

# Supplement for

# Scrutiny Committee

On **Tuesday 1 February 2022** At **6.00 pm**

## Agenda Item 5 (Forward Plan) and Agenda Item 7 (Remaining Reports for Approval)

### Contents

5.	<b>Work Plan and Forward Plan</b>	3 - 8
	<p>The Work Plan is driven to a very large extent by the Cabinet Forward Plan. The Scrutiny Committee agrees its priorities for items coming onto the Forward Plan, which then form part of its Work Plan.</p> <p>The Committee is recommended to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Note</b> the summary of the current status of the Forward Plan (<i>to follow</i>).</li><li>2. <b>Confirm</b> its agreement to the current priorities and the Work Plan (<i>both attached</i>)</li></ol>	
7.	<b>Reports for approval</b>	9 - 20
	<p>The Committee is asked to approve reports and recommendations on the following for submission to Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Climate Emergency Review Group Update (<i>to follow</i>)</li><li>• Procurement Update (<i>to follow</i>)</li><li>• Budget Review Group Report (<i>to follow</i>)</li></ul>	

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Oxford City Council, Town Hall, St Aldate's Oxford OX1 1BX



## Forward Plan

### January 2022 to May 2022

Published on 31/01/22

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## REPORTS TO CABINET

### Cabinet 09 February 2022

<p><b>ITEM 21:</b> <b>ID: I027568</b></p>	<p><b>Development of land at South Oxford Science Village (Land South of Grenoble Road)</b></p> <p>Report status: Provisional: Awaiting further information, advice or input.</p>
<p>Following the report to Cabinet on 13 October 2021 concerning delivery of land that is part of the South Oxford Science Village and options for the delivery of development at the site, a further report to agree the delivery vehicle for the project.</p>	
<p><b>ITEM 22:</b> <b>ID: I027114</b></p>	<p><b>Budget 2022/23</b></p> <p>Report status:</p>
<p>To propose a Medium Term Financial Strategy and the 2022/23 Budget following consultation.</p>	
<p><b>ITEM 23:</b> <b>ID: I027039</b></p>	<p><b>Treasury Management Strategy 2022/23</b></p> <p>Report status:</p>
<p>A report to present the Council's Treasury Management Strategy for 2022/23.</p>	
<p><b>ITEM 24:</b> <b>ID: I027040</b></p>	<p><b>Capital Strategy 2022/23</b></p> <p>Report status:</p>
<p>A report to present the Capital Strategy for 2022/23 approval.</p>	

## Council 16 February 2022

### Reports from Cabinet

- Budget 2022/23
- Treasury Management Strategy 2022/23
- Capital Strategy 2022/23

<b>ITEM 25: ID: I028168</b>	<b>Statement of Licensing Policy (Licensing Act 2003)</b> Report status:
To approve the Statement of Licensing Policy required by the Licensing Act 2003 following public consultation	

<b>ITEM 26: ID: I028170</b>	<b>Taxi Licensing Policy (Hackney and Private Hire vehicles and drivers)</b> Report status:
To approve the revised policy after consultation.	

<b>ITEM 27: ID: I027032</b>	<b>Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2022/23</b> Report status:
A report to seek approval for the Council's Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2022/23 following consultation.	

## Cabinet 16 March 2022

<b>ITEM 28: ID: I027042</b>	<b>Allocation of Homeless Prevention Funds 22/23</b> Report status:
A report to approve the allocation of homelessness prevention funds for 2022/23 and delegate authority for entering into a lease on Floyds Row.	

<b>ITEM 29: ID: I029716</b>	<b>Oxfordshire Plan 2050: Summary of responses from Regulation 18 Part 2 Consultation and next steps</b> Report status:
To update Cabinet on latest position in relation to the Oxon Plan 2050 and to seek any agreements needed at that point.	

<b>ITEM 30:</b> <b>ID: I027055</b>	<b>Annual Update of the Council Business Plan</b> Report status:
A report to present the annual update of the Council's Business Plan.	

<b>ITEM 31:</b> <b>ID: I029717</b>	<b>Oxfordshire Recovery and Renewal Framework</b> Report status:
To seek Oxford City Council approval for the development of a system wide framework and a shared approach and priorities for recovery and renewal from the COVID-19 period. This is being put forward for adoption by all Oxfordshire Councils and other statutory partners to reinforce the strong operational collaboration extended and established through the pandemic. The framework seeks to connect sector and organisational specific recovery planning, linking existing plans and strategies. It focuses in particular on shared economic recovery that leads to shared prosperity, better health and wellbeing and stronger communities - underpinned by measures to tackle climate change and address inequalities.	

