Aberdeenshire
C O U N C I L **Environment & Infrastructure Services**

**REPORT TO INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES COMMITTEE 01 DECEMBER 2022
ENVIRONMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES PERFORMANCE AND
DIRECTORATE PLAN UPDATE 1 APRIL 2022 – 30 SEPTEMBER 2022
(ABERDEENSHIRE PERFORMS).**

1. Executive Summary/Recommendations

1.1. To provide the Committee with an update on progress with the actions and performance measures set out in the Environment & Infrastructure Services Directorate Plan for the period 1 April 2022 – 30 September 2022 which fall under the remit of the Infrastructure Services Committee.

1.2. **The Committee is recommended to:**

1.2.1. **Consider and comment on progress and performance made during the period 1 April 2022 – 30 September 2022 with the key measures and actions set out in appendices 1-2; and**

1.2.2. **Instruct the Director of Environment & Infrastructure Services to continue to present performance reports to the Committee on a six-monthly basis, evidencing progress and performance with delivery of the priorities set out in the new E&IS Directorate Plan 2022 – 2025.**

2. Purpose and Decision-Making Route

2.1. On the 7 October 2020 Aberdeenshire Council approved a revised Council Plan for the period 2020 – 2022 (item 3). The Council Plan sets out the outcomes (Council Priorities) expected for the six strategic priorities.

2.2. Those actions to be taken by Environment & Infrastructure Services (E&IS) in support of the Council Priorities were set out in the Environment & Infrastructure Services Directorate Plan which was approved by the Infrastructure Services Committee at its meeting of the 11 March 2021 (Item 5).

2.3. An update on progress with actions and performance for the period 1 October 2021 – 31 March 2022 was reported to the Infrastructure Services Committee 8 June 2022 (item 20).

2.4. This report updates the Committee on progress with actions from 1 April – 30 September 2022. Following the election of the new Council in May 2022 a new Council Plan has been in development and is scheduled to go to the Full Council for approval in November 2022. Following adoption of the new Council Plan a revised Directorate Plan will be developed setting out how E&IS will support delivery of key Council priorities. As a result the existing Directorate Plan will be closed down. This report is therefore the last report covering the 2020 – 2022 E&IS Directorate Plan.

3. Discussion

3.1. The Infrastructure Services Directorate Plan sets out a total of 86 actions to be undertaken by the service between 2020 and 2022. Of these 53 directly support delivery of Council Priorities whilst the other 33 relate to service related operational priorities.

3.2. 54 of these actions relate to the services of Roads & Infrastructure; Environment and Sustainability; and Planning & Economy. 32 actions relate to the service of Housing & Building Standards.

3.3. This report concentrates on those actions and measures which fall under the remit of the Infrastructure Services Committee. Progress with the Housing and Building Standard related actions and performance measures will be reported to the Communities Committee on the 22 December.

3.4. **Appendix 1** to this report provides details of 19 quarterly operational performance measures which have been identified in support of the service and Council priorities. The report covers the 5 Quarter Period from 1 June 2021 - 30 September 2022. Performance with these measures as of 30th September 2022 can be summarised as follows:-

	Status	Number of Measures	Percentage
No target/data		3	15.8%
On or above Target		6	31.5%
Slightly Below Target		1	5.3%
Below Target		9	47.4%

The overall change for each indicator can be summarised below:-

Improving		9	47.4%
Getting Worse		6	31.5%
No Change		4	21.1%

3.5. There is a mixed pattern in terms of changes to performance in Quarter 2 with 9 measures improving and six getting worse. However not all improvements involve those measures on or above target and performance of some measures meeting the target in Quarter 2 actually got worse compared to performance in Quarter 1. There are 9 measures in Quarter 2 which are significantly below target (i.e. greater than 5% and showing red). 8 of these measures are all Planning related and are:-

- 7.1 Percentage of household planning applications dealt with within 2 months. At 87.1% performance is 8.7% below target of 95%.

- 7.2 percentage of non-householder planning applications dealt with within two months. At 56.3% performance is 13.4% below target of 65%.

- 7.3 Percentage of the total number of planning applications dealt with within two months. At 70.2% performance is 6.4% below the target of 75%.

- 7.4b Other types of planning applications – average time to deal with applications in weeks. At 8.9 weeks performance is outwith the target of 8 weeks by 11.3%.

- 7.5 Number and percentage of processing agreements dealt with within agreed timescales. At 78.7% performance is 21.3% below target.

- 7.6 Applications with Legal Agreements – average time to conclude improved slightly in Quarter 2 but at 39.1 weeks was still 22.2% greater than the target of 32 weeks.

- 7.14 Average time taken to deal with a household planning application. At 8.1 weeks the measure is 35% outwith target of 6 weeks.

- 7.15 Average time taken to deal with a non-household planning application. At 16.5 weeks the measure is 50% outwith the target of 11 weeks.

3.6. A wide range of factors can impact on the time it takes to process a planning application, these include the scale and complexity of the application and the variation in consultee responses, both in content and timescales. On top of this there have been variations in area team performance caused by staffing changes and the need to progress legacy planning applications. It is hoped that following the introduction of new staff into some of the teams' performance will pick up next quarter.

3.7. Indicator 6.2 covers the percentage of household waste that is recycled or composted. Data is only available for Quarter 1 at present as the data for Quarter 2 is undergoing verification by SEPA. In Quarter 1 performance was 42.1% which is 6.5% below the target of 45%. It is expected that performance will continue to improve as various initiatives take effect including actions to separate waste streams at HWRCs, the introduction of the 3 weekly bin collection regime and the operation of the Energy from Waste (EfW) plant.

3.8. Of the 6 measures on or above target the following 4 measures are significantly (5% or more showing green) above target:-

- 1.4 The number of Trading standard Consumer Complaints received and the percentage dealt with within 14 days. At 79.1% performance is 13% above the target of 70%.

- 5.1 Street Lighting Faults – percentage completed within 7 days. Performance was 68.7% which is 9.9% above the target of 62.5%. It should be noted that the target was reduced from 90% the other year to allow the service to prioritise the LCD replacement programme.

- 7.4 Other types of planning applications – the percentage dealt with within two months. Performance in Quarter 2 was 88.37% which is 10.5% above the target of 80%.

- 8.3 Percentage of building warrants and amendment applications issued within 10 days from receipt of all satisfactory information. Performance in Quarter 2 was 96.1% which is 6.7% above the target of 90%.

3.9. **Appendix 2** to this report provides a summary of progress with the 54 actions which fall under the remit of this Committee. The 31 actions which support the Council Priorities are grouped under the three themes of Economic Development; Environment; Connectivity. The remaining 23 actions are shown as Operational Priorities. Each action shown in the appendix has been linked to the Council Priority (Outcome) and Strategic Priority that it supports.

3.10.   It must be explained that the actions in the directorate plan are a mixture of improvement actions with a defined end point (such as the delivery of the energy from waste plant) and business as usual activities such as road maintenance. To illustrate progress with each activity a simple convention has been adopted:-

✅   This means that the action is on target to achieve all planned work up to the 30 September 2022 or has been completed.

🔴   This means the action is behind schedule and will not achieve what was planned to be achieved by the 30 September 2022.

3.11.   Progress with actions can be summarised below:

Actions	On Target/ completed ✅	Behind Target 🔴	Total
Strategic	27	4	31
Operational	16	7	23
Total	43	11	54

3.12.   Whilst operational issues have delayed progress with some of these actions a number have been delayed by factors outwith the control of the Council. These include the following:-

- 2.03 Introduction of kerbside collection service – this was delayed due to funding issues which have now been resolved with the new 3 weekly collection service expected to be rolled out from spring 2023 onwards.

- 2.06 Implementation of the deposit return scheme – this was delayed by the Government to allow time for an independent review of the scheme and further stakeholder consultation. It is now planned to start in August next year.

- 2.07 Delivery of the Energy from Waste Plant – despite delays due to Covid it has now been confirmed that the plant will start burning rubbish this winter and will be fully operational next summer.

- 5.07 Adoption of the Local Development Plan – there were delays with the formal examination of the plan by the DPEA. The delay was wholly outwith the control of the Council. The Plan has now been approved by Full Council and is with the Scottish Ministers awaiting final adoption. These delays have also impacted on action 5.23 relating to planned greenfield land release and action 5.24 relating to brownfield development.

4. Council Priorities, Implications and Risk

4.1. In October 2020 Full Council approved the new Council Plan for Aberdeenshire Council for the period of 2020-2022. The Plan sets out the strategic priorities for Aberdeenshire Council under three pillars:-

Pillar	Priority
Our People	Education Health & Wellbeing
Our Environment	Infrastructure Resilient Communities
Our Economy	Economy & Enterprise Estate Modernisation

4.2. Underpinning the Priorities are a number of key principles. They are right people, right places, right time; responsible finances; climate and sustainability; Community Planning Partnership Local Outcome Improvement Plans; human rights and public protection; tackling poverty and inequalities; digital infrastructure and economy.

Actions set out in the Directorate Plan help deliver the Strategic Priorities of Health and Wellbeing within the pillar of "Our People".

Actions set out in the Directorate Plan help to deliver the Strategic Priorities of Infrastructure and Resilient Communities within the pillar of "Our Environment".

Actions set out in the Directorate Plan help to deliver the Strategic Priority of Economy & Enterprise within the pillar of "Our Economy."

4.3. The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendations are agreed.

Subject	Yes	No	N/A
Financial			X
Staffing			X
Equalities and Fairer Duty Scotland			X
Children and Young People's Rights and Wellbeing			X

Climate Change and Sustainability			X
Health and Wellbeing			X
Town Centre First			X

4.4   The responses to the integrated impact assessment scoping questions (IIA-000224) suggest that an integrated impact assessment is not required because this report is to inform the Infrastructure Services Committee on the progress with actions and performance set out in the E&IS Directorate Plan. The report supports the scrutiny role of the Committee. No operational decisions are required from the Committee.

