Wiltshire Council
Where everybody matters

AGENDA

Meeting: Environment Select Committee

Place: Kennet Room - County Hall, Trowbridge BA14 8JN

Date: Tuesday 27 October 2015

Time: **10.30 am**

Please direct any enquiries on this agenda to Fiona Rae, of Democratic Services, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, direct line 01225 712681 or email fiona.rae@wiltshire.gov.uk

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Membership:

Cllr Bridget Wayman (Chairman)
Cllr Peter Edge (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Brian Dalton
Cllr Dennis Drewett
Cllr Peter Evans
Cllr Jose Green
Cllr Jacqui Lay
Cllr Magnus Macdonald
Cllr Ian McLennan
Cllr Linda Packard
Cllr James Sheppard
Cllr Tony Trotman
Cllr Philip Whalley

Substitutes:

Cllr Rosemary Brown
Cllr Trevor Carbin
Cllr Terry Chivers
Cllr Anna Cuthbert
Cllr Tony Deane
Cllr Nick Fogg MBE
Cllr Mike Hewitt
Cllr George Jeans
Cllr Bob Jones MBE
Cllr John Noeken
Cllr Jeff Osborn
Cllr Ricky Rogers
Cllr Ian Tomes
Cllr Ian West

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Part I

Items to be considered while the meeting is open to the public

1 **Apologies**

To receive any apologies or substitutions for the meeting.

2 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

To approve and sign the minutes of the Environment Select Committee meeting held on 1 September 2015.

3 **Declarations of Interest**

To receive any declarations of disclosable interests or dispensations granted by the Standards Committee.

4 **Chairman's Announcements**

To receive the following announcements through the Chairman:

- Fracking consultation response (Habitats Regulations Assessment)

The Council responded to the 'Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) 14th Onshore Oil and Gas Licensing Round -Consultation on proposed assessment' published on 18 August 2015. The full consultation response was circulated to members of the Council as part of Briefing Note 257 and can be accessed on the website here (please note that there were two appendices with the briefing note).

It is currently expected that a report will be produced in due course following receipt of the consultation responses.

Environment Select Committee would be notified of any further activity on this topic.

5 **Public Participation**

The Council welcomes contributions from members of the public.

Statements

If you would like to make a statement at this meeting on any item on this agenda, please register to do so **at least 10 minutes prior to the meeting**. Up to 3 speakers are permitted to speak for up to 3 minutes each on any agenda item. Please contact the officer named above for any further clarification.

Questions

To receive any questions from members of the public or members of the Council received in accordance with the constitution. Those wishing to ask questions are required to give notice of any such questions in writing to the officer named above no later than **5pm** on **Tuesday 20 October 2015**. Please contact the officer named on the first page of this agenda for further advice. Questions may be asked without notice if the Chairman decides that the matter is urgent.

Details of any questions received will be circulated to Committee members prior to the meeting and made available at the meeting and on the Council's website.

6 **Energy Resilience Plan**

In March 2012, the Environment Select Committee approved the ECO Board's recommendation to streamline three action plans, covering low carbon transition, renewable energy and affordable warmth, into a single energy resilience plan for Wiltshire.

The draft Energy Resilience Plan was considered by the ECO Board on 22 October 2015. The Environment Select Committee is now invited to comment on the Energy Resilience Plan before it is finalised and published.

A further presentation on the draft Energy Resilience Plan will be received at the meeting.

7 **Update on Street Lighting**

At its meeting on 9 June 2015, the Environment Select Committee raised the issue of street lighting reduction which was to be rolled out across the county from 1 July 2015. The Committee requested that it be updated on this issue.

To update members on progress made with regard to reducing energy costs and the carbon footprint of Wiltshire Council's street lighting.

8 **Wiltshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy**

The Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS) was reviewed by the Environment Select Committee on 28 October 2014, and was subsequently approved with minor alterations by Cabinet in December 2015. In view of the particular problems of ground water, a Groundwater Management Strategy has been developed (see **Appendix 2**) to augment the LFRMS.

To report on progress made with regard to flooding since the last report received by the Committee on 28 October 2014.

9 **Integrated Emergency Management Plan**

The Committee's attention is drawn to the fact that, at its 8 September 2015 meeting, the Management Committee considered the new Wiltshire Council Integrated Emergency Management Plan, ahead of its adoption by Full Council. This Plan details the Council's policy on emergency planning, and how the Council will discharge its duties for major incidents, business continuity and recovery. It also links to the Wiltshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy considered under item 8 on the agenda.

The Integrated Emergency Management Plan can be found in the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee's agenda here.

The Committee is recommended by the Management Committee to be aware of the purpose and content of the Plan when undertaking its work.

10 **Wholly Owned Subsidiary Rapid Scrutiny**

On 8 September 2015 Cllrs Bridget Wayman, Peter Evans and Magnus Macdonald took part in the Rapid Scrutiny Exercise, established by the Environment Select Committee, to consider the report on Future Delivery Model for the Repairs, Improvements and Maintenance of Council Owned Assets.

The outcome report of the rapid scrutiny exercise was presented to Cabinet on 15 September 2015 and can be accessed using the links below:

Wholly Owned Subsidiary - WOS

Wholly Owned Subsidiary - WOS - Options Paper

Report - outcome of the rapid scrutiny 08.09.15

Wiltshire Council High Level Options Appraisal Report

Another rapid scrutiny exercise will be undertaken, prior to the formal start of the procurement process, to enable the scrutiny members to consider the details of the proposed WOS.

The Committee is asked to endorse the work done by the rapid scrutiny exercise.

11 **Highways and Streetscene task group - early termination of the Highways and Streetscene Contract with Balfour Beatty Living Places**

The Highways and Streetscene Contract report, detailing the early termination of the Highways and Streetscene Contract with Balfour Beatty Living Places (BBLP), and the alternative arrangements for service delivery being put in place, will be considered by Cabinet on 10 November 2015. In advance of this, the Highways and Streetscene Task Group considered the report at its meeting on 15 October 2015.

A report detailing the conclusions and recommendations of the Task Group will be published prior to the Committee meeting. The Highways and Streetscene Contract report will be attached as an appendix to the Task Group report; the exempt information will be contained in a separate report circulated in Part II.

The Task Group report will be presented to the Committee by the Chairman of the Highways and Streetscene Task Group.

The Committee is asked to endorse the conclusions and recommendations of the Highways and Streetscene Task Group.

12 **Task Group Update**

Written updates on Environment Select Committee Task Group activity are attached.

The Committee is asked to agree the proposed membership of the Resident Engagement Task Group, to consider the areas of work the Waste Task Group should focus on, and to note the Task Group updates.

13 **Forward Work Programme**

To note and receive updates on the progress of items on the forward work programme.

Under the revised Overview and Scrutiny (OS) arrangements there is now a single OS work programme controlled by the OS Management Committee, linked to priorities in the Business Plan.

Therefore it should be noted that, whilst any matters added by Members are welcome, these need to be agreed by the Committee and referred to the OS Management Committee for approval before formal inclusion in the work programme for the Environment Select Committee.

A copy of the Overview and Scrutiny Forward Work Programme for the Environment Select Committee is attached for reference.

14 **Urgent Items**

Any other items of business which the Chairman agrees to consider as a matter of urgency.

15 **Date of the Next Meeting**

To confirm the date of the next meeting as 16 February 2016.

16 **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

To consider passing the following resolution:

To agree that in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the public from the meeting for the business specified in Item Number 15 because it is likely that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act and the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information to the public.

Part II

Items during consideration of which it is recommended that the public should be excluded because of the likelihood that exempt information would be disclosed.

17 **Highways and Streetscene Contract**

The Part II report contains the financial information in connection with the Highways and Streetscene Contract termination. This will be published as an appendix to the Task Group report.

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Wiltshire Council
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ENVIRONMENT SELECT COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT SELECT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 1 SEPTEMBER 2015 AT KENNET ROOM - COUNTY HALL, TROWBRIDGE BA14 8JN.

Present:

Cllr Rosemary Brown (Substitute), Cllr Anna Cuthbert (Substitute), Cllr Dennis Drewett, Cllr Peter Edge (Vice Chairman), Cllr Peter Evans, Cllr Jose Green, Cllr Bob Jones MBE (Substitute), Cllr Jacqui Lay, Cllr Magnus Macdonald, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Tony Trotman, Cllr Bridget Wayman (Chairman) and Cllr Philip Whalley

Also Present:

Cllr Jonathon Seed, Cllr Jerry Wickham

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38 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from:

Cllr Brian Dalton
Cllr Linda Packard
Cllr James Sheppard
Carlton Brand

Cllr Brian Dalton was substituted by Cllr Bob Jones
Cllr Linda Packard was substituted by Cllr Rosemary Brown
Cllr James Sheppard was substituted by Cllr Anna Cuthbert

39 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The durability of decal (stickers) on green waste bins was questioned with regards to minute 33a. It was requested that an update on whether they are expected to be temporary be provided to the Committee.

It was noted that the net saving in garden waste services was £1.2million in 2015, with £300,000 per annum savings as a result of revised recycling centre opening hours.

Resolved:

To confirm as a true and correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 2015.

40 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Bridget Wayman declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 7 as she was a non-executive director of Selwood Housing.

41 **Chairman's Announcements**

Community Litter Picking

Information on collecting waste from community litter picking was requested by the committee at the Environment Select Committee meeting on 9 June 2015 and was circulated to members of the committee.

The Committee noted that it was hoped a more holistic approach would have been provided across Wiltshire to prevent littering. More work was expected regarding school programmes and work with fast food outlets. Information was requested regarding this.

HRC Hours

It was announced that the Associate Director for Waste and Environment had indicated that the specification tendered for would be reduced hours so that all savings made were clear. Work was also being done to address traffic management.

It was noted that charities with discretionary passes to recycling centres visited HRCs during weekend peak hours. It was recommended that these charities go directly to Amesbury Transfer Centre.

Fracking

It was announced that from the bidding round undertaken last year, the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) had received 95 licence applications to explore for onshore oil and gas covering 295 'blocks' in England, Scotland and Wales. A total of 159 blocks remained for further consideration, 4 of which related to Wiltshire.

The consultation focused on whether the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) undertaken was reasonable on the 159 sites remaining for "further consideration" and not whether these areas should be subject to hydrocarbon (oil and gas) exploration or extraction, also known as 'fracking'.

The deadline for the consultation was 29 September 2015, by which time Wiltshire Council would submit a response.

BBLP Contract

Wiltshire Council was noted as working towards a solution with Balfour Beatty. An update would be provided when available.

42 **Public Participation**

Mr Andrew Hewitt was in attendance to deliver a statement on the subject of fracking within Wiltshire.

43 **Review of On and Off-Street Parking Traffic Regulation Orders**

Parvis Khansari, Associate Director for Highways and Transport, was in attendance to introduce the report.

A public consultation on the revised Wiltshire LTP Car Parking Strategy had been carried between 27 October 2014 and 19 January 2015. A total of 5,013 people and organisations had responded to the consultation.

Cabinet had considered the outcome of the review and public consultation at their 17 March 2015 meeting.

Changes to all Traffic Regulation Orders were advertised. An associated public consultation exercise was undertaken between 25 June and 20 July 2015. Response to this was noted as being low with 26 of the 38 total responses relating to proposed changes from pay and display to a MiPermit scheme at Sheep Street car park in Devizes.

Proposed changes in parking charges from pay and display to MiPermit-only was explained as being limited currently to small car parks. This was to help judge how it will affect those who would struggle with operating in cashless payment conditions and see how it can be managed.

It was suggested by the Committee that a trial of the MiPermit-only scheme should be performed within Salisbury. A larger car park was explained as having been declined as a trial option as the reaction could not be predicted.

Implementation would take place after the process had been through scrutiny, area boards, and then a delegated decision.

The choice of Sheep Street car park was explained as being chosen due to its high usage from older people. Information was needed from those who do not often use phones for payment.

Possible traffic congestion caused by the change in the car park charging system at Sheep Street was noted.

It was asked whether problems with phone signals would be a cause for concern. Devizes was explained as being good for phone signal, and that Marlborough had been declined as a choice due to the poor phone signal in the area.

Resolved:

1. **To request an update report to be brought to the Environment Select Committee 6 months after commencement of operation the MiPermit only trials.**
2. **To recommend that a suitable trial car park is identified site be located and used within Salisbury.**

44 **Housing**

45 **Housing Association Resident Participation and Scrutiny**

Nicole Smith, Head of Housing, and Cllr Jonathon Seed were in attendance to introduce the item.

A briefing note had been previously circulated to members regarding the Housing Association Resident Participation and Scrutiny.

It was explained that, overall, there had been a good response from tenants, and that there had been success in getting them involved. A total of 2,500 texts had been sent out with a good response rate and Facebook had also been utilised for involvement. It was clarified that traditional methods of communication were still being used and that modern methods of communication were used to supplement this. It was noted that, following the changes to the Housing Allocation Policy, several thousand responses were returned as applicants were unknown at the address on record.

A question was asked regarding the inclusion of local councillors, and how they could become more involved. It was explained that this could be looked into.

Resolved:

1. **To notify Overview and Scrutiny of the Environment Select Committee's intention to form a scrutiny Task Group.**
2. **To circulate a request for Task Group membership to the Environment Select Committee members.**

46 **Housing Allocation Policy - Implementation Update**

Nicole Smith, Head of Housing, and Cllr Jonathon Seed were in attendance to introduce the item.

The purpose of the allocation policy was explained as setting a framework for Wiltshire Council and its partners for the registration, assessment and allocation of affordable homes. The allocation policy described how applicants for affordable housing were assessed to ensure that those with the greatest housing need were prioritised for the allocation of affordable housing in Wiltshire.

Wiltshire's revised allocation policy was fully implemented in February 2015 and remained a choice-based lettings scheme which covered the whole of Wiltshire.

Previously there had been 20,676 applicants on Wiltshire's housing register. It was suspected that a large number of these were now inactive or no longer relevant applications, as data had not been cleansed from the system for a number of years. It was also previously impossible to work out how those who best needed housing could be looked after.

Following the changes to the Housing Allocation Policy several thousand responses were returned as no longer at that address or unknown to letters sent out to applicants.

Between 15 and 20 complaints had been received during the reassessment of the 20,676 applications.

Regarding address information issues it was suggested that people should be informed that it is their duty to update their information after joining the housing register. It was explained that 12 months after joining the register applicants would be requested to confirm that their information is correct or update it.

Bidding was explained as not being limited to those with a local connection. Once a shortlist had been drawn those with local connections were prioritised first, followed by those in the surrounding area, and then the rest of Wiltshire.

It was explained that allocations were first extended to local connections, as this comes before bands. Children numbers within the area were also taken into consideration to reduce density.

Local connections were noted as including a permanent employee contract. Local connections were rigorously tested by assessment officers to ensure their legitimacy. An application could be processed in two weeks if information was readily available, but the process would take as long as was needed. It was suggested that the local connection be better advertised as a key factor in the consideration of an application.

The right to buy scheme was noted as reducing available housing stock. Different ways to address this were noted as needing to be looked at, it was explained that suggestions would be welcomed.

It was asked what would happen if an applicant had a strong local connection to a house available in an area, but had already been allocated a house elsewhere. Previously they would have been placed in the bronze band, which was unanimously recommended to be removed through consultation. House Swap and the Open House Market Register were named as options for this situation.

Bids were clarified as being able to be made through electronic or non-electronic means.

Two bedroom properties were noted as being harder to let, as people were unable to afford the rent. A possible solution was to offer housing lets on a shared basis. It was suggested that two bedroom flats should be taken as starter homes for families.

Resolved:

For the report to return to the Environment Select Committee in 6 months to consider the impact of the revised Housing Bill.

47 **Future Delivery Model for the Repairs, Improvements and Maintenance of Council Owned Assets**

Cllr Wayman explained that the Future Delivery Model for the Repairs, Improvements and Maintenance of Council Owned Assets report was currently unavailable.

It was explained that the report would be going to Cabinet on 17 September 2015. A rapid scrutiny task group was hoped to be performed on the report on 8 September before the report went to Cabinet.

Resolved:

To hold a rapid scrutiny exercise on 8 September 2015 to consider the future delivery model for repairs, improvements and maintenance of Council owned assets.

48 **Task Group Update**

Public Transport Review Task Group

The Chairman drew attention to the update in the agenda pack. It was explained that the task group would review the outcome of a pre-consultation exercise at its next meeting on 16 September 2015. This would include feedback from members of the task group who have attended meetings with bus operators.

The Task Group's proposed terms of reference were considered by the Committee.

Highways and Streetscene Contract (BBLP) Task Group

The Chairman drew attention to the update in the agenda pack. It was noted that the strategic direction and forward work programming for the Task Group was under development following the meeting held between the Chair of the Task Group, Corporate Director, Associate Director and Cabinet Member on 14 May 2015.

The Committee requested an update on Balfour Beatty and it was explained that an announcement was imminent and would be provided when available.

Resolved:

1. **To note the Task Group updates.**
2. **To approve the terms of reference for the Public Transport Review Task Group.**

49 **Forward Work Programme**

It was explained that issues would soon be added to the forward work programme as a result of the next Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting.

Cycle-paths and footpaths were noted as being issues of potential interest and it was suggested that this was a possible area for investigation in partnership with the Health Select Committee.

Resolved:

To note the forward work programme.

50 **Urgent Items**

There were no urgent items.

51 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Committee would be held on 27 October 2015 at 10.30am in the Kennet Room, County Hall, Trowbridge, BA14 8JN.

(Duration of meeting: 10.30 am - 12.40 pm)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Fiona Rae, of Democratic Services, direct line 01225 712681, e-mail fiona.rae@wiltshire.gov.uk.

Press enquiries to Communications, direct line (01225) 713114/713115.

Wiltshire Council

Environment Select Committee

27 October 2015

Wiltshire Energy Resilience Plan

Purpose of Report

1. For the committee to comment on the draft Energy Resilience Plan (see **Appendix 1**) following consideration by the ECO Board on 22 October 2015.

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

2. The work delivered under the Energy Resilience Plan will make a direct contribution to the council's core vision to create stronger and more resilient communities and provides opportunities to deliver against many of the business plan's outcomes:

   Outcome 1: Wiltshire has a thriving and growing local economy.
   The transition to a low carbon economy is a central theme for the plan, and is recognised as a driver within the Swindon and Wiltshire Strategic Economic Plan which will create opportunities for innovation, jobs, skills and sustainable economic growth.

   Outcome 2: People in Wiltshire work together to solve problems locally and participate in decisions that affect them.
   The Energy Resilience Plan has engaged with a range of stakeholders who will need to work together to achieve its objectives. It promotes knowledge sharing and collaboration to enable communities and businesses to develop their own energy resilience.

   Outcome 3: Everyone in Wiltshire lives in a high quality environment.
   The plan identifies opportunities to improve energy efficiency, reduce fuel poverty, promote sustainable transport and deliver low carbon solutions. These are important actions to ensure people in Wiltshire live in a high quality environment.

Background

3. The Energy, Change and Opportunity (ECO) strategy 2011-2020 is the framework strategy for the Energy Resilience Plan (see figure 1). It is supplemented by the Carbon Management Plan for the council's emissions and the Climate Change Adaptation Plan (currently under review).

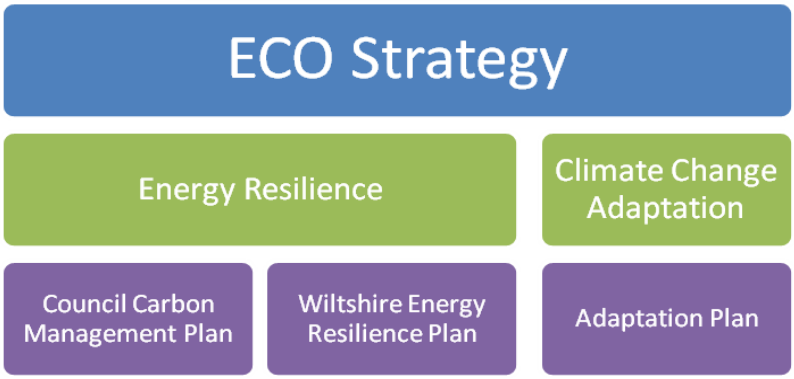

Figure 1: ECO Strategy action plan structure

4. The ECO Strategy was approved by Cabinet in January 2011. Cabinet agreed that the ECO Board should oversee the delivery of the Strategy and be responsible for approving and monitoring delivery of subsequent action plans.

5. In March 2012, the Environment Select Committee approved the ECO Board's recommendation to streamline three action plans, covering low carbon transition, renewable energy and affordable warmth, into a single energy resilience plan for Wiltshire.

6. In September 2014, Wiltshire Council became a signatory to the Climate Local Commitment. The Energy Resilience Plan supports this commitment and satisfies the requirement for a Climate Local action plan to be in place which reflects local actions and priorities to reduce carbon emissions.

