs Portal

The “Fair Chance Jobs” portal is set to launch in February. The jobs portal is a digital platform specifically designed to provide an opportunity for our high priority communities to access inclusive jobs.

The key features of the portal are unique and will allow employers the opportunity to also analyse the supportive needs of those viewing the jobs. This will provide useful intelligence about reasonable adjustments they can plan for as applications for available jobs are made.

Key features:

Recruitment Film – job seekers can click and view a film of the businesses presenting their opportunities.

Ask the Employer – A button function which allows the job seeker to ask the employer a question.

Plan my Journey – A button function which launches google maps and supports individuals to plan their journey on foot, by bus or train.

Accessible View – Provides options for larger text or audio version.

Fair Chance Employer Programme

The programme has worked with over 40 businesses who have made pledges to recruit in an inclusive way and work with the Fair Chance Skills Advisor to shape roles and promote them locally.

As the need to build a Future Skills Agenda increases, the programme also identifies businesses from key sectors who could play an integral role in building such activity.

Warwickshire Small Business Apprenticeship Support Programme

Warwickshire's Small Business Apprenticeship Support Programme was created in 2019 and led Warwickshire to be one of the first authorities in the country to create a programme which enabled WCC to share its own Apprenticeship Levy Funds with Small businesses in Warwickshire. Throughout the 4 years, the programme has supported a wide variety of business to take on apprentices.

In 2022 the programme saw an increased level of activity and engaged with a record level of businesses. The programme has created **107** new apprenticeship roles, totalling **£643,619.00** of Apprenticeship Levy funds shared to 60 Warwickshire businesses.

The programme has supported **15** sectors as per the below.

- Adult Care
- Business Consultancy
- Construction
- Domiciliary Care
- Early Years Childcare
- Fire & Security Services
- Geospatial Survey
- Healthcare
- Hospitality
- Manufacturing
- Marketing
- Plumbing, Heating & gas

- Power Electronics
- Residential Childcare
- Telecomms & IT

Coventry and Warwickshire Redundancy Support Service

The service was created during the 2020 pandemic as part of WCC's response to Economic Recovery. Thankfully, the service has sat dormant for several months as redundancies locally have remained low. Unfortunately, this picture is changing and with the new fiscal year approaching, there are businesses making tough decisions regarding their sustainability

A recent example of this is the closure of the Megalab site in Leamington, with the loss of 650 jobs, the CWRSS were able to bring together partners to shape a collective offer of support and propose effective activity to support the business and those facing unemployment.

The service consists of several local partners which can offer a collective service to support businesses in implementing their redundancy decisions or hold support conversations. This type of support can help businesses re-evaluate and avoid making such decisions. In the coming months, the profile of the service will increase through a range of press coverage and engagement events to ensure the business community are aware of the support available.

Future Careers Schools Fund

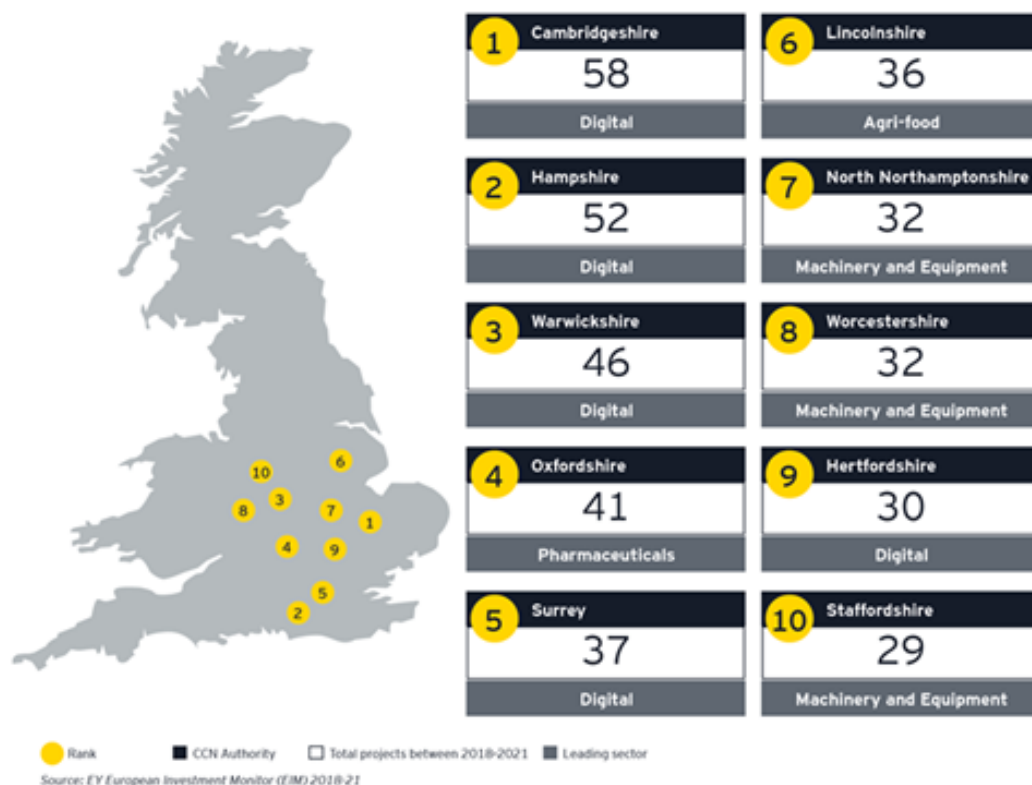
In 2022 Warwickshire secondary schools and 6th forms were invited to submit funding applications for careers projects which reflected the concept of Future Careers and encouraged a partnership between the education providers and businesses.

Over 37 schools presented application for up to £3000 funding to support their proposed activity. All 37 schools were accepted and will work with the Employability and Skills team to monitor their progress and share successes this important support will generative.

4. SECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND INWARD INVESTMENT

Warwickshire in Global Spotlight for FDI

Figure 14: Top 10 performing CCN authorities, their total projects and leading sector between 2018-21



The Warwickshire County performed well in a major new report that showed the county as a leading destination for inward investment.

The County Council Network and EY recently released their new report 'Global Britain, Global Counties: Attracting Foreign Direct Investment'. Foreign Direct Investment, or FDI, is where an overseas company invests in new or existing facilities in the UK.

According to the data presented by EY, Warwickshire County emerged as the strongest performer in 2021 of the 36 English counties, with 20 projects. Meanwhile for the study period of 2018-21, Warwickshire was the leading county for FDI of the 9 Midlands counties, and the third nationally out of the 36 English counties. There were 46 FDI projects between 2018-21 in Warwickshire, behind Cambridgeshire on 58 and Hampshire on 56.

Further analysis shows that per capita, the number of projects per head of population, Warwickshire comes out again third on 19, behind North Northamptonshire (22) and Cambridgeshire (21).

Warwickshire benefits from its central location and proximity to the West Midlands conurbation, but other factors are in play. According to EY, investors cite access to skills and talent (27.1%) and support from local economic bodies as among the top 5 criteria when considering investing in a location outside of London.

The full report can be found [here](#).

Warwickshire Future Mobility Tech Potential Drives International Webinar



Delegates from around the world tuned in to find out about Warwickshire and the UK's leading role in autonomous vehicle technologies.

During November two international online webinars and a round-table took place to promote the UK's strengths in Connected Automated Mobility, or CAM, and a key automotive offer available in the Coventry & Warwickshire area.

The webinars, titled 'Connected and Automated Mobility (CAM) Modelling & Simulation: Investment opportunities in the UK's world-class CAM Testbed region' drew delegates from across the globe, including Canada, China, Germany, Japan, the US and Turkey.

The webinars were organised as part of a series to promote the Department for International Trade 'High Potential Opportunity' or HPOs, which comprise detailed collateral designed to promote the UK inward investment offer in key technologies.

Invest Coventry & Warwickshire successfully bid for and developed two of these, one around Video Games Development, and a second around CAM Simulation and Modelling.

Coventry & Warwickshire forms a key part of the CAM Testbed UK ecosystem, with three of the six UK test sites located in the Coventry & Warwickshire area: Assured CAV at MIRA Technology Park, on the outskirts of Nuneaton; Midlands Future Mobility, a unique highway network running between Birmingham-Coventry-Solihull, and Convex, based out of the University of Warwick WMG.

The recent webinars included input from CCAV, the Centre for Connected and Automated Vehicles, Zenzic the Government organisation that created and funded Testbed UK, WMG at the University of Warwick and Bosch Mobility Solutions UK, based in Coventry.

Delegates tuning in could learn more about the UK eco-system and how they could set up here to benefit from world-class academic research, an established industry cluster and an impressive talent base that continues to grow.

In all there were 46 attendees for the webinars, with 23 of these from industry. In addition, the Midlands Engine DIT Investment Hub organised a Future Mobility Round Table in Hangzhou, China, with 20 in-person delegates and a further 40 online attendees. As well as accessing the CAM webinar, the round table also featured presentations from UK Battery Industrialisation Centre (UKBIC) and HORIBA-MIRA.

Department for International Trade colleagues will be following up on post event leads with Invest in Coventry & Warwickshire, to support those who accessed the webinar and round table, who would like to take further the opportunity to set up in the UK and the Coventry & Warwickshire area.

A recording of the November 30th webinar can be found [via this link](#), using the password kTrVnym3.

The CAM Simulation and Modelling HPO can be found [here](#).

Department for International Trade MMD VISIT

The Invest team hosted the Department for International Trade Manufacturing, Mobility and Defence (MMD) Team on January 10th. The team visited Coventry University Institute for Clean Growth and Future Mobility, WMG at the University of Warwick and the Manufacturing Technology Centre (MTC), and met with the Midlands Aerospace Alliance. The study day will have improved the team's understanding of the local offer and will result in the team continuing to make inward investment referrals to the Warwickshire area from these important sectors. Defence design, engineering and manufacturing is going through a period of growth due to the ongoing conflict in Ukraine.

TURKEY DELEGATION – BMC Comes Home

The invest team hosted a delegation from Turkish OEM BMC, and their overseas investor on January 17th. Invest worked with Department for International Trade to provide a round-table session at Warwick Innovation Centre for the investor to meet a range of local partners and potential investment opportunities. Their target is investment in future mobility related businesses with an investable proposition. BMC is a former JV subsidiary of British Motor Corporation, formed in the 1960s. British Motor Corporation once owned Austin, Morris and Jaguar Cars, before merging with Leyland Trucks (which owned Rover and Triumph) to form British Leyland.

WARWICKSHIRE AS A FILMING LOCATION

Towards the end of last year Leamington in particular saw several high-end prime time series using the town as a filming location. The first of which to air was ITV1s Stonehouse at the beginning of January which utilised Leamington's architecture used as a viable alternative for London. Praise has been given to WCC for the support provided whilst on location through a Blog from Filming in England <https://www.filminginengland.co.uk/stonehouse-itv-shooting-across-the-east-and-west-midlands/> Keep your eyes peeled for later in the year when Lenny Henry's Three Little Birds premiers to see a little bit of Leamington feature again.

NEW AAA VIDEO GAME STUDIO

Maverick Games is the latest video game studio to establish themselves in the Silicon Spa cluster in Warwickshire. The company has been supported to find temporary space within WCC property portfolio while they establish themselves and the Digital

Creative Technical Specialist will continue to work with the company to identify and support their move to a permanent location within the County. The company hopes to grow to around 150 people over the next 2 years.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/mattgardner1/2023/01/10/former-forza-horizon-staff-form-new-aaa-studio-maverick-games/?sh=7e1a42f1e079>

NEW INVESTMENT IN LEAMINGTON CREATIVE QUARTER

Marketing agency Cogent have revealed plans to open their new offices alongside creative co-working space and production facilities in the former United Reform Church in Leamington's Creative Quarter. The new shared workspace known as The Fold will open next summer and will be a hub for the creative community, where copywriters, designers, developers, and content creators can connect through a membership. As part of this exciting development The Fold will also be the new campus for the SAE Institute, a global specialist provider of creative media education.

<https://www.insidermedia.com/news/all/further-details-revealed-of-leamington-creative-project>

For more information, contact Ian Flynn, Technical Specialist (Automotive, Advanced Engineering & Manufacturing) (ianflynn@warwickshire.gov.uk) or Stacy O'Connor, Technical Specialist (Digital Creative) (stacyoconnor@warwickshire.gov.uk).

APPENDIX 1: BUSINESS NEWS

Major business headlines from around Warwickshire

Digital Creative Sector

Stoneleigh Arms pub is latest site to be redeveloped as part of new Creative Quarter in Leamington Spa

The next steps in the ongoing project to revitalise Leamington's Creative Quarter are set to get underway after planning permission was granted on the former Stoneleigh Arms pub, located on Clemens Street within Old Town. The pub has been derelict since the 1990s.

<https://www.warwickshireworld.com/news/people/historic-learnington-pub-set-to-be-demolished-as-long-as-developers-leave-the-front-and-sides-intact-3921687>

Automotive/ Future Mobility Sector

Britishvolt Goes into Administration

Battery cell maker Britishvolt has collapsed into administration, following months of uncertainty about its finances and future. Formed with great fanfare in December 2019 and initially registered in Coventry, the company secured funding including £100m from the UK Government and set about creating a gigafactory in Blyth Northumberland. The site is considered to be one of the best in Europe, given its access to a port and renewable energy from offshore wind. The company had MOUs with Aston Martin and Lotus and was working with WMG on new battery technologies. They had also signed a lease on a Prologis unit at Hams Hall, for battery scale up production.

The administration is not unexpected, but a blow to the nascent UK EV supply chain. The hope is that a more established and better financed battery maker will take on the Blyth site. A viable operation there will help the prospects of the West Midlands Gigafactory site at Coventry Airport.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-64303149>

Jaguar Land Rover CEO steps down

Thierry Bolloré, Jaguar Land Rover's CEO, has stepped down after just two years in the job. In January 2021, as part of the Reimagine Strategy, the Warwickshire headquartered car maker said that it would build six pure electric Land Rovers in the next five years and retain all of its core manufacturing facilities in the UK and worldwide. His interim replacement is CFO Adrian Mardell, a veteran of 32 years at the company.