4.5   There are no risks associated with the report as the purpose is to report on performance and does not seek decisions on operational matters. When the actions that were included in the Directorate Plan were developed a number of risks at the corporate level were identified, these included:-

ACORP001 – Budget Pressures

ACORP002 – Changes in Government Policy, Legislation and Regulation

ACORP004 - Business and organisation change

ACORP005 – Working with Other Organisations (e.g. Supply Chains, Outsourcing and Partnership Working)

ACORP006 – Reputational Management

ACORP010 – Environmental Challenges, e.g. Extreme Weather, Climate Change.

A link to the corporate risk register can be found here:- Corporate Risk Register

4.6   The risk register for Environment and Infrastructure Services has identified a number of risks at a strategic level associated with each Outcome. Those most relevant to the actions covered by this report are detailed in ISR001 – ISR012.The Directorate Risk Register can be found here :- Directorate Risk Register.

 Actions will be taken to mitigate the impact of these risks during the delivery of each action.

5   Scheme of Governance

5.1   The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and had no comments to make and are satisfied that the report complies with the Scheme of Governance and relevant legislation.

5.2   The Committee is able to consider [and take a decision on] this item in terms of Section F 7.2 of the List of Committee Powers in Part 2A of the Scheme of

Governance as it relates to powers to identify and where appropriate to make recommendations and implement improvements to the performance of services in respect of any function within its remit with reference to the relevant Performance Indicators in terms of Performance Management (provided that any changes to Council Policy will be made following appropriate consultation with Area Committees).

Alan Wood Director Environment & Infrastructure Services

Report prepared by Alan Morris Service Development Coordinator

Date 24 October 2022

List of Appendices

Appendix 1   Environment & Infrastructure Services Operational Measures as of 30 September 2022

Appendix 2   Environment & Infrastructure Services Strategic Priorities Update April 2022 – 30 September 2022

APPENDIX 1

Environment & Infrastructure Services Operational Measures Qrt 2 2022 - 2023

Generated on: 31 October 2022

	PI Status
🔴	Below Target (greater than 5%)
🔺	Slightly below target
✅	On or above target
📈	No target or No Activity

Traffic Light: Red 9 Amber 1 Green 6 No Target/No Data 3

Consumers are assured that businesses are conforming to regulations. Businesses are supported to ensure compliance with legislation, economic diversification and energy transition; Economy and Enterprise

Performance Measure	Current Target	Amber Threshold	Red Threshold		Value	Base	Status	Spark Chart
1.4 The number of Trading Standards consumer complaints received and the percentage dealt with within 14 days	70.0%	68.3%	66.5%	Q2 2021/22	79.9%	219	✅	
				Q3 2021/22	84.9%	252		
				Q4 2021/22	87.2%	234		
				Q1 2022/23	80.3%	229		
				Q2 2022/23	79.1%	191		

Target exceeded, however, the nature and complexity of the complaints raised by consumers can vary considerably and are out of the control of Trading Standard officers. As a result some complaints take longer than the 14 days target to deal with.

Strategic Priority Resilient Communities
Council Priority (Outcome): To protect and support public health, community mental and physical health and build community resilience as we adapt to live with COVID-19

Performance Measure	Current Target	Amber Threshold	Red Threshold		Value	Base	Status	Spark Chart
2.1 (Domestic Noise Quarterly) Average time (hours) between time of complaint and attendance on site, for those requiring attendance on site	80	72.72	75.6	Q2 2021/22	0	0		
				Q3 2021/22	42	4		
				Q4 2021/22	0	0		
				Q1 2022/23	42	3		
				Q2 2022/23	0	0		

Because of Covid restrictions Environmental Health did not attend many complaints on site. Now restrictions have lifted site visits are possible but in recent times there have been few noise complaints requiring attendance on site.

Performance Measure	Current Target	Amber Threshold	Red Threshold		Value	Base	Status	Spark Chart
2.3 %age of Domestic Noise Complaints Settled Without Attendance	No Target	No Target	No Target	Q2 2021/22	100.0%	64		
				Q3 2021/22	100.0%	30		
				Q4 2021/22	100.0%	49		
				Q1 2022/23	94.7%	57		
				Q2 2022/23	100.0%	64		

No target has been given for this indicator because the number of complaints lodged is outwith the Council's control, hence the fluctuation in numbers, and will depend upon a variety of factors, environmental and human. No complaints required attendance on site this quarter.

Performance Measure	Current Target	Amber Threshold	Red Threshold		Value	Base	Status	Spark Chart
2.4 %age of Domestic Noise Complaints Settled With Attendance Not Under Part V of the Antisocial Behaviour etc (Scotland) Act 2004	No Target	No Target	No Target	Q2 2021/22	.0%	64		
				Q3 2021/22	.0%	30		
				Q4 2021/22	.0%	49		
				Q1 2022/23	5.3%	57		
				Q2 2022/23	.0%	64		

This is the flip side of the previous indicator showing the number of complaints that required attendance on site. No target is given to either indicator because the number of complaints lodged is outwith the Council's control, hence the fluctuation in numbers, and the response given will depend upon a variety of factors, environmental and human. No complaints required attendance on site this quarter.

Strategic Priority: Resilient Communities
Council Priority (Outcome): A road and street-lighting network which keeps people safe, encourages active lifestyles and increases active travel opportunities

Performance Measure	Current Target	Amber Threshold	Red Threshold		Value	Base	Status	Spark Chart
4.1 Vehicle Test Reports - percentage of vehicles that finally pass	100%	99%	95%	Q2 2021/22	96.08%	51		
				Q3 2021/22	98.15%	54		
				Q4 2021/22	97.06%	34		
				Q1 2022/23	97.78%	45		
				Q2 2022/23	98.18%	55		

During the 3 month period July-Sept we had 1 failure what subsequently passed at test a week later after the issues were rectified.

Performance Measure	Current Target	Amber Threshold	Red Threshold		Value	Base	Status	Spark Chart
5.1 Street lighting Faults - Percentage completed within 7 days	62.5%	60.9%	59.4%	Q2 2021/22	81.4%	387	✅	
				Q3 2021/22	77.0%	1,053		
				Q4 2021/22	82.6%	695		
				Q1 2022/23	71.4%	147		
				Q2 2022/23	68.7%	278		

There were 147 street lighting faults reported in Quarter 1 and 278 reported in Quarter 2. The percentage repaired in each quarter exceeded the target of 62.5%.

Strategic Priority: Resilient Communities
Council Priority (Outcome): Efficient and effective business support, advice and regulation;

Performance Measure	Current Target	Amber Threshold	Red Threshold		Value	Base	Status	Spark Chart
7.1 Percentage of household planning applications dealt with within two months (SPI) (these do not include those which are the subject of Planning Processing Agreements).	95.0%	92.6%	90.3%	Q2 2021/22	84.6%	221	🛑	
				Q3 2021/22	83.1%	142		
				Q4 2021/22	89.9%	139		
				Q1 2022/23	91.2%	159		
				Q2 2022/23	87.1%	163		

Overall performance for Household applications that excluded those that were the subject of a PPA or agreed Extension of Time and were determined within the 2-month determination period in this Quarter 2 is recorded as **87%**. In the previous Quarter 1 it was **91%**. The recorded figure is below the Aberdeenshire target of **95%**.

Overall, the performance figure has therefore dipped slightly. The figures though equate to only **21** out of the **163** applications determined, that were not the subject of a PPA or an agreed Extension of Time, failing to meet the 2-month target.

Focus is being maintained on the importance of achieving efficient performance in this category and it should be noted that more applications were overall determined in this category compared to Quarter 1.

Performance Measure	Current Target	Amber Threshold	Red Threshold		Value	Base	Status	Spark Chart
7.2 Percentage of non-householder planning applications dealt with within two months (SPI) (these do not include those which are the subject of Planning Processing Agreements).	65.0%	63.4%	61.8%	Q2 2021/22	54.8%	208		
				Q3 2021/22	58.8%	170		
				Q4 2021/22	63.4%	202		
				Q1 2022/23	58.7%	206		
				Q2 2022/23	56.3%	199		

Overall 87 out of the 199 applications determined, that were not the subject of a PPA or an agreed Extension of Time, failed to meet the 2-month target in Quarter 2. This equates to an average performance of **56%**. The previous Quarter 1 reported a figure of **59%**. The recorded figure is below the Aberdeenshire target of **65%**.

Performance has dipped slightly in Quarter 2. Focus is though being maintained on the importance of achieving efficient performance in this category.

The processing and determination of non-household applications is often dependent on many other more complex aspects of assessment and a wide variation of consultee responses both in content and timescales. There have been some variations in performance in some of the area teams and this is attributable to varying factors including the actions of teams proactively increasing throughput and seeking to reduce backlogs that have built up in conjunction with staffing changes that some teams experienced during this Quarter. A number of new members of staff have joined certain teams during this Quarter which has helped with throughput and as a consequence has helped reduce the number of live older applications. This has then had a level of impact on recorded performance. It is hoped that new staff will help improve overall performance in this category going forward but it is noted that there remain challenges in staffing resources across teams.

Performance Measure	Current Target	Amber Threshold	Red Threshold		Value	Base	Status	Spark Chart
7.3 Percentage of the total number of planning applications dealt with within two months (these do not include those which are the subject of Planning Processing Agreements).	75.0%	73.1%	71.3%	Q2 2021/22	70.2%	429		
				Q3 2021/22	69.9%	312		
				Q4 2021/22	74.2%	341		
				Q1 2022/23	72.9%	365		
				Q2 2022/23	70.2%	362		

Overall in Quarter 2, 254 out of the 362 applications determined, that excluded those that were the subject of a PPA or agreed Extension of Time, met the 2 months target. This equates to a performance in Quarter 2 of **70%**. The previous Quarter reported a figure of **73%**. The recorded figure is slightly below the Aberdeenshire target of **75%**.