<b>ITEM 32:</b> <b>ID: I027100</b>	<b>Food Strategy</b> Report status: Provisional: Decision reliant on another action or process
<p>Development of a Countywide Food strategy, working with key partners such as Good Food Oxford, Oxfordshire County Council, Oxfordshire District Council and the Community Food system within the City.</p> <p>That addresses the causes of food poverty as part of our wider anti-poverty work. This should include the following:</p> <p>Taking into account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The National Food Strategy;</li> <li>o The considerable work undertaken by this Council to address inequality and to tackle food poverty during the pandemic;</li> <li>o Being a signatory to the Oxford Good Food Charter;</li> <li>o The excellent work of Oxford's voluntary sector to tackle food poverty;</li> <li>o Recommendations on achieving a self-sustaining community food system and Council's role in supporting this.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bringing together the views and knowledge of our food network partners to better understand the current root causes of food poverty, and a shared action plan to implement meaningful solutions.</li> <li>• Tackling child food poverty by campaigning to address holiday hunger, increasing take up of free school meals and access to food larders for families with children.</li> <li>• Continuing to use relationships with supermarkets to divert surplus food to those in need and minimise waste to help eliminate Oxford's contribution to climate change by 2040 or sooner, in line with the Zero Carbon Oxford Charter and recommendations of the Citizens' Assembly on Climate Change.</li> </ul>	

<b>ITEM 33: ID: I029589</b>	<b>Update of Housing Assistance and Disabled Adaptation Policy 2022</b> Report status:
To seek agreement to necessary changes to the Housing Assistance and Disabled Adaptation Policy.	

<b>ITEM 34: ID: I029559</b>	<b>Equalities Diversity Inclusion Strategy</b> Report status: Provisional: Decision reliant on another action or process
Cabinet will be asked to agree the new EDI strategy that has been developed following in-depth discussions with the community	

<b>ITEM 35: ID: I027014</b>	<b>Integrated Performance Report for Q3</b> Report status:
A report to Members on Finance, Risk & Performance as at 31 December 2021.	

<b>ITEM 36: ID: I029981</b>	<b>Transgender flag on International Trans Day of Visibility (March 31st)</b> Report status:
Council on 29 November 2021 resolved to request that the Cabinet agrees to fly the transgender flag on International Trans Day of Visibility (March 31st), in addition to Trans Day of Remembrance (November 20th).	

<b>ID: I030027 ITEM 1:</b>	<b>Growth Deal funding for Bridge between Oxpens and Osney Mead</b> Report Status:

<b>ITEM 38: ID: I030103</b>	<b>Oxford's Economic Strategy and City Centre Action Plan</b> Report status: Provisional: Decision reliant on another action or process
Following public consultations on Oxford's Economic Strategy and City Centre Action Plan, Members will be asked to review the consultation reports, agree recommended changes to both documents, and delegate authority to sign off the reports once required changes are made.	

<b>ITEM 39: ID: I030102</b>	<b>16/17 Turl Street, Oxford</b> Report status: Provisional: Awaiting further information, advice or input.
Letting of vacant commercial property on long term lease	

## Council 21 March 2022

<b>ITEM 40: ID: I029513</b>	<b>Pay Policy Statement 2022</b> Report status:
To approve the annual Pay Policy Statement.	

<b>ITEM 41: ID: I027573</b>	<b>Partnership report: Future Oxfordshire Partnership</b> Report status:
Report to update Council on the work of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership (formally the Oxfordshire Growth Board).	

<b>ITEM 42: ID: I027576</b>	<b>Partnership report: Children's Trust Board</b> Report status:
Report to update Council on the work of the Children's Trust Board.	

<b>ITEM 43: ID: I028299</b>	<b>Constitution Review 2021/22</b> Report status:
To consider proposed amendments to the Constitution following an annual review led by the Head of Law and Governance overseen by a cross-party group of elected members.	

