



Please ask for Frances Green  
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The Chair and Members of Scrutiny  
Select Committee – Economic  
Growth and Communities

10 April 2024

Dear Councillor,

Please attend a meeting of the SCRUTINY SELECT COMMITTEE – ECONOMIC GROWTH AND COMMUNITIES to be held on THURSDAY, 18 APRIL 2024 at 5.00 pm in Committee Room 1, Town Hall, the agenda for which is set out below.

AGENDA

Part 1(Public Information)

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declaration of Members' and Officers' Interests Relating to Items on the Agenda
3. Local Government Act 1972 - Exclusion of the Public

That under Section 100(a)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

4. Supporting Residents with Managed Migration to Universal Credit (Pages 3 - 10)
5. Local Government Act 1972 - Re-admission of the Public

6. Scrutiny Project Groups Progress Updates
7. Scrutiny Monitoring
8. Forward Plan (Pages 11 - 18)
9. Work Programme for the Scrutiny Select Committee - Economic Growth and Communities (Pages 19 - 22)
10. Minutes (Pages 23 - 28)

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Randy', written in a cursive style.

Head of Regulatory Law and Monitoring Officer

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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CHESTERFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN  
FOR THE FOUR MONTH PERIOD 1 MAY 2024 TO 31 AUGUST 2024

**What is the Forward Plan?**

This is formal notice under The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 of key decisions to be made on behalf of the Council. This Forward Plan sets out the details of the 'key' and other major decisions which the Council expects to take during the next four month period. The Plan is available to the public 28 days before the beginning of each month.

**What is a Key Decision?**

Any executive decision which is likely to result in the Council incurring significant expenditure or the making of savings where there is:

- a decision to spend £100,000 or more from an approved budget, or
- a decision to transfer funds of more than £50,000 from one budget to another, or
- a decision which would result in a saving of £50,000 or more to any budget head, or
- a decision to dispose or acquire any interest in land or buildings with a value of £50,000 or more, or
- a decision to propose the closure of, or reduction by more than ten (10) percent in the level of service (for example in terms of funding, staffing or hours of operation) provided from any facility from which Council services are supplied.

Any executive decision which will have a significant impact in environmental, physical, social or economic terms on communities living or working in one or more electoral wards. This includes any plans or strategies which are not within the Council's Policy Framework set out in Article 4 of the Council's Constitution.

**Are any other decisions included on the plan?**

The Forward Plan also includes details of any significant issues to be considered by the Executive Cabinet, full Council and Overview and Scrutiny Committee. They are called "non-key decisions". Non-key decisions that will be made in private are also listed.

**How much notice is given of forthcoming decisions?**

As far as possible and in the interests of transparency, the Council will seek to provide at least 28 clear days' notice of new key decisions (and many new non-key decisions) that are listed on this document. Where this is not practicable, such key decisions will be taken under urgency procedures (in accordance with Rule 15 (General Exception) and Rule 16 (Special Urgency) of the Access to information Procedure Rules). This will be indicated in the final column and a separate notice is also published with additional details.

**What information is included in the plan?**

The plan will provide a description of the decision to be taken, who will make the decision and when the decision is to be made. The relevant Cabinet Member for each decision is listed. If you wish to make representations about the decision to be made, the contact details of the appropriate officer are also provided. Decisions which are expected to be taken in private (at a meeting of the Cabinet or by an individual Cabinet Member) are marked "private" and the reasons privacy is required will also be stated. Each issue is also listed separately on the website which will show more details including any Urgency Notices if issued.

## How is consultation and Community Engagement carried out?

We want all our communities to be given the opportunity to be involved in the decisions that affect them so before a decision is taken, where appropriate, community engagement activities are carried out. The Council's Community Engagement Strategy sets out a framework for how the Council engages with its customers and communities. Details of engagement activities may be found in reports when published. Alternatively you can contact the officer to whom representations may be made.

## Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private

Whilst the majority of the business at Cabinet meetings will be open to the public and media to attend, there will inevitably be some business to be considered that contains, for example, confidential, commercially sensitive or personal information. This is formal notice under The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 that the Cabinet meetings shown on this Forward Plan will be held partly in private because some of the reports for the meeting will contain either confidential information or exempt information under Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended) and that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

A list of the reports which are expected to be considered at this meeting in private are set out in a list on this Forward Plan. They are marked "private", including a number indicating the reason why the decision will be taken in private under the categories set out below:

- (1) information relating to any individual
- (2) information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual
- (3) information relating the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)
- (4) information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
- (5) Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
- (6) Information which reveals that the authority proposes (a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.
- (7) Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

If you would like to make representations about any particular decision to be conducted in private at this meeting then please email: [democratic.services@chesterfield.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@chesterfield.gov.uk). Such representations must be received in advance of 5 clear working days before the date Cabinet meeting itself, normally by the preceding Monday. The Council is required to consider any representations received as to why an item should not be taken in private and to publish its decision.

It is possible that other private reports may be added at shorter notice to the agenda for the Cabinet meeting or for a Cabinet Member decision.

**Huw Bowen**  
Chief Executive

Copies of the Council's Constitution and agenda and minutes for all meetings of the Council may be accessed on the Council's website: [www.chesterfield.gov.uk](http://www.chesterfield.gov.uk)



**CHESTERFIELD**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

### Meeting Dates 2023/24

<u>Cabinet</u>	<u>Council</u>
23 May 2023	15-May-2023 17 May 2023
20 June 2023 20 June 2023*	
18 July 2022 18 July 2023*	19 July 2023
19 September 2023 19-September 2023*	
17 October 2023 17-October-2023*	18 October 2023
14 November 2023 14 November 2023*	
12 December 2023 12 December-2023*	13 December 2023
16 January 2024 16-January-2024*	
6 February 2024 6-February 2024* 20 February-2024 20-February-2024*	21 February 2024
19 March 2024 19-March-2024**	
16 April 2024 16 April 2024*	24-April-2024
14 May 2024 14 May 2024*	15 May 2024

\*Joint Cabinet and Employment and General Committee

<b>Cabinet members and their portfolios are as follows:</b>	
Leader and Cabinet Member for Economic Growth	Councillor Tricia Gilby
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Asset Management	Councillor Amanda Serjeant
Cabinet Member for Business Transformation and Customers	Councillor Gavin Baldauf-Good
Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Planning and Environment	Councillor Martin Stone
Cabinet Member for Governance	Councillor Judy Staton
Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing	Councillor Jonathan Davies
Cabinet Member for Housing	Councillor Jean Innes
Cabinet Member for Town Centres and Visitor Economy	Councillor Kate Sarvent
Minority Member without portfolio	Councillor Paul Holmes

**In addition to the Cabinet Members above, the following Councillors are voting Members of the Joint Cabinet and Employment and General Committee**

Councillor Peter Innes  
Councillor Maureen Davenport  
Councillor Glenys Falconer  
Councillor Bob Brock  
Councillor Dave Culley  
Councillor Gavin Baldauf-Good

(To view the dates for other meetings please click [here](#).)

Decision No	Details of the Decision to be Taken	Decision to be taken by	Relevant Portfolio Holder	Earliest Date Decision can be Taken	Representations may be made to the following officer by the date stated	Public or Private	Decision Under Urgency Provisions
<b>Key Decisions</b>							
Key Decision 398	<b>Sale of CBC Land/Property</b>	Deputy Leader	Cabinet Member - Finance and Asset Management	Not before 1st May 2024	Matthew Sorby Tel: 01246 345800 matthew.sorby@chesterfield.gov.uk	Exempt 3	No
Key Decision 584	<b>Purchase of Property under Strategic Acquisitions and Right of First Refusal Policy</b>	Service Director - Housing	Cabinet Member for Housing	Not before 1st May 2024	James Crouch Tel: 01246 345150 james.crouch@chesterfield.gov.uk	Exempt 3	No
Key Decision 1187	<b>Tapton Park Golf Course</b>	Cabinet	Cabinet Member - Health and Wellbeing	16 Apr 2024	Ian Waller Service Director - Leisure, Culture and Community Wellbeing ian.waller@chesterfield.gov.uk	Exempt 3	No
Key Decision 1205	<b>HR and payroll reshape</b>	Joint Cabinet and Employment & General Committee	Cabinet Member - Business Transformation and Customers	16 Jul 2024	Rachel O'Neil Service Director - Digital, HR and Customer Services rachel.oneil@chesterfield.gov.uk	Confidential 1	No
Key Decision 1206	<b>Customer services and support services reshape</b>	Joint Cabinet and Employment & General Committee	Cabinet Member - Business Transformation and Customers	14 May 2024	Rachel O'Neil Service Director - Digital, HR and Customer Services rachel.oneil@chesterfield.gov.uk	Confidential 1	No

