

ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
COMMITTEE

21 September 2023

OPEN

PRESENT:

Labour Group

Councillor S Taylor (Chair) and Councillor K Storey (Vice-Chair) and Councillors A Archer, I Hudson, J Jackson, V Redfern, B Stuart and A Tilley.

Conservative Group

Councillors K Haines, J Lowe and P Watson.

Liberal Democrats

Councillor G Andrew

Non-Grouped

Councillor A Wheelton

EDS/23 **APOLOGIES**

The Committee was informed that apologies had been received from Councillor A Tilley (Labour Group)

EDS/24 **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of meetings held on 02 March 2023, 20 April 2023, 30 May 2023 and 10 August 2023 were received and signed by the Chair of the Committee.

EDS/25 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Committee was informed that no declarations of interest had been received.

EDS/26 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 10**

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the Public had been received.

EDS/27 **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the Council had been received.

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE

EDS/28 **BUDGET SETTING APPROACH 2024-25**

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) addressed the Committee and summarised the key areas within the report noting the three key principles to setting the budget. It was explained how the budgets would be Service and Member lead and the consultation process outlined.

Members commended the report and sought clarity regarding consideration of the Local Plan.

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) clarified that the Budget supported the Local Plan.

RESOLVED:

- 1.1 The Committee noted the budget setting approach within the report and Members provided feedback accordingly to the Strategic Director (Corporate Resources).***

EDS/29 **WOODVILLE LINK ROAD BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN PROJECT – PROGRESS UPDATE**

The Head of Cultural and Community Services presented the report to the Committee and summarised the main areas within the report noting the Biodiversity work that had been undertaken the previous year. The Head of Cultural and Community Services outlined the technical details contained within the appendices to the report.

Members commended the report and sought clarity regarding maintenance costs, the involvement of the Wildlife Trust and the possibility of site visits.

The Head of Cultural and Community Services explained to the Committee that maintenance costs were written into the agreement with Derbyshire County Council which included a contingency fund. The Committee was informed that voluntary groups assisted with the monitoring and maintenance of sites and that the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust had ongoing involvement. It was noted that site visits could be arranged for Members and that information regarding the use of the contingency fund could be shared with the Committee.

RESOLVED:

1.1 The Committee acknowledged the progress of the Woodville Link Road Biodiversity Net Gain project during 2022 and the outstanding works to be completed.

EDS/30 **ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT ACTION PLAN (2021-30)**

The Head of Environmental Services addressed the Committee and outlined the proposed amendments to the three key reports that covered the Carbon Emissions Progress for 2022/23, the review of the Environment Action Plan proposals and the review of the Environmental Policy.

The Chair thanked all those involved in the work undertaken and commended the report.

Members discussed the merits of the report and suggested items that could be included such as the number of trees removed due to planning, the electrification of fleet vehicles and dates and timescales for proposals.

The Strategic Director (Service Delivery) informed the Committee that Members comments would be taken on board.

RESOLVED:

1.1 The Committee noted the current progress made in reducing carbon emissions as described in the SDDC Annual Carbon Reduction Progress Report 2022/23 attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

1.2 The Committee approved the recommendations set out in the Annual Climate and Environmental Action Plan Review 2023 attached to the report as Appendix 2.

1.3 The Committee approved the proposed amendments to the Climate and Environment Action Plan, attached to the report as Appendix 3.

1.4 The Committee recognised that to achieve the Climate Emergency declaration to “Strive to make South Derbyshire District Council carbon neutral by 2030” that the transformation actions T1 to T6, as per Appendix 3 attached to the report, would need to be included in the future Council Plan.

1.5 The Committee approved that the current South Derbyshire District Council's In-house Carbon Emission Roadmap would need to be revised to reflect the current realities of delivering net zero emissions.

1.6 The Committee approved a revised Environment Policy as attached to the report as Appendix 4.

EDS/31 **ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGE POINT INFRASTRUCTURE**

The Head of Environmental Services presented the report to the Committee and outlined the key areas of the report and sought approval of the recommendations.

Members considered the report and sought clarity regarding area choice for electric vehicle charging points and the maintenance and repair of electric vehicle charging points.

The Head of Environmental Services informed the Committee that the most practicable sites had been chosen and that electrical charging points were not owned by South Derbyshire District Council and therefore the private providers were responsible for maintenance and repair.

RESOLVED:

1.1 The Committee approved the updated Electric Vehicle (EV) Charge Point Infrastructure Plan to deliver a phased approach to delivering residential Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure in an equitable way and with due consideration to the geography of South Derbyshire.

1.2 The Committee approved the receipt of funding from D2N2 for the installation of electric charge points at the Boardman Road Depot and approved the acceptance of additional funding for extra charge points if it becomes available.

1.3 The Committee recommended to Finance and Management Committee the approval of the proposed reallocation of £50,000 originally earmarked for the installation of electric charge points at the Boardman Road Depot to fund the installation of electric charge points at an alternative suitable location.

1.4 If successful this Committee approved the receipt of funding from Derbyshire County Council under the Low Emissions Vehicle Infrastructure project for the installation of electric charge points at the relevant South Derbyshire District Council land nominated in the project bid.

1.5 The Committee welcomed that the Electric Vehicle Charge Point Infrastructure Plan exploited the current external funding opportunity from both the UK government and third-party partnership. The Committee noted that in doing so the Plan would represent a further step in bridging the acknowledged gap

between available Council funding and the Council's climate neutral ambitions.

EDS/32 **DESIGNATION OF FINDERN NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA**

The Planning Policy Assistant addressed the Committee and presented the report to the Committee and sought approval of the recommendation.

Members considered the report and supported the first step to enable Findern to become a Neighbourhood Area and develop and Local Neighbourhood Plan.

RESOLVED:

1.1. The Committee formally designated the Findern Neighbourhood Area in accordance with the application from Findern Parish Council, attached to the report as Appendix 2.

EDS/33 **MEMBERSHIP OF THE LOCAL PLAN WORKING GROUP**

The Head of Planning and Strategic Housing addressed the Committee and outlined the history of previous Local Plan Working Groups and the necessity to reform the group in line with Political Proportionality.

RESOLVED:

1.1 The Committee agreed the appointment of five Members from the Committee to the Local Plan Working Group (LPWG).

1.2 The Committee approved that, in line with the Council's political proportionality, to receive three nominations from the Labour Group and two nominations from the Conservative Group, with appointments to be confirmed at the next meeting of Full Council.

EDS/34 **THE DEPARTMENT FOR LEVELLING UP, HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES CONSULTATION ON IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN-MAKING REFORMS**

The Planning Policy Team Leader presented the report to the Committee and summarised South Derbyshire District Council's consultation response.

The Committee considered the report and supported the consultation responses.

RESOLVED:

1.1 The Committee approved the submission of the response to the consultation in line with officer recommendations as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

EDS/35 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The Strategic Director (Service Delivery) presented the report to the Committee and confirmed that dates for future reports were to be reviewed and noted that the Planning Service Review would be reported to the Committee at the next meeting.

RESOLVED:

1.1 The Committee considered and approved the updated work programme, attached as Annexe A to the report.

EDS/36 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

RESOLVED:

That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it would be likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in brackets after each item.

MINUTES

The Exempt Minutes of the Meetings held on 02 March 2023, 20 April 2023 and 30 May 2023 with were received.

EXEMPT QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11

The Committee was informed that no exempt questions from Members of the Council had been received.

OPERATIONAL SERVICES COMMERCIALISATION PLAN 2023-26

The Committee approved the recommendations within the report.

The meeting terminated at 19:40 hours.

COUNCILLOR S TAYLOR

CHAIR