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THIS IS A MEETING WHICH THE PUBLIC ARE ENTITLED TO ATTEND

14th July 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee will be held in Virtually Via Microsoft Teams - if you would like to attend this meeting live via Microsoft Teams please contact committee.services@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk on Monday, 19th July, 2021 at 10.00 am.

Please note that a pre and post meeting will be held 30 minutes prior to the start and following the conclusion of the meeting for members of the committee.

Yours faithfully

Michelle Morris
Managing Director

AGENDA

Pages

1. SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION

You are welcome to use Welsh at the meeting, a minimum notice period of 3 working days is required

We welcome correspondence in the medium of Welsh or English. / Croesawn ohebiaith trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg.

should you wish to do so. A simultaneous translation will be provided if requested.

2. **APOLOGIES**
To receive.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**
To receive.
4. **COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MINUTES** 5 - 12

To receive the minutes of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee held on 7th June, 2021.

(Please note the minutes are submitted for accuracy points only).
5. **ACTION SHEET - 7TH JUNE 2021** 13 - 14

To receive the Action Sheet.
6. **FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN (2016- 2022)** 15 - 44

To consider the report of the Head of Community Services.
7. **POSITION REPORT – STRAYING ANIMALS** 45 - 54

To consider the report of the Corporate Director Regeneration and Community Services.
8. **ADDITIONAL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE WORKS 2021 – 2022** 55 - 60

To consider the report of the Head of Community Services.
9. **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME: 4TH OCTOBER 2021** 61 - 64

To receive the report.

EXEMPT ITEM(S)

To receive and consider the following report(s) which in the opinion of the Proper Officer is/are an exempt item(s) taking into account consideration of the public interest test and that the press and public should be excluded from the meeting (the reason for the decision for the exemption is available on a schedule maintained by the Proper Officer).

10. CENTRE OF OPERATIONS - PROJECT UPDATE AND OUTLINE BUSINESS CASE

65 - 126

To consider the report of the Head of Community Services.

To: Councillor M. Moore (Chair)
Councillor C. Meredith (Vice-Chair)
Councillor P. Baldwin
Councillor M. Cook
Councillor M. Cross
Councillor M. Day
Councillor P. Edwards
Councillor S. Healy
Councillor W. Hodgins
Councillor J. Holt
Councillor J. C. Morgan
Councillor L. Parsons
Councillor T. Sharrem
Councillor B. Summers
Councillor L. Winnett

All other Members (for information)
Manager Director
Chief Officers

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COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLAENAU GWENT

REPORT TO: THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 7TH JUNE, 2021

REPORT OF: DEMOCRATIC & COMMITTEE SUPPORT OFFICER

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR M. MOORE (CHAIR)

Councillors C. Meredith
 M. Cook
 P. Baldwin
 M. Day
 P. Edwards
 S. Healy
 W. Hodgins
 J. Holt
 J.C. Morgan
 L. Parsons
 B. Summers
 L. Winnett

WITH: Corporate Director Regeneration & Community Services
 Head of Community Services
 Engineering Manager
 Team Leader Neighbourhood Services
 Team Manager Street Scene
 Team Manager Environmental Protection
 Team Leader Highways & Winter Maintenance
 Senior Engineer Highways
 Marketing & Communication Projects Officer
 Scrutiny & Democratic Officer/Advisor

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
No. 1	<u>SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION</u> It was noted that no requests had been received for the simultaneous translation service.	

<p>No. 2</p>	<p><u>APOLOGIES</u></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received for Councillor T. Sharrem.</p>	
<p>No. 3</p>	<p><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS</u></p> <p>No declarations of interest or dispensations were reported.</p>	
<p>No. 4</p>	<p><u>TIME OF FUTURE MEETINGS</u></p> <p>It was AGREED that meetings of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee continue to be held at 10.00 a.m.</p>	
<p>No. 5</p>	<p><u>COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</u></p> <p>The minutes of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee held on 12th April, 2021 were submitted.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that the minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings.</p>	
<p>No. 6</p>	<p><u>ACTION SHEET – 12TH APRIL, 2021</u></p> <p>There were no actions arising from the Community Services Scrutiny Committee held on the 12th April, 2021.</p>	
<p>No. 7</p>	<p><u>PROPOSED SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2021-22</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to the proposed Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme for 2021-22.</p> <p>A Member referred to the increased recycling targets, and expressed concern regarding the impact on capacity within the service. He suggested that a review be undertaken of the contingency plans in certain areas of the system, and also a review of the maintenance of potholes in the Borough’s highways be undertaken.</p> <p>Another Member requested an update on fly grazing, and that the update on Civil Parking Enforcement be brought forward from November.</p>	

In response the Corporate Director Regeneration & Community Services confirmed that an update on the Council's recycling strategy would be reported to Scrutiny in due course, and this could potentially include contingency plans for the service.

The Team Leader Neighbourhood Services also reported that a piece of work was being undertaken with WRAP and the WLGA looking at progress of the Strategy and whether any adjustments were needed. In terms of capacity within the service, he said there had been a significant increase in the collection of green waste due to the recent good weather, and confirmed that additional crews had been deployed to meet that demand.

A Member requested an update on flood management risk in light of the flooding experienced at Llanhilleth earlier in the year.

In response to a question raised by another Member regarding the Central Depot new build, the Team Leader Street Scene confirmed that a full report on the outline business case would be submitted to Scrutiny on the 19th July, 2021.

Another Member said he was disappointed with the FWP. He referred to a Member's request for an update on flood management risk, and said a more detailed report on the condition of culverts and drains in the Borough was needed. He also referred to the closure of the Civic Centre and felt that the Scrutiny Committee should consider the relocation of the Technical Services Department and associated plans and records. He also agreed that a report on the maintenance of potholes was needed, and also a report on fly tipping.

He concluded that a review of the Council's policy in relation to HMO's was urgently needed.

In response a Member confirmed that discussions were ongoing with the Service Manager Development & Estates regarding guidance for considering planning applications for HMO's.

	<p>Another Member sought clarification on the Council's pest control contract, and the Team Leader Environmental Protection confirmed that the current contract would run until the end of March 2022.</p> <p>The Chair confirmed that the all the issues raised by Members would be discussed with Officers.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED, subject to the foregoing, that the Forward Work Programme 2021/22 be agreed.</p>	
<p>No. 8</p>	<p><u>HIGHWAY CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME 2021 – 2022</u></p> <p>Consideration was given to report of the Head of Community Services.</p> <p>The Senior Engineer Highways presented the report which provided an update on progress of the current Highway Capital Works programme 2017/2021 and presented options around a future 2021/22 works programme.</p> <p>The Officer went through the report and highlighted the key points contained therein.</p> <p>A Member sought clarification on the figure of £405k for Bus Infrastructure highlighted in section 2.12 of the report.</p> <p>The Engineering Manager explained that approximately £250k of the money would be used in response to WG's IRT (Integrated Responsive Transport) programme, and approximately £150k would be used for upgrading the existing bus stop infrastructure, which was a continuation of last year's programme. He urged Members to contact Officers with any issues in relation to bus stops within their wards.</p> <p>In response to a further question raised by a Member regarding the Local Transport Fund, the Officer stated that the grants listed in section 2.12 of the report were WG grants with specific funding criteria. He explained that the Active Travel Grant was a different funding initiative to encourage people to walk/cycle to school or work etc.</p>	

A Member asked whether there were any monies due from the Education Department as a result of the highway works undertaken as part of the development of the new school at Six Bells.

The Head of Technical Services confirmed that the monies had been fully reimbursed and put into the capital contingency budget. He also confirmed that Council had been fully reimbursed for the works associated with the storm damage.