<https://www.autocar.co.uk/car-news/business-corporate/thierry-bollore-steps-down-jaguar-land-rover-ceo>

Warwick College adds £475k vehicle electrification facility

A new £477,000 electric vehicle training facility has been completed to help train the next generation of motor vehicle specialists at Warwick Trident College. It features fully converted workshops with specialist features for the training of skills associated with electric vehicles. The workshop is home to three electric vehicles, one hybrid, one plug-in hybrid and one fully electric – with specialist tools and diagnostics equipment also available.

<https://www.businessinnovationmag.co.uk/warwick-trident-college-completes-475k-electric-vehicle-training-facility/>

Motorcycle giant TVS funds new £1.5m Lord Bhattacharyya Chair in Engineering

A substantial gift of £1.5 million from TVS Motor Company will help create a new Professorial post in WMG, University of Warwick – the Lord Bhattacharyya Chair in Engineering Education. The gift celebrates TVS Motor Company's close relationship with WMG and will continue the legacy of the late Professor Lord Kumar Bhattacharyya. Warwick has a close network of more than 5,500 alumni in India and is the most successful Russell Group university for recruiting students from India.

<https://www.autocarpro.in/news-international/tvs-motor-helps-create-new-lord-bhattacharyya-chair-in-engineering-education-at-wmg-113259>

Alcester light rail company acquires US tram company

Severn Lamb, the Alcester based light urban, leisure and resort transport business has expanded with a US acquisition. The company has completed the asset purchase of Trams International, a US and global supplier of trams for the past 35 years.

<https://www.insidermedia.com/news/midlands/us-acquisition-for-resort-transport-firm>

Major Indian Automotive Firm Buys Leamington's Drive Systems Design

Leamington Spa based engineering consultancy Drive System Design has been sold to Hinduja Tech (HT), a world-class engineering company. Drive System Design is known for developing innovative solutions for electrified propulsion systems and currently provides advanced engineering to automotive, commercial vehicle, off-highway, defence and aviation industries. Hinduja Group also owns Ashok Leyland, whose bus business Switch has a tech centre in Leamington.

<https://www.businessinnovationmag.co.uk/leamington-based-drive-system-design-bought-by-indian-engineering-services-company/>

Other Business News

Frasers Group to Spend £600m on New Campus in Rugby Borough

Frasers Group is pledging to spend £600m creating its new campus near Coventry, outside Ansty Village at J2 M6. The announcement came less than a month after the retail giant bought Coventry Building Society Arena – the former 32,600-seat home of Wasps Rugby Club – out of administration for a reported £17 million.

<https://www.businessinnovationmag.co.uk/frasers-group-to-spend-600-million-on-new-coventry-campus/>

Frasers Group buys CBS Arena in Coventry

Coventry Arena, the former 32,600-seat home of Wasps Rugby Club, has been sold to Frasers Group, the company belonging to Sports Direct retailer Mike Ashley. It will now become a permanent home to Coventry City Football Club and has secured the future of 1,000 jobs in the stadium, which includes a hotel and casino. The purchase follows the release last month of plans by Frasers to create a major HQ campus in Ansty, at J2 of M6.

<https://www.itv.com/news/central/2022-11-17/mike-ashley-takes-over-coventry-city-home-ground-for-17m>

Henley's Mercia Pays £9.5m for Regional SME Lender FDC

Henley-in-Arden based Mercia Asset Management PLC, has bought SME lender Frontier Development Capital Limited based in Birmingham, paying £9.5 million plus net cash. The acquisition adds around £415 million of funds under management.

<https://www.businessinnovationmag.co.uk/mercia-asset-management-pays-9-5m-for-sme-lender-frontier-development-capital/>

New Co-working Space Lands in Rugby Houlton

The Exchange is a co-working space that provides Houlton residents, local entrepreneurs, students and professionals with more flexibility to work in a safe, comfortable environment.

<https://theexchangehoulton.com/>

Warwickshire Tourism Chief Calls on Government to Create New Department

Helen Peters, chief executive at Shakespeare's England, is urging the government to launch a department that is dedicated to tourism to help address challenges.

<https://www.businessinnovationmag.co.uk/south-warwickshires-tourism-chief-calling-for-new-government-department/>

WM Mayor Confident on Investment from India

Andy Street, who last month led a trade mission to India, says the country has now become the second biggest inward investor in the region, close behind the US. As well as TATA, Hinduja, Mahindra and TVS Group are among those investing in the Coventry & Warwickshire area.

<https://www.insidermedia.com/news/midlands/indian-investment-interest-in-the-west-midlands-has-doubled-says-mayor>

AC Lloyd Brings More SME Space to Warwick and Leamington

Work is on track to open the new £5.5m Space Business Centre on Tachbrook Park. Sixty-one units are currently under construction ranging in size from 285 sq. ft to 840 sq. ft along with two facilities blocks containing a kitchen, toilets and shower room. One or two car-parking spaces will be allocated to each unit and there will be 12 electric car charging points installed along with solar panels on some of the roofs and a cycle shelter at the 35,000 sq. ft scheme.

<https://www.insidermedia.com/news/midlands/5.5m-business-and-industrial-park-on-track>

Lloyds Bank extends support for manufacturing skills at Ansty's MTC

Lloyds Bank will continue to provide the Advanced Manufacturing Training Centre (AMTC) £1 million per year before 2030 as it extends its support for the centre and wider UK manufacturing sector. Lloyds Bank's total sponsorship of the AMTC to £15 million. The AMTC, part of the Manufacturing Technology Centre Campus at Ansty Technology Park, has already trained more than 2,500 engineers, a figure set to rise to more than 5,000 by 2030.

<https://www.businessinnovationmag.co.uk/multi-million-pound-boost-from-lloyds-for-manufacturing-centre-to-build-skills-for-uk-economy/>

Warwick Business School ranked second globally by Corporate Knights

Warwick Business School has been ranked second in the world for teaching and researching sustainability. Clean capitalism magazine Corporate Knights revealed its annual Better World Full-time MBA ranking and named WBS top in the UK and Europe and second in the world after assessing 160 programmes across the globe.

<https://www.corporateknights.com/rankings/top-40-mba-rankings/2022-better-world-mba-rankings/top-40-mbas-double-down-on-commitments-to-sustainability/>

Leamington is top-ranked Midlands town in retail study

Commercial retail agent Harper Dennis Hobbs (HDH) has released its latest Vitality Rankings. The rankings determine the health of high streets and shopping centres by analysing a number of factors, including vacancy rates, residents' movement and suitability to local consumer demand. The rankings reveal the top 50 retail centres, compiled from a list of 1,000 by the strategic retail property consultancy. Leamington Spa was the only Midlands town placed in the top 50.

<http://hdh.co.uk/retail-consultancy/large-retail-centres-continue-recovery-shoppers-return-malls-city-centres/>

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TOP 10 NORTH WARWICKSHIRE SCHEMES IN DEVELOPMENT



| | | Scheme Name | Statu s | Expected Delivery | Stage of the Scheme | | | | Commission Priority | | | Scheme Value | | | Top Risks | | | | | Comments | Scheme Brief | Project Manager / Lead Engineer |
|----|---------|---|----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------|--------|------|--------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|-----------|----------------------|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| | | | R / A / G / Blank | Completion of construction | Preliminary / Optioneering | Feasibility | Detailed Design | Procurement | Low | Medium | High | Low < 5 Million | Medium < X < 10 Million | High > 10 Million | Technical | Strategic | Environmental | Financial | Health and Safety | | | |
| 1 | Capital | Avon Mill and Hunters Lane | R | 2025/26 | | | | | | | | | | 22,700,000 | | | | | | Preliminary Ecological Assessment and Baseline Biodiversity Report completed. Most ecological surveys complete. Structures and highway designs are being progressed ready for feeding into the Outline Business Case (OBC) submission to DfT (for costing). OBC to be submitted Summer 2023, but delays in DfT responding to prerequisite work. Pre-application advice for planning needs to be progressed. Land requirements have been cost estimated. High risk – River survey carried out for flood modelling. Uncertainty while waiting on the modelling results (required for EA approvals, planning permission, and defining bridge levels) in risk to the scheme (cost, programme, scope). | Improved roundabout, new roundabout and bridge, new footway cycleway bridge over the river | CP / AC & DH |
| 2 | Capital | A47 Hinckley Road Corridor | R | 2023/2024 | | | | | | | | 3,605,000 | | | | | | | | Scheme is at detailed design which expected to be completed by April 2023. Cost estimate has been undertaken by Jacobs QS team to understand budgetary constraints following the economic pressures and inflationary costs. The outputs of this exercise have revealed budget pressures that need to be addressed. In response further investigations and reporting is taking place to understand network performance and scheme prioritisation. | Improved junctions and ped/ cycle facilities | SP |
| 3 | Capital | A444 College Street, Nuneaton | R | 23/24 | | | | | | | | 4,120,000 | | | | | | | | Phase 1: Greenmoor/Heath End Road Signalised Junction - Waiting on yellow lines TRO. TRO team are now looking to prioritise completing the TRO process for this project. Construction is likely to be delivered by Balfour Beatty via HMC, but high level of work means BB resources and programming makes start uncertain. Phase 2: Bull Ring junction, College Street, A444 Roundabout, Eliot Way set-back signals - Bull Ring design will have be RSA2 in start of 2023. 3rd party land acquisition ongoing, with minor redesign done to maintain GE hospital parking. | Improve 3No. junctions | CP / NC / DC |
| 4 | Capital | Lawford/Addison Rd Casualty Reduction | G | 2023 | | | | | | | | 1,600,000 | | | | | | | | C4 estimates and utility consultations ongoing. Land acquisition in progress. Design finalisation and Tender documents preparation ongoing. Possible Tender May 2023. | Casualty reduction roundabout scheme. | AC / AA |
| 5 | Capital | A446/ Birmingham Road Junction (Coleshill) | A | 2024 | | | | | | | | 2,378,000 | | | | | | | | Preliminary/feasibility design to progress subject to project brief from the Client. This is expected January 2023. | Signalisation of roundabout | FK / RB & SS |
| 6 | Capital | Transforming Nuneaton | A | From 23/24 | | | | | | | | | | 29,700,000 | | | | | | Design work on going; funding from Towns Fund approved, no mechanism yet in place to allow us to draw down from NBBC. High inflation has caused cost estimates to rise meaning currently, we do not have a fully funded scheme. This will be reviewed regularly as inflation rises/falls. Abbey Green cycleway granted planning permission, with a view to being on site in 2023. Bus routing proposals are currently preventing Wheat St and the gyratory from progressing as quickly as we'd hoped. | Series of junction improvements (Wheat Street / Leicester Road Roundabout(gyratory) / Corporation Street-Queens Road/Coton Road | DC&DM / NC / SD |
| 7 | Capital | Hinckley To Nuneaton Cycle Route (A47 Long Shoot) | A | 2023/24 | | | | | | | | 851,238 | | | | | | | | Construction pushed back into 2023 due to design revisions and road space allocation following the delayed Callander Farm S278. | New segregated cycle track | AF / CM |
| 8 | Capital | Greenman Crossroad | A | 2023 | | | | | | | | 650,000 | | | | | | | | Legal advertising of additional Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) has taken place. Scheme is to be referred to portfolio holder for consideration and a go/no go decision. Date for portfolio holder meeting 10/03/2023 and following that responses to be provided to members of public who queried/objected to the scheme. | Signalisation of an existing crossroad | FK / CM & AS |
| 9 | Capital | Temple Hill Roundabout, Wolvey | A | 2023 | | | | | | | | 1,600,000 | | | | | | | | The project went out to tender on 15th December 2022 and is due for return towards the end of January. We are still struggling to secure all the Streetworks Permits for the works including the Utility Diversions, some of which we hoped to get done in advance. | Casualty Reduction scheme to deliver a new roundabout at existing crossroads. | NC / CL |
| 10 | S278 | Gipsy Lane - Yew Tree Farm | G | 2023/24 | | | | | | | | 2,000,000 | | | | | | | | TM complexities with the Quarry and other works on the network - Commencement programmed for Feb 2023 | Roundabout , two junctions and road straightening in Gipsy Lane | AW/ AC |