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Decision No	Details of the Decision to be Taken	Decision to be taken by	Relevant Portfolio Holder	Earliest Date Decision can be Taken	Representations may be made to the following officer by the date stated	Public or Private	Decision Under Urgency Provisions
Key Decision 1233	<b>Long Term Plan for Towns</b>	Cabinet	Leader, Cabinet Member - Economic Growth	16 Apr 2024	Neil Johnson Service Director - Economic Growth Tel: 01246 345241 neil.johnson@chesterfield.gov.uk	Public	No
Key Decision 1234	<b>Community Governance Review Request Response</b>	Cabinet Council	Cabinet Member - Governance	16 Apr 2024 24 Apr 2024	Donna Reddish Service Director - Corporate Tel: 01246 345307 donna.reddish@chesterfield.gov.uk	Public	No
Key Decision 1235	<b>Housing Strategy</b>	Cabinet Council	Cabinet Member - Housing	16 Apr 2024 24 Apr 2024	Jane Davies Service Director - Housing jane.davies@chesterfield.gov.uk	Public	No
Key Decision 1236	<b>Deputy Leader and Cabinet Appointments</b>	Council	Leader	24 Apr 2024	Bethany Fletcher bethany.fletcher@chesterfield.gov.uk	Public	No
Key Decision 1237	<b>Council Outside Body Appointments</b>	Council	Leader	24 Apr 2024	Bethany Fletcher bethany.fletcher@chesterfield.gov.uk	Public	No
Key Decision 1238	<b>Committee Appointments</b>	Council	Leader	24 Apr 2024	Bethany Fletcher bethany.fletcher@chesterfield.gov.uk	Public	No

Decision No	Details of the Decision to be Taken	Decision to be taken by	Relevant Portfolio Holder	Earliest Date Decision can be Taken	Representations may be made to the following officer by the date stated	Public or Private	Decision Under Urgency Provisions
Key Decision 1239	<b>Community Infrastructure Levy Expenditure</b>	Cabinet	Cabinet Member - Climate Change, Planning and Environment	16 Apr 2024	Neil Johnson Service Director - Economic Growth Tel: 01246 345241 neil.johnson@chesterfield.gov.uk	Public	No
Key Decision 1240	<b>Planning Obligations – Section 106 Monitoring</b>	Cabinet	Cabinet Member - Climate Change, Planning and Environment	16 Apr 2024	Neil Johnson, Emily Taylor Service Director - Economic Growth Tel: 01246 345241 neil.johnson@chesterfield.gov.uk, Democratic and Scrutiny Officer Tel: 01246 345236 emily.taylor@chesterfield.gov.uk	Public	No
Key Decision 1242	<b>Local Plan Review – Regulation 18 Consultation</b>	Cabinet	Cabinet Member - Climate Change, Planning and Environment	14 May 2024	Neil Johnson Service Director - Economic Growth Tel: 01246 345241 neil.johnson@chesterfield.gov.uk	Public	No
Key Decision 1243	<b>Careline Services Reshape</b>	Joint Cabinet and Employment & General Committee	Cabinet Member - Housing	14 May 2024	Rachel O'Neil Service Director - Digital, HR and Customer Services rachel.oneil@chesterfield.gov.uk	Confidential	No
Key Decision 1244	<b>ICT Reshape</b>	Joint Cabinet and Employment & General Committee	Cabinet Member - Housing	16 Jul 2024	Rachel O'Neil Service Director - Digital, HR and Customer Services rachel.oneil@chesterfield.gov.uk	Confidential	No

