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TUESDAY, 1 MARCH 2022

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

I HEREBY SUMMON YOU TO ATTEND A **VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** WHICH WILL BE HELD AT **2.00 PM** ON **MONDAY, 7TH MARCH, 2022** FOR THE TRANSACTION OF THE BUSINESS OUTLINED ON THE ATTACHED AGENDA.

Wendy Walters

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Democratic Officer:	Janine Owen
Telephone (Direct Line):	01267 224030
E-Mail:	JanineOwen@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Wendy Walters Prif Weithredwr, *Chief Executive*,
Neuadd y Sir, Caerfyrddin. SA31 1JP
County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP

ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

14 MEMBERS

PLAID CYMRU GROUP – 7 MEMBERS

- | | | |
|----|------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. | Councillor | Karen Davies |
| 2. | Councillor | Mansel Charles |
| 3. | Councillor | Jeanette Gilasbey |
| 4. | Councillor | Dorian Phillips |
| 5. | Councillor | Susan Phillips |
| 6. | Councillor | Dai Thomas |
| 7. | Councillor | Aled Vaughan Owen (Vice Chair) |

LABOUR GROUP – 3 MEMBERS

- | | | |
|----|------------|--------------------|
| 1. | Councillor | Penny Edwards |
| 2. | Councillor | Tina Higgins |
| 3. | Councillor | John James (Chair) |

INDEPENDENT GROUP – 3 MEMBERS

- | | | |
|----|------------|---------------|
| 1. | Councillor | Arwel Davies |
| 2. | Councillor | Joseph Davies |
| 3. | Councillor | Alan Speake |

NEW INDEPENDENT GROUP – 1 MEMBER

- | | | |
|----|------------|-------------|
| 1. | Councillor | Eryl Morgan |
|----|------------|-------------|

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST INCLUDING ANY PARTY WHIPS ISSUED IN RELATION TO ANY AGENDA ITEM.
3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS (NONE RECEIVED)
4. EXTENSION OF PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER (CARMARTHENSIRE DOG ORDERS) 5 - 70
5. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS PLAN 2022/23 71 - 76
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7. FUTURE ACCESSIBILITY OPTIONS AT HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRES (HWRC) 137 - 150
8. PROVISION OF PAVEMENTS IN RURAL AREAS 151 - 156
9. NON-SUBMISSION OF SCRUTINY REPORT 157 - 162
10. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 1ST FEBRUARY 2022 163 - 172

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ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

7 MARCH 2022

EXTENSION OF PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER (CARMARTHENSHIRE DOG ORDERS)

Purpose:

To approve the extension of the existing Public Spaces Protection Order 2016 for the county of Carmarthenshire.

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- a) That the duration of the Carmarthenshire County Council (Dog Control) Public Spaces Protection Order 2016 be extended for a further period of 3 years with effect from the 1st July 2022
- b) That the Council makes an Extension Order to give effect to the above extension and endorses the 2016 Order with suitable wording to reflect the fact that the duration of the 2016 order has been extended.

Reasons:

The Carmarthenshire County Council (Dog Control) Public Spaces Protection Order 2016 came into force on the 1st July 2016. It was initially made for a period of 3 years (the maximum period). In 2019 the Order was extended for a further period of 3 years with effect from the 1st July 2019. The current order is therefore due to expire at the end of June.

Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted
Scrutiny committee and date

Yes-
7th March 2022

Cabinet Decision Required
Council Decision Required

Yes 14th March 2022
No

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:-

Cllr. Philip Hughes (Public Protection)

Directorate: Environment

Name of Head of Service:
Ainsley Williams

Report Author:
Michael Roberts

Designations:

Head of Waste &
Environmental Services

Local Environmental
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 7 MARCH 2022

EXTENSION OF PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER (CARMARTHENSHIRE DOG ORDERS)

1. Background to the 2016 Order.

- 1.1 People who fail to clean up after their dogs on publicly accessible land cause nuisance to others. The presence of dog faeces is a potential hazard to all members of the public alike. It causes risks to health, defaces land and has the potential to deface people and their property.
- 1.2 When not properly supervised and kept under control, dogs that are allowed off a lead in public areas can cause road traffic accidents and can cause nuisance or injury to members of the public and to other animals.
- 1.3 Dogs in children's play areas can become aggressive if startled. They can also defecate in these areas, defacing and causing a health risk to the young children that use them.
- 1.4 In 2016, the Council made the Carmarthenshire County Council (Dog Control) Public Spaces Protection Order 2016 ("the Original Order") to address the above behaviour on the basis that it had and was likely to continue to have, a detrimental effect on the quality of life of people within Carmarthenshire (Appendix 1).
- 1.5 The Original Order sought to prevent or reduce the detrimental effects referred to above, by imposing reasonable restrictions and requirements on people whilst in charge of dogs on public land.
- 1.6 Subject to a number of exemptions and restrictions, the Original Order required people:
 - To clean up after their dogs on all public land in the County.
 - To put and keep their dog on a lead of not more than 2 metres in length when directed to do so by an authorised officer of the Council, where such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.
 - Not to take their dog onto or permits their dog to enter or remain on any enclosed children's play areas in the County.
- 1.7 The Carmarthenshire County Council (Dog Control) Public Spaces Protection Order 2016 came into force on the 1st July 2016. It was initially made for a period of 3 years. In 2019 the Order was extended for a further period of 3 years with effect from the 1st of July 2019. It is therefore due to expire from the 30th of June 2022.
- 1.8 Public Spaces Protection Orders can be extended for further periods of up to 3 years at a time.

2. Legal Test

- 2.1 Before the time when a public space's protection order is due to expire, the local authority that made the order may extend the period for which it has effect if satisfied on reasonable grounds that doing so is necessary to prevent: -
- (a) occurrence or recurrence after that time of the activities identified in the order; or
 - (b) an increase in the frequency or seriousness of those activities after that time.

3. Evidence and Reasons

- 3.1 Since the 2016 Order came into force there have been 3002 (Up to 31/12/2021) complaints received in relation to dog fouling; 100 fixed penalty tickets have been issued and 6 prosecutions have been implemented for offenders who failed to pay the fixed penalty notice.
- 3.2 In the last 6 years no directions have been issued requiring individuals to place their dog on a lead of no more than 2m in length. We did not expect these powers to be widely used, as they were intended for use only where it is necessary to place a dog on a lead in order to deal with ongoing acts of nuisance. They also require authorised officers to be "in the right place at the right time" to be able to defuse incidents. We do continue to receive complaints about dog related nuisance on public land and remain of the view that this is useful power which enables officers to deal with any incidents which they may come across.
- A small number of complaints have been received about dogs in play areas and enforcement action has been taken against 1 person. We believe that the provision excluding dogs from children's play areas and the accompanying signage which we have erected at relevant sites have served as an effective deterrent.
- 3.3 The Council is satisfied that it is necessary to extend the duration of the Original Order for a further 3 years in order to prevent the occurrence or recurrence of the behaviour set out set out above after the 1st July 2022, or to prevent an increased in the frequency or seriousness of the behaviour after that date.
- 3.4 A PSPO or an order extending it, can only last for a maximum of 3 years. Therefore, they must be reviewed every 3 years to see if a further extension is required. As part of the review, approval was given by Cabinet Member Decision for Public Protection on the 2nd of September 2021 that the authority sought the views of a number of consultees on the extension of the 2016 Order. This consultation period opened on Monday 1st November and closed on Friday 17th December 2021. There is also a requirement to publish details of the proposed extension on the authority's web site, this was undertaken and is currently available for the public to view.

4. Summary of responses received to the Limited Consultation

- 4.1 The consultation exercise was not a full public consultation. It was a targeted consultation, undertaken with a number of statutory consultees and other relevant stakeholders.
- 4.2 It is clear that a number of responses have been received from individuals and organisation who we did not invite to respond. It is likely that some of the consultees have distributed the consultation documents to other people and organisations, who have then replied to it.
- 4.3 In addition, some of the respondents have not identified who they are. Therefore, we do not know whether these responses are from consultees who were invited to respond to the proposals, or from other people and organisations.
- 4.4 We consulted with the following: -
- The Chief of Police and the local policing body for the area affected by the order
 - Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed Powys Police
 - County Councillors
 - The Town and Community Councils.
 - The Kennel Club
 - Dog's Trust
 - Local Access forum
 - Carmarthenshire Disabled Access Group
 - CCC's Public Rights of Way.
 - Brecon Beacons National Park
- 4.5 A summary of responses is provided below: -
- 43 responses were received (these are as follows): -
- 3 County Councillors
 - 12 Town & Community Councillors
 - 22 Other Organisations or Group
 - 6 Anonymous
- 85% of respondents supported the extension of the current PSPO for a period of 3 years.
- It was noted that the authority received multiple response from one County Councillor and 14 responses from individuals / groups that weren't invited to comment. The six responses (14%) that disagreed with extending the current orders were ALL from people and organisations that were not invited by us to respond to the consultation.
 - Four (9%) of the respondents may have misunderstood the current order, as they responded with comments which indicated that they opposed keeping Dogs on leads at all times. The current order does not require dogs to be kept on leads at all times.

- Two (5%) respondents did not indicate if they agreed or disagreed in the renewal of the existing orders.
- Four (9%) respondents indicated that they agreed with the order but did not record their details of who they represented.
- Finally, all seventeen respondents (that we can identify) who were invited to responded to the consultation agreed with the extending the PSPO (100%). We have also 6 unknown respondents and 7 that indicated who they were responding as; but no details were provided of who they were. This has no bearing on the outcome as 85% the respondents were supportive of the proposals in any event.
- The Kennel Club & Dogs Trust provided a comprehensive response / report on the authority's PSPO's (See Appendix 5 & 6).

4.6 A number of respondents had made suggestions comments through the consultation exercise, the comments and responses are available to view on Appendix 8 PSPO (Dog Control) Qualitative analysis of Consultation with responses. Three Community Councils suggested that we consider introducing additional dog controls on Sports Pitches / Park areas. The purpose of this consultation was to consider extending the duration of the current order. The Authority can consider additional controls, but they would need to be evidence based and subject to a separate consultation.

4.7 The Kennel Club do not appear to object to extension of the current order, but they have asked us to consider amending paragraph 13 of the order (which states that the dog exclusion provisions in the order don't apply to assistance dogs which have been trained by a "registered charity").
We have previously considered this issue in some detail. Our concern here is that paragraph 13 could be open to potential abuse if the reference to "registered charities" is removed. People could try to argue that the provision excluding dogs from children's play areas does not apply to their pet on the basis that they have trained it themselves to provide them with some level of assistance.

We accept that not all assistance dogs are trained by registered charities and will endeavour to adopt a fair and sensible approach in these other cases, when making our enforcement decisions. If we are satisfied that a dog has been properly trained (by somebody other than a registered charity) to provide a disabled person with meaningful assistance, we would not consider it in the public interest to enforce the exclusion.

5. Procedure

5.1 To extend the duration of the 2016 Order a new Extension Order will need to be made. A draft order can be found in Appendix 2.

5.2 The Council will also need to endorse the original 2016 sealed order with suitable wording to reflect the fact that the duration of the 2016 order has been further extended. This is necessary because after the order has been extended, we are required to publish a copy of the original order "as extended".

6. Recommendation

It is recommended: -

- a) That the duration of the Carmarthenshire County Council (Dog Control) Public Spaces Protection Order 2016 be extended for a further period of 3 years with effect from the 1st of July 2022
- b) That the Council makes an Extension Order to give effect to the above extension and endorses the 2016 Order with suitable wording to reflect the fact that the duration of the 2016 order has been further extended.

REPORT ATTACHED?	<p>No, the following appendices are attached: -</p> <p>Appendix 1 – Carmarthenshire County Council (Dog Control) Public Spaces Protection Order 2016</p> <p>Appendix 2 - Draft Extension Order 2022</p> <p>Appendix 3 – Summary report of PSPO Consultation.</p> <p>Appendix 4 – Finalised Data of PSPO Consultation Nov – Dec2021.</p> <p>Appendix 5 - Detailed Response from the Kennel Club to Carmarthenshire County Council's Public Spaces Protection Order consultation</p> <p>Appendix 6 - Detailed Response from the Dogs Trust to Carmarthenshire County Council's Public Spaces Protection Order Consultation</p> <p>Appendix 7 – Equality Impact Statement</p> <p>Appendix 8 - PSPO (Dog Control) Qualitative analysis of consultation with responses.</p>
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IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report:

Signed: **A I Williams** **Head of Waste & Environmental Services**

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

This matter falls within Community Safety and Public Health Policies and Initiatives. These proposals will support the Council's aims with regard to reducing environmental Crime and Safeguarding Public Health.

An Equality Impact Assessment in respect of the proposal is attached to the detailed report (Appendix 7).

2. Legal

Introduction of the PSPO (Dog Control Orders) is not a legal duty but is a discretionary power. However, there are benefits in extending the current order, and this would be done in compliance with all the relevant legislation and in consultation with the Council's Legal Services Department.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: **A I Williams** **Head of Waste & Environmental Services**

1. Scrutiny Committee – yes – 7th March 2022

2. Local Member(s) - Yes : Affects whole authority area

3. Community / Town Council –

Yes All affected and included as part of consultation exercise

4. Relevant Partners – Consulted with following:-

- The Chief of Police and the local policing body for the area affected by the order
- Police and Crime Commissioner Dyfed Powys Police
- County Councillors
- The Town and Community Councils.
- The Kennel Club
- Dog's Trust
- Local Access forum
- Carmarthenshire Disabled Access Group
- CCC's Public Rights of Way.
- Brecon Beacons National Park

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations - N/A

**CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO
HOLDER AWARE/CONSULTED:**

YES

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 Statutory guidance for frontline professionals (Updated 2017)	Home Office	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/679712/2017-12-13_ASB_Revised_Statutory_Guidance_V2.1_Final.pdf
2014 DEFRA Dealing Practitioner's Manual on dealing with irresponsible dog ownership	DEFRA	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/373429/dog-ownership-practitioners-manual-201411.pdf
The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (Publication of Public Spaces Protection Orders) Regulations 2014	Legislation.gov.uk	http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/12/contents
Anti – Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. (Statutory Instruments).	Home Office	https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2014/2591/pdfs/uksi_20142591_en.pdf
The Kennel Club - Responsible Dog Ownership	The Kennel Club website	The Kennel Club canine code Our codes The Kennel Club

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Carmarthenshire County Council

Anti-social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act 2014

**Carmarthenshire County Council (Dog Control) Public Spaces
Protection Order 2016**

Carmarthenshire County Council ("the Council") hereby makes the following Public Spaces Protection Order under section 59 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act 2014:

This Order may be cited as the 'Carmarthenshire County Council (Dog Control) Public Spaces Protection Order 2016'.

This Order will come into force on 1st July 2016 and will remain in force for a period of three years.

Introduction

- (a) People who fail to clean up after their dogs on publicly accessible land cause nuisance to others. The presence of dog faeces is a potential hazard to all members of the public alike. It causes risks to health, defaces land and has the potential to deface people and their property.
- (b) When not properly supervised and kept under control, dogs that are allowed off a lead in public areas can cause road traffic accidents, and can cause nuisance or injury to members of the public and to other animals.
- (c) Dogs in children's play areas can become aggressive if startled. They can also defecate in these areas, defacing and causing a health risk to the young children that use them.
- (d) The Council is satisfied that the behaviour set out above has had, and is likely to continue to have, a detrimental effect on the quality of life of people within Carmarthenshire.
- (e) This Order seeks to prevent or reduce the detrimental effects referred to above, by imposing reasonable restrictions and requirements on people whilst in charge of dogs on public land. It seeks to facilitate the safe sharing of our public spaces, whilst recognising that people should be able to exercise their dogs off lead in public areas, provided that their dogs are under control and behaving appropriately.

Offences

Part 1 - Dog Fouling

1. If a dog defecates at any time on land to which this part of the Order applies, and the person who is in charge of the dog at that time fails to remove the faeces from the land forthwith, that person shall be guilty of an offence unless he can show that:-
 - (a) he has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
 - (b) the owner, occupier, or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to him failing to do so;
2. This part of the Order applies to all public places in the County of Carmarthenshire.

For these purposes, a "public place" means any place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission.
3. For the purpose of this part of the Order:
 - (a) placing the faeces in a receptacle on the land which is provided for this purpose, or for the disposal of waste, shall be a sufficient removal from the land;
 - (b) being unaware of the defecation (whether by reason of not being in the vicinity or otherwise), or not having a device for or other suitable means of removing the faeces, shall not be a reasonable excuse for failing to remove the faeces;

Part 2 - Dogs on Leads by Direction

4. A person in charge of a dog will be guilty of an offence if at any time, on land to which this part of the Order applies, they fail to comply with a direction given to them by an authorised officer of the Council to put and keep the dog on a lead of not more than 2 metres in length for such period and/or in such circumstances as directed by the officer, unless he can show that:-
 - (a) he has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
 - (b) the owner, occupier, or other person or authority having control of the land, has consented (generally or specifically) to him failing to do so.
5. For these purposes, a "lead" means any rope, cord, leash or similar item used to tether, control or restrain a dog, but does not include any such item which is not actively being used as a means of restraint so that the dog remains under a person's close control.
6. This part of the Order applies to all public places in the County of Carmarthenshire.

For these purposes, a "public place" means any place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission
7. For the purposes of this part of the Order, an authorised officer of the Council may only direct a person to put and keep a dog on a lead if such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.
8. In this part of the Order "an authorised officer of the Council" means a person who is authorised in writing by the Authority for the purpose of giving directions under this Order. This can include a person who is not an employee of the Council.

Part 3 - Dog Exclusions

9. A person in charge of a dog will be guilty of an offence if at any time he takes the dog onto, or permits the dog to enter or remain on, any land to which this part of the Order applies, unless he can show that:-
- (a) he has a reasonable excuse for doing so; or
 - (b) the owner, occupier, or other person or authority having control of the land, has consented (generally or specifically) to him doing so;
10. This Part of the Order applies to all enclosed children's play areas in the County of Carmarthenshire that are open to the air.
- For these purposes land which is covered is to be treated as land which is "open to the air" if it is open on at least one side.
11. For the purposes of this part of the Order:-
- (a) A "children's play area" is an area that is set aside for children to play in and contains children's play equipment such as a slide, swings, seesaw, climbing frame or other similar play apparatus.
 - (b) A children's play area is "enclosed", if it is surrounded on all sides by fences, gates, walls or other structures that mark the extent of the play area.

Exemptions for Disabled People

12. The dog fouling provisions in this Order do not apply to a person who:
- (a) is registered as partially sighted or blind, in a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948; or
 - (b) is registered as "sight-impaired", "severely sight-impaired" or as "having sight and hearing impairments which, in combination, have a significant effect on their day to day lives", in a register compiled under section 18 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014; or
 - (c) has a disability which affects his mobility, manual dexterity, physical coordination, or ability to lift, carry, or otherwise move everyday objects, such that he cannot reasonably be expected to remove the faeces; or

- (d) has some other disability, such that he cannot reasonably be expected to remove the faeces.
- 13. The dog exclusion provisions in this Order do not apply to a dog trained by a registered charity to assist a person with a disability and upon which a disabled person relies for assistance.
- 14. For the purposes of this Order, a “disability” means a condition that qualifies as a disability for the purposes of the Equality Act 2010 and a “disabled person” means a person who has such a disability.

Exemption for Working Dogs

- 15. Nothing in this Order shall apply to the normal activities of a working dog, whilst the dog is working.

This includes dogs that are being used for work in connection with emergency search and rescue, law enforcement and the work of Her Majesty’s armed forces; farm dogs that are being used to herd or drive animals; dogs that are being lawfully used for the capture or destruction of vermin and dogs that are being lawfully used for the purposes of hunting.

Other Matters

- 16. For the purposes of this Order a person who habitually has a dog in his possession shall be taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog.
- 17. Where the person in charge of a dog wishes to rely upon any of the exemptions set out in this order, the burden will be on him to prove that he satisfies the requirements of the exemption being relied upon.

Penalties

18. A person who is guilty of an offence under this order shall on summary conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.
19. A Fixed Penalty Notice may be issued to a person who breaches this Order, offering them the opportunity of discharging any liability to conviction for the offence by payment of a fixed penalty.

Dated the 9th day of June 2016

The Common Seal of
**Carmarthenshire County
Council** was hereunto
affixed in the presence of:

Linda Rees-Jones
Head of Administration & Law



Carmarthenshire County Council

Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

**Carmarthenshire County Council (Dog Control) Public Spaces
Protection Order 2022**

This Order may be cited as the ‘Carmarthenshire County Council (Dog Control) Public Spaces Protection Order 2022’.

On the 9th day of June 2016 Carmarthenshire County Council ("the Council") made a Public Spaces Protection Order ("the Original Order") as described in the first schedule.

The Original Order came into force on the 1st July 2016. It was made for an initial period of 3 years.

On the 10th June 2019 the Council made a further order which extended the duration of the Original Order for a period of 3 years with effect from the 1st July 2019.

The Council hereby makes the following Order under section 60 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014:

Extension

The Original Order (as extended in 2019) shall be extended for a further period of 3 years with effect from the 1st July 2022.

First Schedule
(The Original Order)

The Carmarthenshire County Council (Dog Control) Public Spaces Protection Order 2016

Dated the day of 2022

The Common Seal of
Carmarthenshire County
Council was hereunto
affixed in the presence of:

Head of Administration & Law

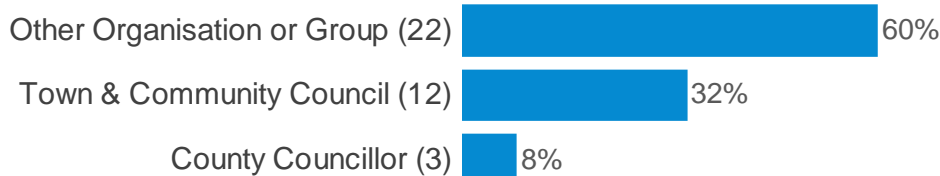
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snap template

This report was generated on 05/01/22. Overall 43 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

(1) Are you responding as a?



(1a) Please tell us which ward you represent

Trimsaran

(1a) Please tell us which Town or Community Council you are responding on behalf ((1a) Please tell us which Town or Community Council you a...)

Llanelli, Elli Ward	Llanboidy	Carmarthen town council
Llandeilo	Eglwys Cummin	Llandybie community council
Betws Community Council	Cynwyl Gaeo	Gorslas community council
Llanelli Rural Council	Trimsaran community council	

(1a) Please tell us which Organisation or Group you are representing ((1a) Please tell us which Organisation or Group you are r...)

Member of public	Red kite trec froup
Dog walker	Carmarthenshire Riders Group
Whitland Memorial Hall	Cymru Carriage Club
myself and other dog owners	Drefach Dog Owners Club
Rate payer in Carmarthenshire	Kennel club
Whitland Dog Walking group	Carmarthenshire Disability Coalition for Action
I'm part of Carmarthenshire riders	Dogs trust

(2) Do you agree with the proposed 3 year extension of the Public Spaces Protection Order?



snap template

(2a) Please add any comments that you wish to make.

they need to have more enforcement

County Council owned playgrounds albeit leased to town and community councils should also fall under this order and be given appropriate signage. Fencing should not be a factor assuming dogs are under control. There should be designated fenced areas for dogs to exercise freely and off lead. They are easier to train if they are tired. People pay for these areas £10 per hour.

I would like to see more enforcement of the dog fouling order. Dog ownership has grown dramatically particularly during the pandemic. Given the current state of public spaces with regard to dog fouling, the number of recorded complaints, fixed penalty notices issued and prosecutions brought over the last six years is lamentable and does not reflect the scale of the problem.

I see no reason to change, the order covers sensible points

All county council owned play areas, play grounds, playing fields, even if leased, should be subject to the order.

some people can be disgusting and not clean up after their dogs

However this is an ongoing issue where I live where people leave their dogs run off lead in the local park and do not pick up their mess despite notices saying that they should always be on lead and to pick up their mess. There are numerous signs saying no smoking but only 2 saying all dogs on lead. I am a responsible dog owner that does not leave my dog off lead in public spaces and always pick up their mess and on several occasions my dog has been attacked by aggressive dogs off lead however unless something is done to the perpetrators of such acts there is no point in having the order. It needs to be monitored and enforced.

I believe this needs to be extended as there is still a problem with dog fouling in town, especially recently in the football area in Parc Le Conquet. Dogs off leads in areas where there is livestock is also a continued problem with a serious incident occurring in Dinefwr not long ago. I had raised the question in a recent council meeting about increasing patrols and issuing fines to get on top of the problems so am keen to support this proposal.

I think all dogs should be kept on leads, too many accidents happen because of loose dogs and as a horse rider have been chased on many occasions by loose dogs, plus my small dog was attacked by a loose dog.

Ensuring safety of all members of the public is paramount loose dogs are a threat to nervous humans, nervous dogs, cyclists and horse riders

Under the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 and CCC (Dog Control) Public Spaces Protection Order 2016 with regards to Part 2 - Dogs on leads by direction at point 8 does the authorised officer include members of the police service such as PCSO's? An enquiry was made earlier this year and the local PCSO's had not received training on this, therefore they were unable to implement the order and issue fines/FPN's for enforcing Part 1 - Dog fouling and Part 2 as issues were being reported in Betws Park. Under the orders would the Community Council be allowed to put up signage informing the public that dogs must be kept on a lead in a designated area? Either in the whole park or in a certain area within or exclude them from entering a certain area within the park?

After my driving pony being chased down by 4 collies for just walking by on a newly opened multi user track, I fully support dogs on leads in the circumstances. Myself & my groom were thrown out as my pony panicked, 4 dogs by his heels.

Public places should include rights of way.

While there is information on the county council website about dog controls, it would be very beneficial if the county council could develop a proactive community engagement strategy to better educate the public about the powers contained in the dog control order and how the public can play its part in actively reporting the behaviour of irresponsible dog owners. This would be very welcome to better inform the public. Thank you.

We think the Order covers all relevant topics relating to dog ownership, management and control.

snap template

(2a) Please add any comments that you wish to make.

I suspect they'll all say to maintain the order as it is for another 3 years, but there's always the possibility, I suppose, of a Member making a specific comment that might be noteworthy. [There IS a play area, nowadays, at Red Roses, but I think measures are indeed in place to prevent dog issues occurring there].

are there any signs available

See attached document

Dog Fouling Checks are a must in areas

They have also been encouraged to reply to your online survey individually

At last evening's Full Council meeting of Llandybie Community Council it was agreed that full support be given to the renewal of the current Public Spaces Protection Order, but that additionally, an extra criteria be added for the further protection of individuals, namely that - all dogs be banned from playing fields which are set out for sporting activity ie sports pitches

That the Community Council would wish to see, and be involved in, further consultation regarding the introduction of measures requiring owners to keep their dogs on a lead whilst in its public parks.

Dog fouling is particularly obnoxious for wheelchair users as their hands are their feet when it comes to self-propulsion. Were it possible we would advocate harsher penalties for those who allow their dogs to foul public areas and that offenders should have to attend 'awareness' sessions as part of the penalty for offending?

The PDSA's 'Paw Report 2018' found that 89% of veterinary professionals believe that the welfare of dogs will suffer if owners are banned from walking their dogs in public spaces such as parks and beaches, or if dogs are required to be kept on leads in these spaces. Their report also states that 78% of owners rely on these types of spaces to walk their dog.

(2a) Please add any comments that you wish to make.

You need to educate people not start a dog hate campaign.

I am a responsible dog owner who picks up my dog's faeces and there are many others in Whitland who do the same. It's very sad when those people who do pick up are penalised by those that don't.

Brechfa Forest has been designated as a tourist attraction. It is very popular with dog owners.

There are no livestock present in the forest, but it is open access land so in theory the restriction that dogs have to be on a lead applies. but being able to allow their dogs to run off the lead is important to tourists. - In practice, it would be very difficult to enforce the legislation. The other issue with the legislation is the practicality of people enjoying the outdoor activities that do not involve walking. - For cyclists and horse riders, a requirement that our dogs have to be on a lead is impractical and dangerous. For these reasons, I think the dog control protection order needs to be revised making it impractical to extend the existing order.

Dogs should remain under control by their owners - this does not necessarily mean on a lead

snap template

(2a) Please add any comments that you wish to make.

As a dog owner and a person who has a Diploma in dog psychology and behaviour I believe a blanket enforcement of dogs being kept on leads in public places is cruel and unnecessary. Dogs need to run free, use their noses and display natural roaming behaviour whilst out being exercised in order to remain healthy both mentally and physically. A typical dog off lead would cover at least twice the distance of its walking companion (human) when out walking. Restricting dogs to only walking at the speed of their owner, never being able to run free would lead to many dogs becoming obese and could also lead to mental anxiety due to frustration. I own and ride horses and to this day I have never been bothered by anyone's dog or dogs to a degree where I would deem this 'act' necessary. Recently I was the victim of a dog attack, where a Cane Corso (Italian Mastiff) weighing 50+kg, almost mauled to death one of my dogs, a chihuahua (weighing just 2kg), Both sets of dogs were off their leads and came into contact whilst on a narrow path whilst exiting the beach. This incident was reported to the police who did nothing about it at all, as it was a dog on dog attack and so in their opinion, not worthy of further intervention or prosecution. I have experienced first hand an 'out of control' very large breed dog, but I would still object to all dogs being forced to be on a lead in open public spaces for the reasons above. I walk my dogs on a public beach every day, several times a day and I see many other people out walking their dogs too, off lead, all behaving well and enjoying their surroundings. The incidents of dogs 'out of control' that occur are far too few to enforce all dog owners to adhere to such cruel and unnecessary measures as permanently tethering and restricting our loving and loyal canine friends to a human in public open spaces at all times! It is in my opinion an unnecessary act of extreme control for an all too infrequent issue. Punishing the many for the fault of the few.....

Dogs should not be kept on a lead in public places at all times.

Date of interview	Time interview started	Completion date of interview	Time interview ended	Duration of interview	(1) Are you responding as a?	(1a) Please tell us which ward you represent	(1a) Please tell us which Town or Community Council you a...	(1a) Please tell us which Organisation or Group you are r...	(2) Do you agree with the proposed 3 year extension of th...	(2a) Please add any comments that you wish to make.	(2a) Please add any comments that you wish to make.
01/11/21	09:36:44	01/11/21	09:37:31	0.78	County Councillor	Trimsaran			Yes	they need to have more enforcement	
01/11/21	09:37:35	01/11/21	09:38:11	0.6	County Councillor				Yes		
01/11/21	15:07:02	01/11/21	15:15:22	8.33	County Councillor				Yes	County Council owned playgrounds albeit leased to town and community councils should also fall under this order and be given appropriate signage. Fencing should not be a factor assuming dogs are under control. There should be designated fenced areas for dogs to exercise freely and off lead. They are easier to train if they are tired. People pay for these areas £10 per hour.	
01/11/21	15:20:20	01/11/21	16:49:23	89.05	Town & Community Council		Llanelli, Elli Ward		Yes	I would like to see more enforcement of the dog fouling order. Dog ownership has grown dramatically particularly during the pandemic. Given the current state of public spaces with regard to dog fouling, the number of recorded complaints, fixed penalty notices issued and prosecutions brought over the last six years is lamentable and does not reflect the scale of the problem.	
01/11/21	18:04:57	01/11/21	18:06:00	1.05	Other Organisation or Group			Member of public	No		You need to educate people not start a dog hate campaign.
01/11/21	18:56:21	01/11/21	18:58:49	2.47	Other Organisation or Group			Dog walker	Yes	I see no reason to change, the order covers sensible points	
01/11/21	22:36:59	01/11/21	22:38:00	1.02	Other Organisation or Group				Yes		
02/11/21	09:57:52	02/11/21	10:00:53	3.02	Other Organisation or Group			Whitland Memorial Hall	Yes	All county council owned play areas, play grounds, playing fields, even if leased, should be subject to the order.	