TOP 10 SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE SCHEMES IN DEVELOPMENT



| | | Scheme Name | Statu s | Expected Delivery | Stage of the Scheme | | | | Priority | | | Scheme Value | | | Top Risks | | | | | Comments | Scheme Brief | Project Manager / Lead Engineer |
|---|---------|--|----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|----------|--------|------|--------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|-----------|----------------------|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| | | | R / A / G / Blank | Completion of construction | Preliminary / Optioneering | Feasibility | Detailed Design | Procurement | Low | Medium | High | Low < 5 Million | Medium < X < 10 Million | High > 10 Million | Technical | Strategic | Environmental | Financial | Health and Safety | | | |
| 1 | Capital | A3400 Bham Road Stratford Corridor Stage 2 | G | 2023/24 | | | | | | | | | 6,550,000 | | | | | | | Phase 1 has been completed. Detailed design on phase 2 is largely complete and target for commencement of construction is February 2023. Price returned by the contractors under the HMC. Land acquisitions and detailed design for phase 3 is underway. | Ped/ cycle facilities and junction improvements | JC / Atkins |
| 2 | Capital | A429 Coventry Road corridor | A | Cycleway Late 2022/23 | | | | | | | | 4,680,000 | | | | | | | | Cycle improvements: Additional features added to designs to increase LTN 1/20 compliance. Delivery date in 2023 is dependant on street works permits. Improvements at Spinney Hill roundabout in programme for development in future years. | Provision of 1.2km shared use cycleway/footway | AF |
| 3 | Capital | Warwick Town Centre- St Johns Road | R | 2023 | | | | | | | | 1,026,000 | | | | | | | | Engineering team are working to complete the engineering feasibility design. Public engagement undertaken in November / December 2022 and results of feedback are being analysed. Modelling work is currently being undertaken to show the impact the that the scheme will have on the network. This will be taken back to network management to confirm when construction can take place as they currently cannot guarantee road space | Signalised Junction improvement, town gateway | LS / CM |
| 4 | Capital | A452 Europa Way - WCC-3 Ford Foundry and Shires Rbts | A | Q4 FY23/24 | | | | | | | | | 6,463,000 | | | | | | | RSA2 has been completed and detailed design is nearing completion. Cabinet approved request for authority to procure (in October 2022) and procurement will commence in the spring for a start on site in summer 2023 (which allows other WCC schemes with funding deadlines on the network). | Upgrading existing roundabouts & additional lane capacity | SL & SP / NC & EA |
| 5 | Capital | A452 K2L Cycle Route | A | 2025/26 | | | | | | | | 5,309,000 | | | | | | | | Section 1a: Commenced on site Section 1b: Land assembly ongoing. Target start date towards end 23/24 Section 2: Fresh bridge feasibility report received from Atkins (August 22) , preferred option TBC. Next steps EA and planning discussions. Section 3b: Feasibility designs progressing. General: Revised full scheme cost estimate is being prepared. | An off-carriageway cycle route, including a new pedestrian / cycle bridge crossing the river. | AF / AC |
| 6 | S278 | Shipston Road Rbts SoA | A | 2023 -24 | | | | | | | | 4,200,000 | | | | | | | | Pivotal scheme to the SoA corridor schemes, Delivery has been moved to summer 2023 to accommodate other schemes and minimise congestion and disruption. Complex traffic Management and design | Improvements to the Waitrose and Seven Meadows Rd roundabouts | AW/DM |
| 7 | S278 | The Asps Banbury Road | G | 2024 | | | | | | | | 1,500,000 | | | | | | | | Potential heavy congestion, traffic management proposals by the contractor will be scrutinised to ensure compactability with schemes on Gallow's hill. | Both construction of a temporary and then permanent access to new development | KBBK/ MA |
| 8 | S278 | Glasshouse Lane - Kenilworth School | A | 2023 | | | | | | | | 1,000,000 | | | | | | | | School opening Sept 2023. Scheme being prioritised for delivery to meet that date, but there remain challenges. | Final two access to school ; speed humps and toucan crossings | GH/AC |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Key - Colour Scheme

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TOP NORTH WARWICKSHIRE SCHEMES IN CONSTRUCTION



| | | Scheme Name | Status | Expected Delivery | Stage of the Scheme | | | | | Commission Priority | | | Scheme Value | | | Top Risks | | | | | Comments | Scheme Brief | Project Manager / Lead Engineer |
|----|---------|---|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|---------------------|--------|------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|-----------|-------------------|--|--|---------------------------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | R / A / G / Blank | Completion of construction | Preliminary / Optioneering | Feasibility | Detailed Design | Procurement | Construction | Low | Medium | High | Low < 5 Million | Medium 5 Million < X < 10 Million | High > 10 Million | Technical | Strategic | Environmental | Financial | Health and Safety | | | |
| 1 | Capital | Bermuda Connectivity | R | Q2 23/24 | | | | | | | | | | | £10.759m (Budget figure) | | | | | | St Georges Way complete, works on bridge abutments complete so TM lifted on A444 - a real milestone. Work continues on the bridge approaches and the deck and are progressing well but some tasks have taken longer than expected due to issues resolving the Gas Barrier and Utilities. Programme being reviewed to reduce duration and progress elements of work concurrently. Budget under review due to site issues - negotiations with contractor regarding costs continue. | Delivering additional highway capacity & improved connectivity in Nuneaton | BK / GH (Atkins) |
| 2 | S278 | The Long Shoot (Callendar Farm- Jelson Homes) | G | Complete | | | | | | | | | 1,600,000 | | | | | | | | Even though the works have been completed on site, the completion certificate has not yet been issued due to a traffic signals query on cycle detection loops not being catered for. | New Traffic Signal Junction | KBBK/ MA |
| 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

TOP SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE SCHEMES IN CONSTRUCTION



| | | Scheme Name | Status | Expected Delivery | Stage of the Scheme | | | | | | Scheme Value | | | Top Risks | | | | | Comments | Scheme Brief | Project Manager / Lead Engineer |
|---|---------|--|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|-----|--------------|--------|-------------|----------------------------|--------------|---------------|-----------|-------------------|---|--|---------------------------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | Low | Medium | High | Technical | Strategic | Environmental | Financial | Health and Safety | | | |
| | | | R / A / G / Blank | Completion of construction | Preliminary / Optioneering | Feasibility | Detailed Design | Procurement | Construction | Low | Medium | High | < 5 Million | 5 Million < X < 10 Million | > 10 Million | | | | | | |
| 1 | Capital | Stoneleigh Junction | A | Spring 22/23 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Good progress made in the period with the new bridge deck moved into place over the A46 through a weekend closure in January. Timelapse footage and interviews on website. | New signalised gyratory system. | PB /NS |
| 2 | S278 | Evesham Rbt - Shottery Link Rd | A | Summer 2023 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Potential traffic management complications. Local interests are being kept informed. Completion pivotal to commencement of other major SoA schemes | Construction of a new roundabout on Evesham Rd for connection to link rd. | AW/DM |
| 3 | S278 | Gallows Hill (Lower Heathcote Farm) Major scheme | A | Winter 22/23 | | | | | | | | | 2,000,000 | | | | | | Works commence in January 2023, estimated to be on site for 9 to 10 months. | Construction of temporary access followed after the Commonwealth Games by the installation of a signalised junction. | KBBK/JR |
| 4 | S278 | GLH Harbury / Chesterton TS | G | 2022- 23 | | | | | | | | | 3,400,000 | | | | | | Necessary re-design of retaining wall has impacted the programme, but this element of the design is now complete. There will be considerable disruption and local interests are being kept informed through construction. | Traffic Signals | TN/ BM |
| 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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Key - Colour Scheme

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|--|
| User Guide The purpose of the document is to provide a brief but clear visual demonstration of the top schemes that we currently have in development. This document can be used to provide a high-level forward plan to show how the schemes fit into the overall business and will be updated every quarter which will assist us in monitoring our schemes. |
| Scheme Name Name of scheme. Note: there is no particular order for the ranking |
| Status Blank - Project Initiation Document not received Red - Programme overrun, Budget overrun, Major issues Amber - Scheme is progressing but there are issues which are being dealt with and/or there is a risk of project overrun or budget overrun Green - Project progressing as expected |
| Expected Delivery Completion of construction |
| Stage of the Scheme These run from commissioning team handover to construction |
| Commissioning Priority Priority is provided by the commissioning team, separated into low, medium or high |
| Scheme Value Estimated budget for the scheme, separated into low, medium or high |
| Top Risks Technical (including construction/contract risks) Strategic/Administrative Environmental Health & Safety Financial Low - No action required. Review periodically to ensure risk level does not change. Medium - Consider risk carefully, identify mitigation and track regularly High - Consider immediate risk action and mitigation, regularly review risk severity and mitigation impact - ensure Project Board is kept informed |
| Comments Project Managers additional comments |
| Scheme Brief A short description of the key elements of the scheme |

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Joining Up 'Trunk' Bus Routes with DRT Services Report

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

8 February 2023

1.0 Overview:

- 1.1 At the WCC Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held in June 2022, a briefing note was requested, further to a discussion about bus provision as promoted in the Warwickshire Bus Service Improvement Plan specifically referring to the focus on key commercial 'trunk' routes being supported by feeder Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) in rural settlements. Specifically, concern was expressed about how suburban bus routes around Warwickshire towns might be affected because of a focus on DRT.

2.0 Overview of the Warwickshire Bus Network:

- 2.1 The core of the Warwickshire bus network is focused on connectivity between Coventry, Royal Leamington Spa, Warwick, Rugby, Nuneaton, Bedworth, Kenilworth, Stratford-upon-Avon, Atherstone, Polesworth, Southam, Shipston-on-Stour, Bulkington, Kingsbury, Alcester, Coleshill, Whitnash and Bidford-on-Avon. In addition, less frequent bus services also call at these urban places providing connectivity to other places, such as villages and small rural settlements. Furthermore, in places such as Leamington, Nuneaton, Rugby and Stratford-upon-Avon, bus services operate solely within the town providing connectivity between residential areas and the town centre.
- 2.2 The Warwickshire bus network also caters for cross-boundary bus travel demand for access to destinations such as Birmingham, Leicester, Oxford, Northampton, Tamworth, Hinckley, Solihull, Banbury, Evesham, Daventry, Lutterworth, Chipping Campden and Moreton-in-Marsh. There are also several other primary destinations both in and outside the county, which are served by the Warwickshire Bus Network including University Hospital Coventry, Warwick Hospital, George Eliot Hospital, Queen Alexandra Hospital, Hams Hall Employment Site, Daventry International Rail Freight Terminal (DIRFT), MIRA major employment site, Birmingham International Airport / The National Exhibition Centre, Birch Coppice Employment Site, Warwick University, Coventry University and Jaguar Land Rover sites.
- 2.3 New residential development sites are also integrated into the Warwickshire Bus Network funded through Section 106 developer contributions secured during the planning process, e.g., Lighthorne Heath, Meon Vale, Houlton and Coton Park.
- 2.4 The majority of bus services in Warwickshire are operated on a commercial basis by private companies and these form the core of the bus network. Approximately 80% of the 14 million bus passenger journeys made in Warwickshire, pre-pandemic were carried out on commercial services.

Stagecoach Midlands is the primary commercial bus operator in Warwickshire with approximately 65% of market share.

- 2.5 To ensure that bus services are provided for other parts of Warwickshire, not served by the commercial bus network to provide connectivity to employment sites as well as services and facilities in urban centres, the County Council procures additional subsidised bus services through a competitive tendering process. These subsidised bus services account for the remaining 20% of bus passenger journeys made in Warwickshire. This excludes journeys on specific home to school transport services.
- 2.6 The County Council is responsible for providing bus services to and from schools and colleges for entitled pupils and students. These bus services also carry students who are not entitled to free transport, who pay to travel.

3.0 Warwickshire Bus Service Improvement Plan

- 3.1 As required by in the “Bus Back Better (National Bus Strategy for England outside London)” published by the Government in March 2021, the County Council worked in partnership with bus operators to produce a Warwickshire Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP). The BSIP sets out how the County Council will use the framework of an Enhanced Partnership (EP) with bus operators to deliver an ambitious vision for travel by bus in Warwickshire by means of introducing measures aimed at helping achieve the patronage growth and increased bus modal share objectives set in the National Bus Strategy.
- 3.2 Included in the Warwickshire BSIP is a table setting out the County Council’s long term ambitions concerning service frequencies and hours of operation across the Warwickshire bus network, along different types of routes and locations within the county. These were outlined in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Long Term Aspiration for Bus Service Provision across the Warwickshire Bus Network (Warwickshire Bus Service Improvement Plan)

| | Monday to Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|--|--|---|---------------------------------|
| Core Networks Urban and Peri-urban | 20 minutes between 0530-0700 | 20 minutes between 0530 to 0900 | 20 minutes between 0800 to 1800 |
| | 10 minutes between 0700-1830 | 10 minutes between 0900 to 1600 | 30 minutes between 1800 to 2100 |
| | 20 minutes between 1830-2300 | 20 minutes between 1600 to 2300 | |
| Core Network Interurban & Suburban | 30 minutes between 0530 to 0700 15 minutes between 0700 to 1830 30 minutes between 1830 to 2330 | 30 minutes between 0530 to 0900 15 minutes between 0900 to 1600 30 minutes between 1600 to 2300 | 30 minutes between 0800 to 2100 |
| Local Network & Rural Core network | 60 minutes between 0600 to 0700 30 minutes between 0700 to 1830 60 minutes between 1830 to 2300 | 60 minutes between 0600 to 0900 30 minutes between 0900 to 1600 60 minutes between 1600 to 2300 | 60 minutes between 0800 to 1800 |
| Supporting Network | We will ensure that the supported and part supported services continue to develop under the same principles of the core and local networks for access to employment, education and other activities, and to become a viable alternative to the private car. | | |
| Demand Responsive | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● - U bus● – IndieGo● - Community Transport <p>We will consider how each individual service can be brought together to complement each other, and the fixed route bus network, reduce the administrative overheads, and make more efficient use of the available resource. Additionally, we will consider how this resource can be used to provide a more flexible and sustainable solution to socially necessary supporting services, including rural areas away from main corridors, rather than traditional fixed route services.</p> | | |
| Integration | The bus network will be enhanced to ensure that bus services are timed to connect with each other, with a focus on meeting the specific times in the early morning and evening, and where services are operating at wide headways. Where practicable bus services will be arranged to provide multi-modal interchange. | | |

4.0 Response to the Concerns Raised by the County Councillors:

4.1 In accordance with the Warwickshire BSIP, County Council officers can confirm the following points:

- The operation of inter-urban and suburban bus services will continue to have a fundamental role across the county in providing residents with access to employment, education, retail, healthcare, leisure, town centre amenities and public transport interchanges; and
- The County Council will continue to financially support the operation of these inter-urban and suburban bus services when required - with the aim of achieving the level of provision set out in Table 1, however, this will not be at the expense of improving and expanding our DRT network.

4.2 County Council officers also confirm that the intention regarding the proposed provision of feeder DRT services is to fill-in gaps in on the Warwickshire Bus Network in terms of the following:

- Rural settlements not served by any rural or inter-urban bus service; and
- Rural settlements which are only served sporadically by a conventional market day rural bus route operating one or two days per week (and only providing 1 or 2 journeys per day in each direction).

Nigel Whyte
WCC Transport Planning

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

8 February 2023

NUCKLE 1.2 Update on Bay platform at Coventry station

1 Overview

- 1.1 NUCKLE 1.2 will enable an increased frequency of train service between Coventry and Nuneaton, made possible by a new bay platform at Coventry station and associated track and signalling works.
- 1.2 Coventry City Council (CCC) is the lead authority for the delivery of the NUCKLE 1.2 scheme.

