

STRONGER COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Date: Monday, 3 June 2024

Title: Committee Objectives & Work Programme for the Municipal Year

Contact Officer: Town Clerk - Sharon Groth

Background

The purpose of this report is to set out this Committee's objectives/priorities. This will enable the Town Clerk and her Officers to draw up a manageable programme of works, which will ensure the necessary resources are available and can be deployed appropriately; particularly bearing in mind the workload of the other Committees.

She has also taken the opportunity to update Councillors on the Open Spaces Strategy (OSS) Action Plan for areas under the responsibility of this Committee.

Current Situation

This Committee's projects are slightly different in so far as several budget lines are set to give grants to local organisations to facilitate them delivering key services in the town, such as detached youth work and the community transport.

There are several projects where funding has been accumulated over numerous years with funding set aside within the Council's Earmarked Reserve – Infrastructure (a/c 369) – mostly in respect of street furniture and the ongoing rolling programme of replacement.

The attached appendix A provides a list of completed projects, projects in progress and projects in the preparation pool or unfunded. Appendix B provides an extract from the adopted OSS relating to this Committees responsibilities.

Environmental impact

Having declared a Climate Change Emergency at its Council meeting on 26 June 2019 – with this in mind Councillors should have due regard to the environmental impact of any decisions they make with regard to its facilities and services it operates.

Risk

In decision making Councillors should give consideration to any risks to the Council and any action it can take to limit or negate its liability.

When considering its priorities, the committee should be mindful of all resources – financial as well as human resources – and the competing demands from other Committees. Failure to plan accordingly could result in wasted resources and undeliverable projects.

Financial implications

The financial implications are detailed in the attached appendices.

Recommendations

Members are invited to note the report and consider the Committees objectives/priorities for the coming municipal year.