Date of interview	Time interview started	Completion date of interview	Time interview ended	Duration of interview	(1) Are you responding as a?	(1a) Please tell us which ward you represent	(1a) Please tell us which Town or Community Council you a...	(1a) Please tell us which Organisation or Group you are r...	(2) Do you agree with the proposed 3 year extension of th...	(2a) Please add any comments that you wish to make.	(2a) Please add any comments that you wish to make.
02/11/21	10:46:41	02/11/21	10:48:25	1.73	Other Organisation or Group			myself and other dog owners	Yes	some people can be disgusting and not clean up after their dogs	
02/11/21	19:08:29	02/11/21	19:08:40	0.18							
02/11/21	23:24:11	02/11/21	23:24:35	0.4	Other Organisation or Group				Yes		
02/11/21	23:24:42	02/11/21	23:24:54	0.2	Other Organisation or Group				Yes		
04/11/21	09:42:52	04/11/21	09:50:33	7.68	Other Organisation or Group			Rate payer in Carmarthenshire	Yes	However this is an ongoing issue where I live where people leave their dogs run off lead in the local park and do not pick up their mess despite notices saying that they should always be on lead and to pick up their messThere are numerous signs saying no smoking but only 2 saying all dogs on lead I am a responsible dog owner that does not leave my dog off lead in public spaces and always pick up their mess and on several occasions my dog has been attacked by aggressive dogs off lead however unless something is done to the perpetrators of such acts there is no point in having the order. It needs to be monitored and enforced.	
04/11/21	14:18:09	04/11/21	14:22:06	3.95	Other Organisation or Group			Whitland Dog Walking group	No		I am a responsible dog owner who picks up my dog's faeces and there are many others in Whitland who do the same. It's very sad when those people who do pick up are penalised by those

Date of interview	Time interview started	Completion date of interview	Time interview ended	Duration of interview	(1) Are you responding as a?	(1a) Please tell us which ward you represent	(1a) Please tell us which Town or Community Council you a...	(1a) Please tell us which Organisation or Group you are r...	(2) Do you agree with the proposed 3 year extension of th...	(2a) Please add any comments that you wish to make.	(2a) Please add any comments that you wish to make.
08/11/21	09:53:10	08/11/21	10:08:41	15.52	Town & Community Council		Llandeilo		Yes	I believe this needs to be extended as there is still a problem with dog fouling in town, especially recently in the football area in Parc Le Conquet. Dogs off leads in areas where there is livestock is also a continued problem with a serious incident occurring in Dinefwr not long ago. I had raised the question in a recent council meeting about increasing patrols and issuing fines to get on top of the problems so am keen to support this proposal.	
08/11/21	19:53:19	08/11/21	19:53:44	0.42	Town & Community Council				Yes		
10/11/21	17:00:27	10/11/21	17:03:18	2.85					Yes	I think all dogs should be kept on leads , to many accidents happen because of loose dogs and as a horse rider have been chased on many occasion by loose dogs ,plus my small dog was attacked by a loose dog	
10/11/21	17:11:49	10/11/21	17:12:50	1.02	Other Organisation or Group				Yes		
10/11/21	17:19:36	10/11/21	17:25:34	5.97	Other Organisation or Group				No		Brechfa Forest has been designated as a tourist attraction. It is very popular with dog owners. There are no livestock present in the forest, but it is open access land so in theory the Dogs should remain under control by their owners - this does not necessarily mean on a lead
10/11/21	17:51:45	10/11/21	17:53:35	1.83	Other Organisation or Group				No		
10/11/21	18:01:29	10/11/21	18:02:43	1.23	Other Organisation or Group			I'm part of Carmarthenshire riders	Yes		
10/11/21	18:11:47	10/11/21	18:12:28	0.68					Yes		

Date of interview	Time interview started	Completion date of interview	Time interview ended	Duration of interview	(1) Are you responding as a?	(1a) Please tell us which ward you represent	(1a) Please tell us which Town or Community Council you a...	(1a) Please tell us which Organisation or Group you are r...	(2) Do you agree with the proposed 3 year extension of th...	(2a) Please add any comments that you wish to make.	(2a) Please add any comments that you wish to make.
10/11/21	18:41:38	10/11/21	18:42:30	0.87					Yes		
10/11/21	18:56:47	10/11/21	18:57:12	0.42							
10/11/21	18:57:34	10/11/21	18:58:10	0.6	Other Organisation or Group				Yes		
10/11/21	19:21:59	10/11/21	19:24:04	2.08	Other Organisation or Group			Red kite trec froup	Yes	Ensuring safety of all members of the public is paramount loose dogs are a threat to nervous humans, nervous dogs, cyclists and horse riders	
10/11/21	20:52:14	10/11/21	20:52:33	0.32	Other Organisation or Group				Yes		

Date of interview	Time interview started	Completion date of interview	Time interview ended	Duration of interview	(1) Are you responding as a?	(1a) Please tell us which ward you represent	(1a) Please tell us which Town or Community Council you a...	(1a) Please tell us which Organisation or Group you are r...	(2) Do you agree with the proposed 3 year extension of th...	(2a) Please add any comments that you wish to make.	(2a) Please add any comments that you wish to make.
11/11/21	05:29:42	11/11/21	05:54:55	25.22	Other Organisation or Group			Carmarthenshire Riders Group	No		<p>As a dog owner and a person who has a Diploma in dog psychology and behaviour I believe a blanket enforcement of dogs being kept on leads in public places is cruel and unnecessary. Dogs need to run free, use their noses and display natural roaming behaviour whilst out being exercised in order to remain healthy both mentally and physically. A typical dog off lead would cover at least twice the distance of its walking companion (human) when out walking. Restricting dogs to only walking at the speed of their owner, never being able to run free would lead to many dogs becoming obese and could also lead to mental anxiety due to frustration. I own and ride horses and to this day I have never been bothered by anyone's dog or dogs to a degree where I would deem this 'act' necessary. Recently I was the victim of a dog attack, where a Cane Corso (Italian Mastiff) weighing 50+kg, almost mauled to death one of my dogs, a chihuahua (weighing just 2kg), Both sets of dogs were off their leads and came into contact whilst on a narrow path whilst exiting the beach. This incident was reported to the police who did nothing about it at all, as it was a dog on dog attack and so in their opinion, not worthy of further intervention or prosecution.</p> <p>Continued....</p> <p>I have experienced first hand an 'out of control' very large breed dog, but I would still object to all dogs being forced to be on a lead in open public spaces for the reasons above. I walk my dogs on a public beach every day, several times a day and I see many other people out walking their dogs too, off lead, all behaving well and enjoying their surroundings. The incidents of dogs 'out of control' that occur are far too few to enforce all dog owners to adhere to such cruel and unnecessary measures as permanently tethering and restricting our loving and loyal canine friends to a human in public open spaces at all times! It is in my opinion an unnecessary act of extreme control for an all too infrequent issue. Punishing the many for the fault of the few.....</p>

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11/11/21	07:17:31	11/11/21	07:30:31		13	Town & Community Council	Betws Community Council		Yes	Under the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 and CCC (Dog Control) Public Spaces Protection Order 2016 with regards to Part 2 - Dogs on leads by direction at point 8 does the authorised officer include members of the police service such as PCSO's? An enquiry was made earlier this year and the local PCSO's had not received training on this, therefore they were unable to implement the order and issue fines/FPN's for enforcing Part 1 - Dog fouling and Part 2 as issues were being reported in Betws Park. Under the orders would the Community Council be allowed to put up signage informing the public that dogs must be kept on a lead in a designated area? Either in the whole park or in a certain area within or exclude them from entering a certain area within the park?	
11/11/21	13:54:20	11/11/21	13:58:09		3.82	Other Organisation or Group		Cymru Carriage Club	Yes	After my driving pony being chased down by 4 collies for just walking by on a newly opened multi user track, I fully support dogs on leads in the circumstances. My self & my groom were thrown out as my pony panicked, 4 dogs by his heels.	
11/11/21	23:14:50	11/11/21	23:16:24		1.57				Yes	Public places should include rights of way.	
19/11/21	10:00:30	19/11/21	10:06:15		5.75	Town & Community Council	Llanelli Rural Council		Yes	While there is information on the county council website about dog controls, it would be very beneficial if the county council could develop a proactive community engagement strategy to better educate the public about the powers contained in the dog control order and how the public can play its part in actively reporting the behaviour of irresponsible dog owners. This would be very welcome to better inform the public. Thank you.	
19/11/21	18:35:29	19/11/21	18:38:11		2.7	Town & Community Council	Llanboidy		Yes	We think the Order covers all relevant topics relating to dog ownership, management and control.	
24/11/21	12:00:31	24/11/21	12:01:48		1.28	Other Organisation or Group		Drefach Dog Owners Club	No		Dogs should not be kept on a lead in public places at all times.

Date of interview	Time interview started	Completion date of interview	Time interview ended	Duration of interview	(1) Are you responding as a?	(1a) Please tell us which ward you represent	(1a) Please tell us which Town or Community Council you a...	(1a) Please tell us which Organisation or Group you are r...	(2) Do you agree with the proposed 3 year extension of th...	(2a) Please add any comments that you wish to make.	(2a) Please add any comments that you wish to make.
05/01/22	12:24:36	05/01/22	12:25:24		0.8 Town & Community Council		Eglwys Cummin		Yes	I suspect they'll all say to maintain the order as it is for another 3 years, but there's always the possibility, I suppose, of a Member making a specific comment that might be noteworthy. [There IS a play area, nowadays, at Red Roses, but I think measures are indeed in place to prevent dog issues occurring there].	
05/01/22	12:26:12	05/01/22	12:26:57		0.75 Town & Community Council		Cynwyl Gaeo		Yes	are there any signs available	
05/01/22	12:27:16	05/01/22	12:28:54		1.63 Other Organisation or Group			Kennel club	Yes	See attached document (Appendix 5)	
05/01/22	12:29:24	05/01/22	12:29:55		0.52 Town & Community Council		Trimsaran community council		Yes	Dog Fouling Checks are a must in areas	
05/01/22	12:30:46	05/01/22	12:31:22		0.6 Town & Community Council		Carmarthen town council		Yes	They have also been encouraged to reply to your online survey individually	
05/01/22	12:31:47	05/01/22	12:32:48		1.02 Town & Community Council		Llandybie community council		Yes	At last evening's Full Council meeting of Llandybie Community Council it was agreed that full support be given to the renewal of the current Public Spacces Protection Order , but that additionally, an extra criteria be added for the further protection of individuals , namely that - all dogs be banned from playing fields which are set out for sporting activity ie sports pitches	
05/01/22	12:33:45	05/01/22	12:34:11		0.43 Town & Community Council		Gorslas community council		Yes	That the Community Council would wish to see, and be involved in, further consultation regarding the introduction of measures requiring owners to keep their dogs on a lead whilst in its public parks.	
05/01/22	12:34:23	05/01/22	12:35:08		0.75 Other Organisation or Group			Carmarthenshire Disability Coalition for Action	Yes	Dog fouling is particularly obnoxious for wheelchair users as their hands are their feet when it comes to self-propulsion. Were it possible we would advocate harsher penalties for those who allow their dogs to foul public areas and that offenders should have to attend 'awareness' sessions as part of the penalty for offending?	

Date of interview	Time interview started	Completion date of interview	Time interview ended	Duration of interview	(1) Are you responding as a?	(1a) Please tell us which ward you represent	(1a) Please tell us which Town or Community Council you a...	(1a) Please tell us which Organisation or Group you are r...	(2) Do you agree with the proposed 3 year extension	(2a) Please add any comments that you wish to make.	(2a) Please add any comments that you wish to make.
05/01/22	12:35:17	05/01/22	12:36:32	1.25	Other Organisation or Group			Dogs trust	Yes	The PDSA's 'Paw Report 2018' found that 89% of veterinary professionals believe that the welfare of dogs will suffer if owners are banned from walking their dogs in public spaces such as parks and beaches, or if dogs are required to be kept on leads in these spaces. Their report also states that 78% of owners rely on these types of spaces to walk their dog. We believe that the vast majority of dog owners are responsible, and that the majority of dogs are well behaved. In recognition of this, we would encourage local authorities to exercise its power to issue Community Protection Notices, targeting irresponsible owners and proactively addressing anti-social behaviours.Dogs Trust works with local authorities across the UK to help promote responsible dog ownership. Please do not hesitate to contact should you wish to discuss this matter.We would be very grateful if you could inform us of the consultation outcome and subsequent decisions made in relation to the Public Space Protection Order.	



THE KENNEL CLUB

The Kennel Club's Response to Carmarthenshire County Council Public Spaces Protection Order Consultation

Submitted on 16th November 2021 by: The Kennel Club, 10 Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London W1J 8AB, email: kcdog@thekennelclub.org.uk

The Kennel Club is the largest organisation in the UK devoted to dog health, welfare, and training. Our objective is to ensure that dogs live healthy, happy lives with responsible owners. We campaign for and advocate on behalf of dogs and their owners and, as part of our external affairs activities, engage with local authorities on issues such as Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs). We established KC Dog to campaign against unreasonable access restrictions for dog owners and to monitor emerging access-related issues.

The Kennel Club is the only national organisation named by the UK Government as a body that local authorities should consult prior to introducing restrictions on dog walkers and is considered the leading canine authority on dog access. As such, we would like to highlight the importance of ensuring that PSPOs are necessary and proportionate responses to problems caused by dogs and irresponsible owners. We also believe that it is essential for authorities to balance the interests of dog owners with the interests of other access users

We welcome the provision of supporting evidence within the consultation documents (background information) which outline why the Council wishes to retain the measures within the PSPO.

Response to proposed measures

Dog fouling

The Kennel Club strongly promotes responsible dog ownership, and believes that dog owners should always pick up after their dogs wherever they are, including fields and woods in the wider countryside, and especially where farm animals graze to reduce the risk of passing Neospora and Sarcocystosis to cattle and sheep respectively.

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage the local authority to employ further proactive measures to help promote responsible dog ownership throughout the local area in addition to introducing Orders in this respect.

These proactive measures can include: increasing the number of bins available for dog owners to use; communicating to local dog owners that bagged dog faeces can be disposed of in normal litter bins; running responsible ownership and training events; or using poster campaigns to encourage dog owners to pick up after their dog.

Exclusion

The Kennel Club does not typically oppose Orders to exclude dogs from playgrounds or enclosed recreational grounds, such as skate parks, tennis courts, or beaches and promenades, as long as alternative provisions are made for dog walkers in the vicinity. Children and dogs should be



able to socialise together quite safely under adult supervision, with having a child in the home the biggest predictor for a family owning a dog.

We can support reasonable ‘dogs on lead’ Orders which can, when used in a proportionate and evidence-based way, include areas such as cemeteries, picnic areas, or on pavements in proximity to cars and other road traffic.

However, we will oppose PSPOs which introduce blanket restrictions on dog walkers accessing public open spaces without specific and reasonable justification. Dog owners are required to provide their dogs with appropriate daily exercise, including “regular opportunities to walk and run”, which in most cases will be off lead while still under control.

Their ability to meet this requirement is greatly affected by the amount of publicly accessible parks and other public places such as beaches and promenades in their area where dogs can exercise without restrictions. This section of the Animal Welfare Act was included in the statutory guidance produced for local authorities by the Home Office on the use of PSPOs.

Accordingly, the underlying principle we seek to see applied is that dog controls should be the least restrictive to achieve a given defined and measurable outcome; this is the approach used by Natural England. In many cases, a seasonal or time of day restriction will be effective and the least restrictive approach, rather than a blanket year-round restriction. For instance, a “dogs on lead” order for a picnic area is unlikely to be necessary in mid-winter.

The Government provided clear instructions to local authorities that they must provide restriction free sites for dog walkers to exercise their dogs. This message was contained in the guidance document for DCOs, and has been retained in both the Defra/Welsh Government and Home Office PSPO guidance documents, with the Defra guidance for PSPOs stating ‘local authorities should ensure there are suitable alternatives for dogs to be exercised without restrictions’.

On lead by direction

The Kennel Club strongly welcomes ‘On lead by direction’ Orders. These allow responsible dog owners to exercise their dogs off lead without restriction providing their dogs are under control, whilst simultaneously giving the local authority powers to restrict dogs not under control.

We recommend that the authorised officer enforcing the Order is familiar with dog behaviour in order to determine whether restraint is necessary. There exists the possibility that a dog, through no fault of its own, could be considered a ‘nuisance’ or ‘annoyance’ to someone who simply does not like dogs.

We encourage local authorities to make use of more flexible and targeted measures at their disposal, including Acceptable Behavioural Contracts and Community Protection Notices. Kennel Club Good Citizen Training Clubs and our accredited trainers can assist owners whose dogs run out of control due to them not having the ability to train a reliable recall.

Appropriate signage

It is important to note that in relation to PSPOs, The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (Publication of Public Spaces Protection Orders) Regulations 2014 makes it a legal requirement for local authorities to –

“cause to be erected on or adjacent to the public place to which the order relates such notice (or notices) as it considers sufficient to draw the attention of any member of the public using that place to -

- (i) the fact that the order has been made, extended or varied (as the case may be); and
- (ii) the effect of that order being made, extended or varied (as the case may be).”

Assistance dogs

The Kennel Club welcomes the exemptions proposed in this Order for assistance dogs. We urge the Council to review the Equality and Human Rights Commission’s guidance for businesses and service providers when providing any exemptions for those who rely on assistance dogs. The guidance can be viewed here: <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/assistance-dogs-a-guide-for-all-businesses.pdf>

However, we would suggest further consideration of the wording contained within the Order, specifically with reference to ‘registered charity’. While a proportion of assistance dogs relied upon by disabled people are trained or registered by charities, many are not. A number of reputable assistance dog providers are members of Assistance Dogs UK. This umbrella group currently has eight member organisations, which can be viewed here: <http://www.assistedogs.org.uk/>. It is important to note that the membership of Assistance Dogs UK is not a definitive list of all UK assistance dog organisations and may change during the currency of the PSPO. It also does not provide for owner trained assistance dogs.

We therefore encourage the Council to allow for some flexibility when considering whether a disabled person’s dog is acting as an assistance dog. The Council could consider adopting the definitions of assistance dogs used by Mole Valley District Council, which can be found here:

https://www.molevalley.gov.uk/media/pdf/1/b/83072_-_Completed_PSPO.pdf

or that of Northumberland County Council:

“(4) The term “Assistance Dog” shall mean a dog which has been trained to assist a person with a disability.

(5) The expression “disability” shall have the meaning prescribed in section 6 of the Equality Act 2010 or as may be defined in any subsequent amendment or re-enactment of that legislation”.

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From: [Kevin Atkinson Hughes-Gandy](#)
To: [Michael Roberts](#)
Subject: PSPO Consultation - Dogs Trust.
Date: 22 December 2021 14:07:28
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

You don't often get email from kevin.atkinson@dogstrust.org.uk. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear,

Dogs Trust has been made aware that Carmarthenshire County Council is planning to extend a series of Public Space Protection Orders. As the UK's largest dog welfare charity, we would like to make some comments for consideration.

Apologies that this is a few days after the consultation closure date of the 17th December 2021, but unfortunately we have only just found out about this consultation. I hope you will be able to consider our comments as part of your consideration's.

Dogs Trust's Comments

1. Re; Fouling of Land by Dogs Order:

- Dogs Trust consider 'scooping the poop' to be an integral element of responsible dog ownership and would fully support a well-implemented order on fouling. We urge the Council to enforce any such order rigorously. In order to maximise compliance we urge the Council to consider whether an adequate number of disposal points have been provided for responsible owners to use, to consider providing free disposal bags and to ensure that there is sufficient signage in place.
- We question the effectiveness of issuing on-the-spot fines for not being in possession of a poo bag and whether this is practical to enforce.

2. Re; Dog Exclusion Order:

- Dogs Trust accepts that there are some areas where it is desirable that dogs should be excluded, such as children's play areas, however we would recommend that exclusion areas are kept to a minimum and that, for enforcement reasons, they are restricted to enclosed areas. We would consider it more difficult to enforce an exclusion order in areas that lack clear boundaries.
- Dogs Trust would highlight the need to provide plenty of signage to direct owners to alternative areas nearby in which to exercise dogs.

3. Re; Dog Exclusion Order and beaches:

- With phone calls often being made to the RSPCA and Police alerting to dogs being left in hot cars in coastal areas, we would urge you to consider the danger animals may be put in, and the difficult decisions owners have to make, by not being allowed to take their dogs onto the beach.
- If the Council does choose to implement this order, Dogs Trust would encourage looking into a compromise between beach goers and dog owners, e.g. allowing dogs onto the beach in the evenings or early mornings, or having dog friendly sections on the beaches.
- Strict dog exclusion restrictions can also lead to a decrease in dog friendly tourism for businesses along the coast, which in turn could have a negative impact on the local economy.

4. Re; Dog Exclusion and sport pitches

- Excluding dogs from areas that are not enclosed could pose enforcement problems - we would consider it more difficult to enforce an exclusion order in areas that lack clear boundaries.
- We feel that exclusion zones should be kept to a minimum, and that excluding dogs from all sports pitches for long stretches of the year is unnecessary. In some cases sports pitches may account for a large part of the open space available in a public park, and therefore excluding dogs could significantly reduce available dog walking space for owners.
- We would urge the Council to consider focusing its efforts on reducing dog fouling in these areas, rather than excluding dogs entirely, with adequate provision of bins and provision of free disposal bags

5. Re; Dogs on Leads Order:

- Dogs Trust accept that there are some areas where it is desirable that dogs should be kept on a lead.
- Dogs Trust would urge the Council to consider the Animal Welfare Act 2006 section 9 requirements (the 'duty of care') that include the dog's need to exhibit normal behaviour patterns – this includes the need for sufficient exercise including the need to run off lead in appropriate areas. Dog Control Orders should not restrict the ability of dog keepers to comply with the requirements of this Act.
- The Council should ensure that there is an adequate number, and a variety of, well sign-posted areas locally for owners to exercise their dog off-lead.

6. Re; Dogs on Lead by Direction Order:

- Dogs Trust enthusiastically support Dogs on Leads by Direction orders (for dogs that are considered to be out of control or causing alarm or distress to members of the public to be put on and kept on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised official).
- We consider that this order is by far the most useful, other than the fouling order, because it allows enforcement officers to target the owners of dogs that are allowing them to cause a nuisance without restricting the responsible owner and their dog. As none of the other orders, less fouling, are likely to be effective without proper enforcement we would be content if the others were dropped in favour of this order.

7. Re; Taking more than a specified number of dogs onto a land:

- The behaviour of the dogs and the competency of the handler need to be taken into consideration if considering this order. Research from 2010 shows that 95% of dog owners have up to 3 dogs. Therefore the number of dogs taken out on to land by one individual would not normally be expected to exceed four dogs.

The PDSA's 'Paw Report 2018' found that 89% of veterinary professionals believe that the welfare of dogs will suffer if owners are banned from walking their dogs in public spaces such as parks and beaches, or if dogs are required to be kept on leads in these spaces. Their report also states that 78% of owners rely on these types of spaces to walk their dog.

We believe that the vast majority of dog owners are responsible, and that the majority of dogs are well behaved. In recognition of this, we would encourage local authorities to exercise its power to issue Community Protection Notices, targeting irresponsible owners and proactively addressing anti-social behaviours.

Dogs Trust works with local authorities across the UK to help promote responsible dog

ownership. Please do not hesitate to contact should you wish to discuss this matter.

We would be very grateful if you could inform us of the consultation outcome and subsequent decisions made in relation to the Public Space Protection Order.

Best regards
Kevin

Kevin Atkinson Hughes-Gandy
([Pronouns](#) He/Him)



Community Engagement Officer

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Carmarthenshire County Council

Assessing Impact

The Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) brings together and replaces the previous anti-discrimination laws with a single Act. It simplifies and strengthens the law, removes inconsistencies and makes it easier for people to understand and comply with it. The majority of the Act came into force on 1 October 2010.

The Act includes a new public sector equality duty (the 'general duty'), replacing the separate duties on race, disability and gender equality. This came into force on 5 April 2011.

What is the general duty?

The aim of the general duty is to ensure that public authorities and those carrying out a public function consider how they can positively contribute to a fairer society through advancing equality and good relations in their day-to-day activities. The duty ensures that equality considerations are built into the design of policies and the delivery of services and that they are kept under review. This will achieve better outcomes for all.

The duties are legal obligations. Failure to meet the duties may result in authorities being exposed to legal challenge.

Under equality legislation, public authorities have legal duties to pay 'due regard' to the need to eliminate discrimination and promote equality with regard to race, disability and gender, including gender reassignment, as well as to promote good race relations. The Equality Act 2010 introduces a new public sector duty which extends this coverage to age, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, and religion or belief. The law requires that this duty to pay 'due regard' be demonstrated in the decision making process. It is also important to note that public authorities subject to the equality duties are also likely to be subject to the

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obligations under the Human Rights Act and it is therefore wise also to consider the potential impact that decisions could have on human rights as part of the same process.

Carmarthenshire's approach to Equality Impact

In order to ensure that the council is considering the potential equality impact of its proposed policies and practices, and in order to evidence that we have done so, every proposal will be required to be supported by the attached Equality Impact Assessment. Where this assessment identifies a significant impact then more detail may be required.

Reporting on assessments

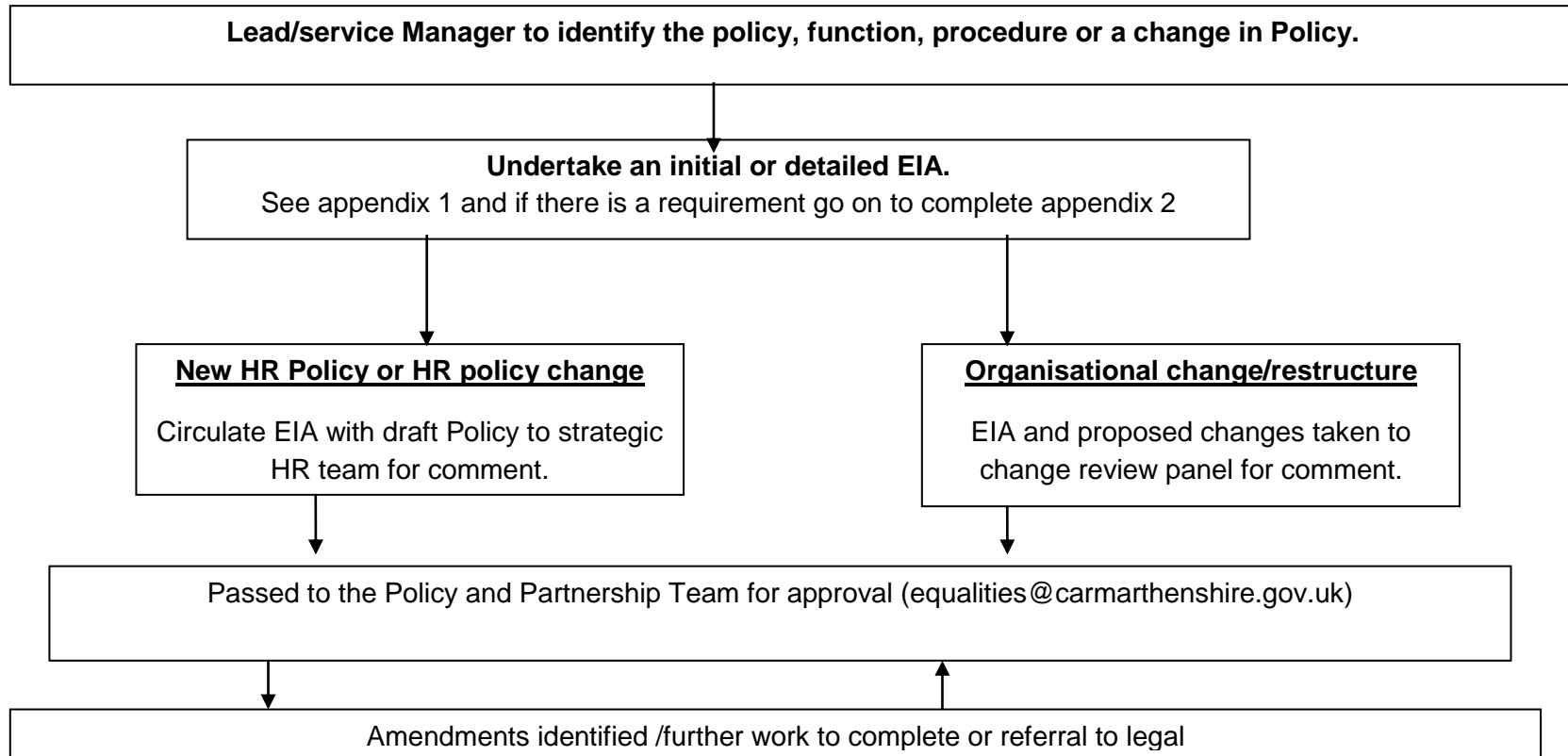
Where it is clear from the assessment that the likely impact on the authority's ability to meet the general duty is substantial, then it must publish a report.

Initial and Detailed Equality Impact Assessments

The initial EIA (appendix 1) is a simple and quick method of assessing the effect of a policy, function, procedure, decision including financial cuts on one or more of the protected characteristics.

The Service Manager responsible for the relevant new or revised policies, functions, procedures and financial decisions must undertake, at least, an initial EIA and where relevant a detailed Equality Impact Assessment (appendix 7); EIA must be attached as background paper with reports to Executive and Scrutiny .

Equality impact assessment – Process to follow where HR implications have been identified



Initial Equalities Impact Assessment Template

Appendix 1

Department: Environment Department	Completed by (lead): Michael Roberts	Date of initial assessment: 20 th December 2021 Revision Dates:
Area to be assessed: (i.e. name of policy, function, procedure, practice or a financial decision)	Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Controls) and the use of Fixed Penalty Notices.	
Is this existing or new function/policy, procedure, practice or decision?	Extension to Public Spaces Protection Orders (Dog Controls) and the use of Fixed Penalty Notices.	
What evidence has been used to inform the assessment and policy? (please list only)		

1. Describe the aims, objectives or purpose of the proposed function/policy, practice, procedure or decision and who is intended to benefit.	1. Describe the item you are assessing and the outcomes you want from it ? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2016 Carmarthenshire County Council introduced a Public Spaces Protection Order to tackle irresponsible dog ownership that is occurring in the County. At the time we consulted with the public to find out if there was public support for further dog controls in the County. Based on the results of that consultation exercise, the Authority introduced a draft Public Spaces Protection Order, containing 3 proposed dog controls, which included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A provision requiring people to clean up after their dogs immediately, if it defecates on public land. This will apply on ALL publicly accessible land in the County of Carmarthenshire. A provision requiring people to place their dog on a lead of no more that 2 metres in Length, when directed to do so by an authorised officer of the Council. This will also apply on ALL publicly accessible land in the County of
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<p>Page 47</p>	<p>Carmarthenshire.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A provision prohibiting dogs from all outdoor enclosed children’s play areas in the County of Carmarthenshire <p>Anyone who breaches the order could be issued with a Fixed Penalty of up to £100, or they may receive a fine of up to £1,000 if convicted in the magistrates’ court.</p> <p>The dog fouling provisions in the Order did not apply to a person who:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) is registered as partially sighted or blind, in a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948; or (b) is registered as “sight-impaired”, “severely sight-impaired” or as “having sight and hearing impairments which, in combination, have a significant effect on their day to day lives”, in a register compiled under section 18 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014; or (c) has a disability which affects his mobility, manual dexterity, physical coordination, or ability to lift, carry, or otherwise move everyday objects, such that he cannot reasonably be expected to remove the faeces; or (d) has some other disability, such that he cannot reasonably be expected to remove the faeces. <p>The dog exclusion does not apply to a dog trained by a registered charity to assist a person with a disability and upon which a disabled person relies for assistance.</p> <p>If we are satisfied that a disabled person relies on assistance dog which has not been trained by a registered charity, we will not consider it in the public interest to prosecute them if they breach the exclusion order. However, it will be up to the disabled person to provide us with evidence to show that the dog is suitably trained and that they rely on it for assistance. We will consider each case on its merits.</p> <p>Anybody who fails to comply with a requirement of order would have a defence against prosecution if they can show that they have a “reasonable excuse” for doing so.</p> <p>The Carmarthenshire County Council (Dog Control) Public Spaces Protection Order 2016 came into force on the 1st July 2016. It was</p>
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initially made for a period of 3 years. In 2019 the Order was extended for a further period of 3 years with effect from the 1st July 2019. 2016 order applied for 3 years from the 1st July 2016. The Council is now proposing to extend the order for a further period of 3 years from the 1st July 2022.