2 Progress Update

Bay platform

- 2.1 An update to O&S in February 2021 outlined that Coventry City Council, in response to significantly over budget tender costs being received for the design and build contract for the bay platform project, were leading a piece of work to assess whether costs could be reduced by removing elements from the scheme.
- 2.2 Network Rail were commissioned to undertake this work and the specification included:
 - An option to remove the Arena turnback capability. This would mean any additional trains put on for major events at the Arena stadium would continue through to Nuneaton rather than shuttle between Coventry station and Arena station;
 - Reviewing whether a reduced platform length at Coventry would be acceptable and the savings this would give in terms of infrastructure works and costs;
 - Track and signal upgrades required to facilitate operation into the new bay platform. These interventions will be kept to a minimum to reduce the cost of the delivery of the scheme;
 - Consideration of how the bay platform is integrated with the rest of the station, in particular the relationship with adjacent transport interchange and Warwick Road pedestrian access tunnel.
- 2.3 The work has concluded that significant cost savings cannot be made. The revised costs are currently being finalised and will be used to update the business case for the scheme which will be shared with the Department for Transport (DfT) in due course.

Nuneaton to Coventry train service enhancement

- 2.4 The West Midlands Trains Ltd (WMT) rail franchise agreement awarded in 2017 specified a commitment for a service enhancement between Coventry to

Nuneaton from one to two trains per hour (subject to the completion of the bay platform). All commitments of train operators have been reviewed with the DfT following Covid and new contracts have been issued between the Secretary of State for Transport and WMT.

- 2.5 The new contract no longer includes the commitment to introduce the 2nd train per hour between Coventry and Nuneaton. The reason for this is that train operating companies were asked to find savings as part of the new contracts. At a time when operators are having to find savings and make service cuts across their networks, funding for new services cannot be justification.

3 Next steps

- 3.1 The provision of a bay platform at Coventry station and doubling of rail services between Coventry and Nuneaton remains a key aspiration for Warwickshire County Council. However, the current context of high costs for the bay platform combined with the removal of the commitment from the Train Operating Company to deliver the enhanced train service means that, in the short term at least, it will be difficult to progress the project.
- 3.2 There are ongoing conversations with Coventry City Council on how to proceed with NUCKLE 1.2, including a meeting with senior managers in February 2023.
- 3.3 In the medium term, opportunities exist for infrastructure enhancements to be brought forward as part of other projects, for example the Midlands Connect led project to introduce a direct rail service between Coventry and Leicester. Warwickshire County Council is represented at an officer level on the project group for the Midlands Connect Coventry-Leicester scheme and will continue to advocate the need and benefits of infrastructure to facilitate the doubling of services on the Coventry to Nuneaton line.
- 3.4 Network Rail are looking at the long-term needs of the Coventry Local Area Rail Network to understand the infrastructure upgrades needed to accommodate the aspirations for rail improvements in the area over the medium term. In parallel with this work, Midlands Connect are leading a piece of work to understand the economic benefits associated with the infrastructure changes.
- 3.5 The current rail contract between Secretary of State for Transport and West Midlands Trains Limited is due to end in September 2026. There is an opportunity as part of any contract renewal process for Warwickshire County Council to make representations to the DfT and West Midlands Rail Executive for the inclusion of the 2nd train per hour between Nuneaton and Coventry.

| | Name | Contact Information |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
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Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

8 February 2023

Transport Schemes – Monitoring and Evaluation

Recommendation(s)

Note the proposed future approach to transport scheme monitoring and evaluation.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee has asked for a report to understand the County's approach to the monitoring and evaluation of Transport Schemes.

2.0 Current Monitoring

- 2.1 Historically the monitoring and evaluation of transport schemes has been variable and was largely dependent upon the source and scale of funding. Decisions regarding monitoring were therefore taken based on the effectiveness and cost benefit of doing an evaluation and having the necessary resources and capacity in house to do so.
- 2.2 Therefore we have taken a 'tailored' approach to ensure that monitoring was viable and reflected the scale and our ability to gather the monitoring information in an effective manner.
- 2.3. Where information /data is readily available to us and easy to access we have been able to undertake monitoring with little need for significant expenditure. A good example of this is our Casualty Reduction Scheme Programme. We can access collision data across the County and it is therefore efficient for us to use this to assess the effectiveness of any interventions that we provide.
- 2.4 The table below is an example of some of the current casualty reduction schemes currently being monitored through our safety engineering team. We are able to use this data to ensure the scheme is achieving it's desired outcome and then put a savings value, rate of return, to the intervention. We are also able to use the monitoring to better inform us of the effectiveness of different types of measures at different locations to build our knowledge base for future schemes.

| Scheme Location | Scheme Cost | Scheme Description | Road layout | Environment | Predominant Collision Type prior to treatment | Date- From Sign off of Stage 3 | Total no of collisions within five year study period prior to commissioning | Collision Rate | Cost Taken | PICs following scheme installation date | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|--|-------------|-------------|---|--------------------------------|---|----------------|------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | | | | | | | | | | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 |
| Coleshill, B4114, Blythe Bridge | £77,100 | Signage and Lining- including VAS | Corner | Rural | Loss of Control | 8/3/2021 | 7 | 1.4 | 2.03 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| A428 Lawford Road, Rugby | £3,008 | Signage and Lining- including VAS | T-Junction | Urban | Failure to Give Way | 11/16/2021 | 6 | 1.2 | 17.15 | 0 | | | | |
| Leicester Way, Junction of Road | £115,000 | Roundabout | Crossroads | Urban | Failure to Give Way | 9/4/2021 | 7 | 1.4 | 3.8 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| A428/Lawford Heath Road | £31,000 | Junction Warning Signs and Road Markings | Crossroad | Rural | Turning Movements | 11/23/2021 | 6 | 1.2 | 2.03 | 0 | | | | |
| Bromsgrove Road, Studley | £28,000 | Warning Signs and Kerbing Alterations | Crossroad | Rural | Failure to Give Way | 3/30/2021 | 6 | 1.2 | 25.12 | 0 | | | | |
| A422 Banbury Road, Tysoe | £28,000 | Warning Signs, Road Markings & VAS | Crossroad | Rural | Failure to Give Way | 3/20/2021 | 4 | 0.8 | 30.6 | 0 | | | | |
| A3400/Langleigh Road, Bearley | £9,000 | Warning Signs and Road Markings | Crossroad | Rural | Failure to Give Way | 3/24/2021 | 5 | 1 | 42.8 | 0 | | | | |

2.5 For larger capital projects monitoring has historically been expensive, largely driven by a collection methodology which largely relied on the employment of large teams to collect data. Therefore, detailed monitoring has been focussed on those schemes where the funding provider, e.g. DfT, requires monitoring based on the business case submission.

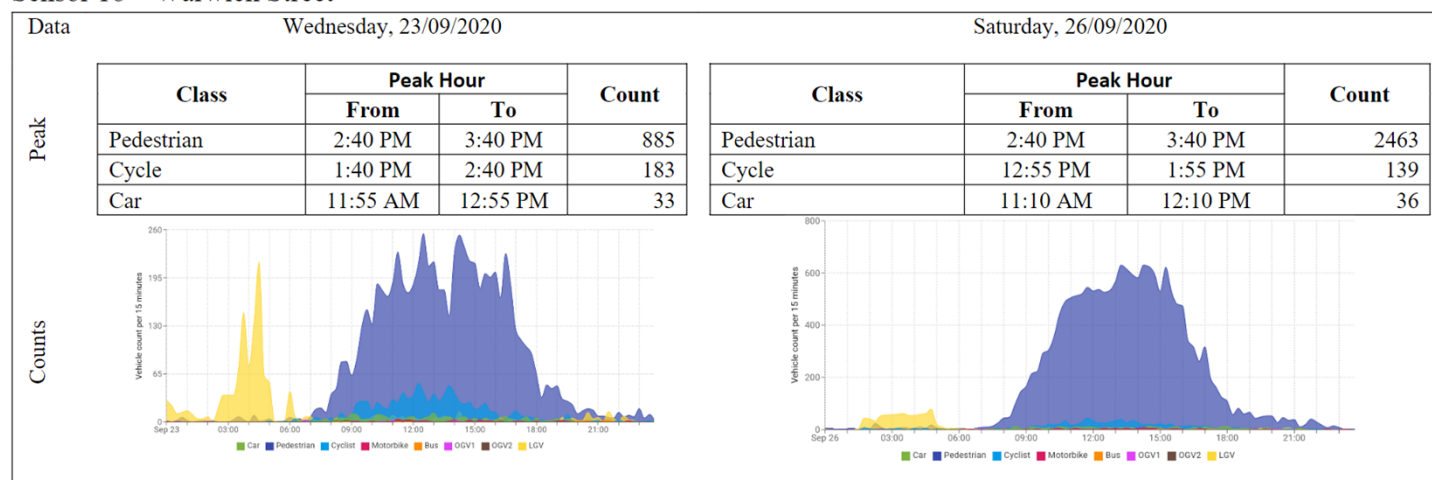
3.0 Developments in Monitoring

- 3.1 In recognition of these challenges and, with the advancement in and the affordability of technology, we are now able to take a more consistent and robust approach to monitoring.
- 3.2 In 2020 £2m was secured through the County's Capital Investment Fund to expand our in-house monitoring and evaluation capability and capacity. This funding is enabling us to expand our baseline permanent monitoring sites across the county. Additionally, it has enabled us to establish our own mobile traffic survey capability, previously delivered by Leicestershire County Council through a SLA. Not only will this help support our own monitoring requirements it will enable us to market these services to generate revenue to reinvest back into the service. This also helps to secure revenue to keep the service going.
- 3.3 Some of the early deliverables of this new monitoring capability was our approach to evaluating the impact of the social distancing measures that were implemented in several Warwickshire towns during the Covid lockdowns. The use of AI equipment enabled us to better understand the impacts of the measures implemented and to monitor social distancing and town centre footfall.

3.4 The tables below show outputs of the monitoring of The Parade closure as part of the Covid response.

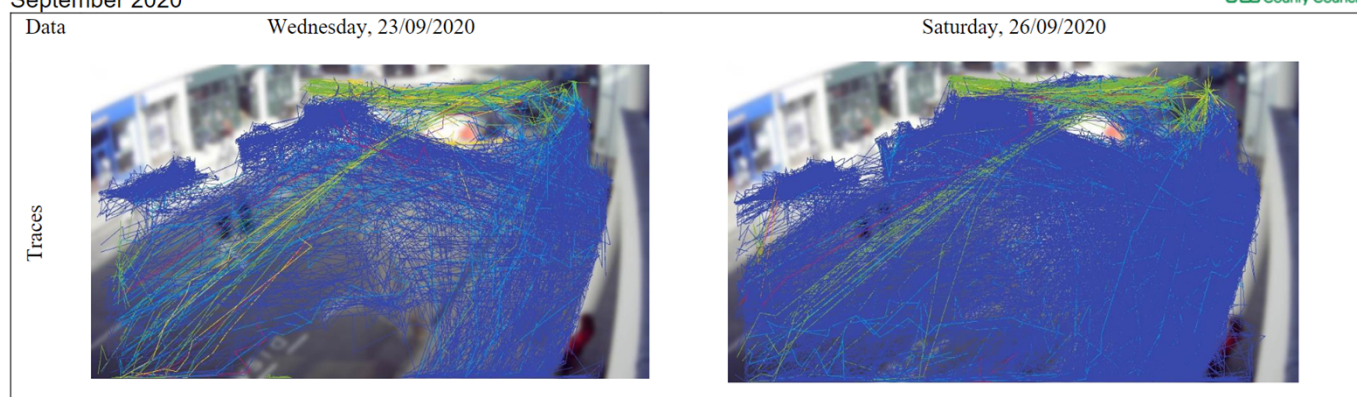
September 2020

Sensor 18 – Warwick Street

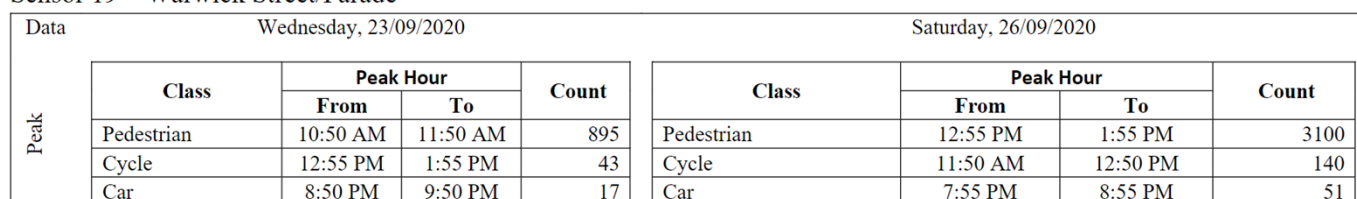


Additionally, we were able to trace pedestrian movements across the entire space.

September 2020



Sensor 19 – Warwick Street/Parade



This capability will provide useful information when considering future changes to the highway network in our town centres.

3.5 Monitoring of transport infrastructure schemes with our new capabilities has not been possible due to the impact of covid on traffic levels. However, it is our intention to commence the monitoring of Stanks and Cotton Island schemes in April 2023.

3.6 It is proposed that going forward, all infrastructure projects will follow a common approach, utilising a new Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, with

reference to the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for Local Major Schemes (DfT, September 2012) and other best practice guidance, tailored to the scale of the project. A template has already been developed for these purposes and Monitoring and Evaluation Plans and/or funding has been set aside from capital scheme budgets for undertaking monitoring requirements.

