

## **POLICY, GOVERNANCE & FINANCE COMMITTEE**

---

**Date:** Monday, 27 September 2021

**Title:** Committee Work Plan

**Contact Officer:** Town Clerk - Sharon Groth

---

### **Background**

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to Members on the Committee's work plan which includes projects identified as part of the Council's Draft Strategic Plan and Budget Setting agreed in February 2021, as well as the Open Spaces Strategy adopted in June 2021.

This is also an opportune time to consider any future/additional projects to be put forward for the budget setting cycle (November) to prepare a forward plan for 2022 and beyond, to give Officers time to carry out any required research.

### **Current Situation**

This committee only has one item on the current project list – the rebranding of the Council – however the Open Spaces Strategy, which should be seen as the overarching plan for the Council and should dictate priorities and timescales has quite a few other projects identified.

### **Open Spaces Strategy**

During the next two months the Town Clerk, as Strategic Lead, will begin to drill down into the OSS Action Plan in order to establish some clear project plans for implementation by her Officers.

At this stage, as a reminder, in the attached appendix – which is an extract from the OSS - this Committee's priorities.

Due to time constraints the Town Clerk will provide a verbal update report at the meeting on the various projects in progress.

### **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.

Each project plan will include an environmental impact assessment to ensure that the Council's declaration and environmental issues are taken into account and isn't to the detriment of the Council's ambitious target of carbon neutrality by 2028.

**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.

A lot of the projects identified have significant costs attached to them and Officers and Councillors should be mindful of not wasting taxpayer's money – but also ensuring the projects have full cost benefit analysis.

**Financial implications**

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

**Recommendations**

Members are invited to note the report and the status of the various projects agreed. Consideration could also be given to any priorities or forward plan the Committee may wish to put forward for the budget setting cycle for projects in 2022 and beyond.