7. Development of the Energy Resilience Plan commenced in early 2015 with stakeholder meetings. External consultation on the draft action plan ended in September and the plan has been updated to reflect this feedback.

8. Comments are now invited from the Environment Select Committee in order to finalise the Energy Resilience Plan before publishing.

Main Considerations for the Council

9. The Department of Energy and Climate Change public attitude tracker (April 2015) indicates that the majority of respondents remain concerned about the issue of energy security and future energy price rises. There remains a high level of support (78%) for the use of renewable energy to provide the UK's electricity, fuel and heat. The Wiltshire Energy Resilience Plan is a demonstration of the council's leadership in tackling these issues.

10. The plan at **Appendix 1** aims to address the current opportunities and barriers to developing energy resilience in Wiltshire and capture the benefits of a low carbon transition for businesses and communities. These benefits include maintaining competitiveness, improving security of energy supply, providing affordable warmth and enabling energy spend to be retained locally.

11. Links are made in the plan with existing council strategies, such as the Local Transport Plan, Air Quality Action Plan and Wiltshire Core Strategy.

Development

12. This plan identifies the actions that Wiltshire Council and other stakeholders will take to address four key areas: energy efficiency, affordable warmth, sustainable transport and low carbon energy solutions.

13. As the first of its type for the county, the scope and content of the plan has been developed in discussion with stakeholders from Wiltshire businesses, the public sector and community-based organisations. These included, for example, Wavin (Chippenham), DSTL (Porton Down), Dyson (Malmesbury), Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust and Kennet Community Energy. This process was led by the council's green economy team.

14. The plan sets out the current picture for energy use in Wiltshire and establishes a vision and objectives.

15. The actions defined in the Energy Resilience Plan are short to medium term and produce a flexible plan which can be periodically reviewed and updated to reflect changing opportunities and priorities.

Consultation

16. The draft plan has been circulated internally for approval by the relevant heads of service. An external consultation has been undertaken on the draft document, principally among stakeholders who have helped to inform its development. Consultees were asked to consider whether the key issues and opportunities had been captured and make suggestions for improving the action plans.

17. Responses have been received from a cross-section of consultees. As a result of the feedback, clarification has been provided on the monitoring arrangements for the plan and a number of additional case studies and suggestions have been incorporated.

18. Consultees from the community and private sector have stated their commitment to supporting the objectives of the plan and its implementation.

Delivery, monitoring and reporting

19. The action plan captures the work of a number of the council's service areas including sustainable transport, public health, economic development, planning, fleet, housing and asset management. Partners in the public, private and community sectors are identified and will play a key role in ensuring delivery of this plan's objectives.

20. Delivery for the majority of the actions will be met from existing resources. Those actions which are funding-dependent will require external sources to be identified and/or grant applications to be made and this is highlighted in the action plan.

21. Progress with the action plans will be reported annually to the ECO Board and published on the council's website.

Safeguarding Implications

22. Any safeguarding issues will be managed through the normal safeguarding policy and procedures.

Public Health Implications

23. A number of the initiatives promoted by the Energy Resilience Plan will have cross-cutting benefits for public health. These include the Warm and Safe Wiltshire Programme to tackle fuel poverty and active travel promotions to encourage walking, cycling and use of public transport.

Corporate Procurement Implications

24. Any procurement issues will be managed through the normal corporate policy and procedures.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

25. The plan has developed a picture of energy resilience across the county. It identifies reducing carbon emissions as one of its strategic aims. The core activities to be delivered will improve energy efficiency, facilitate low carbon energy sources and promote sustainable transport, all of which will contribute to climate change mitigation.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

26. The plan identifies enabling an active role for communities as a strategic aim for delivering action across all areas of energy resilience. Community interest groups have been engaged throughout the development and consultation process to shape the scope of the plan and direct how they can contribute to its objectives and implementation.

27. The Energy Resilience Plan includes an objective to improve domestic energy efficiency for those in or at risk of fuel poverty. This programme of work, led by public health, will target support at vulnerable residents.

Risk Assessment

28. The Energy Resilience Plan brings together the activities of a range of service areas and stakeholders in order to support a coordinated approach to energy matters in Wiltshire. A number of risks have been considered and managed in taking this approach.

29. Service delivery:
The plan has been developed with input from key service areas. It reflects current activities and projects which will be delivered in the short to medium term to provide a realistic action plan that reflects current priorities and avoids duplication of effort. The action plan indicates where additional financial resources and funding applications will be required to enable delivery, as well as highlighting the role of partners to support implementation.

30. Financial:
Where actions are dependent on funding applications or suitable external funding options being explored, this is identified within the action plan. The Energy Resilience Plan will be a tool for communicating to potential funding bodies the council's strategic approach to energy matters in the county.

31. Reputation:
There has been cross-sectoral support for the development of the Energy Resilience Plan. Demonstrating progress in delivery of the action plans will be important to maintain this engagement and support for implementation.

Financial Implications

32. Delivery for the majority of the actions will be met from existing resources and do not represent additional budgetary commitments. Where additional funding is required it is anticipated that this will be met through external bids, grants and contributions. This is indicated alongside the relevant actions.

Legal Implications

33. The Government is committed to reducing the UK's carbon emissions by 34% by 2020 through the Climate Change Act (2008). The progress made through implementing the Energy Resilience Plan will contribute towards this.

Conclusions

34. The draft Energy Resilience Plan sets out the current issues and opportunities with regards to energy, as agreed by a cross-section of stakeholders. These are addressed by action plans across four key areas; energy efficiency, affordable warmth, sustainable transport and low carbon energy.

35. A range of partners and stakeholders will contribute to meeting the objectives of the Energy Resilience Plan. The plan will remain flexible to respond to changing opportunities and priorities.

36. The plan can be amended prior to publication following recommendations from ECO Board and this committee.

Proposal

37. The committee is invited to provide comments on the draft Energy Resilience Plan.

Reason for Proposal

38. The committee has previously approved the decision to produce an energy resilience plan and will now have the opportunity to comment on the draft Energy Resilience Plan before it is finalised.

Dr. Carlton Brand
Corporate Director

Alistair Cunningham
Associate Director Economy and Planning

Report Author:
Louise Woollen
Development Officer
Contact: 01225 713907
15 October 2015

The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this report:

None

Appendices

Appendix 1: Draft Wiltshire Energy Resilience Plan

Energy Resilience Plan

October 2015

Wiltshire Council
Where everybody matters

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DRAFT

Foreword

UK greenhouse gas emissions have fallen over the past seven years. This in part is due to the economic downturn experienced during this period, but also reflects investments in low carbon technologies and improvements in energy efficiency. In 2014, emissions fell by an estimated 6% on the previous year, while the economy grew.

This progress is set against a back drop of high energy imports, rising energy demand and an ageing energy infrastructure. These factors pose a substantial challenge to our energy resilience and the pathway to a low carbon economy.

In Wiltshire, we have seen progress at a local level. Between 2010 and 2014, through our domestic energy efficiency scheme, 1400 households benefited from measures such as insulation and new boilers. In 2014/15, the council completed the installation of biomass boilers in nine schools previously heated by oil and Government funding has been used to extend the network of electric vehicle charging points in the county. Examples of successes from across Wiltshire are provided throughout this document.

The Wiltshire Energy Resilience Plan aims to continue this progress. In setting out this action plan we are seeking opportunities to work with stakeholders to improve energy resilience in the county. Working together with partners in the private, public and community sectors we can tackle fuel poverty, address barriers to low carbon technologies, support growth, drive innovation and develop effective and resilient energy infrastructure.

We need to continue our progress to ensure communities and businesses in Wiltshire can benefit from a more resilient, affordable and sustainable energy future. The low carbon transition will offer economic, social and environmental benefits and I hope this plan will enable Wiltshire to deliver a strong and coordinated response to this opportunity.

Cllr Toby Sturgis
Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Property, Waste and Strategic Housing

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1. Introduction

1.1 What is energy resilience?

Energy resilience is our ability to respond to challenges such as rising energy costs, security of supply and the need to reduce carbon emissions. This can be achieved by reducing our energy demand, managing use and developing local, efficient and clean energy sources.

Through developing this plan we have built a picture of energy resilience and identified the opportunities for a low carbon transition in Wiltshire.

How can we be resilient?

By reducing our energy demand, developing low carbon energy sources and lowering energy costs.

In addition, the transition to a low carbon economy will create opportunities for innovation, jobs, skills and sustainable economic growth.

1.2 Why do we need a plan?

The Energy, Change and Opportunity (ECO) Strategy 2011-2020 provides a framework that sets out the council's commitment to address energy resilience and the effects of climate change.

The ECO Strategy is supplemented by the Carbon Management Plan for the council's emissions, Climate Change Adaptation Plan and this Energy Resilience Plan. These action plans set out more specifically how we are going to deliver our energy resilience and climate change ambitions.

In September 2014 Wiltshire Council became a signatory to Climate Local, and made a commitment to progressively address the risks and pursue the opportunities presented by a changing climate. The Energy Resilience Plan supports this commitment and satisfies the requirement for a Climate Local action plan to be in place which reflects local actions and priorities to reduce carbon emissions.

This plan identifies the actions that we and other stakeholders will take to address the challenges of energy efficiency, affordable warmth, sustainable transport and developing low carbon energy sources. A number of the actions will require external funding to be identified and applications to be made. This plan enables activities and actions to be communicated to potential delivery and funding partners and to demonstrate progress over time.

The transition to a low carbon economy is recognised as a driver within the Swindon and Wiltshire Strategic Economic Plan that will create opportunities for innovation, jobs, skills and sustainable economic growth. The funding programmes being developed by the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Economic Partnership are key enablers to the delivery of this action plan.

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2. Wiltshire's energy resilience

2.1 Carbon emissions

Our reliance on fossil fuel based energy sources[1] make us dependent on energy imports and subject to global price fluctuations.

The carbon dioxide emissions resulting from our energy use is one indicator of energy resilience. Carbon dioxide emissions can be broadly attributed to three sectors which fall within the scope of local authority influence; these are domestic (34%), industrial and commercial (37%), and road transport (29%).

Wiltshire's carbon emission sources

Domestic 30%

Industrial and commercial 31%

Road transport 33%

Wiltshire's per capita carbon emissions fell from 8 tonnes of carbon dioxide in 2005 to 6.7 in 2012.

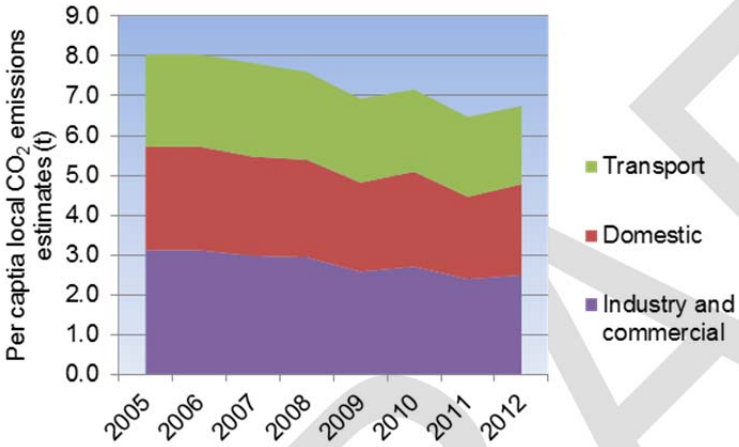

Figure 1: Trends in 2005-2012 emissions within the scope of local authority influence (Wiltshire) (DECC).

Wiltshire's per capita carbon emissions fell from 8 tonnes of carbon dioxide (tCO2) in 2005 to 6.7 tCO2 in 2012 (figure 1). This reflects a reduction in emissions nationally, but remains higher than the 2012 south west regional average of 6.1 tCO2 and national average of 6.2 tCO2 (figure 2). This difference is a result of higher emissions from local road transport. Wiltshire has high car ownership levels and 46% of workers commute by car, compared to 41% in the south west. Private transport is also important for those living in rural areas in order to access services.

[1] Fossil fuels account for 86.2% of UK energy supply (Digest of UK Energy Statistics, 2014)

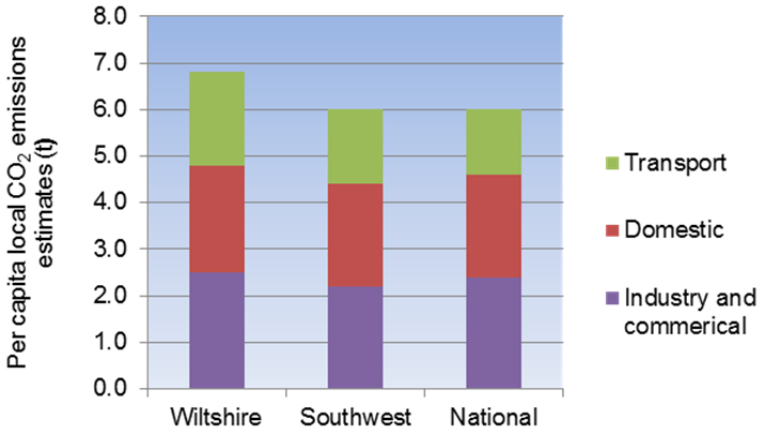

Figure 2: How Wiltshire's 2012 emissions within the scope of local authority influence compare (DECC).

2.2 Energy demand

The challenge will be to continue to reduce energy demand and enable new development in a way which contributes to energy resilience.

Nationally, population growth and rising prosperity are expected to drive an increase in energy demand, particularly in the domestic sector, where this trend will begin to outweigh the gains made by energy efficiency beyond 2020 (DECC).

Rising demand

Population growth, rising prosperity, new homes and development has the potential to add significantly to our current energy demands.

Wiltshire's population is expected to grow by 37,520 over the 11 years from 2015 to 2026, a projected increase of just over 8%[2]. The local plan has set a target for 42,000 new homes in the county for the period 2006-26 (housing completions in 2006-13 totalled 13,867[3]). Development will also be seen in the regeneration and creation of new employment sites and through implementation of the army basing plans, bringing an estimated extra 4000 personnel plus their families to the county.

The national picture shows that pressure on the energy network is growing, as the closure of power stations causes the margin between demand and generation to tighten. To ensure energy security in times of peak demand over the winter, the National Grid has taken steps to purchase additional generation capacity to protect against power cuts.

2.3 Local energy generation

A small but growing proportion of energy consumed in Wiltshire is generated from local renewable sources.

[2] www.intelligencenetwork.org.uk/population-and-census/
[3] www.wiltshire.gov.uk/planninganddevelopment/planningpolicy/annualmonitoringreport.htm

In the south west, renewable energy capacity grew by 80% in 2014/15 and it is estimated that 14% of electricity is now generated from renewables (Regen SW). Due to rapid growth in solar photovoltaics (PV), Wiltshire is now placed third in the region for installed capacity, behind only Devon and Cornwall (figure 3). A further acceleration in deployment of renewable electricity and renewable heat in particular will be required to meet the 2020 target[4].

Solar PV remains the leading technology in terms of renewable electricity capacity and biomass contributes the largest amount to the south west's renewable heat capacity.

Renewable energy

In the south west, renewables now meet 5.9% of total energy demand.

Solar PV remains the leading technology in terms of installed capacity and biomass is the largest source of renewable heat.

Source: RegenSW renewable energy progress report 2015

There remains significant potential for building integrated renewables at a commercial and domestic scale. Standalone renewable energy installations, such as ground-mounted solar PV, make a significant contribution to local energy generation in the county. Their siting involves careful consideration through the planning process, due to potential visual and landscape impacts, especially in designated or sensitive landscapes. Approximately 44% of Wiltshire's area is designated as 'Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty' (AONB).

The Government has recently taken steps (DECC, July 2015) to control spending on renewable energy subsidies, including proposals to end support under the renewable obligation for solar projects of 5MW and below and a decision to remove pre-accreditation under the feed-in tariff scheme. A consultation on a review of the feed-in tariff scheme for small scale renewables will end in October 2015 and has proposed a range of cost-control measures, including a significant decrease in tariffs across all scales of solar PV from January 2016.

As more and more distributed generators e.g. solar PV, are connected to the distribution grid, the capacity of the grid to accommodate more generation technologies decreases. The electricity distribution network will need to adapt and innovate to support the trend towards decentralised sources of energy. In some parts of Wiltshire a lack of spare capacity in the distribution network has begun to impact on the ability of businesses to expand or to install renewable energy generation because of the high costs and time delays their projects face. Advances in energy storage, coupled with local generation have the potential to mitigate limitations on grid capacity.

As well as supporting energy security, generating renewable energy locally prevents energy spend leaving the county. It is estimated that spending on household fuel bills in Wiltshire exceeded £230 million a year in 2011 and non-domestic fuel costs (excluding transport) were in excess of £150 million a year (DECC, 2012), the majority of which leaves the local economy.

[4] The 2009 EU Renewable Energy Directive sets a target for the UK to achieve 15% of its energy consumption from renewable sources by 2020.

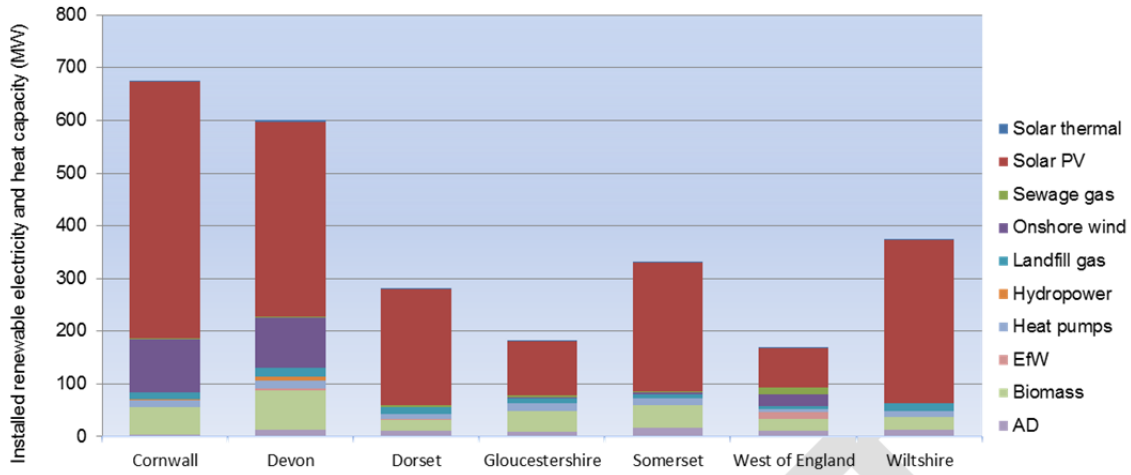

Figure 3: Installed renewable electricity and heat capacity (MW) 2014/15 (Regen SW)

2.4 Energy spend

In Wiltshire an estimated 18% of households do not have a mains gas connection, creating a dependence on high cost heating fuels (DECC).

Rising energy spend

UK household expenditure on all fuels rose by 74% between 2000 and 2013.

The UK average household expenditure on all fuels (including motor fuel) rose by 74% between 2000 and 2013. The biggest rise over this period was expenditure on heating oils and other fuels, which increased by 160% (DECC). The proportion of domestic consumption of LPG and oil in Wiltshire is significantly higher than in the region as a whole (figure 4).

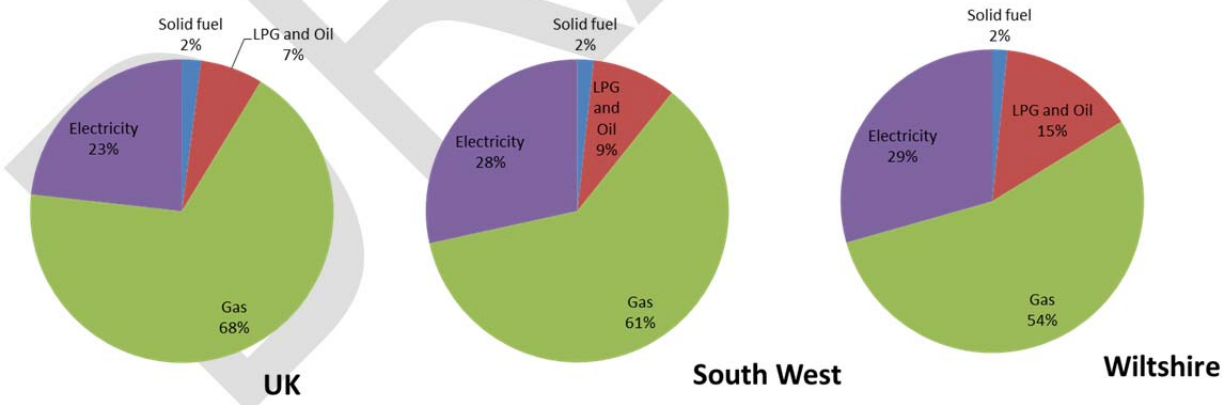

Figure 4: Breakdown of domestic fuel consumption in the UK, South West and Wiltshire (2012) (DECC).