The average weeks taken to process applications in Quarter 2 is recorded at **12.7 weeks.** In the previous Quarter the average weeks recorded was **11.2.**The Aberdeenshire target is **11** weeks.

Again, there have been some variations in performance in some of the area teams and this is attributable to varying factors including the actions of teams proactively increasing throughput and seeking to reduce backlogs that have built up in conjunction with staffing changes that some teams experienced during this Quarter. A number of new members of staff have joined certain teams during this Quarter which has helped with throughput and as a consequence has helped reduce reducing the number of live older applications. This has then had a level of impact on recorded performance. It is hoped that new staff will help improve overall performance in this category going forward but it is noted that there remain challenges in staffing resources across teams.

Performance Measure	Current Target	Amber Threshold	Red Threshold		Value	Base	Status	Spark Chart
7.4a Other types of planning applications –the percentage dealt with within two months	80%	79.2%	76%	Q2 2021/22	84.78%	46	✅	
				Q3 2021/22	79.17%	48		
				Q4 2021/22	83.33%	30		
				Q1 2022/23	74%	50		
				Q2 2022/23	88.37%	43		

Overall in Quarter 2, 38 of the 43 applications determined, that were not the subject of a PPA or agreed Extension of Time, met the 2-month target. This equates to a performance for Quarter 2 of **88%. This** is above the Aberdeenshire target of **80%.** The previous Quarter recorded a figure of **74%.**

Performance in this category of development has therefore improved.

Performance Measure	Current Target	Amber Threshold	Red Threshold		Value	Base	Status	Spark Chart
7.4b Other types of planning applications – average time taken to deal with application (weeks)	8	8.08	8.4	Q2 2021/22	8.4	46	🔴	
				Q3 2021/22	8.3	48		
				Q4 2021/22	11.3	30		
				Q1 2022/23	10.1	50		
				Q2 2022/23	8.9	43		

In Quarter 2 there were 43 applications determined. The average time taken to determine these types of planning applications in Quarter 2 is recorded at 8.9 weeks. In the previous Quarter the average weeks recorded was 10.1 weeks. The Aberdeenshire target is 8 weeks.

Performance Measure	Current Target	Amber Threshold	Red Threshold		Value	Base	Status	Spark Chart
7.5 Number and percentage of processing agreements dealt with within agreed timescales	100.0%	99.0%	95.0%	Q2 2021/22	89.4%	161	🔴	
				Q3 2021/22	84.1%	145		
				Q4 2021/22	82.7%	139		
				Q1 2022/23	86.0%	114		
				Q2 2022/23	78.7%	127		

There were 127 planning applications determined with an associated PPA or agreed Extension of Time in Quarter 2. Of these 100 were determined within the set timescales which equates to a performance of 79%. This is a reduction from the **86%** achieved in Quarter 1.

All major applications are determined through the use of a PPA and many other non-majors are also subject to PPAs or agreed Extension of Times. Although these are not statutory, the Service promote their usefulness to developers where appropriate. Reasons vary (can be external) why some PPA applications or agreed Extension of Time applications are not determined within their timescales. There is a re-focussing of efforts to ensure that timescales agreed for PPA and agreed Extension of Time applications are met.

Performance Measure	Current Target	Amber Threshold	Red Threshold		Value	Base	Status	Spark Chart
7.6 Applications with Legal Agreements – average time to conclude (weeks)	32	32.32	33.6	Q2 2021/22	21.6	12	🔴	
				Q3 2021/22	56.7	28		
				Q4 2021/22	52.8	26		
				Q1 2022/23	40.9	13		
				Q2 2022/23	39.1	26		

A total of **26** applications were determined within a time of **39.1** average weeks for this Quarter 2. This is marginally quicker than Quarter 1 where a figure of **40.9** average weeks was recorded when **13** applications were determined with legal agreements. Although an improvement the figure sits beyond the target date but this is attributable to some legacy case applications (beyond 1 year) that were determined within this period.

Performance Measure	Current Target	Amber Threshold	Red Threshold		Value	Base	Status	Spark Chart
7.14 The average time taken to deal with a household planning application (in weeks) (these do not include those which are the subject of Planning Processing Agreements).	6	6.06	6.3	Q2 2021/22	8.5	221	🔴	
				Q3 2021/22	7.9	142		
				Q4 2021/22	7.4	139		
				Q1 2022/23	7.8	159		
				Q2 2022/23	8.1	163		

In Quarter 2 the average time taken to deal with a householder planning application was **8.1** weeks. In the previous Quarter 1 the average time was **7.8** weeks. The Aberdeenshire target is 6 weeks. Overall, the performance figure has therefore dipped slightly.

Focus is being maintained on the importance of achieving efficient performance in this category and it should be noted that more applications were overall determined in this category compared to Quarter 1.

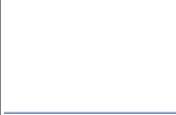| Performance Measure	Current Target	Amber Threshold	Red Threshold		Value	Base	Status	Spark Chart
7.15 The average time taken to deal with a non-householder planning application (weeks) (these do not include those which are the subject of Planning Processing Agreements).	11	11.11	11.55	Q2 2021/22	12.3	208	🔴	
				Q3 2021/22	16.4	170		
				Q4 2021/22	14	202		
				Q1 2022/23	13.8	206		
				Q2 2022/23	16.5	199		

In Quarter 2 the average weeks taken to determine a non-household planning application is recorded at **16.5** weeks. In the previous Quarter the average time recorded was **13.8** weeks. The Aberdeenshire target is **11** weeks.

Performance has dipped slightly. Focus is being maintained on the importance of achieving efficient performance in this category.

The processing and determination of non-household applications is often dependent on many other more complex aspects of assessment and a wide variation of consultee responses both in content and timescales. There have been some variations in performance in some of the area teams and this is attributable to varying factors including the actions of teams proactively increasing throughput and seeking to reduce backlogs that have built up in conjunction with staffing changes that some teams experienced during this Quarter. A number of new members of staff have joined certain teams during this Quarter which has helped with throughput and as a consequence has helped reduce the number of live older applications. This has then had a level of impact on recorded performance. It is hoped that new staff will help improve overall performance in this category going forward but it is noted that there remain challenges in staffing resources across teams.

Performance Measure	Current Target	Amber Threshold	Red Threshold		Value	Base	Status	Spark Chart
8.1 Percentage of building warrant and amendment applications assessed for compliance with technical standards within 20 working days.	95%	94.05%	90.25%	Q2 2021/22	95.27%	783	✅	
				Q3 2021/22	95.77%	639		
				Q4 2021/22	98.13%	587		
				Q1 2022/23	97.24%	688		
				Q2 2022/23	95.56%	630		

The 20 day first response target set by the Building Standards Division across Aberdeenshire has been met.

Performance Measure	Current Target	Amber Threshold	Red Threshold		Value	Base	Status	Spark Chart
8.2 Time taken from notification of a potentially dangerous building to completed risk assessment (this may include an inspection)	100.0%	97.5%	95.0%	Q2 2021/22	100.0%	8	✅	
				Q3 2021/22	100.0%	15		
				Q4 2021/22	100.0%	16		
				Q1 2022/23	100.0%	7		
				Q2 2022/23	100.0%	6		

All six dangerous building call outs in Aberdeenshire this quarter were responded to within the prescribed four hour time period target.

Performance Measure	Current Target	Amber Threshold	Red Threshold		Value	Base	Status	Spark Chart
8.3 Abshire Percentage of building warrant and amendment applications issued within 10 days from receipt of all satisfactory information.	90%	89.1%	85.5%	Q2 2021/22	95.37%	562	✅	
				Q3 2021/22	93.27%	550		
				Q4 2021/22	96.68%	572		
				Q1 2022/23	96.68%	542		
				Q2 2022/23	96.1%	538		

The 10 day time from a satisfactory application being returned to the issuing of a building warrant across Aberdeenshire has been met.

Strategic Priority: Health & Wellbeing; Health and Well Being
Council Priority (Outcome): Waste and recycling service which supports our attractive environment and reduces emissions

Performance Measure	Current Target	Amber Threshold	Red Threshold		Value	Base	Status	Spark Chart
6.2 Percentage of household waste collected by the authority during the year that was recycled and composted (Quarterly) (S)	45.0%	43.9%	42.8%	Q2 2021/22	42.8%	32,163	🔴	
				Q3 2021/22	37.0%	26,445		
				Q4 2021/22	37.6%	26,724		
				Q1 2022/23	42.1%	29,640		
				Q2 2022/23				

Q1 (22/23) April - June This quarter usually sees an increase in recycling from the previous quarter with the start of the growing season and an increase in garden waste recycling however this is still below target but in line with the Scottish average for last year of 42.7%. The change to collection service from March 2023 should improve the recycling rate with the reduction in collection frequency reducing the capacity for residual waste and encouraging more recycling.

Appendix 2

Environment & Infrastructure Services Strategic Priorities Update April 2022 - October 2022 For ISC December 2022

Aberdeenshire COUNCIL

Report Author: Alan Morris
Generated on: 27 October 2022

Action Status	
🔴	Project has not progressed as originally planned
✅	On target to complete all planned work in period or project completed.