A Member referred to the list of priority residential roads at section 3.1 (option 1) and said in his opinion there were roads within his ward in a worse state of repair.

The Head of Technical Services said the matrix allowed an independent and objective review of roads using evidence and data, rather than personal judgement. However, he would be happy to have further discussions with Members if they felt there were roads that warranted further consideration, as long as those roads were of similar value and consistent with the ethos of the matrix scoring.

Another Member questioned the classification of some roads, and said whilst he accepted the matrix, he felt it was slightly flawed and should be reviewed moving forward in terms of the delegation of points on various roads within the Borough.

A Member concurred with the Member's comments regarding the classification of roads and said an explanation of the method would be beneficial. He also stated that a number of roads within the Borough had been resurfaced numerous times over the years and expressed concern regarding 'build-up'. The Member then referred to highway safety and suggested that potential funding from Safe Routes to School be explored, and that this be included in the FWP. However, the Member felt that the proposed works outlined in the report provided value for money.

Another Member asked whether it would be more cost effective to undertake surface overlay of some roads rather than a complete resurface.

In response the Senior Engineer Highways explained that whilst surface overlay provided a large area coverage it did not last as long as a full resurface which provided better value for money, especially in residential areas.

The Member said he was aware of a number of roads that had benefitted from a surface overlay which had lasted many years.

The Officer agreed that some roads benefitted from a surface overlay, however, based on experience a full plain and resurface were more appropriate for residential roads.

Another Member asked whether the Council pursued reimbursement of the costs of repairs to crash barriers/streetlights as a result of car accidents.

The Team Leader Highways & Winter Maintenance said obtaining driver details had proved difficult, however, the Council had now employed the services of a third party company to assist in the process and hopefully the Council would be more successful in pursuing claims moving forward.

A Member enquired as to the Council's adopted method for undertaking pothole repairs. He said works undertaken by statutory undertakers were, in his opinion, of a higher standard than those done by the Council and seemed to last longer.

In response the Officer confirmed that work was currently ongoing with the Team in order to improve this area of work in a cost effective manner. In terms of the method used, she reported that 'cross banding' was not currently being used, but an alternative spray sealant was being costed for trial in due course.

In response to a further question the Senior Engineer Highways confirmed that, subject to approval of the report, the works would hopefully commence mid July.

In relation to works undertaken by statutory undertakers, a Member asked whether these were inspected by the Council.

The Team Leader Highways & Winter Maintenance confirmed that all works registered by utility companies were inspected by the Council, and a process was in place for any defective works to be corrected. She confirmed that regular meetings were held with statutory undertakers and other LA's in relation to scheduled works, and an embargo was placed on scheduled works on newly resurfaced roads for 2 years, however, this would be lifted for any emergency works that may be required.

A discussion ensued regarding a possible Task and Finish Group when the Head of Technical Services suggested that a Member Briefing be convened to include information on how we maintain our highways, including potholes, and also provide an opportunity to review of the matrix.

Members agreed, however, they said a Task and Finish Group may be necessary pending the outcome of the Briefing session.

The Chair confirmed that arrangements would be made for the Member Briefing to be held prior to the next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.

The Committee AGREED to recommend that Option 2 be supported, namely:

Highest priority residential roads in each Ward (16 total) and Blaenant Industrial Estate Road – Estimated Total Cost £602,000

Residential Roads: 16 schemes – 1 per Ward

Southend and Walter Street, Georgetown
Mount Pleasant Road, Ebbw Vale North
Institution Terrace, Ebbw Vale South
Maes-y-Cynw Terrace, Llanhilleth
Jubilee Road and Graig Road, Six Bells
Powell Street and High Street (section), Abertillery
Coronation Street, Blaina
South and Hereford Street, Beaufort
Aneurin Crescent, Brynmawr
King Street, Cwm

<p>Railway Terrace, Sirhowy Stable Lane & Parkville, Tredegar C&W School Road, Rassau Waunheulog, Nantyglo Victoria Street, Cwmtillery Rhyd Y Blew Roundabout, Badminton Blaenant Ind Est Resurfacing</p>	
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**Plus A & B priority roads, and highway safety works –
Estimated Total Cost £912,000**

A & B Priority Roads:

A4048 Heathfield Full Reconstruction Works
A4046 Cwm Bypass Resurfacing

Highway Safety Traffic Management Works: -

Crash Barrier Replacement at A4281 Garnlydan
Crash Barrier Replacement at A467 Abertillery

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Action Sheet

Community Services Scrutiny Committee – Monday 7th June 2021

Item	Action to be Taken	By Whom	Action Taken
7	<p><u>Proposed Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme 2021-22</u></p> <p>Items suggested to be included in the Forward Work Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fly Grazing Horses Update• Safe Routes to Schools• Policy – HMOs	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quarter 4 Update on Fly Grazing Horses to be scheduled for the meeting in November 2021.• Safe Routes to Communities Information report to be provided to members in November 2021• HMOs Policy – to be discussed by the Planning Committee.
8	<p><u>Highway Capital Works Programme 2021-22</u></p> <p>A Member Briefing session to be arranged in relation to pot holes and to review the Highways Assessment Matrix.</p>	Clive Rogers	Date to be arranged.

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Agenda Item 6

Sign off for Executive Committee and Council only

Date signed off by the Monitoring Officer:

Date signed off by the Section 151 Officer:

Committee: **Community Services Scrutiny**
Date of meeting: **19 July 2021**
Report Subject: **Flood Risk Management Plan (2016- 2022)**
Portfolio Holder: **Executive Member Environment, Cllr. J. Wilkins**
Report Submitted by: **Head of Community Services, Clive Rogers**
Team Leader Natural Environment, Wayne Jervis

Reporting Pathway								
Directorate Management Team	Corporate Leadership Team	Portfolio Holder / Chair	Audit Committee	Democratic Services Committee	Scrutiny Committee	Executive Committee	Council	Other (please state)
22/06/2021	24/06/2021	08.07.21			19.07.21	21.07.21		

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to update Members on progress made in delivery of Blaenau Gwent County Borough Councils Flood Management Plan of 2016 up to April 2021

2. Scope and Background

- 2.1 The report provides the background to the Plan and summarises progress made on objectives and measures since its adoption, and approval by Welsh Government in 2016.
- 2.2 The Plan highlights the hazards and risk of flooding and set out how the Authority will work with other parties and local communities to manage the risks.
- 2.3 The Plan sets out how over the six-year period, we will manage flooding so that the communities most at risk and the environment benefit the most.
- 2.4 The objectives outlined in the Borough's Flood Management Plan come under the headings: Social & Cultural, Economic, and Environmental
- 2.5 The above objectives have been further classed into 3 categories:
- a. Prevention (11 Measures)
 - b. Protection (15 Measures)
 - c. Preparedness (8 Measures)

To achieve the objectives under the headings and categories, the Plan identifies measures designed to reduce flooding.

- 2.6 Including the use of non-structural measures such as avoiding inappropriate development, and covering all aspects of flood risk management, including raising awareness of flooding and providing a better understanding of local flooding issues.

2.7 **Section 19 Flood Investigation Report for Storm Water Flooding at Meadow Street and Railway Street, Llanhilleth:**

The Section 19 Flood Investigation Report for Storm Water Flooding at Meadow Street and Railway Street, Llanhilleth on 15th to 17th February 2020 is currently being finalised and will be presented to scrutiny in due course.

3. **Options for Recommendation**

3.1 **Options Appraisal**

- **Option 1:** Preferred option; That Members accept the Report and progress made over the previous 12 months.
- **Option 2:** That Members do not accept the Report and recommend alternative actions going forward.