5.2 Each capital funded scheme will be assessed in terms of the following measures:

- Scheme build;
- Delivered scheme; (to include as built drawings)
- Costs; (final outturn cost versus budget)
- Scheme objectives; (meeting objectives – i.e. address a road safety issue, reduce a queue length, deliver a sustainable travel scheme/enable mode shift)
- Travel demand; (traffic flows change as result of scheme)
- Travel times and the reliability of travel times; (any journey time improvements as a result of scheme?)
- Impacts on the economy; (if the Economic Case for funding the scheme was predicated on enabling specific growth – e.g. a housing site or employment site, has the site got permission, being delivered? etc)
- Carbon Impacts: If AQ monitoring equipment is in place then we would revert to using onsite measurements (usually only applicable to AQMAs), otherwise carbon impacts could be calculated through demand and journey time information)

Developer funded S278 schemes will be assessed in terms of

- Scheme objectives;
- Travel demand
- Travel times and the reliability of travel times (if applicable);

In accordance with the DfT Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, WCC propose to undertake monitoring 1 year and 5 years post completion of the scheme. Whilst most schemes will already have associated baseline data upon which the project assessments will have been developed, it is recommended that a complete data set to compare against the 1 year after and 5 year after monitor requirements is collected. The easiest way to monitor these 3 periods, and to ensure we have continuous data upon which to assess schemes and feed into other transport related projects, is to install semi-permanent monitoring infrastructure. These devices can be relocated should the scheme layout require.

Most of the requirements in terms of traffic related data will be addressed through use of radar devices. These devices can count traffic, measure speed and journey time and classify modes of travel (including sustainable modes). Any other remaining transport related surveys required to inform the report would be developed on a bespoke basis.

6.0 Financial Implications

- 6.1 Funding of the monitoring and evaluation programme should be included within wider scheme costs and so would naturally form part of any bid for funding

7.0 Environmental Implications

- 7.1 This approach to monitoring will also enable us to monitor the carbon impacts of our transport schemes and help us better understand the forecasted impacts and those achieved post completion

8.0 Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- 8.1 It is proposed that this new approach to monitoring and evaluation will commence in April 2023.

Background papers

1. Monitoring Detail

| | Name | Contact Information |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Report Author | Philippa Young | philippayoung@warwickshire.gov.uk |
| Assistant Director | David Ayton-Hill | Davidayton-hill@warwickshire.gov.uk |
| Strategic Director | Mark Ryder | markryder@warwickshire.gov.uk |
| Portfolio Holder | Wallace Redford | Wallaceredford@warwickshire.gov.uk |

Background Paper

Monitoring Detail

1.1 Scheme Build

The scheme build assessment will evaluate;

- Adherence to the project programme, whether the scheme development met key milestones and was completed on time. Where deviation from the programme occurred, explanation and consideration of the lesson learnt will be provided;
- Management of stakeholder engagement and lessons learnt;
- Assessment of the risk management approach adopted and lessons learnt; and
- Whether the scheme is on track to deliver the anticipated benefits and details of benefits realised (this will be covered by the assessment of scheme objectives, travel demand, travel times and economic benefits highlighted in the following sections).

1.2 Delivered Scheme

Delivered scheme assessment will include;

- A full description of implemented scheme outputs; including a clear map of the “as built” overall scheme; and
- Identification of any changes to the scheme since funding approval. For example, changes to route and/or design of the scheme and details of the reasons for any such changes.

1.3 Outturn Costs

Scheme costs assessment will include;

- Outturn investment costs broken down into elements; and
- Identification of cost elements with savings or overruns and identification of the reasons for these changes;

1.4 Scheme Objectives

The scheme will be assessed according to the objectives which the scheme is intended to deliver;

These may include, but are not limited to:

- Provision of sustainable travel facilities
- Addressing road safety
- Improving capacity
- Economic regeneration/activity
- Carbon and air quality improvements

1.5 Impact of Scheme on Travel Demands

Scheme travel demand assessments will consider the following;

- Change in traffic flow at key points on the route/at junction(s);
- Changes in cycle usage, pedestrian flows, bus patronage and car sharing.

The evaluation will include key surveys using permanent/semi-permanent monitoring infrastructure or bespoke surveys will be repeated at regular intervals. Automatic Traffic Count (ATC) loop sites will be included as part of the scheme.

1.6 Travel Times and Reliability

Journey times will be assessed dependent upon scheme objectives.

- Use of ANPR data to be considered to provide long term monitoring of journey times on routes/through junction/scheme proposed. This approach would also complement wider County ANPR capability.
- Where specific ANPR monitoring is not feasible, use of congestion data sourced from INrix, Traffic Master or TomTom may be appropriate
- The assessment will consider variability of travel times on corridors, including analysis of the difference between outturn results and scheme forecasts.

1.7 Impacts on the Economy

In addition to the above assessment of travel times and related improvements to business accessibility, analysis of the following will be included;

- If funding is identified to enable employment opportunities – KPI would be Increase in jobs against the forecast job realisation or planning permissions;
- If funding is identified to enable housing sites – KPI would be dwellings completed or permissions granted
- Details of any planning applications in the pipeline; and

1.8 Carbon Impacts

The effect of the scheme on carbon for the base and do something scenarios will be modelled based on demand/vehicle speed information and analysis of the difference between outturn results and scheme forecasts will be presented.

This assessment will be included in the “1 year after report” and the “the final report”. The monitoring requirement would be assessed by the Transport Monitoring and Modelling team in Transport Planning.

1.9 Assessment of Value for Money

In accordance with DfT guidance for standard evaluation, the standard monitoring will be analysed in detail, with conclusions drawn in the reporting about the implications of the findings on the Value for Money of the scheme. This will include a qualitative assessment of whether the assumptions used in the business case development remain valid i.e. a comparison of the forecast the costs of delivering the scheme and forecast benefits to be accrued as a result of delivering the scheme against the actual costs and actual realised benefits post scheme implementation.

This assessment will be included in the “1 year after report” and the “the final report”.

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Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee

8 February 2023

Council Plan 2022-2027

Integrated Performance Report Quarter 2 2022/23

Period under review: April to September 2022

Recommendation

That the Committee considers and comments on Quarter 2 organisational performance, progress against the Integrated Delivery Plan, management of finances and risk.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The wider national context is a critical frame within which to view the Council's performance. The UK is experiencing the consequences of both significant political, global and macro-economic turbulence, including two recent changes of UK Government, the impact of the Pandemic, and the war in Ukraine. High inflation, rising interest rates and the resulting fiscal challenges are impacting the cost of living, increasing pressure on an already tight labour market, demand for public services and public finances.
- 1.2 Such an unprecedented combination of events at a global and national level leaves the country facing a period of significant uncertainty and a very challenging financial outlook in the short- to medium-term. This volatility is impacting on the Council's resources, both financial and in terms of recruitment and retention, levels of demand, and increased uncertainty about a number of key national policy areas including Adult Social Care reform, devolution, levelling up and climate change.
- 1.3 Inevitably these factors, which were not anticipated at the time the Integrated Delivery Plan and the Performance Management Framework were developed, are impacting on our priorities, focus, capacity and project delivery timescales. The reporting of performance will track and highlight these impacts on delivery and performance, and inform the basis of prioritising activity and resource allocation as we undertake the refresh of the Integrated Delivery Plan.
- 1.4 This report summarises the Council's performance at the end of the second quarter (April-September 2022) against the strategic priorities and Areas of Focus set out in the Council Plan 2022-2027. All information contained within this report has been taken from the Quarter 2 Integrated Performance and Finance reports Cabinet considered on the 10th November. Performance is

assessed against the Key Business Measures (KBMs) contained within the agreed Performance Management Framework. This is summarised in Section 2 and more fully presented within Appendix 1.

- 1.5 Progress against the Integrated Delivery Plan is summarised in Section 3 and more fully presented within Appendix 2.
- 1.6 Management of Finance is summarised in Section 4 and the summary dashboard is presented in Appendix 3.
- 1.7 Management of Risk is summarised in Section 5 and more detailed information is presented in Appendix 4.
- 1.8 The paper sets out a combined picture of the Council's delivery, performance, and risk. Officers are still embedding this new approach and performance framework, and a number of new measures will not be available for reporting until Year End. The format and content of these integrated performance reports will continue to evolve over the course of the current financial year.
- 1.9 Quarter 2 has seen a marginal decline in performance compared with the Quarter 1 position, reflecting the increasingly volatile, uncertain, and high-risk external environment which is impacting on resources and the wider economic environment, capacity and uncertainty about a number of key policy areas.
- 1.10 There are 19 KBMs in total that are in the remit of this Committee and 11 KBMs are being reported at Quarter 2, 10 of which have a measure status. 1 KBM has a status of Not Applicable at this quarter as no grant funding applications have been supported for Regeneration & Place Shaping initiatives as none have been received at this point. For the KBMs available for reporting, the following table indicates an assessment of performance compared to Quarter 1:

| Quarter | On Track | Not on Track |
|---------|----------|--------------|
| 1 | 89% (8) | 11% (1) |
| 2 | 70% (7) | 30% (3) |

- 1.11 Appendix 1 details performance for all the Committee related measures within the Performance Management Framework. Detailed measure-by-measure performance reporting is accessible through the 2022/23 Performance Portal available through this [link](#).
- 1.12 There are some emerging issues within this Integrated Report, including:
 - Capacity issues are being cited as impacting delivery across the organisation. Difficulties in recruiting and retaining staff in a highly constrained national and local labour market are reflected within the commentary on the Integrated Delivery Plan and performance; given significant and growing financial/inflationary pressures, there is no easy solution to these strategic workforce issues, which are being considered by our HR Strategy team.

- 1.13 Notable aspects of positive performance for specific measures which have experienced improved performance over the last quarter include:
- the number of secondary schools engaged in violence prevention Whole Schools Approach; and,
 - the % of people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities supported by Warwickshire Employment Support Team moving into employment.
- 1.14 The main performance challenges relate to:
- the number of Domestic Abuse Incidents reported to the Police which has seen a reduction during Quarter 2 and is behind prior year; and,
 - the number of properties better protected from flooding, which is significantly under target, with only 3 properties taking up the scheme year to date, as such the target has been reduced from 81 to 32.
- 1.15 The report sets out services' projected performance trajectory, which recognises a more volatile than usual environment as a result of external factors.
- 1.16 The position is also positive in terms of delivery of the 62 Communities actions set out in the Integrated Delivery Plan, with 73% being On Track and 27% At Risk, Compromised or not Started and it is these actions which are reported on in Appendix 2 on an exception basis.
- 1.17 Three of the Councils 18 strategic risks relate to the remit of this committee and currently have a red status (that economic growth slows or stalls, inflation / the cost of living, and meeting 2050 climate change targets for the county). At service level the key risks being highlighted are those that are currently rated red (high) risk and which at the same time have had a risk rating higher than the target risk rating for 3 quarters. There is currently 1 risk meeting this criteria relating to Adult and Community Learning funding. Section 5.3 details the other risks that exist below this level.

2. Performance against the Performance Management Framework

- 2.1 The three strategic priorities set out in the Council Plan 2022 - 2027 are delivered through seven Areas of Focus. In addition to these, there are three further areas to support the Council to be known for as 'a Great Council and Partner'. The full performance summary is contained in Appendix 1.
- 2.2 A set of high-level Warwickshire Outcome Measures, where we can influence improvement in performance but do not solely own, are also contained in the Performance Management Framework. Reporting against these is under development and will inform our ongoing State of Warwickshire reporting.
- 2.3 Comprehensive performance reporting is enabled through the Power BI link [2022/23 Performance Portal](#) as part of the revised and adopted Performance Management Framework.

- 2.4 The new approach to performance reporting is evolving, building on the recommendations of the Member Working Group. The number of reportable measures will change each quarter as the framework considers the availability of new data.
- 2.5 There are 19 KBMs in total that are in the remit of this Committee. Chart 1 of Appendix 1 details the reported status of the 10 KBMs which are being reported at Quarter 2, all of which have a measure status. 70%(7) KBMs are considered On Track and 30% (3) Not on Track, this is a marginal decline from Quarter 1 when 89% (8) KBMs On Track and 1% (1) Not on Track. There is one other measure being reported but has a status of Not Applicable as no grant funding applications have been supported for Regeneration & Place Shaping initiatives as none have been received to date.
- 2.6 10 of the measures have a forecast projection from the responsible Service for the forthcoming period. Of the 7 measures that are forecast to be On Track at Quarter 3, 3 are forecast to improve, 3 to remain static and 1 is forecast to decline over the next quarter. For the 3 that are forecast to be Not on Track, performance is set to improve.

3. Progress on Delivery Plan

- 3.1 The Integrated Delivery Plan aligns priority activity from across all service areas against all Areas of Focus within the Council Plan 2022-27. The plan shows how activity across services collectively contributes to delivering these priorities.
- 3.2 Detailed information on the performance summary of the Integrated Delivery Plan is included at Appendix 2. A new [Power BI reporting dashboard](#) is now available and will enable Members to track progress by Service, status, Council Plan Area of Focus, Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Portfolio Holder.
- 3.3 There are 214 remaining actions within the Integrated Delivery Plan, 62 of which are assigned to Communities. Detailed information on the performance summary of the Integrated Delivery Plan in relation to Communities is included at Appendix 2. The majority of deliverables are On Track (73%) and 27% are At Risk, Compromised or Not Started, with any exceptions covered in Appendix 2.
- 3.4 Several actions that are at risk relate to capital programmes and projects, where current inflation levels and supply chain challenges are creating very significant levels of risk and uncertainty about our capacity to deliver as planned within available resources, a challenge common to all Councils.

4. Management of Finance

- 4.1 The key metrics of financial management are summarised below with further information available in Appendix 3 and in the Finance Monitoring Report presented to Cabinet on 10th November 2022.

| Metric | Target | Service | Performance at Quarter 2 2022/23 |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Performance against the latest approved revenue budget as measured by forecast under/overspend | On budget or no more than 2% underspent | Environment Services | 0.5% overspent |
| | | Strategic Commissioning Communities | 2.2% overspent |
| Performance against the approved savings target as measured by forecast under/overachievement | 100% | Environment Services | 100% |
| | | Strategic Commissioning Communities | 97% |
| Performance against the approved capital programme as measured by forecast delays in delivery | No more than 5% delay | Environment Services | 9.5% |
| | | Strategic Commissioning Communities | 1.0% |
| | | S278 funded schemes | 0.7% |

5. Management of Risk

- 5.1 Risks are monitored in risk registers at a strategic/corporate level and at service level. At a corporate level the following strategic risks more directly related Communities are currently rated as red (high risk):
- Economic growth slows or stalls;
 - Inflation and the Cost of Living; and
 - 2050 county climate targets not met
- 5.2 Mitigating actions are in place in respect of these risks, for example the Council Plan prioritising the support of Warwickshire's economy, working with regional and local partners to access available funding streams, a Medium Term Financial Strategy planning process that is incorporating the risks of inflation, enabling and promoting climate change action in the community for example through a dedicated website and specific initiatives such as the green shoots community climate change fund.
- 5.3 At a service level there are 15 risks recorded against services relating to Communities and Environmental Services. At service level at this reporting

period there is one risk that is both red and over target relating to communities or environmental services.