Increases in energy prices risk more households being unable to adequately heat their home. Energy efficiency measures are a key opportunity to address this risk in the short term. In the longer term, low carbon and decentralised energy solutions can offer more efficient and affordable ways to heat our homes and buildings that can match demand and provide resilience to rising costs.

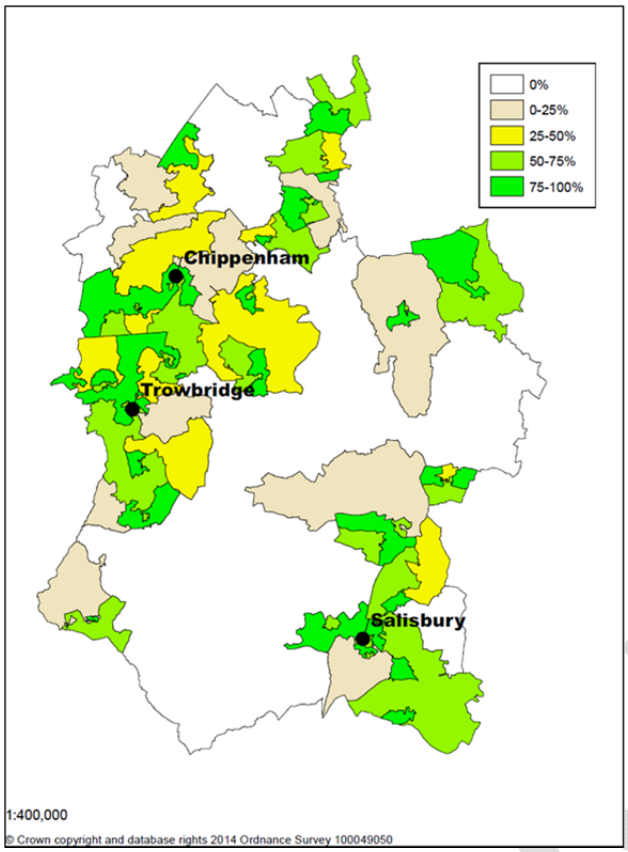

Figure 5: Map showing the proportion of households with a main gas connection.

(Source: LLPG 2015, DECC 2015. Boundaries are indicative and relate to output areas.)

2.5 The opportunities

The low carbon transition has wider benefits for the economy; promoting productivity, investment, job creation and innovation.

Low carbon and environmental goods and services (LCEGS) cover a wide range of sectors from waste management to low carbon solutions, energy management and renewable energy. In the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Economic Partnership area, sales for the sector as a whole totalled £1.48 billion in 2011/12, with 623 companies supporting 11,372 jobs (BIS).

What is the 'low carbon economy' worth to the Swindon and Wiltshire area?

£1.48 billion in sales

623 companies

11,372 jobs

There has been a tendency for growth in this sector to outperform the rest of the economy, with growth forecasts at over 5% a year. The largest sectors in the south west in terms of sales and employment are alternative fuels, alternative fuel vehicles and low carbon building technologies. In 2013, business investment by the UK low carbon sector totalled £3.58 billion (BIS), making the transition to a low carbon economy an opportunity for further investment and growth.

The community energy sector has the potential to make a significant contribution to energy resilience whilst bringing financial and social benefits for the communities involved. By 2020, the government estimates that community groups could account for up to 14% of the total installed electricity capacity in the UK (DECC).

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Alongside locally-owned generation there are opportunities to develop new models of energy supply. The roll out of smart meters, developments in electricity storage and intelligent energy infrastructure are enabling the evolution of local supply models. If supported through changes in regulation, these have potential to promote competition and innovation in the energy market, as well as lowering cost through extending grid capacity and reducing transmission losses.

3. Overview

3.1 Vision

The activities delivered under this plan will be guided by the following strategic vision for an energy resilient Wiltshire.

Vision 2026

Wiltshire has secured a low carbon future and sustainable economic growth.

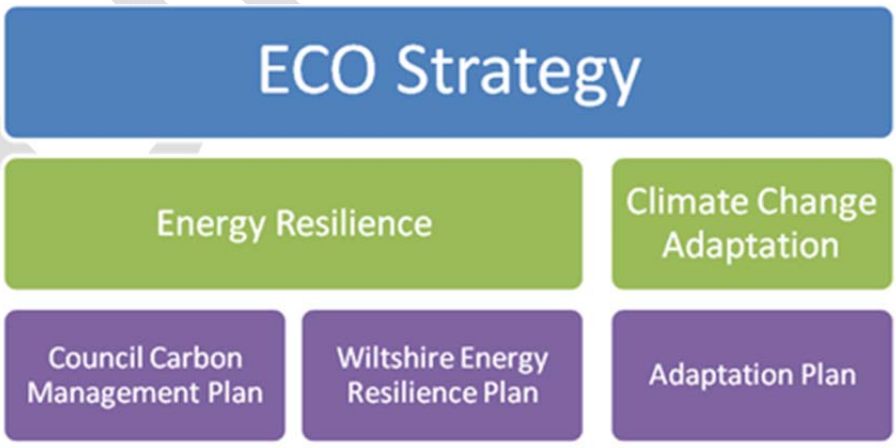
Homes, buildings and industry are energy efficient and our reduced energy demand is met by a diverse mix of renewable and low carbon technologies.

New developments have been planned to reduce the need to travel and promote walking, cycling and public transport. The transport infrastructure supports a new generation of low emission vehicles and provides accessible, affordable and efficient alternatives to the car.

Communities and businesses generate their own energy, are resilient to rising costs and retain money within the local economy.

A network of local businesses has created new jobs and skills and contributions from all sectors have made Wiltshire a place of low carbon excellence.

3.2 Local policy context



The ECO strategy 2011-2020 provides the framework strategy for the Energy Resilience Plan. This plan makes a direct contribution to the council's core vision to create stronger and

more resilient communities. The Energy Resilience Plan will also provide opportunities to deliver the Council Business Plan priorities to:

- protect those who are most vulnerable,
- boost the local economy; and,
- bring communities together to enable and support them to do more for themselves.

A number of existing plans and supporting strategies have been used to inform the development of the Energy Resilience Plan.

- Wiltshire Core Strategy (January 2015)
- Third Wiltshire Local Transport Plan (2011-2026)
- Air Quality Action Plan for Wiltshire (October 2014)

3.3 How was the plan developed?

The Energy Resilience Plan covers a broad range of activities and diverse stakeholders.

As this is the first time an energy resilience plan has been prepared, early stakeholder engagement has been used to shape its scope and content. This process was led by the council's green economy team. The ECO Board has overseen the development of the plan and is responsible for its adoption.

A number of the council's service areas will be involved in delivery including sustainable transport, public health, economic development, planning, fleet, housing and asset management. Partners in the public, private and community sectors will have a key role to play in ensuring delivery of this plan's objectives.

3.4 Stakeholder engagement

A wide range of stakeholders were engaged in the development of the Energy Resilience Plan (a list of those organisations consulted and a summary of findings is provided in appendix 1). This included high energy users in the public and private sectors, energy sector companies and community energy groups. The combined experience of these organisations has provided insight into where the main challenges and opportunities are for addressing energy resilience across the county.

3.5 Scope and structure of the plan

The Energy Resilience Plan is an outward-facing action plan for Wiltshire that sits alongside the commitments for our own estate and operations. It covers four action areas:

- Energy efficiency
- Affordable warmth
- Sustainable transport
- Low carbon energy

For each action area a series of objectives are defined in line with the strategic aims and vision of this plan (figure 6). The current opportunities and challenges are summarised and the key activities to be delivered are set out. A detailed action plan which identifies delivery partners and indicative timescales is provided in appendix 2 and will provide the basis for monitoring.

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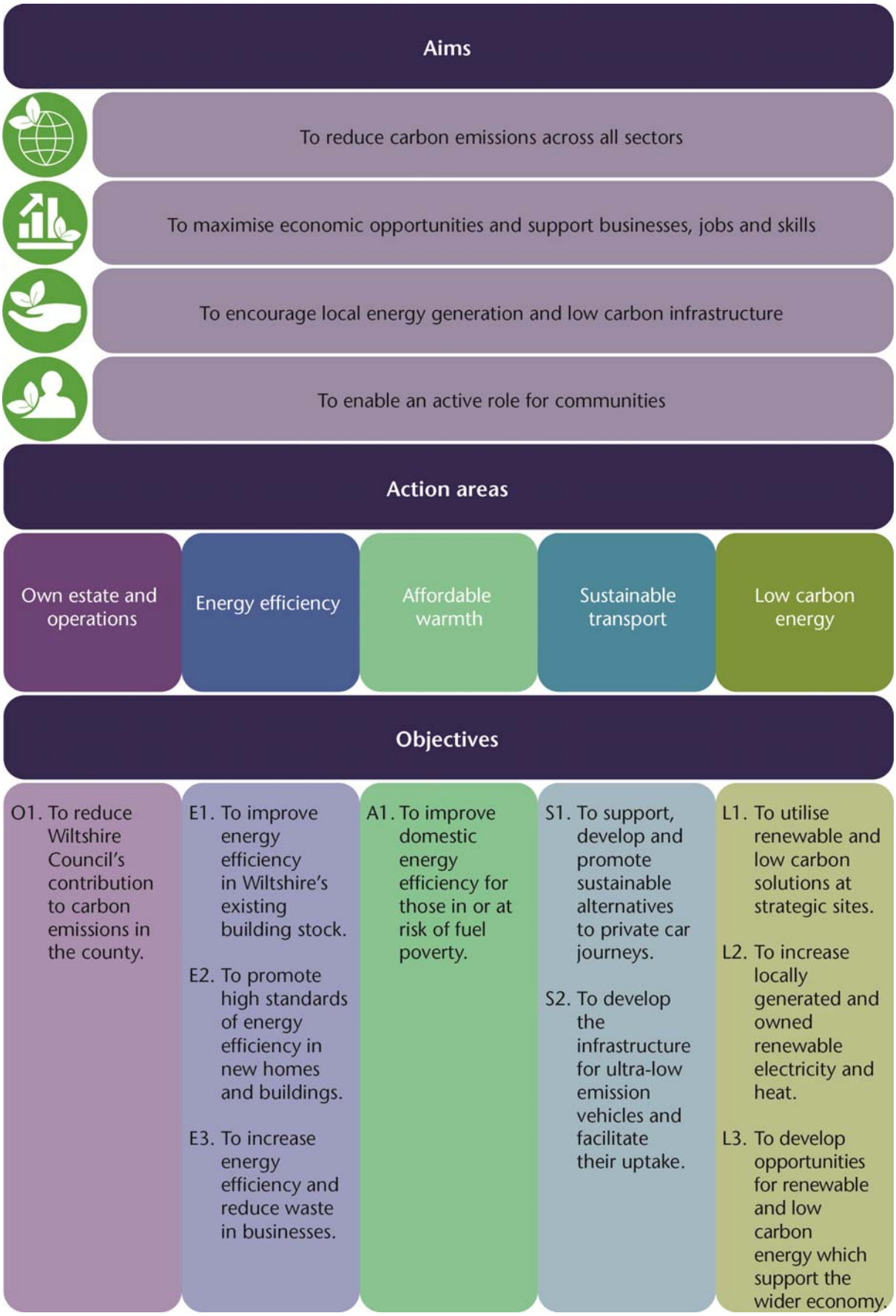

Figure 6: Strategic aims and objectives

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4. Energy Resilience Plan

4.1 Energy efficiency

Energy use on commercial and domestic premises is the source of 61% of the county's emissions (figure 7). This highlights the opportunity to improve the energy performance of existing buildings to promote energy resilience. Due to low take up, the Green Deal will no longer receive government funding and a new national approach to replace the scheme and enable domestic energy efficiency retrofit is to be developed.

For new build developments the ambition is to encourage schemes that incorporate high standards of sustainable construction, thereby adding minimally to the existing energy demands of the county. The Wiltshire Core Strategy sets out these standards for new homes, conversions and non-residential development and directs new housing development to be built to Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4.

In July 2015 it was announced that the introduction of zero carbon homes would not go ahead as planned through the proposed 2016 increase in on-site energy efficiency standards and the Allowable Solutions carbon offsetting scheme. Instead national standards for energy efficiency will remain under review.

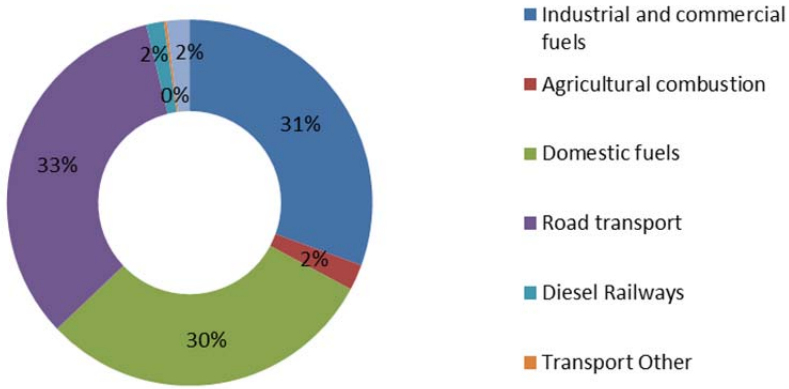

Figure 7: Carbon dioxide emissions by source in Wiltshire (2012) (DECC).

Objectives

- To improve energy efficiency in Wiltshire's existing building stock
- To promote high standards of energy efficiency in new homes and buildings
- To increase energy efficiency and reduce waste in businesses

Some companies and public sector bodies in Wiltshire have successfully implemented energy management and invest to save projects to improve energy performance (see boxes 1 and 2). Larger businesses are required to participate in the Energy Saving Opportunities Scheme. These are valuable experiences that could be shared to promote best practice and demonstrate the performance of low carbon solutions.

Alongside this, improved energy and resource efficiency in business operations can deliver significant cost savings and a competitive advantage. Businesses, however, experience a challenge to find opportunities for retrofitting new technologies, finding suitably experienced

consultants and proven applications. Where time and expertise are limited, organisations will require specialist support in order to implement these improvements.

Actions

E1. To improve energy efficiency in Wiltshire's existing building stock	E2. To promote high standards of energy efficiency in new homes and buildings	E3. To increase energy efficiency and reduce waste in businesses
E1.1 Promote opportunities and incentives for domestic energy efficiency measures	E2.1 Encourage developers, through planning policy, to incorporate sustainable construction and low carbon energy in new build and refurbishment schemes	E3.1 Provide tailored resource efficiency advice and support for small and medium sized (SME) businesses
E1.2 Establish community-led projects to promote domestic retrofit and deliver energy advice	E2.2 Promote sustainable construction through the council's new build extra care housing and bungalow development programme	E3.2 Provide a platform for businesses to share their experience of energy management and low carbon technologies
E1.3 Engage with key employment sites to promote energy and climate resilience	E2.3 Inform neighbourhood planning groups of the sustainable energy policy considerations at the Neighbourhood Plan scoping stage	
E1.4 Facilitate knowledge sharing on energy management, technologies and invest to save projects		

Box 1: Energy management at Salisbury District Hospital

Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust has achieved its target to reduce carbon emissions by 10% from a 2007 baseline one year ahead of schedule. It is continuing to work towards a more challenging target to reduce carbon emissions by 34% by 2020, from a 1990 baseline.

The Trust has invested in a range of energy projects and initiatives. The major schemes included the replacement in 2012 of an older Combined Heat and Power unit (CHP), with a modern unit capable of generating half of the power for the site. Making use of dedicated internal funding and government-backed loans the Trust has introduced energy efficient equipment including LED lighting, voltage optimisation and high efficiency condensing boilers and chillers. Investment has also been made in renewable technology with the installation of solar thermal and solar PV arrays on building roofs.

As well as carbon reduction these measures have been effective in managing the Trust's energy consumption and providing protection from rising energy costs.

Box 2: Energy efficiency builds resilience for IXYS UK

IXYS UK Westcode Ltd designs and manufactures semi-conductors for a global market and has been manufacturing at its Chippenham site since the 1960s.

The company's approach to energy is based on eliminating waste and investing in energy efficient equipment according to an assessment of cost and payback.

Simply switching unnecessary equipment off, and making operational adjustments, has achieved a 23% reduction in electricity consumption at the Chippenham site over the past 18 months.

IXYS UK is undertaking a data logging exercise, to gain a better understanding of the largest energy consuming areas on the site. This will monitor specific pieces of equipment such as lighting and manufacturing processes, to identify opportunities for savings.

Whilst the electrical supply to the site is not currently at capacity, the recent reduction in electricity consumption has been effective in reducing the risk of this occurring in the future and becoming a barrier to growth.

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4.2 Affordable warmth

In common with other rural areas, Wiltshire has a high proportion of properties that are not connected to the mains gas network. It is estimated that 18% of Wiltshire households do not have access to mains gas and therefore use alternative fuels such as oil and electricity for heating. There are also some homes which have no central heating. The national fuel poverty indicator shows 10% of households in Wiltshire are classified as Low Income, High Cost (LIHC) fuel poor (DECC). Across the housing stock those households in rural communities without mains gas have lower energy efficiency and therefore higher fuel costs than the rest of the county.

The energy performance of residential properties is one of the key determinants of fuel poor households. Wiltshire Council and other housing providers in the county have programmes in place to ensure that the most energy inefficient properties are improved to achieve a minimum standard. Insulation, fuel switching and heating upgrades will be employed to improve the energy performance of housing stock. Renewable energy will also be used to bring down fuel costs for tenants.

Another key factor in fuel poverty is the cost of energy. A recent investigation into competition in the energy market (CMA, July 2015) concluded that millions of consumers could benefit from switching to a cheaper energy tariff. Of the 90% of customers using the six large energy firms, 70% are on standard variable rates, typically some of the most expensive tariffs. Measures to promote better engagement e.g. quicker switching and smart meters, will be important to encourage more consumers to switch their custom to cheaper suppliers and encourage competition.

An ongoing challenge for organisations working to address fuel poverty is to reach the most vulnerable groups, for whom affordable warmth can have the greatest impacts in terms of health and wellbeing. As well as raising awareness of the assistance available, this emphasises the need for partners to work together to identify those at risk and integrate services to enable effective support to be offered.

Objective

- To improve domestic energy efficiency for those in or at risk of fuel poverty

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Actions

A1. To improve domestic energy efficiency for those in or at risk of fuel poverty

A1.1	Deliver the Warm & Safe programme for Wiltshire residents to access energy advice and support
A1.2	Promote the Ready to Switch collective switching scheme
A1.3	Develop a strategic approach for delivering fuel poverty interventions
A1.4	Deliver an investment programme for energy efficiency improvements in social housing stock

Box 3: Warm & Safe Wiltshire

Warm and Safe Wiltshire is delivered jointly by Wiltshire Council and Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service. The initiative aims to give residents access to advice and support to improve energy efficiency and fire safety in the home.

Since its launch in November 2014 the partnership has proved to be effective in coordinating this assistance. This has been demonstrated in the help received by one resident who was referred for a Warm & Safe assessment following a home fire safety check. A number of areas for attention were identified, including draughts and mobility issues.

As a result, referrals were made to various agencies who could offer support. The fire service community safety technician installed draught-proofing measures, adult social care were consulted on measures to prevent slips, trips and falls, a referral was made for free insulation and energy advice and a request was made to Bobby Van Trust to provide a home security assessment.

For more information about the support available through Warm & Safe Wiltshire call 0300 003 4575.

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4.3 Sustainable transport

In Wiltshire, the main road transport fuels (petrol and diesel) represent 39% of total energy consumption in the county, compared with 36% for the south west (DECC). This reflects the rural nature of the county, with high levels of car ownership and a car based commute. Targeting road transport emissions is a key area for achieving both carbon reduction and energy resilience.

This action area aims to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels for road transport and to develop and promote initiatives that will encourage the use of sustainable alternatives to the car. This includes opportunities to reduce the need to travel.

The Local Transport Plan for the county sets a strategic priority to develop a transport system which helps to support economic growth, provide choice and reduce carbon emissions. To help achieve this, employers, communities and transport providers can work together to deliver and promote sustainable transport options.

There are opportunities in the longer term to adopt alternative fuels. The government has provided support to encourage development of the market in ultra-low emission vehicles (ULEV) as part of its ambitious vision for almost every car and van to be a zero emission vehicle by 2050. ULEV sales in Wiltshire had risen to 42 between January and March 2015, compared to just nine in the same period in 2014, predominantly through uptake of grant eligible cars (DfT/OLEV). Greater use of ULEVs will contribute to economic growth for the UK automotive sector and supply chain, and will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution on our roads.

Objectives

- To support, develop and promote sustainable alternatives to private car journeys
- To develop the infrastructure for ultra-low emissions vehicles (ULEV) and facilitate their uptake

Supporting strategies and plans

Local Transport Plan 3

Wiltshire Council's Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP 3) covers the period 2011 to 2026. The LTP, along with its supporting strategies, sets out a long term strategy for the planning and development of transport and its associated infrastructure in Wiltshire. Shorter-term implementation plans are based on a realistic assessment of available funding.