Decision No	Details of the Decision to be Taken	Decision to be taken by	Relevant Portfolio Holder	Earliest Date Decision can be Taken	Representations may be made to the following officer by the date stated	Public or Private	Decision Under Urgency Provisions
Key Decision 1245	<b>Trade Union Facility Time</b>	Joint Cabinet and Employment & General Committee	Cabinet Member - Business Transformation and Customers	16 Apr 2024	Rachel O'Neil Service Director - Digital, HR and Customer Services rachel.oneil@chesterfield.gov.uk	Public	No
Non-Key 1246	<b>Establishment of a Housing Advisory Board</b>	Cabinet	Cabinet Member - Housing	16 Apr 2024	Jane Davies Service Director - Housing jane.davies@chesterfield.gov.uk	Public	No
Key Decision 1247	<b>Health and Safety Reshape</b>	Joint Cabinet and Employment & General Committee	Cabinet Member - Governance	14 May 2024	Rachel O'Neil Service Director - Digital, HR and Customer Services rachel.oneil@chesterfield.gov.uk	Confidential 1	No
Key Decision 1248	<b>Reshape of the Housing Assets Team</b>	Joint Cabinet and Employment & General Committee	Cabinet Member - Housing	14 May 2024	Jane Davies Service Director - Housing jane.davies@chesterfield.gov.uk	Confidential 1	No
<b>Private Items (Non Key Decisions)</b>							
Non-Key 374	<b>Outstanding debts for write off</b>	Cabinet Member for Business Transformation and Customers	Cabinet Member for Business Transformation and Customers	Not before 1st May 2024	Theresa Channell Service Director - Finance theresa.channell@chesterfield.gov.uk	Exempt 3	No

Decision No	Details of the Decision to be Taken	Decision to be taken by	Relevant Portfolio Holder	Earliest Date Decision can be Taken	Representations may be made to the following officer by the date stated	Public or Private	Decision Under Urgency Provisions
Non-Key 363	<b>Application for Home Repairs Assistance</b>	Cabinet Member for Housing	Cabinet Member for Housing	Not before 1st May 2024		Exempt 1, 3	No
Non-Key 367	<b>Lease of Commercial and Industrial Properties</b>	Deputy Leader	Cabinet Member - Finance and Asset Management	Not before 1st May 2024	Matthew Sorby Tel: 01246 345800 matthew.sorby@chesterfield.gov.uk	Exempt 3	No
Non-Key 368	<b>Application for Discretionary Rate Relief</b>	Cabinet Member for Business Transformation and Customers	Cabinet Member for Business Transformation and Customers	Not before 1st May 2024	Damon Bruce Head of Customer Services damon.bruce@arvato.co.uk	Exempt	No

**Non Key Items**

**WORK PROGRAMME: SCRUTINY SELECT COMMITTEE – ECONOMIC GROWTH & COMMUNITIES 2023/24**

	<b>Scrutiny Committee Date:</b>	<b>Business Item:</b>	<b>Status:</b>	<b>Raised by:</b>	<b>Cabinet Member Responsibility</b>
1	13.07.2023	Housing Update	The Service Director – Housing presented a report to the Committee detailing an update on Decent homes, voids, and repairs.	Annual Scrutiny Work Programme 2023/2024	Housing
2	13.07.2023	Scrutiny Annual Report	The Service Director – Corporate presented a report to the Committee detailing the work of the Council’s overview and scrutiny committees.	Annual Scrutiny Work Programme 2023/2024	Governance
3	13.07.2023	Skills Action Plan Update	The Senior Economic Development Officer presented The Skills Action Plan Update.	Annual Scrutiny Work Programme 2023/2024	Economic Growth
4.	26.10.2023	Crime & Disorder Update	The Head of Community Safety and Regulatory Services presented a report updating members on issues relating to Community Safety, including an overview of current crime and ASB trends and progress made within the night-time economy.	Annual Scrutiny Work Programme 2023/2024	Health and Wellbeing
5	07.12.2023	UKSPF Projects Update	The Policy and Partnerships Manager, Health and Wellbeing Officer and	Annual Scrutiny Work	Economic Growth