## Cabinet 13 April 2022

## Cabinet 15 June 2022

<b>ITEM 44: ID: I029560</b>	<b>Draft Oxford Playing Pitches Strategy 2021-2036</b> Report status: Provisional: Decision reliant on another action or
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	process
<p>This is the Draft City strategy to support and encourage participation in sport and physical activity, through a robust fit for purpose framework that promotes accessible affordable and sustainable playing pitch and outdoor space provision to meet both the current and future local needs.</p>	

<p><b>ITEM 45:</b> <b>ID: I029952</b></p>	<p><b>Designation of neighbourhood planning area and neighbourhood planning forum - Hinksey Park</b></p> <p>Report status: Provisional: Decision reliant on another action or process</p>
<p>Cabinet is asked to consider proposals for a new neighbourhood planning forum and the designation of a neighbourhood planning area. These applications have been received from a new local group seeking the status of a neighbourhood planning forum, who wish to engage with the planning processing affecting their area, with the potential of developing a neighbourhood plan in the future. The proposed area for designation is Hinksey Park, following the current ward boundaries.</p>	

<p><b>ITEM 46:</b> <b>ID: I027056</b></p>	<p><b>Oxford City Council Safeguarding Report 2020/21</b></p> <p>Report status:</p>
<p>To report on the progress made on the Oxford City Council's Safeguarding Action Plan 2020/21.</p>	



**To:** Cabinet  
**Date:** 09 February 2022  
**Report of:** Scrutiny Committee  
**Title of Report:** Climate Emergency Review Group Update

<b>Summary and recommendations</b>	
<b>Purpose of report:</b>	To present Scrutiny Committee recommendations concerning the Scrutiny-requested update on changes to the Procurement Strategy.
<b>Key decision:</b>	No
<b>Scrutiny Lead Member:</b>	Councillor Liz Wade, Chair of the Scrutiny Committee
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Ed Turner, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Asset Management
<b>Corporate Priority:</b>	All
<b>Policy Framework:</b>	Council Strategy 2020-24
<b>Recommendation: That the Cabinet states whether it agrees or disagrees with the recommendations in the body of this report.</b>	

<b>Appendices</b>
None

## **Introduction and overview**

1. At its meeting on 18 January 2022, the Scrutiny Committee received a presentation on the Council's current Procurement Strategy and its current thinking on potential changes when it is refreshed.
2. The Committee would like to thank Annette Osborne, Procurement Manager, for attending the meeting to make the presentation and to answer questions.

## Summary and recommendation

3. Annette Osborne explained to the Committee that the Council's Procurement Strategy is currently under review, with a view to seeing it refreshed. A number of the amendments under consideration included the embedding of social value within commissioning and procurement decisions; tailoring the national TOMs (themes outcomes and measures) framework for local use, so called Ox-Toms; taking greater account of environmental impacts; strengthening GDPR; contract management; and fostering an inclusive economy through Community Wealth Building.
4. Although the entirety of procurement, and how the Council purchases services is a wide topic, the large majority of the discussion focused on understanding and exploring different aspects of social value within procurement and community wealth building. On these topics, which have significant cross-over with one another, the Committee makes six recommendations which pertain to good practice which can be learnt from elsewhere, broadening the Council's progressive procurement agenda locally, and specific policies.

## Learning from Good Practice

5. The Council is itself a leader in the area of social value in procurement. In a recent benchmarking exercise the against Croydon, Stoke, Southampton and Birmingham councils,<sup>1</sup> Oxford outperformed or equalled these comparators, with 62.5% of its money being spent locally, scoring well above central government's target of 33%. This is not to say, however, that the Council cannot learn from other high-performing councils in this space. It is noted that the Council has previously contacted Preston Council, a particularly high-profile council concerning community wealth building, and has not received responses. Nevertheless, the past is not necessarily a predictor of the future, and the council could well receive helpful input from other pioneering councils also. As such, it is recommended by the Committee that the Council seek the views of these councils for comment as part of their consultation on the new Procurement Strategy.

### **Recommendation 1: That the Council contacts pioneering community wealth building councils for comment as part of its consultation on updating its Procurement Strategy.**

6. One particular aspect of Preston's approach which the Committee is keen to highlight is its transparency over how social value weightings in contract tenders are decided prior the contract being advertised. It is completely right that there should be flexibility within contracts to tailor them to ensure their primary outcomes are delivered. Weightings between price, quality and risk can all be amended between contracts, and so too should social value.
7. What the Committee is keen to see is that this flexibility is maintained, but that the Council is open to its electorate, to potential suppliers, other anchor

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<sup>1</sup> Eleven suitable councils were identified, but not all provided data in a usable format to enable comparison.

institutions in the city, and interested local authorities who may be looking to emulate Oxford over how variations in social value weightings are arrived at and the guiding principles which influence a contract's final social value weighting.