The overarching goals of the LTP include the priorities to support economic growth and reduce carbon emissions. A review of the LTP Public Transport Strategy will be undertaken during 2015/16 to determine how its objectives can best be met in the context of the reduced availability of public funding.

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Among the preferred options, the strategy promotes:

- Improving opportunities for **walking** and **cycling** by providing well designed and maintained routes and links.
- Retaining overall levels of service in **public transport** to meet identified demand, accessibility needs for those without private transport and contributing to sustainable transport options.
- Increasing rail **connectivity** through bus-rail links and supporting the function of rail stations as transport hubs.
- Encouraging **smarter travel choices** by using the planning system to develop, monitor and enforce mandatory residential and business travel plans, and promote the use of voluntary travel plans by organisations generally.
- At a strategic planning level, ensuring that development is allocated in **sustainable locations**, with access to key services by means other than the private car.

There are a number of supporting strategies that make up LTP3. Among them, the LTP Smarter Choices Strategy promotes a range of measures to support the uptake of sustainable transport modes and alternatives to travel. These include the use of travel plans, advice and information, car sharing and car clubs, low carbon vehicle use, and the adoption of smarter working practices by employers such as home working, flexi-time and tele-working.

Air Quality Action Plan

The primary source of pollutants within Wiltshire's air quality management areas (AQMAs) is vehicle emissions. There are currently eight AQMAs in the county.

Wiltshire's air quality action plan aims to set out the strategic and locally generated actions that will be implemented to improve air quality and work towards meeting the air quality objectives.

Community action plan working groups have been established via the local area boards with AQMAs. Projects such as tree planting, business and school travel planning, and active travel programmes have been initiated as a result of their work. These activities are captured in their individual action plans.

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Actions

S1. To support, develop and promote sustainable alternatives to private car journeys	S2. To develop the infrastructure for ultra-low emissions vehicles and facilitate their uptake
S1.1 Develop the Connecting Wiltshire website as a one-stop shop for sustainable travel advice	S2.1 Enable the installation of a comprehensive network of publically available electric vehicle charge points within Wiltshire
S1.2 Promote and support the use of travel plans within businesses, schools and new developments	S2.2 Seek the provision of charge points through the planning system in new residential developments, retail and key employment sites
S1.3 Promote active travel, including walking, cycling and use of public transport, through information and initiatives	S2.3 Promote funding sources and facilitate opportunities for commercial uptake of ULEVs
S1.4 Develop sustainable transport infrastructure for cycling, walking and public transport	S2.4 Deliver Clean Bus Technology Fund project to implement flywheel hybrid technology on 19 existing buses
S1.5 Work with partners to secure funding to promote bus travel and service quality improvements	
S1.6 Support the development of community-led sustainable transport initiatives	

Box 4: Improving rail services in west Wiltshire

In July 2012 Wiltshire Council secured £4.5 million through the government's Local Sustainable Transport Fund to improve transport services and transport information in Wiltshire.

Among the projects funded, Wiltshire Council has worked with First Great Western to launch an enhanced TransWilts rail service between Swindon and Westbury. Since December 2013 the investment has increased services from two to eight trains each way per day during the week and up to six on a Sunday.

Key facts

- 183,400 passengers used the service in 2014, well ahead of forecasted numbers.
- An estimated 683,500 car miles have been diverted from the road network during the year.
- Passenger trends show a 27% annualised increase.
- 75,000 journeys for new rail passengers have been recorded.

This success has enabled the service to be secured until at least December 2016.

Box 5: hOURCARS community car share club

Salisbury community car share club hOURCARS has secured funding to provide a second pay-by-the-hour vehicle, giving residents the opportunity to use a car without the cost of ownership. The club has been operating in Salisbury for ten years with 14 members and one vehicle parked in the city centre.

The new low-emissions car, to be launched in October 2015, will enable the club to expand its membership and will have a designated on-street parking space on York Road, in the St Pauls area of the city.

The club attracts members who don't use a car very often or households that occasionally need a second car, and can also be used by businesses. It has been successful in enabling some households avoid the need to own a car altogether and therefore has benefits for areas that experience parking congestion.

The car club is run on a not-for-profit basis by volunteers. Its operation is self-funding, but the launch of a second vehicle has been made possible by grants from the Department for Transport and Wiltshire Council Salisbury Area Board.

For more information see www.hourcars.co.uk

Box 6: Travel planning at Porton Down

The Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl) and Public Health England (PHE) based at Porton Down near Salisbury have put in place a number of travel plan measures to improve accessibility to the site. The remote location has encouraged a high level of car usage, however working together they have shown continuous progress in reducing single car occupancy levels by more than 10% during a six year period 2007- 2013.

This was largely achieved through encouraging car sharing, but they have also successfully promoted cycle and bus usage despite their rural location.

Box 7: **Connecting Wiltshire**

The Connecting Wiltshire website is now celebrating its second anniversary. The site brings together transport information across the county, encouraging public transport usage and active travel as well as providing useful information for car drivers with Car Share Wiltshire. Usage of the site has been steadily increasing and reached 10,000 users in July 2015.

4.4 Low carbon energy

The expansion of renewable and low carbon energy sources in Wiltshire contributes to energy resilience, economic growth and carbon reduction objectives. It also has the potential to protect communities and businesses from rising energy costs, to retain energy spend in the local economy and to generate a source of income.

Renewable electricity
The largest source of renewable energy in Wiltshire are large scale solar projects, which in 2015 account for approximately 94% of installed electrical capacity (Regen SW). To date a total of 409 Megawatts (MW) has been approved across 40 major projects[5]. We have also seen a growth in community-led renewable energy projects, predominantly solar PV installations, which can deliver benefits for the local economy and surrounding communities.

Renewable heat
In Wiltshire and across the south west there is potential for growth in renewable heat projects for homes, businesses and communities. There are 674 accredited domestic and 142 non domestic renewable heat installations (DECC) in the county compared to over 6825 solar photovoltaic installations (DECC). The Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI), introduced in April 2014 for domestic systems, has potential to stimulate further uptake. Wiltshire Council's oil to biomass programme has installed nine biomass boilers in schools throughout the county, adding 2MW of installed capacity. The budget to support the continuation of RHI beyond 2016 is yet to be announced.

A substantial increase in renewable generation capacity across a mix of scales and technologies will be required to meet the UK target of 15% of energy supplied by renewable sources by 2020 (in 2014, 7% of UK energy consumption came from renewable sources (DUKES, 2015)). A key challenge will be to ensure that new generation is supported by innovation in the distribution network to enable new grid connections to be made.

Heat networks
The Government has sought to support the development of district heating networks by establishing the Heat Network Delivery Unit and providing funding to local authorities' to support early stage heat network development. Within Wiltshire projects have been funded to establish the feasibility and viability of schemes at strategic sites. These studies aim to facilitate uptake, inform future policy development and understand further potential for deployment.

Objectives

- To utilise renewable and low carbon solutions at strategic sites
- To increase locally generated and owned renewable electricity and heat
- To develop opportunities for renewable and low carbon energy which support the wider economy

[5] Renewable energy projects of 1 Megawatt or greater receiving planning approval (up to October 2015).

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Actions

L1. To utilise renewable and low carbon solutions at strategic sites	L2. To increase locally generated and owned renewable electricity and heat	L3. To develop opportunities for renewable and low carbon energy which support the wider economy
L1.1 Facilitate the uptake of district heating networks on key economic and development sites	L2.1 Encourage and facilitate the take up of commercial scale and building-integrated renewables	L3.1 Explore funding opportunities to enable the delivery of support to the local biomass supply chain
L1.2 Identify opportunities for sustainable energy solutions on strategic development sites	L2.2 Support the development of renewable energy schemes that maximise community benefit	L3.2 Undertake a scoping study to understand the potential for waste as an energy resource
L1.3 Produce planning guidance to support sustainable construction and low carbon energy (core policy 41)	L2.3 Work with the District Network Operator to overcome barriers to expansion of renewable energy in Wiltshire	L3.3 Assess the scope of Wiltshire's 'low carbon economy' and potential opportunities and priorities to promote growth
		L3.4 Work with neighbouring authorities, partners and the SWLEP* to explore opportunities for deployment of emerging low carbon solutions

*Swindon and Wiltshire Local Economic Partnership

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Box 8: Commercial scale solar PV

Apetito Ltd is a long-established provider of frozen meals for care homes, local authorities and hospitals. In 2013, the company decided to install solar PV on two factory units at their Trowbridge site.

The project was delivered over a six month period:

- 666 panels installed over three weeks.
- 150 kilowatt peak of solar panels across two south-facing roofs.
- Both systems eligible to claim the feed-in tariff.
- 163,500 kilowatt hours of electricity generated a year, equivalent to the electricity consumption of 50 average homes.
- 90 tonnes of carbon dioxide saved per year.

The systems have performed better than expectations and the company are looking for opportunities to use solar PV on other sites.

Box 9: Community Energy

Kennet Community Energy Limited (KCEL) is a community benefit social enterprise formed in January 2013. KCEL's growing portfolio of projects aims to create opportunities for local people in north and east Wiltshire to invest in renewable energy. The projects also support the development of local energy infrastructure that will make communities more resilient to rising energy costs. Schools, community buildings and local businesses are among the partners who KCEL have worked with to deliver new projects, each enabled by fund-raising from its members.

Since May 2013 the following installations have been completed:

- A 44 kWp, 200 panel solar PV array at Wadworth Brewery Visitors Centre, Devizes.
- A 50 kWp, 200 panel solar PV array at Devizes School.
- A 49 kWp, 188 panel solar PV array at Trowbridge Civic Centre.

In total the systems have the potential to generate electricity equivalent to the annual demand of 40 average homes. The long term ambition is to use surplus income to establish a community fund which will support community-led sustainable energy projects.
For more information visit: www.kennetenergy.org.uk.

Box 10: Wiltshire Wildlife Community Energy

Wiltshire Wildlife Community Energy (WWCE) is an independent community-owned enterprise set up to develop, finance and operate community owned renewable energy projects. Wiltshire Wildlife Trust has worked with Bath and West Community Energy and Mongoose Energy to set up the enterprise and deliver their projects.

Their first installation, completed in June 2014, is a 1.2 Megawatt Solar Farm at Chelworth near Cricklade. The site will now be developed to enhance biodiversity by creating new wildflower meadows underneath the solar arrays.

A further ground-mounted solar array is due for completion at the end of 2015. The 5MW array at Braydon Manor near Purton shares access and grid connection with a commercial 4.1MW array, making it the first split site development in the country and setting a precedent for maximising community benefit from this form of development. Just over £2.9 million was raised from a public share offer to help fund the scheme, the majority of investors coming from Wiltshire and surrounding counties.

As well as generating renewable electricity sufficient for several thousand homes WWCE has raised £25,000 this year for a local community fund to be managed by Wiltshire Wildlife Trust. It aims to raise £2,000,000 for community projects over the 25 years of the scheme.

For more information visit: http://wwce.org/.

5. Monitoring

The action plan in appendix 2 identifies 'measures of completeness' for each action to show how progress will be tracked. Indicative timescales have also been provided. The majority of actions are short term and delivery is ongoing or will be progressed within the next 1 to 2 years. This leaves scope for the plan to be flexible and updated to reflect changing delivery priorities and opportunities. The Council's ECO Board will have responsibility for overseeing progress with delivery and for any subsequent reviews of the plan. Progress will be reported and published annually.

In order to show progress against the strategic aims over the course of this plan, we have set out against each objective how this can be measured over time. These are summarised in the table below.

Objective	Measures	Frequency
O1. To reduce Wiltshire Council's contribution to carbon emissions in the county	• Greenhouse gas emissions report • Energy consumption in corporate buildings • Corporate business mileage	Annual
E1. To improve energy efficiency in Wiltshire's existing building stock	• Local area carbon dioxide emissions per capita (DECC) • ECO statistics (DECC)	Annual
E2. To promote high standards of energy efficiency in new homes and buildings	• Number of major development schemes supported by sustainable energy strategies • Number of commercial developments supported by sustainable energy strategies and delivering BREEAM 'Very Good' status	Annual
E3. To increase energy efficiency and reduce waste in businesses	• Number of businesses assisted • Quantified cost and carbon savings	Annual As surveyed
A1. To improve domestic energy efficiency for those in or at risk of fuel poverty	• Number of referrals and measures installed • Local area fuel poverty statistics (DECC) • SAP ratings of Wiltshire housing stock	Annual Annual As surveyed
S1. To support, develop and promote sustainable alternatives to private car journeys	• Number of businesses, schools and new developments assisted with travel plans and measures • Modal shift	Annual As surveyed
S2. To develop the infrastructure for ultra-low emissions vehicles (ULEV) and facilitate their uptake	• Number of electric vehicle charging points installed • Charge-point utilisation • ULEV new registrations (DfT)	Annual
L1. To utilise renewable and low carbon solutions at strategic sites	• Approved and installed renewable capacity • Number of district heating projects progressing beyond initial feasibility stage	Annual
L2. To increase locally generated and owned renewable electricity and heat	• Approved and installed renewable capacity • Number of community-led energy projects	Annual

Objective	Measures	Frequency
L3. To develop opportunities for renewable and low carbon energy which support the wider economy	• Number of businesses supported • Number of jobs created (ONS)	Annual As surveyed

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Appendix 1 Initial Stakeholder Feedback

A range of stakeholders were invited to provide input into the development of the Energy Resilience Plan. This engagement took the form of a series of meetings to discuss the plans already underway in the county and where there were opportunities to progress energy resilience objectives. Wider engagement was also undertaken through presentations to the Area Boards across Wiltshire.

The key themes discussed are summarised below by sector.

i. Energy intensive businesses

In Wiltshire's varied manufacturing sector, energy represents a significant cost and potential constraint on business growth. Driven by the need to reduce costs and balance risk, for these businesses, energy resilience has focused on implementing energy management practices, improving operational efficiency and making cost effective investments in efficiency measures.

Within some businesses there are opportunities to explore the use of combined heat and power (CHP), solar PV and energy from waste solutions to relieve energy constraints and make sites more self-sufficient in their energy supply. Recovering waste heat from existing onsite processes can also be explored to reduce energy demand.

Businesses experience a challenge to find economic opportunities for retrofitting new technologies. Finding suitably experienced consultants and proven applications of new technologies are also barriers to investment in energy projects. Facilitating business to business knowledge exchange, particularly technology and sector specific solutions could help to address this.

ii. Public sector

Carbon and energy management plans are in place in a number of Wiltshire's public sector organisations. These investment plans target carbon reduction, energy and cost savings and are driven by the need to protect budgets from rising energy costs and consider long term security of supply as well as environmental sustainability.

Early challenges for these programmes have been the measuring and monitoring of energy data on what are often large and dispersed estates. Invest to save funds have enabled a broad range of cost effective energy projects to be progressed such as CHP, low energy and LED lighting and occupancy controls, voltage optimisation, high efficiency boilers and heat recovery. Renewable energy installations are increasingly part of the portfolio of projects on the public sector estate, in particular solar PV, but there are also examples of biomass and solar thermal. The public sector has also been an early adopter of low emission vehicles, building confidence in how new technologies can support carbon and cost reduction objectives.

iii. Community sector

The community energy sector has an active and growing presence in Wiltshire. Community energy organisations enable investment in local renewable energy projects, have specialist skills and expertise and support the use of local installers. They can provide a driving force for community groups to develop their own projects and often promote a wider commitment to deliver benefits to the surrounding communities through funding projects that support their objectives for energy reduction and alleviating fuel poverty.

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Technical expertise and leadership are important ingredients for the success of community energy organisations, along with promoting a better understanding of what community energy can offer for investors, partners and communities.

iv. These discussions revealed broad support for the following actions:

- Facilitate the sharing of good practice and experience in delivering energy efficiency programmes.
- Explore opportunities for energy from waste.
- Promote the benefits of community energy.
- Target support for vulnerable residents.
- Promote active travel and reducing the need to travel.
- Address network constraints and support innovative solutions.
- Explore opportunities for innovation projects and partnerships.

v. List of stakeholders

Public Sector	Private sector	Community sector
Defence Science Technology Laboratory, Public Health England, Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust, Wiltshire Police	Apetito Ltd, Chemring Countermeasures Ltd, Dyson Ltd, IXYS Ltd, Wavin Ltd	Climate Friendly Bradford on Avon, Kennet Community Energy, Salisbury Transition City, Salisbury hOURCARS, Wiltshire Wildlife Community Energy, Wiltshire Community Land Trust
Housing specialists	**Energy specialists**	
Aster Housing, Green Square Housing	Good Energy Ltd, Mongoose Energy, Scottish and Southern Electricity Power Distribution	

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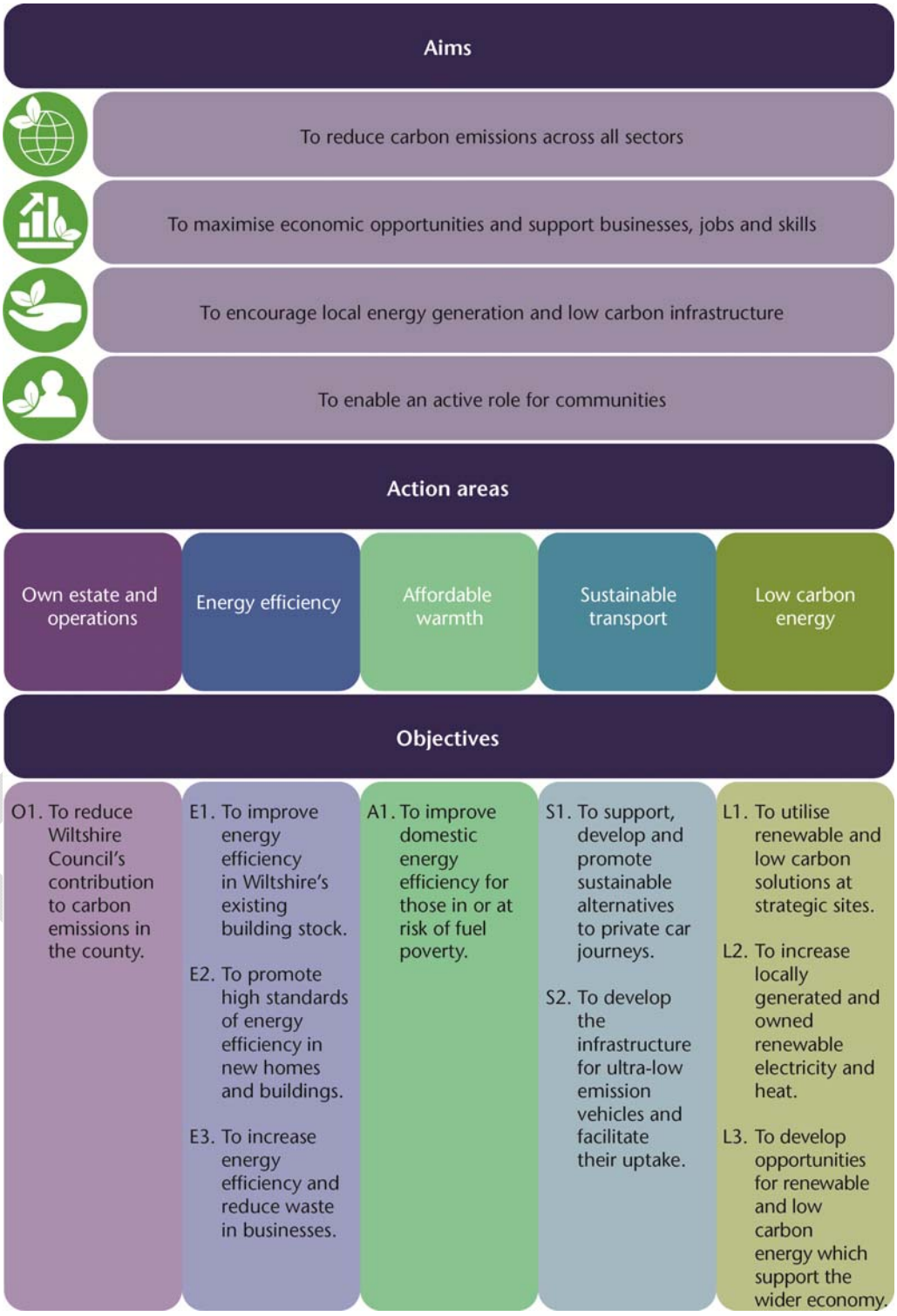
Appendix 2 Climate Local Action Plan

This action plan brings together Wiltshire Council's commitments to reduce its carbon emissions alongside the energy resilience plan to form a Climate Local Action Plan.



O1. To reduce Wiltshire Council's contribution to carbon emissions in the county

This action area focuses on reducing emissions from the council's buildings and operations. The carbon management plan (2013-2017) and its service-led action plans set out in detail how we aim to achieve our carbon reduction target. We will also take actions to reduce carbon emissions by targeting improvements in key service delivery such as waste collection and recycling.