	<b>Scrutiny Committee Date:</b>	<b>Business Item:</b>	<b>Status:</b>	<b>Raised by:</b>	<b>Cabinet Member Responsibility</b>
			Community Development Worker presented a report detailing the Community Development Activities funded by UKSPF.	Programme 2023/2024	
6	07.12.2023	Illegal Encampments	The Service Director – Leisure, Culture and Community Wellbeing, Head of Community Safety & Regulatory Services and Head of Streetscene & Environmental Services presented a verbal update reflecting on Illegal Encampments within the borough earlier in the year and the processes and plans in place to lessen their impact on local communities and resources should these occur again.	Councillors for Rother ward	Health and Wellbeing
7	11.01.2024	Climate Change Delivery Plan Quarter Two Performance Out-Turn	The Policy and Partnerships Manager and Climate Change Officer gave a presentation on the Climate Change Delivery Plan Quarter Two Out-turn.	Annual Scrutiny Work Programme 2023/2024	Climate Change, Planning and Environment
8	18.01.2024	Budget Conversation Workshop	The Service Director – Corporate presented an update on the budget challenge faced by the Council and the budget strategy implementation plan.	Annual Scrutiny Work Programme 2023/2024	Finance and Asset Management

	<b>Scrutiny Committee Date:</b>	<b>Business Item:</b>	<b>Status:</b>	<b>Raised by:</b>	<b>Cabinet Member Responsibility</b>
9	18.01.2024	Advice Agency Proposals	The Service Director – Corporate presented proposals for the phasing out of advice agency grants.	Members of the Committee	Health and Wellbeing
10	18.01.2024	Parks and Open Spaces	The Service Director – Leisure, Culture & Community Wellbeing presented proposals for cost-saving as part of the budget strategy implementation plan.	Members of the Committee	Health and Wellbeing
<b><i>Scrutiny Project Groups (SPG) :</i></b>					
<b><i>Items Pending Reschedule or Removal:</i></b>					
<b><i>New Business Items Proposed:</i></b>					
	18.04.2024	Universal Credit Update	Rachel O’Neil, Jane Davies, Clare Fowkes	Councillors of this Committee	Housing
	23.05.2024	Museum and Theatre Update	Anthony Radford	Annual Scrutiny Work Programme 2023/2024	Town Centres & Visitor Economy
	23.05.2024	Housing Update (including voids, private sector decent homes standard, housing strategy, HRA business plan	Jane Davies	Annual Scrutiny Work Programme 2023/2024	Housing

Scrutiny Committee Date:	Business Item:	Status:	Raised by:	Cabinet Member Responsibility
	development, enforcement on repairs and voids, tenancy group engagement)			
11.07.2024	UKSPF Update	Katy Marshall	Annual Scrutiny Work Programme 2023/2024	Economic Growth
11.07.2024	Town centre/ Station master plan	Neil Johnson	Annual Scrutiny Work Programme 2023/2024	Town Centres & Visitor Economy
05.12.2024	Illegal Encampment Update	Ian Waller, Shaun Morley, Shirley Hallam	Annual Scrutiny Work Programme 2023/2024	Health and Wellbeing

Note: Items for monitoring (from scrutiny reviews and/or recommendations) are not included above but are listed in the Scrutiny Monitoring Form a separate item on the agenda. Items from the Forward Plan and Scrutiny Monitoring Form can be included in the work programme. *[KEY to abbreviations : EG & C = Scrutiny Select Committee – Economic Growth & Communities. RC – Scrutiny Select Committee – Resilient Council. TBC = to be confirmed. KD = Forward Plan Key Decision].*



**SCRUTINY SELECT COMMITTEE – ECONOMIC GROWTH AND COMMUNITIES**

**Thursday, 11th January, 2024**

Present:-

Councillor Flood (Chair)

Councillors	Dyke	Councillors	Niblock
	Yates		Hollingworth
	Jacobs		McClaren
	Blakemore		Kellman
	Snowdon		

\*Matters dealt with under the Delegation Scheme

**29** **DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' AND OFFICERS' INTERESTS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

No declarations of interest were received.