4. **Evidence of how this topic supports the achievement of the Corporate Plan / Statutory Responsibilities / Blaenau Gwent Well-being Plan**

- The attached Appendix 2 is a table of the measures identified in the Plan. The table identifies the progress made since the Plan was adopted in December 2015, and also progress made since the last annual review in 2020.
- The measures evidenced in Appendix 2 demonstrates how the desired objectives of the Blaenau Gwent Well Being Goals, as well as the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act have been achieved

The findings of Appendix 2 can be summarised as follows:

4.1 **Prevention (BG01-04)**

- Undertook a number of CCTV and Man Entry surveys of our culvert inlets to inspect their condition and to understand the flood risk and associated issues that could occur so that appropriate action can be taken at numerous locations including.
 - i. Abertillery Old Ash Tip
 - ii. Abertillery Bowls Club
 - iii. HOV Culvert near Garnlydan.
 - iv. Melbourne Rd, Abertillery

4.2. **Undertook significant schemes to alleviate flooding at the following locations.**

- Ladies Row and King Street Tredegar.
- Culvert repairs at Victoria, Ebbw Vale.
- Remedial works at Cwmtillery Culvert.
- Remedial works to the embankment at Railway Terrace Aberbeeg.

4.3 **Smaller but no less urgent works were undertaken at the following locations:**

- New trash screens to culvert inlets at various locations.
- Land drainage for to stabilise landslip at Briery Hill. Ebbw Vale.
- Temporary flood relief works at Market Street, Tredegar.

- Holland Street, (School House) flood relief investigation and maintenance works.
- Melbourne Rd, Abertillery. Repairs to Drainage.
- Church Street additional drainage to relieve flooding.

4.4 Technical Services were successful in applying for 100% funded Welsh Government Revenue Grants to undertake the following works and objectives.

4.5	Ad Hoc, Small scale asset maintenance, inspection and recording	£80,453.10
	Man entry and CCTV drainage Surveys	£12,101.25
	Annual AMX Software License and training for new staff	£3,924.00
	Culvert Inlet Grid repairs and replacements and secondary grids	£8057.10
	Total value of works	£104,535.45

4.6 The following work was 85% Welsh Government funded. The remaining 15% was funded by other Welsh Government grants which were provided to enable councils to progress with our Flood risk management plan.

4.7	Scheme	Total expenditure	Value of Grant
	Ladies Row, King Street, Tredegar Flood Alleviation	£82,754	£70,341
	Remedial works to the embankment at Railway Terrace Aberbeeg	£33,035.	£28,080
	Remedial works at Cwmtillery Culvert	£86,205	£73,274
	Scour Remedial works at Victoria Culvert Ebbw Vale	£43,205	£36,724
	Total value of works	£245,199	£208,419

4.8 BGCBC also undertook the following actions as part of our statutory duties.

- 2,500+ culvert inspections for year 2020-21.
- 307 Con 29 Land Search requests relating to drainage.
- 108 Planning applications relating to drainage
- 210 Service requests for assistance relating to drainage.

4.9 **Protection (BG 05-08)**

Further Schemes have taken place in various locations across the borough to help store water and slow down surface run-off. Approx. including Tree planting, Woodland Management, Green Infrastructure and footpath repairs. This was funded by Welsh Government Access improvement grants of approximately £68,000.

- 4.10 Since January 2019 BGCBC became the SAB (SuDS Approving Body) for the Blaenau Gwent area.

To enable us to undertake these duties we are presently working in partnership with Caerphilly CBC to deliver an effective service which is responsible for ultimately limiting the amount of runoff from developments directly into watercourses, and to ensure they are constructed in a responsible and sustainable manner, which will help towards the objectives of the plan.

The agreement with Caerphilly CBC for them to undertake the Technical Approvals on our behalf has been in place since the use of SuDS and their approval by the SAB become mandatory in January 2019. This is currently subject to review.

4.11 **Preparedness (BG09-13)**

The Authority continues to develop a response to flooding incidents and Multi-agency Tactical Emergency Management and Strategic Emergency Management training is undertaken on an annual basis.

There is also a Gwent Local Resilience Forum Recovery Plan in place.

5 Implications Against Each Option

- 5.1 **Option 1:** That Members' accept the Report and progress made over the previous 12 months.

5.2 **Implications:**

- i. Actions are not evenly distributed across the borough, as they are prioritised by risk.
- ii. Funding may not always be available to continue the delivery of the plan. therefore, actions identified in the plan may not be delivered.

- 5.3 **Option 2.** That Members' do not accept the Report and recommend alternative actions going forward.

5.4 **Implications:**

- i. Additional funding may be required to undertake alternative actions.
- ii. Grant funding may not be available for alternative actions.

6. Supporting Evidence

- 6.1 **Adoption of the 2016 Flood Risk Management Plan primarily contributes to meeting the following priorities:**

Corporate Plan Priority:

- Strong and Environmentally Smart Communities
- To improve the access to and quality of open spaces for the benefit of our communities, businesses and visitors.

- 6.2 Blaenau Gwent Well-being Plan:

Adoption of the Flood Risk Management Plan 2016 – 2021 will help provide the following objectives:

- The best start in life for everyone
- Safe and friendly communities
- To look after and protect the environment

- To forge new pathways to prosperity
- To encourage and enable people to make healthy lifestyle choices in the places that they live, learn, work and play.

By continuing to work towards the objectives set out in our Flood risk Management plan BGCBC will maximise its contributions to the Well-being goals.

6.3 **The Future Generations Act**

The Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council Flood plan achieves the goals of The Future Generations Act by improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the well-being goals.

” It sets out five ways of working needed for Public Bodies to achieve the seven well-being goals.

6.4 **Long-term**

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

6.5 **Integration**

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

6.6 **Involvement**

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

6.7 **Collaboration**

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

6.8 **Prevention**

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

7. **Monitoring Arrangements**

7.1 The identified objectives and achievements towards the plan are continually assessed by officers responsible for its delivery.

7.2 The achievements towards the plan will continue to be reported annually through scrutiny as it has done for the previous 2 years since its inception.

Background Documents /Electronic Links

Appendix 1 – Wellbeing Goals

Appendix 2 – Annual Review

- Flood and Water Management Act 2010
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/29/contents>

BGCBC Flood Risk Management Plan

https://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/fileadmin/documents/Resident/Planning/Floods_FRMP_complete.pdf

- Flood Risk Management Strategy

https://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/fileadmin/documents/Resident/Planning/Flood_Risk_Strategy.pdf

Assess how well your project / activity will result in multiple benefits for our communities and contribute to the national well-being goals.		
Description of the Well-being goals	How will your project / activity deliver benefits to our communities under the national well-being goals?	Is there anyway to maximise the benefits or minimise any negative impacts to our communities (and the contribution to the national well-being goals)?
<p>A prosperous Wales An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.</p>	<p>The plan recognises the role of Green Infrastructure in helping to reduce the level of flood risk and the severity. Considering the issue of climate change and flood risk within or schools NRM programme will engender our Future Generations with a clear understanding of climate change issues and Flood Risk</p>	<p>The delivery of Green Infrastructure are a relatively low cost, sustainable option, but they are limited by the resource availability. Our NRM programme optimises progress</p>
<p>A resilient Wales A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).</p>	<p>The Flood Risk Management Plan's measures will reduce the risk of flooding and by utilising Green Infrastructure to good effect will add value in terms of enhancing our biodiverse natural environment, and increase resilience to change.</p>	<p>Engaging with our communities and encouraging active participation in the understanding and management of our Natural GreenSpaces will maximise benefits.</p>
<p>A healthier Wales A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.</p>	<p>By reducing flood risk we are reducing stress and worry for people in these areas and thus maximising their mental well-being. Encouraging active participation in the management and use of our Green spaces has proven health and wellbeing benefits.</p>	<p>Our communities can be encouraged through initiatives such as Go Green 4 Health , Patient Referrals by GP's and general volunteering opportunities in order to maximise health benefits.</p>