We will measure and report on our progress through:

- Greenhouse gas emissions reporting
- Monitoring energy consumption in corporate buildings
- Monitoring corporate business mileage

		Action	Measure	Delivery	Timescale
Buildings	O1.1	Publish and implement Carbon Management Plan (CMP). Develop and implement Carbon Action Plans	11,823 tonne reduction per annum of CO_2 emissions by 2016/17 on 2010/11 figure.	**Wiltshire Council**	2016/17 CMP target
Buildings	O1.2	Continue energy efficiency projects on Corporate Estate through ISO 50001 standard Developing 'invest to save' projects for insulation, combined heat and power, biomass and low energy lighting	Project completed CO_2 saved	**Wiltshire Council** Facilities Management	Q4 2016/17

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		Action	Measure	Delivery	Timescale
Housing	O1.3	Complete the retrofit of council housing stock with high efficiency condensing gas boilers	Replacement of 1,100 standard efficiency gas boilers	**Wiltshire Council** Asset management	Q4 2016/17
Housing	O1.4	Complete retrofit of 25 bungalows with air source heat pumps and solar PV systems	Retrofit project completed In use performance captured	**Wiltshire Council** Asset management	Q3 2015/16
Street lighting	O1.5	Continue introduction of new energy efficient units, including LED lighting where business case allows	Number of units introduced CO_2 saved	**Wiltshire Council** Highways and Transport	Q4 2016/17
Transport and Travel	O1.6	Continued replacement of diesel pool car vehicles with a combination of Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEVs), electric vehicles (EVs) and hybrid vehicles where business case allows	Review pool car utilisation, miles travelled, fuel consumed and CO_2 produced	**Wiltshire Council** Environmental Services	2015/16
Transport and Travel	O1.7	Identify which teams and departments are travelling the most grey fleet miles and operational miles and work towards a solution to reduce this	Review reports for mileage travelled This along with the CO_2 figure is reported as a key performance indicator	**Wiltshire Council** Environmental Services	Ongoing
Transport and Travel	O1.8	To implement the Wiltshire Council Travel Strategy for the three main council hubs	Annual staff travel survey 2% reduction per year in single occupancy car trips	**Wiltshire Council** Sustainable Transport	Ongoing

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		Action	Measure	Delivery	Timescale
Waste and Recycling	O1.9	The council will pursue a target of reducing waste after recycling and composting from 606 kilos per household achieved in 2011-12 to 545 kilos per household by 2015-16	Kg/household/year	**Wiltshire Council** Waste and Environment	2015/16
Waste and Recycling	O1.10	Achieve a recycling rate of 50% by 2020	% of waste recycled	**Wiltshire Council** Waste and Environment	2020
Waste and Recycling	O1.11	The council will seek to increase the range of recyclates collected at HRCs, where it is feasible and economic to do so, with a focus upon biodegradable and hazardous wastes and service to residents	Range of material collected	**Wiltshire Council** Waste and Environment	Ongoing
Waste and Recycling	O1.12	The council will recover energy or otherwise divert from landfill sufficient tonnage of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), in addition to that diverted by recycling and composting, to achieve a landfill rate equivalent to less than 35% of the biodegradable municipal waste tonnage landfilled at 1995 by 2019-20	% of biodegradable municipal waste tonnage landfilled compared to the 1995 tonnage	**Wiltshire Council** Waste and Environment	2019/20
Adaptation	O1.13	Promote the delivery of Sustainable Urban Drainage Schemes to support new development across Wiltshire To actively promote the installation of appropriately designed sustainable urban	Number of new developments incorporating appropriate Sustainable Urban Drainage Schemes Number of sustainable	**Wiltshire Council** Economic Development and Planning, Transformation	Ongoing

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		drainage schemes in Wiltshire's new developments To ensure that appropriate funding mechanisms are in place to support the long-term maintenance of sustainable urban drainage schemes	urban drainage schemes supported by long-term maintenance bonds		

E1. To improve energy efficiency in Wiltshire's existing building stock

Improving energy performance in existing residential and commercial buildings will contribute to a reduction in carbon emissions and will increase energy resilience for businesses, organisations and communities.

In public and commercial buildings, there are good examples of organisations that have successfully implemented energy management and invest to save projects to improve energy performance. These experiences should be shared to demonstrate the benefits of this approach. Community energy groups also provide an important source of expertise and local activity to promote domestic energy efficiency, both through behavioural change and fabric improvements.

We will measure and report on progress through:

- Local area carbon dioxide emissions per capita (DECC)
- Monitoring ECO statistics (DECC)

		Action	Measure of completeness	Delivery / Stakeholders	Timescale
Domestic	E1.1	Promote opportunities and incentives for domestic energy efficiency measures	Referrals onto funding sources Uptake of current government incentives	**Wiltshire Council** Public Health Housing providers	Ongoing

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		Action	Measure of completeness	Delivery / Stakeholders	Timescale
Domestic	E1.2	Establish community-led projects to promote domestic retrofit and deliver energy advice	Increased number of community-led energy projects: e.g. Thermal imaging Energy advice surgeries Green Open Homes events	**Community** Community groups and organisations **Supported by:** Public Health	Ongoing
Business	E1.3	Engage with key employment sites to promote energy and climate resilience	Key site definition Prioritisation Targeted engagement	**Wiltshire Council** Green Economy, Economic Development	Q4 2015/16
Domestic / Business / Public sector	E1.4	Facilitate knowledge sharing on energy management, technologies and invest to save projects	Communications materials produced and shared Knowledge sharing event Information sharing platform	**Wiltshire Council** Energy Services, Green Economy, Economic Development **Supported by:** Businesses, Housing Associations, Public sector	Q4 2015/16

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E2. To promote high standards of energy efficiency in new homes and buildings

To contribute to energy resilience and carbon reduction objectives, new buildings should add only minimally to the existing energy demands of the county. This will require new development to incorporate sustainable building practices, high levels of energy efficiency and utilise renewable energy sources. This will help to protect building occupants from future energy price rises.

We will measure and report on progress through:

- Number of major development schemes supported by sustainable energy strategies.
- Number of commercial developments supported by sustainable energy strategies and delivering BREEAM 'Very Good' status, rising to 'Excellent' status in 2019.

		Action	Measure of completeness	Delivery / Stakeholders	Timescale
	E2.1	Encourage developers, using levers such as planning policy and building control, to move new build and refurbishment schemes closer towards meeting high energy efficiency standards	Sustainable energy strategies reviewed Partial review of core strategy (Core Policy 41) Sustainable construction guidance produced	**Wiltshire Council** Spatial Planning, Energy & Environment, Development Management **Supported by:** Housing Developers, Developers, Businesses	Q4 2015/16
	E2.2	Promote sustainable construction through the council's new build extra care housing and bungalow development programme	Finalise the updated extra care design guide Achieve BREEAM very good on the first new scheme in Devizes Energy efficiency standards set out in the Design Brief for the bungalow	**Wiltshire Council** Asset Management **Supported by:** New Housing Team, Energy & Environment	2015/16 Q4 2017 Ongoing

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			development programme.		
		Action	**Measure of completeness**	**Delivery / Stakeholders**	**Timescale**
	E2.3	Inform Neighbourhood Planning groups of the sustainable energy policy considerations at the Neighbourhood Plan scoping stage	Liaison with emerging Neighbourhood Planning groups (qualifying bodies) regarding sustainable construction and sustainable energy solutions Emergence of Neighbourhood Plans focusing on the delivery of energy efficiency, community owned/operated renewable energy generation and sustainable construction	**Neighbourhood plan working groups** **Supported by:** Spatial Planning, Green Economy	Ongoing

E3. To increase energy efficiency and reduce waste in businesses

Improved energy and resource efficiency can deliver significant cost savings and a competitive advantage for business. Through this programme of work, businesses will be supported to identify commercial opportunities for improving resource efficiency, share knowledge on low carbon projects and access advice and funding to help implement projects that will develop energy resilience and reduce carbon emissions.

We will measure and report on progress through:

- Number of businesses assisted
- Quantified cost, carbon, energy, waste and water savings (as surveyed)

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		Action	Measure of completeness	Delivery / Stakeholders	Timescale
Business	E3.1	Provide tailored resource efficiency advice and support for SME businesses	External funding in place to deliver project Appointment of delivery partner Service launched	**Wiltshire Council** Green Economy, Economic Development **Supported by**: SWLEP, SME businesses, Business support providers, Low carbon businesses	Q4 2015/16
Business	E3.2	Provide a forum for businesses to share their experience of energy management and low carbon technologies	Case studies produced and shared Knowledge exchange event, workshops and networking	**Wiltshire Council** Green Economy, Economic Development **Supported by**: Businesses, Business support and representative organisations	Q4 2016/17

A1. To improve domestic energy efficiency for those in or at risk of fuel poverty

To target support where it is most needed, we will integrate our approach to fuel poverty into public health service delivery and the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board. Through our Warm & Safe Wiltshire programme we will work with partners to provide advice, secure funding and enable insulation and heating measures to be installed in homes.

Housing providers in the county have long term investment programmes in place to ensure the most energy inefficient properties are improved to achieve a minimum standard of efficiency. Insulation, fuel switching and heating upgrades will be employed to improve the energy performance of housing stock. Renewable energy will also be used to bring down fuel costs for tenants.

We will measure and report on progress through:

- Number of referrals and measures installed
- Local area fuel poverty statistics (DECC)

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- SAP ratings of Wiltshire housing stock (Private Sector Stock Condition Survey)

		Action	Measure of completeness	Delivery / Stakeholders	Timescale
Domestic	A1.1	Deliver the Warm & Safe programme for Wiltshire residents to access energy advice and support	Advice line operational Referral mechanism(s) in place External funding secured for measures Energy efficiency measures installed in homes	**Wiltshire Council** Public Health, Warm & Safe Wiltshire Delivery Group **Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service** **Supported by**: Community groups / partners	Ongoing
Domestic / Business	A1.2	Promote the Ready to Switch collective switching scheme	Communications and promotions Three auctions run per year	**Wiltshire Council** Public Health, Green Economy **Supported by:** Community groups Housing Associations	Ongoing
Domestic	A1.3	Develop a strategic approach for delivering fuel poverty interventions	Develop an evidence base for targeting fuel poverty projects Engage delivery partners Working group established to support programme	**Wiltshire Council** Public Health, Housing, Warm & Safe Wiltshire Delivery Group **Supported by:** Health and Wellbeing Board Housing Associations	2016/17

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			delivery		
		Action	**Measure of completeness**	**Delivery / Stakeholders**	**Timescale**
Domestic	A1.4	Deliver an investment programme for energy efficiency improvements in social housing stock	Energy efficiency / fuel poverty strategy in place Measures implemented Number of homes with energy rating under SAP 69	**Wiltshire Housing Associations** **Wiltshire Council** Asset Management	2015-2020

S1. To support, develop and promote sustainable alternatives to private car journeys

We will work with employers, community groups and transport providers to support the development and promotion of sustainable transport options.

This work will build on the resources developed through the Connecting Wiltshire programme and provide a route to information and advice. Community led activities will support the promotion of active travel and bring forward initiatives that meet local needs, such as those identified by community area transport groups and air quality working groups. Alongside this, we will continue to work with partners and through the planning system to enable the development of sustainable transport infrastructure and initiatives.

We will measure and report on progress through:

- Monitoring the number of businesses, schools and new developments assisted with travel plans and measures
- Modal shift data provided by walking and cycling counters, rail surveys and travel surveys (where available)

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		Action	Measure of completeness	Delivery / Stakeholders	Timescale
	S1.1	Develop the Connecting Wiltshire website as a one-stop shop for sustainable travel advice	Improve website content New tools / applications* Travel promotions*	**Wiltshire Council** Sustainable transport *Funding dependent (e.g. external bids and grants)	Ongoing
	S1.2	Promote and support the use of travel plans within businesses, schools and new developments	Businesses supported with travel plans and implementing measures Development-related travel plans Funded school travel plan measures	**Wiltshire Council** Sustainable Transport, School Travel Plan Advisor (Traffic Management Team) **Supported by**: Businesses, Employers Schools	Ongoing
	S1.3	Promote active travel, including walking, cycling and use of public transport, through information and initiatives	Delivery of active travel programmes: e.g. Bike It Plus programme, Beat the Street Project, Get Wiltshire Walking. External funding applications	**Wiltshire Council** Public Health, Sustainable Transport **Supported by**: Community Area Transport / Air Quality Groups Schools	Ongoing
	S1.4	Develop sustainable transport infrastructure for cycling, walking and public transport	Implement town cycle networks and key cross-country routes.* Implement wayfinding strategies for all towns.*	**Wiltshire Council** Sustainable Transport, Highways **Supported by:** Community Area Transport Groups (CATG)	Ongoing

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			Continue delivery of CATG walking and cycling scheme	*Funding to be sought through grants and planning contributions.	
		Action	**Measure of completeness**	**Delivery / Stakeholders**	**Timescale**
	S1.5	Work with partners to secure funding to promote bus travel and service quality improvements	Regular meetings of QBP Prepare bids as funding sources become available e.g. Better Bus Area funding (delivered 2014)	**Wiltshire Council** Passenger Transport Unit **Supported by**: Salisbury Quality Bus Partnership (QBP), Passenger Transport Providers	Ongoing
	S1.6	Support the development of community-led sustainable transport initiatives	Officer support for proposals and initiatives Community-led initiatives in delivery e.g. sustainable travel promotions, car club, community transport schemes	**Community Area Transport Groups** **Supported by**: Sustainable Transport, Active Travel Groups, Community First	Ongoing

S2. To develop the infrastructure for ultra-low emissions vehicles (ULEV) and facilitate their uptake

This action area aims to expand the number of electric vehicle charging points by developing a publically accessible network that can facilitate the early adoption of ULEVs in Wiltshire. The council will continue to seek opportunities and funding to develop this infrastructure.

Wiltshire Council has a fleet of electric and hybrid electric pool cars, funded through the 'invest to save' programme. Based on this experience

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Wiltshire businesses can be supported to engage with low carbon vehicles, build confidence in emerging technologies and overcome some of the barriers to uptake.

There are a number of emerging technologies in this area and the development of hydrogen fuel technologies in Swindon will be supported and opportunities for deployment within Wiltshire will be explored.

We will measure and report on progress through:

- Monitoring the number of electric vehicle charging points installed
- Charge-point utilisation data
- ULEV new registrations (DfT)

		Action	Measure of completeness	Delivery / Stakeholders	Timescale
Infrastructure	S2.1	Enable the installation of a comprehensive network of publically available electric vehicle charge points within Wiltshire	Sites identified (e.g. public sector estate, car parks, park & rides, business parks, key destinations) Funding sourced and allocated Installation*	**Wiltshire Council** Fleet, Green Economy **Supported by**: Office for Low Emission Vehicles Public sector * Funding dependent (e.g. OLEV grants)	Ongoing
Infrastructure	S2.2	Seek the provision of charge points through the planning system in new residential developments, retail and key employment sites	Review the scale of provision based on likely demand Guidance on requirements for charging points Deliver charge-points in new	**Wiltshire Council** Green Economy, Sustainable Transport, Development Management **Supported by**: Office for Low Emission Vehicles	Ongoing

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			developments and strategic sites (Smarter Choices Strategy, Policy 9)*	* Funding dependent (e.g. grants or developer contributions)	
		Action	**Measure of completeness**	**Delivery / Stakeholders**	**Timescale**
Vehicles	S2.3	Promote funding sources and facilitate opportunities for commercial uptake of ULEVs	Provide information through website and communications Sharing experience of ULEV fleet vehicles Explore alternative ownership models e.g. car clubs Make funding applications	**Wiltshire Council** Green Economy, Fleet **Supported by**: Office for Low Emission Vehicles	Ongoing
Vehicles	S2.4	Deliver Clean Bus Technology Fund project to implement flywheel hybrid technology on 19 existing buses	External funding secured Retrofit undertaken (September-December) Monitoring (3 years)	**Go South Coast** **Supported by**: Passenger Transport Unit	2015/16

L1. To utilise renewable and low carbon solutions at strategic sites

District heating networks will be explored to support the low carbon development of employment and residential sites. We will work with partners to establish the feasibility and viability of schemes at strategic sites; to facilitate uptake, inform future policy development and understand further potential for deployment.

The use of renewable energy and sustainable construction on major developments will be guided by the Local Plan Core Policy 41 and the

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development of guidance to promote sustainable energy strategies.

We will measure and report on progress through:

- Monitoring approved and installed renewable capacity (MW)
- Number of district heating networks progressing beyond initial feasibility stage

		Action	Measure of completeness	Delivery / Stakeholders	Timescale
	L1.1	Facilitate the uptake of district heating networks at strategic economic and development sites • Porton Down • Langley Park (Chippenham) • Ashton Park (Trowbridge) • Trowbridge Energy Hub (Core Policy 30)	External funding for mapping, master-planning and feasibility studies secured Business cases developed Routes to financing explored Feasibility and viability established	**Wiltshire Council** Green Economy, Heat Network Steering Group **Supported by**: DECC Heat Network Delivery Unit, Technical consultants, Developers, Businesses	Q4 2015/16
	L1.2	Identify further opportunities for sustainable energy solutions on strategic development sites	Review of Sustainable Energy Strategies for key sites Heat networks knowledge transfer Undertake data gathering and mapping for potential sites Inclusion of heat networks in any revision to Core Strategy	**Wiltshire Council** Energy & Environment, Spatial Planning, Economic Development **Supported by**: DECC Heat Network Delivery Unit, Technical consultants, Developers	Ongoing Q4 2015/16

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			Inclusion within the infrastructure planning process		
		Action	**Measure of completeness**	**Delivery / Stakeholders**	**Timescale**
	L1.3	Produce planning guidance to support sustainable construction and low carbon energy (core policy 41)	Partial review of core strategy Design guidance produced Adopted	**Wiltshire Council** Energy & Environment, Spatial Planning	2016

L2. To increase locally generated and owned renewable electricity and heat

At a building scale there is significant potential for developing energy resilience through the adoption of renewable heat and building integrated technologies. This can be facilitated by supporting businesses to share their experience and foster a better understanding of their application and in use performance.

Community ownership is a developing model for investing in renewable energy schemes. To support community energy a range of partnership and investment opportunities will be explored to understand how the benefits of renewable energy schemes can be maximised for community resilience, fuel poverty and local economic development.

We will measure and report on progress through:

- Approved renewable energy capacity (MW)
- Installed capacity (kW) (central feed-in tariff register / renewable heat incentive accreditations)
- Renewable energy planning applications (technology breakdown)
- Number of community-led energy projects

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		Action	Measure of completeness	Delivery / Stakeholders	Timescale
Business	L2.1	To encourage and facilitate the uptake of commercial scale and building integrated renewables	Business to business case studies Early stage project support Brokering suppliers Knowledge exchange event, workshops and networking	**Wiltshire Council** Green Economy, Economic Development, Wiltshire 100 businesses	Q4 2015/16
Communities	L2.2	Support the development of renewable energy schemes that maximise community benefit	Partnership and investment opportunities have been explored to encourage delivery of local renewable energy schemes Identify routes for implementation and propose measures for approval Implement support / develop any necessary policy levers	**Wiltshire Council** Green Economy, Spatial Planning, Asset Management **Supported by**: Community energy groups, Community Benefit Societies, Community Land Trusts, Renewable energy developers	Q4 2015/16 2016/17
Business	L2.3	Work with the Distribution Network Operator to overcome barriers to expansion of renewable energy in Wiltshire	Evidence gathering Meeting of stakeholders Identification of actions	**Wiltshire Council** Green Economy, Spatial Planning, Economic Development **SSE**	Q4 2015/16

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L3. To develop opportunities for renewable and low carbon energy which support the wider economy

Renewable energy technologies offer the opportunity to use local resources for the generation of energy. Strengthening local supply chains for renewable fuels such as wood fuel has the potential to deliver wider economic benefits through investment and jobs.

There are also opportunities to harness the county's waste as an energy resource and deploy innovative solutions for the management, storage and supply of energy which will help to develop a sustainable local and low carbon economy.