- Loss of income for Adult and Community Learning. Mitigating actions include identifying new opportunities and contributing to national campaigning regarding funding.

5.4 The norm for exception reporting in 2022/23 is that key risks are highlighted where they are red risks (high risk) and where a risk level has been higher than the risk target for 3 quarters or more and is currently still 3 points or more over target. However, with only 1 risk being in that category, the remaining high scoring risks are also summarised below (6 risks have a residual risk score of 12 (Amber)):

- Economic downturn due to Covid and Brexit;
- Being unable to deliver the highways planned Winter Maintenance programme in the event of extreme weather;
- Insufficient resources to deliver the Council Plan;
- Insufficient income from Section 106 and Communities Infrastructure Levy to deliver infrastructure;
- Pressure to manage increasing levels of waste; and,
- Unable to deliver Flood Risk Management duties.

5.4 Mitigating actions are in place in respect of these risks and are managed at Service level. Appendix 4 illustrates the standard risk reporting format

6. Environmental Implications

6.1 There are none specific to this report.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – [Quarterly Performance Report](#)

Appendix 2 – [Progress on the Integrated Delivery Plan](#)

Appendix 3 – [Management of Financial Risk](#)

Appendix 4 – [Management of Risk](#)

Background Papers

Cabinet Report 10th November 2022

| Role | Name | |
|--------------------|---|--|
| Report Author | Vanessa Belton, Delivery Lead Business Intelligence Performance, Planning and Quality | vanessabelton@warwickshire.gov.uk |
| Assistant Director | David Ayton-Hill, Assistant Director Communities | davidayton-hill@warwickshire.gov.uk |

| | | |
|--------------------|--|--|
| | Scott Tompkins, Assistant Director Environment Services | scotttompkins@warwickshire.gov.uk |
| Strategic Director | Mark Ryder, Strategic Director for Communities | markryder@warwickshire.gov.uk |
| Portfolio Holder | Cllr W Redford, Portfolio Holder for Transport & Planning Cllr H Timms, Portfolio Holder for Environment, Climate & Culture Cllr A Crump, Portfolio Holder for Fire & Rescue and Community Safety Cllr M Watson, Portfolio Holder for Economy | cllrredford@warwickshire.gov.uk cllrtimms@warwickshire.gov.uk cllrcrump@warwickshire.gov.uk cllrwatson@warwickshire.gov.uk |

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1. Communities OSC Quarterly Performance Report Quarter 2

- 1.1 Detailed measure by measure performance reporting is accessible through the [2022/23 Performance Portal](#).
- 1.2 The three strategic priorities set out in the Council Plan 2022 - 2027 are delivered through seven Areas of Focus. In addition to these, there are three further areas to support the Council to be known for as 'a Great Council and Partner'. These are detailed in the table below alongside the number of KBMs that will be used to assess delivery, and the number being reported at Quarter 2.

| Area of Focus | No. of KBMs | No. of KBMs available for reporting Quarter 2 |
|--|-------------|---|
| Create vibrant places with safe and inclusive communities | 8 | 7 |
| Deliver major infrastructure, digital connectivity and major transport options | 7 | 5 |
| Promote inclusive, sustainable economic growth, successful business, good quality jobs and future skills | 9 | 5 |
| Tackle climate change, promote biodiversity and deliver on our commitment to Net Zero | 7 | 3 |
| Deliver our Child Friendly Warwickshire strategy - Happy, healthy, safe children | 10 | 6 |
| Through education, improve life opportunities for children, young people and those with special educational needs and disabilities | 14 | 8 |
| Support people to live healthy, happy, and independent lives and work with partners to reduce health inequalities | 13 | 10 |
| A Great Council and Partner | No. of KBMs | No. of KBMs available for reporting Quarter 2 |
| Harnessing community power | 3 | 2 |
| Our people and the way we work | 8 | 6 |
| Using our data and digital solutions to improve service delivery | 4 | 3 |

1.3 Key Insights for Quarter 2 2022/23

There are 19 KBMs in total that are in the remit of this Committee, the full performance summary is contained in Appendix 1. Chart 1 details the reported status of 10 KBMs which are being reported at Quarter 2. The other measure has a status of Not Applicable at this Quarter as no grant funding applications have been supported for Regeneration & Place Shaping initiatives as none have been received at this point.

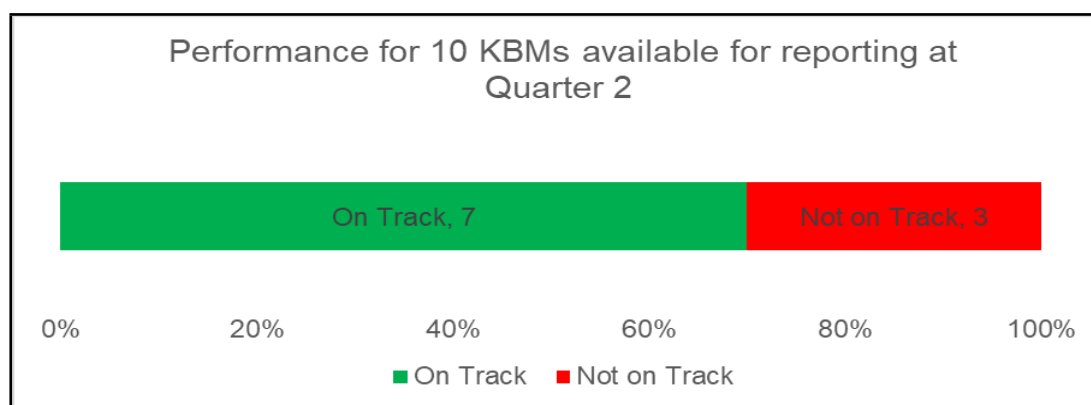


Chart 1

Chart 2 details the projected performance based on a Service forecast of the 10 reportable KBMs at the next Quarter. The No. of grant funding applications supported for the delivery of the Regeneration & Place Shaping initiatives measure has a forecast of not applicable as work on supporting funding applications is on an as and when funding basis, dependant on when it becomes available from external and internal sources.

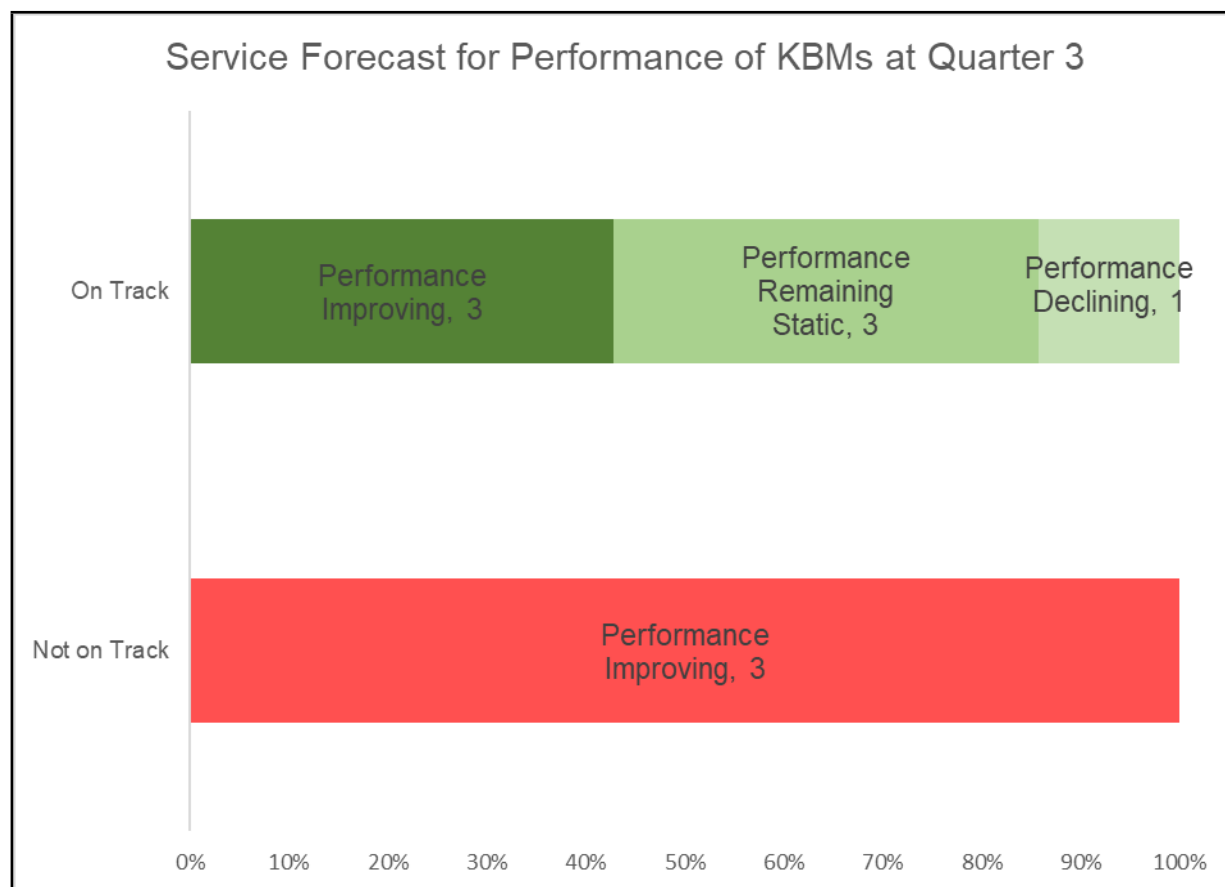


Chart 2

Explanatory Notes on Summary Tables

The following sections provide an overview of current performance by Area of Focus. The measure summary tables are a representation of the tables in the full Committee report on Power BI and are interactive. Please note:

- data is being added into the system as it becomes available so new information may be in the reports since the writing of this Quarterly position report;
- measure names in the summary tables and where highlighted are all links to take the reader directly to the measure report page in Power BI which provides full detail on the measure including charted data, performance narrative, improvement activity, trends and targets if applicable;
- KBMs are highlighted in Bold within the tables;
- a measure status is included based on performance either against the target and polarity of measure or where there is no target on improving/ declining performance;
- Services provide a forecast of where performance is heading over the next reporting period, this is informed by local knowledge, improvement activity and trend information;

- where the measure status or projection is Not Applicable, this is due to exceptional circumstances regarding the measure such as it is setting a baseline this year, the Power BI report will provide the reason by measure;
- the Latest Figure column represents the most current data available including last quarter, previous year or longer if data is lagged, full details are on Power BI report;
- not all measures have targets and the approach now is to have improving performance and targets where appropriate; and,
- as the framework is more responsive there are annual or termly measures included on the tables with no reported data, this will be added as the relevant data becomes available e.g. attainment data from November.

1.4 Create vibrant places with safe and inclusive communities

| Measure Name | Latest Figure | Latest Target | Measure Status | Service Forecast for next period |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| No. of Domestic Abuse Incidents reported to the Police | 914 | 11339* | Not on Track | Not on Track Performance Improving |
| No. of secondary schools engaged in violence prevention Whole Schools Approach | 11 | 10 | On Track | On Track Performance Improving |
| % complaint satisfaction with Trading Standards action | 75 | N/A | On Track | On Track Performance Remaining Static |
| % KSI collision reduction at sites where casualty reduction schemes have been implemented | Due for reporting at Year End | | | |

*Cumulative Year End Target

Area of Good Progress due to being above target and seeing a significant improvement since Quarter 1 reporting:

- No. of secondary schools engaged in violence prevention Whole Schools Approach

Improvement Activity due to being performance falling during Quarter 2 and being behind prior year:

- No. of Domestic Abuse Incidents reported to the Police

1.5 Deliver major infrastructure, digital connectivity and improved transport options

| Measure Name | Latest Figure | Latest Target | Measure Status | Service Forecast for next period |
|---|------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| No. of properties better protected from flooding | 3 | 32* | Not on Track | Not on Track Performance Improving |
| No. of schools signed up to our Safe and Active Programme | Due for reporting in December 2022 | | | |

*Cumulative Year End Target

There is one measures being highlighted as improvement activity at Quarter 2 due to being behind target:

- No. of properties better protected from flooding

1.6 Promote inclusive, sustainable economic growth, successful business, good quality jobs and future skills

| Measure Name | Latest Figure | Latest Target | Measure Status | Service Forecast for next period |
|--|--|---------------|--|--|
| % Business Centre Occupancy Rate | 92 | N/A | On Track | On Track Performance Declining |
| % people employed in our key priority sectors | 26.33 | N/A | Annual measure due for reporting December 2022 | |
| No. of successful Foreign Direct Investment projects | 45 | N/A | On Track | On Track Performance Remaining static |
| Value (£) of external funding secured by Communities or other WCC services/ partners to support Council priorities | Annual measure due for reporting at Year End | | | |
| Value (£) of investment secured by Warwickshire businesses as result of WCC funded business support activities | | | | |
| No. of apprenticeships created through WCC support | | | | |
| No. of grant funding applications supported for the delivery of the Regeneration & Place Shaping initiatives | 0 | N/A | Not Applicable | Not Applicable |
| Total visitor related spend (£) | 860,972,410 | N/A | On Track | On Track Performance Improving |
| % of people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities supported by Warwickshire Employment Support Team moving into employment | 21 | N/A | On Track | On Track Performance Improving |

Performance within this Area of Focus is within expected levels and projection for the next period is to remain at similar levels.