Description of the Well-being goals	How will your project / activity deliver benefits to our communities under the national well-being goals?	Is there anyway to maximise the benefits or minimise any negative impacts to our communities (and the contribution to the national well-being goals)?
<p>A more equal Wales A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic background and circumstances).</p>	<p>Active community engagement in Green Infrastructure initiatives will provide opportunities for all citizens to participate regardless of background. Project delivery through Probation Services, Go Green 4 Health etc focus on engaging with hard to reach groups of people.</p>	<p>Promotion and engagement of events to increase levels of engagement. Networking to encourage participation levels.</p>
<p>A Wales of cohesive communities Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.</p>	<p>Through working with communities to enable them to respond to flood risk and encouraging events and activities that focus on local green spaces help to help to develop develop cohesive communities.</p>	<p>Supporting local Groups to take an active role in the local environment will maximise the benefits</p>
<p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.</p>	<p>Establishing local groups to take an active role in their local environmental quality will help to underpin local pride and cultural appreciation</p>	<p>Supporting local Groups to take an active role in the local environment will maximise the benefits</p>
<p>A globally responsible Wales A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.</p>	<p>By raising awareness and building resilience to flood risk we are making a positive contribution to global well-being.</p>	<p>Supporting local Groups to take an active role in the local environment will maximise the benefits</p>

Specific Measure		Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
MEASURE BG01: We will avoid inappropriate development in flood risk areas							
BG01.1	Adopt the Local Development Plan and implement Policy SP7 which directs new development away from high flood risk areas	Prevention M21	S1, S2, S3	Work with others to avoid inappropriate development	2016-2021	The Local Development Plan has been adopted and Strategic Policy SP7 is used to direct development away from flood risk areas. Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 was implemented in January 2019 and BGCBC are a SuDS Approval Body (SAB). This means that planning consents have now become completely separate from consents relating to Drainage.	SP7 continues to direct new development away from high flood risk areas.
BG01.2	Raise awareness in Planning Committees when developments potentially impact on flood risk areas.	Prevention M21	S1, S2, S3, Ec2	Work with others to avoid inappropriate development	2016-2021	Development which potentially impact on flood risk areas are identified within planning committee reports	Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council has been set up as a SuDS Approval Body (SAB). This means that planning consents have now become completely separate from consents relating to Drainage. The Planning Committee continues to be made aware

Specific Measure		Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
							when applications have implications on flood risk areas.
BG02.1	Adopt the Local Development Plan and implement Policy SP7 which includes a requirement to incorporate measures in design and construction to reduce the effects of flooding. This will ensure buildings are designed to reduce the effects of flooding	Prevention M23	S2, Ec1, Ec1, Ec2	Promote flood resilience and flood proofing	2016-2021	<p>The Local Development Plan has been adopted and Strategic Policy SP7 is used to ensure buildings are designed to reduce the effects of flooding</p> <p>Due to the implementation of Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 planning consents have now become completely separate from consents relating to Drainage.</p>	Where less vulnerable development is permitted in flood risk areas, where necessary, buildings continue to be designed to reduce the effects of flooding.
BG02.2	Promote appropriately designed developments in relation to site levels, creation of high ground and setting floor levels	Prevention M23	S1, S2, Ec2	Promote flood resilience and flood proofing	2016-2021	Advice from NRW on appropriate ground levels and floor level is taken into account in the planning application process. Blaenau Gwent County Borough is now a SuDS Approval Body (SAB). This means that planning consents has become completely separate from consents relating to	Advice from NRW on appropriate ground levels and floor level continues to be taken into account in the planning application process.

Specific Measure		Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
						Drainage	
BG02.3	Increase approaches in road schemes to utilise materials which provide more resilience to flooding incidents where they are likely to occur.	Prevention M23	S4, Ec2, En2	Promote flood resilience and flood proofing	2016-2021	<p>The Drainage Officer previously provided advice on appropriate design for Highway schemes, building in green infrastructure solutions as appropriate.</p> <p>This measure has been largely overtaken by Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. Therefore planning consents have now become completely separate from consents relating to Drainage.</p>	This measure is ongoing
BG03.1	Develop reporting system to register details of events at the time of flooding incidents.	Prevention M24	Ec2	Learn from flood events	2016-2021	<p>funding acquired from Welsh Government allowed us to purchase flood management software which will improve the accuracy of recording flooding incidents Software and training was provided in March 2017 enabling details of flood events to be recorded on the software. The loss of a staff member in 2018</p>	The register and software remain in place. The software licence continues to be funded by Welsh Government Flood Grants.

Specific Measure		Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
						reduced input into the database to a minimum.	
BG03.2	Develop and maintain a register of flood assets.	Prevention M24	Ec2	Learn from flood events	2016-2021	funding acquired from Welsh Government allowed us to purchase flood management software which improved the accuracy of recording our Assets. Software and training was provided in March 2017 and details of flood events were recorded on the software The loss of a staff member in 2018 reduced inputting into the database to a minimum.	A new apprentice Drainage Engineer was appointed in 2020 and software training has taken place. Work to update the database has recommenced and will be continuously updated. Whist resources permit.
BG03.3	Develop a maintenance recording system and ensure these are informed by the register of flooding incidents.	Prevention M24	Ec2	Flood Forecasting warning & incident management	2016-2021	Welsh Government funding enabled the purchase of funding acquired from Welsh Government allowed us to purchase flood management software designed to improve the efficiency of maintenance schedule Software and training was provided in	A new trainee officer has now been appointed and given further training. this has enabled the database to be updated

Specific Measure		Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
						March 2017 and details of flood events were recorded on the software. Inputting of data ceased due to lack of capacity during 2019-20.	
BG03.4	Carry out a risk assessment of all critical culverts and flood assets, as identified through the register of flooding incidents, maintenance records or flood assets, and prepare an action plan to address any unacceptable risks as a result of the review.	Prevention M24	Ec2	Modelling & Hydrology	2016-2021	<p>Progress has been made with T98 condition assessments of all critical and significant culvert resulting in repairs and replacements of a number of inlets.</p> <p>Funding has also enabled us to undertake CCTV surveys on a number of culverts, resulting in work to address unacceptable risk</p>	<p>We have undertaken a number of CCTV and man entry inspections throughout the borough.</p> <p>In 2020 a number of catchment studies were undertaken to inform us if the existing culverts are able to cope with the extra demand of new developments and the resulting additional impermeable surfaces which increase flow at culvert inlets.</p>
BG04.1	Ensuring flood events are recorded in line with the form identified in PRFA	Prevention M24	Ec2	Flood Forecasting warning & incident management	2016-2021	<p>A system originally put in place for the recording of flood incidents onto spreadsheets. Software and training has since been provided and details of flood events were recorded on the software. This measure is</p>	<p>Since the loss of the officer progress on this aspect has been reverted to the spreadsheet until it can be input into the software database.</p> <p>A new trainee officer has now</p>

Specific Measure		Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
						ongoing.	been appointed and training has been undertaken paid for by 100% Welsh Government funding. Work to update the database is ongoing.
BG04.2	Implementing a geographical database of flood events to inform future mapping of flood risk areas	Prevention M24	Ec2	Flood Forecasting warning & incident management	2016-2021	<p>Flood risk management software has enabled us to commence input of flooding locations and improve the efficiency and accuracy of mapping flood risk areas.</p> <p>Lack of resources has limited progress with data input, and as a result has reverted to the spreadsheet until it can be input into the software database.</p> <p>A new trainee officer was appointed and training is to be arranged so that he and other members of staff are able to input the data on to our new software</p>	<p>Officers have now received training paid for by 100% Welsh Government funding.</p> <p>Providing we have the resources, work to update the database will be ongoing. It is anticipated that this will be continuous as new flood events occur.</p>