We will measure and report on progress through:

- Number of businesses supported
- Number of jobs created through council support and in the Low Carbon Environmental Goods and Services sector (National Statistics)

		Action	Measure of completeness	Delivery / Stakeholders	Timescale
	L3.1	Explore funding opportunities to enable the delivery of support to the local biomass supply chain	Review evidence based interventions from the timber study Identify funding sources and develop opportunities to implement recommended actions	**Wiltshire Council** Green Economy **Supported by**: Local Nature Partnership, Forestry, timber and biomass businesses Woodland owners, Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, Forestry Commission	2016/17
	L3.2	Undertake a scoping study to understand the potential for waste to be used as an energy resource within the county	Review of council waste arrangements	**Wiltshire Council** Green Economy, Waste Services	2015/16

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			Mapping commercial waste streams Identify local and strategic energy from waste opportunities	**Supported by**: Waste management and processing businesses	
		Action	**Measure of completeness**	**Delivery / Stakeholders**	**Timescale**
	L3.3	Assess the scope of Wiltshire's 'low carbon economy' and potential opportunities and priorities to promote future growth	Establish scope of study Baseline and growth potential Recommendations	**Wiltshire Council** Green Economy Team Economic Development, Skills & Employment	2016/17
	L3.4	Work with neighbouring authorities, partners and the SWLEP to explore opportunities for deployment of emerging clean energy and low carbon solutions e.g. energy storage, SMART grid and local power networks.	Explore innovation funding streams Develop partnerships and proposals	**Wiltshire Council** Green Economy, SWLEP **Supported by**: Businesses, research facilities, consultants, neighbouring authorities.	Ongoing

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Wiltshire Council

Environment Select Committee

27 October 2015

Subject: **Street Lighting Changes**

Cabinet Member: **Cllr Philip Whitehead – Highways and Transport**

Key Decision: **No**

Purpose of Report

1. To update members on progress made with regard to reducing energy costs and the carbon footprint of the Council's street lighting.

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

2. The Council's Highways and Streetscene contract helps meet the priorities of the Council's Business Plan, including:

   - Outcome 2 – People in Wiltshire work together to solve problems locally and participate in decisions that affect them
   - Outcome 6 – People are as protected from harm as possible and feel safe

Background

3. The Council has over 50,000 street lights and illuminated signs. Energy costs do vary, and although they may fall in the short term, they are likely to continue to rise in the longer term. The energy cost for street lighting is anticipated to be almost £1.2 million for this year, and with current budget restrictions these costs are becoming unaffordable. The Council's street lighting energy accounts for 12% of the Council's carbon footprint producing.

4. The Council made a start in reducing its energy consumption in connection with street lighting in 2011, with over 1,300 units being converted to part night lighting following community based projects. There was also a Salix funded invest to save scheme which converted the Council's illuminated bollards to low energy units.

5. Proposals to introduce part night lighting with about half the lights being off between midnight and 5.30am were developed following the success of the earlier scheme. Lighting, where there are CCTV systems, in town centres, and in areas where crime is a problem, would remain on and at normal lighting levels.

6. The proposed changes to street lighting were consulted on in 2012, following consideration by the Environment Select Committee on 3 May 2012 and Cabinet on 24 May 2012. The decision to proceed was taken by Cabinet in December 2012.

Main Considerations for the Council

7. The scheme was initially introduced in Trowbridge in July 2014. The scheme was closely monitored with liaison with the Area Board and local police. Where issues in connection with safety, crime or anti-social behaviour were identified, changes were made to the lighting. This included turning some lights off as well as changing some to all night operation.

8. The principles applied to the changes were that lights would be left on in the following cases:

- Main traffic routes with substantial pedestrian movements, or potential conflict areas such as junctions and roundabouts.
- Units near to minor residential road junctions.
- Areas with above average night time pedestrian activity, such as town centres or near 24 hour or early morning facilities.
- Areas with 24 hour operational emergency services sites such as hospitals and fire stations.
- Street lights near uncontrolled pedestrian crossings (zebra crossings or informal crossings) and within subways, stairways and ramps, enclosed footpaths and alleyways.
- Street lights close to potential hazards on the highway (such as roundabouts, central carriageway islands, build-outs and speed-humps).

9. The review of the Trowbridge scheme indicated that creating dark areas in urban residential areas did cause complaints. In the previous rural schemes this had not been an issue, and there had been complaints about lights being left on. Changes were made at a number of locations to ensure a minimum level of lighting.

10. Following the review of the Trowbridge scheme some changes were made to the proposals for the other towns. The scheme was subsequently implemented this year in Amesbury, Bradford on Avon, Calne, Chippenham, Corsham, Devizes, Malmesbury, Marlborough, Melksham, Salisbury, Warminster, Westbury and Royal Wootton Bassett.

11. Information on the scheme and a list of frequently asked questions is available on the Council website at:

http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/parkingtransportandstreets/roadshighwaysstreetcare/roadsandtraffic/streetlights.htm

12. There are about 31,000 street lights in the urban areas. 11,395 lights were converted to part night operation and 4,849 of the more modern units were converted to dim for part of the night. There were 1,053 where dimming and part night operation was introduced.

13. There were a total of 445 queries recorded from the public regarding lighting operation, many of which were reports of lights not working, which had in fact been converted to operate for part of the night. There have been 183 requests for changes to the part night operation of lights, with 85 of those being in connection with the original Trowbridge implementation.

14. A total of 102 units have been changed in response to requests so far. These changes were mainly in connection with safety issues, potential anti-social behaviour or issues at particular locations. It has not been possible to meet every request as it is important that the required savings are met.

15. There are clearly concerns about fear of crime, particularly in the urban areas. The scheme has taken this into account by not changing lighting in alleyways and similar areas, and there has been a programme of upgrading lighting in those vulnerable locations.

16. There was a fatality on the A361 in Trowbridge in September 2014 on a section of road where part night lighting was introduced in 2011. The Coroner's report did not identify the lighting as being a cause of the incident. However, this was not reflected in press reports at the time.

17. Improving technology has meant that modern lighting is more effective and energy efficient. New developments have LED or other energy efficient units. Unfortunately, much of Wiltshire's lighting stock is old and is not suitable for dimming and installation of LED units.

18. Considerable investment would be needed to improve the street lighting stock, especially with regard to life expired lighting columns. A recent bid for DfT challenge funding for £7 million to upgrade older lighting units was unsuccessful, and the condition of street lighting is a concern.

19. The cost of LED lighting has been reducing, and the situation is being monitored on a continual basis to determine whether capital investment can be justified by future savings in operating costs within the lifetime of the units. When a robust business case can be justified a funding bid will be prepared.

Safeguarding Implications

20. None.

Public Health Implications

21. A recent study by London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine into the effects of part night lighting, which Wiltshire provided information for, concluded that there was no evidence that reduced street lighting is associated with increases in road traffic collisions or crime.

22. The operation of the scheme is being monitored and changes are being made to the lighting where potential safety issues are identified.

Procurement Implications

23. None at this stage

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

24. A reduction in street lighting, especially in urban areas, can have equality and diversity implications. Fear of crime is a serious consideration even in a safe county like Wiltshire, and walking along streets with unlit areas may inhibit some members of the community from walking at night or early in the morning, or result in parents refusing to let children walk to school. The current scheme only affects lighting between midnight and 5.30am.

25. In areas where there are higher than average crime rates, or where anti-social behaviour is a problem, reducing street lighting may be perceived by many to be increasing the danger to the public. The operation of the changes to the street lighting is being monitored and changes are being made where particular safety issues are identified.

Environment and Climate Change Considerations

26. Carbon emissions associated with street lighting account for 12% of the Council's overall footprint. Street lighting has a key part to play in reducing the Council's energy consumption, and a number of part night lighting schemes have already been installed by this Council successfully.

27. The implementation of the current scheme to further reduce energy consumption is helping towards the Council's carbon reduction targets. It is estimated that the current scheme is reducing CO2 associated with street lighting from 8,365 TCO2 to 5,920 TCO2.

28. The introduction of new energy efficient units, including LED lighting is also helping to reduce energy costs and the Council's carbon footprint. However, it should be noted that with the large number of lighting units and the poor condition of many lighting columns the cost of upgrading all the units would be considerable.

Risk Assessment

29. The identified cost savings for the scheme are based on current energy prices. These can vary in the short term, but longer term price increases are likely. Taking measures to reduce energy consumption for street lighting now will reduce the risk of future energy costs having an adverse impact on budgets in future, with consequent implications for Council services.

30. The street lighting currently uses energy throughout the night, when demand is low. The introduction of energy saving measures, which reduce off-peak energy demand, may not deliver the full value of expected savings if energy suppliers increase their pricing mechanisms to allow for the reduced consumption from street lighting during off-peak hours.

31. There is a risk of adverse publicity and comment in connection with changes to street lighting. The fear of crime and concerns about road safety should not be underestimated.

32. A major concern about the Council's street lighting stock is the age of much of the equipment. Columns are at risk of corrosion and many, both steel and concrete, columns are life expired. A recent bid was made for £7 million of funding from the DfT Challenge funding to reduce this problem, but the bid was unsuccessful. Monitoring of the columns is undertaken, but the risk of a column failure and consequent damage or injury does remain.

Financial Implications

33. The street lighting energy budget has been reduced by £0.710 million since 2013/14 as a result of saving proposals which focused on part night lighting initiatives and energy reduction schemes.

34. The current schemes have delivered an element of the savings, but there is a current forecast spend of £1.170 million against a £0.887 million budget in 2015/16, leaving a pressure of £0.283 million (the forecast spend of £1.170 million represents a reduction of £0.387 million against 2014/15 spend indicating that savings are being achieved, but not to the level of assumptions built into the budget setting process). This pressure is being managed in 2015/16 through 'one off' remedial actions, but will present a future pressure unless actions are taken, i.e. extension of saving schemes or compensating factors from elsewhere in the highways budgets.

35. The street lighting energy costs remain a concern. New developments increase the number of lighting units, and even though they are more efficient the overall consumption will continue to increase. The number of new lights adopted each year varies between 300 and 1,300 depending on the rate of development, which represents an annual increase of between 0.6% and 2.6%.

Legal Implications

36. There is no legal requirement for the Council to provide street lighting, but where lighting is provided there is a responsibility to keep it in safe condition.

37. There is no requirement for the highway authority to provide street lighting on roads, but it is often provided at major junctions and locations where there may be hazards. Street lighting can play a part in improving road safety, and the current proposals will leave lights on at the identified high risk areas. There may still be a risk of accidents on unlit sections of road, but it is unlikely that legal action could be taken against the Council for not providing street lighting.

Options Considered

38. A number of options were considered when the matter was considered by Cabinet in December 2012, when it was concluded that the introduction of a Central Management System to enable better control of the lighting, and the introduction of part night lighting, offered good cost savings and carbon reductions, but without significant adverse impacts on the public.

39. Other options such as turning off street lighting permanently would have had a greater impact on the public, and be likely to create adverse public reactions with increased fear of crime and concerns about road safety. The introduction of new energy efficient units across the network would reduce energy costs, but would require significant capital investment and was not considered to be feasible with current budget limitations.

Conclusions

40. The part night lighting scheme has been successfully introduced in the towns across Wiltshire, with 11,395 units converted to operate for part of the night, and 4,849 dimming. Where issues in connection with safety, crime or anti-social behaviour were identified changes were made to the lighting. This included turning some lights off as well as changing some to all night operation.

41. The number of requests for changes since the introduction of the new lighting timings has been small (445 queries) compared to the large number of units converted to operate for part of the night (11,395 units).

42. The part night scheme has been successful in reducing energy consumption with a reduction of almost 20% between August 2013 and August 2015. Since the further units have been converted, and the scheme is on course to deliver the anticipated savings of £300,000 annually. However, it should be noted that energy costs are likely to rise in the future and new developments introduce additional street lighting.

43. The current part night lighting scheme is expected to reduce the Council's carbon footprint. It is anticipated that CO2 will reduce from 8,365 TCO2 before the scheme to 5,920 TCO2 with the current scheme operating.

Recommendation

44. To note the update and provide comment and guidance as appropriate.

Dr. Carlton Brand
Corporate Director

Parvis Khansari
Associate Director Highways and Transport

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The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this Report:

None

Appendices:

None

Wiltshire Council

Environment Select Committee

27 October 2015

Subject: **Wiltshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy**

Cabinet Member: **Councillor Jonathon Seed – Housing, Leisure, Libraries and Flooding**

Key Decision: **No**

Executive Summary

Wiltshire experienced severe flooding between December 2013 and March 2014, with over 500 properties flooded and a number of roads having to be closed to traffic. Flooding in September 2014 affected over 80 properties, and in September 2015 there were 20 properties flooded in Salisbury and the south of the county. Many communities in Wiltshire have experienced at first hand the damage, distress and disruption that flooding can cause.

The Council's Strategic Flood Risk Management Group is chaired by Cabinet Member, Councillor Seed, who works closely with the three Operational Flood Working Groups, currently chaired by Councillors Hewitt, Jacobs and Clewer.

The Operational Flood Working Groups cover the north and south of the county, based broadly on river catchment areas, with a separate group for Salisbury, and usually meet every two months. The meetings are generally attended by representatives from the Environment Agency, Wessex Water, Thames Water, Highways England, Network Rail, Wiltshire Fire and Rescue, Country Land and Business Association (CLA), Canal and Waterways Trust and other organisations having an interest in flooding and drainage matters, including town and parish councils.

The Council has an ongoing programme of work to reduce flood risk for local communities (see **Appendix 1**).

The Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS) was reviewed by the Committee at its meeting on 28 October 2014, and was subsequently approved with minor alterations by Cabinet in December 2015. In view of the particular problems of ground water a Groundwater Management Strategy has been developed (see **Appendix 2**) to augment the LFRMS.

In order to develop a programme of flood alleviation schemes a high level scheme identification study has been undertaken. A bid has been submitted for Wessex Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (WRFCC) Local Levy funding for further development (see **Appendix 3**). The intention is that a prioritised programme for future schemes will be identified for future consideration by the Flood Working Groups.

The use of sustainable drainage systems (SuDs) on new developments has been encouraged in recent years, with a number of schemes being successfully implemented. The Council has produced a comprehensive guide which will be available on the Council's website. A summary guidance document has also been produced (see **Appendix 4**). Developers should be adhering to these policies and practices to reduce flood risk in connection with new developments.

Proposal

The Committee is requested to note:

(i) the progress being made on managing flood risk in Wiltshire, and the work of the Operational Flood Working Groups, which have been particularly effective at working with local communities, the Environment Agency and other organisations.

(ii) the development of the Groundwater Management Strategy and the Developers Guides to augment the strategy set out in the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.

Reason for Proposal

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 requires the Council to prepare a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. The groundwater strategy, prioritised programme of future schemes, and developers guide will help to manage flood risk in Wiltshire and reduce risks for our communities.

Dr Carlton Brand
Corporate Director

Wiltshire Council

Environment Select Committee

27 October 2015

Subject: **Wiltshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy**

Cabinet Member: **Councillor Jonathon Seed – Housing, Leisure, Libraries and Flooding**

Key Decision: **No**

Purpose of Report

1. To update members on progress made with regard to flooding since the last report to this Committee on 28 October 2014.

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

2. The overall aim of the flood risk management strategy is to support the Wiltshire Council Business Plan vision to create stronger and more resilient communities. The suggested improvements meet the Business Plan outcomes of:

    - People work together, solve problems locally and participate in decisions that affect them, and
    - People feel safe and are as protected as possible from harm.

Background

3. The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 requires Wiltshire Council to develop a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS). The Council is responsible for maintaining, applying and monitoring the strategy, and ensuring that it is consistent with the National Flood and Coastal Risk Management Strategy.

4. Wiltshire experienced severe flooding between December 2013 and March 2014, with over 500 properties flooded and a number of roads having to be closed to traffic. Flooding in September 2014 affected over 80 properties, and in September 2015 there were 20 properties flooded in Salisbury and the south of the county. Many communities in Wiltshire were also affected by the flooding in 2007 and in 2008. Communities in Wiltshire have experienced at first hand the damage, distress and disruption that flooding can cause.

5. Flood risk within Wiltshire is often a complex interaction between river, surface, ground water and sewer flooding, and the local geology is a significant factor. The northern part of the county is predominately underlain by clay, with flooding generally caused by river or excessive surface water runoff. The south of the county is characterised by underlying chalk deposits, with potential risk of ground water flooding in many areas.

6. The risk of flooding is increasing due to pressures in urban environments, and with climate change more severe rainfall events are predicted. These will create additional challenges for communities and have implications on the developed environment.

Main Considerations for the Council

Flood Risk Management Groups

7. The Council's Strategic Flood Risk Management Group is chaired by a Cabinet Member portfolio holder, Councillor Seed, who works closely with the three Operational Flood Working Groups, currently chaired by Councillors Hewitt, Jacobs and Clewer.

8. The Operational Flood Working Groups cover the north and south of the county, based broadly on river catchment areas, with a separate group for Salisbury, and usually meet every two months. The meetings are generally attended by representatives from the Environment Agency, Wessex Water, Thames Water, Highways Agency, Wiltshire Fire and Rescue, Canal and Waterways Trust and other organisations having an interest in flooding and drainage matters, including town and parish councils.

9. The priorities for addressing flood risk are assessed against the following criteria, which were set out in 2009 with the formation of Wiltshire Council:

(i) High speed road standing water
(ii) Property flooding
(iii) Highway flooding
(iv) Land flooding
(v) Agricultural land flooding

10. The Council has a significant budget for drainage improvement and flood alleviation works, and bids for additional funding as opportunities arise to help in implementing its strategy. The priorities are set by the Operational Flood Working Groups who co-ordinate the work with other organisations.

Reducing Flood Risks

11. There was significant flooding across the county in 2014, and there have been a number of localised incidents this year. About 30 properties were affected in July 2015, with half of them being in the Salisbury area. The flood risk in Wiltshire continues to be significant, and it is important that local communities make appropriate preparations.

12. The Parish Emergency Assistance Scheme (PEAS) is funded by the Council and provides sand bags and equipment to local town and parish councils so that they can store these locally, and deploy them as necessary. The preparation of Flood Plans and appointment of Flood Wardens is important in helping communities to prepare themselves, and they are encouraged to make use of the resources available.

13. The Council is also working with local businesses to help them prepare flood plans and reduce flood risk, including working with the Environment Agency and Salisbury Chamber of Commerce.

14. The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) funded Repair and Renewal Grant scheme provided funding for property owners affected by the flooding in early 2014 to build in resilience measures to reduce the impact of future flooding. The scheme was administered by the Council and 114 grants were approved with a total value of £483,536.27. This funding helped protect properties in Wiltshire previously affected by flooding. In addition, the Council received £282,000 funding from the Environment Agency and Defra for emergency repairs in 2014-15.

15. It was unfortunate that the scheme was limited to flooding before 31 March 2014 as there was significant flooding in Wiltshire later in the year, which did not qualify for the grant. Approaches were made to the Minister, but it was indicated that it was not intended to extend the scheme. This was particularly disappointing in view of the benefits the scheme offered to improve flood resilience to those most at risk.

16. The Council has a major programme of flood alleviation and drainage schemes with an annual budget of £1,000,000 which is significantly more than most local authorities spend on this type of work. The Council records properties at risk and has a targeted approach to schemes. This has enabled an extensive programme of work to be undertaken (see **Appendix 2**). In addition, the Council has been successful in bidding for funds from Defra and the Environment Agency, with funding being obtained for work at Aldbourne and Great Bedwyn, which were both badly affected by the flooding last year.

Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

17. The LFRMS was reviewed by the Committee at its meeting on 28 October 2014, and was subsequently approved with minor alterations by Cabinet in December 2015. The LFRMS is available on the Council's website and explains:

- The roles and responsibilities of Wiltshire Council as a Risk Management Authority and its management functions.
- How the Council works with neighbouring authorities and others.
- The objectives for managing local flood risk.
- The measures proposed to meet these objectives.
- How technically and financially and when these measures will be implemented.
- How we will develop, maintain, apply and monitor our LFRMS.

18. The aim of the strategy is to work with stakeholders, local communities and organisations responsible for managing flood risk to enable a better understanding of flood risk and thereby reduce the risk of flooding within the county where it is technically, environmentally, socially and cost-effective to do so. It has the following objectives to:

- Improve knowledge regarding flood risk
- Improve protection from flooding

- Improve resilience to flooding
- Improve the environment
- Improve communications about flooding issues

19. The Local Flood Risk Management Strategy describes responsibilities with regard to flood risk, the types of flood risk and how flood risk is managed in Wiltshire. Self help by affected residents and communities is a major thrust of the strategy. Local communities are encouraged to prepare Flood Plans and appoint Flood Wardens, and residents are encouraged to take measures to protect their property and reduce the potential effects of flooding.

Groundwater Strategy

20. The geology of Wiltshire makes many areas susceptible to groundwater flooding, especially where the underlying geology is chalk. Groundwater flooding occurs when prolonged rainfall causes the underlying aquifer to fill up with water, and with nowhere else to go the water rises to the surface.

21. Various mechanisms may have an influence on the different characteristics of groundwater flooding. Historical and present events in Wiltshire have demonstrated that a significant number of flooding incidents can be attributed to groundwater emergence.

22. In 2012 groundwater levels rose significantly in the Salisbury area, and there were concerns about the possibility of flooding in the south west of the county, but fortunately levels reduced in the spring. However, in 2013/14 the groundwater levels rose to their highest levels recorded and there was flooding at many locations in Wiltshire, especially in the south.