Area of Good Progress due to improved performance over the last quarter:

- % of people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities supported by Warwickshire Employment Support Team moving into employment

1.7 Tackle climate change, promote biodiversity and deliver on our commitment to Net Zero

| Measure Name | Latest Figure | Latest Target | Measure Status | Service Forecast for next period |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| No. of tonnes of carbon emitted by the Council as a waste disposal authority | -530 | N/A | On Track | On Track Performance Remaining static |
| % of household waste re-used, recycled and composted | 45.7 | 50 | Not on Track | Not on Track Performance Improving |
| Annual change in soil and vegetation carbon storage by habitat (tonnes of Carbon per hectare) in WCC rural settings | Due for reporting at Year End | | | |
| % habitat biodiversity net gain in WCC rural estate | | | | |

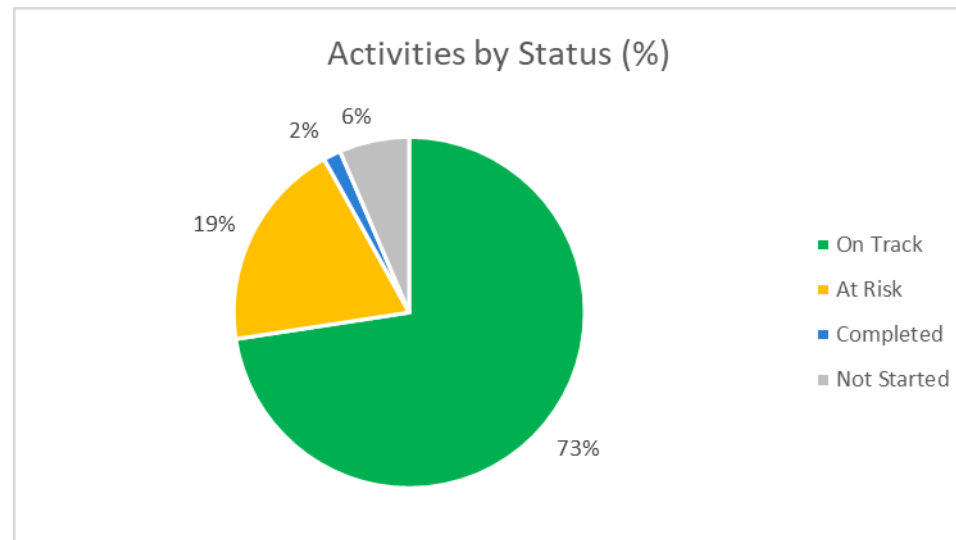
Two measures are available for reporting at Quarter 2 for this Area of Focus and at this time performance levels are as expected and projected to remain so for the next quarter, no measures need highlighting at this time.

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1. Communities OSC Progress on the Integrated Delivery Plan Quarter 2

1.1 Key Insights for Quarter 2 2022/23

Of the 214 remaining actions within the Integrated Delivery Plan, 62 are attributable to the Communities OSC. Due to inflationary pressures the number of activities reporting At Risk this Quarter has risen by 9% to 19%. 73% of activities remain on track to achieve their objectives within the set timeframes, with 2% Complete and 6% yet to start.



The following activities are now complete.

- *Work with our partners and businesses to transition towards a goal of decarbonising the Warwickshire economy including Working with Sustainability West Midlands to deliver a programme of awareness raising webinars for Warwickshire businesses. **Six Net Zero Webinars** were delivered to local small business in partnership with Warwick District Council concluding in May 2022. Each session focused on a different topic e.g. active travel, waste, energy and included speakers from Council service areas and industry. Feedback from attendees has been overall positive. Signposted grant support available for small business offered by the Coventry and Warwickshire green business programme. Two webinars fed into KBM around the number of businesses supported for the Business & Economy team.*

1.2 Create vibrant places with safe and inclusive communities

| Activity | Status | Narrative |
|--|---------|--|
| Continue to deliver the Transforming Nuneaton regeneration programme - Finalising plans to redevelop Vicarage Street with planning permission secured and contractor appointed. | At Risk | <p>Vicarage Street Development Site: the outline planning for the residential scheme and new Library & Business Centre was submitted in Sept 2022, outcome due Dec 2022. Relocation of Royal Mail and Wilkos continues to progress towards resolution.</p> <p>Transforming Nuneaton Highway Schemes: The 3 highway schemes are now in detailed design, the Abbey Green cycle scheme is in planning (October committee), land acquisitions in negotiations with Compulsory Purchase Order preparation work in progress if needed. For both the residential scheme and transport works, cost pressures through inflation and supply chain issues are generating some risks to delivery due to budget constraints. Works to seek to mitigate these impacts are currently underway</p> <p>Abbey Street Scheme: construction of new hotel started at the end of July 2022, planning submitted for a new digital skills hub (college) and discussions with cinema and leisure operators are progressing positively</p> |
| Continue to deliver the Transforming Nuneaton regeneration programme - Implementing highway improvement schemes with the first scheme on site during 2022/23. | At Risk | <p>Programme of projects is running generally to schedule, however the first scheme is now expected to start on site in Quarter 1 2023/34 as a result of some additional time required during the planning process. It should be noted that the projects are all also being reviewed in light of inflationary costs to ensure that money is spent effectively.</p> |
| Work with partners to prevent violence, serious & organized crime, modern slavery & human trafficking, reducing reoffending, exploitation and rural crime to to meet the outcomes set by the relevant strategies and delivery plans as approved by the Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board. https://safeinwarwickshire.com/ | At Risk | <p>Serious violence connected to organised crime remains the top priority for all of the Community Safety Partnership across the county. Violence with injury and violence with injury with a domestic violence flag have increased by 9.3% and 10.5% in 2022/23 compared to the same period in 2021/22. Whilst knife related violence</p> |

| | | |
|--|---------|--|
| <p>Deliver our Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service (WFRS) 2-year improvement plan - Deliver new firefighter training sites to upgrade our facilities. review of fire station facilities.</p> | | <p>incidents remains low (136 offences in 2022/23 YTD) this equates to a 32% increase compared to the same period in 2021/2. The Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board has approved a Serious Violence Prevention Strategy which has also been endorsed by the Health and Wellbeing Board. The strategy sets out a series of measures that will prevent the casues a serious violence and reduce the risk of criminal exploitation connected to the illegal economy. Whilst there have been rises in ascquisitive crimes such as robbery, residential burglary, these should be considered against the significantly lower levels that were experienced during the covid lockdown periods. It is recommended that these are reviewed in 2023/4, which a focus on the impact of the economic challenges in both acquisitive crime and cyber crime. recorded incidents of anti social behaviour by the Police are all down with environmental Anti Social Behaviour down by 30% compared to the previous 12 month period.</p> |
| | At Risk | <p>An assessment is being made of properties occupied by WFRS to ensure that they are fit for purpose. Progress is also being made to look for and receive planning permission for the Minerva Breathing Apparatus training facilities to meet our statutory duties.</p> |

1.3 Deliver major infrastructure, digital connectivity and improved transport options

| Activity | Status | Narrative |
|---|---------|--|
| <p>Deliver priority Road schemes that will make it easier to travel around the County including opening up the existing Bermuda Bridge over the A444 to two-way traffic delivering additional highway capacity and improved connectivity between West Nuneaton and Griff Roundabout.</p> | At Risk | <p>Whilst progress is being made in delivering the works there have been delays to the programme and costs have increased for a number of reasons including inflation. There is now significant pressure on the allocated budget. However, a number of issues previously blocking progress are being unlocked and the indicative Benefit Cost Ratio shows the scheme still</p> |

| | | |
|---|---------|--|
| <p>Deliver priority Road schemes that will make it easier to travel around the County including improvements to the Europa Way corridor in Leamington Spa / Warwick to improve connectivity to the M40, reduce congestion and support local development.</p> | | provides high value for money based on the latest forecast outturn. |
| | At Risk | The Europa Way programme of works includes a series of Warwickshire County Council and developer led highway improvement schemes. The progress and delivery of all of these projects are being closely coordinated to minimise impact on the travelling public during construction noting that this extends to projects across the Warwick and Leamington area. The Warwickshire County Council scheme to improve capacity and pedestrian/cycling facilities at the Myton Road/Princes Drive and Queensway/Europa Way roundabouts is expected to start on site in the following financial year. The Warwickshire County Council scheme which follows to complete the dualling of Europa Way is currently under review because of the location of the overhead power pylon. |

Promote inclusive, sustainable economic growth, successful business, good quality jobs and future skills

| Activity | Status | Narrative |
|--|---------|---|
| Engage and work with businesses to access loan funding via the Warwickshire Recovery & Investment Fund to support business and employment growth in the county and review the impact of the loans on the number of businesses supported | At Risk | The Local Communities and Enterprise pillar of the Warwickshire Recovery and Investment Fund is on track. However, the pipeline for the larger Business Investment Growth pillar has slowed due in part to the general uncertainty in the economy. The annual review of the BIG pillar is due later this quarter. |
| Engage and work with businesses to access loan funding via the Warwickshire Recovery & Investment Fund to support business and employment growth in the county and review the impact of the loans on the level of private sector investment levered | At Risk | The Local Communities and Enterprise pillar of the Warwickshire Recovery and Investment Fund is on track. However, the pipeline for the larger Business Investment Growth pillar has slowed due in part to the general uncertainty in the economy. The annual review of the BIG pillar is due later this quarter. |

| | | |
|---|-------------|---|
| Engage and work with businesses to access loan funding via the Warwickshire Recovery & Investment Fund to support business and employment growth in the county and review the impact of the loans on the number of jobs safeguarded | At Risk | The Local Communities and Enterprise pillar of the Warwickshire Recovery and Investment Fund is on track. However, the pipeline for the larger Business Investment Growth pillar has slowed due in part to the general uncertainty in the economy. The annual review of the BIG pillar is due later this quarter. |
| Engage and work with businesses to access loan funding via the Warwickshire Recovery & Investment Fund to support business and employment growth in the county and review the impact of the loans on the number of new jobs created | At Risk | The Local Communities and Enterprise pillar of the Warwickshire Recovery and Investment Fund is on track. However, the pipeline for the larger Business Investment Growth pillar has slowed due in part to the general uncertainty in the economy. The annual review of the BIG pillar is due later this quarter. |
| Engage and work with businesses to access loan funding via the Warwickshire Recovery & Investment Fund to support business and employment growth in the county and review the impact of the loans on the GVA increase | At Risk | The Local Communities and Enterprise pillar of the Warwickshire Recovery and Investment Fund is on track. However, the pipeline for the larger Business Investment Growth pillar has slowed due in part to the general uncertainty in the economy. The annual review of the BIG pillar is due later this quarter. |
| Promote Warwickshire and secure inward investment by developing and delivering Sector Growth Plans for our key priority sectors; automotive, advanced engineering & manufacturing, digital creative and tourism | At Risk | At risk due to alignment with the Warwickshire Economic Strategy that is currently in development and Tourism Sector growth plan as we would like to align them where possible. |
| Work with our world class universities on research and development (R&D) to power growth and innovation including working with partners to develop and commission a future programme to support R&D and innovation with a focus on commercialising research and encouraging collaboration between Small & Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and research institutions. | Not Started | Work will flow from activities shaping the local UK Shared Prosperity Fund investment plans being led by the district and borough councils, and a review of future business support in Warwickshire is to be undertaken in the second half of 2022-23 |
| Develop, commission, manage and (where | Not Started | The My World of Work programme is due to begin in |

appropriate) deliver a range of skills programmes and initiatives which help ensure an appropriately skilled population can access well-paid jobs to include **through the “My World of Work” programme, support consistent and high-quality careers provision through showcasing future careers opportunities and informing young people about the range of careers pathways available to raise aspirations and support positive transition from education into employment.**

Spring 2023- delivery is likely to run throughout 2023 into 2024.

1.5 Tackle climate change, promote biodiversity and deliver on our commitment to Net Zero

| Activity | Status | Narrative |
|---|-------------|--|
| Progress with plans on sustainable transport to include developing a strategy and action plan to move our Council fleet to sustainable energy. | Not Started | This work has not commenced as yet for Warwickshire County Council fleet. We have been working with our contracting partners to investigate the use of Electric Vehicle's for their fleet involved in providing services to Warwickshire County Council. Also looking to use a graduate to complete a fleet audit for all of Communities |
| Increase our approach to Natural Capital by using the biodiversity net gain initiative to increase our rural tree planting scheme with a target to plant 10 hectares of woodland in the first year (2022/23) | At Risk | The first round of recruitment to a Natural Capital Team within Ecology, Historic Environment and Landscape Service is about to close. This team is to find woodland sites, apply for grants and organise tree planting. Forestry Commission grant to support additional posts over 2.5 years remains unawarded. Therefore 10 hectare target may be missed for March 2023. |
| Continue to take action to promote recycling: Review and refresh the joint waste strategy and action plan for Warwickshire with our partners | Not Started | The County and District and Borough Councils are working well through the Warwickshire Waste Partnership. Service and performance improvements continue to be made wherever possible. The local municipal Waste Management Strategy is due for |

review and clarity on Government's new resources and the waste strategy is awaited to allow this work to start in earnest.