1. Economic Development

Strategic Priority: Resilient Communities, Economy & Enterprise
Council Priority (Outcome): A location of choice that has a diverse economic base of innovative companies with a skilled workforce and return to full employment.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
1.01 Review Outcomes From LGBF	Review outcomes from the LGBF data each year. Develop action plans to improve performance of key measures.	✅	100%	The LGBF was provided to the Council in late November 2021 and after verification was reported to the Senior Leadership Team on the 6th April 2022 before being presented to the E&IS Directorate. The LGBF dataset was included as part of the Annual Report presented to Aberdeenshire Council in September 2022.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
				When the LGBF report was presented to E&IS the Heads of Service were asked to agree improvement actions in relation to indicators performing below the Scottish average and within the bottom two quartiles where such actions would support delivery of the Council Priorities. Following deliberation of the data the E&IS DMT agreed the following:- (i) *Waste related measures* - Improvement actions will be covered by the plans for the rollout of the new 3 weekly collection system from Spring 2023 and the opening of the EfW Plant in 2023. (ii) *Housing related measures* - (a) Rent lost due to voids. There is already in place an action plan to improve the void performance and over the past 30 months a number of changes have already been implemented. Further work is on-going. (b) Meeting housing quality and energy efficiency standards - Housing has an on-going Housing improvement Programme and EESSH programme which will eventually address these issues. (c) Average time taken to complete non-emergency repairs - the current focus is on developing an appointment system which will allow tenants to arrange a repair at the time and date which most suits them rather than trying to adhere to national target timescales. (iii) *Trading Standards and Environmental Health related measures* Costs of Service per 1,000 population - Protective Services will be carrying out a service review during late 2022, part of which will consider the cost of the Service and opportunities for efficiencies. In addition the service has a number of new duties which have or are coming on stream such as animal licensing, short term let licensing, issuing export health certificates for products of animal origin exported to Europe and Feed inspection. A number of these duties can be charged for or we receive a fee for carrying out. It is the intention later this year following the Service Review to review fees and charges to ensure full cost recovery. (iv) *Economic Development related measures*

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
				Unemployed people accessing jobs via Council funded / operated employability programmes. The action here is to continue to develop Council employability programmes in conjunction with Scottish Government and the Local Employability Partnership

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
1.02 Develop new Economic Development Service Plan	Develop new Economic Development Service Plan setting out new priorities and actions in line with the new Council Plan and Priorities and revised Medium Term Financial Strategy. Seek approval for Plan from Committee then implement agreed actions.	✅	100%	In September 2022 it was announced that Aberdeenshire Council had appointed a Procurement Development Officer. The role will help local businesses that could supply the council through direct or sub-contracting opportunities to bid for public sector contracts and encourage the local supply chain to explore public sector opportunities to support the local and regional economy. The council's Economic Development team successfully bid for Business Gateway flexible funding to support the role which will encourage local suppliers to tender for work, provide assistance and identify the barriers preventing them from tendering. The Business Gateway flexible fund supports projects within the region which support a more responsive, local and flexible manner to meet the evolving needs of businesses. The aim of the project was to support and grow local businesses which has greater economic benefits for the region. In September the Council has launched a new grant scheme to help existing businesses in the region develop and diversify. The Business Recovery and Growth Scheme (BRAGS), which is being funded by the Scottish Government's Local Economic Covid Recovery Fund (LACER), will support businesses which have been trading in Aberdeenshire for at least six months. Designed to aid recovery from the Covid pandemic, grants will encourage and enable businesses to: • Maintain income streams and future proof the business • Capitalise on product and market development opportunities • Be innovative in outlook and practice • Promote economic recovery• Sustain and enhance existing jobs • Create new employment opportunities

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
				Grants of £2,500, £5,000, £10,000 are available which are based on a 75% grant contribution to the total project costs. Businesses must provide at least 25% of the funding. The grant scheme is open to all businesses based and operating in Aberdeenshire for at least six months including sole traders, partnerships, limited liability partnerships, limited companies, registered charities and third sector organisations.

Strategic Priority: Resilient Communities, Economy & Enterprise
Council Priority (Outcome): The gap between economic, environmental and social outcomes in Banff, Macduff, Fraserburgh and Peterhead and the Aberdeenshire average is closed and other towns at risk have avoided becoming regeneration priorities.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
1.03 Delivery of Transition Plan for the 4 Towns in North Aberdeenshire	Delivery of transition plans for the four towns, moving away from the previous strategy to a more sustained partnership and co-designed set of priorities	✅	100%	The majority of the outcomes in each of the town plans have now been delivered. Of particular note are the following developments: ▪ Completion of the major Fraserburgh 2021 programme in June / July 2020. ▪ Recognition of Fraserburgh in the SURF awards 2021, achieving Scotland's Most Improved Place. ▪ Expected completion of the Vinery project in Banff in July 2022 and entering the operational phases with Aberdeen Foyer. ▪ Agreement of the first phase of funding towards Friends of Tarlair for the development of the pavilion at Tarlair, Macduff. ▪ Launch and development of the Place Based Investment Programme which has supported the John Trail Hotel and the skate park in Fraserburgh, Macduff Cross and in 2022, Friends of Tarlair, completing the funding package for the Pavilion at Tarlair. This is in addition to projects throughout Aberdeenshire. ▪ Celebrating the success of Invest in Peterhead, working with Rediscover Peterhead to maximise investment in the town centre. ▪ Developing major proposals for the Broad Street area in Peterhead for Levelling Up and National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) bids. ▪ Development of a Coastal Economies Levelling Up bid for Macduff, Fraserburgh and Peterhead.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
				As a result of funding opportunities including Levelling Up and Just Transition workstreams around Macduff Marine Aquarium, the Scottish Seafood Centre of Excellence in Fraserburgh and Broad street, Peterhead are being developed in preparation for the submission of major funding applications to the UK government. Net Zero transition opportunities are also being researched to identify the most appropriate and impactful developments over the next period in preparation for future funding opportunities.

Strategic Priority: Economy & Enterprise
Council Priority (Outcome): Supporting Aberdeenshire businesses through pandemic, Brexit and energy transition.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
1.04 Provide Support To Businesses To Adapt To EU Exit	Provide support to businesses to help them adapt to the additional customs processes that are to be introduced from 1st January 2021 when the UK leaves the EU Customs Union.	✅	100%	The Council's website signposts businesses to specialist services for advice and support. The relevant page is:- https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/featured-items/brexit/ One key site is the Find Business Support website. Find Business Support was created at the request of the Scottish Government to help Scottish businesses find the right information, advice and support, when they need it. The service fulfils a key recommendation from Phase 2 of the Government's Enterprise and Skills Review. This called for a more coherent, collaborative and streamlined system of business support to be made available to customers through a single digital access point. The aim of the website is to provide businesses in Scotland with the right information, advice and support to achieve their goals. Delivered by the Business Support Partnership the objective is to build a more streamlined, effective, and easy-to-navigate system of support to help businesses across Scotland achieve their growth ambitions.

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Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
1.05 Support the Exporting of Products of Animal Origin	Support the exporting of products of animal origin (POAO) to the EU through inspection of licenced premises and fishing vessels to ensure full compliance with the export supply chain and the issuing of Export Health Certificates (EHC) in order to clear EU border controls.	✅	100%	The Port Health Team within Protective Services continues to certify products of animal origin. The significant increase in the number of consignments requiring certification as result of Brexit continues to be managed from existing resources, however as COVID restrictions are lifted and the wider food inspection program is restarted additional resource will require to be brought in in order to continue to provide the service and support businesses. Feedback from affected businesses continues to be excellent.

Strategic Priority: Health & Wellbeing, Resilient Communities, Economy & Enterprise
Council Priority (Outcome): Consumers are assured that businesses are conforming to regulations. Businesses are supported to ensure compliance with legislation, economic diversification and energy transition.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
1.06 Deliver a Trading Standards/Customer Advice Service to Citizens and Businesses	Deliver a Trading Standards/consumer advice service to citizens and businesses within Aberdeenshire through:- (i) Provision of advice and assistance to consumers. (ii) Provision of advice and assistance to businesses to help them comply with the law.	✅	100%	The second half of 2021/23 saw COVID restrictions ease and Trading Standards return to pre Covid duties. Animal Health and Welfare functions were successfully integrated into the Trading Standards Team with four existing vacancies within the Animal Health and Welfare Team being filled in the final quarter of 2021/22.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
	(iii) Ascertaining and securing compliance with the law through identifying potential infringements and seeking to remedy them by appropriate means.			
1.07 Provide a comprehensive Environmental Health Service to citizens and businesses in Aberdeenshire	Provide a comprehensive Environmental Health Service to citizens and businesses within Aberdeenshire involving food safety and standards, public health, waste, built environment, workplace health and safety, animal health and welfare and pollution control.	✅	100%	The Second half of 2021/23 saw an easing of COVID restrictions and the Environmental Health Team return to Pre-COVID duties. The Food inspection program which had been suspended during COVID recommenced in October 2021. In addition to recommencing pre-covid duties there are additional demands on existing resource due to additional duties such as supporting businesses through COVID recovery, Ukrainian Resettlement, introduction of short term lets licensing. There remains a number of vacancies which need to be filled in order to continue to provide a high level of service. There remains a national shortage of EHO and food competent officers. This is being addressed in part in Aberdeenshire with three officers entering their final year of their Environmental Health Degree and the enrolment of another officer onto the new Higher Certificate in Food. The additional demands and ongoing vacancies will be addressed in the Protective Services review.