23. In view of the particular problems of ground water the Council has developed a Groundwater Management Strategy (see **Appendix 2**) to augment the LFRMS. The strategy has been developed in conjunction with Wessex and Thames Water as sewers can be particularly susceptible to groundwater flooding, and it is important that new developments take into account potential groundwater impacts.

Identifying Future Flood Risk Schemes

24. The Council has a substantial programme of capital works to improve drainage and reduce flood risks. In addition, the Council bids for funding from Defra, Wessex Regional Flood and Coast Committee (WRFCC) Local Levy and other funds as opportunities arise.

25. In order to develop schemes a high level scheme identification study has been undertaken in order to prioritise flood risk schemes in the county, and to identify future bidding opportunities. A bid has been submitted for WRFCC Local Levy funding for further development (see **Appendix 3**). The intention is that a prioritised programme for future schemes will be identified for future consideration by the Flood Working Groups.

26. The Council works closely with the Environment Agency on managing flood risk, and is involved in studies currently being undertaken. Detailed modelling of flood risk in Salisbury is currently underway, and it is hoped that this will lead to bids for flood protection measures for the city, which was at serious risk of flooding in February 2014.

Sustainable Drainage Systems

27. Flooding from any source can have enormous environmental, economic and social consequences. However, there is a limit to how far existing underground drainage systems can be upgraded or extended, and there is consequently an increasing focus on managing water in a more sustainable way.

28. The Council's drainage team reviews and comments on planning applications, providing advice to other Council departments and teams, and deals with general enquiries from the public regarding drainage matters. The team also reviews and approves Land Drainage Consent applications.

29. Wiltshire Council's approach is to ensure that there is effective management of surface water on all sites, but particularly on those where proposed redevelopment is likely to present significant opportunities for improvement and the achievement of sustainable development. This approach will reduce pressures on the existing drainage infrastructure and reduce the risk of surface water flooding and pollution.

30. The use of sustainable drainage systems (SuDs) on new developments has been encouraged in recent years, with a number of schemes being successfully implemented. The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 envisaged the establishment of SuDs Approval Bodies, but it has recently been announced that approval will now be through the planning process.

31. In order to provide guidance to developers a comprehensive guide has been produced and is available on the Council's website. A summary guidance document has also been produced (see **Appendix 4**). These documents should help developers to design schemes which will conform to current design standards and best practice and reduce flood risk in connection with new developments.

Safeguarding Implications

32. Does not apply.

Public Health Implications

33. Flooding can have serious health implications, not only from the risk of injury and drowning, but also from pollution when sewers and industrial sites are affected. Having a strategy to reduce the impact of flooding is important to help protect our communities. The stress caused to those affected by flooding, and the disturbance and disruption should not be under estimated.

34. There are particular problems with sewers overflowing, especially as a result of groundwater inundation. The Council's staff hold regular co-ordination meetings with the water companies regarding this issue.

35. Flooding also has implications for road safety, especially with regard to standing water on high speed roads.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

36. The projections for future climate change are that it is likely that winters will become significantly wetter and extreme winter precipitation will increase. In summer there is likely to be less overall rainfall, but intense heavy downpours are anticipated. As the main cause of surface water flooding is this storm rainfall, there is likely to be an increased risk of river and surface water flooding, but there is also likely to be an increase in groundwater flooding.

37. There was considerable long-term flooding in early 2014, but there has also been significant local flooding in recent years which has overwhelmed road drainage system, which can usually cope with a 1 in 5 year to 1 in 30 year storm. Recent events have included an estimated 1 in 481 year event. Short duration high intensity storms appear to be an increasing problem.

38. The proposed Wiltshire LFRMS takes the implications of climate change into account in Appendix 1 of that document.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

39. No significant factors have been identified.

Risk Assessment

40. Since flooding is a serious issue for Wiltshire there is a reputational risk in not developing flood alleviation measures. It is important to have a clear approach to how we tackle the issues and that the Council is pro-active in its flood management across the county, recognising the increasing risk posed by predicted wetter weather.

41. The risks of flooding are managed by appropriate emergency planning, business continuity plans, and the operation of the out of hours duty engineer.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision and related work is not taken

42. There are no decisions required at this time, and this report is for information only.

Risks that may arise if the proposed decision is taken and actions that will be taken to manage these risks

43. There are no significant risks associated with this report.

Financial Implications

44. There are no direct financial implications currently. However, it is important that opportunities are taken to bid for Defra and other funding sources as opportunities arise in the future.

Legal Implications

45. The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 requires the Council to prepare a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. The Council is also a landowner with extensive ownership, including car parks, public open spaces, buildings and other areas which can be at risk of flooding.

46. Legal support is required in connection with carrying out flood management duties, especially with regard to the Byelaws and land ownership issues. Ensuring land owners carry out their responsibilities with regard to reducing flood risk for others remains a challenge.

Options Considered

47. This report is for information only, and no decisions need to be made at this time.

Conclusions

48. The work carried out by the Council in connection with flood alleviation and drainage improvements helps the Council meet its duties as Lead Local Flood Authority under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. The Groundwater Management Strategy, prioritised programme of future schemes, and developers guide will help to manage flood risk in Wiltshire and reduce the flood risk for our communities.

Parvis Khansari
Associate Director Highways and Transport

Report Author:
Peter Binley
Head of Highways Asset Management
Tel No. 01225 713412

The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this Report:

None

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – List of Recent Flood Alleviation and Drainage Improvement Schemes
Appendix 2 – Wiltshire Groundwater Management Strategy
Appendix 3 – Local Levy Programme Bid
Appendix 4 – Guidance for Developers

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APPENDIX 1

Recent Flood Alleviation and Drainage Improvement Schemes

Tilshead- Investigating attenuation scheme within land owned by MOD. This could include the construction of a reservoir to hold back flows and prevent flooding to Tilshead.

Aldbourne- Extensive replacement of the drainage system and the old barrel vault culverts in West Street and Lottage Road. This work is in front of the resurfacing works and includes kerbing new gullies and construction of new headwalls. The construction methods used in this area take into account the high ground water levels and uses porous pipes and materials to allow ground water to drain through into the new drainage and reduce the risk of flooding.

Malmesbury- Wiltshire Council has been working with the Environment Agency (EA), Malmesbury Town Council and the Freemen of Malmesbury to remove the silt from the river Avon and remove an old Gasometer that was built out into the river. The blockages were removed from the river, which will help flows through the town and under the historic bridge. EA have an ongoing desktop study outline which has been agreed by all parties, and it is hoped that incremental improvements within the catchment will give resilience to the residents of the area.

Great Bedwyn- We have carried out drainage investigations and improvements of Back Lane and Church Street. In the process of installing a flood wall adjacent to the allotments and have recovered historic drainage downstream of the Knapp. We have been working with the Parish Council, landowners, Network Rail and Thames Water to reduce the flood risk and take the surface water away from the sewerage systems.

Dauntsey- a drainage system was upgraded around the M4 overpass with extensive ditch works including upgrading field accesses. Historic ditches were found and reinstated and drainage systems found that were installed in the 1960's working with the Parish Council, Environment Agency and Highways England. Working with the other organisations on a desk top study of the village to try and resolve some of the problems that have been attributed to the construction of the motorway. Desktop study ongoing. Highways England, Environment Agency, Wiltshire Council and the Parish Council are fully engaged in the process.

Corsham – Investigation works and repairs being carried out on A4 to provide a positive drainage outfall. Liaison with church estate managers about partially collapsed culvert on their land. Desktop study of the catchment undertaken which is being part funded by the Environment Agency. Working with Wessex Water and Network Rail as they are at risk of inundation or flooding.

Shaw and Whitley- Desktop study of the catchment to establish the mechanisms of flooding and what can be done to reduce the frequency of the events. Environment Agency part funding the study.

Hindon- Study carried out and design prepared for a scheme to upgrade drainage from the Dean past the School to outfall into watercourse to reduce flood risk.

Chippenham/Melksham A350 – Ditch works carried out along the A350 as highway flooding occurring. This work included repairing and replacing Surface Water drainage and new headwall construction.

Norton Bavant- The old culvert under the road was collapsing and needed replacement as this is the only access to the area. A temporary road was created and a new culvert/bridge was installed while maintain access for the residents.

Atworth- Bath Road (A365)- Repairs carried out to drainage within the highway and new system installed to outfall into watercourse. This involved piping through gardens and into field to outfall into watercourse to reduce flood risk.

Bishopstone, Mill Lane - Installed gabion structure to support the highway after flooding washed away the road. Reconstruction of the road and installation of boundary fence, drainage and verge works. Work co-ordinated with local highway office and the Environment Agency.

Market Lavington, The Springs - Drainage scheme installed as property flooding. Working with Parish Council and local landowners to install a new drainage system

Lydiard Millicent- Installation of a drainage scheme around Bagbury Lane, Lydiard Green to prevent localised flooding from ground and surface water

Cricklade- Drainage scheme in and around North Wall. Working with English Heritage and Cricklade Town Council to excavate ditches and link the historic watercourses around the school to prevent flooding of the property and footpaths. This required an archaeological watching brief of all works around the listed monument, and extensive ditch works and associated pipework

Wilton- Crow Lane, The Council has been working with the Environment Agency to construct a hard standing for the Flood Barriers in Crow Lane. The EA will be organising a day on Wednesday 30 September for an exercise for the demountable defences.

County Hall, Trowbridge- CCTV survey of drainage systems carried out as cellars of County Hall flooded. Repairs completed to Surface Water drainage system. Scheme designed to line pipework as pipes failing and open cut unavailable due to depth and traffic restrictions.

Hankerton- Silt has been removed from the watercourse and a two stage channel under Hare Street Bridge has been created to remove blockages and form a low flow channel. The ditches in the area were cleared as these were causing blockages.

Dilton Marsh- New drainage system installed from Petticoat Lane to outfall into High Street. Reducing the risk of localised flooding to property and gardens.

Lea B4042- Minor Drainage scheme as the highway was failing due to wet spots under the carriageway. Drainage installed and highway reconstructed.

Foxham, Cade Burna Hare Street- Removal of silt under the bridge to improve flow and capacity. We have also been working with the Parish Council to request that adjacent landowners maintain their ditches and watercourses.

Trowbridge, St Augustine's School- A scheme to improve the highway surface water system on the entrance to the school as there had been localised flooding of the buildings. We have worked with the school governors and their consultants.

Clarendon Road- A new drainage system installed in Clarendon Road with a large attenuation tank to slow flows into the watercourse.

Britford- working with the Environment Agency and Parish Council to reduce the flooding problems within the parish. We have carried out CCTV and ditch clearance within the parish. The Environment Agency had a plan to create a bund within agricultural land to prevent surface water from flooding homes within the parish, but were unable to do the works on site. We have used the Environment Agency plan and will be installing the bund and ditch based on the previous design.

Burton- Working with the Environment Agency and Parish Council on flooding issues. Installed and upgraded drainage in Marsh Lane to help reduce the overwhelming of the B4039 drainage systems with resultant property flooding. Working with the Environment Agency and Parish Council on maintenance of the watercourses and Rivers within the area as many have fallen into disrepair as landowners have not been maintaining them.

Durrington- Drainage system CCTV surveyed, after property flooding in Church Street. A review of survey, defects recorded and repair plan being actioned. Access to private land being discussed with landowner.

Corsley- Surface water runoff from field to highway being monitored after notice issued and discussions with landowner.

Donhead St Andrew- CCTV of highway drainage in village planned with discussion with Parish Council of maintenance of watercourses.

Purton- Ditching clearance north of B4553 Watkins Corner being resolved with landowners. Liaison and support of Parish Council in connection with ditching works on The Common.

Melksham, Bowerhill- Liaison with landowners over ditching clearance to reduce the risk to the properties in Bowerhill with possible enforcement action.

Calne, Derry Hill- Investigation of existing system indicates it may be heavily silted. Potential for scheme to remove and address possibly defective attenuation system.

Broughton Gifford- Liaison with landowners over repair of defects in Old Sawmills and watercourse within the area.

Christian Malford- Liaison with Parish Council about ditch clearance on B4069.

Chippenham- Monitoring of watercourse and liaison with Town Council and landowners regarding watercourses in Derriads. We are also working with the Environment Agency on a desk top study for Chippenham that has now been extended to include Calne catchment.

Coombe Bissett- Working with the Environment Agency and Parish Council to establish how the flows can be adjusted under the road bridge. EA looking at extending the Salisbury model to include flows from Coombe Bissett.

CCTV Survey and Jetting- The CCTV survey equipment and jetting is used for one week a month to investigate flooding within the area offices and reports via Wiltshire App.

Ditch Clearance- As part of the drainage operation we supply a JCB excavator and banksman to clear ditches and watercourse throughout the county in areas that have serious highways flooding or require particular attention.

Desktop Studies and Investigations

- Shaw and Whitley
- Corsham to include Lacock
- Hindon
- Tilshead/ Orcheston
- Chitterne
- Wilsford cum Lake (scheme ready for construction)
- Urchfont
- By Brook (working with the EA)
- Salisbury (EA)
- Calne Chippenham (EA)
- Malmesbury (working with the EA)
- Chelworth (ref litigation)
- Urchfont (scheme ready for construction)
- Pitton (scheme being costed)
- Westbury, Well Head (study completed, no scheme viable)
- Warminster, Lords Hill (with legal)

Parish Updates and Information

- Contributions are regularly made to the parish newsletter regarding information on the work of Operational Flood Working Groups.
- Ditch letters – reminder being sent out this week 14/09/15
- Information recorded and collected regarding flooding incidents, including from the App and Out of Hours reports of flooding
- Articles produced for Wiltshire Magazine. Including winter edition "Are you ready for Winter' for next edition.
- Working with parish councils to produce flood plans and flood wardens ongoing.
- Creation and updating list of contacts for Flood Wardens in event of weather emergency.
- Flood Plan completed for Bradford on Avon. It needs adoption by town council and then to organise a desk top exercise. Also to be progressed for Melksham without Parish Council and Malmesbury Town Council.
- Working with Environment Agency and City Council on Salisbury flood plan, warden training and communication strategy
- Organised a "pilot" training session for Malmesbury flood wardens with certification which should soon be ready to roll out across the county.
- Large scale maps and GIS data logger provided to town and parish councils to enable mapping of drainage assets and issues within their community.
- Attending Area Board Resilience workshops regarding flooding.
- PEAS (parish Emergency Assistance Scheme) – encourage participation and take up of sand bags and equipment.
- Updating Wiltshire Council's leaflet on Flooding Advice.

Operational Flood Working Groups for North, South and Salisbury - Working with town and Parish Councils and the new Salisbury Flood Working Group.

APPENDIX 2

Groundwater Management Strategy

This document summarises the Council's Ground Water Management Strategy. The Strategy will be classed as a living document, and will be updated periodically when government legislation is amended or after a period of flooding when more information is available

In 2012 groundwater levels rose significantly in the Salisbury area, and there were concerns about the possibility of flooding in the south west of the county. Fortunately, levels reduced in the spring. However, in 2013/14 the groundwater levels rose to their highest levels recorded, and there was prolonged flooding at many locations, especially in the south of Wiltshire. The Strategy focuses on the areas that are known to be susceptible to groundwater flooding.

As a unitary authority Wiltshire Council is the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) for the county and has prepared a local flood risk assessment management strategy to describe its approach to flooding, and how it will work with other organisations to manage the flood risk within the county.

The Environment Agency (EA) have produced maps detailing Areas Susceptible to Groundwater Flooding, but the level of confidence in the accuracy of the information means that maps should only be used to identify broad areas at risk rather than individual properties.

Flood risk in Wiltshire is often a complex interaction between river, surface and ground water. The geology within Wiltshire plays a significant factor as the northern part of the county is predominately clay, where flooding is caused generally by river or excessive surface water runoff, although there are some areas that are susceptible to groundwater flooding where they are underlain by sand and gravel deposits. Whereas the south and east of the county sits above chalk aquifers, and consequently has a greater potential risk of flooding from groundwater.

This Strategy aims to clarify the challenges caused by ground water and how Wiltshire Council is aiming to identify areas at risk, and who can help in partnership approach. The Groundwater Strategy should be read in conjunction with the Preliminary Flood risk Assessment (PFRA), Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRA), Strategic Flood risk Assessment (SFRA) and will assist with dealing with ground water issues as outlined in the county's Developers Guide (2015).

The Council's Ground Water Strategy seeks to:

- Identify the level of detail required for site specific Flood risk Assessments (FRA's),
- Give guidance on areas within Wiltshire susceptible to Ground Water Flooding,
- Determine the level of detail required when development is within Ground Water areas,
- Outline methods for dealing with Ground Water by resolving flow path and receptor routes,
- Give guidance and specifications for future development,
- Highlight the responsibility for ground water flooding,
- Safeguard water quality where development are proposed within ground water areas,
- Highlighting the key partnerships, with roles and responsibilities.

Wiltshire Council cannot deliver the aims and objectives of this Strategy on its own, and will work with other risk management authorities and stakeholders, including the Environment Agency, Water and Sewage Companies, local town and parish councils, community groups and members of the public.

Co-ordination of the response to ground water issues will be through the Wiltshire Council Strategic Flood Risk Management Group, which is chaired by Council Cabinet member and portfolio holder for flooding, Cllr Jonathon Seed, and by the Operational Flood Working Groups, chaired by Cllrs Simon Jacobs in the north, Mike Hewitt in the south and Richard Clewer in Salisbury.

These operational groups cover the whole of the county and are broadly based on the Environment Agency river catchment areas. The groups meet bi-monthly in each area and are attended by stakeholder partners, including the Environment Agency, Wessex Water, Thames Water, Highways England, Network Rail, Country Landowners Association and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue. Other statutory agencies which have an interest in flooding are also invited, including town and parish councils within Wiltshire.

fact sheet

Environment Agency

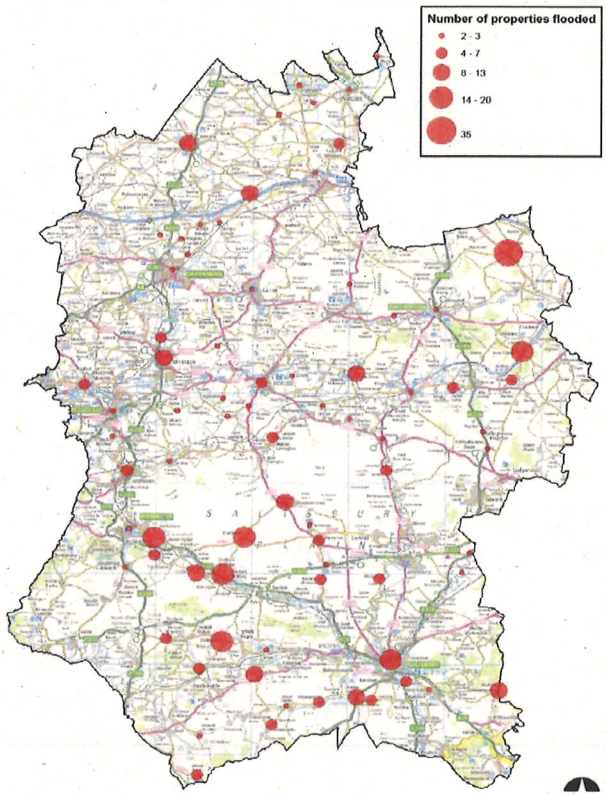
Wessex Regional Flood and Coastal Committee

Local Levy Programme 2015: Wiltshire's Project Development

Updated: July 2015

Tilshead

Salisbury



Corsham

Malmesbury

Local Authority: Wiltshire Council

The Problem: The study area covers the entire Wiltshire Council area of approximately 3,250km², extending from Cricklade in the north to Salisbury in the South. The aim of the project is to build on the flood risk assessment and intelligence from recent flooding. This builds on the strategic and long term plan and priorities for flood risk management for Wiltshire Council, focusing on those areas at the greatest risk first.

Wiltshire Council currently has a ranking system of the top 50 sites at risk within the County and the funding will help progress the highest priority / risk sites on to a project development phase for inclusion in future Capital Investment Programme (CIP), partnership funding including Local Levy and Wiltshire Council direct funding.

Wiltshire Council have a proven track record for project development and contribution into schemes. This funding will allow a long term collaborative approach to flood risk management.

Works required

Completed work by Wiltshire Council (costing £100,000):

1 Use Geographical Information Systems (GIS) to assess the level of flood risk to properties in the Wiltshire Council area using a range of flood risk source (main river, ordinary watercourse, surface water flooding, groundwater) data. The study makes use of existing GIS data and modelling outputs and does not undertake any survey or modelling work.

2 A ranking system will be developed which allows the study to rank areas at highest flood risk. The approach will identify areas which can be defined as being at "highest" risk (representing a combination of the flood risk and the Index of Multiple Deprivation. The draft flood risk ranks will be discussed and agreed between the Council and Environment Agency, to ensure local issues and proposals (which may not be identified in the GIS layers) are taken into account.