**Recommendation 2: That the Council publishes a description of the principles of that determine its social value weightings in contract tenders.**

8. The following point is largely the opposite side of the point above. Yes, the Council should have flexibility in its contracts, but at the same time that flexibility ought not to diminish or sacrifice its commitment to achieving social value. It is important that the Council knows that the weightings it uses are sufficient to develop additional social value above what would have accrued if those weightings had not been applied. It is difficult to measure this precisely; it is reasonable to expect that the mere presence of a social value weighting will encourage companies to provide more than they would otherwise. Nevertheless, the Committee feels that monitoring of how often social value weightings change procurement outcomes would be a reasonable proxy and provide a sense of whether the current weightings do make a tangible difference. This is likely to be of wider interest, so it is suggested that the outcome of this monitoring is reported on a regular basis.

**Recommendation 3: That the Council monitors and reports on how often social value weightings change procurement outcomes.**

### **Broadening Local Impact**

9. One of the key steps identified by Preston in their success is identifying and working with other anchor institutions in the local area. This is an area which the Council is already taking a lead on, with procurement officers looking to develop in consultation with other key local stakeholders the OXTOMs framework. The Committee welcomes the work undertaken to date, but does wish to underline its continued importance. A shared approach to social value locally amongst anchor institutions would make it far more resource-effective for local firms to invest time in understanding and developing an offer to meet this single social value framework than a patchwork of differing schemes. The Committee would like to see this work progressed, therefore, as a matter of priority.

**Recommendation 4: That the Council continues, as a matter of priority, to work with anchor institutions locally to develop a shared approach to procurement that enriches the local economy.**

### **Specific Policies**

10. As referenced above, social value is but one of a number of elements weighed when selecting between competitors for a contract. Amidst the financial challenges the Council faces, value for money is clearly a very important consideration. However, the Committee is keen to stress that 'value for money' can be determined in multiple ways and is not necessarily synonymous with 'cheapest'. In October 2019 the Council passed a motion in support of adopting a community wealth building approach to its procurement. Within community wealth building there are multiple additional considerations to simply absolute cost: whole life cost, returns on good value (such as longer durability of items

purchased) investment in the local labour force, avoiding surplus leakage, and indirect costs associated with lengthening the supply chain. The Committee seeks assurance that the Council will seek value from its suppliers, as defined by the community wealth building approach to which it is committed, and not just low cost.

***Recommendation 5: That the Council ensures its definition of value for money is consistent with the community wealth building agenda, and specifically that the Council ensures that it is always measuring lowest cost alongside other factors relevant to ethical procurement approaches.***

11. Concern over the ethics of organisations the Council decides to partner with is an issue which has been raised previously by Scrutiny to Cabinet. It is raised here again on two grounds in particular. Firstly, there is a consistency with the thread of social value in procurement that the way the Council spends its money, who it partners with and under what conditions have real-world consequences. As such, the way it chooses to do these things an expression of the values it holds. The Council will not invest directly in companies which undermine its fundamental values, but at the moment it could trade with them, and be a source of profit to them. The ethical line between not being willing to support a company through investment and being willing to support it through trade seems very thin. This issue links to the Committee's second concern, that of public perception. If there were to be a justification for trading with a company but not investing in it, that decision would be a very tight one, and based on a very thorough cost-benefit analysis. It is unlikely, however, that members of the public would be unlikely to be party to such finely calibrated deliberations. If the Council were to choose to partner with an unethical company it would run a reputational risk with the public. The Committee feels this is not a risk worth taking, and that it would be better if the Council provided a wider berth to companies which are particularly ethically controversial.
12. Whilst the Committee stands by this view, it is also pragmatic and understands that the due diligence required to make this wish a reality is significant. Resources devoted to ensuring that the Council does not partner with unethical companies are also resources which cannot be spent in support of our most vulnerable residents. There is a balance to be struck. The Committee is supportive of limiting the scope of any request to larger contracts, where there is more available information on companies and which would reduce the workload. It also does not wish to tie the hands of Council by specifying how any ethical due diligence should be undertaken, trusting that the Council will find a suitable way to make this happen. Ultimately, it is simply keen that the Council begins moving towards taking responsibility for the ethical outcomes of its spending decisions as well as its investment decisions.