Strategic Priority: Health & Wellbeing, Resilient Communities, Economy & Enterprise
Council Priority (Outcome): Efficient and effective business support, advice and regulation.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
1.08 Business regulation - submit assurance statement each year to show compliance with regulations	Ensure a modern and streamlined approach is taken by Protective Services to monitor, enforce and provide permissions to business, individuals and communities.	✅	100%	There have been no significant changes in terms of business regulation, the existing compliance statement was reviewed and submitted in the first quarter of 2022.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
	Submit assurance statement each year to show compliance with the new regulatory framework issued by the Scottish Regulator under the Regulatory Reform (Scotland) Act 2014			

2. Environment

Strategic Priority: Health & Wellbeing, Resilient Communities
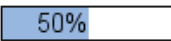**Council Priority (Outcome): Open spaces that encourage active, healthy lifestyles.**

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
2.01 Develop and Deliver Open Space Maintenance Programme each year	Develop and deliver a programme of maintenance and improvement works for open spaces each year.	✔	100%	During April a combined report outlining the available funding and proposed programmes of works for Roads, Bridges, Cycling, Walking & Road Safety, Coast & Flooding, Harbours and Landscape Services was considered by each Area Committee. The report set out the revenue and capital funding available for each activity. The funding made available for Landscape Service related activities was:- Revenue £5,699,000 for Parks & Open Spaces. Revenue - one off allocation £265,000 for Bereavement Services £500,000 for Parks & Open Spaces £100,000 for Green Space Officers. Capital £571,000 for Parks & Open Spaces £313,000 for Burial Grounds

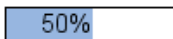| Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
				Scottish Government Play Parks Renewal Fund £308,000 for Pay Parks The Landscape Services budget covers the variety of different operational activities required to maintain cemeteries, parks, open spaces, country parks, grounds and infrastructure to meet the standards expected by the local communities within Aberdeenshire. The impact of the pandemic resulted in a vastly reduced maintenance service over the past two years, the statutory duty to carry out the burial service along with supporting colleagues in Waste to carry out refuse collection duties impacted on service provision. The removal of Burial Grounds reactive budget in 2021-2022 further impacted on grounds maintenance service delivery. The approved 2022-23 budget allocated an additional £265,000 to Burial Grounds (now Bereavement Services) and £500,000 to Parks and Open Spaces which will enable Landscape Services to return to pre-pandemic maintenance standards. The additional £100,000 to fund the Greenspace Officers posts was to further enhance biodiversity projects including changes to maintenance regimes to encourage pollinators, rewilding and community food growing initiatives. Maintenance has progressed as planned over the summer months. By November grass cutting will stop and cyclical maintenance on hard and soft landscaping will commence as per the winter programme.
2.02 Implement initiatives such as the Green Spaces Project to increase biodiversity	In line with the Open Space Strategy implement initiatives such as the Greenspaces project to increase biodiversity across the public owned spaces in Aberdeenshire.	✅	100%	During the summer 2022 the Green Space Project launched the Growing Living Greenspaces Initiative to support biodiversity through planting projects and changes to the Landscape Services Management Regime. Community Groups that apply to take part in the project will be offered native trees, fruit trees, bulbs and wildflower plugs to plan on Council land subject to wider consultation with the community and project planners. Applications to take part in the project which spans the period September 2022 - April 2023 had to be received by 8th August 2022.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
				Greenspace Officers will support organising planting events with tools, guidance, and promotion.

Strategic Priority: Infrastructure, Health & Wellbeing
Council Priority (Outcome): Waste and recycling service which supports our attractive environment and reduces emissions.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
2.03 As funding allows introduce 3 weekly kerbside collection service	Submit bids for funding and if successful move towards implementing a 3 weekly kerbside collection service with the non-recyclable waste bins emptied once and the recycling bins emptied twice in three weeks.	🔴	50%	In January 2022 it was reported that the Council has been awarded funding of more than £3.4 million from the Scottish Government's Recycling Improvement Fund to help increase recycling rates across the region and cut the volume of unnecessary waste going to landfill. The funding will allow the Council to move to a 3-weekly household collection cycle. Under the new strategy, all households will be provided with a new 180l bin for recycling of food and drink cans, cartons and plastics (bottles, pots, tubs and trays) and the existing blue-lid recycling bin for recycling of paper and card. The new 3 weekly collection will be rolled out from Spring 2023 onwards. On the 21st September it was announced that Cruden Bay would play a vital role in a pilot scheme as part of the introduction of the new three-weekly household recycling and waste collection strategy. The new cycle is expected to divert up to 6,000 tonnes of materials into recycling, with annual revenue savings for the council anticipated in the region of £700,000, which will be reinvested into council services.
2.04 Review recycling centre permit system and service provision	Review recycling centre permit system and recycling centre service provision	✅	100%	ISC in January 2022 agreed that the Waste Management MOWG be requested to give further consideration to a customisation of the service on a site by site basis. On the 15th June 2022 the MOWG considered options for the introduction of a hybrid booking system. This system would allow cars to access HRC sites at designated times during the day whilst at other times booking would be required. Commercial type vehicles and

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
				trade vehicles would still be required to book slots. The MOWG agreed to a proposal to trial a hybrid system for a 12 month period from 1st December 2022 at Macduff and Stonehaven Household Waste Recycling Centres with a view to implement where practicable in other sites. Area Committees were asked for their views on this proposal during September with a final recommendation to be made to ISC in October.
2.05 Work to increase number of recycling materials accepted at recycling centres	Work to increase to increase the number of recyclable materials accepted at recycling centres and to reduce non-recyclable waste by promoting waste reduction measures and recycling.	✅	100%	The Waste Strategy 2019 - 2023 aims to maximise reuse and recycling. To maximise reuse and recycling at recycling centres, Waste are:- - increasing the number of materials that can be recycled - increasing the number of staff to help people recycle as much as possible - providing more opportunities for reuse. To make this all possible Waste are diverting business waste to waste transfer stations, improving the layout at recycling centres and closing the smallest recycling centres (Gardenstown, Hatton and Whitehills) which don't have space for all the materials. In 2019 the Council stopped accepting old tyres at its HWRCs advising motorists to take them to garages instead. However many people had difficulty getting garages to accept their tyres. As a result the Council is now accepting tyres at Ellon and Banchory Crow's Nest waste transfer stations. Since May this year Waste have allowed motorists to deposit old tyres at its Macduff facility. Motorists can book drop-off slots at the additional transfer stations and tyres can be deposited between 7.30am and 10.30am on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The council will accept 4 tyres until March 31 2023 and thereafter 4 tyres per financial year from April 1 to March 31 at a cost of £2.50 per tyre. The new tyre waste disposal service operates in the same way as the council's trade waste drop-off service, with customers bringing in their tyres and paying for disposal via a chip and pin service. Those wishing to make use of this service can make a booking via the online HRC booking system up to 7 days in advance, with bookings closing off at 4pm the day before the visit.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
				The council will accept car and van tyres - including domestic 4x4s – but not light or truck tyres.
2.06 Implement deposit return scheme	Implement Deposit Return Scheme and Extended Producer Responsibility schemes as they are introduced across Scotland	🛑	0%	The Scottish Government intends to introduce a deposit return scheme (DRS) for single use drink containers to help improve the quality of recycling, reduce litter and help achieve climate change targets. The legal framework for the DRT was approved by the Scottish Parliament in May 2020. Following an independent review into the scheme and taking account of a wide range of stakeholder feedback the start date for the scheme has now been pushed back to the 16 August 2023 and a small number of other changes have been made to the Regulations to support successful delivery of the scheme. DRS infrastructure, such as reverse vending machines, will start rolling out in earnest from summer 2022 and, where possible, the Scottish Government will work with retailers to enable use of this infrastructure on a voluntary basis from November 2022. The Minister has confirmed that the design of the scheme remains unchanged and that the target of achieving 90% collection rates by 2025 will be maintained. Zero Waste Scotland will continue to support the scheme towards implementation.
2.07 Delivery of an operational Ness EFW Plant	Work with partners to ensure delivery of the Energy from Waste Plan in Aberdeen and reconfigure waste collection and disposal routes as required to access the plant	🛑	70%	A report to Aberdeen City Council in September confirmed that the incinerator project was still on schedule to start burning rubbish this winter, despite the impact of Covid on construction. The £150m Ness Energy Project is currently being built in East Tullos, and once finished will process waste that cannot be recycled from the three council areas of Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire and Moray. It is planned to burn 150,000 tonnes of unrecyclable material every year and produce heat and electricity in the process. The report stated that the "large majority of construction works are complete", and "cold commissioning of the plant is underway". "Hot commissioning" is expected to start this winter, and the facility will be "fully operational" next summer.
2.08 Review options and finalise arrangements for bulk waste treatment	Review options and finalise arrangements for bulky waste treatment in 2021/22.	✅	100%	The review of options has now been fully completed with a joint procurement exercise being undertaken with Aberdeen City for an option of processing of bulky waste (approx. 1100 tonnes per annum) with the emphasis being on recycling as much of the waste as possible. Action is completed.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
				Contract to be in place for October 2022.
2.09 Review options for further community engagement for LPAP	Review opportunities for further community engagement in delivery of the LPAP	🔴	50%	Community Waste Officers to identify and work with stakeholders to develop and take forward a Litter Prevent Action Plan for a town in each administration area – these being Banff, Peterhead, Ellon, Inverurie, Alford and Stonehaven. These will be progressed and developed as and when resources are available.

Strategic Priority: Economy & Enterprise
Council Priority (Outcome): Safeguard the built and natural environment; Safeguard the built and natural environment.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
2.10 Deliver heritage regeneration projects in Banff, Macduff, Peterhead and Fraserburgh	Deliver heritage regeneration projects in the towns of Banff, Macduff, Peterhead and Fraserburgh. Seek funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and from other external sources to support some of the projects identified.	✅	100%	In June it was announced that the Fraserburgh 2021 Conservation Area Renewal Scheme Townscape Heritage Project had won in the RTPI Scotland Best Project category and took away the overall award for Planning Excellence at the ceremony in Edinburgh on June 16. The built heritage of the town was used as a means to catalyse, not constrain, the economic development and economic growth of the area. Led by Aberdeenshire Council's Planning and Economy Service, the project's latest success comes just a few months after the Fraserburgh regeneration programme was hailed the 'Most Improved Place in Scotland' in the 2021 SURF Awards. Fraserburgh 2021 has targeted properties in the town's Conservation Area which were derelict, vacant or both, to bring them back into active use, featuring shopfront improvements, reinstatement of original architectural detail, public realm and an extensive training and engagement programme.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
				Created with the aim of transforming the image and quality of the commercial core of Fraserburgh by investing in the unique built and cultural heritage, the project began in 2015 and was mainly completed by July 2022. It has utilised the qualities of Fraserburgh's built and cultural heritage to help improve the economic success and vibrancy of the Broch's town centre by creating buildings, spaces and places which capitalise on civic pride, local identity, local connection and a sense of place. Boosting enterprise in the town centre was one of the core aims and following the complete refurbishment of the Faithlie Centre this now houses an Enterprise Hub, a space were entrepreneurs and start-ups can access office space and advice. Since its inception the Hub has attracted around 235 users including pre-starts and existing businesses and 61 new full time and part time businesses have started in a range sector including retail, service, professional, trades, crafts/artisan makers, hospitality, and tourism. The shopfront improvement scheme offered new and existing businesses grants to undertake shopfront improvements to better promote their business, encourage others to improve their frontages and ultimately improve the street scape of the town centre. The scheme has seen properties benefiting from a variety of repair, restoration, complete shopfront replacement and the installation of individually designed and hand painted signage. The John Trail Project taken forward by the North-East Scotland Preservation Trust has seen comprehensive works to repair and renovate existing derelict buildings to create a bespoke 11-bedroom boutique hotel. Although not part of the Fraserburgh 2021 project, this resulted in the adjacent former Clydesdale Building also being purchased by NESPT to expand the scale of the hotel offering.