2. Who is intended to Benefit, what is the full scope of the item and who is it aimed at ?

The aim of the policy is to:

- Help make Carmarthenshire a cleaner, greener and safer environment through the appropriate use of FPN's with the Public Spaces Protection Orders
- These would address Dog Fouling, a pest free environment and a culture change in people's attitude to dog fouling and controlling their dogs in public areas.
- Ensure enforcement action is transparent, accountable, proportionate, consistent and targeted.
- Provide Enforcement Officers with a policy and guidelines to enable them to issue FPN's appropriately and in line with the general enforcement principles
- To inform the public, business and the community of the principles by which enforcement action is taken.
-

3. Do the anticipated outcomes meet or hinder any other things that the authority is doing ?

The aims of the policy is to link in to the strategic priorities in line with the Corporate Strategy 2018 -23 ([Corporate strategy 2018-2023 \(Updated April 2021\) \(gov.wales\)](#)) and associated Wellbeing Objectives (WBOs), particularly *WBO 10; Healthy and Safe Environment – look after the environment now and in the future.*

The Policy is supplementary to Carmarthenshire County Council's Overarching Environmental Enforcement Policy and has been **drafted in line with the** <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/fixed-penalty-notice-issuing-and-enforcement-by-councils>

4. Who defined the Policy, Function or service provision and who are the main stakeholders.

The PSPO has been developed by officers in conjunction with members and approved by the Executive Board.

The enforcement Policy has been defined by members of the Environmental Enforcement Unit, Corporate Strategies, statutory Functions and guidance laid down by external organisations such as DEFRA, Crown Prosecution Service etc.

The Main stakeholders are :

Members of the Environmental Enforcement Unit.

Other Internal Departments that manage public assets such as Country Parks, County Parks etc.

All Members of Public inc visitors to the County.

Town & Community Councils

Dyfed Powys Police Authority.

Sports Associations and other groups.

5. Who Implements your proposal and who is responsible for delivery ?

The Policy will be implemented and delivered by Officers of the Environmental Enforcement Unit and partner organisations such as Dyfed Powys Police.

6. Is this Policy, Practice , service or function affected by external drivers for changes ? e.g. new legislation, national policy, external inspection etc.

Anti Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 in relation to dealing with ASB issues which include Irresponsible dog ownership.

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	7. How is the information about the Policy, practice, service or function publicised? Authority's web page. Fact Sheets Community News Word of Mouth Social Media i.e. Facebook, Twitter Local Newspaper reports Signage						
The Public Sector Equality Duty requires the Council to have “due regard” to the need to:- (1) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation; (2) advance equality of opportunity between different groups; and (3) foster good relations between different groups (see guidance notes)	2. What is the level of impact on each group/ protected characteristics in terms of the three aims of the duty? Please indicate high (H) medium (M), low (L), no effect (N) for each.	3. Identify the risk or positive effect that could result for each of the group/protected characteristics? <table border="1" data-bbox="1084 1010 1709 1265"> <tr> <th data-bbox="1084 1010 1377 1042">Risks</th><th data-bbox="1377 1010 1709 1042">Positive effects</th></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1084 1042 1377 1265"></td><td data-bbox="1377 1042 1709 1265"></td></tr> </table>	Risks	Positive effects			4. If there is a disproportionately negative impact what mitigating factors have you considered?
Risks	Positive effects						

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<div>Protected characteristics</div> <div>Page 51</div>	Age	L	<p>Juveniles are specifically covered within the Children & Young adults Policy. Warning letters and restorative justice techniques are normally used where offences are committed by children, to avoid criminalising children. We liaise with youth offending teams as appropriate.</p> <p>The elderly could be impacted if they have medical conditions which contribute to their ability to comply with the legislation.</p> <p>All staff issuing FPN's will be appropriately briefed to use a</p>	<p>People who fail to clean up after their dogs on publicly accessible land cause nuisance to others. The presence of dog faeces is a potential hazard to all members of the public alike. It causes risks to health, defaces land and has the potential to deface people and their property. Young children can be at particular risk from dog mess.</p> <p>The order should make public areas safer for all.</p>	<p>Warning letters and restorative justice techniques are normally used where offences are committed by children, to avoid criminalising children. We liaise with youth offending teams as appropriate.</p> <p>All staff issuing FPN's will be appropriately briefed to use a common sense approach at all times.</p> <p>Whilst there is no appeal mechanism for FPN's, if additional information is made available to the council it may result in the FPN being cancelled. Guidelines will be drafted, which will include a section on medical conditions that contribute to the offence.</p>
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Page 52			<p>common sense approach at all times.</p> <p>Whilst there is no appeal mechanism for FPN's, if additional information is made available to the council it may result in the FPN being cancelled.</p> <p>Guidelines will be drafted, which will include a section on medical conditions that contribute to the offence.</p>		
	Disability	M	<p>The Council recognises that some people will not be able to clean up after their dogs for reasons that are related to a disability. For example, people with serious</p>	<p>The order should make public areas safer for all, including disabled people.</p>	<p>The Council has included exemptions in the order (as set out in box 2 above) to disapply these requirements to people with appropriate physical and mental impairments.</p> <p>The Council recognises that some</p>

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<p>Page 53</p>			<p>sight issues may not be able to see their dog defecate, and people with mobility or manual dexterity problems might not be able to remove the faeces.</p> <p>To address this the Council has included exemptions in the order (as set out in box 2 above) to disapply these requirements to people with appropriate physical and mental impairments.</p> <p>The Council recognises that some disabled people rely on assistance dogs and that prohibiting</p>		<p>disabled people rely on assistance dogs and that prohibiting assistance dogs from children's play areas could prevent these people and their families from using play areas. To prevent this, the Council has included an exemption in the order stating that the dog exclusion will not apply to trained assistance dogs.</p> <p>Anybody who fails to comply with a requirement of order will have a defence against prosecution if they can show that they have a "reasonable excuse" for doing so.</p> <p>Any disabled person who believes that their disability gives them a reasonable excuse for failing to comply, but who is not covered by the disability exemptions within the order, will still be able to raise a "reasonable excuse" defence.</p> <p>By incorporating these defences</p>
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<p>Page 54</p>			<p>assistance dogs from children's play areas could prevent these people and their families from using play areas. To prevent this, the Council has included an exemption in the order stating that the dog exclusion will not apply to trained assistance dogs.</p> <p>Anybody who fails to comply with a requirement of order will have a defence against prosecution if they can show that they have a "reasonable excuse" for doing so.</p> <p>Any disabled person who believes that their</p>		<p>and exemptions in the order, the Council has endeavoured to avoid any discrimination against disabled people.</p> <p>All staff issuing FPN's will be appropriately briefed to be fair and reasonable and to use a common sense approach at all times.</p> <p>When enforcing the orders, officer will have regard to any known disabilities and the need to eliminate discrimination and promote equality of opportunity and will be expected to take these issues in to account when deciding whether or not to take enforcement action against an individual.</p> <p>Guidelines will be drafted, which will include a section on medical conditions that contribute to the offence.</p>
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Page 55			<p>disability gives them a reasonable excuse for failing to comply, but who is not covered by the disability exemptions within the order, will still be able to raise a “reasonable excuse” defence.</p> <p>By incorporating these defences and exemptions in the order, the Council has endeavoured to avoid any discrimination against disabled people.</p> <p>All staff issuing FPN's will be appropriately briefed to be fair and reasonable and to use a common sense approach at all times.</p>		
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Page 56			<p>When enforcing the orders, officer will have regard to any known disabilities and the need to eliminate discrimination and promote equality of opportunity and will be expected to take these issues in to account when deciding whether or not to take enforcement action against an individual.</p> <p>Guidelines will be drafted, which will include a section on medical conditions that contribute to the offence.</p>		
	Gender reassignment	N			

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<p>Page 57</p>	<p>Race</p>	<p>M</p>	<p>There could be potential impacts on those who are not fluent in English or Welsh.</p> <p>All Enforcement Staff will be briefed to ensure they recognise that there is diversity within the community and care must therefore be taken to ensure that any enforcement actions are clearly understood.</p> <p>Pictorial signage will be used to ensure that the requirements of the order are easily understood by all .</p> <p>Consideration will be given to providing documents in</p>		<p>All Enforcement Staff will be briefed to ensure they recognise that there is diversity within the community and care must therefore be taken to ensure that any enforcement actions are clearly understood.</p> <p>Pictorial signage will be used to ensure that the requirements of the order are easily understood by all .</p> <p>Consideration will be given to providing documents in appropriate language if necessary. The Council may also arrange for interpreter in appropriate cases.</p>
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Page 58			appropriate language if necessary. The Council may also arrange for interpreter in appropriate cases.		
	Religion/Belief	N			
	Pregnancy and maternity	N			
	Sexual Orientation	N			
	Sex	N			
	Welsh language	L	<p>The orders will be made and published on the Council's website bilingually. Bilingual fixed penalty books are also used.</p> <p>Offenders can be interviewed bilingually and court proceedings can be undertaken through the medium of</p>		<p>The orders will be made and published on the Council's website bilingually. Bilingual fixed penalty books are also used.</p> <p>Offenders can be interviewed bilingually and court proceedings can be undertaken through the medium of Welsh.</p>

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			Welsh.		
	Any other area	N			

5. Has there been any consultation/engagement with the appropriate protected characteristics?		YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
6. What action(s) will you take to reduce any disproportionately negative impact, if any? Not applicable.			
7. Procurement Following collation of evidence for this assessment, are there any procurement implications to the activity, proposal, service. Please take the findings of this assessment into your procurement plan. Contact the corporate procurement unit for further advice. Not applicable.			
8. Human resources Following collation of evidence for this assessment, are there any Human resource implications to the activity, proposal or service? Not applicable.			
9. Based on the information in sections 2 and 6, should this function/policy/procedure/practice or a decision proceed to Detailed Impact Assessment? (recommended if one or more H under section 2)		YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Approved by: Head of Service	<i>A. Williams</i> Head of Waste & Environmental Services		Date: 31 January 2022.

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Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders
Renewal Of Public Space Protection Order (Dog Order)

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
County Councillor Trimsaran	they need to have more enforcement	Noted	We will take this into account when making arrangements to publicise and enforce the order. The order will be published on the council's web site and publicised by way of media campaign. Signage will be erected through out the county. People will be encouraged to report breaches of the order. The authority will review the resources available to enforce the new orders. The use of Police & PCSO's to enforce the orders will be discussed with Dyfed Powys Police.
County Councillor	County Council owned playgrounds albeit leased to town and community councils should also fall under this order and be given appropriate signage. Fencing should not be a factor assuming dogs are under control. There should be designated fenced areas for dogs to exercise freely and off lead. They are easier to train if they are tired. People pay for these areas £10 per hour.	Noted	The dog fouling and 'dogs on leads by direction' provisions in the current order apply to all public land in the County, including County Council owned parks and playgrounds. This includes parks and playgrounds that are leased to town and community councils. The exclusion in the order applies to all enclosed children's play areas in the county. We will keep the situation with dogs on playgrounds / playing fields under review. We are in the process of undertaking an engagement survey with local stakeholders to identify ongoing issues and establish whether they would like us to consider introducing additional dog controls.
Elli Ward Llanelli Town Council	I would like to see more enforcement of the dog fouling order. Dog ownership has grown dramatically particularly during the pandemic. Given the current state of public spaces with regard to dog fouling, the number of recorded complaints, fixed penalty notices issued and prosecutions brought over the last six years is lamentable and does not reflect the scale of the problem.	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning enforcement activities.

**Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders
Renewal Of Public Space Protection Order (Dog Order)**

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
Llandeilo Town Council	I believe this needs to be extended as there is still a problem with dog fouling in town, especially recently in the football area in Parc Le Conquet. Dogs off leads in areas where there is livestock is also a continued problem with a serious incident occurring in Dinefwr not long ago. I had raised the question in a recent council meeting about increasing patrols and issuing fines to get on top of the problems so am keen to support this proposal	Noted	Will take this into account when making arrangements to publicise and enforce the order. The order will be published on the council's web site and publicised by way of media campaign. Signage will be erected through out the county. People will be encouraged to report breaches of the order. The authority will review the resources available to enforce the new orders. The use of Police & PCSO's to enforce the orders will be discussed with Dyfed Powys Police.
Betws Community Council	Under the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 and CCC (Dog Control) Public Spaces Protection Order 2016 with regards to Part 2 - Dogs on leads by direction at point 8 does the authorised officer include members of the police service such as PCSO's? An enquiry was made earlier this year and the local PCSO's had not received training on this, therefore they were unable to implement the order and issue fines/FPN's for enforcing Part 1 - Dog fouling and Part 2 as issues were being reported in Betws Park. Under the orders would the Community Council be allowed to put up signage informing the public that dogs must be kept on a lead in a designated area? Either in the whole park or in a certain area within or exclude them from entering a certain area within the park?	Noted	Police constables and PCSO's can be authorised by the council to issues 'dogs on leads' direction. The County Council's PSPO does not require dogs to be kept on leads in public parks. It does not exclude dogs from parks either, but it does exclude dogs from any enclosed children's play areas within them. We are currently in the process of undertaking a separate engagement exercise with key stakeholders, to identify whether there is a need for additional dog controls within the County. If the Community Council would like us to introduce additional controls at Betws Park, we would invite them to raise this in response to the ongoing engagement exercise.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders Renewal Of Public Space Protection Order (Dog Order)

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
The Kennel Club	<p>We would also like to take this opportunity to encourage the local authority to employ proactive measures to help promote responsible dog ownership throughout the local area in addition to introducing orders in this respect. These proactive measures may include: increasing the number of bins available for dog owners to use; communicating to local dog owners that bagged dog poo may be disposed of in normal litter bins; running responsible ownership and training events; or using poster campaigns to encourage dog owners to pick up after their dog.</p> <p>Assistance dogs</p> <p>The Kennel Club welcomes the exemptions proposed in this Order for assistance dogs. We urge the Council to review the Equality and Human Rights Commission's guidance for businesses and service providers when providing any exemptions for those who rely on assistance dogs. The guidance can be viewed here: https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/assistance-dogs-a-guide-for-all-businesses.pdf</p> <p>However, we would suggest further consideration of the wording contained within the Order, specifically with reference to 'registered charity'. While a proportion of assistance dogs relied upon by disabled people are trained or registered by charities, many are not. A number of reputable assistance dog providers are members of Assistance Dogs UK. This umbrella group currently has eight member organisations, which can be viewed here: http://www.assistedogs.org.uk/. It is important to note that the membership of Assistance Dogs UK is not a definitive list of all UK assistance dog organisations and may change during the currency of the PSPO. It also does not provide for owner trained assistance dogs.</p>	Noted	<p>We will take this into account when publicising the order. The authority engages with dog owners and undertakes press releases and media events in promoting responsible dog ownership.</p> <p>We will review the number of bins within the County. The order makes it clear that dog mess can be placed in normal litter bins. Our website will also make this clear. The authority currently places signs on bins to inform dog owners of this.</p> <p>The Kennel Club do not appear to object to extension of the current order, but they have asked us to consider amending paragraph 13 of the order (which states that the dog exclusion provisions in the order don't apply to assistance dogs which have been trained by a "registered charity").</p> <p>We have previously considered this issue in some detail. Our concern here is that paragraph 13 could be open to potential abuse if the reference to "registered charities" is removed. People could try to argue that the provision excluding dogs from children's play areas does not apply to their pet on the basis that they have trained it themselves to provide them with some level of assistance.</p> <p>We accept that not all assistance dogs are trained by registered charities, and will endeavour to adopt a fair and sensible approach in these other cases, when making our enforcement decisions. If we are satisfied that a dog has been properly trained (by somebody</p>
Llanelli Rural Council	<p>While there is information on the county council website about dog controls, it would be very beneficial if the county council could develop a proactive community engagement strategy to better educate the public about the powers contained in the dog control order and how the public can play its part in actively reporting the behaviour of irresponsible dog owners. This would be very welcome to better inform the public. Thank you</p>	Noted	<p>Will take this into account when making arrangements to publicise and enforce the order. The order will be published on the council's web site and publicised by way of media campaign. Signage will be erected through out the county. People will be encouraged to report breaches of the order. The authority will review the resources available to enforce the new orders</p>
Llanboidy Community Council	<p>We think the Order covers all relevant topics relating to dog ownership, management and control.</p>	Noted	No further response required

**Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders
Renewal Of Public Space Protection Order (Dog Order)**

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
Eglwys Cummin Community Council	I suspect they'll all say to maintain the order as it is for another 3 years, but there's always the possibility, I suppose, of a Member making a specific comment that might be noteworthy. [There IS a play area, nowadays, at Red Roses, but I think measures are indeed in place to prevent dog issues occurring there].	Noted	No further response required
Cynwyl Gaeo Community Council	are there any signs available	Noted	Signs are available for "No dog fouling" and the "No Dogs Allowed in the enclosed Children's Play area".
Trimsaran Community Council	Dog Fouling Checks are a must in areas	Noted	This will be taken into account when planning enforcement activities.
Carmarthen Town council	Members have been encouraged to reply to your on-line survey individually.	Noted	No further response required
Llandybie Community Council	At last evening's Full Council meeting of Llandybie Community Council it was agreed that full support be given to the renewal of the current Public Spaces Protection Order, but that additionally, an extra criteria be added for the further protection of individuals, namely that - all dogs be banned from playing fields which are set out for sporting activity ie sports pitches	Noted	We are currently in the process of undertaking a separate engagement exercise with key stakeholders, to identify whether there is a need for additional dog controls within the County. If the Community Council would like us to introduce additional controls, we would invite them to raise this issue in response to the ongoing engagement exercise.
Gorslas Community Council	That the Community Council would wish to see, and be involved in, further consultation regarding the introduction of measures requiring owners to keep their dogs on a lead whilst in its public parks.	Noted	We are currently in the process of undertaking a separate engagement exercise with key stakeholders, to identify whether there is a need for additional dog controls within the County. If the Community Council would like us to introduce additional controls, we would invite them to raise this issue in response to the ongoing engagement exercise. We think that it is important to recognise that people need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead for animal welfare reasons. There need to be areas of public land available where people can safely do so. Any further restrictions will need to be evidence based, and a proportionate response to the current problems.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders Renewal Of Public Space Protection Order (Dog Order)

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
Carmarthenshire Disability Coalition for Action	Dog fouling is particularly obnoxious for wheelchair users as their hands are their feet when it comes to self-propulsion. Were it possible we would advocate harsher penalties for those who allow their dogs to foul public areas and that offenders should have to attend 'awareness' sessions as part of the penalty for offending?	Noted	No further response required
Dogs Trust	The PDSA's 'Paw Report 2018' found that 89% of veterinary professionals believe that the welfare of dogs will suffer if owners are banned from walking their dogs in public spaces such as parks and beaches, or if dogs are required to be kept on leads in these spaces. Their report also states that 78% of owners rely on these types of spaces to walk their dog. We believe that the vast majority of dog owners are responsible, and that the majority of dogs are well behaved. In recognition of this, we would encourage local authorities to exercise its power to issue Community Protection Notices, targeting irresponsible owners and proactively addressing anti-social behaviours. Dogs Trust works with local authorities across the UK to help promote responsible dog ownership. Please do not hesitate to contact should you wish to discuss this matter. We would be very grateful if you could inform us of the consultation outcome and subsequent decisions made in relation to the Public Space Protection Order.	The respondent may have misunderstood the order.	The purpose of these orders is to deal with specific incidents where a dog needs to be placed on a lead to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal. The "dog on lead" provisions in this order do not prevent dogs from running freely off-lead, unless the person in charge of the dog is ordered to place it on a lead.
Member of public	You need to educate people not start a dog hate campaign.	Noted	No further response required
Dog walker	I see no reason to change, the order covers sensible points	Noted	No further response required
Whitland Memorial Hall	All county council owned play areas, play grounds, playing fields, even if leased, should be subject to the order.	Noted	The dog fouling and 'dogs on leads by direction' provisions in the current order apply to all public land in the County, including County Council owned parks and playgrounds. This includes parks and playgrounds that are leased to town and community councils. The exclusion in the order applies to all enclosed children's play areas in the county.
myself and other dog owners	some people can be disgusting and not clean up after their dogs	Noted	No further response required

Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders
Renewal Of Public Space Protection Order (Dog Order)

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
Rate payer in Carmarthenshire	However this is an ongoing issue where I live where people leave their dogs run off lead in the local park and do not pick up their mess despite notices saying that they should always be on lead and to pick up their mess. There are numerous signs saying no smoking but only 2 saying all dogs on lead. I am a responsible dog owner that does not leave my dog off lead in public spaces and always pick up their mess and on several occasions my dog has been attacked by aggressive dogs off lead however unless something is done to the perpetrators of such acts there is no point in having the order. It needs to be monitored and enforced.	The respondent may have misunderstood the order.	The current order does not require dogs to be kept on leads in parks.
Whitland Dog Walking group	I am a responsible dog owner who picks up my dog's faeces and there are many others in Whitland who do the same. It's very sad when those people who do pick up are penalised by those that don't.	Noted	No further response required
anonymous	I think all dogs should be kept on leads, to many accidents happen because of loose dogs and as a horse rider have been chased on many occasions by loose dogs, plus my small dog was attacked by a loose dog	The respondent may have misunderstood the order.	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders
Renewal Of Public Space Protection Order (Dog Order)

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
anonymous	Brechfa Forest has been designated as a tourist attraction. It is very popular with dog owners. There are no livestock present in the forest, but it is open access land so in theory the restriction that dogs have to be on a lead applies. but being able to allow their dogs to run off the lead is important to tourists. - In practice, it would be very difficult to enforce the legislation. The other issue with the legislation is the practicality of people enjoying the outdoor activities that do not involve walking. - For cyclists and horse riders, a requirement that our dogs have to be on a lead is impractical and dangerous. For these reasons, I think the dog control protection order needs to be revised making it impractical to extend the existing order.	The respondent may have misunderstood the order.	The respondent appears to have misunderstood the order. The current order does not require members of the public (including cyclists and horse owners) to keep their dogs on leads at all times. Under the order, an authorised officer can issue a direction requiring somebody to place a dog on a lead. However, these powers can only be used in the limited circumstances set out in the order. The purpose of this provision is to deal with specific situations where a dog needs to be placed on a lead to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.
anonymous	Dogs should remain under control by their owners - this does not necessarily mean on a lead	Noted	The current order does not require members of the public to keep their dogs on leads at all times. Under the order, an authorised officer can issue a direction requiring somebody to place a dog on a lead. However, these powers can only be used in the limited circumstances set out in the order. The purpose of this provision is to deal with specific situations where a dog needs to be placed on a lead to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.
Red kite trek group	Ensuring safety of all members of the public is paramount loose dogs are a threat to nervous humans, nervous dogs, cyclists and horse riders	Noted	People need to be able to exercise their dogs off-lead, for animal welfare reasons. It is not appropriate to make a PSPO requiring people to keep their dog on a lead at all times in all public places. We believe that an order in these terms would be disproportionate

Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders Renewal Of Public Space Protection Order (Dog Order)

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
Carmarthenshire Riders Group	As a dog owner and a person who has a Diploma in dog psychology and behaviour I believe a blanket enforcement of dogs being kept on leads in public places is cruel and unnecessary. Dogs need to run free, use their noses and display natural roaming behaviour whilst out being exercised in order to remain healthy both mentally and physically. A typical dog off lead would cover at least twice the distance of its walking companion (human) when out walking. Restricting dogs to only walking at the speed of their owner, never being able to run free would lead to many dogs becoming obese and could also lead to mental anxiety due to frustration. I own and ride horses and to this day I have never been bothered by anyone's dog or dogs to a degree where I would deem this 'act' necessary. Recently I was the victim of a dog attack, where a Cane Corso (Italian Mastiff) weighing 50+kg, almost mauled to death one of my dogs, a chihuahua (weighing just 2kg), Both sets of dogs were off their leads and came into contact whilst on a narrow path whilst exiting the beach. This incident was reported to the police who did nothing about it at all, as it was a dog on dog attack and so in their opinion, not worthy of further intervention or prosecution. I have experienced first hand an 'out of control' very large breed dog, but I would still object to all dogs being forced to be on a lead in open public spaces for the reasons above. I walk my dogs on a public beach every day, several times a day and I see many other people out walking their dogs too, off lead, all behaving well and enjoying their surroundings. The incidents of dogs 'out of control' that occur are far too few to enforce all dog owners to adhere to such cruel and unnecessary measures as permanently tethering and restricting our loving and loyal canine friends to a human in public open spaces at all times! It is in my opinion an unnecessary act of extreme control for an all too infrequent issue. Punishing the many for the fault of the few.....	The respondent may have misunderstood the order.	The purpose of these orders is to deal with specific incidents where a dog needs to be placed on a lead to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal. We do not think that it is feasible to limit it to designated areas, as problems with out of control dogs could occur anywhere. The "dog on lead" provisions in this order do not prevent dogs from running freely off-lead, unless the person in charge of the dog is ordered to place it on a lead.
Cymru Carriage Club	After my driving pony being chased down by 4 collies for just walking by on a newly opened multi user track, I fully support dogs on leads in the circumstances. My self & my groom were thrown out as my pony panicked, 4 dogs by his heels.	The respondent may have misunderstood the order.	The purpose of these orders is to deal with specific incidents where a dog needs to be placed on a lead to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal. We do not think that it is feasible to limit it to designated areas, as problems with out of control dogs could occur anywhere. The "dog on lead" provisions in this order do not prevent dogs from running freely off-lead, unless the person in charge of the dog is ordered to place it on a lead.

Matrix Table of Qualitative Responses to Public Spaces Protection Orders
Renewal Of Public Space Protection Order (Dog Order)

Org	Comments	Appraisal	Response
anonymous	Public places should include rights of way.	Noted	The current order does not require members of the public to keep their dogs on leads at all times. Under the order, an authorised officer can issue a direction requiring somebody to place a dog on a lead. However, these powers can only be used in the limited circumstances set out in the order. The purpose of this provision is to deal with specific situations where a dog needs to be placed on a lead to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.
Drefach Dog Owners Club	Dogs should not be kept on a lead in public places at all times	The respondent may have misunderstood the order.	The current order does not require members of the public to keep their dogs on leads at all times. Under the order, an authorised officer can issue a direction requiring somebody to place a dog on a lead. However, these powers can only be used in the limited circumstances set out in the order. The purpose of this provision is to deal with specific situations where a dog needs to be placed on a lead to prevent a nuisance, or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or the worrying or disturbance of any animal.

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ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 7TH MARCH 2022

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS PLAN 2022/23		
Purpose: To give members an opportunity to review extracts relevant to this scrutiny committee in the Department's Business Plan.		
To consider and comment on the following issues: <u>Actions from the business plan relevant to this Scrutiny's remit as identified below:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Safety 		
Reasons: To show how the department supports the Corporate Strategy.		
To be referred to the Cabinet / Council for decision: NO		
CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- Cllr. Ann Davies (Communities and Rural Affairs)		
Directorate Chief Executive Name of Head of Service: Noelwyn Daniel Report Author: Gwyneth Ayers	Designations: Head of ICT & Corporate Policy Corporate Policy & Partnership Manager	Tel Nos. E Mail Addresses: NDaniel@carmarthenshire.gov.uk GAyers@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

**ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC PROTECTION
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
7TH MARCH 2022**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS PLAN 2022/23

1. BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Extract from the Chief Executive's Department Business Plan for the ICT & Corporate Policy Division

Self-Assessment 2021/22

There has been significant development on the partnership approach to embedding the new *Contest Cymru Framework (counter terrorism)* within the Council and across partners. The team also lead on the regional Contest arrangements with a significant amount of engagement with regional and national partners as the work evolves. The introduction of the framework has provided a firmer basis to develop planning with further work to be taken forward during 2022-23.

The team lead on the Council's response to the UK Government Protect Duty consultation and have established the Carmarthenshire Protective Security Preparedness Group which will pave the way for the introduction of the Protect Duty during 2022-23. There is a need to firm up the Carmarthenshire and regional action plans in certain elements of each of the 4Ps (prevent, protect, prepare, pursue) and ensure full engagement and response of relevant services within the Council and across partners going forward.

Action Plan for 2022/23

Extract from Departmental Plan

Ref B	Key Actions and Measures	By When or EOY Target?	Responsible Officer	WBO Ref
1.	We will ensure the Council fulfils its duties relating to the current Contest Strategy (counter terrorism) and respond to any duties as they arise, including the Protect Duty (2022).	31/03/2023	Gwyneth Ayers	WBO8-D
2	To ensure the Council fully considers and responds to the requirements of the Protect Duty once published.	31/03/2023	Kate Harrop	WBO8

Extract from Divisional Plan

Ref B	Key Actions and Measures	By When or EOY Target?	By Who?	WBO Ref
3	To ensure progress against the Safer Communities Partnership Action Plan	31/03/2022	Kate Harrop	WBO8-D
4	We will ensure the Council fulfils its duties relating to the current Contest Strategy (counter terrorism) and respond to any duties as they arise, including the Protect Duty (2022)	31/03/2023	Gwyneth Ayers	WBO8-D
5	To lead on the Dyfed Powys Regional Contest Board and Action Plan	31/12/2023	Gwyneth Ayers	WBO8-D
6	To implement and monitor progress on the Carmarthenshire Contest Action Plan focusing on key deliverable relating to Prevent, Protect, Prepare and Pursue	31/03/2023	Kate Harrop	WBO8-D
7	To ensure the Council fully considers and responds to the requirements of the Protect Duty once published	31/03/2023	Kate Harrop	WBO8-D
8	To support the work of the Protective Security Preparedness Group working across a range of Council departments and external partners	31/03/2023	Kate Harrop	WBO8-D
9	To support the work of the Tyisha Crime & Disorder Workstream Action Plan	31/03/2023	Kate Harrop	WBO8-D
10	To continue to embed and ensure compliance with the CCTV Policy for the Council, working with all departments to identify key requirements	31/03/2023	Kate Harrop	WBO8-D
11	To embed the White Ribbon campaign action plan across all Council Services and provide Annual Report on progress	31/03/2023	Kate Harrop	WBO8-D

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

NO

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Noelwyn Daniel Head of ICT & Corporate Policy

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

- The departmental business plan extracts show how the department supports the Corporate Strategy and its Well-being Objectives.
- They will be supported by more detailed divisional business plans/action plans.
- The actions will be monitored throughout the year.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has had a considerable impact on departments and business plans reflect this. There have been many lessons learnt and new ways of working developed that will be maintained.

2. Legal

The Well-being Future Generations Act (2015) requires that functions of the council should maximise their contributions to the Well-being Objectives set by the Council. Our Well-being Objectives maximise our contribution to the seven national Goals of the Act and demonstrate the five ways of working.

2. Finance

The Well-being Future Generations Act (2015) requires that we ensure that resources are allocated annually to meet our objectives. The budget breakdown has been reported to a previous meeting.

4. ICT

The Digital Transformation Strategy sets out the Council's strategic digital priorities and aspirations, and outlines what we plan to do to achieve our vision for a Digital Carmarthenshire.

5. Risk Management Issues

Key risks are identified for each department and mitigating actions are outlined.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Noelwyn Daniel Head of ICT & Corporate Policy

1. Local Member(s)

N/A

2. Community / Town Council

N/A

3. Relevant Partners

N/A

4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

N/A

**CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO
HOLDER AWARE/CONSULTED**

YES

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW:

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Corporate Strategy		<u>Corporate Strategy 2018-2023</u>

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ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

7TH MARCH 2022

ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS PLAN 2022/23

(Extracts relevant to the Environment & Public Protection Scrutiny remit)

Purpose:

To give members an opportunity to review the Department's Business Plan.

To consider and comment on the following issues:

Elements of the business plan relevant to this Scrutiny's remit

Reasons:

To show how the department, for which this Scrutiny has a remit, supports the Corporate Strategy.

To be referred to the Cabinet / Council for decision: NO

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:-

Cllr. Hazel Evans (Environment);
Cllr Philip Hughes (Public Protection);
Cllr Ann Davies (Communities and Rural Affairs)

Noelwyn Daniel Ainsley Williams	Interim Director of Environment	Environmentdirector@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Name of Head of Service: Stephen Pilliner	Head of Transportation & Highways	SGPilliner@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Name of Head of Service: Daniel John	Interim Head of Waste & Environmental Services	DWJohn@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Name of Head of Service: Rhodri Griffiths	Head of Place and Sustainability	RDGriffiths@Carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Name of Service Manager: Jason G Jones	Property Maintenance	JGJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Name of Service Manager: Jackie M Edwards	Service development, Support and Cleaning Services	JMEwards@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Report Author: Jackie M Edwards		JMEwards@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

7TH MARCH 2022

ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS PLAN 2022/23

(Extracts relevant to the Environment & Public Protection Scrutiny remit)

The purpose of the business plan is to show how this plan will support the delivery of the Corporate Strategy.