Specific Measure		Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
BG05.1	Delivery of the Blaenau Gwent Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP), specifically HAP1, Wet woodlands, HAP4, Wetlands and HAP 5 Rivers and Streams.	Protection M31	S1, Ec1, En2	Ensure appropriate floodplain compensation	2016-2021	<p>Working with community groups, schools and external charities including pond restoration and creation.</p> <p>Volunteers participated in the vegetation clearance</p> <p>In 2018 invertebrate monitoring and training has been given to new volunteers.</p> <p>Several areas covering all three rivers in Blaenau Gwent are now monitored on a monthly basis.</p> <p>Trigger levels are set so any concerns with water quality are raised immediately.</p> <p>Monthly visits to the rivers also ensure that issues noted while on site are reported.</p> <p>An invasive weed treatment programme was continued that identified and treated Japanese Knotweed and Giant Hogweed</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Restricted due to Covid Restrictions</p> <p>Restricted due to Covid Restrictions</p> <p>Restricted due to Covid Restrictions</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Treatment ongoing where invasive species are reported.</p>

Specific Measure		Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
						<p>found on the Rivers Sirhowy, Ebbw Fawr and Ebbw Fach that flow from Blaenau Gwent into Caerphilly.</p> <p>Himalayan Balsam was also treated in a number of locations</p>	
BG05.2	Consider/Review the designation and management of Local Nature Reserves (LNR) where they assist in flood prevention.	Protection M31	S1, Ec1, En2	Ensure appropriate floodplain compensation	2016-2021	<p>Biodiversity Action Plans have been updated to accommodate Action in the Flood risk management strategy, incorporating planting schemes and habitat management which help to alleviate flooding. BGCBC are contributing to the water management on local nature reserves in line with the ecological management plan in collaboration with internal teams and community groups.</p>	Ongoing

Specific Measure		Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
BG05.3	Consider planning requirements for wetland habitat creation as part of the Development Management Process.	Protection M31	En2	Ensure appropriate floodplain compensation	2016-2021	Opportunities for wetland habitat creation are being considered within the development management process. The options are always discussed with developers when appropriate.	The implementation of Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 has ensured that the requirements for wetland habitat creation as part of the Development Management Process are considered separately as a matter of course.
BG05.4	Consider the designation and management of existing wetland areas where they assist in flood prevention.	Protection M31	Ec2, En2	Ensure appropriate floodplain compensation	2016-2021	A number of pond restorations schemes have been identified to build resilience to climate change and help combat the risk of flooding including; Peacehaven, Tredegar Business Park, Beaufort ponds Six Bells and Trevor Rowson. River clearance involving the removal of large quantities of debris was undertaken at sites throughout Blaenau Gwent.	Similar works are ongoing but greatly reduced due to restrictions imposed by Covid.

Specific Measure		Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
BG05.5	BGCBC will encourage developers to incorporate wetland and other natural attenuation schemes in new development through guidance, Policies and pre-application discussions with Planning Control case officers.	Protection M31	S2, Ec2, En2	Ensure appropriate floodplain compensation	2016-2021	<p>2016-17 We have developed draft supplementary planning guidance for biodiversity which considers how to incorporate wetland and other natural attenuation schemes in new developments.</p> <p>2017-18 The above is still relevant but we have seen a fall in enquiries for major housing and other schemes which is when these requirements would become relevant.</p>	Following the implementation of schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 the issues are automatically considered as part of the SAB application process.
MEASURE BG06: We will increase approaches that utilise the natural environment, like adopting soft engineering in place of traditional solutions, managing of the land to reduce storm runoff, creating more wetlands to store water							
BG06.1	Identify contributions to delivery of the Woodlands for Wales Strategy (Welsh Gov) e.g. Shelter belt planting opportunities.	Protection M31	Ec2, En2	Sustainable woodland and forestry management	2016-2021	<p>A number of woodland planting schemes delivered on school sites</p> <p>1500 trees planted as part of the Sirhowy Valley planting scheme around Peacehaven.</p> <p>Further tree planting took place</p>	<p>Schemes delivered on the following sites:</p> <p>Woodland management at Cwmtillery. £8,500</p> <p>Tree Planting Blaenau Gwent,</p>

Specific Measure		Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
						<p>during Dec 2019 at Bryn Bach Park</p> <p>Sirhowy Community Woodland Group new woodland Planting – 500 native trees planted.</p> <p>2 Ha of infected Larch clear-felled at Bryn Bach Park and replaced with 5000 native this will build in resilience to climate change, and involved the use of volunteers from 4 local schools and the local community.</p> <p>155meters of hedgerow planting took place</p>	Blaenau Gwent Green Infrastructure repairs undertaken with a total value of
BG06.2	Review the existing management of ordinary water courses in regard to controlling invasive weeds.	Protection M31	Ec2, En2	RBMP: Manage invasive non- native species	2016- 2021	26 Km of water courses monitored for the presence of Japanese Knotweed with 65 individual sites being treated (Autumn 2016). The sites have been revised and treated where required in September 2017.	Similar works are ongoing but more reliant on individual reports of sightings due to restrictions imposed by Covid

Specific Measure		Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
						In 2018-19 an ongoing invasive weed treatment programme was continued which treated Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed, and Himalayan Balsam	
BG06.3	Review the existing management plans for Local Nature Reserves which assist in storing and filtering water.	Protection M31	Ec2, En2	RBMP: Improve flows and water levels	2016-2021	Working with our community groups the LNR management plans form the basis of actions on site. Water courses, ponds and lakes are considered to maximise their potential for storing and filtering water	This measure is ongoing in collaboration with the borough ecologist, but greatly reduced due to restrictions imposed by Covid and resulting lack of human resource.
BG06.4	When designing streetscape works consideration will be given to incorporating a greater area of tree planting and permeable areas.	Protection M31	S4, Ec2, En2	RBMP: Reduce impacts of other physical modifications	2016-2021	Consideration is given to the inclusion of tree planting and permeable areas in all development applications. during 2017- 18, 131 planning applications responded to and opportunities to include additional tree planting included where possible.	Following the implementation of schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 the incorporation of a greater area of tree planting and permeable areas are automatically considered as part of the SAB application process.

Specific Measure		Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
BG06.5	Identify opportunities for planting to stabilise river banks.	Protection M31	Ec2, En2	RBMP: Reduce impacts of other physical modifications	2016-2021	<p>We worked with NRW, Groundwork Wales and volunteers at Marine Colliery on bank stabilisation project, using native woodland species (500 native trees planted).</p> <p>Aberbeeg cycle bridge has included bank stabilisation via green engineering and native woodland planting on the embankment. (500 native trees)</p> <p>No further projects delivered in 2019 -20</p>	Due to restrictions imposed by Covid and the resulting reduction of resources No further projects delivered in 2020 -21
MEASURE BG07: deploying the sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) approach for surface water management for both new and existing developments							
BG07.1	Adopt the Local Development Plan and implement Policy DM1 which requires	Protection M34	Ec1, Ec2	Support implementation of SUDs	2016-2021	The LDP is a key Council Policy in terms of Development Control. Policy DM1 is considered in all development applications (378	Following the implementation of schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 the reduction of surface water

Specific Measure		Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
	proposals to reduce surface water run off through minimising an increase in impermeable surfaces and using Sustainable Drainage systems, where appropriate.					applications considered for 2016)	run of by the introduction of more permeable areas are automatically considered as part of the SAB application process.
BG07.2	Encourage developers through pre-application discussions to use sustainable drainage systems pending the introduction of the new SuDS regime	Protection M34	En2	Support implementation of SUDs	2016-2021	The use of SUDs is being considered through the development control process. However we are finding developers are not buying in 100% to the principle until it becomes a mandatory requirement.	Following the implementation of schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 the incorporation SuDS are automatically considered as part of the SAB application process.