Strategic Priority: Resilient Communities, Economy & Enterprise
Council Priority (Outcome): Placemaking to meet the current and future needs of communities through Participatory Budgeting and Asset Transfer and other ways of supporting communities to help themselves, enabling community wealth building that supports local economic opportunities.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
2.11 Support the delivery of Community Place Plans	Support the development of Community Place Plans, covering the whole of Aberdeenshire; Use of Masterplans to promote development delivery	✅	100%	A Place Strategy for Aberdeenshire has been drafted which focuses on the development of Academy Town Plans in recognition of their strategic importance as hubs for the concentration of services, facilities, retail, industry, employment, education, health and wellbeing, transport connections and population. A term of reference for the Place Strategy has been drafted and includes key workstreams such as the identification of Place data-sets to ensure consistency of approach to evidencing the need for intervention but equally progress of the strategy once implemented, the creation of a datahub so that all engagement and data collected by Council Services is curated and accessible and the creation of Place Based Toolkit to ensure consistency of methodology across the Council. Within each Academy Place Plan there will be a short, medium and long term SMART action plans with apportioned responsibilities for delivery. The process of co-production of key actions and their development into deliverable projects will ensure that regeneration is hard-wired into Service workplans and capital plans. In addition, the action plans will also provide a steady supply of projects that meet the eligibility criteria for external funding (Levelling Up, Community Renewal Fund and PBIP etc). This is a cross-Service collaborative process whereby input from all Services and communities will be required to co-produce the Plans and co-deliver the action plans therein. The role of Area Managers in this process will be pivotal to the success of Place Strategy .

3. Connectivity

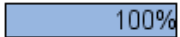**Strategic Priority: Infrastructure, Health & Wellbeing, Resilient Communities**
Council Priority (Outcome): A road and street-lighting network which keeps people safe, encourages active lifestyles and increases active travel opportunities

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
3.01 Develop and deliver a programme of road maintenance and improvement works each year.	Develop and deliver a programme of road maintenance and improvement works each year.	✅	100%	In June ISC was asked to consider proposals for improving the method for identifying roads related capital works schemes. It was proposed that a data driven process should be developed for producing and prioritising roads related capital works programmes on an Aberdeenshire wide basis replacing annual works programme reporting. This more transparent, data driven process would give clarity to Members and to residents on which schemes are in process for delivery and what comparative priority each scheme has. This list of prioritised schemes would be a live document. Scheme prioritising would change when new data becomes available. The Committee was also asked to agree the proposed programme of roads related capital works for 2022 - 2023.
3.02 Street lighting maintenance	Provide an efficient and effective street lighting repairs service.	✅	100%	The programme for Street Lighting Maintenance in 2021/22 was completed as intended. Reactive maintenance work on the street lighting network continues into 2022/23 as per the Road Asset Management Plan and annual Roads Maintenance Plan and is on schedule.
3.03 Upgrade Street Lighting	Continue the delivery of a six-year programme to upgrade traditional streetlights with LED lanterns.	✅	100%	The programme for upgrading Street Lighting to LED in specific areas/streets across Aberdeenshire continues. The full programme of LED replacement commenced in 2015-16 when a programme was established to upgrade all our streetlights to LED costing a total of £6 million and saving 50% on our energy consumption. The programme has had a few setbacks, notably when work had to stop during Covid 19 restrictions and subsequently with worldwide shortages of various key components. However, the Service is back on course with the programme and estimate that around 76% of our network is now upgraded to LED and we anticipate full programme completion in 2023-24.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
3.04 Bridge maintenance works	Develop and deliver a programme of bridge works each year.	✅	100%	Elected members formally agreed a prioritisation policy and procedure for the future of the region's bridge repairs and renewals in May 2021. In December 2021 ISC approved a 9 year rolling programme of bridge and structures works identified through the agreed prioritisation procedure. Bridge works are being carried out in accordance with the agreed programme.
3.05 Deliver an efficient and effective gritting service	In line with the Winter Maintenance Operational Plan deliver an efficient and effective gritting and snow clearing service during the winter months.	✅	100%	The Roads Winter Maintenance Operational Plan for 2021/22 was put into motion on the 10th November 2021. Over the course of the winter the service had to deal with heavy snow and a succession of winter storms that severely disrupted the roads network. Lessons learnt from last year have been considered as part of the development of the operational plan for this year which is expected to come into effect in early November.

Strategic Priority: Infrastructure; Resilient Communities
Council Priority (Outcome): Ensuring that residents and business across Aberdeenshire are prepared to adapt to effects of climate change including the risk of flooding.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
3.06 Flood risk and coastal protection works	Develop and deliver a programme of flood risk and coastal protection works each year.	✅	100%	Design work is progressing for a number of minor flood protection works. Tarland Road Culvert and Whitehills works are under construction.
3.07 Deliver actions in Flood Risk Management Plan 2016 - 2022	Local Flood Risk Management Plan 2016 – 2022 – work with partners to deliver the actions in the plan	✅	100%	Work on establishing the Local Flood Risk Management Plan for 2022 - 2028 commenced in August 2021. In March 2022 the Council received confirmation from the Scottish Government that publication of Local Flood Risk Management Plans could be delayed until the end of the year. In November a report was circulated for comment to each Area Committee in respect of the potential flood risk management actions for the 2022 - 2028 Local Risk Management

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Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
				Plan. All comments received to be fed back to ISC in December before being submitted to the Scottish Government for approval and publication. The report explains that following the work completed in Cycle 1, three locations in Aberdeenshire have been prioritised for potential Flood Scheme works. The three schemes will be progressed to a detailed design stage then will be advanced to procurement and construction dependent on securing sufficient national funding and any possible Scottish Government Gateway review decisions. These are:- 1. Ballater 2. Inverurie 3. Stonehaven (Coastal and Farrochie Burn) A further five locations in Aberdeenshire have been identified for Flood Protection Studies:- 1. Aboyne 2. Fettercairn 3. Kemnay 4. Kintore 5. Tarland
3.08 Deliver Tay Estuary and Montrose Basin Local Flood Plan 2016 - 2022	Delivery of the Tay Estuary and Montrose Basin Local Flood Plan 2016- 2022 - work with the partners to implement the actions agreed in the plan for Aberdeenshire.	✅	100%	Surface water management plans identified for this cycle are being progressed along with Aberdeenshire-wide actions.

Strategic Priority: Infrastructure, Economy & Enterprise
Council Priority (Outcome): Keeping communities connected through the provision of an affordable, reliable and well-connected passenger transport service.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
3.09 Enhanced DRT Project	Implement and evaluate Enhanced DRT Project to inform 'roll out' of the Clean Sheet Review of the supported bus network	✅	100%	In August it was announced that the Ready2Go Around Inverurie digital demand responsive transport (DDRT) pilot initiative has been extended for a further year. Continuation of the initial experimental period will provide time for the council's passenger transport unit to undertake further appraisal of the role of such novel services. The Monday-Saturday Ready2Go Around Inverurie service involves five minibuses operated by Watermill Coaches under contract to the council covering Inverurie and the surrounding area, including the communities of Insch, Rothienorman, Oldmeldrum, Kintore, Kemnay and Monymusk. The service picks up and drops off booked passengers at physical or virtual bus stops. It does not have a fixed route or timetable; the management software calculates the route and times dynamically based on each individual passenger booking. On average there are now 1,100 passenger trips made each week on the Ready2Go service, which is proving popular with the majority of passengers and achieving high levels of satisfaction. An analysis by consultants Stantec, commissioned by the Council and Nestrans to evaluate the pilot, found that the DDRT service has been performing well compared with the previous timetabled fixed route supported bus services. In particular, there are indications that the service has reversed falling passenger numbers and is better catering for what would be otherwise unmet travel needs. In doing so, the service is also delivering wider benefits, including reduced social isolation and loneliness, improved personal independence, greater employment opportunities and physical and mental health benefits. There are also indications that a shift from car to bus travel is being achieved. In January 2022 the Council approved plans to fund the introduction of a similar enhanced Digital Demand Responsive Transport (DDRT) service in the Newburgh/Balmedie area. Funding will allow Stagecoach to trial an on-demand minibus service in the Newburgh/Balmedie area on Mondays to Saturdays with passengers able to book the bus by using a smartphone app or phoning the bus operator. Connections will be available for onward travel onto other Stagecoach services.

Strategic Priority: Infrastructure, Health & Wellbeing
Council Priority (Outcome): It's easy and safe to move around local areas using good-quality active travel routes, streets and roads.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
3.10 Deliver actions in Local Transport Strategy related to Active Travel	Deliver actions in the Local Transport Strategy (LTS) relating to active travel (walking, cycling etc) including the development of integrated Travel Town Masterplans for all relevant towns in Aberdeenshire.	✅	100%	In March ISC agreed the arrangements for the development of a revised Local Transport Strategy including the establishment of a MOWG to support the development.