**30** **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bagley, Ogle and Wheeldon.

**31** **CLIMATE CHANGE DELIVERY PLAN QUARTER TWO PERFORMANCE OUT-TURN (DIGITAL PRESENTATION)**

Councillor Stone, Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Planning and Environment, provided an introduction to the subject of Climate Change and how Chesterfield Borough Council is looking at meeting its targets.

The Policy and Partnerships Manager and Climate Change Officer gave a presentation on the Climate Change Delivery Plan Quarter Two Out-turn. The Climate Change Strategy 2023 to 2030 takes the Council up to its first target of becoming a carbon neutral organisation by 2030. There are six key themes within the Strategy for its activities during 2023-2030:

- Buildings and Energy Use

- Travel
- Green Space, Land Use and Offsetting
- Communications, Engagement and Training
- Data, Monitoring and Corporate Activity
- Council Influence and Partnership Activity.

This Strategy was approved by Full Council in February 2023. It has many monitoring arrangements including through Cabinet, Scrutiny, the Corporate Leadership Team, and the Climate Change Forum. To ensure that the Strategy remains on track a delivery plan has also been developed which will be reviewed annually. The delivery plan identifies the key milestones, inputs, outputs, and measures that will need to be delivered during each year of the plan to maintain progress. The delivery plan will be reviewed annually and approved by Cabinet in March 2024.

A Performance Dashboard of critical items has been created. Eleven actions have been classified as critical because they are particularly urgent, have a disproportionate effect on council emissions, or are necessary precursors to other important actions.

In terms of Buildings and Energy, there are fourteen actions. Of these, one is rated red, three amber, eight green, one has been established and one has been removed as it has been merged into another action. There have been successes within this category:

- Three stock condition surveys (Council's operational assets) have been undertaken and the reports are currently being reviewed.
- Green Homes Grant (private sector) – good uptake and extra funding secured.
- New build council housing specification of EPC A implemented.
- Feasibility study complete on decarbonising a shared domestic heating site.

Challenges within this sector focused on the progress and pace of the stock condition surveys. Also, capacity issues regarding bidding for decarbonisation grant funding, and actioning the stock condition surveys and decarbonisation/ maintenance plans.

Discussions from Members focussed on the need for progression with the stock condition surveys. As we are now in 2024 there are 6 years left to

complete the rest so needs resolving with some speed. Assurances were given that plans were in place to progress this action which is red rated.

There are nine items in the topic area of Travel. Three of these are rated green, four amber, one has been established and for one there is no data. Successes include:

- The fleet decarbonisation plan is approved and in progress.
- 21 charge points have been installed at the depot, with additional points at Calow.
- Quotations are currently being sought for a Solar canopies feasibility study which is additional to the planned activity.

Challenges centre around there being no low carbon option for heavy vehicles. This is a fast changing environment however, and a flexible approach is required to respond to emerging technology and solutions. Also, the main focus has been on the fleet decarbonisation programme, which is now established.

Questions were asked by members about the reliance on other companies developing technologies for larger vehicles. It was reported that vehicles within the fleet are now being rotated quicker, enabling the take up of new vehicles when they emerge. Also, where our responsibilities lie with the decarbonisation of bin lorries. This was reported to be an issue for procurement due to it being an outside contractor.

In the area of Green Space, Land Use and Offsetting there are eight items. One is rated as red, three are green, two are amber and two are already established. Success within this area include:

- Significant areas of land have been identified as part of the local plan development for longer term BNG opportunities.
- Funding for tree planting has been provided via UKSPF until March 2025.
- Climate team 'consultation' and assessment is now embedded in the planning process.