Specific Measure		Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
BG07.3	Specify greater use of SuDS systems for new developments as conditions of planning consent.	Protection M34	S1, S2, En2	Support implementation of SUDs	2016-2021	Developers are encouraged to adopt the SuDS management train. However, as it is not yet a statutory requirement we have not attached conditions requiring SUDs but we do attach informative notes to permissions advocating its use	Following the implementation of schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 the incorporation SuDS are automatically specified as part of the SAB conditions.
MEASUREBG08: Identifying and protecting areas suitable for inundation and water storage to prevent flooding elsewhere							
BG08.1	Identify areas suitable for inundation and water storage.	Protection M31	Ec1, En2	Identify opportunities for floodplain restoration	2016-2021	No progress has been made in this area at present due to lack of capacity.	Due to the topography of Blaenau Gwent there are limited inundation areas for consideration

Specific Measure		Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
MEASUREBG09: Enable those at risk of flooding to play a proactive role in shaping the flood risk management service they receive							
BG09.1	Develop community resilience schemes for areas at risk of flooding	Preparedness M43	S1, S2, S3	Provide service to local resilience forums	2016-2021	No further work undertaken at present. National guidance on community resilience has recently been issued by the Cabinet Office. This is currently being considered on a Multi-Agency basis as to what community resilience work is currently undertaken, and what additional work can be done with current capacity (not necessarily solely flood related).	No further progress made in 2020 – 2021.

Specific Measure		Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
BG09.2	Ensuring wider awareness of individual risk to increase levels of preparedness and planning for flooding events	Preparedness M43	S1, S3, Ec1	Raise awareness of flood risk issues	2016-2021	<p>Information on flood risk is now available on various websites (BGCBC, Gwent Local Resilience Forum, Natural Resources Wales). Updates to BGCBC web site are applied as necessary</p> <p>In 2020 Progress was limited due to the lockdown and social distancing regulations related to the Covid 19 Virus</p> <p>Progress is also limited due to the Civil Contingencies Team only having capacity to work on COVID-19.</p>	No further progress made in 2020 – 2021.
MEASURE BG10: Improve the response to flooding incidents by the emergency response organisations, as well as individuals and businesses							
BG10.1	Ensure lessons from flooding incidents in this and other areas are captured	Preparedness M42	Ec1, Ec2	Learn from flood events	2016-2021	As a result of the flood report forms we are investigating each event of flooding to identify the source and take measures to prevent future occurrences.	<p>This measure is ongoing.</p> <p>Whereas all flooding issues are routinely investigated to an appropriate level. A section 19 Report is a more in depth investigation into serious</p>

Specific Measure		Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
							flooding events. BGCBC is presently finalising its Section 19 investigation of the flood event at Llanhilleth in February 2020 and will be published on the authority website.
BG10.2	Appropriate trained staff to ensure awareness of roles, responsibilities and an effective response for those involved in flood response.	Preparedness M42	Ec1, Ec2	Work closely with NRW	2016-2021	Multi agency Tactical Emergency Management (Head of Service) and Strategic Emergency Management (Corporate Management Team) training is undertaken on an annual basis. Relevant training has been undertaken every year, and all staff with a strategic or tactical role have been trained. Training for 2020 is postponed due to COVID-19	No further progress made in 2020 – 2021.

Specific Measure		Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
MEASURE BG11: Ensure effective recovery arrangements are in place and supported by all relevant parties							
BG11.1	Involvement in multi-agency recovery planning, ensuring plans are tested for suitability	Preparedness M42	Ec1, Ec2	Provide flood incident response service	2016-2021	A Gwent Local Resilience Forum Recovery plan is in place. This is updated on a 3 yearly basis, and Civil Contingencies are involved in both the development of these arrangements and plan validation. The Recovery Plan will be tested through recovery of COVID-10	No further progress made in 2020 – 2021.
MEASURE BG12: Develop better flood forecasting and warning system							
BG12.1	Developing a consistent approach to recording of flood events and flood assets.	Preparedness M41	Ec2	Flood Forecasting warning & incident management	2016-2021	In 2016 we were mostly recording data with a pen and paper and simple excel databases of flood events and of our culvert inlet inspection regime. As of Jan 2017 a new software package, in line with NRW requirements for recording data. 2017 -18 software installed for the	In 2020 Software training was provided for a number of staff and the inputting of data has commenced. Primarily to record flood assets on to the software. Flood events have been collated from a number of different formats and input onto an excel database. These will ultimately

Specific Measure		Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
						recording of floods and we have commenced the inputting of data However this was limited due to the lack of trained staff. recourses were limited due to training	be transferred to our AMX software.
BG12.2	Develop a communication strategy for at-risk communities where risks that cannot be immediately reduced are communicated to the Emergency Planning Team and affected businesses or residents.	Preparedness M43	S1, S2, Ec2	Flood Forecasting warning & incident management	2016-2021	No progress has been made in this area at present due to lack of capacity. However, There is a resilience group in Cwm set up by NRW.	No further progress made in 2020 – 2021.
MEASURE BG13: Improve communication and support to residents, businesses and communities							
BG13.1	Set up a "Flood Risk Community Engagement Group" to help communicate flooding and flood risk to residents, businesses,	Preparedness M44	S1, S2	Raise awareness of flood risk issues	2016-2021	No progress has been made in this area at present due to lack of capacity.	No further progress made in 2020 – 2021.

Specific Measure	Measure Type	Link to FRMP Objective	Link to RBMP & Severn FRMP	Time Scale	Progress 2016-2020	Progress 2020-2021
	community etc.					

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Agenda Item 7

Executive Committee and Council only

Date signed off by the Monitoring Officer:

Date signed off by the Section 151 Officer:

Committee: **Community Services Scrutiny Committee**
Date of meeting: **19th July 2021**
Report Subject: **Position Report – Straying Animals**
Portfolio Holder: **Cllr Joanna Wilkins / Executive Member
Environment**
Report Submitted by: **Corporate Director – Regeneration & Community
Services
Matthew Stent – Service Manager
[Neighbourhood Services]**

Reporting Pathway								
Directorate Management Team	Corporate Leadership Team	Portfolio Holder / Chair	Audit Committee	Democratic Services Committee	Scrutiny Committee	Executive Committee	Council	Other (please state)
22/06/21	23/06/21	08.07.21			19/07/21			

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide Members with an overview on the issue of straying animals within the County Borough. The report will outline the scale of the issue, including identifying geographical locations where the problem is often reported and set out an Action Plan from which officers / Stakeholders operate to resolve incidents. **This report is a multi-departmental report and the Action Plan clearly sets out those responsible for each action.**

2. Scope and Background

- 2.1 Straying animals has been a recurring issue within the County Borough for many years, however, instances / reports on this issue appear to have risen over recent months. Reports of straying animals are indicated in 10.2 but perhaps more significantly have also made National news headlines of late.
- 2.2 Historically the Local Authority could utilise its Animal Impounding Service to remove straying animals, which were often the source of complaints either because of their persistent or recurring nature, road safety or because of the welfare concerns around the animals themselves. However, since the termination of this service, officers ultimately have to rely on informal action to ensure animals are removed.
- 2.3 The cessation of the Animal Impounding Service was agreed as part of the Revenue Budget Savings 2014/15. If this service were to be restored now, it would cost in the region of £100,000 per year [2 FTE's, vehicle, plant] not including premises for storage of animals **[for clarity, this report is not recommending this service is restored].**
- 2.3 In the majority of instances, the Council are contacted by the public to report the animals, the Contact Centre attempt to contact the relevant Farmers in the locality and the animals are removed. However, very often, ownership cannot be determined or contact cannot be made with the farmer, resulting

in the animals being ushered off the Highway by the Police or Council operatives and as a result, they can often end up returning to a location or just moving the problem elsewhere.