In June progress with actions in the current plan was reported to ISC. Highlights in the report include:-

Travel Actively
- Formartine and Buchan way E-Bile project has progressed, bikes and tracking systems were put in place and a formal launch of the system was scheduled for June.

- The Aberdeenshire Bothy Project which is delivered in partnership with Cycling UK has proven to be very successful. Initially focusing on the five integrated travel towns of Ellon, Fraserburgh, Huntly, Inverurie and Portlethen it is intended to extend it to Peterhead during 2022-23. The Bothy Project has been particularly successful in engaging with people who were not already confident cyclists and in attracting more women to cycling. After the training 95% of those surveyed felt more confident about cycling and 90% felt safer.

- The Shared Space – Rural Walking and Cycling Routes trial project which was trialled along the 3 routes: Polinar Dam in Inverurie, Woodhead of Fyvie and Cornhill reached the end of the trial period. A follow up survey is being prepared with the objective to understand the impact of this project in local populations.

- I Bike Project - A new I-Bike officer took up the post in Term 2 but has continued the momentum and kept on with delivering training and engagement sessions to the schools currently engaged in the project. Currently the focus is on schools within the Ellon and Portlethen areas, although the officer continues to offer support to those previously engaged (in Fraserburgh, Inverurie, Mintlaw and Peterhead). During Term 2, 42 sessions were delivered, reaching 3004 pupils. One of the aims for the future is to ensure that every young person from P4 to P7 in Ellon and Portlethen can confidently cycle. |

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
				-The Sustainable Travel Champions project comes to an end in September when data from the project and behavioural travel changes will be reviewed. The BBC has indicated a positive interest in the project and has interviewed participants in May 2022.
3.11 Deliver road safety service	Provide a road safety service which includes implementing measures to promote road safety; undertake studies into collisions; taking measures to reduce and prevent accidents. Review existing strategy as required.	✅	100%	Councillors approved a new Road Safety Plan and associated actions to 2030 in October 2021. Developed in accordance with Transport Scotland's Road Safety Framework to 2030 the plan builds upon the achievements and learnings gained through the delivery of previous road safety plans. It also identifies the council's continued desire to review, demonstrate and share best practice through being an integral part of our local and regional transportation plans. The principal aim is to achieve our vision where no-one is killed on north east roads and the injury rate is much reduced. We have reduced injury by over 60% when comparing the 5-year average for 2004-2008 to the latest verified average data for 2016-2020 and also reported nearly 70% fewer fatal injuries than the national target. However there is still significant investment required to ensure continued improvements are achieved as there is someone killed or seriously injured on roads in Aberdeenshire every 72 hours. Work is on-going to take forward actions in the plan.
3.12 Deliver A947 Route Implementation Strategy	Deliver the short/medium term actions within A947 Route Implementation Strategy.	✅	100%	Officers have prepared a bid to the UK Levelling up Fund (submitted in July 2022) for funding to support delivery of key upgrades to the route. This is being overseen by the Member Officer Working Groups and is the approach endorsed by Full Council in April (Item 12).

5. Operational Priorities

Strategic Priority: Infrastructure, Economy & Enterprise
Council Priority (Outcome): A location of choice that has a diverse economic base of innovative companies with a skilled workforce and return to full employment.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
5.02 Modernisation Programme Continuous Improvement Strategy Project	IS Modernisation Programme to deliver on a range of initiatives that collectively achieve the overarching aims of the Council and its Stakeholders. Theme (ii) Continuous Improvement - Continuous Improvement Strategy	✅	100%	The proposed strategy, based on the approach adopted within Housing has been approved and now has to be implemented across the service. A key element of the strategy involves carrying out self-assessments using PSIF. Housing carried out their self-assessment in July/August 2022 and Planning & economy are expected to be the next service within E&IS to go through the process.
5.03 Modernisation Programme - Annual Self-Evaluation	IS Modernisation Programme to deliver on a range of initiatives that collectively achieve the overarching aims of the Council and its Stakeholders. (ii) Continuous Improvement - self assessment. Take part in annual self-assessment using HGIOS or other appropriate methodology to identify areas for improvement.	✅	100%	Housing and Building Standards were the first service within E&IS to undergo self-assessment using the Public Sector Improvement Framework (PSIF) methodology.

It is intended that the Planning and Economy Service will be the next one with E&IS to undergo self-assessment using the PSIF methodology. |

Strategic Priority: Resilient Communities, Economy & Enterprise
Council Priority (Outcome): Placemaking to meet the current and future needs of communities through Participatory Budgeting and Asset Transfer and other ways of supporting communities to help themselves, enabling community wealth building that supports local economic opportunities.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
5.07 Prepare, adopt and maintain an up to date Local Development Plan	Prepare, adopt and maintain an up to date Local Development Plan	🛑	95%	LDP was approved by Full Council on 21 September 2022. The Plan is now with the Scottish Ministers awaiting final adoption - notification of adoption is anticipated to be around 24-31 October 2022

Strategic Priority: Resilient Communities, Economy & Enterprise
Council Priority (Outcome): Consumers are assured that businesses are conforming to regulations. Businesses are supported to ensure compliance with legislation, economic diversification and energy transition .

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
5.08 Managing development through an effective planning system	Manage development through an effective and efficient planning system and monitor performance, effectiveness of planning decision making process and compliance with policies of the Local Development Plan	🛑	70%	The Development Management continuous improvement framework is active as is associated work to continuously improve all aspects of the Development Management function as it delivers developments in accordance with the current policies of the LDP. A dedicated Continuous Improvement officer coordinates the improvement actions. The DM Service have also been successful in obtaining CSE re accreditation in 2022 with regards customer excellence. The Service await Feedback on the Planning Performance Framework 2021-22.

Strategic Priority: Infrastructure, Economy & Enterprise
Council Priority (Outcome): Safeguard the built and natural environment.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
5.09 Maintenance of the Council's Harbours	Develop and implement a programme of maintenance works for the Councils 7 harbours each year.	✅	100%	In April the Area Committees approved the proposed Revenue and Capital Works programmes for the Council's 7 harbours.

For financial year 2022/2023 the Capital Plan included an allowance of £4,391,000 for Harbours and Coast and Flooding. This included a carry forward of £1,093,000 from the previous year. The budget had been allocated based on a combination of routine |

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
				revenue funded repairs and maintenance, which were prioritised based on previous inspections and surveys; and larger capital funded projects for structural improvements which were prioritised to ensure that assets continued to meet performance requirements throughout their design life. Revenue funded maintenance dredging to maintain working depths had a planned cyclical programme based on inspections and surveys.

In May it was announced that a major infrastructure programme to safeguard the long-term future of the iconic Stonehaven Harbour was due to commence. Aberdeenshire Council is investing £2.2million in the works as part of its wider improvement strategy to protect and enhance the region's harbours.

Following tender approval by the Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee, contractors Teignmouth Maritime Services Ltd (TMS) were appointed to lead the project which was due to be completed by end October this year.

The steel sheet piling at Stonehaven Harbour has suffered corrosion and pitting to the extent that there are now large voids in the existing sheet piles. This has resulted in the material behind the sheet piles being exposed and at risk of being washed out by the tidal sea waters.

As the material behind the sheet piles is primarily made up of rubble and loose material, if this were to be washed out over time it could lead to potential collapse of the piers themselves.

The critical works will involve new sheet piles being installed immediately in front of the existing structure, with the gap between the walls being infilled. TMS will seek to minimise any increase in pier dimensions to maintain navigational channels as far as practicably possible and to allow the existing boom – which is used to protect the inner harbour during storms - to be used after the improvements. |

Strategic Priority: Infrastructure, Economy & Enterprise
Council Priority (Outcome): A location of choice that has a diverse economic base of innovative companies with a skilled workforce and return to full employment.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
5.10 Monitor impact of the investment on those using harbour service	Monitor impact of investment on those using the harbour services.	✅	100%	Feedback is received at Harbour Advisory Committee meetings throughout the yea

Strategic Priority: Infrastructure, Economy & Enterprise
Council Priority (Outcome): Safeguard the built and natural environment.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
5.11 Develop and deliver marine asset management plan.	Development and delivery of marine asset management plan.	🛑	70%	This action has been delayed as a result of staff being deployed on the Banff Harbour project.

Strategic Priority: Infrastructure, Economy & Enterprise
Council Priority (Outcome): A location of choice that has a diverse economic base of innovative companies with a skilled workforce and return to full employment.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
5.12 Undertake a review of sustainable harbour ownership and management	Undertake a review of sustainable harbour ownership and management	✅	100%	In May it was announced that robust new development plans are to be undertaken for Aberdeenshire Council's seven harbours. Councillors considered various future management proposals for the harbours at Portsoy, Banff, Macduff, Rosehearty, Stonehaven, Gourdon and Johnshaven. The Harbours Service is responsible for ensuring that these assets are managed and developed in a way that they continue to support the growth of the economy, the local business community, and are able to meet current and future economic challenges. In a report presented to ISC Members heard that at Rosehearty (the council's smallest harbour) the Inshore Fisherman's Association (RHIFA) has played a key role in reigniting a community sprit by running open days and various fundraising events for themselves, RNLI and other local charities. Members agreed that the success at Rosehearty was a good example of what can be achieved if harbour users take a degree of ownership over the improvement and development of their harbour, supported by appropriate teams within the council and

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Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
				agreed that this was the most appropriate management model to support the future of the council's harbour portfolio. It was agreed that up to £100,000 will be provided to support the production of the development plans for the harbours, with a draft brief for the engagement of external now being prepared.

Strategic Priority: Infrastructure, Health & Wellbeing
Council Priority (Outcome): Safeguard the built and natural environment

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
5.13 Implement Access Strategy	Implement Access Strategy and associated action plans	✅	100%	Work is ongoing to deliver the key priorities, aims and objectives as outlined in the 2021-24 Strategy and 2022-23 Action Plan.
5.14 Review and update Access Strategy	Review and update Access Strategy report outcomes to Committee	✅	100%	changes following ISC March '22 completed and updated document published May'22.