Environmental and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee Remit:

- Waste and Environmental Services including Refuse Collection,
- Street Cleaning,
- Grounds Maintenance,
- Building Cleaning (including Schools, where relevant),
- Public Toilets,
- Transport and Street Scene including Highways,
- Street Lighting,
- Bridges,
- Traffic Management,
- Parking Services,
- Cycle paths and Rights of Way;
- Environmental Enforcement including Litter,
- Dog Fouling;
- Abandoned Vehicles etc;
- Planning Enforcement;
- Zero Carbon.

N.B: The faint text in the report is due to these areas falling under the remit of other scrutiny's.

The Business Plan features:

- Departmental Overview
- Departmental Self-Assessment
- Measures & Actions

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Stephen Pilliner
Daniel John
Jackie M Edwards

Head of Highways & Transport
Interim Head of Waste & Environmental Services
Business Improvement Manager

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

- This departmental business plan shows how the department supports the Corporate Strategy and its Well-being Objectives.
- It will be supported by more detailed divisional business plans.
- The actions that support the Well-being Objectives and the steps taken to achieve them will be monitored throughout the year.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has had a considerable impact on departments and business plans reflect this. There have been many lessons learnt and new ways of working developed that will be maintained.

2. Legal

The Well-being Future Generations Act (2015) requires that functions of the council should maximise their contributions to the Well-being Objectives set by the Council. Our Well-being Objectives maximise our contribution to the seven national Goals of the Act and demonstrate the five ways of working.

3. Finance

The Well-being Future Generations Act (2015) requires that we ensure that resources are allocated annually to meet our objectives. The budget breakdown has been reported to a previous meeting.

4. ICT

The Digital Transformation Strategy sets out the Council's strategic digital priorities and aspirations, and outlines what we plan to do to achieve our vision for a Digital Carmarthenshire.

5. Risk Management Issues

Key risks are identified for each department and mitigating actions are outlined.

6. Staffing Implications

As identified within the plan.

7. Physical Assets

Some projects might be included in the business plan.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: **Stephen Pilliner**
Daniel John
Jackie M Edwards

Head of Highways & Transport
Interim Head of Waste & Environmental Services
Business Improvement Manager

1. Local Member(s)

N/A

2. Community / Town Council

N/A

3. Relevant Partners

N/A

4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

N/A

**CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDERS
 AWARE/CONSULTED**

YES

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW:

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Corporate Strategy		Corporate Strategy 2018-2023

Environment Department

Business Plan 2022 - 2025

'Life is for living, let's start, live and age well in a healthy, safe and prosperous environment'

February 2022

carmarthenshire.gov.wales

Cyngor **Sir Gâr**
Carmarthenshire
County Council



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The Sustainable Development Principle

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 states that, we must carry out sustainable development, improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The **sustainable development principle** is....

‘... the public body must act in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.’

To show that we have applied the sustainable development principle we must demonstrate.....

The 5 Ways of Working (see Appendix 1)

Long term



The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs.

Prevention



How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives.

Integration



Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies.

Collaboration



Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body to meet its well-being objectives.

Involvement



The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.

Contents

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The Purpose of this Plan

This Departmental Business Plan sets the strategic objectives for the services within this Department. In turn, the strategic objectives translate into service objectives and individual staff targets. It provides an open and transparent way of showing staff, customers, elected members and stakeholders what is to be achieved and how we plan to do this.

It shows how resources will be used to achieve objectives and the service implications of budgetary increases or reductions. It shows what we get for what we spend and if we are making the most of what we have. The plan also aims to demonstrate and provide assurance on service standards so that the service can be held to account.

Cabinet Member/s Foreword



Cllr Hazel Evans – Environment:
Refuse; Street Cleansing; Highways and Transport Services; Grounds Maintenance; Building Services (excluding housing stock); Emergency Planning; Flooding, Public Rights of Way, Council Business Manager.



Cllr David Jenkins – Resources:
Finance & Budget; Corporate Efficiencies; Property/Asset Management; Caretaking & Building Cleaning; Procurement; Housing Benefits; Revenues; Statutory Services; Armed Forces Champion, Contact Centres and Customer Service Centres; Planning



Cllr Phillips Hughes – Public Protection:
Trading Standards; Environmental Health. Environmental Enforcement; Planning enforcement; Unlicensed Waste; Parking Services; Bio diversity; Human Resources; Performance Management; Training



Cllr Ann Davies – Communities and Rural Affairs:
Rural Affairs and Community Engagement; Community Safety; Police; Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015; Tackling Poverty; Wellbeing of Future Generations; Third Sector Liaison; Equalities, Climate Change Strategy

1. Departmental Overview

Introduction by Director

Since the start of the pandemic, it has been an extremely challenging period for all of us, however we can be proud of what we've achieved as a department; we have worked as a team. We have responded well to the challenges presented and worked collaboratively with colleagues across the Authority to maintain essential services.

This year's business plan sets out how we aim to deliver the Authorities Well-Being Objectives within the Corporate Strategy and address the significant challenges facing both the Department and Corporately. The vision for 2022/23 is to capitalise on the latest Digital Innovation for Transformation and Modernisation.

There is an immediate need to address recovery priorities to support communities and businesses to recover and grow following the impacts of the Covid pandemic. Key actions to support recovery and grow the economy include how we address the provision of public realm, supporting development through the planning process and amending our delivery of services to capture elements of best practice and service improvements as a consequence of mitigations during the Covid lock down periods.

The biggest challenge facing the team will be delivering against the decarbonisation priorities. Many services in the Environment Department have direct impacts and influences on the decarbonisation agenda, and actions and strategies are actively being implemented and developed to ensure the target of Net Zero Carbon by 2030 is delivered.

The two significant contributory services which will impact on reducing our carbon footprint are household waste collections and our fleet strategy. Plans are already in place to increase our recycling and to develop circular economy solutions for waste materials. In addition to significant electric vehicle charging infrastructure that has already been installed this year's business plan includes proposals for fleet replacement in highways and waste with ultra-low emission vehicles. On top of this the green and blue infrastructure strategy is being developed and the Nature Partnership will continue to be a source of funding and innovation to increase tree planting and enhance and protect other important carbon sequestration habitats.

We will centre our service improvements around the needs of our residents and place them at the heart of our services. We will strengthen our engagement with residents and communities to provide clarity on service standards that will be provided and to assist communities in developing their own resilience.

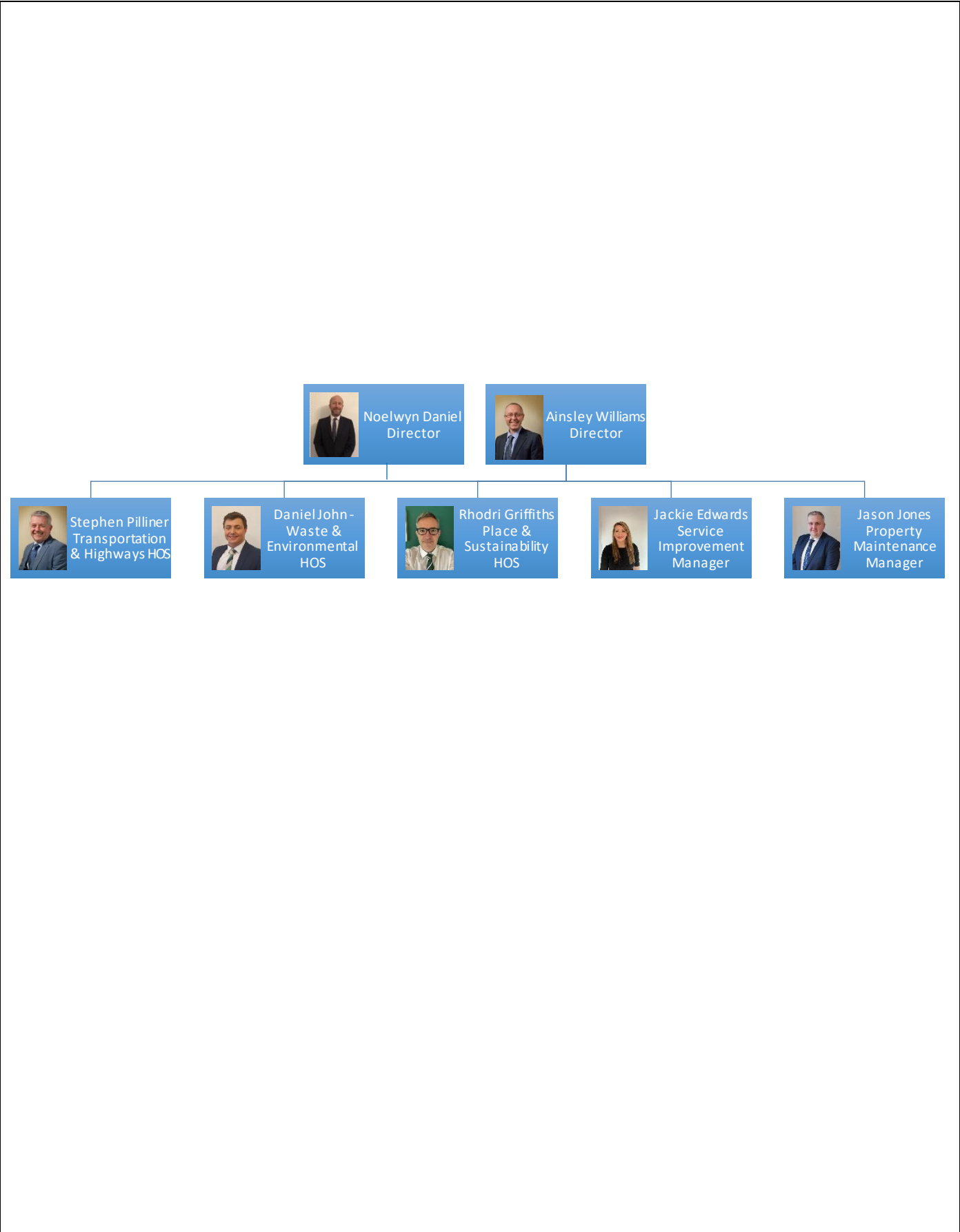
This Business Plan includes the main priorities for us as a department for 2022/23. We have aligned our actions/measures against the Well-Being Objectives and the Authorities Strategic Priorities and Challenges.

Each Division has their own detailed Divisional Business Plan which reflect this Departmental Plan and documents the actions relevant to their respective sections. These underpin the delivery of this Plan.



Noelwyn Daniel & Ainsley Williams

Department Structure



Departmental Risk Register

Reference incorporating CRR means the risk is on the Corporate Risk Register

Risk Ref or New?	Risk score after mitigation	All risks can be profiled in the Divisional Plan. In this departmental plan the Division should identify: 1. Any Risks that it has on the Corporate Risk Register 2. Significant Risks (scored 16+) 3. For Service High Risk (scored 12+), see Divisional Plan	Mitigating Action	Owner	Action Plan Reference (Divisional)
CRR190058	20	SAC Phosphate & NRW Interim Planning Advice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Triage applications with grant implications as a matter of urgency along with other applications with economic benefits to see whether they can be progressed Lobby and work with WG/NRW to get clarity around the scope of the requirements resulting from the Interim Advice to ensure that the authority can progress with determinations whilst still meeting its duties as a Competent authority in relation to the Habitat Regulations 	Rhodri Griffiths	MA1
CRR190047	25	Coronavirus – COVID19: Strategic Ability to deal with the social, economic and operational impacts of the COVID 19 outbreak on the Division, Department and County.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To work closely with Regional and Welsh Government partners, other Departments, and the Third Sector to implement contingency plans and measures to deal with the impact of the COVID 19 outbreak 	Director	MA2
CRR190050	20	Coronavirus – COVID19: Strategic Risk of contractor and suppliers failing to deliver projects/schemes. - contractors resources depleted - contract failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procurement processes to continue in selected areas – to ensure pipeline work Continue with high-risk work during lockdown 	Director	MA3

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - cost increases - sourcing materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Set up contracts for work ready for after lockdown 		
CRR190016	20	<p>Delivery of the Authority's Waste Management and Recycling Strategy to ensure that we meet our statutory recycling targets and wider obligations including improvements to the quality of recyclable materials to support circular economy principles and reduce carbon outputs in accordance with Welsh Government's Beyond Recycling national strategy.</p>	<p>Current recycling performance is expected to be at around 66% for the 20/21 financial year.</p> <p>The current statutory target is 64%, with the next specific statutory target being 70% by 24/25.</p> <p>The measures introduced since April 2019 have meant that we exceeded the 64% statutory target.</p> <p>Measures being considered to further increase our performance and meet the 70% target include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of infrastructure and wider initiatives to encourage more re-use and higher quality recycling products as a basis for stronger and ideally local circular economy, including closed loop recycling. We have been successful in our circular economy bids and have been awarded funding from Welsh Government to develop a suite of projects that will increase our reuse and recycling performance. • The introduction of a bespoke adult hygiene product and nappy collection service. This will decrease our black bag waste and increase recycling. • Continue to promote the kerbside garden waste collection service. Customer base increased about 50% during the 2020 season. 	Ainsley Williams	MA4

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review of our kerbside collection methodology with a view to potentially making changes to the method of collection and frequencies of collection. 		
CRR190064	16	Failure to address Significant performance issues in development management are undermining effective service delivery. (Significant backlog of undetermined planning applications, significant caseload in planning enforcement, timeliness of validation process, and lack of performance monitoring)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Planning Hwb to act as a single point of contact for Development Management and Enforcement queries. ▪ Develop, review and implement processes relating to the determination of planning applications. ▪ Develop, review and implement protocols and policies to ensure improved consistency and approach in determining planning applications. ▪ Develop a comprehensive suite of performance measures to ensure the Service can be held to account. ▪ Embed robust performance and case management within the Service to ensure effective performance management and improved performance. ▪ Review Scheme of Delegation and Planning Protocol and seek approval at CRWG/Full Council. ▪ To focus on positive recruitment and retention practices to motivate and sustain the workforce in order that we maintain a sufficient workforce and one that is equipped to perform their work requirements. ▪ Re-Design and develop a customer focused Planning section within the corporate website. 	Rhodri Griffiths	MA5
CRR190063	16	Failure in Determination of Major Planning Applications (Failure to determine major planning applications within timescale is adversely impacting on our ability as an	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishment of a dedicated team of Development Management staff to focus on 'Major Projects' that support the county's economic recovery plan outputs and aspirations. 	Rhodri Griffiths	MA6

		Authority to achieve our regeneration ambitions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establish a Corporate Major Projects Group comprising council officers representing the range of services involved in development proposals, e.g., Planning, Regeneration, Highways & Legal (but not limited to). Priority focus to be afforded to projects that deliver jobs and growth in support of the Council's economic recovery plan. This will be led by the Head of Regeneration. ▪ Protocol to be developed covering applications for major development projects (schemes above 10 residential units or 1,000 m² of commercial development) – setting out how we will engage with applicants / developers, with clarity and commitment on the process(es) we will adopt to provide a quality and efficient planning process. Protocol will include, and clearly articulate, the programme activities, timescales and responsibilities that will support CCC's protocol and commitment to determine major applications. ▪ Consideration to be given to whether a Planning Performance Agreement (PPA) should be entered into with applicants for major development projects. PPA would set out set out the scope and timetable for pre-application engagement and subsequent submission and determination of the planning application. Possible useful project management tool that would be bespoke to each development, requiring commitment from both parties – applicant and LPA. 		
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CRR190033	20	Flooding - Operational risk: The physical effects of more frequent and intense storm conditions that compromise and stretch our operational ability to respond to widespread and prolonged emergencies both in the immediate response phase and recovery phase of a flood event, whilst also maintaining normal services. This will also include the risk of managing the public's expectation as the Council cannot respond to all requests for help during storm conditions. Response is curtailed by the resources available and the priorities at the time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management of the response to a storm event in accordance with our strategic emergency plans, protocols and command structures. Available resources are prioritised according to strategic requirements. 	Ainsley Williams	MA7
CRR190032	20	Flooding - Strategic risk: The physical effects of more frequent and intense storm conditions that compromise homes, businesses, essential infrastructure, and services. This will also include the risk of managing the public's expectation that the Council can completely address, control, and mitigate all flood risks regardless of source or asset owner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flood Risk Strategy and FRMPs Community Plans in terms of self-help where practicable Continue to work with our professional partners (as a LLFA) S19 Reports and action plans Pro-active maintenance programme for flood assets Making more use of contemporary flood data and information from partner agencies SAB for future development and TAN 15 compliance Effective communication strategy WG grants are available to assist with funding of investigation work and capital works 	Ainsley Williams	MA8
CRR190029	20	Failure to deliver the Council's commitment to become a net zero carbon local by 2030.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council has adopted a realistic, pragmatic and achievable approach in its Net Zero Carbon Plan. 	Rhodri Griffiths	MA9
CRR190026	20	Ash die back and the risk to public safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Officers developing strategy for managing risk for ash die back for trees adjacent to the highway 	Rhodri Griffiths	MA10

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identification and consideration of risk where Ash trees are located on Council land ▪ Pilot survey proposed for Highways Inspectors to establish the extent of Ash tree adjacent to the highway ▪ Chainsaw training for Council operatives specific to Ash die back 		
CRR190057	12	Maintain and develop effective Planning Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local Development Plan (LDP) 	Rhodri Griffiths	MA11
CRR190065	12	Failure to determine or secure Extension of Time (EOT) for Planning applications which are outside the determination date) Current risk in relation to the repayment of the planning fee applicants where a planning application is over time (not been determined within the determination date) or has not been subject to an agreed EOT. As at 3/9/21 - 402 planning applications and fees of £593,000 at risk of repayment.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop, review, and implement processes relating to the timely determination of planning applications. ▪ Develop, review, and implement protocols and policies to ensure improved consistency and approach in determining planning applications, including the use of EOT. ▪ Standardise and ensure consistent use of EOT letters (where there may be delays in the timely determination of planning applications) including monitoring mechanisms and protocols for the identification of relevant applications. 	Rhodri Griffiths	MA12
CRR190062	15	Failure to implement Audit Wales Review Recommendations into the Authority's Planning Service. (17 recommendations have been made - key areas addressed specifically in risks CRR190063, CRR19064 and CRR19065.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intervention Board and Intervention Assurance Board setup to regularly monitor progress and review performance data via Arcus Global dashboards. ▪ Monthly Progress report presented to Preliminary Cabinet. ▪ Fortnightly meetings held with respective Cabinet portfolio Members to report on progress. ▪ Performance Report presented Quarterly to Planning Committee 	Rhodri Griffiths	MA13
CRR190025	25	Schools lack expertise and knowledge to manage property related risks and do not undertake routine property repair and maintenance using delegated funding or	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A corporate risk bid for a dedicated team to undertake a rolling programme of condition surveys of buildings and schools has been submitted and approved. Surveys to 	Jason Jones	MA14

		approve work that is identified non-compliant by Property Maintenance.	<p>commence once the recruitment exercise has been completed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding for 2 years has been established and arrangements are in place for the Handyvan Service for schools to be rolled out as soon as possible following a recruitment exercise. This should significantly reduce this risk once the service commences. 		
CRR190059	20	Meeting statutory planning delivery targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Planning Group 	Rhodri Griffiths	MA15
ENV -Dept COVID-3	20	Ability to source adequate staffing resources (e.g., cleaning, fleet, refuse, highways, and property maintenance emergencies) for the Department. Ageing workforce, lack of HGV drivers and retaining staff is a major concern and is impacting on the department's ability to deliver front line services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To work within the staffing resource supply chain, to implement contingency plans and measures to ensure the adequate supply of suitable qualified staffing resources for the Department to deal with operational changes as a result of skills shortage. 	Director	MA16
NEW		Insufficient resource to ensure contract monitoring and management is undertaken in a compliant way across all service areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide regular procurement reports to DMT. Significant procurement risks are still in place and additional departmental resource needs to be reconsidered 	Director	MA17
CRR 190068	25	Continued deterioration of highways infrastructure and assets. Failure to address maintenance backlog (£38 million), as a consequence of falling investment levels leading to high levels of demand. Increased level of claims.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage network in accordance with Highways Asset Management Plan adopting a risk-based approach in accordance with the National Code Continue to present the case for additional investment of capital, grant, and revenue. Improve information systems on vulnerable assets such as drainage. 	Director / Stephen Pilliner	MA18

Departmental 5 Ways of Working

1. Long Term	<i>The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long term needs</i>
<i>How good are we at this?</i>	Strong
Self-Assessment Review:	<p>We are addressing the short-term societal needs of today whilst planning for future needs and reconciling rising public expectations with the resources available.</p> <p>Our Net Zero Carbon Action Plan – will ensure the authority becomes NZ by 2030 and Wales by 2050</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have introduced LED lighting to reduce not just our carbon footprint. • We are developing Town Centre Active Travel Masterplans to encourage safe walking and cycling and working with schools to embed sustainable travel from an early age. • Our future waste strategy with the planned investment in ultra-low emissions vehicles fleet, increased quality recycling and in developing circular economy activities will deliver long term benefits. • We are supporting the transition towards electric vehicles <p>We will support the Economic Regeneration, through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintained highways, and transportation • our Local Development Plan – provides policies and proposals for the delivery of national and local objectives over a 15-year period. • timely determination of planning applications that will contribute to Economic Regeneration • delivering major infrastructure projects which support employment, new housing, and tackles congestion such as the Cross Hands Economic Link Road and major improvements at Junction 48 of the M4. Tywi Valley Path • fully participating in regional transport and planning initiatives to develop a regional transport plan <p>We have also worked through the covid pandemic to ensure public transport services continued to provide a lifeline to communities through the Bus Emergency Scheme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We utilise our Flood Risk Management Plan to ensure that our communities are greatest risk are prioritised. A new Flood Risk Management Plan will be developed in 2022/23, this will set our priorities for the next 6-years (2023-2029). • We have a 3-year plan to maintain and enhance bio diversity and a strategy to green our towns. • Our building cleaning Service stepped up to meet the needs of Covid.
Planned Improvement for 22/23 - we will: (link to action plan)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are planning the introduction of electric buses for the T1 service in partnership with Welsh Government which will include a new bus depot at Nant Y Ci. • The further roll-out of electrical vehicle charging points. • Waste and Environmental Services will be rolling out separate collection of glass and restricted three weekly residual waste collections alongside weekly dry mixed recycling collections in Autumn 2022. • We will continue to develop our ability and knowledge pertaining to flood risk, including those communities and assets at greatest risk and what can be done to manage those risks.
2. Prevention	<i>How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives</i>
<i>How good are we at this?</i>	Strong
Self-Assessment Review:	<p>The Environment Department places a strong emphasis on Regeneration and sustainable development in its service planning, engineering, and educational initiatives. For example: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support of bus services, particularly in rural areas which provide a lifeline to many and prevent social isolation. • Prevented network disruption during adverse weather events through proactive highway drainage investigation, geotechnical assessments of supporting embankments and video surveys during storm events to identify and repair problem areas. • Delivered road safety education targeting road users from an early age through to the more senior travellers to prevent accidents and encourage safe travel.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivered major highway improvement schemes which prevent traffic congestion, air pollution and consequent carbon emissions. Delivered area-wide road safety projects to encourage safe walking and cycling and prevent accidents. We are replacing life-expired steel lighting columns which present a risk of collapse. Our future waste strategy and our circular economy ambitions are at the core centred on the prevention of valuable resources being disposed of and lost from circular economy. Our waste awareness and door-stepping campaigns are targeted directly at householders. This approach enables us to understand the barriers to recycling and how to improve performance We have been working across Wales on an initiative to reduce litter and waste by working to inspire the public to act and take care of the environment preventing environmental harm and blight. We will ensure that all new development, where applicable, have modern, sustainable drainage systems to manage flood risk but also help manage water quality and provide amenity and biodiversity value.
Planned Improvement for 22/23 – we will: (link to action plan)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Road Safety Team will deliver a more focused programme of road safety educational training in target areas in support of developing School Travel Plans and to reinforce area-wide road safety zones. Funding bids will also be submitted to enable the continuation of the resilient roads programme and road refurbishment programmes to prevent the further deterioration of the highway network. Work will also continue pro-active highway drainage surveys to prevent carriageway flooding and geotechnical assessments to prevent highways collapsing. Several strategic road junction improvements will be brought forward by our Engineering Design Team in the Llanelli area to prevent congestion on key routes.
3. Integration	<i>Considering how well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies</i>
<i>How good are we at this?</i>	Strong
Self-Assessment Review:	<p>The department supports starting, living, and ageing well in a healthy, safe and prosperous environment. For example:</p> <p>Start Well</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Home to school transport enable pupils to access education and get a good start in life. Road safety education provides life skills in safe walking and cycling and Safe Routes to Schools initiatives deliver the safe paths to take. <p>Live Well</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our Highways and Planning Services support the economy and regeneration. We work with Natural Resources Wales to manage flood risk across the county and share best practice and respond to adverse weather events. Our passenger transport Team help provide longer-distance access for those without a car who nevertheless need to access shops, healthcare, and services. This helps reduce isolation and the impact of poverty. We provide financial support to Shop Mobility in Carmarthen and Llanelli to encourage access for those with mobility impairments. Our Waste Services work on preventing, reducing, re-using, and recycling and collecting residual waste and supporting the circular economy. Our Building Cleaning Service has stepped up to respond to the COVID 19 Pandemic. <p>Age Well</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We currently provide an assisted lift collection service supporting the residents that have difficulty in placing waste out for collection. This service integrates with our social care objectives of supporting the elderly and infirm in their own homes. <p>In a Healthy, Safe and Prosperous Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We lead on the Council's Net Zero Carbon commitment and Air Quality. We lead on road safety and public lighting Our Planning Service supports economic regeneration We lead on biodiversity and tackling Ash die back Flood mitigation

Planned Improvement for 22/23 - we will: (link to action plan)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing a Community Transport Strategy which will need to integrate with service providers and key destinations and services being accessed. Developing Strategy and Fleet Replacement Programme which supports client department requirements and transitions to ULEV. Planning the implementation of the national 20mph speed limit legislation Regional Metro, Regional Transport Planning
4. Collaboration	<i>Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body meet its well-being objectives</i>
<i>How good are we at this?</i>	Strong
Self-Assessment Review:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are working with regional partners, Wales Government and Transport for Wales to develop the Swansea Bay and South West Wales regional Metro, regional transport planning and the establishment of Corporate Joint Committees in early 2022. Our Public Rights of Way Team regularly liaise with landowners, special interest groups, Brecon Beacons National Park, solicitors and developers, volunteer groups, the Local Access Forum, Welsh Government, neighbouring authorities. Passenger Transport work closely with the passenger transport sector to negotiate and balance home to school transport and rural public transport with the capacity in the sector to provide vehicles and drivers. Dyfed Powys Local Resilience Forum In order to deliver maximum benefit from our waste service we have been working in collaboration local stakeholders to develop potential future opportunities. As part of our service delivery, we engage and work alongside social needs organisations in the community to fully develop this strategy and action plan for a future coordinated approach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our Walk the global walk has been recognised as a leading Cop26 project We work with Schools to deliver Service Level Agreement for Cleaning Services.
Planned Improvement for 22/23 - we will: (link to action plan)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The introduction of 20mph speed limits as the national default will require very extensive collaborative works which is likely to involve every elected member and every town and community council in Carmarthenshire. Development of the HAMP Maintenance Manual will include a move towards an all-Wales approach and in 2022/23 we will be implementing a new safety policy. We will also be reviewing and revising our Winter Service Plans which involves Trunk Road and neighbouring authority collaboration and external service providers. In addition, the Highways Team will also be developing a new approach to gulley cleaning and road sweeping management and drafting an Adverse Weather Plan where emergency responses are coordinated with partner organisations.
5. Involvement	<i>Importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area</i>
<i>How good are we at this?</i>	Strong
Self-Assessment Review:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We involve local communities and engage with members of the public for Traffic Regulation Orders which change speed limits, alter parking provision or traffic management is a statutory duty which we undertake and manage on a significant scale. We work with volunteer groups on issues such as the maintenance of Public Rights of Way in conjunction with Ramblers 'Paths to Wellbeing' officers were initiated We also promote School Travel Plans in our schools to involve pupils in participating and encouraging health travel patterns and our Road Safety Teams reinforce this with kerb craft and cycle training. We delivered a series of workshops for local communities and businesses to share their ideas and aspirations on the circular economy and addressed how we as a Council can support their aims. We involved over 100 people who were representing various community groups and local businesses. During this year we undertook an engagement programme involving the public in shaping our future waste service. This process had over 4,000 responses on proposals for future development of the waste service, the highest response of any Council consultation and delivered a very positive response to our proposals.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have established a schools climate action consultation group and a 'Walk the global Walk' programme and are implementing the 8-point Climate Manifesto developed by Carmarthenshire pupils.
Planned Improvement for 22/23 - we will: (link to action plan)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our PROW Team manage a over 2000km of paths, byways, and bridleways and to increase our effectiveness we are actively developing our links with the voluntary sector to encourage and enable people to help us manage and maintain this network. Working with Wales Ramblers we are developing training packages and participation opportunities for involvement in a safe and constructive manner. • We are looking at expanding our School Travel Plan work with additional resource support for Plan development and training to enable our younger road users to walk and cycle in a sustainable way. • We will discuss flood risk management with those communities at greatest risk and those communities where we would like to develop Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management interventions.

2. Strategic Context

Overarching Strategic Priorities

The picture for public services is at an even more critical point now to compare to their pre pandemic position. It will be even more challenging for you to think future generations as opposed to immediate crisis, but prevention is key so in years to come our business planning and as such our investment programme will be one of no regrets.

Ref No :	Strategic Priorities
SP1	Economic Recovery
SP2	Net-Zero Carbon Authority by 2030
SP3	Economic Pressures / Crisis

Our regulators and citizens are looking to local government and other public sector partners to transform and innovate our way through the forthcoming years. As hard as the last 19 months have been, we also need to learn from the experience and not allow us to revert to the norm because the 'norm' is more comfortable and safe i.e., we need to challenge the status quo, it's now or never.

We have some key challenges to address:

Ref No:	Strategic Challenges
SC1	Workforce plan which should include helping our workforce recover, skill gaps (in new post Covid world) and plan for growth
SC2	Legacy cost (human and financial) of the pandemic and how you manage long term impact
SC3	New approaches to service delivery and harnessing technology
SC4	Collaboration – only where it works and proves to deliver

Regional Corporate Joint Committees

The establishment of the new South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee (CJCs) will see certain functions relating to regional transport policy, strategic planning and economic well-being transferring to work on a regional footprint (Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire, Neath Port Talbot, and Swansea). The proposed CJCs are currently confirming working arrangements and future work programmes. Our department will fully contribute towards this development and future on-going work.

Recovery Planning and Preparedness

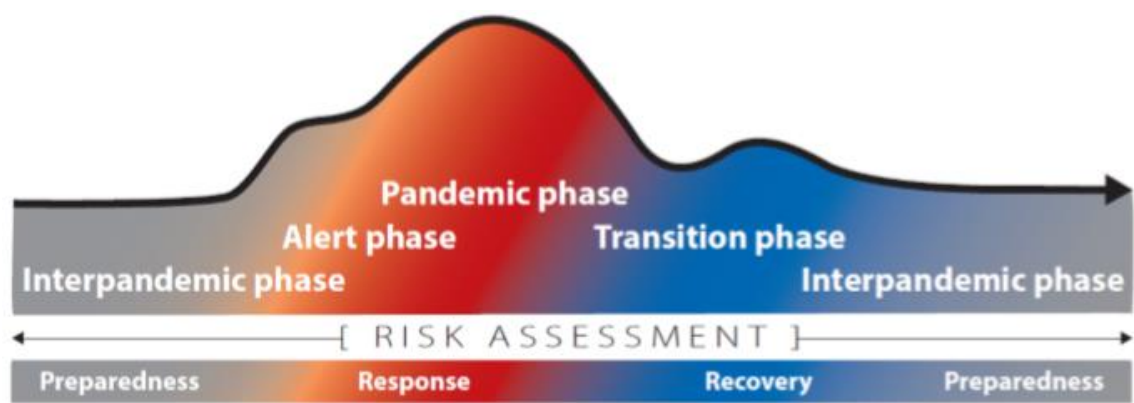
Since the start of the pandemic, COVID-19 has changed our ways of working and indeed the world as we know it.

Whilst it has been challenging and let's not forget it still remains extremely tough, especially within certain services, we have learnt to adapt well to our new working arrangements and thanks to a huge effort from everyone we have continued to deliver our services, albeit in a different way in some cases.