- 2.4 An initial meeting was held on Wednesday 12th May with Officers and the Executive to discuss the issue and how best to resolve it. Subsequent meetings have been held, with many service areas of the Council represented, along with Gwent Police [Working Group]. Due to the wide and varying input required from all areas and stakeholders, it was agreed to formulate an Action Plan and present this to Community Service's Scrutiny Committee in July 2021.
- 2.5 The Working Group agreed that this issue cannot be resolved without working closely with Farmers, landowners, Commoners and other stakeholders, including the Police. Following some initial discussions with the Police and Farmers, it seems the primary cause of straying animals is as a result of broken / damaged fence lines.
- 2.6 Estates receive some reports/complaints but the majority of complaints are via the contact centre. Estates only action repairs to those fence lines that the Council are responsible for and/or notify our tenants if the issue is with land they currently occupy. We do not notify private land owners but we do provide Land Registry information to other departments of land owners if requested. However, following recent discussions, it is evident that as soon as repairs are carried out, they are damaged again soon thereafter.
- 2.7 The working Group have identified some offenders when it comes to who is damaging fence lines, dog walkers and off road bikers being the main offenders.
- 2.8 Gwent Police have held its first meeting with Stakeholders [including Blaenau Gwent] to discuss the issue around off road bikes and more recently have carried out a number of Gwent wide Operations to take enforcement action on the matter.
- 2.9 The Working Group looked at what processes other Local Authorities have to deal with this same issue [Appendix 2] and also agreed a set of actions [Action Plan – Appendix 1], both of which are attached to this report.

3. **Options for Recommendation**

- 3.1 Option 1- That Members support and recommend approval of the approach / Action Plan set out in this report.
- 3.2 Option 2- That Members make recommendations for changes to the approach / Action Plan set out in this report.

4. **Recommendation(s)/Endorsements by other Groups**

- 4.1 Corporate Leadership Team and Regeneration & Community Services Leadership Team have considered this report.

5 **Evidence of how does this topic supports the achievement of the Corporate Plan / Statutory Responsibilities / Blaenau Gwent Well-being Plan**

5.1 Well-being Plan, Objective 2 – Blaenau Gwent wants safe and friendly communities. The prevention of straying animals ensures members of the public feel safe so that animals are not roaming on open spaces and near public Highways.

5.2 Corporate Plan – Strong and Environmentally Smart Communities Priority objective It is felt that by dealing proactively with problematic / hotspot locations of damaged fence lines where recurrent offending behaviour often occurs will result in fewer incidents occurring.

6. **Implications Against Each Option**

6.1 **Impact on Budget (short and long term impact)**

6.2 No one service area holds a specific budget for dealing with this issue so any costs associated with any ongoing actions would come from the relevant service area Revenue budget. If the extra costs could not be managed within existing budgets, then this would be reported to CLT accordingly. Many of the actions involve additional staff resource, so there will likely be an impact of other service delivery in some service areas resulting in delays.

7. **Risk including Mitigating Actions**

7.1 Reputational risk- Straying animals does generate a number of complaints from Members and the public. It often results in damage to open spaces, concerns about the welfare of the animals themselves, street cleansing issues and public safety concerns around road safety. Failing to tackle the problem proactively could lead to significant reputational damage to the Authority.

8. **Legal**

8.1 There are a number of legal provisions available to deal with the issue of straying livestock which are outlined below. Discussion with the Legal Section has identified that this issue is not straightforward when it comes to the Authority's potential liability. If the Authority are taking steps to remove the stray animals and the fences are maintained, the Authority are acting with reasonable care. If fences etc are subsequently damaged/removed by others (bikers, walkers etc), and animals stray onto the highway this intervening act may break the causal chain and the Authority may not be liable.

8.2 Other legal provisions include:

- Animals Act 1971- Under the Animal Act 1971, where livestock strays onto land in the ownership of another person (including the Local Authority), the landowner can detain the livestock whilst ownership of the straying animals is being established and reclaim any reasonable costs in doing so. The land owner can claim the costs of any damage, and sell the animal at a market or public auction after 14 days, unless steps are being taken by the owner of the livestock to pay any money

owed [Whilst the Animals Act covers liabilities for animals where the owners are known, it doesn't cover those where the owners cannot be found. As such, should an unowned sheep stray onto a highway and cause damage or injury, this would fall under the common law of negligence.]

- Town Police Clauses Act 1847- If any cattle (including horses, asses, mules, sheep, goats, and swine) are straying in any street within the limits of the Act then a constable or officer of police, or any person residing within the limits of the Act, may seize and impound the cattle until the reasonable expenses incurred in impounding the cattle are paid.
- Highways Act 1980- Section 155 of the Highways Act 1980 states if any horses, cattle, sheep, goats or swine are at any time found straying or lying on or at the side of a highway their keeper is guilty of an offence; but this subsection does not apply in relation to a part of a highway passing over any common, waste or unenclosed ground.

9. **Human Resources**

9.1 Dealing with complaints, visiting sites, attending call outs, repairing fence lines identifying owners and posting notices is time consuming.

10. **Supporting Evidence**

10.1 **Performance Information and Data**

10.2 Service Requests

From 1st Feb to 7th May 2021 there were a total of 2189 calls:

- 78% - Ebbw Vale [e.g. Bypass road near Tesco is common place]
- 12% - Tredegar
- 10% - Blaina / Abertillery [e.g. Roseheyworth Ind Est]

11 **Expected outcome for the public**

11.1 Improved proactive response to service requests in relation Straying animal incidents.

12 **Involvement (consultation, engagement, participation)**

12.1 Relevant internal colleagues in Estates, Community Safety, Regeneration, Planning, Public Health, Technical Services, C2BG, legal, as well as Gwent Police have been consulted on the content of this report.

13 **Thinking for the Long term (forward planning)**

13.1 The process outlined in this report is necessary to ensure long-term improvements in response to the issue of straying animals and to create safer public open spaces / Highways.

14 **Preventative focus**

14.1 The process will help to change cultural attitudes to straying animals by ensuring a more proactive approach by all relevant stakeholders.

15 **Collaboration / partnership working**
15.1 The process will involve working with local Farmers, Commoners, The Police, NRW and many internal service areas of the Council to ensure the effective containment and removal of animals from public areas / highways.

16 **Integration (across service areas)**
16.1 The scheme contributes to relevant well-being and environment Agendas.

17 **EqlA (screening and identifying if full impact assessment is needed)**
17.1 The proposals will no adverse effects against the protected characteristics.

18. **Monitoring Arrangements**
The scheme will be monitored by Neighbourhood Services Managers and by way of relevant reports to the Corporate Director Regeneration & Community Services, CLT and Scrutiny Committee, as necessary, but with an Annual Review.