Proposed work (requested Local Levy funding of £60,000 for 2016):

3 Project development reports will be created for the priority sites identified by the ranking process

4 The reports will be used to provide and action plan for each community and provide evidence for inclusion within CIP and to identify appropriate flood risk management partners, stakeholders and funding opportunities.

Benefits

Following successful CIP applications and scheme development, flood risk will be reduced for the sites with the greatest flood risk in Wiltshire.

The work on the prioritisation will enable all partners to have a better understanding of flood risk in Wiltshire, facilitate appropriate development and inform developer led contributions. In Wiltshire we have a great deal of proposed development of over 25,000 dwellings (minimum) to be built from 2014 – 2026 and a majority of those will have the potential of increasing flood risk within the catchment and the flood risk that must be identified and resolved where possible to allow development and growth within Wiltshire.

In looking at areas of risk within some areas we have managed to look at a catchment based approach with developers however other area will have a residual risk that may need identification and works to remove risk to allow development to take place.

The aim of the project is to create a strategic and long term plan for flood risk management, focusing on those areas at the greatest risk first, creating a prioritised list of communities/flood risk areas for further assessment, ensuring appropriate further assessment stages can be planned and budgeted for.

What is Local Levy?

The Wessex Regional Flood & Coast Committee (WRFCC) raise a levy on the County Councils and Unitary Authorities within the WRFCC boundary. The WRFCC use this levy to support local projects that are not considered to be national priorities that do not attract national funding through Flood Defence Grant in Aid (FDGiA). The WRFCC also use the levy to provide project contributions to secure national funding as part of the Partnership Funding approach..

Contact

For more information on this scheme or any flood risk management matter please contact the Area Flood & Coastal Risk Manager, Nick Lyness, Rivers House, East Quay, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA6 4YS, Tel: 01278 484770

When following this approach, consideration should be given to the following **key principles**, which apply to all development sites:

1.Existing surface water sewers within or near to the proposed development should not be assumed to have capacity for additional runoff. Developers must demonstrate that they have considered this thoroughly. If the use of existing surface water sewers is considered to be the only suitable, practicable option, evidence of agreement with your water and sewerage provider (or relevant third party where private drainage is present) must be provided at application stage. There is NO right of connection to the highway Surface Water system.

2.Source control measures - The impact of additional surface water drainage areas (hard-standing and roofs) on the destination watercourse must be mitigated as far as reasonably practicable by the provision of source control measures within open space or public realm on the site (or off site by negotiation with relevant landowners and with the appropriate links to the planning application). *Within POS only by agreement with Wiltshire Council.

3.Management and maintenance - Applicants should demonstrate that satisfactory arrangements have been made, in the design, for the long term management and maintenance of any new proposed assets or surface water infrastructure.

4.Infiltration measures - Demonstrate that site specific opportunities for infiltration measures (for example multiple small source control measures such as rain gardens) have been adequately explored. Infiltration methods should be proven via BRE365 or other appropriate testing methods.

5.Attenuation capacity - Make provision within the site master planning for sufficient attenuation capacity to ensure that runoff, from any increase in impermeable area resulting from redevelopment, is not drained to an existing foul/surface water system.

6.Seek opportunities for net removal of surface water runoff from the existing foul/surface water system, over and above the control of any increase in runoff resulting from redevelopment.

7.Water quality - Developers must demonstrate that runoff water quality will be controlled to an acceptable standard through a designed SuDS treatment train to protect against contamination of surface water systems.

8.Obtain consents from the Environment Agency for any structures within 8 meters of a Main River, and the LLFA for any structures or works within 8 meters of an ordinary watercourse. Planning permission does not cover these Drainage Consents.

9.Drainage assets - Developers will be expected to provide full details of drainage assets associated with their proposal for inclusion in the LLFA flood risk asset register.

10.Design failure backup plan - Developers must demonstrate they have considered the possibility that their design for surface water might fail. They must design a backup plan for this eventuality. For example overland flow path should be routed away from vulnerable areas.

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Wiltshire Adoption Model

Scenario	Adoptable by Wiltshire?	Potential Alternative Adopter
SuDS serving a single property (including schools, hospitals etc):	No	Landowner
SuDS in private roads:		
•Swales	No	Landowner
•Filter Strips	No	Landowner
•Ponds	No	Landowner
•Filter Drains	No	Landowner
•Permeable Surfaces	No	Landowner
•Channel Systems	No	Landowner
•Inlets, Outlets & Controls	No	Landowner
SuDS in public adopted highway:		
•Swales	WHA	Maintenance Company
•Filter Strips	WHA	Maintenance Company
•Ponds	WHA	Maintenance Company
•Infiltration Basins	WHA	Maintenance Company
•Wetlands	WHA	Maintenance Company
•Filter Drains	WHA	Maintenance Company
•Permeable Surfaces	WHA	Maintenance Company
•Channel Systems	WHA	Maintenance Company
•Inlets, Outlets & Controls	WHA	Maintenance Company
•Tanks and Soakaways	WHA	Maintenance Company
SuDS in public open spaces:		
•Swales	LLFA	Water Company
•Filter Strips	LLFA	Water Company
•Ponds	LLFA	Water Company
•Infiltration Basins	LLFA	Water Company
•Wetlands	LLFA	Water Company
•Filter Drains	LLFA	Water Company
•Permeable Surfaces	LLFA	Water Company
•Channel Systems	LLFA	Water Company
•Inlets, Outlets & Controls	LLFA	Water Company
•Tanks and Soakaways	LLFA	Water Company
SuDS in private land (serving more than one property):		
•Swales	No	Water Company
•Filter Strips	No	Water Company
•Ponds	No	Water Company
•Infiltration Basins	No	Water Company
•Wetlands	No	Water Company
•Filter Drains	No	Water Company
•Permeable Surfaces	No	Water Company
•Channel Systems	No	Water Company
•Inlets, Outlets & Controls	No	Water Company
• Tanks and Soakaways	No	Water Company

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Developer's Guidance Note

Flooding, Drainage and SuDS

Introduction

This document is issued for the guidance of developers who are considering a new development or redevelopment, and provides an introduction to the drainage strategy within the Wiltshire Council catchment area.

This guidance is in accordance with Defra's National Standards for SuDS (Sustainable Drainage Systems).

During the pre-planning application stage, developers are advised to liaise with the following authorities to ensure that they are receiving the most up-to-date advice:

- Wiltshire Council (as the Local Planning Authority (**LPA**) and Lead Local Flood Authority (**LLFA**);
- Wiltshire Highways Authority (**WHA**)
- Your water and sewerage provider;
- Environment Agency.

This liaison will confirm if the implementation of the National standards for SuDS will have any implications for their development proposals.

Context

Flooding from any source can have enormous environmental, economic and social consequences. There is a limit to how far existing underground drainage systems can be upgraded or extended, and there is an increasing focus to manage water in a more sustainable way.

Wiltshire Council's approach is to ensure that there is effective management of surface water, on all sites, but particularly on those where proposed redevelopment is likely to present significant opportunities for improvement and the achievement of sustainable development. This approach will reduce pressures on the existing drainage infrastructure and reduce the risk of surface water flooding and pollution.

Within Wiltshire there are areas where the geology of the land includes layers of rock, which hold water, called aquifers. During prolonged rainfall they fill up and pass the water into streams, and springs and cause groundwater flooding. This type of flooding can occur days or weeks after the rain incident and can be forecast by measuring groundwater levels.

Planning Applications

Pre-application discussions are strongly encouraged to ensure that all drainage matters are given adequate consideration from an early stage.

The key documents for Wiltshire Council include:

- A Developers Guide To Sustainable Drainage, 2015
- Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, June 2009;
- Climate Change Strategy, 2010-2026;
- Defra's National Standards for SuDS;
- The Flood and Water Management Act 2010
- Ground Water Strategy
- Wiltshire Council Byelaws (2014)

When identifying potential receptor(s) for surface water runoff from the proposal site, developers should contact the appropriate organisation for pre-application discussions (see table below).

Surface Water Receptor	Responsible organisation
Main River	Environment Agency
Ordinary watercourse	Wiltshire Council
Public surface water sewer	Your water and sewerage provider
Highways authority sewer	Wiltshire Council
Private drainage system	To be confirmed by applicant
Public foul/combined sewer	Your water and sewerage provider

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The current position requires a developer to submit a 'Flood Risk Assessment' and 'Drainage Strategy' to the planning authority alongside a planning application.
Wiltshire Council is the lead organisation for determining whether proposals comply with the planning policies. During the determination period they will consult with other consultees such as your water and sewerage provider and the Environment Agency.

SuDS Applications

Wiltshire Council (as the Local Planning Authority (LPA) and Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) responsible for approving the drainage element of the developer's planning proposal**.**

All applications for planning permission will need to be accompanied by a formal submission for Wiltshire Council approval in the form of a drainage application. This application is made up of a form to accompany the developers detailed drainage design. The application will incur a separate fee to that of the planning application fee. Refer to 'A Developers Guide To Sustainable Drainage, 2015, section 27'.

The SuDS application should clearly identify who is proposed to adopt all or particular elements of the SuDS system. A SuDS adoption model (see page 6) has been provided to outline the likely bodies that may adopt and maintain the SuDS elements. This includes arrangements for SuDS in multi-use spaces that would ordinarily be maintained by someone other than Wiltshire Council.

Determination of the planning application should take place in parallel with of the drainage application. Wiltshire Council determination timescales are to be confirmed but should fall within the Planning approval timescales.

If a development is allowed under 'permitted development' rights but falls within the requirement for SuDS approval, a formal submission to Wiltshire Council will be required, but it is expected that the SuDS application will be simplified. Guidance on this will be confirmed.

Once a drainage application has been registered, Wiltshire Council will consult on the application with the responsible organisations, previously listed on page 2, and any other bodies who may be affected by or have an interest in the proposals.

Wiltshire Council will reserve the right to request further information from the applicant, if required by a statutory consultee, in order to determine the application, as soon as possible, to allow time to consider the further information and determine the application within the required timescale.

Wiltshire Council may arrange a site visit to inspect the site and assess the suitability of the proposals.

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Wiltshire Council will notify the planning team of its decision who will then issue the decision notice(s) to the applicant. If the planning application is being referred to a committee, or the drainage determination timescale has been extended, then Wiltshire Council will issue its decision notice separately to the applicant.

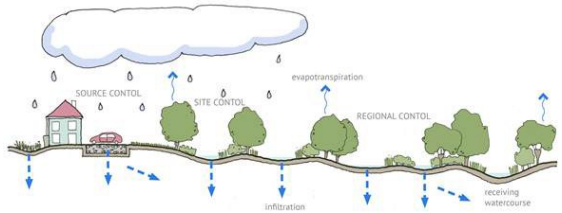
Wiltshire Council decision notice may contain conditions relating to:

- The construction of the drainage system. Details must be in accordance with the approved design and information must be submitted relating to construction including materials and specifications;
- Receipt of a Non- performance bond to be received prior to commencement of construction to protect Wiltshire Council if the drainage were not to perform correctly;
- Notifying Wiltshire Council of your intention to commence construction including provision of a programme of works to enable appropriate inspections to be arranged;
- All fees to be paid in relation to work undertaken in connection with approval and construction.

Drainage Strategy

SuDS Management Train (CIRIA, susdrain)

The drainage strategy can be viewed as a hierarchy, or sequential approach. This means that, in order to discharge directly to a receptor (i.e. surface water sewer); developers will be expected to have demonstrated that they have explored all of the sustainable measures first. In existing guidelines, this principle is known as a 'SuDS management train'.



The developer must demonstrate adequate consideration of the following:

- Hydrology and Geology of the site;
- Proximity of appropriate receptors (watercourses, surface water sewers etc);
- Available area for surface water management measures;
- Conveyance and exceedance routes to appropriate receptors;
- Easements for drainage routes across third party land;
- Capacity of existing drainage systems.

If Wiltshire Council agrees that adequate investigation has been undertaken by the developer, and the evidence provided shows that it is not reasonably practicable to comply with a specific requirement, then an alternative agreement may be reached.

Wiltshire Council

Environment Select Committee

27 October 2015

Task Group update

Purpose

1. To provide an update on recent task group activity and propose any decisions requiring Committee approval.

2. Further verbal update will be provided by the Chairmen of the task group as appropriate.

Public Transport Review Task Group (joint with Health Select Committee)

3. Membership

Cllr Peter Evans (Chairman)
Cllr Terry Chivers
Cllr Mollie Groom
Cllr Jacqui Lay
Cllr Magnus Macdonald
Cllr Graham Wright

Scrutiny officer: Marie Gondlach

4. Terms of reference

1. To scrutinise the pre-consultation(s) and consultation(s) and recommend that the range of transport option(s) offered take into consideration the needs of communities in rural and urban areas.

2. To scrutinise the pre-consultation(s) and consultation(s) and recommend that the option(s) offered take into account the impact of reducing spending on public transport and that the scope for alternative methods of delivery and / or mitigation of the impacts is adequate.

3. To scrutinise how the public transport funding is invested and recommend that community priorities are reflected and that investments represents the best value for money whilst supporting the delivery of outcomes related to health and wellbeing, education, economy and employment. To recommend, where appropriate, that consideration is given to an integrated transport strategy.

4. To scrutinise the decision to be made on the adoption of a new policy / strategy framework, in the light of future budget availability. If applicable, to engage with the development of the policy / strategy framework.

5. To monitor the implementation of the option(s) selected following the public transport review.

5. Recent activity

At its meeting on 16 September 2015 the task group reviewed the outcome of the pre-consultation including members' summaries of the meetings with bus operators they had attended.
At its next meeting on 4 November 2015 the task group will review the options being developed for the public consultation and the public consultation plan.

Highways and Streetscene Contract Task Group

6. Membership

Cllr Jeff Osborn (Chairman)
Cllr Bob Jones MBE
Cllr Gordon King
Cllr Linda Packard
Cllr Tony Trotman
Cllr John Walsh

Scrutiny officer: Emma Dove

7. Recent activity

There is a substantive item on the agenda.

Resident Engagement Task Group

8. Membership

Richard Britton
Terry Chivers
Jose Green
Mollie Groom
Graham Payne

To be endorsed by the Committee.

Scrutiny officer: Henry Powell

9. Terms of reference

To be discussed at the task group's first meeting and then endorsed by committee.

10. Recent activity

The task group's first meeting is scheduled for 16 November 2015 and will include a discussion of the task group's terms of reference, methodology and timescale. A short officer briefing on the requirements on the council and housing associations in terms of resident engagement will be provided.

Waste Task Group

11. Membership (to be confirmed as re-convened task group)

Cllr Jose Green (Chairman)
Cllr Pat Aves
Cllr Rosemary Brown
Cllr Mollie Groom
Cllr Peter Evans
Cllr Jacqui Lay

Scrutiny officer: Henry Powell

12. Terms of reference

The terms of reference will be discussed at the task group's first meeting and then endorsed by committee.

However the committee is invited to consider the areas of work it wishes the task group to focus on.

Proposals

13. To agree the proposed membership of the Resident Engagement Task Group.

14. To consider the areas of work the Waste Task Group should focus on.

15. To note the update on task group activity provided.

Report author: Marie Gondlach, Senior Scrutiny Officer

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Environment Select Committee			Forward Work Programme Last updated: **16 October 2015**	
Item	**Details**	**Corporate / Associate Director**	**Cabinet Member**	**Report Author / Lead officer**
ALL meetings				
Task group update	To receive an update on recent activities for active task groups	N/A	N/A	Scrutiny Officers supporting the task groups
16 February 2016				
Waste Management Contract	To receive an update – currently scheduled for Cabinet on 10 November 2015 and 19 January 2016.	Tracy Carter	Cllr Toby Sturgis	
Annual report - Highways – major maintenance programme	To review the planned programme of maintenance (review of delivery of the planned maintenance programme in 6 months)	Carlton Brand Parvis Khansari	Cllr Philip Whitehead	
Annual Report - Promoting major transport schemes within Local Growth Fund	To receive a report showing the major transport schemes within Local Growth Fund and, at the same meeting, receive the full list of LEP projects to be able to judge where the transport schemes sit overall.	Carlton Brand Parvis Khansari	Cllr Philip Whitehead	
Litter	To receive an update on the holistic approach planned by the council (school programme, work with fast food outlets, etc.)		Cllr Philip Whitehead	
Public Transport Review	To receive the interim report of the	N/A	N/A	Marie Gondlach

Environment Select Committee			Forward Work Programme Last updated: **16 October 2015**	
Item	**Details**	**Corporate / Associate Director**	**Cabinet Member**	**Report Author / Lead officer**
task group – interim report	Public Transport Review task group			
12 April 2016				
Site allocation DPD	The purpose of the Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations DPD is to support the delivery of new housing set out in the Wiltshire Core Strategy (adopted January 2015).			
Housing Allocation Policy - Implementation Update	To receive a report requested to come back to Committee 6 months after it was considered at the 1 September 2015 meeting - to continue monitoring the implementation of the Housing Allocation Policy.	James Cawley	Cllr Jonathon Seed	Nicole Smith
7 June 2016				
Annual report - Highways – major maintenance programme	To review the delivery of the planned maintenance programme at the June meeting (planned programme of maintenance reviewed 6 months ago)	Carlton Brand Parvis Khansari	Cllr Philip Whitehead	
Public Transport Review task group – final report	To receive the final report of the Public Transport Review task group	N/A	N/A	Marie Gondlach
30 August 2016				
Public Transport Review task group – Executive Response	To receive the Executive Response to the final report of the Public Transport Review task group	Parvis Khansari	Cllr Philip Whitehead	
25 October 2016				
Annual Report - Wiltshire Local Flood Risk	To receive an annual report on the Wiltshire Local Flood Risk Management	Parvis Khansari	Cllr Jonathon Seed	Peter Binley

Environment Select Committee			Forward Work Programme Last updated: **16 October 2015**	
Item	**Details**	**Corporate / Associate Director**	**Cabinet Member**	**Report Author / Lead officer**
Management Strategy	Strategy			
14 February 2017				
Annual report - Highways – major maintenance programme	To review the planned programme of maintenance (review of delivery of the planned maintenance programme in 6 months)	Carlton Brand Parvis Khansari	Cllr Philip Whitehead	
Annual Report - Promoting major transport schemes within Local Growth Fund	To receive a report showing the major transport schemes within Local Growth Fund and, at the same meeting, receive the full list of LEP projects to be able to judge where the transport schemes sit overall.	Carlton Brand Parvis Khansari	Cllr Philip Whitehead	
Dates to be confirmed				
Review of Traffic Orders	Report requested by Committee for 6 months after commencement of operating. For information the committee made the recommendation that a suitable trial site be located in Salisbury.			
Gypsy and Traveller Plan	Topic to be considered as the plan becomes available.	Georgina Clampitt-Dix	Cllr Toby Sturgis	Carolyn Gibson
Business Plan	To review the changes for any impact on the areas of the business covered by the Environment Select Committee - currently no date scheduled for Cabinet.			
Update on library service	A briefing note for the committee of the current situation regarding libraries (how	Laurie Bell	Cllr Jonathon Seed	Joan Davis

Environment Select Committee			Forward Work Programme Last updated: **16 October 2015**	
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	they are being run) and mobile libraries			
Leisure presentation	To receive a presentation on the new structure for Leisure and the on-going activities and plans for the future as part of Public Health	Maggie Rae Frances Chinemana	Cllr Jonathon Seed	
Tourism viability				
Business post adoption of the Core Strategy / Neighbourhood Planning				

Task groups

Please note that the items suggested following meetings with Executive members have been approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on 8 September 2015.

Environment Select Committee				Current / active task groups Last updated: **16 October 2015**	
Task group	Details of task group	Start date	Interim report expected	Final report expected	Comments
Highways and Streetscene Contract task group	website	10 December 2013	tbc	tbc	
Public transport review task group	website	10 June 2015	16 February 2016	7 June 2016	
Residents Engagement task	tbc	16 November 2015	tbc	tbc	

group					
Car parking review	tbc	tbc	N/A	tbc	Suggested at the meeting with the Executive member: One additional meeting of the task group to look at outcome of consultation and also wrap up transfer of car parks.
Waste task group - communication	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc	Suggested at the meeting with the Executive member: To receive an update on communication, including work on the website.
Waste task group – major changes	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc	Agreed at the meeting with the Executive member: To consider the impact of the reduction of opening hours for HRC and charges for collection of green bins, in line with any increase of fly-tipping or littering. If applicable to also review the impact on fly-tipping and littering of any changes to waste collection following the contract award.

Rapid Scrutiny

Topic	Details	Date
Wholly Owned Subsidiary (WOS)	Another rapid scrutiny of the WOS (following meeting on 8 September 2015) to enable scrutiny members to consider the details of the proposed WOS	Date to be confirmed – will be prior to formal procurement process
Housing Bill NB could be a task group depending on the scale of the work to be undertaken	To consider the impact of the Housing Bill for Wiltshire Council and its residents and housing tenants (to include communication, management of changes and support to tenants).	After publication of the Housing Bill (hoped to be November 2015)

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