We are now in a position where we need to learn how to work alongside the virus. It hasn't gone away and whilst we've all worked so well to provide services to the residents of Carmarthenshire, some of which may have been compromised by Covid, we now need to accept that this is our new normal and we need to move forward, further strengthen our approach and the new ways of working.

As a Council we have some key challenges ahead as we look at how we recover from Covid. Our business planning will be key to this, with priority areas such as our recovery plan and what new approaches we can bring to our services as well as looking at the technology available to us. We need to take what we have learnt over the pandemic and challenge what is already in place, but we also need to be innovative.

The World Health Organisation Pandemic advice is be prepared.



2.1 National Well-being Goals

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, provides a shared vision for all public bodies to work towards. See **Appendix 1** for an ABC guide to the Act. Our well-being objectives are designed to maximise our contribution to the national shared vision goals (Appendix 1b).

2.2 Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

The new duties of this Act apply to the self-assessment of 2021/22 – see **Appendix 2**

2.3 The Council's Corporate Strategy 2018-23 (incorporating Our Well-being Objectives 2021/22)

- Transportation and Highways – T&H
- Waste & Environmental – WES
- Place & Sustainability – P&S
- Property Maintenance – PM
- Service Development, Support & Cleaning Services - SSC

Well- Being Objective	T&H	WES	P&S	PM	SSC
Start Well					
1. Help to give every child the best start in life and improve their early life experiences					
2. Help children live healthy lifestyles	C				
3. Support and improve progress, achievement, and outcomes for all learner					
Live Well					
4. Tackle poverty by doing all we can to prevent it, helping people into work and improving the lives of those living in poverty					
5. Create more jobs and growth throughout the county			L		
6. Increase the availability of rented and affordable homes					
7. Help people live healthy lives (tackling risky behaviour and obesity)	C				
8. Support community cohesion, resilience & safety	L	L			
Age Well					
9. Support older people to age well and maintain dignity and independence in their later years					
In a Healthy and Safe Environment					
10. Look after the environment now and for the future	L	L	L		
11. Improve the highway and transport infrastructure and connectivity	L				
12. Promote Welsh Language and Culture					
In addition a Corporate Objective					
13. Better Governance and Use of Resources	L			L	L

Key: L – Lead C - Contributing
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3. Department Profile

Our department provides customer facing front line services whilst also playing a key strategic role in delivering corporate priorities.

Transportation & Highways Division

Head of Service: Stephen Pilliner

No. of Staff: 421

The Division plays a key role in supporting national, regional, and corporate strategies and plans. Our highway and transportation networks underpin the economy of Carmarthenshire, facilitating access to employment and learning opportunities, social connections, active travel and delivering services that touch every home every day.

Our division consists of the following:

- A. Countryside Access
- B. Engineering Design
- C. Fleet Services
- D. Highways Asset Management
- E. Highway Maintenance
- F. Parking Services
- G. Passenger Transport
- H. Property Design
- I. Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Development
- J. Street Lighting
- K. Street Works and Highway Adoptions
- L. Traffic Management and Road Safety

Waste & Environmental Division

Head of Service: Daniel John

No. of Staff: 227

The Division's core functions are of delivering key infrastructure services and infrastructure asset provision and management, adopting the ethos of maintaining, enhancing, and protecting the local environment and its quality for Carmarthenshire residents, businesses, and visitors to the County.

The Division delivers operational and strategic functions to achieve the overarching objectives of the Council both departmentally and corporately.

Our division consists of the following:

- Waste management.
- Environmental enforcement.
- Street cleansing and litter management.
- Grounds maintenance.
- Municipal services.
- Flood risk management.
- Coastal adaption.
- Civil contingency and emergency planning functions.

Place & Sustainability Division
Head of Service: Rhodri Griffiths
No. of Staff: 88

The Division leads on an expansive remit that includes supporting regeneration priorities, delivery of the net zero carbon agenda, sustainable development and planning, public health and enforcement and supports a better quality of life for our communities.

Our division consists of the following:

- Development Management & Built Heritage
- Building Control
- Rural Conservation
- Forward Planning
- Minerals and Waste
- Sustainable Development
- Information Management

Property Maintenance
Service Manager: Jason Jones
No. of Staff: 58

The Division's core functions are ensuring that our property assets are properly maintained, managed, improved, and adapted in accordance with current statutory requirements. The unit also undertakes procurement and project management of all cyclical, planned maintenance works for housing and non-housing properties, including responsive maintenance for non-housing properties

Our division consists of the following:

- Compliance
- Maintenance
- Minor Works
- Contracts & Performance

Service Development, Support and Cleaning Services
Service Manager: Jackie Edwards
No. of Staff: 635

The Division's core functions range from playing a key supporting role in all divisions above to enable their service delivery whilst enhancing the customer experience and supporting the financial elements of service delivery. We also play a key role in developing and implementing service improvements, managing data and the performance management of the department. We also manage the cleaning service with over 650 staff, which is a service that continues to be under significant pressures due to the pandemic.

Our division consists of the following:

- Cleaning Services
- Management Information & Planning
- Fleet & Transport
- Property
- Highways & Waste
- Operational Training
- Systems Development
- Management Support

3a. Departmental Self-Assessment

We have during 21/22 prepared and delivered 13 contracts and frameworks such as the regional asbestos framework, corporate cleaning materials, PPE, and workwear. We will be reviewing SLA's and Procurement Frameworks within the department to improve performance and contract management. A corporate register of all frameworks would be beneficial to allow us to utilise current framework for supply of goods or services, this will save duplication of frameworks within the authority and time. Reviewing our SLA's will allow us to reflect customer expectations. Our Transportation & Highways division played a leading role to support businesses with a range of practical measures to enable them to reopen and trade safely with the implementation of Public Realm measures. This included reallocating on-street parking areas, pedestrianizing streets, introducing an Access Only restriction and the introduction of area wide 20mph limits to create safer town centre streets.

Our department has a significant impact on all households and residents of Carmarthenshire. Our waste service has 1.5 million contacts over a period of 12 months. Our property maintenance service deal with over 70,000 service requests per annum.

Our Property Design unit continues to deliver upon the targets of the 21st Century Schools (MEP) and Affordable Housing programmes. Recent delivered projects include Ysgol Maes Y Gwendraeth, New Welsh Immersion Centre, Construction of a new 2 storey building at Maes Y Gwendraeth School and 8 x 2 bed houses at Maespiode Llandybie. Alongside a key cluster of Leisure and Physical Regeneration projects, such as Abergwili Museum Renovation Works and Glanamman Workshops. The unit has also been instrumental in the appointment of both contractor and consultant for the first phase of Pentre Awel.

We are also leading on a new strategy identifying existing green and blue infrastructure in Carmarthenshire, the challenges each town faces and the opportunities to improve the network around them. Green and blue infrastructure provides a range of benefits which are important to people and the wider communities they live in. The infrastructure is an important tool to boost local economies and a town's tourism potential.

We have launched a new campaign Prosiect Zero Sir Gâr to coincide with COP26 – a global summit for climate action – which shines a spotlight on efforts being made to become carbon neutral. We have also delivered a new electric vehicle charging hub, a first of its kind in Wales, in Cross Hands. Investing in infrastructure to support sustainable travel is just one of the initiatives the council has underway to support its efforts to tackle climate change. We have installed Bike Hire Docks in Carmarthen Bus Station to support more sustainable travel. We have installed eight eBike charging locations across the county together with secure bike storage. These are some of the highlights of what we are doing as we work towards becoming a net zero carbon authority by 2030. We hope to build on our work to date by introducing electric buses on the Traws Cymru Carmarthen to Aberystwyth bus route.

Our Tywi Valley Path project has been given a £16.7million cash boost as part of the UK Government's new Levelling Up fund. Already well underway, the Tywi Valley Path aims to attract visitors from all over the UK and beyond with the potential to generate around £4.5million a year for the local economy, creating jobs in local businesses through enhanced visitor attraction and spend. This project has the potential to bring environmental benefits by encouraging people to travel by bike or on foot for local and longer distance journeys, providing more opportunities for active travel as well as contributing to local and national carbon reduction and air quality targets. The path links to key employment, education, leisure, health, cultural and retail sites across the beautiful Tywi Valley and will provide opportunities for business development, growth and agricultural diversification through enhanced visitor spend in the area.

A new shop selling recycled repaired and re-used items donated by the public will open its doors in Llanelli Town Centre this week as part of a joint project between Carmarthenshire County Council and CWM Environmental Ltd following Welsh Government Circular Economy funding. The Stepney Street store, Eto, will be stacked with a wide range of goods that were destined for the tip before being brought back to life through the county's Recycling Centre's Donation Stations. The project is part of a wider joint initiative Canolfan Eto and will help close the loop on waste by helping people reuse, repurpose, and refurbish items that would otherwise have been thrown away. The final

further phase is the development of a re-use village in Nantycaws, Carmarthen and is due to open later this year. It will provide a unique sustainable shopping experience bringing life to a range of used items including furniture, bicycles, small electricals, paint and much more. An education centre, café and toilets are also planned for the site.

As a department, we continue to develop digital ways of working to enable us to work more efficiently and improve the customer experience. We have implemented a new customer interface within Transportation and Highways to capture highway defects. This has improved customer experience, increased reporting data and allows us to move towards digital issuing of work and reporting internally with the operatives as it allows us to fully integrate with mobile working with the introduction of tablets to the workforce. We have installed electronic payment facilities in our car parks to allow us to move towards digital payments and will implement a payment app facility in 22/23. We are exploring options such as remote monitoring of litter bins to allow us to work smarter and prioritise work with this key data.

There has been significant improvement on the determination of planning applications and the determination of major projects that has led to several hundred full and part time posts being created over the last 12 months.

We have led on the response to the issues associated with Phosphates in protected Rivers across protected issues in Wales. We are preparing the first Phosphate calculator in Wales and mitigation guidance for use in submitting planning applications. On publication this will be the only calculator in Wales, and we will continue to work with other local authorities and partners on its wider availability and use.

Our department contributes to the overall success of the Senedd elections 21/22 with infrastructure and logistics, PPE, verification, cleaning and will continue with the forthcoming elections.

We are aware that we do have disparity within the department when it comes to IT devices issued to staff. Our operational workforce is not provided with devices on employment, currently. This has restricted the department in many ways. However, we aim to change this in a phased approach to allow us to have an inclusive workforce, where all staff can access all communication channels, training opportunities, online HR resources and enable us to implement digital processes across our operational units. Our phased implementation has begun with cleaning services staff receiving mobile devices and training which will allow us to communicate with them electronically which allows instant messages and updates, online training, digital HR processes which will create a more efficient workforce and management processes. This will be our priority and the model for all our operational workforce moving forward. This will be key to improving relations with the senior management and the operational workforce. Carmarthenshire PSB is making arrangements to establish a multi-agency agile working hub across the county. The first of these will be piloted at Llandeilo Municipal Building and Llandeilo Fire Station. The pilot will test the concept with a view to rolling out other multi-agency hubs across the county with a focus on agile working areas, customer facing services and touch-down areas for outreach workers.

Development of our web content is key for our department moving forward. Our aim is improving the information available and to develop further web forms which integrate with back-office systems to eradicate the need for manual input and paper applications. We aim to add electronic payments to as many of our application processes and an end-to-end process where the customer receives updates on their enquiry/order/report as it progresses. We have identified some areas of web development that will be key to improving customer satisfaction and reducing failure demand such as planning applications. This will be scheduled into our forward work plan for 22/23. We have been working with Marketing and Media to improve our web and social media updates. We have made progress with improving the web content, however, there remains a lot of content to improve. We have supported the team in trialling new ways of working through the new HWRC booking system and developing the one point of contact approach. We will also collaborate on behavioural changes campaigns to aid litter and fly tipping campaigns.

We will improve engagement with our residents, customers, and members to shape our service delivery. Feedback on our services is invaluable to gain an understanding of what is working well and not so well for our customers. Waste & Environmental have consulted with the residents on the Waste Strategy and received the highest response rate compared to previous years. This has ensured that the resident's feedback from the consultation contributes to the development of the strategy. We will improve promotion of projects being delivered within the department, from new road schemes, active travel schemes to new Net Zero Carbon projects. We have seen the

benefit of communicating disruption to the road network in advance for residents via the authority's social media platform and will utilise this to better inform residents of developments and disruption to services which will reduce calls/emails demands on the services. To improve engagement with our residents we are looking to develop interactive web content that will allow customers to feedback on future plans that will impact on the county e.g., active travel schemes.

We have successfully implemented a HWB within Place & Sustainability to support the Development Management and Enforcement Officers. This has been critical intervention and has allowed us to see significant turnaround in the performance of the officers. We will explore the scaling up of the HWB on a departmental basis to enable us to minimize the distribution of customer and member contact on technical officers to allow greater performance and service delivery.

We have been working to complete Audit Wales actions within Place & Sustainability and Waste & Environmental Services. This has been a positive exercise with the improvements identified already being embedded within the services.

We have dealt with 5 storms during 21/22 which included one which requires a Section 19 investigation. Weather has a great impact on our department and our workforce is extremely responsive and efficient in dealing with emergency situations. However, we will develop a better understanding of the communities and assets at risk from climate change and coastal erosion and the adaption options that could be implemented to manage the risks. We will also improve inter departmental collaboration and improve resilience for the potential of prolonged emergency situations.

We have been successful in securing funding for electric charging infrastructure, road safety education programme, flood risk management projects and to develop our circular economy ambitions. Our project delivery programme is defined by grant funding secured. Our department has benefitted from the levelling up grant from UK Government.

We have been supporting education to procure 'period poverty' items for distribution. We have seen the benefits of greater collaboration across departments with the major planning applications which as a key role in economic regeneration. The collaboration between us and Education has been pivotal for Cleaning Service and Property Services in relation to Covid, PPE and Maintenance. We have had cross departmental collaboration in terms of providing support of essential roles during time of staff absences. We will expand on greater collaboration to enable sharing of skill sets to deliver on corporate strategies to improve resilience further across the organisation.

The department has been key to supporting the delivery of corporate priorities such as Economic Regeneration, Flood response, Net Zero Carbon etc with specialist knowledge and skills within our teams being used to push these agendas forward. However, we will need to address capacity and resilience in some areas this will be progressed through a development of a skills gap analysis to inform improvements in staff development, recruitment, and retention.

3b. Improvement Priorities

We will work with our corporate colleagues to strengthen and improve our departmental foundations enabling us to deliver better services to the residents of Carmarthenshire.

Ref	Key Priorities	By When?	By Whom?	WBO Ref
SI1	Consider how we are set up as a department. Are there better synergies of services within and across other departments? Allow collaborative working across structures and reduce duplication. Consider working patterns for all groups of staff e.g., operatives, supervisors and managers; Consider the potential for multi-functional workforce not necessarily confined to specific work types.	June 2022	Director	WBO13-A
SI2	Review the interaction and service provision with respect to Corporate Procurement Unit and the Departmental Procurement Unit. More emphasis needed on performance and contract management.	Sept 2022	Director	WBO13-B6,B7
SI3	Review and evaluation of suitable technology and software, to aid efficient operational delivery and provide links with management systems that will avoid duplication and allow easy extraction of management and performance data, access to real time data for customers and improve mobile working opportunities.	Sept 2022	Director	WB013-A,B6
SI4	Review current communication channels and identify improvements to enable timely and effective two-way communication with all colleagues across the Directorate. To include specific solutions to address difficulties with communicating with non-office based and part-time colleagues.	Dec 2022	Director	WBO13-A,B6
SI5	Review managerial, supervisory, and operational resource levels and skills to allow sufficient resilience. Ensure skills and competencies match the service delivery and response expectations and include support for change management and staff wellbeing. Response to emergency project work and sufficient resource to ensure longer term delivery.	Mar 2023	Director	WB013-B5,B6

4. Department Action Plan

Division Key:

P&S – Place and Sustainability, **T&H** –Transportation and Highways, **WES** – Waste and Environmental Services, **PM** – Property Maintenance, **SSC** – Service Development, Support and Cleaning Services

Target Dates for individual actions are March 2023, unless specified.

Well-being Objective 5: Live Well - Create more jobs and growth throughout the county								
Dept Ref No	Outcome	Action/Measure	By When or EOY Target?	Division	Responsible Officer	Scrutiny	WBO Ref / Key Theme	SP/SC
E1	Support the delivery of the Councils Strategic Economic Objectives by the determination of major planning applications within agreed timescales.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement discretionary pre-application service (Sept 22) <i>Percentage of "major" applications determined within time periods required. (80%)</i> <i>Average time taken to determine "major" applications in days. (84 days)</i> <i>Statutory pre-application response within the time period required (21 days) (85%)</i> 	March 2023	P&S	Hugh Towns	C&R	WBO-05	SP1
E2	Review procurement frameworks and arrangements to encourage local supply chains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with corporate procurement to identify how we can capitalise on local procurement activities to provide objective criteria to support local companies for all procurement activities e.g., zero carbon, in terms of public contract regulations. 	March 2023	PM	Noelwyn Daniel & Ainsley Williams	EPP	WBO5	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve procurement practices to enable us to deliver our 3-year property maintenance programme Improve access to local companies 						
E3	Waste service strategy creating jobs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 47 additional staff will be employed to support delivery of the waste service 	March 2023	WES	Dan John	EPP	WBO5	

Well-being Objective 8 Live Well - Support community cohesion, resilience & safety

Dept Ref No	Outcome	Action/Measure	By When or EOY Target?	Division	Responsible Officer	Scrutiny	WBO Ref / Key Theme	SP/SC
E4	Improve road safety to facilitate safe active travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Welsh Government to ensure that the Authority implements planned 20mph national legislation changes relating to restricted road status (April 2022) Form a project team to take forward initiative (subject to Welsh Government funding) (July 2022) Develop a 20mph Implementation Project Plan with suitable milestones and resource requirements (Dec 2022) 	March 2024	T&H	Mike Jacob	EPP	WBO8	
E5	Promote road safety training and campaigns to encourage safe active travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Deliver kerb craft initiatives to 950 pupils</i> <i>Deliver cycling courses to 600 pupils</i> <i>Deliver 20 initiatives outside schools for road safety awareness</i> <i>Deliver 70 Bikerdown training with partners</i> <i>Deliver 43 DragonRider training with partners</i> <i>Deliver 25 Passplus training with partners</i> 	March 2023	T&H	Mike Jacob	EPP	WBO8 (Contributes to WBO2)	
E6	Renew the current public space protection order (PSPO) to encourage responsible dog	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statutory consultation (April 2022) Undertake robust enforcement of litter infractions 	March 2023	WES	Michael Roberts	EPP	WBO8	

	ownership and to ensure that shared spaces are usable and accessible for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake robust enforcement activities for Fly-tipping 						
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Well-being Objective 10 In A Healthy, Safe & Prosperous Environment - Look after the environment now and for the future								
Dept Ref No	Outcome	Action/Measure	By When or EOY Target?	Division	Responsible Officer	Scrutiny	WBO Ref / Key Theme	SP/SC
E7	Improve Public access to the Countryside to support well-being and greater awareness of our natural habitats and manage the risk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure CAMS system is developed for mobile reporting and train 30 volunteers. (April 22) Develop a bridge survey plan based on network hierarchy and resources. (June 22) Undertake bridge surveys on a scheduled rolling programme in accordance with hierarchy and risk. Submit a bid for funding remedial works to bridges. Develop and implement robust forward works programme for bridge surveys and PROW maintenance and improvement. This will prioritise which capital works programme and project to deliver annually. Produce landowner guide which will set out PROW rights of access and landowner responsibilities with the intention of preventing issues occurring on the PROW network such as through obstruction and encroaching vegetation. 	March 2023	T&H	Caroline Ferguson & Alan Warner	EPP	WBO10-A	
	Continually review and amend design specifications and briefs to reflect new technologies and energy efficient equipment. Align with non-domestic building KPIs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess new build projects at concept stage to identify carbon implications Review cost implications and develop options to mitigate any cost pressures 	March 2023	T&H	Andrew Tidy	EPP	WBO10-C (Contributes to WBO2)	SP2

	set out in corporate NZC Action Plan.							
E9	The development of a strategic regional Eco- Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The development of a strategic regional Eco- Park on a phased basis with focus on renewable energy production, waste management, and resource efficiency, ULEV charging facilities, coupled with industrial space for the manufacturing, processing and service industry base. Install additional renewable energy production capacity by March 2024 Redevelop new waste sorting infrastructure by Sept 2023 Install 3 x ULEV points for public use by August 2022 	March 2023	WES	Dan John	EPP	WBO10	SP2
E10	Ensure that new buildings, conversions, renovations, and extensions, whether domestic or commercial are going to be safe, healthy, and high performing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>70% of Building Control Recommendations Made and Contact with Appl/Agent within 21 days.</i> <i>70% of Building Control decisions taken within 6 weeks</i> 	March 2023	P&S	Steven Pound	C&R	WBO10-B	
E11	To ensure delivery of the Council's S.6 Biodiversity Duty to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote ecosystem resilience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of Planning Ecology responses made to planning consultations within 21 days, Target 100% To engage and support officers who are delivering actions and report on the delivery of the Environment Act Forward Plan. (June & December 2022) We will expand this successful approach and use S106 agreements and developer contribution to deliver other necessary biodiversity benefits where this is appropriate. (September 2022 & March 2023) Advise and shape CCC's response to the Nature Emergency declare by WG in June 2022 	March 2023	P&S	Rosie Carmichael	EPP	WBO10-B	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The adoption of CCC's Strategic Plan for Managing Land for Pollinators, will be progressed with a pilot being run over several sites in 22/23 in collaboration with Grounds Maintenance (Sept 2022) • Facilitate delivery of WG's Local Places for Nature capital stream. (Sept 2022) 						
E12	To implement the adopted LDP and monitor its success or otherwise against its identified delivery measures ensuring policies, procedures and practices are being adhered to.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare Annual Monitoring Reports for submission to WG - reporting against the LDPs monitoring and Implementation framework. • Update the Carmarthen West Masterplan and adopt as Supplementary Planning Guidance to inform strategic site delivery. • We monitor annually Employment Land take up and premises occupancy. • Undertake Town Centre Audits monitoring activity and vacancy rates in town centres (Bi-annually). • Produce the Regional Waste Monitoring Report through grant award from the Welsh Government. 	March 2023	P&S	Ian Llewellyn	C&R	WBO10-B	SP1
E13	Production and adoption of the Revised Local Development Plan in accordance with the Delivery Agreement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare the statutory Revised Local Development and supporting documents and evidence through to examination and adoption. (December 2024) • Produce a Revised Delivery Agreement and Community Engagement Strategy. (Sep 2022 & March 2023) • Prepare a Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy (phase 1) • Implement the Carmarthen and Ammanford Town Centre Local Development Order's. • Prepare and adopt the Cross Hands East Strategic Employment Site LDO. 	December 2024	P&S	Ian Llewellyn	C&R	WBO10-B	SP1

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To review and revise the Llanelli Town Centre LDO to align with Town Centre Recovery Plan. Produce Phosphate calculator and mitigation guidance. Establish a Nutrient Management Board for the Afon Tywi (and become members of the Afon Teifi, Wye and Cleddau Boards) including Governance arrangement and establishing supporting technical and reporting structures as part of the preparation of future Nutrient Management Plans. 						
E14	Deliver the Action Plan in response to the recommendations of the Audit Wales Office report into delivery of the Planning Service to provide an efficient and effective service for the customer.	<u>Action Plan</u>	April 2022	P&S	Rhodri Griffiths	C&R	WBO10-B	
E15	Ensure determination of all Planning Applications within agreed Welsh Government timescales.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Percentage of all applications determined within time periods required – PAM/0018 (85%)</i> <i>Percentage of planning appeals dismissed – PAM/019 (70%)</i> <i>Determination of householder applications within 8 weeks or EOT agreed (90%)</i> <i>Minor applications determined within 8 weeks or within EOT agreed (80%)</i> <i>EIA applications determined within 16 weeks or within EOT agreed (80%)</i> <i>Applications Validated within 5 days, following payment (100%)</i> 	March 2023	P&S	Hugh Towns	C&R	WBO10-B	SP1
E16	To monitor and remedy undesirable effects of unauthorised developments to protect the environment and public amenity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Percentage of enforcement cases investigated within 84 days. (80%)</i> <i>Average time taken to take positive enforcement action (100 days)</i> 	March 2023	P&S	Hugh Towns	EPP	WBO10-B	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Triage Enforcement complaint within 5 working days of receipt (100%) • Implementation of Enforcement Statement (June 22) 						
E17	Ensure Council contingency activity to discharge duties under the Civil Contingencies Act (2002), ensuring our corporate preparedness to deal with emergencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To work with partner agencies in the Dyfed Powys Local Resilience Forum (LRF) to assess the risk of emergencies, by delivery of a revised LRF Risk Register and train up to 50 Local Authority staff to deal with the consequences of emergencies. • Implement the 29 actions within the Emergency Planning Work Plan 	March 2023	WES	Alan Howells	EPP	WBO10-D (Contributes to WBO8)	
E18	Deliver the Waste Services Action Plan in response to the recommendations of the Audit Wales Office report	Audit Report	March 2023	WES	Ainsley Williams	EPP	WBO10-D	
E19	Manage and mitigate flood risk within our communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development, Authorisation and Implementation of NEW Flood Risk Management Plan (October 2024) • No of actions completed within the year according to the NEW Flood Risk Management Plan (October 2024) • To undertake the role of Lead Local Flood Authority in investigating widescale incidents of flooding in accordance with the S.19 Flood and Water Management Act. • We will undertake formal T98 inspections of all CCC Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) assets annually. • We will determine 100% of Sustainable Drainage Approval body (SAB) applications within the statutory 7 or 12 week deadline or agree an extension with the applicant 	October 2024	WES	Ben Kathrens	EPP	WBO10-D	
E20	Maintain, enhance, and improve the quality of the built and natural environment through the reduction of litter pollution,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver coordinated response to LEQ management (September 2022) • To integrate and work with all partners with an interest in Litter Environmental Quality 	September 2022	WES	Geinor Lewis	EPP	WBO10-D	SC4

	thereby creating a healthy and safe environment.	<p>to develop a holistic approach to working with community in getting a cleaner Carmarthenshire. (September 2022)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a Local Environmental Quality Strategy and Action Group to develop solutions to prevent and address environmental blight and fly-tipping. (September 2022) • PAM/010 Percentage of streets that are clean. • STS/005a The Cleanliness Indicator. 2022/23 • PAM/035 Average number of working days taken to clear fly-tipping incidents – Target 4 days • Monitor fly tipping service requests per annum and seek a reduction following behavioural change campaigns 						
E21	Maximise the utilisation of ULEV vehicles for waste collection fleet to support our wider Net Zero Carbon actions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% of our waste collection vehicles to be ULEV compliant, where technology and capacity allows. Target is 33 vehicles. 	March 2024	WES	Dan John	EPP	WBO10-D	SP2
E22	Improve the way we manage waste in Carmarthenshire, increasing the waste reused, recycled or composted. Delivering against national beyond recycling strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering recycling performance of 64% 22/23 and 70% by 24/25 • Deliver Circular Economy Infrastructure Projects (April 2022) Nantycaws – ‘Canolfan eto’ and commercial waste recycling centre Llanelli Town Centre – ‘Eto’ reuse shop • Implement a nappy collection service attracting 8,000 customers to decrease our black bag waste and increase recycling. • Phased implementation of rollout of weekly recycling, 3 weekly residual waste and 3 weekly glass collections. Target of 64% recycling rate. • The adoption of the kerb side sort (source segregated recycling system) to decrease 	March 2024	WES	Dan John	EPP	WBO10-C	SP2

		<p>contamination in the recycling stream. (April 2024)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling contamination less than 12%. (April 2024) • Achieving 70% recycling rate for 2024/25. • Review the kerbside garden waste collection service to ensure continued efficiency. (Dec 2022) • 95% retention of garden waste of 10,604 customers • Target of 750 new garden waste customers • PAM/30 The percentage of municipal waste collected by local authorities and prepared for reuse and/or recycled, including source segregated bio-wastes that are composted or treated biologically in another way – Target 67%. • PAM/043 Amount of waste generated that is not recycled, per person. (162.5kg) • WMT/010i The percentage of local authority collected municipal waste prepared for reuse. 2022/23 (1.5%) • WMT/010ii The percentage of local authority collected municipal waste Recycled. 2022/23 (45%) • WMT/010iii The percentage of municipal waste Collected as source segregated biowastes and composted or treated biologically in another way 2022/23 (22%) • WMT/004 Percentage of waste sent to landfill 2022/23 (13%) 						
Page 114	To produce and manage the implementation of the Authorities Net Zero Carbon Plan to achieve the Council's commitment to become a Net Zero Carbon Plan local authority by 2030.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formally establish Officer Decarbonisation Steering Group to enable decarbonisation to be embedded across all Services. (April 2022) • Deliver Phase 2 Refit Cymru for non domestic buildings (Action 2 NZC). 	March 2023	P&S	Kendal Davies	EPP	WBO10-B	SP2

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and prioritise 5 land holdings for potential renewable energy development. (Sept 2022) Deliver carbon literacy training for members and working with partners develop carbon literacy programme for staff. (July 2022) Engage with local schools to support local de-carbonisation Refresh the NZC plan by March 2023 following publication of Welsh Government NZ Wales 						
E24	To deliver Built Heritage support to internal and external customers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop for adoption Supplementary Planning Guidance on the care and repair of historic buildings. Undertake Appraisals for 10 designated Conservation Areas and develop guidance to support and guide future regeneration. (July 2022) Hold the Listed Buildings Fair at Carmarthen Museum to provide guidance and support to Owners and Custodians of Listed Buildings in the County, and support businesses across the region with trade exhibitions. (May 2022) Reinstate the Listed Buildings Forum to support departments in making applications for Listed Building Consent and caring for the Listed Buildings in Council ownership. (July 2022) 	March 2023	P&S	Ian Llewellyn	EPP	WBO10-B	
E25	Three new areas of woodland are being established for the creation of new wildlife habitat that will contribute towards nature recovery, sequestration of carbon, creating areas for nature close to where people live and work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Over winter 22/23 CCC will plant 5.5 ha of new woodland at three CCC owed sites. This will involve the planting of at least 5500 broadleaved trees and shrubs.</i> 	March 2023	P&S	Rosie Carmichael	EPP	WBO10	

Well-being Objective 11 In A Healthy, Safe & Prosperous Environment - Improve the highway and transport infrastructure and connectivity

Dept Ref No	Outcome	Action/Measure	By When or EOY Target?	Division	Responsible Officer	Scrutiny	WBO Ref / Key Theme	SP/SC
E26	Deliver key infrastructure schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete M4J4 improvement scheme (April 2022) Complete Cross Hands Economic Link Road (August 2022) Complete construction of Electric Bus facility with charging infrastructure (September 2022) 	September 2022	T&H	Adrian Harries	EPP	WBO11-A	SP1
E27	Maintain a compliant and functional fleet to meet the county's operational needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90% of services/inspections completed for delivered light commercial vehicles (LCV) 90% of services/inspections completed for delivered HGV Vehicles Report on HGV downtime to improve availability to operational services 	March 2023	T&H	Antonia Jones	EPP	WBO11-F	
E28	Update Fleet Replacement Programme & Strategy to transition towards Ultra Low Emission Vehicles and Depot Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review current fleet utilisation levels and information from telematics including daily average mileage, deployment and vehicle role (September 2022) Review future service needs of selected vehicles with client departments (July 2022) Produce draft Fleet Strategy for consultation (September 2022) Adopt Fleet Strategy Replace up to 10 light diesel vans with EV vans (dependant on grant funding from WG) Review depot infrastructure requirements to support EV with an incremental progression as fleet builds. (August 2022) 	March 2023	T&H	Antonia Jones	EPP	WBO11-F	SP2