Challenges have been around the lack of resource and capacity to implement a woodland management programme. Also, the management of residual emissions and offsetting approaches are challenging for all authorities and wider sectors, not just this Council.

Members discussed checking the available land audit in order to identify areas suitable for tree planting. It was noted that tree planting should be seen as a bonus rather than an answer to the issue of offsetting. However, it was recognised that enhancing the local environment involves local people; planting trees can grab interest therefore it is very important. Certain issues surrounding re-wilding of grass verges and the planting of trees to help with flooding issues are better discussed with the Parks and Open Spaces team as it is more in their remit than that of the Climate Change team.

It was noted that the shadow price of carbon (the term used to describe the monetary cost of reducing or reversing the environmental damage caused by the release of one additional tonne of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere) could be used to inform policy decisions and is calculated based on the social cost of carbon. If the Council continues to emit carbon at the current rate, costing this at the current rate would result in additional costs of £1.18M per year by 2030 (not including market forces and inflation).

There are seven items in the area of Communications, engagement and training. Four of these are green, two are amber and one is already established. Successes included:

- The Climate Change Forum has met twice and completed Fresk training and workshops on developing their own action plan and the Council's Delivery Plan.
- Community Grants Fund (UKSPF and CIL Neighbourhoods) has criteria and scoring that includes climate considerations.
- Approximately 3000 people on the mailing list for the newsletter.

The only challenge had been the up-take of training from employees and members. There would be a members top-up session in mid-April with the hope that all members would then be trained.

In the area of Data, monitoring and corporate activity there are five items. Two are green, one amber and two are already established. It was reported that all of these activities are progressing well. It was noted that the Climate Change Impact Assessment tool developed by CBC has been widely used by other authorities and an international request had been received for more information on it. The only challenge reported was in the delays experienced in receiving bills for energy usage.

Council Influence and Partnership Activity has four items which are all rated green as all activities are progressing well. CBC remains an active participant in the Vision Derbyshire partnership and has been engaging in a number of key Derbyshire wide projects. These projects however are expected to be folded into activity in the new combined authority as it becomes operational. Grants of up to £20,000 will be available from Decarbonise (a UKSPF project) to businesses looking to reduce their carbon output. The Accelerator team, which includes a business advisor, will work with businesses to develop the projects following energy audits carried out through the project. This is delivered in partnership between the Chamber and Economic Development Team. The only challenge experienced in this area has been in terms of partnership working with Derbyshire County Council, as they have paused all of their Climate change related activity and spend.

It was reported that as critical items had now been highlighted, it enabled attention to be focused on them. In line with Council Plan monitoring, directors now receive a summary of updates from their directorate before quarterly reports are finalised. There is a limit to the capacity and resources for some activity due to current budget challenges. The lack of national framework for local government climate change activity is challenging, as is the lack of a national funding framework for local government climate change activity.

Members discussed how the scrutiny of climate change would continue going forward. There was a consensus that joint meetings of the scrutiny committees would be beneficial to explore certain areas of concern and that progress reports would still be presented before going to Cabinet and Full Council. The Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Planning and Environment hoped that scrutiny members could help move the agenda forward.

Members thanked the officers for the report and asked that they returned to present the formal report prior to it going to Cabinet.

## **RESOLVED –**

1. That the report be noted.
2. That the formal report be presented to this committee prior to going to Cabinet.

**32 SCRUTINY PROJECT GROUPS PROGRESS UPDATES**

This is a standard agenda item. Both committees will look at this separately in their own meetings.

**33 SCRUTINY MONITORING**

This is a standard agenda item. Both committees will look at this separately when they next meet.

**34 FORWARD PLAN**

It was noted that there are new items on the updated Forward Plan. Members were encouraged to take the time to read this document thoroughly.

**35 WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE SCRUTINY SELECT COMMITTEE - ECONOMIC GROWTH AND COMMUNITIES**

This is a standard agenda item. This will be discussed at the separate meetings of the Scrutiny Select Committees when they meet next.