***Recommendation 6: That for its larger contracts, the Council institutes an ethical due diligence check to ensure compatibility of commercial partners with the Council's own standards.***

## Further Consideration

13. The Committee or the Finance and Performance Panel would welcome the opportunity to hear the report on the Procurement Strategy when it comes forward in due course.

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**To:** Cabinet  
**Date:** 09 February 2022  
**Report of:** Scrutiny Committee  
**Title of Report:** Climate Emergency Review Group Update

<b>Summary and recommendations</b>	
<b>Purpose of report:</b>	To present Scrutiny Committee recommendations concerning the Scrutiny-requested update on actions arising from the Climate Emergency Review Group.
<b>Key decision:</b>	No
<b>Scrutiny Lead Member:</b>	Councillor Liz Wade, Chair of the Scrutiny Committee
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Tom Hayes, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Green Transport and Zero Carbon Oxford
<b>Corporate Priority:</b>	Pursue a zero carbon Oxford
<b>Policy Framework:</b>	Council Strategy 2020-24
<b>Recommendation: That the Cabinet states whether it agrees or disagrees with the recommendations in the body of this report.</b>	

<b>Appendices</b>
None

### **Introduction and overview**

1. At its meeting on 18 January 2022, the Scrutiny Committee considered an update report on the Council's response to the Climate Emergency since the publication of the Scrutiny Climate Emergency Review Group report.
2. The Committee would like to thank Councillor Tom Hayes, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Zero Carbon Oxford and Green Transport, for presenting the report, Mish Tullar, Head of Corporate Strategy, for his support to the meeting and Rose Dickinson, Carbon Reduction Team Manager, for authoring the report and support to the meeting also.

## **Summary and recommendation**

3. Councillor Tom Hayes, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Green Transport and Zero Carbon Oxford introduced the report. It was highlighted that the Zero Carbon Action Plan presented was a coproduced, composite document which included the accepted recommendations of the Climate Emergency Review Group as well as suggestions from the Citizens' Assembly on Climate Change, from other key stakeholders, as well as internal Council expertise.
4. Mish Tullar, Head of Corporate Strategy added that the Action Plan was published in March 2021 and was a living document mostly comprised of a RAG rating tracker. The Committee was informed of the intention for the Action Plan to be updated and submitted to Cabinet for consideration later in 2022.
5. Discussion of the huge topic of carbon reduction was justifiably broad, including issues around biodiversity, the Council's retrofitting programme to tenants, the efficiency of the Council's commercial property, and ways to engage landlords and tenants on carbon reduction issues. Beyond these, the Committee makes a total of four recommendations on issues around clarity of information, disability inclusiveness, and work progress.

## **Clarifying Information Provided**

6. On the basis that the Zero Carbon Action Plan is a living document, and is expected to be released publicly when it is published for Cabinet later in the year, the Committee suggests an amendment to the way the data is presented.
7. The Action Plan is, as mentioned above, essentially a RAG rating of the actions the Council wishes to pursue as part of its journey towards reaching zero carbon. Green items are those which are on track. Within the Action Plan there are actions which are deemed to be on track, for which resource is not currently in place, for example action 48, where the Council will seek external funding to expand Oxford's electric vehicle charging capacity. The Committee understands that it is necessary in the light of uncertainty to make rational assumptions, and in this specific instance there are strong reasons to believe that this action is on track. It is also true, however, that such funding has not been granted. The Committee suggests that it would be helpful to all reading the Action Plan to know how the actions are progressing against expectations (the current RAG rating), but also to know exactly how far it expects to be able to progress each goal with the current resources available, a statement of where the Council stands on its journey instead of how well it is progressing. This suggestion is likely not to be possible for some actions, but for those it can it will act as a safeguard against over-promising and under-delivering should unforeseen problems arise.