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of 1 fast and 1 rapid charging point within Trostre and Cillefwr depot and 2 fast charging points in Glanamman depot. • DVSA Compliance Risk Score 						
E29	Management of highway network to safeguard road users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued development of Highways Asset Management Programme Maintenance Manual • Introduction of new Highway Inspection and Repair Regime (June 2022) • Delivery of Road Refurbishment grant (Subject to Welsh Government funding) • Submission of funding bids for maintenance works • Deliver a capital & revenue highway resurfacing and surface dressing programme • Ensure a scheduled highway inspection regime and safety defect repair system is in place and functioning effectively • Review highway drainage and gulley management and bring forward Policies for inclusion within the Maintenance Manual • Review highway sweeping and bring forward Policies for inclusion within the Maintenance Manual • Ensure highway verges are maintained to appropriate standards and do not obstruct or endanger road users. • Operate an effective out-of-hours service which is responsive to emergencies and adverse weather events. • % of A roads in poor condition. (PAM/020) • % of B roads in poor condition. (PAM/021) • % of C roads in poor condition. (PAM/022) 	March 2023	T&H	Darren King & Richard Waters	EPP	WBO11-A	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of principal (A) roads, non-principal (B) roads and non-principal (C) roads that are in overall poor condition. (THS/012) 						
E30	Review of Winter Service to optimise effectiveness of operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of 3 additional weather stations for increased domain forecasting accuracy (April 2022) Review of domain boundaries in partnership with forecast provider (June 2022) Review of treatment routes (July 2022) Consultation on revised Winter Service Plan (August 2022) Implementation of Winter Service Plan (October 2022) 	October 2022	T&H	Richard Waters	EPP	WBO11-A	
E31	Reduce the risk of structures failing to ensure they are resilient to storm damage and minimise network disruption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bridge inspection regime undertaken with general and Principal Inspections undertaken as scheduled. Stage 1 and 2 Scour Assessments of structures subject to river erosion Specific post-event inspections after significant storms (March 2025) 	March 2023	T&H	Chris Nelson	EPP	WBO11-A	
E32	Reduce the risk of Geotechnical and highway support failures on strategic routes to prevent road network disruption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver a prioritised programme of geotechnical assessments along key routes of network at higher risk. Identified risks to be prioritised. Summary and key risks to be highlighted in the Annual report. Highway Safety Inspections maintained in accordance with set frequencies Submission of funding bids for addressing identified risk areas Adopt a Geotechnical Asset Management plan and key plans for reducing Geotechnical risk 	March 2023	T&H	Chris Nelson	EPP	WBO11-A	
E33	Protection of highway from flooding due to uncharted and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver the programme of survey and assessment of highway drainage systems 	March 2023	T&H	Stephen Pilliner	EPP	WBO11-A	

	non-functional drainage systems to safeguard travelling public	<p>along key high-risk routes prone to flooding (Subject to funding)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake geo-referenced Video surveys during adverse weather events to identify and record risk areas. • Deliver programme of drainage remedial and improvement works at identified risk areas using best available data (Subject to funding) • Manage a prioritised Capital programme for drainage remedial works and submission of additional funding bids as required 							
E34	Management of highway bridges and structures assessed as sub-standard to safeguard the travelling public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Inspection and management regime of 50 sub-standard structures in accordance with technical requirements.</i> • Prioritise sub-standard structures as part of 3- year Capital maintenance programme. • Review of structural assessments to update structural capacity ratings (Subject to funding) (March 2024) 	March 2023	T&H	Chris Nelson	EPP	WBO11-A		
E35	Prevention of deterioration of bridge stock to safeguard the travelling public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver a prioritised 3-year capital maintenance programme of highway bridge strengthening and replacement schemes. Prioritising delivery of schemes with the resources available • Undertake scheduled bridge and structure inspections • Deliver a programme of revenue funded scheduled maintenance of structures on a biennial cycle. • Undertake principal structural condition inspections on a prioritised schedule of targeted structures at six yearly intervals. 	March 2023	T&H	Chris Nelson	EPP	WBO11-E		
E36	Implementation of civil enforcement of footways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor potential legislative changes in relation to the enforcement of pavement parking which is expected to provide 	March 2024	T&H	Richard Waters	EPP	WBO11-E		

	obstruction to ensure routes are accessible	<p>powers to local authorities (subject to legislation currently expected July 2022)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop Implementation and Enforcement Plan subject to legislation 						
E37	We will continue to work with national and regional bodies to develop the Southwest Wales Metro to support carbon reduction and the local economy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and contribute to TfW research into the review of bus networks (April 2022) Input to regional commission on bus services review (April 2022) Continue to work with WG and TfW on implementation of the Bus Emergency Scheme (June 2022) Work with regional colleagues to formalise governance arrangements through CJC (May 2022) Contribute to and assess feasibility studies to determine priorities for investment (March 2023) 	March 2025	T&H	Alwyn Evans	EPP	WBO11-B	SC4
E38	Monitor supply market for passenger transport to adapt services where required to changing supply conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuously review market engage with suppliers and Wales Govt through ATCO Cymru Input to budget setting process to build resilience into school and public transport budgets (Sept 2022) Adapt or reduce services where possible and continue to develop alternative services to mitigate impact of supply chain shortages <i>Number of passenger journeys on the subsidised network</i> <i>Number of operator customer complaints</i> 	March 2023	T&H	Alwyn Evans	EPP	WBO11-B	
E39	We will continue to support the delivery of the Modernising Education Programme – redesigning networks to facilitate the movement of pupils as set out in our home to school transport policy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage early in any review of MEP programme Review pupil distribution and advise on transport and budget implications for any changes considered. Review ALN network and introduce Personal Travel Budgets 	March 2023	T&H	Alwyn Evans	EPP	WBO11-C	

E40	Develop Community Transport Strategy to enable access to essential services from rural communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with Community Transport sector through PSB & third sector (June 2022) Review Community Transport provision across the county (September 2023) Identify Opportunities for development and resources to support (Feb 2024) Complete Strategy (May 2024) 	March 2024	T&H	Alwyn Evans	EPP	WBO11-D	SP1
E41	The service will adapt and develop Carmarthenshire infrastructure to support the Wales Transport strategy to decarbonise transport and to assist with achieving the authority's net zero carbon targets whilst underpinning economic regeneration and social inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will implement the Carmarthenshire Electric Charging Infrastructure strategy. (April 2022) <i>We will install an additional 15 charges across the county (April 2022)</i> We will implement the Active Travel Masterplan for our principal towns, subject to Wales Government funding. (March 2025) We will develop and deliver the Tywi Valley Path (March 2025) We will introduce electric buses and infrastructure on the Traws Cymru Carmarthen to Aberystwyth bus service. (Dec 2022) 	March 2023- March 2025	T&H	Simon Charles	EPP	WBO11-A	SP2
E42	Improve walking routes through the Safe Routes in Community Programme to encourage more sustainable travel to assist with achieving the objective of decarbonisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invite Expressions of Interest (July 2022) Support communities with bid application process (July 2022) Evaluate bids (August 2022) Prepare bids and submit to Wales Government (Nov 2022) 	November 2022	T&H	Simon Charles	EPP	WBO11-E (Contributes to WBO2)	SP2
E43	Improve Active Travel routes for communities to encourage safe low carbon travel choices, and social inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In line with WG legislation, undertake community wide consultation and technical appraisal to inform prioritised future network maps for Carmarthenshire's prescribed Built Up Areas (June 2022) Develop a strong case for funding to present to external funding bodies (July 2022) 	March 2025	T&H	Simon Charles	EPP	WBO11-E (Contributes to WBO7)	SP2

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilise funding to implement Active Travel Masterplans across our main towns and monitor their effectiveness through quantitative (counts) and qualitative (Surveys) analysis (Sept 2022) Continue to explore opportunities to fund improvements outside of the WG Prescribed Built Up Settlements (Nov 2022) 						
E44	We will support the development and delivery of a new railway station at St Clears	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete Weltag appraisal (April 2022) Agree local infrastructure improvements with WG/TfW (May 2022) 	November 2025	T&H	Simon Charles	EPP	WBO11-A	SP1

Well-being Objective 13 Corporate governance - Better Governance and use of Resources

Dept Ref No	Outcome	Action/Measure	By When or EOY Target?	Division	Responsible Officer	Scrutiny	WBO Ref / Key Theme	SP/SC
E45	Continue to deliver Ash Dieback projects to minimize risk to the travelling public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued participation in Ash Dieback Project Team (March 2025) Continue with survey programmes for highways and action identified diseased trees (March 2023) Preparation and implementation of tree felling programmes (March 2023) 	March 2025	T&H	Darren King	EPP	WBO13-B6	
E46	Identify and Implement digital project to improve financial management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rollout of electronic invoicing (Dec 2022) Progress rollout of electronic timesheet to non office bases staff (July 2022) Review processes to improve on payment times for suppliers 	March 2023	SSC	Carly Thomas Iwan Richards	EPP	WBO13	
E47	To support the provision of a clean and safe environment for our staff, schools and customers through cleaning service provision.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify supplementary recruitment processes in conjunction with HR. (July 2022) Develop new business through collaboration, further external contracts and extension of service to other areas of the Authority in 	March 2023	SSC	Caryl Williams	EPP	WBO13	

		<p>order to retain trained staff when covid cleans decrease.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with our customers to gauge satisfaction levels and develop an action plan in response to feedback (August 2022) Meet with clients to review and improve service through development of bespoke Service Level Agreement (Dec 2022) 						
E48	Agree and implement Place & Sustainability Improvement Plans to ensure performance is improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure Planning HWB remains as a permanent addition to the structure to ensure long term support is provided to Development Management and Enforcement Officers to ensure that the improved performance level since the HWB's implementation is sustained. Implement action plan from service review of Information Management Team and Planning applications process review. 	March 2023	SSC	Kelly Thomas	EPP	WBO13	SC3
E49	Identify additional opportunities for insourcing training courses to reduce costs across the department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will upskill our Operational Trainers to be qualified to deliver Streetworks courses via the Scottish Qualification Authority (SQA) and also City & Guilds 640 qualification Winter Maintenance and deliver to SWTRA. Both courses currently outsourced. 	March 2023	SSC	Iwan Richards	EPP	WBO13	
E50	Manage corporate risk for transport by continuing to deliver driver assessments which enables us to reduce damage and claims for the authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Target of 20% maximum annualised motor vehicle accident / claims rate</i> 	March 2023	SSC	Iwan Richards / Antonia Jones	EPP	WBO13	
E51	Improve resilience and customer experience with our front line services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Align Waste and Highways hwb's to improve resilience and customer experience. (July 2022) Improve website content and contact centre scripts to improve customer experience and implement electronic satisfaction surveys (Sept 2022) 	March 2023	SSC	Kelly Thomas	EPP	WBO13	

E52	Deliver an appraisal of our current grounds and cleansing service resource provision and assess the performance and efficiency of our SLA's.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and develop performance management data sets to improve income generation and management of SLA's 	March 2023	WES	Gary Baxter	EPP	WBO13	SC3
Property								
E53	Identify property assets the department requires to support Better Ways of Working	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Regeneration Division to re-evaluate the concept of a single depot to provide modern and functional facilities for our operational staff, including vehicles and plant parking/storage. Given the reduced need for office content due to potential for greater homeworking a new depot may be more viable. Also, consider options for centralising WES operations at a single depot at Nantycaws. Aspects of Highways/TMU operational delivery could also be considered. Carbon Zero agenda to be considered also, along with plant and machinery. 	September 2022	ENV	Noelwyn Daniel & Ainsley Williams	EPP	WBO13	SC1
E54	Improve engagement with Headteachers to reduce and mitigate risk with regards to Property Maintenance of Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with the Education Dept to raise awareness of Headteacher responsibilities Attend Headteacher meetings when requested to highlight the importance of compliance and maintenance Carrying out works identified whilst evaluating the risks associated utilising the handy van service. Adapt a risk-based approach with risk rating so that corporately we be aware, together with the mitigation required and the result on the risk rating should these works be completed. This will inform MEP strategy and be a factor in securing grant funding. 	March 2023	PM	Jason Jones	P&R	WBO13	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every primary school to receive 2 inspections during 2022-23. 						
E55	Carry out stock conditions to enable more accurate planning of future estate use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate priority required for programme for the 1100 buildings over 5 years. • 100 number of condition surveys to be carried out in 22-23. • 220 number of condition surveys to be carried out in 23-24. • 220 number of condition surveys to be carried out in 24-25. 	March 2023	PM	Jason Jones	P&R	WBO13	
Digital Transformations								
E56	Development of car parking facilities to improve customer choice and improve operational efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement parking payment apps • Increase % of payments received electronically 	March 2023	T&H	Gary Owen	EPP	WBO13	
E57	Improve access and data recording for internal training courses to enable digital working	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement paperless project training courses to all departments to reduce costs and improve processes • Implement digital modules for cleaning services training for access on their mobile devices 	March 2023	SSC	Iwan Richards	EPP	WBO13	
E58	IT System developments to enable improved data capture for performance monitoring and to develop mobile working for our operational staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop reporting mechanism for managers to utilise management information data within the TOTAL system 	March 2023	SSC	Cheryl Tappin	EPP	WBO13	SC3
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and support implementation of new electronic system to replace Fleet Master to reduce duplication of administrative procedures. 	March 2023	SSC	Lindsey Jacob	EPP	WBO13	SC3
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the full introduction of service connect which will have a fundamental impact on current processes and customer experience for contractors and tenants. 	March 2023	SSC	Phil Thomas	EPP	WBO13	SC3
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of 420 mobile phone project to 649 posts for Cleaning Services Staff and our operational staff to enable improved 	March 2023	SSC	Iwan Richards	EPP	WBO13	SC3

		communication, training, access to resources and enable digital working.						
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify an IT system that will allow automated updates for our repairs service which deals with 70,000 repairs per annum. System is to improve methods of self-serve & reporting of issues for tenants, provide progress updates by sub-contractors to ensure live updates and provide electronic feedback on the repair. 	March 2023	PM	Jason Jones	EPP	WBO13	SC3
Performance Measures								
E59	Develop robust dashboard of measures/management information to make informed business decisions within Property Maintenance	Develop monitoring dashboard for delivery of responsive repairs within priority targets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stock conditions Servicing compliance Inspections Fire Risk Assessments Legionella 	March 2023	PM	Jason Jones	EPP	WBO13	
E60	Identify trends and areas of concerns by monitoring complaints and FOIA requests to ensure customer satisfaction and service performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% stage 1 complaints responded to within 10 days of allocation to Investigating Officer. 75% of stage 2 complaints responded to within 20 days of allocation to Investigating Officer. 100% of FOIA returned within 20 days 100% of DSU Responses provided within 7 days ALL of above will be monitored to identify themes/trends to enable service improvements, data requirements to be identified and website/intranet content improvement to minimise future requests for information.	March 2023	SSC	Kelly Thomas	EPP	WBO13	
E61	Identify trends and areas of concerns by monitoring staff sickness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify areas of concern and improvement Develop Wellbeing action plans for each division 	March 2023	ENV	Managers	EPP	WBO13	

5. The PSB's

The PSBs [Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan - The Carmarthenshire We Want \(2018-23\)](#)

How is the Department contributing to the Public Services Board (PSB) Well-being Plan?

The Well-being Objectives of the Carmarthenshire PSB are not intended to address the core services and provision of the individual partners, rather they are to enhance and add value through collective action. The statutory partners of the PSB (Council, Health Board, Fire & Rescue Service and Natural Resources Wales) each have to publish their own Well-being Objectives. The current Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan objectives are as noted below, and our departmental contributions are as follows:

Healthy Habits: people have a good quality of life, and make healthy choices about their lives and environment

Our environment is fundamental for Carmarthenshire's food security, water supply, air quality, building materials, and economy. Our Waste division promotes sustainable consumption through its waste strategy, looks to maximise the circular economy with local food and service provide and engages the public to minimise environmental impacts from the services we offer. Our programme of engagement and service delivery at its core is focussed on people developing *Healthy Habits* to ensure the betterment of the environment in the long term. We deliver the maintenance of green and open spaces to encourage and facilitate healthy lifestyle habits for walking and exercise within the public realm, with a focus on promoting biodiversity to ensure long term environmental benefit. Recognising the links between well-being and access to nature, we are delivering WG grant schemes which fund projects that will enhance biodiversity where people live, work and access public services, including the Local Places for Nature scheme with WCVA. The Council's Environment Act Forward plan sets out how it will deliver its Biodiversity Duty to maintain and enhance biodiversity across the services it provides, as set out in legislation (Environment (Wales) Act 2016), and it reports on the delivery of this plan to WG.

Early Intervention: to make sure that people have the right help at the right time; as and when they need it

We will work with partner agencies, Welsh Government, and communities to manage and mitigate flood risk where possible and encourage community involvement to foster self-help and improve resilience. We will work with internal and external partners including the commercial sector to address local environmental blight that affects our communities.

Strong Connections: strongly connected people, places and organisations that are able to adapt to change

Forming strong links with partner organizations, the third sector, local businesses and residents is essential for successful provision and long-term benefit. We actively engage the public on shaping our services, taking into consideration their views in developing our service.

To deliver flood and coastal risk management we actively coordinate and collaborate with key partner agencies and Welsh Government to maximize the effectiveness of our service delivery.

To promote the Circular Economy we have been developing partnership opportunities and supporting community networks, with a view to building capacity for new or expanded Circular Economy projects. Furthermore, we have been developing project proposals with local stakeholders in the form of Action Plans, to advance the benefits of the Circular Economy to support local economic regeneration and growth. We facilitate the Carmarthenshire Nature Partnership with which we will be preparing a State of Nature Report the county. This will identify the actions we must all take to address the Nature Emergency declared by WG, and ensure nature recovery.

Prosperous People and Places: to maximise opportunities for people and places in both urban and rural parts of our county

The development of the Circular Economy Strategy and Action Plan is being implemented alongside the delivery of Carmarthenshire’s ‘Economic Recovery Plan’. We aim to support rural development and economic stability. It will facilitate the delivery of the Council’s green regeneration ambitions contained within the Ten Towns Initiative, by considering the issues affecting the rural communities of Carmarthenshire, and identifying actions that the Council can take, in partnership with other public bodies, to support rural regeneration in future years. The delivery of biodiversity enhancement as part of the Ten Towns initiative will demonstrate the Council’s understanding of the role of the natural environment in contributing to prosperity and place. We will enable delivery of key housing projects by the authority to ensure affordable housing, creating new jobs and work for local construction businesses. The houses we build will set the standard by providing exceptionally high levels of insulation to help minimise heat loss and are fitted with renewable technology including solar panels, electric vehicle charging points and battery storage helping to provide lower energy bills for tenant whilst striving towards our Net Zero ambition.

5.5 Department Specific Acts and Legislation

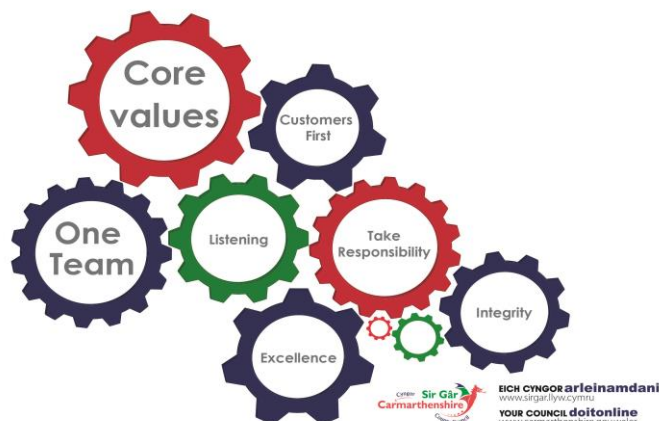
There are a significant number of Legislative Acts that are pertinent to this Department in addition to the broader legislation applicable to the whole Authority. A comprehensive list can be found on [our dedicated Intranet page](#).

5.6 Department Specific Strategies and Policies

We are responsible for strategies and policies within this Department. A comprehensive list can be found on [our dedicated Intranet page](#).

6. Department Resources

Core Values



Customers First – we put the needs of our citizens at the heart of everything that we do

Listening – we listen to learn, understand and improve now and in the future

Excellence – we constantly strive for excellence, delivering the highest quality possible every time by being creative, adopting innovative ways of working and taking measured risks

Integrity – we act with integrity and do the right things at all times

Taking Responsibility – we all take personal ownership and accountability for our actions

Seven areas of Corporate Change required

The statutory guidance of the Well-being of Future Generations Act identifies seven areas where change needs to happen. These are:

1	Corporate Planning
2	Financial Planning
3	Workforce Planning
4	Procurement
5	Assets
6	Risk Management
7	Performance Management

[① More information on the 7 Areas of Corporate Change required](#)

1. Corporate Planning

See Section 2 - Strategic Context

2. Financial Planning - Budget Summary

① See separate item at Budget Departmental Seminar / Budget Scrutiny for further information

Our budget summary is available here - [ENV Finance Business Plan info 22-23.xlsx](#)

Financial Planning - Savings and Efficiencies

Our Savings and Efficiencies are available here - [ENV Finance Business Plan info 22-23.xlsx](#)

3. Key Workforce Planning Issues

 **Workforce Planning Toolkit** to help complete this section

1. Current workforce issues

- The Department has an ageing workforce profile and has a high proportion of specialist roles, with many of these roles occupied by an older profile.
- There is a need to make better use of data and intelligence to help inform future workforce development requirements. Ensure that the service is able to further respond to the on-going recruitment and retention challenges especially within some of areas that compete with the private sector such as Planning, Property Design (sure we have other examples here?)
- The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has further increased the demands for digital skills across all services within the department we will need to ensure that it has also has the capacity and skills to respond to these development and especially with our non-office staff.
- **Support Staff Development** – Leadership training will be made available to aspiring future senior managers and we will aim to embark on a programme of “Igniting and building talent” to support and develop staff knowledge and skills in key areas of competence reflecting their future ambition.
- The lack of identified capacity within the Department to support change and transformation objectives has been highlighted as a significant area for us to focus upon, and this has the potential to impact on its ability to progress a number of key priorities such as service improvements that are critical moving forward.
- We need to continually review our use of Agency staff to support key areas of service delivery and identify financial resources to increase the number of permanent positions to establish a more resilient and sustainable workforce
- Consider **Better Ways of Working** - It is anticipated that the departments need for property floorspace will be significantly reduced as the Environment Department embraces new ways of working. An approach will be developed in consultation with staff that provides accommodation that supports new ways of working coupled with utilisation of technology and digitisation of paper records to deliver a better service. Workspace will be a mix of team and shared zones, configured to support a hybrid working solution comprising a mix of agile collaborative workplace and home working, with staff rotated into the office environment taking into account service need and personal preference. This proposed new way of working will support staff induction, developing, training, and mentoring.

2. Procurement

For 2022/23 outline any significant procurement activity planned (e.g. tenders, etc.)

- Hire of Plant & Machinery - Traffic Mgt System is part of Lot 40.
- Bus PSV public routes 2022
- Refuse Vehicles - Diesel - 3 x 26T Purchase
- Refuse Vehicles - Diesel - 4 x 16T Lease
- Refuse vehicles - 10 x Glass collection 7.5T Diesel Lease
- Mechanical and Electrical Framework
- Stair Lifts DPS
- CCTV Drainage DPS
- Sewerage Services 2022
- AHP Waste Bags 2022
- South West Wales Regional Civil Engineering Contractors Framework 2023
- Domestic Boiler Servicing & Remedials 2022
- Recycling & Food Waste Liners 2022 (Annual Exercise)
- Landscape Management
- Tipper Vans -40

- Highways Preventative Maintenance (Highways Dressing) Surface Dressing
- Verge Mowing on Roadside
- Glass Recycling Containers
- EV Installation
- 7 x 3.5t Caged Tippers
- Specialist Countryside Contractors Framework
- Minor Works Framework 2023
- Portable Classroom
- Gritter Trucks 6 x 26 Tonne + 15 x Gritters
- South West Wales Regional Contractors Framework 2024
- Burry Port Site 4 (Commercial & Leisure Development)
- Professional Services Framework
- Consultancy Arrangements for schools
- Housing Self-Build Consultancy Services
- Gas & Leachate Monitoring

3. Asset Management

- Delivery of Phase 1 Pentre Awel
- Ten Towns programme and investment in strategic sites in town centres
- Review and confirm operational office need through BWOW workstream
- Review and confirm service non office needs, e.g., front line operatives

4. Risk Management

See Section 3 – Summary Divisional Plans

Corporate and Significant Risks are identified within the Divisional Business Plan sections of this Departmental Plan.

5. Performance Management

E.g. Any Service specific annual reports for example – Director of Social Services annual report, Planning annual report, etc.

The Department will be reviewing its Performance Monitoring arrangements to ensure they align with the new Corporate Performance Monitoring Framework to establish a full picture of both Strategic and Operational performance.

We will develop and establish Outcome focused measures and Performance Indicators to support service improvement and identify gaps in our monitoring arrangements.

Annual Reports:

- Annual Monitoring Planning Report (AMR)
- Annual Monitoring Report (APR)
- Contractor Performance annual report
- Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy 12-month Review
- Environment Action plan report
- Highway Asset Management Plan (HAMP)
- Net Zero Carbon Plan
- Public Rights of Way (PROW) annual report
- Public Toilets annual report
- Regional Contractor Framework

Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015

This is an Act introduced by the Welsh Government, which will change aspects of how we work. The general purpose of the Act is to ensure that the governance arrangements of public bodies for improving the well-being of Wales take the needs of future generations into account. The Act is designed to improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of Wales in accordance with sustainable development principles.

A. The Sustainable Development Principle of the Act

The new law states that we must carry out sustainable development, improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. **The sustainable development principle is**

‘... the public body must act in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.’

B. The Five Ways of Working required by the Act

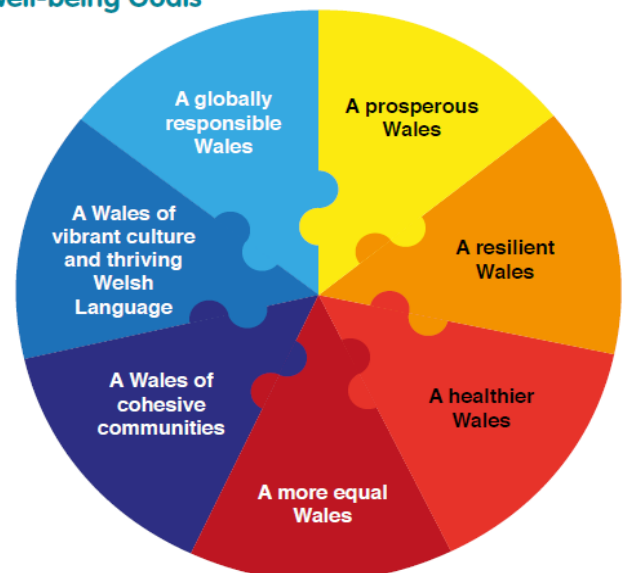
To show that we have applied the sustainable development principle we must demonstrate the following 5 ways of working:-

1. Looking to the long term so that we do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs;
2. Taking an integrated approach so that public bodies look at all the well-being goals in deciding on their priorities;
3. Involving a diversity of the population in the decisions that affect them;
4. Working with others in a collaborative way to find shared sustainable solutions;
5. Understanding the root causes of issues to prevent them from occurring.

C. The Seven Well-being Goals of the Act

There are **7 well-being goals** in the Act. Together they provide a shared vision for public bodies to work towards. We must work towards achieving all of them.

Well-being Goals



The Seven Well-being Goals of the Future Generations Act

7 National Goals
<p><i>A prosperous Wales</i></p> <p>An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change), and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.</p>
<p><i>A resilient Wales</i></p> <p>A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).</p>
<p><i>A healthier Wales</i></p> <p>A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.</p>
<p><i>A more equal Wales</i></p> <p>A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio-economic background and circumstances).</p>
<p><i>A Wales of cohesive communities</i></p> <p>Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.</p>
<p><i>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language</i></p> <p>A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.</p>
<p><i>A globally responsible Wales</i></p> <p>A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing makes a positive contribution to global well-being</p>

Local Government and Elections Act 2021

Our performance and governance arrangements for 2021/22 will be evaluated under the requirements of the new Act.

[Statutory guidance on the performance and governance of councils](#)
[\(Part 6 of the Local Government and Elections \(Wales\) Bill\)](#)

The statutory duties placed on the Council :

1. **Duty to keep performance under review**

The Act requires a council to keep under review the extent to which it is fulfilling the 'performance requirements' that is, the extent to which it is:

- exercising its functions effectively.
- using its resources economically, efficiently and effectively; and
- has effective governance in place for securing the above.

2. **Duty to consult on performance**

A council must consult a range of people at least once in each financial year about the extent to which the council is meeting the performance requirements. The statutory consultees are local people, local businesses, staff of the council and Trade Unions.

3. **Duty to report on performance**

A council must produce a self-assessment report in respect of each financial year including actions improvement. This must go to the Governance and Audit Committee.

4. **Duty to arrange a panel assessment of performance and respond to it.**

A council must arrange for a panel to undertake an assessment.
 This will apply sometime after the May 2022 Election.

The Act also references duties from other related Acts

5. **Well-being of Future Generations Act**

The performance and governance provisions in the Bill are framed within the wider sustainable development duties of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, which sets out a legally binding common purpose for the public bodies subject to that Act to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales.

6. **Socio-economic duty**

Additionally, the ethos of the performance and governance provisions within the Act align to the **Socio-economic Duty, which will come into force on 31 March 2021**. This duty will require principal councils, when taking strategic decisions such as 'deciding priorities and setting objectives', to consider how their decisions might help to reduce the inequalities associated with socio-economic disadvantage.

Implications for Business Planning 2022/23

We have a duty to keep performance under review Para 2.2 of Guidance

- exercising functions effectively
- using resources economically, efficiently and effectively

- governance is effective for securing the above

Office Use - Business Plan Guidance

What's new for Business Planning for 2022/23?

- To address the requirements of the Local government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 the templated has been strengthened in the parts concerning the self-assessment of the 2021/22 year.
- The template has been adjusted to prompt SMART action plans and stronger Performance Indicator coverage. This reflects the Scrutiny Committees and regulators feedback during the year, requesting that business plans should be clearer in identifying what success will look like.

Business Plan Timetable

Draft <u>Department</u> Business Plan	By 12 November 2021
First Draft <u>Divisional</u> Business Plans 2022/23 deadline	By 15th Dec 2021
Chief Executive's and Panel Challenge of Departmental Plan	November- December 2021
Opportunity to revise plans following challenge	First two weeks of January 2022
<u>Departmental Plans</u> to accompany Budget to:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Departmental Budget Seminars • Budget Scrutiny's 	Late January - February 2022
<u>Divisional Plans</u> to be worked up in more detail and presented to Scrutiny Committees	TBC

[①Scrutiny remit and business plans](#)

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ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

7 MARCH 2022

FUTURE ACCESSIBILITY OPTIONS AT HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRES (HWRC)

Purpose:

To present updated position and future option for HWRC booking system and accessibility.

To consider and comment on the following issues:

For the reasons set out and contained within this report, the service seeks a decision on HWRC access and booking provision

The options for decision are as follows:

- Retain the IT based appointment system as is currently in place for the next twelve months.
- Retail the IT based appointment system for the next twelve months and pilot a hybrid approach of bookings
- Remove the IT based appointment system
- In 12 months introduce an Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) and resident registration access system at all four HWRCs.

Reasons:

The HWRC current booking system was implemented in May 2020 after reopening the service following a brief period of closure (7 weeks) due to Welsh Government public health guidelines. This report seeks to provide a future strategy of accessibility for the HWRC service in Carmarthenshire, ensuring an efficient and accessible service for Carmarthenshire residents and ensuring we are maximising our recycling performance in the delivery of this service in the long term.

Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted: Yes – 7th March 2022

Cabinet Decision Required YES

Council Decision Required NO

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER: -

Cllr. Hazel Evans - Cabinet Member for Environment

Directorate:

Name of Head of Service:
Ainsley Williams

Report Author:
Geinor Lewis

Designations:

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Waste Strategy & Policy
Manager

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 7 MARCH 2022

FUTURE ACCESSIBILITY OPTIONS AT HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRES (HWRC)

Introduction and background

In a phased approach in April 2019 and October 2019 the Council introduced new policy measures at our network of Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) to manage increasing misuse of the sites due to cross border and commercial waste disposal.

Vehicle type access permissions and implementation of van permits combined with identification checks were introduced in April 2019, followed by our black bag sorting policy in October 2019. These measures significantly improved our recycling performance by reducing residual waste and also creating a better and more accessible service for our residents.

Waste and recycling services are critical public services which have evolved fundamentally to protect human health, to service our economy, and to reduce environmental impacts. Carmarthenshire has been one of a few Authorities able to maintain all Kerbside collection services as normal throughout the pandemic response, so the vast majority of material generated by households has been able to be recycled or disposed of.

However, during the initial phase of response to the Pandemic all four household waste recycling centres (HWRCs) (Trostre, Nantycaws, Wernddu and Whitland) were closed to the public in-line with Government guidance.