Strategic Priority: Infrastructure, Health & Wellbeing
Council Priority (Outcome): Ensuring that residents and business across Aberdeenshire are prepared to adapt to effects of climate change including the risk of flooding.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
5.15 Decarbonise the Council's fleet of vehicles	Decarbonise the Councils Fleet of Vehicles	✅	100%	In July the Council took delivery of 20 new zero-emission electric vehicles. Eighteen of the vehicles were 100% funded by the Scottish Government's 'Switched on Fleets' initiative through Energy Saving Trust and replaced older vehicles within the council's fleet. The seven Renault Zoe vans, six Vauxhall e-Vivaro and five Vauxhall Corsa-e were issued to frontline council services ranging from Environmental Health, Property and Social Care.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
				Completing the line-up were two low-entry accessible Mellor e-Orion minibuses. One was match-funded by Transport Scotland and the other was fully funded by Regional Transport Partnership, Nestrans, along with a contribution to the installation of charging points.

The Switched on Fleets initiative helps local authorities transition from traditional internal combustion engines to cleaner zero-emission vehicles. That support has enabled Aberdeenshire Council to increase its zero-emission vehicle fleet to 40. |

Strategic Priority: Resilient Communities, Economy & Enterprise
Council Priority (Outcome): Ensuring that residents and business across Aberdeenshire are prepared to adapt to effects of climate change including the risk of flooding

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
5.16 Set Carbon Budget for Council each year	Climate Change – Mitigation and Adaptation – Set Carbon Budget for Council each year.	✅	100%	In September 2021 the Council approved the Carbon Budget Route Map to 2030 which identifies what needs to happen across the authority in order to meet the 75% reductions in emissions target by the end of the decade. A key aspect of 'Route-Map to 2030' – which aligns with the objectives of COP 26 – will be the creation of a toolkit which will provide cost-abatement curve and demonstrate which projects give the most carbon savings for the least financial outlay so projects can be prioritised.

In November the Sustainability Committee approved the mandatory Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Report 2020-21 for submission to the Scottish Government. In the report it was recognised that impacts from the pandemic significantly contributed to the large reduction in emissions for 2020/21. |

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
				In March 2022 Aberdeenshire Council approved the Carbon Budget for 2022 – 2023. The budget identified projects which will reduce the Council's emissions by a further 1445 tonnes Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (tCO2e) in 2022 - 2023.
5.17 Agree actions to deliver savings in Carbon Budget	Agree actions to deliver savings in Carbon Budget. Report on progress six monthly.	✅	100%	The Carbon Budget 2022/23 which was approved by the Council in February 2022 set targets for carbon savings for each service for the year. For E&IS savings amounted to 549 tCO2e (38% of the total reduction required). A list of potential projects for achieving the required savings were set out in the budget papers.

The proposed projects for E&IS include:- behaviour change, renewables, energy efficiency , PV installations, LED replacement street lighting, electric vehicles (EVs), EV infrastructure, battery operated landscaping equipment, waste reduction and reuse initiatives. Work is on-going to take forward these projects and deliver the required savings.

At the end of September the Council approved a route map that sets out how it plans to de-carbonise 75% of its emissions by the end of the decade and onto achieving net zero by 2045.

The Route Map to 2030 and Beyond was approved at Full Council on Thursday 29 September. The plan has a focus on Aberdeenshire Council's operational buildings, fleet, and street lighting, which account for more than 90% of its current carbon footprint. Improvements to authority's residential properties, such as heating systems and solar roof panels, are separately underway through the Council's Housing Improvement Programme.

Among the many milestones along the route is the adoption of hydrogen and electric vehicles for the authority's fleet; non-domestic buildings will be retrofitted to decarbonise heat as well as save, generate, and store energy; and the council's programme of LED streetlight replacements to date has also exceeded annual decarbonisation targets year-on-year.

Decarbonisation will be measured against a baseline carbon footprint of 86,155 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO2e) emitted by the council in 2010/11. TCO2e measures the impact of greenhouse gases by showing the amount of CO2 that would create the same level of global warming. |

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
				A key aspect of The Route-Map to 2030 and Beyond is a new carbon reduction toolkit, created to show which projects will deliver the most impactful carbon savings for the least financial outlay. In addition to the actions from the council's carbon budget work, the identification of funding opportunities to support decarbonisation of the authority's emissions down to 21,539 tCO2e by 2030/31 will continue throughout.

Strategic Priority: Infrastructure, Economy & Enterprise
Council Priority (Outcome): A road and street-lighting network which keeps people safe, encourages active lifestyles and increases active travel opportunities
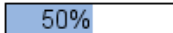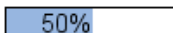
Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
5.21 Review of Local Transport Strategy	Undertake a revision of the Local Transport Strategy to take on board policies set out in the National Transport Strategy as well as the actions set out in the Regional Transport Strategy	✅	100%	A report was presented to the Infrastructure Services Committee on 10 March 2022 (Item 18) detailing the approach for delivery of a revised Local Transport Strategy (LTS) for Aberdeenshire. It was agreed that a MOWG would be established to support the development of the revised LTS. The Terms of Reference with respect to this Group have been developed and were included in the Strategic Transport Update that went to ISC on 8th June. (item 18).

Strategic Priority: Infrastructure, Economy & Enterprise
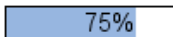**Council Priority (Outcome): Safeguard the built and natural environment**
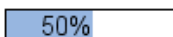
Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
	In line with the Natural Heritage Strategy produce annual action plans and	✅	100%	Work is ongoing to deliver the key priorities, aims and objectives as outlined in the 2019-22 Strategy and 2022-23 Action Plan.

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
5.22 Deliver action plans in support of Natural Heritage Strategy	deliver actions in relation to development management, tree protection, site management, biodiversity and encouraging pollinators.			

Strategic Priority: Infrastructure, Economy & Enterprise
Council Priority (Outcome): Placemaking to meet the current and future needs of communities through Participatory Budgeting and Asset Transfer and other ways of supporting communities to help themselves, enabling community wealth building that supports local economic opportunities

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
5.23 In support of Development Strategy deliver actions related to planned greenfield land release	Deliver actions in relation to the development strategy relating to:- planned greenfield land release.	🛑	50%	The Proposed LDP 2021 has now been approved by the Full Council on 21 September 2022. Itis currently awaiting formal adoption by the Scottish Ministers. The Reporter omitted some housing sites but compensated for the deficit by This deficit is resolved by the addition of three bid sites to the plan: Banchory (Upper Ardbeadie Road (bid MR056) (for 42 homes –Site OP7), Kemnay (Land East of Stuart Crescent (bid GR134) (for 65 homes – Site OP3) and Portlethen (Land north of Thistle Drive (bid KN027) (for 300 homes – Site OP7). No deficit was found in the employment land supply, but an additional site at Westhill (South of Arnhall Business Park (bid GR106)) was added to the Strategic employment land allocation reserve land for the period 2033-2044.
5.24 In support of Development Strategy deliver actions related to brownfield land	Deliver actions in relation to the development strategy relating to redevelopment of Brownfield land and re-use of buildings.	🛑	50%	Brownfield land policies existed in the LDP 2017 and similarly in the new LDP 2022, now approved by Full Council (21/09/2022) and awaiting adoption by the Scottish Ministers. The LDP 2022 further identified opportunities for development on brownfield land and the policies for brownfield development have been increased within the rural areas of Aberdeenshire. The Reporter agreed to the changes to the rural/brownfield policies.

Strategic Priority: Infrastructure, Economy & Enterprise
Council Priority (Outcome): Safeguard the built and natural environment

Action	Description	Status	Progress	Latest Note
5.25 Develop and implement actions in support of Built Heritage Strategy	Develop and implement actions to deliver objectives set out in the Built Heritage Strategy. Report progress to members annually.	🛑	75%	A bulletin was issued to the Infrastructure Services Committee on 8th June outlining progress with the actions in the 1st year of the 2021-2024 Built Heritage Strategy
5.26 Review and update Built Heritage Strategy	Review and update Built Heritage Strategy. Report outcome to members.	✅	100%	A bulletin was issued to the Infrastructure Services Committee on 8 June 2022 outlining progress with the actions in the first year of the Built Heritage Strategy 2021-2024.
5.27 Implement Archaeology Service Strategy and Action Plan.	Implement Archaeology Service Strategy and associated Action Plan	✅	100%	Work is ongoing to deliver the key priorities, aims and objectives as outlined in the 2020-23 Strategy and 2022-23 Action Plan.
5.28 Implement projects set out in the Historic Asset Management Programme	Develop and implement projects set out in the Historic Asset Management Programme (HAMP). Resurvey all 500 historic assets every 5 years and update programme of works as required.	🛑	50%	Work is ongoing on planned projects and emergency works as identified.
5.29 Implement Rangers Service Strategy and Action Plan	Implement Ranger Service Strategy and associated Action Plans.	✅	100%	Ongoing. Public, group and school sessions are being delivered to help meet the identified key priorities, aims and objectives in the 2020-23 Strategy and Action Plan.

The Ranger Service were successful in securing external funding from NatureScot's Better Places Green Recovery Fund and the Formartine Coastal Communities Fund to employ 2 Seasonal Access Countryside Rangers from 1 June until 31 October 2022 to undertake patrols (working week, Thursday - Monday) at countryside hotspot sites to promote more responsible behaviour and reduce impact on the natural and cultural environment of the area. |
| 5.30 Implement NESBReC Strategy and action plans | Implement NESBRec Strategy and associated Action Plans. | ✅ | 100% | Work is ongoing to deliver the key priorities, aims and objectives as outlined in the 2020-23 Strategy and 2022-23 Action Plan.

7 of the required 8 free training events (by NatureScot who are one of NESBReC's main funders) have been delivered. These have been a mix of face to face and virtual. |