***Recommendation 1: That when the Council next updates its Zero Carbon Action Plan it provides, where possible, clarity over how far existing, allocated resources are expected to move the Council towards each goal.***

8. On a wider note, the Committee notes that the phrase 'net zero,' although generally understood as a broad concept, is one which has no universally agreed definition. There is consensus about the need to include emissions which are directly attributed to an organisation, but no such consensus exists over what sits within and without the definition in regards to indirect emissions. Issues such as whether the carbon impact of investments, procurement or should be included are a topic of debate and their inclusion and exclusion is inconsistently applied. Although they are indirect, the carbon impacts of these activities can be substantial indeed, for some organisations more than their direct emissions. Banks which finance fossil fuel extraction, for example, are liable to have a greater indirect carbon impact than that arising from their direct operations.
9. A consequence of this inconsistency is that the carbon outputs which can exist under the 'net zero' umbrella are very broad. Within the city, Oxford has a disproportionately high number of people who are actively engaged with these issues, and for whom this degree of detail matters. Likewise, the Council is recognised as a trailblazer of good and innovative practice amongst local authorities on many carbon reduction issues. The Committee feels it behoves the Council to respond to these facts by providing greater detail on what the Council means when speaking about 'net zero'. It is not realistic to suggest that every reference by the Council to 'net zero' is accompanied by a definition. However, in key strategic documents where the concept plays an important role, the Committee suggests it is not overly arduous to provide information on the assumptions and definitions which underpin usage of the phrase. This is particularly the case as the Council has largely unpicked these issues and determined its definition already in its December Cabinet report on Net Zero Targets and Green Gas Purchasing.

***Recommendation 2: That the Council provides a clear statement of the assumptions and definitions it is applying when referencing net zero in strategies and other documents.***

### **Disability Inclusivity**

10. The report provided to the Committee read as follows for the equalities impact assessment: "No adverse impacts on any part of the community have been identified at this stage, however Oxford City Council will continue to consult with Legal Services to ensure all projects have due regard to the public sector equality duty." The Committee feels that this response falls below the expectations the Council has of itself as one which seeks to promote equality amongst the diversity of its citizens. It is simply not the case that the totality of the Council's ambitions for reaching net zero will have no adverse impacts on minoritised groups, particularly when the range of issues faced by different disabled groups are considered in more granular detail.

11. Two aspects of the Action Plan are necessary to consider in order to provide an inclusive plan for disabled residents – full consideration of the impacts of proposed actions on individuals with different disabilities, but also a consideration of the cumulative impact of the proposed actions when taken together. It might be that taken individually a particular action may cause minor inconvenience to a disabled person, but when such inconveniences are layered on top of one another, or there are unconsidered interactions between policies, the cumulative effect may be a severe curtailment of autonomy.
12. Disability-inclusive policy, according to the UN Department for Economic and Social Affairs, is enabled by ‘meaningful participation in policy-making in this area at all levels,’ resulting in ‘tailored climate action.’ This is some distance from the Council’s undertaking that it will engage with legal colleagues to ensure that legal duties are met. The Committee wishes to see this distance closed through involving disability groups more regularly, but more importantly, at an *early* stage. The further plans develop it becomes costlier and less effective to retrofit disability-inclusivity into them; it is much more effective to develop disability-inclusive plans from the outset. This is an issue which the Council’s Inclusive Transport and Movement Focus Group has raised previously.

***Recommendation 3: That the Council makes greater efforts to ensure that climate policies are disability inclusive, including involving disability groups at the earliest stage.***

### **Work Progress**

13. One specific issue on which the Committee was disappointed by the lack of progress was over the creation of cycle greenways into the City. Funding was secured to see the development of a concept masterplan but has not progressed, owing to Covid. The point is taken that taking a strategic and holistic approach to transport issues does require time, political stability from partners and staff resource to realise the fullest potential of any cycle ways. Covid and the change in administration at the County Council were deeply disruptive. Further, both Councils have had higher priority transport initiatives to deliver, such as electrification of the bus fleet and a bus prioritisation plan submission to government and even emergency-funded cycling initiatives. However, the Committee’s view is that now that these causes of delay are more distant, the continued importance of greenway development means it should be prioritised. The Committee would like to see the Council be proactive in its work with the County Council to restore impetus to the delivery of this element of the Action Plan.

***Recommendation 4: That the Council works with the County Council to prioritise the delivery of cycle greenways into the City which were paused owing to Covid.***

## Further Consideration

14. The Committee is likely to revisit this issue when the update to Cabinet is provided later on in 2022.

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