Following the amendment to the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (Wales) Regulations 2020 on Friday 8th May, which included “access recycling or waste disposal services” as a reasonable excuse to travel under legislation the Welsh Government established a coordinated reopening of HWRC’s commencing from the May 26th May 2020.

To facilitate the safe access and visitation, manage site demand and provide equitable access following the closure of the sites it was decided as part of our suite of service recovery actions to implement a site booking system. This was launched at all sites on 26th May 2020, to much success given the issues experienced in other areas across Wales.

The booking system has adapted throughout the last 20 months based on customer feedback, operational requirements and increasing capacity. With same day bookings implemented, live monitoring/management of bookings and increased individual daily access. The system development, upgrades and system support has been delivered by our internal IT department, in an effective way, especially given the challenges and ever-changing situation.

Current position and service impact

The HWRC booking system is delivered by the Firmstep IT system whereby residents have the ability to manage bookings online or by calling the Contact Centre. At present residents have access to a live booking system with the ability to make same day bookings and attend the site on two occasions on a single day. With the ability to cancel/amend bookings live, with slots being made available instantly once changes are made. This has significantly improved the accessibility of our sites since the booking system inception.

The online booking system remains the predominant form of booking and has had a significant benefit to our corporate “channel shift” objective. However, the contact centre does still receive around 8% of total bookings via calls, as this is a new requirement it does place additional demand upon this service.

The table below shows the data obtained via Firmstep from January 2021- December 2021 for the 236,643 original bookings made. A more detailed breakdown is available in the ‘HWRC – Snapshot of data’ document

	Number of bookings	% of overall bookings	Average number of bookings each day for contact centre per 5 day working week	Average number of bookings made online 365 days/ year (2021)
Bookings via self service	217,312	92%	N/A	596
Bookings via Contact Centre	19,331	8%	74	N/A

A three-week trial has recently been commenced to support and assess the demand HWRC calls are having on the Call Centre. Environmental Hub and recycling officer staff will be receiving all HWRC calls and undertake the logging of appointments that are received via the contact centre. This will mean we can determine numbers, peak times and duration of calls to understand key trends and identify future requirements and contact centre needs for dealing with these calls moving forward.

From a site operational perspective, the booking system has its advantages:

1. Ability to plan and undertake site maintenance and waste movements in quiet periods, limiting impact on the public.
2. Limit queuing at site and manage waste and customer queries more effectively.
3. The ability to identify any misuse by residents. Violent and aggressive behaviour has been reduced.
4. Ability to identify individuals displaying aggressive behaviour, undertaking illegal waste activities and policy infractions.
5. Identification of frequent visitors to assess the nature of their waste and reasons for frequency of visits.
6. Inform residents directly of un-planned site closures with alternative provisions easily communicated.

The introduction of the appointment system has enhanced the service capability to develop a reporting structure to identify trends in relation to site usage, material, tonnages received, number of individual appointments, site demand, location preferences, and any missed appointments or anomalies that may require further investigation. The means in which residents book their appointments is also recorded and the data can be used to provide an overall picture of the trends from the captured data to improve and manage the service based on demand. See separate HWRC – Snapshot of data capture document.

With the Circular Economy - Eto project, which was launched in February 2022, HWRCs will provide a key role in supporting the re-use and repair of items that would otherwise be disposed of. Easy access to the HWRC network will allow for increased material capture that can be re-used, repaired or repurposed for re-sale in our network of outlets so this needs to be considered in our future options.

A common complaint is the correlation of this booking system and fly-tipping incidents. Our Fly-tipping reports are obtained via public reporting or crew member logs on a digital system. The reporting tool has been developed and utilised significantly more over the last three years and as a result more fly tipping capture has been identified and recorded so that we can manage the issue more effectively based upon data evidence. From current data there is predicted to be a 17% increase in fly-tipping this year compared to last. However, it is difficult to attribute this increase in incidents as a direct correlation to the implementation of the booking system, as there could potentially be a number of causative factors.

Last year we engaged with the public in June/ July 2021 on a wider 'Future Waste Changes' survey and the HWRC appointment service. There was a relatively even split of responses from the 3,844 respondents that had used the HWRC booking system with 52% supporting the continued use of the booking system and 48% not supporting further use of the appointment system. Following these further improvements as identified above have been made to the booking system to improve accessibility but conversely, we are now also at a point in time where public health measures are lessening.

Recycling performance is a key driver for policy decisions within our suite of waste and recycling services, with statutory recycling targets set by Welsh Government with a 64% target this year rising to 70% in 2024/25. Since the implementation of the booking system the recycling performance impact can be seen below.

Year	Total HWRC Inputs (t)	Residual Inputs	Composting	Wood	Total Other Items	PI %	HWRC PI Contribution
2019/2020	26,044	5,654	4,949	3,981	11,459	64.54%	21.68%
2020/2021	15,112	3,077	2,344	2,832	6,860	66.25%	12.71%
2021/2022	15,567	3,358	2,410	2,687	7,113	61.59%	17.64%

The 2020/21 figures provide a significantly lower contribution to our overall recycling rate than in 19/20. This is due to the site being closed for a 7-week period at the start of year, also with restrictions on movement still in place and residents' concerns on the risk of COVID-19 still being prevalent at this time, this is to be expected. The 2021/2022 data presented is based upon performance up to end of December the contribution is now increasing, with restrictions further easing, there is the potential for this to return to normal levels by year end.

Future options

To move forward in a progressive manner, we need to take into consideration the current and future position regarding pandemic and assess how that impacts the recycling performance, operational delivery and resource demands of the HWRC and support services.

To enable us to retain the benefits of service usage and site demand data along with a need to make the site more accessible in the long term we are proposing to develop an Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) system across our network of HWRCs. This exercise will need further development, policy development and consideration. However, the utilisation of such as system has been successful in other services across the council and also in other Councils HWRCs.

ANPR would enable access to residents via pre-registration of details on a one-off basis that will be recognised upon approach to a proposed site barrier. This would allow for residents to attend site when convenient to them and enhance our management of the 2019 policy change of identification checks and vehicle guidance checks that will be part of the initial registration process. This will allow the current manual check to be aborted and the resources currently in place at each site to be used more efficiently by funding the automation of the entry process. Furthermore, this approach would align with supporting a digital channel shift for our customers. Our current system of booking has already had a significant effect on the number of our residents that have registered for an on-line account.

The benefit of the ANPR system will mean we can retain an element of control in accessing the HWRC sites, restricting it to Carmarthenshire residents and domestic users, but enabling greater accessibility for residents without the need to book appointments. This proposal will also provide us with the ability to retain data capture capability to assess the future needs, requirements, and management of the HWRC network moving forward.

The development of this proposal will take 12 months and will be scheduled into the divisional IT development programme. A fully costed project plan will be developed to support this transition and work along side the Media and Marketing team to ensure a smooth transition to a county wide registration process for our facilities.

If the development of an ANPR system is accepted, for the interim period there are three options available to us:

1. Retain the booking system for a 12-month period while the ANPR system is developed and implemented. This option will also support our channel shift ambitions.
2. Retain the based appointment system for the next twelve months and pilot a hybrid approach of bookings
3. Remove the booking system allowing open access and implement the ANPR booking system in 12 months.

The hybrid approach would mean the partial retention of the IT based appointment system, with appointments required before 1pm each day at all HWRCs, no booking requirement after 1pm until close. This approach would allow for individuals to have more freedom when they attend the facilities on an ad-hoc basis when required with open access in the afternoon, balanced with the option for residents who wish to plan ahead still having the ability to do so.

This hybrid option obviously offers a blended approach which could suit most of the population. However, there are potential disadvantages operationally in this option. There is the potential risk that the requirements of the booking system being seen as burdensome by some, will result in the sites becoming increasingly busy in the afternoons, causing queuing and the site reaching over capacity during the afternoon period. Also, with the removal of bookings in the afternoon it means the site demand periods will become difficult to predict and site maintenance and staffing levels required by the operator will be difficult to plan and forecast.

Finally, with the hybrid approach it would mean we can no longer capture the data which the booking system delivers as a distinct benefit currently. If this approach would be adopted the hybrid approach would be rolled-out in June.

Options Summary:

For the reasons and rationale set out in the report, it is recommended that we work towards the development of an ANPR and registration system with implementation in March 2023.

This presents us with three options for interim HWRC service delivery:

1. Retain the booking system for a 12-month period while the ANPR system is developed and implemented. This option will also support our channel shift ambitions.
2. Retain the based appointment system for the next twelve months and pilot a hybrid approach of bookings
3. Remove the booking system allowing open access and implement the ANPR booking system in 12 months.

Recommendation and Decision

1. We work towards the development of a ANPR and registration system with implementation in March 2023, subject to further work on connectivity and costings.
2. Retain the current booking system for a 12-month period while the ANPR system is developed and implemented.

REPORT ATTACHED?

HWRC Appointments and Site Data

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report:

Signed: A. Williams

Head of Waste and Environmental Services

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	NONE	YES	YES	NONE	NONE	YES

POLICY CRIME & DISORDER AND EQUALITIES

An ANPR policy and associated equality impact assessment will be required prior to the implementation of the proposed ANPR system at the network of HWRC sites.

FINANCE

The development of the ANPR system would require financial investment, this would be based upon an invest to save proposal.

ICT

The development of a registration system and associated ANPR hardware will need to be developed and implemented in the longer term. This will form part of the divisional IT development work programme.

The options for interim usage of the current will have an impact on the IT system maintenance requirements and associated resources.

PHYSICAL ASSETS

The development of the ANPR system will require physical upgrades to our HWRC network.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: A. Williams

Head of Waste and Environmental Services

1. Scrutiny Committee - 7th March 2022

2. Local Member(s) - Yes - we will continue to undertake a full engagement process to inform our decision-making process.

3. Community / Town Council - N/A

4. Relevant Partners - N/A

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

Yes - we will continue to undertake a full engagement programme with CWM Environmental Ltd

**CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDER
AWARE/CONSULTED**

**Yes –
cabinet member supports the position and
recommendations.**

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

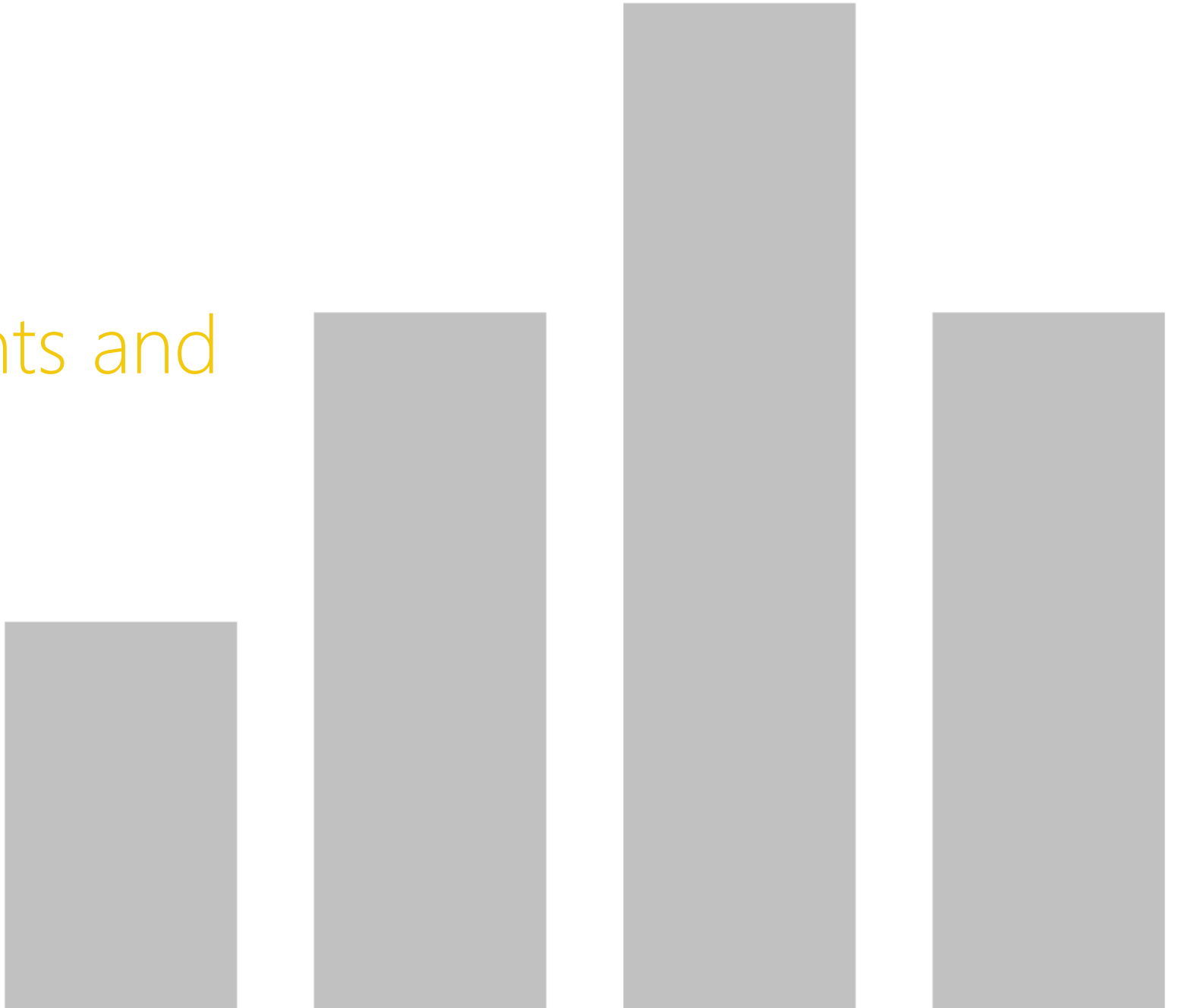
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THERE ARE NONE

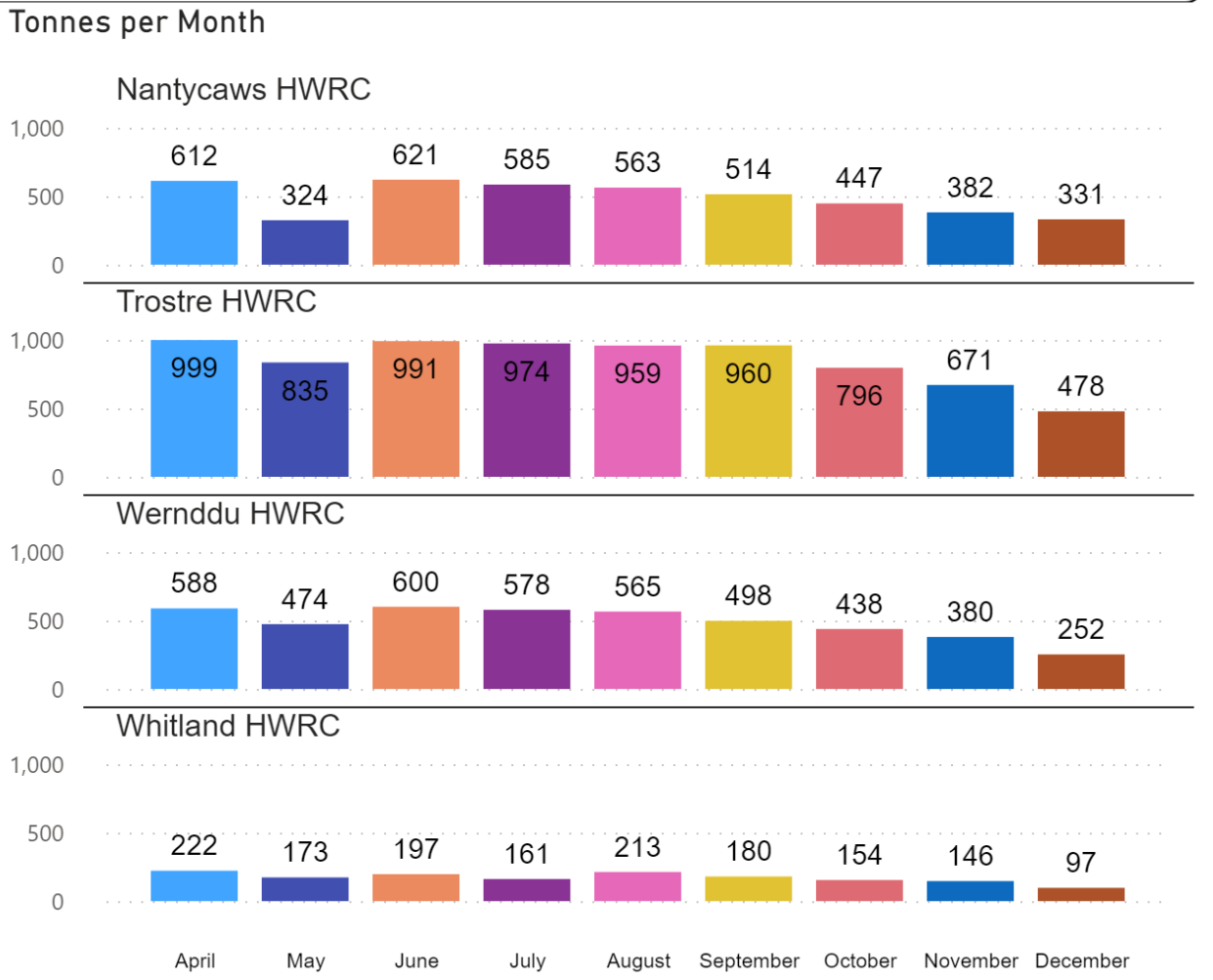
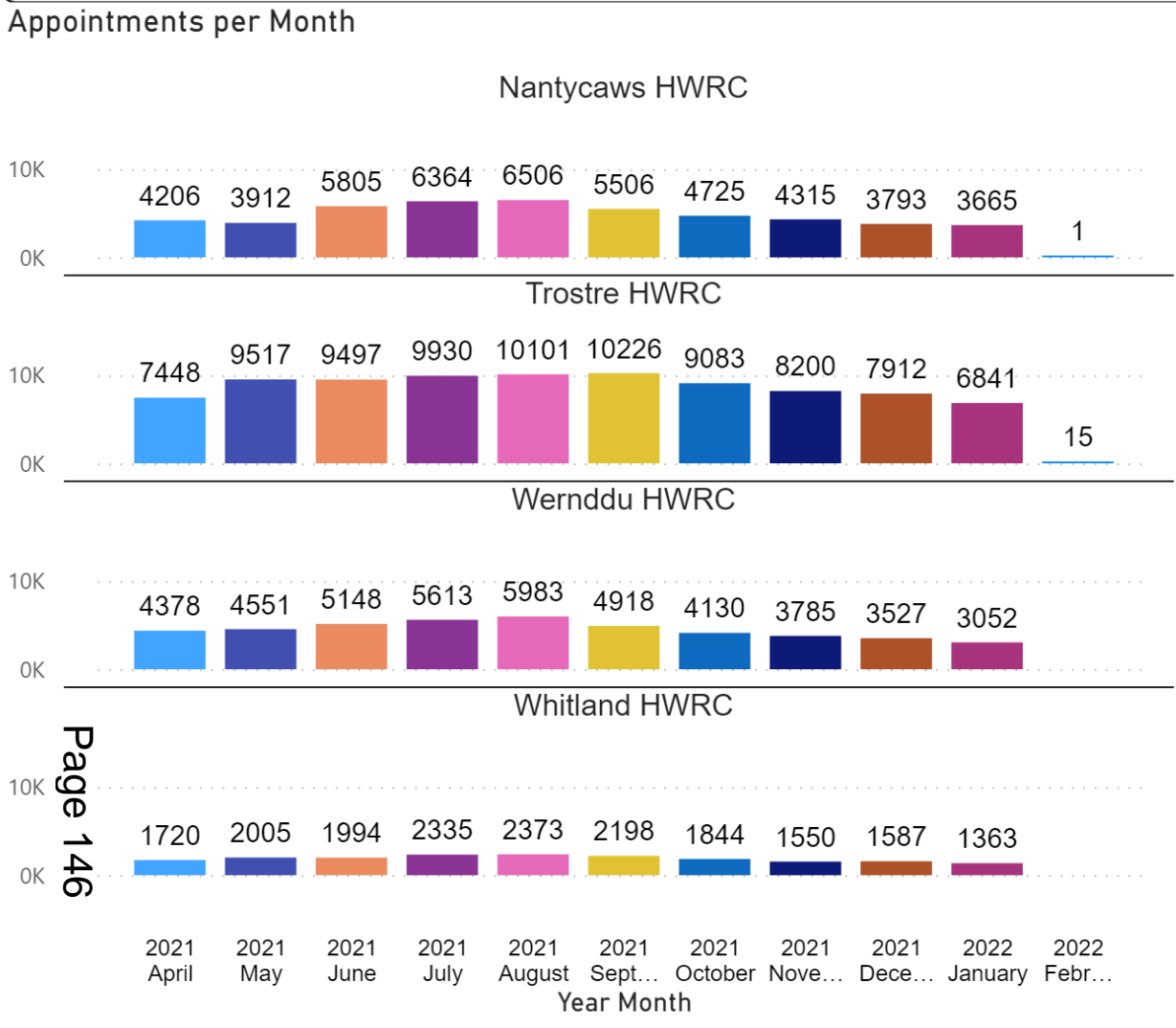
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HWRC Appointments and Site Data

[View in Power BI](#) ↗



Year HWRC ▲	2021										2022			Total
	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total	January	February	Total	
Nantycaws HWRC	4206	3912	5805	6364	6506	5506	4725	4315	3793	45132	3665	1	3666	48798
Trostre HWRC	7448	9517	9497	9930	10101	10226	9083	8200	7912	81914	6841	15	6856	88770
Wernddu HWRC	4378	4551	5148	5613	5983	4918	4130	3785	3527	42033	3052		3052	45085
Whitland HWRC	1720	2005	1994	2335	2373	2198	1844	1550	1587	17606	1363		1363	18969

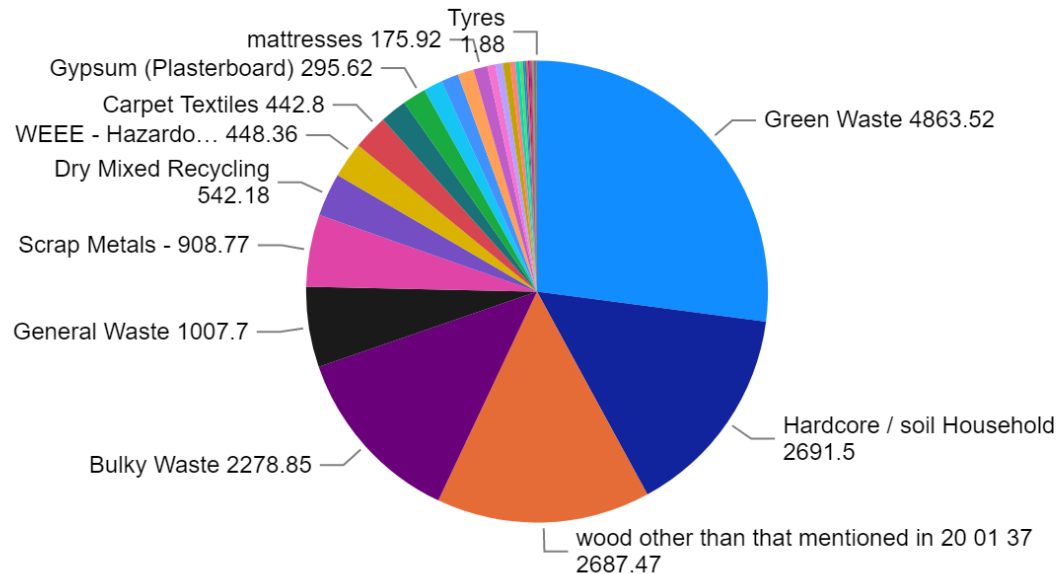


Year, Month

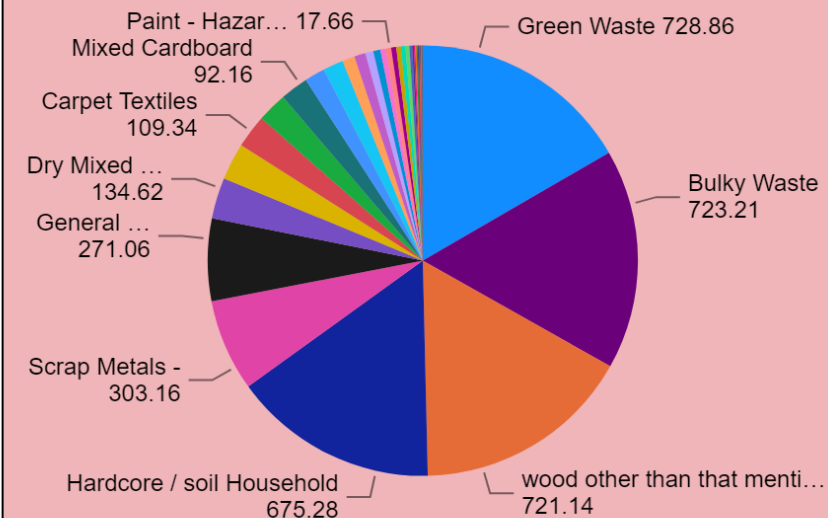
^ 2021

- January
- February
- March
- April
- May
- June
- July
- August
- September
- October
- November
- December

All HWRC's

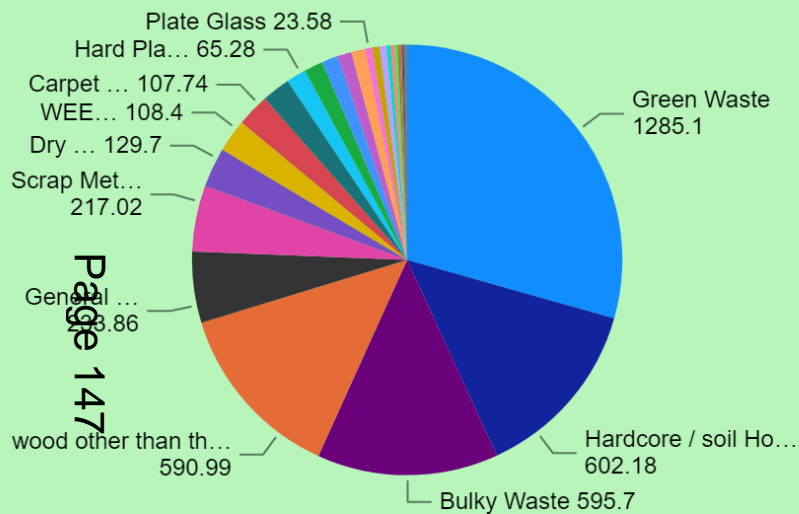


Nantycaws HWRC

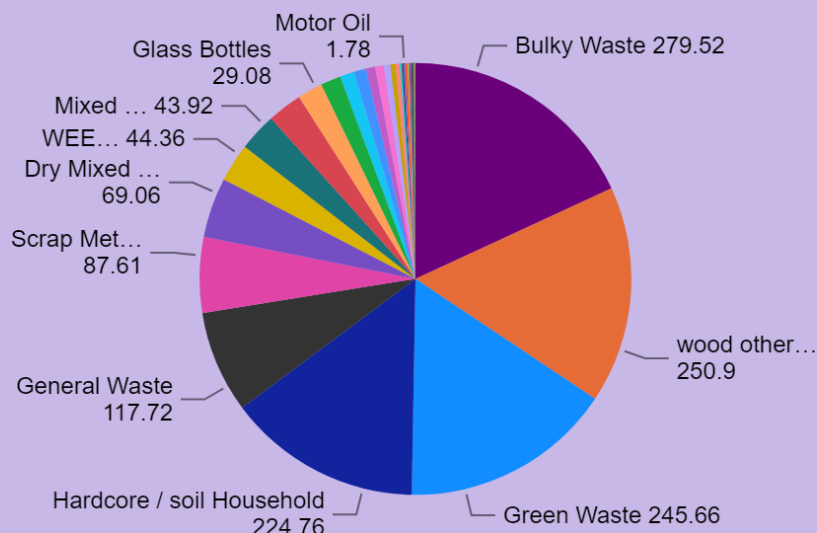


Hover over Waste Categories for monthly breakdown

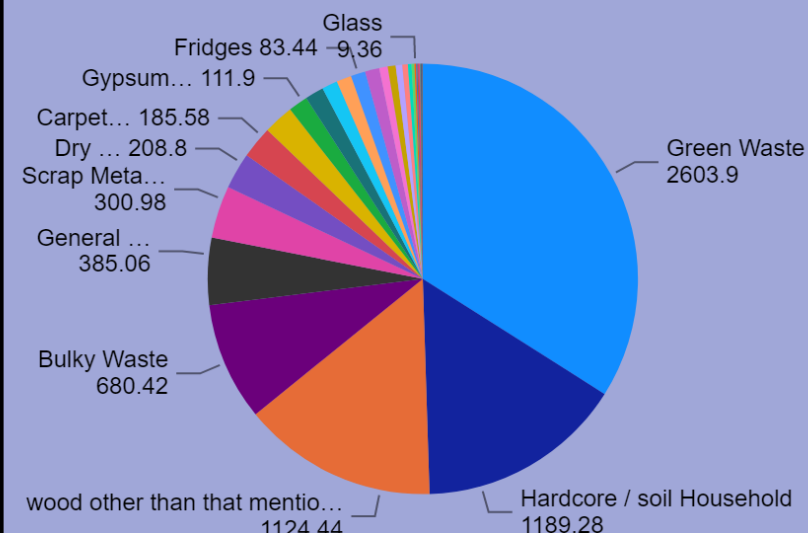
Wernddu HWRC



Whitland HWRC



Trostre HWRC



Select all

Nantycaws
HWRCTrostre
HWRCWernddu
HWRCWhitland
HWRCMax Appointments per
Half Hour Time Slot