1.6 The following Activities are On Track

Activity

Create a pipeline of projects and initiatives across the county to develop neighbourhoods and generate pride in our localities - **Identify and invest in revitalising those town centres which are a priority based on our approach to Levelling-Up with priority actions determined.**

Improve sites and facilities for Gypsy and Traveller communities through a programme of capital works to Council owned sites. Implement a rolling programme of road safety improvements to address the top accident cluster sites in the County. This will include pedestrian schemes, speed camera pilots, casualty reduction roundabout schemes and road safety education initiatives. <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/roadsafety>

Deliver our Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service (WFRS) 2-year improvement plan - **Develop our Prevention and Protection strategy action plans and implement a new risk-based inspection programme.**

Deliver our Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service (WFRS) 2-year improvement plan - **Improve the understanding of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion across our Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service including undertaking a cultural audit, staff engagement, training and a review of fire station facilities.**

Deliver our Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service (WFRS) 2-year improvement plan - **Achieve a positive reinspection outcome by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS).**

Deliver a refreshed Local Transport Plan (LTP4) for Warwickshire that sets out the priority areas for the County's transport policies and strategies around the themes of Wellbeing, Environment, Place and Economy. <https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/insights-service/ltp-themes/>

Implement 6 new planned Cycle schemes (subject to planning and land consents) across Warwickshire, with construction either completed or underway, to support an improved network of cycle and pedestrian facilities and promote sustainable travel choices. Deliver priority Road schemes that will make it easier to travel around the County including **a new signalised gyratory at the Stoneleigh junction on the A46.**

Work with our partners to encourage the expansion of 4G and 5G coverage across Warwickshire, aiming for connectivity by 2025 - 85% of premises are gigabit connected

Work with our partners to encourage the expansion of 4G and 5G coverage across Warwickshire, aiming for connectivity by 2025 - 100% of areas have 4G coverage (including rural locations)

Work with our partners to encourage the expansion of 4G and 5G coverage across Warwickshire, aiming for connectivity by 2025 - 60% of urban areas have 5G coverage

Work with our partners to encourage the expansion of 4G and 5G coverage across Warwickshire, aiming for connectivity by 2025 - 99% of areas have access to Broadband superfast

Engage and work with businesses to access loan funding via the Warwickshire Recovery & Investment Fund to support business and employment growth in the county and **review the impact of the loans on the amount of land and development enabled**

Building on our pandemic recovery work, continue to implement a business support programme to address specific barriers to business growth including **pre-start support for new business ideas.**

Building on our pandemic recovery work, continue to implement a business support programme to address specific barriers to business growth **including start-up support for new businesses.**

Building on our pandemic recovery work, continue to implement a business support programme to address specific barriers to business growth including **support for businesses looking to access finance.**

Building on our pandemic recovery work, continue to implement a business support programme to address specific barriers to business growth including **support for tech-based and other innovation-led businesses.**

Building on our pandemic recovery work, continue to implement a business support programme to address specific barriers to business growth including **specialist sector support including a dedicated programme to support the recovery and future growth of the tourism and leisure sector.**

Building on our pandemic recovery work, continue to implement a business support programme to address specific barriers to business growth including **specialist sector support including a comprehensive programme of business loans and grants.**

Building on our pandemic recovery work, continue to implement a business support programme to address specific barriers to business growth including **specialist sector support including support and brokerage on skills, apprenticeships and recruitment.**

Work with partners to secure funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and other Government programmes for Warwickshire for business support and employment & skills programmes.

Work with our partners and businesses to transition towards a goal of decarbonising the Warwickshire economy **including supporting Coventry City Council and Coventry University with the delivery of the Coventry and Warwickshire Green Business Programme to maximise take-up of the support by Warwickshire businesses.**

Work with our partners and businesses to transition towards a goal of decarbonising the Warwickshire economy including **Working with partners to develop and commission a future programme to support Warwickshire businesses with the transition towards a net zero economy and the growth of the low carbon sector in Warwickshire.**

Work with our world class universities on research and development (R&D) to power growth and innovation including **working with Coventry City Council and Coventry University to deliver the Coventry and Warwickshire Innovation Programme.**

Work with our world class universities on research and development (R&D) to power growth and innovation including **working with the University of Warwick Science Park to deliver the “Business Ready” programme.**

Develop, commission, manage and (where appropriate) deliver a range of skills programmes and initiatives which help ensure an appropriately skilled population can access well-paid jobs to include **delivering our Fair Chance Employers and Supported Employment programme to support Warwickshire employers to break down the barriers to sustainable employment and consider employing those further from the job market.**

Develop, commission, manage and (where appropriate) deliver a range of skills programmes and initiatives which help ensure an appropriately skilled population can access well-paid jobs to include **providing a digital marketplace for career opportunities in Warwickshire to be showcased in an accessible way which will provide opportunity for over 10,000 15-25 year olds, help businesses market their careers and provide schools with career resources.**

Develop, commission, manage and (where appropriate) deliver a range of skills programmes and initiatives which help ensure an appropriately skilled population can access well-paid jobs to include **offering the Warwickshire Apprenticeships Support programme to employers to increase the take up of Apprenticeships across the County by sharing Apprenticeship Levy funds with external businesses.**

Develop, commission, manage and (where appropriate) deliver a range of skills programmes and initiatives which help ensure an appropriately skilled population can access well-paid jobs to include **work with local businesses, partners and stakeholders to refresh the Council's Careers Strategy, addressing the post-pandemic recruitment challenges and identifying the future skills agenda to ensure Warwickshire residents are able to access careers and learning which deliver sustainable employment and meet the future demands of the Warwickshire economy.**

Attract tourism and maximise the benefits of Warwickshire's magnificent heritage, culture and visitor economy to include **a focus on working with partners to create a Tourism Sector Growth Plan for Warwickshire to inform our future programme of work to support the sector.**

Work collaboratively with the organisers of the Commonwealth Games to deliver a successful Games by supporting the key sporting events taking place in Warwickshire. Showcase Warwickshire and enable opportunities for economic benefit, public engagement and skills development arising from a major sporting event.

Explore place-based opportunities to deliver regeneration and improve social mobility as part of the Levelling-Up strategy to include **developing the Leamington Transformation Framework, alongside Warwick District Council and Leamington Town Council, specifically looking at place making and accessibility in the town centre.**

Explore place-based opportunities to deliver regeneration and improve social mobility as part of the Levelling-Up strategy to include **delivery of the Transforming Nuneaton programme, specifically Abbey Green Cycle Route and a new public realm and wayfinding project.**

Progress with plans on sustainable transport to include **exploring opportunities with partner organisations to introduce more sustainable public transport options.**

Progress with plans on sustainable transport to include **engaging with the Government's strategy for Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging and seek funding through government schemes for EV developments.**

Progress with plans on sustainable transport to include **implementing a pilot to assess the suitability of delivering on street, residential EV charge points using existing street lighting connections with up to 9 points to be delivered as part of a trial in 2022/23**

Progress with plans on sustainable transport to include **investigating the development and implementation of rural charging hubs in Warwickshire.**

Progress with plans on sustainable transport to include **working closely with District and Borough authorities to aid further delivery of charge points in off-street carparks.**

Increase our approach to **Natural Capital** by using the biodiversity net gain initiative to increase our rural tree planting scheme with a target to plant 2,000 standard hedgerow trees (or small copses) on Council land by March 2023. (Subject to the award of a Local Authority Treescape Fund (LATF) bid)

Increase our approach to **Natural Capital** by using the biodiversity net gain initiative to increase our rural tree planting scheme with

a target to plant an accumulated 30 hectares of woodland by March 2024.

Increase our approach to **Natural Capital** by using the biodiversity net gain initiative to increase our rural tree planting scheme with a target to explore the creation of a tree nursery on Council land to ensure the supply of trees in future years.

Increase our approach to **Natural Capital** by using the biodiversity net gain initiative to increase our rural tree planting scheme with a target to maximise our contribution to the Queen's Green Canopy (part of the Platinum Jubilee initiatives).

Increase our approach to **Natural Capital** by using the biodiversity net gain initiative to increase our rural tree planting scheme with a target to Implement a woodland tree strategy for Warwickshire with our partners.

Continue to take action to promote recycling: **Deliver an annual campaign of communications and activities to encourage further waste reduction and recycling across the county.**

Continue to take action to promote recycling: **Work with Warwick District Council and Stratford District Council to introduce a new kerbside recycling scheme including food waste.**

Maximise the potential that our Country Parks can provide in terms of green spaces, biodiversity, health and wellbeing, outdoor education; and develop plans for improved commercial opportunities within our Parks with proposals to be considered by Cabinet by Autumn 2022.

Deliver a programme of technology upgrades for Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service to support operational performance and national compliance with standards including updating our operational management & risk management system for recording for fire risks and hazards in buildings and our mobile data terminals on fire appliances.

Implement a new Trading Standards IT system to support our Trading Standards team to continue to address issues of community safety and protection.

Deliver a refreshed Local Transport Plan (LTP4) for Warwickshire that sets out the priority areas for the County's transport policies and strategies around the themes of Wellbeing, Environment, Place and Economy. <https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/insights-service/ltp-themes/>

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Appendix 3 Communities OSC Management of Financial Risk

Management of Financial Risk

1. Performance against the latest approved revenue budget as measured by forecast under/overspend

| Service Area | Approved Budget | Service Forecast | (Under) /Overspend | % Change from Budget | Represented by: | | | |
|---|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| | | | | | Investment Funds | Impact on Earmarked Reserves | Covid Impact | Remaining Service Variance |
| | £m | £m | £m | % | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| Environment Services | 26.067 | 26.207 | 0.140 | 0.5% | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.056 | 0.084 |
| Strategic Commissioning for Communities | 26.191 | 26.762 | 0.571 | 2.2% | 0.00 | (0.185) | 0.616 | 0.140 |
| Total | 52.258 | 52.969 | 0.711 | 1.4% | 0.00 | (0.185) | 0.672 | 0.224 |

2. Performance against the approved savings target as measured by forecast under/overachievement

As at Quarter 2, Environment Services is forecasting 100% delivery against the 3 saving targets (£1.286m) for the 2022/23 financial year and Strategic Commissioning for Communities reporting 97% delivery against 5 saving targets (£0.778m).

3. Performance against the approved capital programme as measured by forecast delays in delivery

| Service Area | Approved 2022-23 capital programme | New projects in year | Net over / underspend | Total capital programme | Budget Reprofile | Delays | Forecast In year capital spend | % of Delays |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m | £m | |
| Environment Services | 44.169 | 0.856 | (0.208) | 44.817 | 0.348 | (4.290) | 40.875 | (9.5%) |
| Strategic Commissioning for Communities | 11.504 | 0.105 | (0.103) | 11.506 | 0.334 | (0.116) | 11.724 | (1.0%) |
| S278 Developer Funded Schemes | 13.411 | 1.060 | (0.004) | 14.467 | 0.418 | (0.100) | 14.785 | (0.7%) |
| Total | 69.084 | 2.021 | (0.315) | 70.790 | 1.100 | (4.506) | 67.384 | (6.3%) |

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Appendix 4 Communities OSC Management of Risk

Key Service Risks Summary

At a service level there are 15 risks recorded against services relating to Communities. Key risks are highlighted where they are red risks (high risk) and where a risk level has been higher than the risk target for 3 quarters or more and is currently still 3 points or more over target.

Communities

| Key Service Risks | Net risk is currently green or amber | Net risk is currently red |
|--|--|---|
| Risk level has not exceeded the target for 3 quarters in a row | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14 Risks <p>The highest scoring (risk score of 12) being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Community Services) Economic downturn due to Covid and Brexit. (Environmental Services) Being unable to deliver the highways planned Winter Maintenance programme in the event of extreme weather (Community Services) Insufficient resources to deliver the Council Plan (Community Services) Insufficient income from Section 106 and Communities Infrastructure Levy to deliver infrastructure (Community Services) Pressure to manage increasing levels of waste (Environmental Services) Unable to deliver Flood Risk Management duties | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None |
| Risk level has exceeded target for 3 quarters in a row and is currently more than 3 points above target | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Education Services) Loss of income for Adult Community Learning |

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Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Work Programme

| Date of next report | Item | Report detail |
|---------------------|---|--|
| Page 8 of 11 | 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). |
| | EDS Dashboard (to be received every other meeting) | A table on all cycling, walking, train and road developments in Warwickshire and their progress |
| TBD | A46 Strategic Link Road Outline Business Case | This report presents the Outline Business Case for the proposed new A46 travel corridor. For submission to the Department for Transport. |
| 8 February 2023 | 20mph Limits Update | An update on 20mph limits in Warwickshire and their progress |
| 8 February 2023 | Joining up 'trunk' bus routes with demand response bus services | A note on how the council is linking up operating bus routes and the new demand response service cross-county |
| 8 February 2023 | Transport Scheme Evaluation | A full evaluation following April's note on the successes of transport development schemes implemented |
| 8 February 2023 | NUCKLE Line update | An update on the Nuneaton Coventry Kenilworth Leamington line being done with Coventry City Council |
| 12 April 2023 | Q & A with Severn Trent Water and the Environmental Agency | Representatives from STW and the EA will attend the meeting to answer questions submitted from the committee |

| | | |
|-----------------|--|---|
| 12 April 2023 | Differing response times with pedestrian crossings in relation to traffic congestion | A note on why some pedestrian crossings change immediately and others do not and how this is affected by traffic congestion |
| 12 April 2023 | Local Transport Plan | To receive version 4 of the Local Transport Plan (LTP) before Cabinet |
| 12 April 2023 | Sustainable Futures Strategy | Update on the strategy that was approved by Cabinet in 2022. This will go onto May's Cabinet |
| 12 April 2023 | Major Scheme Developments | A report providing an update on any major schemes ongoing in Warwickshire and any environmental implications they had |
| 21 June 2023 | Social Fund Policy Update | An update on the Social Policy Fund and it's successes following the comments made by the committee in September 2021. This was pushed back as new projects were starting in September 2022 |
| 7 February 2024 | Vehicle Activated Sign Update | An update on the approved policy on the management of future deployment of Vehicle Activated Signs and potential removal of non-operational, non-beneficial VAS |

Items for future work programming and review

| Item | Description |
|---------------------------|---|
| Planning | |
| Capital programme | How managed/ overall picture of schemes (Note Resources & Fire and Rescue are also getting regular update on capital slippage). |
| Bermuda Connectivity | (post-implementation) A report on the Bermuda project |
| Economy | |
| 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. |
| Community Cohesion | |
| KSIs and Speed Limits | To review the Council's speed limit and speed camera policies. |

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Population statistics | To review to population growth in Warwickshire in relation to housing developments (briefing note) |
| Sustainable Transport | |
| Air Quality Monitoring | To provide and update on air quality monitoring since the TFG recommendations in 2018 |
| Cycling Liaison Group Report | A report from the CLG regarding cycling updates in Warwickshire and the benefits to the environment and tourism |

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