20

Week Ending, Month

Friday, September 03, 2021



Number of Appointments by Time Slot

● Count of reference ● Sum of Maximum Appointments

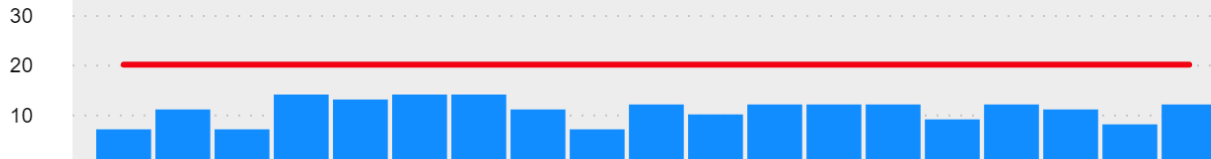
Sunday, 29, August



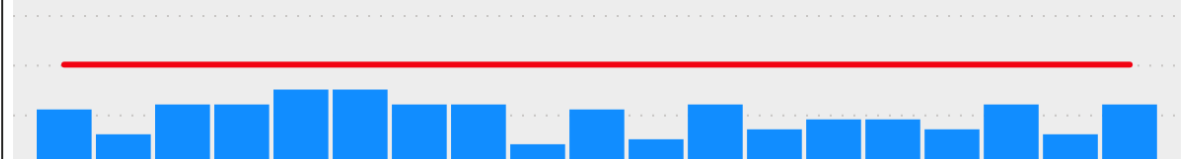
Monday, 30, August



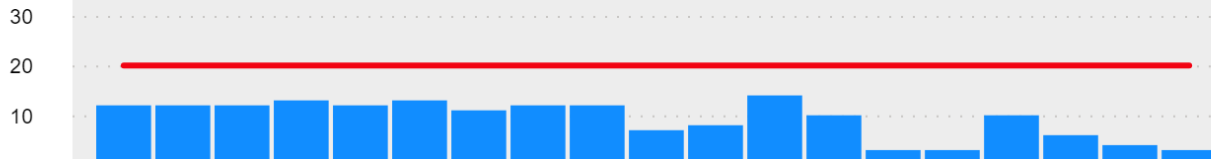
Tuesday, 31, August



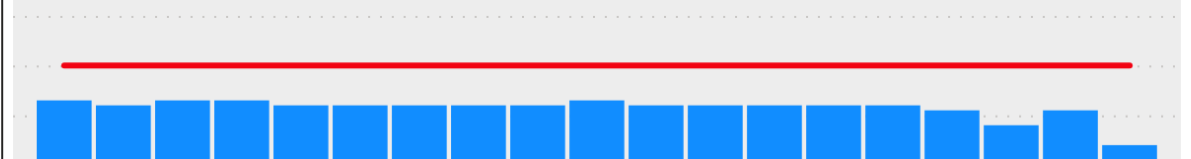
Wednesday, 1, September



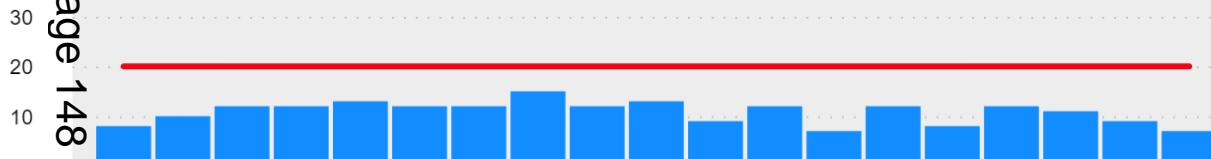
Thursday, 2, September



Friday, 3, September



Saturday, 4, September



☐ Whitland HWRC

4268

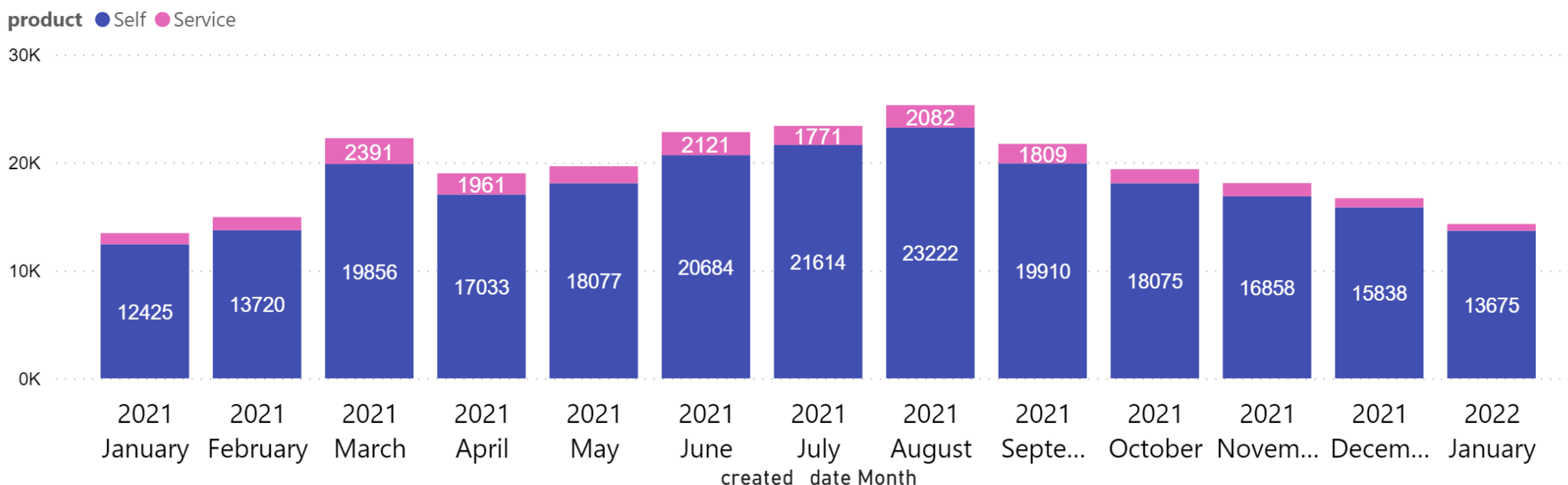
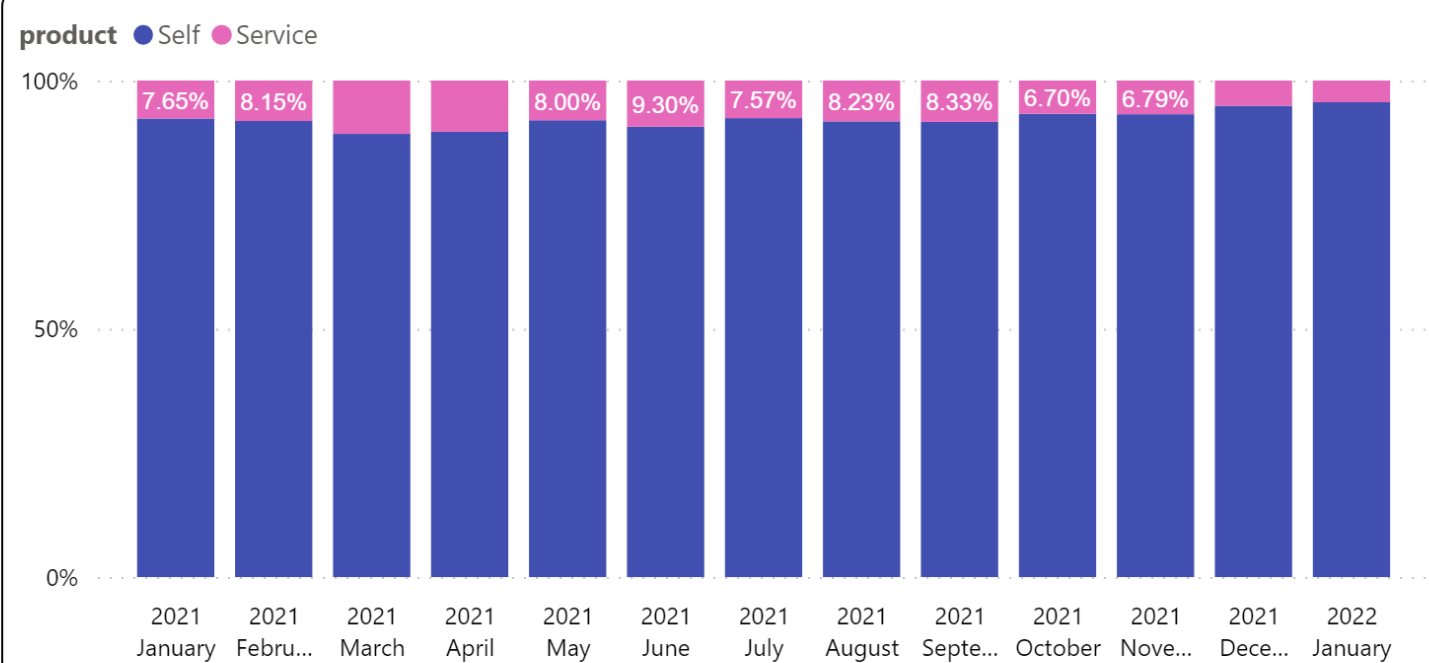
Friday, November 05, 2021

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Year, Month, Day

- ☒ Select all
- ☐ 2020
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- ☐ July
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- ☐ September
- ☐ October
- ☐ November
- ☐ December
- ☐ 2022

Year	Self	Service	Total
2022	13675	626	14301
January	13675	626	14301
2021	217312	19331	236643
December	15838	850	16688
1	406	64	470
2	568	50	618
3	544	44	588
4	578		578
5	558	1	559
6	471	52	523
7	350	28	378
8	453	58	511
9	474	32	506
10	530	40	570
Total	230987	19957	250944



ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

7TH MARCH 2022

PROVISION OF PAVEMENTS IN RURAL AREAS

Purpose:

This report has been written at the request of the Environmental and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee following a referral from Community and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee regarding the lack of provision of pavements in rural areas and the backlog of requests.

To consider and comment on the following issues:

The methodology in place for assessing and prioritising available funding for requested highway improvements.

Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted:

Environment and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee 7th March 2022.

Cabinet Decision Required NO

Council Decision Required NO

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- Councillor Hazel Evans

Directorate:	Designations:	Tel:
Name of Head of Service:	Head of Service – Highways & Transportation	sgpilliner@cararthenshire.gov.uk
Steve Pilliner		
Report Author:	Highways & Transportation Services Manager	rwaters@cararthenshire.gov.uk
Richard Waters		

ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

7TH MARCH 2022

PROVISION OF PAVEMENTS IN RURAL AREAS

The Community and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee at its meeting held on 1st July 2021 raised a concern regarding a lack of pavements in rural areas to facilitate increased levels of walking and cycling and made reference to the outstanding pool of requests for pavements. As this matter did not fall within the Community and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee's remit and in accordance with [Scrutiny Procedure Rule 23](#) of the Councils Constitution, it was agreed to refer the matter to Environmental and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee.

Consequently, the Environmental and Public Protection Committee, at its meeting on 4th October 2021 accepted the referral and requested for a report to include background information and the current position of the provision of pavements in rural areas in Carmarthenshire, to be presented to the Committee for consideration. Appendix A provides [Minute 9 of the Environmental and Public Protection Scrutiny – 4th October 2022](#).

There has been a longstanding pressure on the County Council from the large number of requests received for highway improvements such as upgraded junctions, traffic calming, new sections of road and new footways. These requests far exceed the resources available through the Council's annual capital budget allocated for Highway Infrastructure and Road Safety Improvements. The level of capital funding available, it is £250k per annum. The level of funding enables delivery of a maximum of three schemes per year.

Where possible and a footway scheme meets specified criteria, the Council will bid for grant funding from the Wales Government. These schemes include Safe Routes to School and where the settlement size is sufficient, Active Travel.

To ensure that this budget is targeted towards the areas of greatest need a prioritisation model was approved by the Council's Executive Board in November, 2011 and amended by the Executive Board in February, 2017 - [Agenda for Cabinet on Monday, 27th February, 2017, 10.00 am](#).

The prioritisation model adopts a staged approach with assessment based on evidence of:

- recorded road traffic collisions which result in personal injuries,
- the severity of injuries,
- injuries to vulnerable road users (pedestrians and cyclists),
- numbers of road users (traffic, pedestrians and cyclists),

The highest-ranking candidate projects are then assessed to understand the expected benefits an investment would bring in terms of:

- level of improvement,
- deliverability of the project,
- value for money
- potential leverage of additional funding
- future maintenance impact.

The highest-ranking schemes are then incorporated into a rolling capital programme which has a current annual budget of £250,000. The Executive Board also agreed that 10% of the budget be allocated towards low cost / high value works would beneficially address sites which have a high road safety risk with measures such as traffic signs and road markings.

Projects which cannot be included within the programme are kept on record for future reference and can be brought forward should other delivery opportunities arise such as through new development, Safe Routes in Communities and Active Travel initiatives.

The bank of unfunded schemes is readily accessible in the 'Demand Library' on [GeoDiscoverer](#) and are reviewed and reassessed periodically. The current Demand Library has 424 candidates schemes which include 218 schemes with elements containing footway improvements.

REPORT ATTACHED?

NO:

Appendix A provides [Minute 9 of the Environmental and Public Protection Scrutiny – 4th October 2022.](#)

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report:

Signed: **S.G.Pilliner**

Head of Transportation and Highways

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	YES	NONE	YES

Finance

This report sets out the prioritisation of the Road Safety and Highway Infrastructure Capital Programme as agreed by Executive Board in February 2017. The annual budget for scheme is £250,000 per annum.

Risk Management

The prioritisation model adopts a risk-based approach in targeting capital resources to areas of greatest need as evidence within an objective database of personal injury accidents recorded by the police.

Physical Assets

The assessment model adopted for prioritising and developing the capital programme includes consideration of the impact an investment has on future asset maintenance liabilities

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: S.G. Pilliner

Head of Transportation and Highways

1. Scrutiny Committee.

Report to be presented to Environment and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee on the 7th March 2022.

2. Local Member(s) N/A

3. Community / Town Council: N/A

4. Relevant Partners: N/A

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations: N/A

**CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO
HOLDER AWARE/CONSULTED**

YES

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report: None**

Title of Document	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Minute 9 - Referral From The Community And Regeneration Scrutiny Committee - Provision Of Pavements In Rural Areas	Environmental and Public Protection Scrutiny – 4th October 2021.
Prioritisation Model for Highway Infrastructure and Road Safety Improvements	https://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/documents/s11660/SUMMARY.pdf
Agenda for Cabinet on Monday, 27th February, 2017, 10.00 am	Agenda for Cabinet on Monday, 27th February, 2017, 10.00 am.

Minute 9 of the Environmental and Public Protection Scrutiny – 4th October 2021.**REFERRAL FROM THE COMMUNITY AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - PROVISION OF PAVEMENTS IN RURAL AREAS**

The Committee received a report for consideration in relation to a referral from the Community and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee in relation to the provision of pavements in rural areas.

Community and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee Members noted during the consideration of the Council's Draft Annual Report for 2020/21, at its meeting on 1st July, 2021 made reference to the increase in walking and cycling during the pandemic and to the lack of pavements on public highways in many rural areas to facilitate safe walking, with there being over 300 applications for pavements currently outstanding. A view was expressed that the Authority should examine this position, possibly via a Task and Finish Group. As this matter did not fall within the Committees remit Members of the Community and Regeneration Scrutiny committee agreed to refer the matter to the Environment and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee.

In addition, the report also included information of a discussion that took place within the Policy and Resources Committee on 21st July 2021 which expressed concern over the backlog of requests for the provision of pavements in rural areas.

In acknowledgement that this matter did fall under the remit of this Committee it was raised that this matter was a significant concern which needed to be explored further.

It was therefore proposed that this Committee accept the referral and in order for the Committee to consider the matter appropriately, it was proposed that a report be included on the Committee's Forward Work Programme to provide background information and the current position in relation to the provision of pavements in rural areas. This was duly seconded

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that:

- 9.1 the Referral from the Community and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee be received and accepted;**
- 9.2 a report be included on the Committee's Forward Work Programme to provide background information and the current position in relation to the provision of pavements in rural areas.**

ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

7TH MARCH 2022

NON-SUBMISSION OF SCRUTINY REPORT

To consider and comment on the following:

Explanation provided for the non-submission of a scrutiny report.

Reason:

The Council's Constitution requires Scrutiny Committees to develop and publish an annual Forward Work Programme which identifies the issues and reports to be considered at meetings during the course of the year. If a report is not presented as scheduled, officers are expected to prepare a non-submission report explaining the reason(s) why.

To be referred to the Cabinet for decision: NO

Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder: Cllr Philip Hughes (Public Protection)

Report Author: Janine Owen	Designation: Democratic Services Officer	Tel No. / E-Mail Address: 01267 224030 JanineOwen@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

7TH MARCH 2022

NON-SUBMISSION OF SCRUTINY REPORT

The Council's Constitution requires Scrutiny Committees to develop and publish an annual Forward Work Programme which identifies the issues and reports to be considered at meetings during the course of the year.

If a report is not presented as scheduled in the Forward Work Programme, the responsible officer(s) are expected to prepare a non-submission report explaining the reason(s) why.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Signed: Linda Rees-Jones

Head of Administration & Law

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below:

Signed: Linda Rees-Jones

Head of Administration & Law

1. Local Member(s) – N/A

2. Community / Town Council – N/A

3. Relevant Partners – N/A

4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – N/A

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER AWARE / CONSULTED

YES

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

There are none.

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ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

7TH MARCH 2022

EXPLANATION FOR NON-SUBMISSION OF SCRUTINY REPORT

ITEM	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	EXPLANATION	REVISED SUBMISSION DATE
Communities Departmental Business Plan 2022/23-2023/24 <i>*Extracts relevant to this scrutiny's remit</i>	Jonathan Morgan	The Public Protection actions and measures are currently in the process of being developed as we manage the sections transfer over to the Place and Sustainability Division in the Environment Department.	To be confirmed following the election process.

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ENVIRONMENTAL & PUBLIC PROTECTION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

1 FEBRUARY 2022

PRESENT: Councillor J.D. James (Chair)

Councillors:

J.M. Charles, T.A.J. Davies, J.A. Davies, K. Davies, S.J.G. Gilasbey, T.M. Higgins, E. Morgan, B.D.J. Phillips, J.S. Phillips, D. Thomas, A. Vaughan Owen and A.D.T. Speake. K. Madge - substitute for Councillor P.M. Edwards).

Also in attendance:

Councillor C.A. Davies, Cabinet Member for Communities and Rural Affairs;
Councillor H.A.L. Evans, Cabinet Member for Environment;
Councillor P.M. Hughes, Cabinet Member for Public Protection;
Councillor D.M. Jenkins, Cabinet Member for Resources.

The following Officers were in attendance:

N. Daniel, Head of ICT and Corporate Policy; Interim Head of Planning
A. Williams, Head of Waste and Environmental Services;
R. Hemingway, Head of Financial Services;
R. Griffiths, Head of Place and Sustainability;
J. Morgan, Head of Homes & Safer Communities;
S. Pilliner, Head of Transportation & Highways;
D.W. John, Environmental Services Manager;
R. James, Group Accountant;
M. Roberts, Policy and Strategy Officer, Environmental and Enforcement;
K. Evans, Assistant Democratic Services Officer;
S. Rees, Simultaneous Translator;
R. Morris, Members Support Officer;
J. Owen, Democratic Services Officer.

Virtual Meeting - 10.00 am - 12.00 pm

[Note: The Chair, after having received a request from Councillor Philip Hughes, Cabinet Member for Public Protection, agreed to change the order business on the agenda. Item 6, was taken prior to Item 4. However, for ease of referencing, these minutes reflect the order of business itemised on the agenda for the meeting.]

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND OTHER MATTERS.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor P. M. Edwards.

The Chair formally welcomed to the meeting, Mr Rhodri Griffiths, Head of Place and Sustainability.

The Chair, on behalf of the Committee expressed condolences to the family of the late Councillor Mair Stephens.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST INCLUDING ANY PARTY WHIPS ISSUED IN RELATION TO ANY AGENDA ITEM.

Councillor	Minute No (s)	Nature of Interest
D. Phillips	Minute 4 – Revenue Budget Strategy Consultation 2022/23 to 2024/25 (Appendix C – Charging Digest)	His brother is a Licensed Dog Breeder

There were no declarations of any prohibited party whips.

3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS (NONE RECEIVED)

The Chair advised that no public questions had been received.

4. REVENUE BUDGET STRATEGY CONSULTATION 2022/23 to 2024/25

[NOTE: Councillor D. Phillips declared an interest in Appendix 'C' to the report (Charging Digest) did not speak or vote on that Appendix].

The Committee considered the report presented by the Cabinet Member for Resources on the Council's Revenue Budget Strategy 2022/23 to 2024/25, as endorsed by the Cabinet for consultation purposes at its meeting held on the 17th January 2022. The report provided Members with the current view of the Revenue Budget for 2022/2023 together with indicative figures for the 2023/2024 and 2024/2025 financial years based on officers' projections of spending requirements and taken account of the provisional settlement issued by Welsh Government on the 21st December 2021. It also reflected current departmental submissions for savings proposals after taking account of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the delivery of those savings.

The Cabinet Member advised that the provisional settlement from Welsh Government this year was considerably higher than what was planned for, however he also highlighted that the scale of expenditure pressures that this Authority and other Local Authorities were facing was also at an unprecedented high level, which offset the higher settlement. The provisional settlement represented an average increase of 9.4% across Wales on the 2021/22 settlement. Carmarthenshire's settlement figures saw an increase of 9.2% (£26.335m) thereby taking the Aggregate External Finance to £311.957m for 2022/23 which included £302k in respect of the Social Care Workforce Grant.

Across the whole of the council's budgets, validation added £23m, by some margin the highest we have needed to allow for in recent years.

The budget also included £12.5m. for new departmental expenditure pressures which have been identified by departments and were inescapable if we are to continue to deliver our main services at the current level. As with the inflationary uplift, this was considerably more than the norm and reflected the scale of pressures on the current Council's services.

In respect of the savings proposals (Appendix Aii), the Cabinet Member explained that the continued response to the pandemic had further impacted on the delivery of efficiencies.

Nevertheless, it was highlighted that the Councils budget strategy had put forward some £3.8m of savings next year and a further £7.9m over the following 2 years. In relation to this committee's remit, the current proposals totalled some £886k in year 1 and a further £1.6m over the following 2 years.

The Budget Strategy proposed a Council Tax of 4.39% for 2022/23, in line with the Medium-Term Financial Plan, and that proposal would be considered as part of the budget finalisation process over the next month and where the Authority received further clarification on cost and grant funding with a view to limiting the Council Tax increase as far as possible. Final budget proposals would then be presented to the Cabinet late February, to ensure a balanced budget was presented to County Council.

The Committee thereupon considered the following detailed budget information appended to the Strategy relevant to its remit:

- **Appendix A(i)** – Efficiency summary for the Environment and Public Protection Services
- **Appendix A(ii)** – Growth Pressures summary for the Environment and Public Protection Services
- **Appendix B** – Budget monitoring report for the Environment and Public Protection Services
- **Appendix C** – Charging Digest for the Environment and Public Protection Services

The following questions/issues were raised on the report:-

- The following queries and concerns were raised in regard to car parking charges and the proposal to introduce charges to additional car parks as cited on Appendix Aii of the report:-
 - It was asked which 'additional car parks' had been identified, where were they located, what the process to introduce the charges would be and would Members be made aware?
 - It was asked consideration had been given to the reasons why the car parks were currently free to use?
 - A concern was raised in regard to the overall increase of car parking charges and the potential impact on the smaller towns and businesses therein.

The Head of Highway and Transportation, in response stated that the proposal to introduce charges to additional car parks would involve the following car parks which were currently free to use:-

- Dafen Steele, Llanelli
- Llanybydder
- Station Car Park and Sea View Terrace, Burry Port
- Glan-yr-Afon and Station Road Car Parks, Kidwelly
- Llansteffan
- Eva Terrace, Ferryside

In terms of the due process, it was explained that subject to the approval of the budget strategy, to enable the charges to be applied a lengthy statutory process for the creation of a Traffic Regulation Order would take place. As part of this process the proposed Traffic Regulation Order which would be subject to a formal stakeholder consultation and public notices.

The Head of Highway and Transportation confirmed that the reasons behind the current use of free car parks had been explored and was factored into the current proposal.

In relation to the general increase in car park charges, the Head of Waste and Environmental Services highlighted that as stated in the report, the increase was planned for April 2020 but was put into effect in January 2021 and that there was no proposal within this budget strategy to further increase the charges.

Contrary to the concerns regarding the increase in car park charges, a comment was raised that whilst any increase in charges was controversial in its nature, it was highlighted that there were also many members of the public who do not own vehicles, of which would not be affected by the increase in charges but would be affected by any increase in Council Tax.

It was raised that the carpark charges within the town of Carmarthen were substantially higher than those within Ammanford and Llanelli, in the interest of fairness, it was asked if a review of the carpark charges across Carmarthenshire could be undertaken with a view to be consistent. The Head of Waste and Environmental Services stated that the comment would be considered, however the variance in terms of the location and usage would be a factor in the different charging rate. In addition, Members were informed that the charges were an important income stream to enable necessary maintenance on the car parks to be undertaken.

Further comments were raised regarding the economic situation and footfall which differed between Ammanford, Llanelli and Carmarthen and the reason why the carpark changes within Ammanford and Llandeilo was at a lower rate due to the economic position. Concern was raised that an increase in carpark charges would have a detrimental impact on the smaller towns and its businesses.

- A concern was raised in relation to the lack of maintenance and aesthetic care of the infrastructure and fixtures within Ammanford and the need for a plan to manage this was called for. In response, the Head of Waste and Environmental Services explained that the budget strategy had included the financial position and the proposals for members consideration and unfortunately this area of maintenance was no longer available.
- In reference to Road Safety Innovation, clarification was sought how income and sponsorship would be obtained. The Head of Highways and Transportation explained that in exploring how additional income could be obtained, the team had discovered examples across the Country where road safety activities had attracted sponsorship. It was identified that there was a potential opportunity to achieve a modest income by utilising services such as school crossing patrols and training.
- Reference was made to the proposal in relation to Highways - 'subject to the financial position remaining unchanged the service will be forced to further reduce the level of general maintenance work' as stated in Appendix Aii of the report. In acknowledging that the condition of the highways was currently dependant on the continued significant investment bids, strong concern was expressed that further budget reductions would be detrimental to the road conditions within Carmarthenshire. Following the general consensus of the Committee to protect the maintenance and improve the conditions of the County's highways, it was therefore recommended to place the allocated sum of £757k within highways budget.
- Information was sought in respect of the School Crossing Patrol vacancies and the timescales. The Head of Highways and Transportation reported that the explained that whilst a continuous recruitment process for School Crossing Patrols was in effect, there had been some difficulties in filling vacancies on some sites. In the interim, the team were working with the Community to assist in the provision of school crossing.
- In response to a query raised regarding the vacant post within the Public Rights of Way section, the Head of Highways and Transportation reported that the first round of the recruitment process had been completed and would be appointing shortly.
- Reference was made to the Traffic Management section of the Charging Digest, Appendix C. It was asked if the 2% price increase in line with inflation could be further increased? The Cabinet Member for Resources explained that as stated within the report, the charging would be minimised to 2.5% in respect of the burden on household budgets. It was further commented that an increase within the Traffic Management section would not have a direct impact on households. In acknowledging that income was an important and necessary stream, the comment on the percentage price increase was echoed and supported as long as it does not directly impact on households.

In addition, it was asked if inflation would be added to the charges that had not increased? The Cabinet Member for Resources stated that it would be prudent to undertake a review of all charges that does not directly impact on ratepayers.

- Reference was made to fixed penalty notices and their charges. It was commented that clean-up operations attributed to clearing up dog faeces and litter were costly and fixed penalty charges, whilst contributing towards these costs were also a form of punishment for irresponsible behaviour therefore, it was asked if the fixed penalty charges could be increased? The Head of Waste and Environmental Services explained that the Council, in setting the charges were governed by legislation and the charges seen within the digest were set towards the upper limit and that any further increase would fall outside of the legislation. A further increase to reach the absolute maximum could be achieved in the future in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member. It was strongly expressed that a review take place on all fixed penalty notice charges and ensure that they are set to the maximum limit of the legislation as soon as practically possible.

RESOLVED subject to the Committee's comments being considered as part of the consultation that:-

4.1 the 2022/23 – 2024/25 Revenue Budget Strategy Consultation be received;

4.2 the Charging Digests for the Environmental and Public Protection, as detailed in Appendix C to the report, be endorsed.

5. REVENUE & CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2021/22

The Committee considered the Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report, presented the report relevant to the Environmental and Public Protection Services, which provided an update on the latest budgetary position as at 31st October 2021 in respect of the 2021/22 financial year.

It was reported that the projections reflected the re-imbursements received from Welsh Government for additional Covid-19 related expenditure via the hardship fund and also to cover the loss of income from services impacted by the pandemic. The Environmental and Public Protection section was projecting an underspend of £256K on the revenue budget and net variance of £17,160K compared with a working net budget of £18,270k giving a -£1,110k.

The following questions / observations were raised on the report:-

- In response to a query raised in relation to the Green Waste Collection, the Environmental Services Manager clarified that the surplus was due to the increased customer base and confirmed that that the service was on track and had achieved its planned breakeven position.

- The Environmental Services Manager in response to a query raised on the charges for public conveniences reported that the planned increase had not been put into effect due to the pandemic.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

6. LOCAL ENVIRONMENT QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN 2022 - 2026

The Committee considered a report on the Local Environment Quality Management Plan 2022-2026, presented by the Cabinet Member for Environment and the Cabinet Member for Public Protection.

The plan included the direction of the Council's litter management within the County for the next four years and aimed to demonstrate how litter management would be undertaken, whilst contributing to the Council's Corporate Strategy, with particular emphasis Wellbeing Objective 10 – Healthy and Safe Environment; look after the environment now and in the future.

The following questions/issues were raised on the report:-

- In response to a query raised regarding the number of officers were available within enforcement, the Head of Waste and Environmental Services reported that there were currently 8 officers with 1 vacancy, therefore a total of 9 staff within the enforcement team.
- Reference was made to section 11.2 – Voluntary Groups and Other Organisations. More information was sought regarding the publicity of information to encourage and aid members of the public and Town/Community Councils to engage in setting up groups to clean villages and rural areas. The Cabinet Member for Environment highlighted that this would be relevant to the Pride in your Patch initiative will be re-instated. The Environmental Services Manager further explained to members that the 'Pride in your Patch' initiative works to engage local communities seek volunteers to become litter champions who would then arrange local litter picks. The Policy and Strategy Officer, Environmental and Enforcement reported that there were currently 52 groups registered across Carmarthenshire and that he was currently working closely with the risk assessment team regarding appropriate insurance cover for volunteers. Other initiatives were effective which included Caru Cymru project and Keep Britain Tidy.
- The Policy and Strategy Officer, Environmental and Enforcement in response to a query in relation to the disposal of adhoc litter picking stated that an online Googleform had been introduced which enables members of the public to notify the Authority of the litter pick event/activity which will also collect the data in relation to where the bags of litter would be located and arrangements would be made to collect them.

- Furthermore, in response to a query raised in accessing the red bags specifically for litter pickers, the Policy and Strategy Officer, Environmental and Enforcement explained that Keep Britain Tidy issue the red bags to registered Keep Wales Tidy Champions. In addition, the clear bags were issued to the Authority's Local Environment Quality Champions, an initiative which was developed over the pandemic.
- Reference was made to the ongoing issue of dog fouling. It was asked if any progress had been made with discussions with the Police Constable in regard to the receipt of a fine being shared between the Council and PCSO officers. The Head of Waste and Environmental Services explained that work had been undertaken with the police by way of a letter to the Chief Constable and training and provided fixed penalty stationary to the police. It was reported that whilst the police were supportive, they depended on the availability of resources and their priorities particularly throughout the pandemic. This matter would be re-visited going forward.
- It was strongly expressed that offenders of dog fouling and littering should be 'named and shamed' in the local newspapers and on social media and asked how proactive the Council was on this matter? The Cabinet Member for Public Protection assured members that work was currently being carried out to increase the number of fixed penalty notices within the paper acknowledging that there was a cost element to this.
- A concern was raised regarding dog fouling in parks and the dangers of toxocariasis, an infection that can be contracted by animal faeces if handled. In addition, it was expressed that a clear management plan on the clearance of litter is important. The Cabinet member for Public Protection reminded the Committee of the consultation on the enhanced Public Space Protection Orders with parks and sports fields being an area of consideration. In addition, the Cabinet Member strongly emphasised that members of the public also have a duty of care not to litter the countryside and take their litter home. The Head of Waste and Environmental Services add that behavioural change would be the best solution, and that the members of the litter team were present within town centres daily, however rural areas relied on volunteers due to limited resources.
- It was asked if it was possible to provide Town and Community Councils and volunteer groups with litter picking equipment? The Policy and Strategy Officer, Environmental and Enforcement explained that there was a litter picking hub in Carmarthen Town where equipment and bags could be accessed. In addition, the approach of enabling Community Councils to obtain equipment permanently this could be considered as part of a review of the 'Pride in your Patch' initiative. Alternatively, another option to gain access to equipment would be through Keep Wales Tidy who would communicate with persons keen on setting up additional litter picking hubs in their area.

- Information was sought in relation to the legal position of utilising CCTV within Town and Community Councils to catch offenders? The Policy and Strategy Officer, Environmental and Enforcement explained that the use of CCTV must be approached with caution and that there was negativity surrounding the provision of CCTV for the use of dog fouling activities. Historically, robust intelligence was usually obtained by responsible dog owners, which the officers respond to appropriately. The Head of Waste and Environmental Services advised that Town and Community Councils utilising CCTV to do so with due diligence.
- Reference was made to the LEQ Action Plan. In noting the operation to 'Develop and the robust strategy and action plan to tackle fly-tipping (1) and (2), it was raised that the Committee would be carrying out a Task and Finish Review on Fly-tipping and asked how this would be approached? The Environmental Services Manager stated that the involvement of the Task and Finish Group as part of the review would be key in the development of the strategy.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO CABINET that the Local Environment Quality Management Plan 2022-2026 be approved.

7. FORTHCOMING ITEMS

The Committee considered the list of forthcoming items to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting scheduled to take place on 7th March 2022 and was afforded the opportunity to request for any specific information that Members may wish to include within the reports.

The Chair informed the Committee that he had received a request to include a report on the Household Waste and Recycling Centre (HWRC) report onto the next meetings agenda. The Chair proposed to accept the request as the report seeks to provide a future strategy of accessibility for the HWRC service in Carmarthenshire, this was duly seconded.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that:

- 7.1 the list of forthcoming items to be considered at the next scheduled meeting on the 7th March 2022 be noted;**
- 7.2 the HWRC report be included on the next meeting's agenda – 7th March 2022.**
- 7.3 the Committee's revised Forward Work Programme 2021/22 be noted.**

8. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 22 DECEMBER 2021

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 22nd December, 2021 be signed as a correct record.

CHAIR

DATE