Background Documents /Electronic Links

Appendix 1 – Action Plan

Appendix 2 - Local Authority comparison

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Straying Animals - Action Plan June 2021

No.	Action Description	Action Owner	Expected Outcome	Timescales	Budget / Staff Resource Implications	Risk / RAG status
1	What would be the current cost for an Impounding Service?	Neigh. Services	To identify the cost associated with implementing a new Impounding Service	Short Term	£80,000 - £100,000 per year [2 FTE's, vehicle, cattle trailer, not including premises]	Complete
2	Updated Farmers / Commoners / Landowners / NRW List [BGCBC and Police to have access] - est. single points of contact for each stakeholder	BG	All stakeholders aware of relevant contact details	Medium Term	Within current resources	In progress
3	Data gathering - no of reports / requests / GIS overlay	C2BG	To identify problematic areas	Short Term	1st Feb - 7th May = 2189 calls Ebbw Vale - 78% Tredegar - 12% Blaina / Abertillery - 10%	Complete
4	Reporting mechanism for farmers / public / Members [e.g. App / MCS / "What3words"]	BG	Investigate means of easier / improving reporting of location of sheep and fence repairs	Medium Term	Within current resources	In progress
5	Establish a full register of land and boundary fenceline ownership [inc. mapping of BG land, common land NRW land etc.	Estates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Priority 1 - Identify land in BG ownership which backs on to the various Commons having fence line maintenance responsibility and map on a GIS overlay (note BG not necessarily legally responsible for fencing all boundaries but have taken management decisions to fence certain areas) Priority 2 - Identify land in third party ownership which backs on to the various Commons having fence line maintenance responsibility and map on a GIS overlay (note may not be able to identify all land and boundary responsibilities if not registered at Land Registry). Priority 3 - Identify owners and fencing responsibility of hotspot areas when identified. Outcome - This will enable responsibility to be quickly identified and the appropriate response determined. 	Medium Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff time in researching ownership information (desk top)– suggest 3 days per common for 5 commons. Costs of obtaining land ownership conformation from Land Registry (difficult to determine until number of registered owners are identified (suggest 5 commons @ £250.00 per common). Staff time in walking BG land boundaries adjacent commons and preparing reports on outcomes (2-3 days per common for 2 people). Impact: Day to day estate management, dealing with queries, plan preparation, land ownership information, asset valuation and annual WAO audit, decanting – knock on to other officers and services. Impact: Staff involved will not be able to support Bridging the Gap initiatives, Land Review, rating, growth strategy. 	In progress
6	Meetings convened on a local level with Farmers / Commoners / Police to remove sheep from Highway / repair fencelines - Questioning current effectiveness of fencing? using different types/methods of securing boundaries to be considered to target harden. repeat locations and reduce the opportunity of repeat issues. Gwent Police designing out crime officer may be able to assist in this.	Neigh. Services	A protocol established for the collection of straying animals. Offer some support to farmers in the recovering of straying animals	Short Term	Within current resources	In progress
7	Identify Current "Hot Spots" across the Council - to be mapped and signage erected [inc. rights of way]	C2BG / Estates / Neigh. Services	Target resources to try and elivaitte the problem	Short Term	Within current resources	In progress
8	Fully Establish the legal position for dealing with straying animals [BG /NRW / Police / SEWTRA / WG [Trunk Roads] etc.]	Legal	Everyone would be clear about their responsibility	Short Term	Within current resources	In progress
9	Establish multi-agency meeting with Police, NRW, other LA's etc. Every 3 months?	Comm. Safety	Regular updates between Organisations leading to quicker response	Medium Term	Within current resources	
10	Liaise with NFU for advice?	P.Health	Position on tagging of sheep and livestock established	Short Term	Within current resources	In progress
11	Develop a Good Practice Guide for Farmers and Commoners i.e. tiered response model e.g. sheep on Highways = red, Clear process of reporting and 'callout response' required. Further process required for recovery of costs from livestock owners	Neigh. Services / Police	Protocol developed and issued to Farmers / commoners / Police etc ie what we actually do with the sheep? Who do we contact? Reporting lines with BGCBC etc.	Medium Term	Within current resources	In progress

12	Consider extending the current use of covert / overt cameras to deal with hotspot areas	Comm. Safety	Identify any criminal activity and act accordingly	Medium Term	Staff Resource required	
13	Community engagement - promote the revised countryside code (revised April 2021). When restrictions allow	Open Spaces	Including process for reporting roaming sheep	Medium Term	Staff Resource required, possible impact on other service provision	
14	All sheep to be ear tagged and fed into central database to allow immediate identification of who owns the sheep.	Farmers	This will allow early repatriation and to quickly establish the cause of the insecurity which can be repaired and cause further investigations if due to criminal conduct	Medium Term	to be determined following meeting with local farmers	
15	Gwent Police to assist with patrols at known 'pinch points' - also incorporates the off road bike issue	Police	Stakeholder meetings arranged and numerous Police Operations to take enforcement action	Short Term	Within current resources	In progress
16	Consideration of issuing body worn cameras to farmers to capture evidential footage of persons damaging fencing and build the intelligence picture	Police	Evidence capture	Medium Term	tbc	
17	Contact with other LA's to establish how they manage similar issues	P.Health	Establish best practice, share knowledge, collaborative working / resolution	Short Term	Completed by Dave Thompson	Complete
18	Establish a schedule for the cleaning out of cattle grids	Neigh. Services	Prevent sheep ability to cross cattle grids	Short Term	Within current resources	In progress

Straying Animals - Local Authority comparison	
LA	Current Provision
Monmouthshire CBC	<p>There are no formal provisions. It depends on the circumstances and whether it's known where the animals have strayed from.</p> <p>If known then normally a quick call sorts it out.</p> <p>If not known and on private land then we will assist in identifying the owner and contacting.</p> <p>If it's on the public highway then first and foremost it is a public safety and Police issue but we will do our best to assist depending on availability.</p>
Powys CC	<p>Do not have any formal provision/policy for dealing with stray animals.</p> <p>When stray animals are reported (excepted horses which can be dealt with under the Control of Horse Act), and the identification of the animal(s) and or owner is known then we would contact the owner and instruct them to collect the animals.</p> <p>If the owner or animals identity is unknown to the complainant then we would consider an officer visiting to determine the animal(s) identities (if feasible) and then action as above.</p> <p>If neither of the above are feasible then we would use local knowledge of our inspectors to best guess the owners and contact them with a request that they remove the animals or advise us who the legal owner is.</p> <p>One or other of the above normally resolves the matter, and this is the approach that we use in both Blaenau Gwent and Torfaen.</p> <p>If the strays are located on a highway, then due to the safety of our staff and other road users we would report the matter to the police and assist if possible with the identification of the livestock owners.</p>
Caerphilly CBC	<p>We have an arrangement to use a member and small barn of our countryside department on a part time basis. However most of our trespass issues are rectified by trying to contact the farmer who's livestock it is and requiring them to collect their animals. We don't have the capabilities for larger animals such as horses and again try to rely on tracing the owner.</p>

*** No response from Torfaen CBC but we are aware that they are in the same place as us and those above

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Agenda Item 8

Date Signed off by Monitoring Officer: N/A

Date Signed off by Section 151 Officer: N/A

Committee: **Community Services Scrutiny Committee**

Date of meeting: **19th July 2021**

Report Subject: **Additional Highways Maintenance Works 2021 – 2022**

Portfolio Holder: **Cllr. Joanna Wilkins, Executive Member Environment**

Report Submitted by: **Head of Community Services, Clive Rogers
Team Manager- Street Scene, David Watkins**

Reporting Pathway								
Directorate Management Team	Corporate Leadership Team	Portfolio Holder / Chair	Audit Committee	Democratic Services Committee	Scrutiny Committee	Executive Committee	Council	Other (please state)
N/A	7 th July 2021	9 th July 2021			19.07.21			

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide scrutiny members with options for proposed additional works dealing with highways routine maintenance issues, such as potholes and patching works in the current financial year 2021/22.

2. Scope and Background

- 2.1 Over the past 3 years a number of reports have been presented to Scrutiny and the Executive in respect to capital investment in the highways infrastructure, the most recent being a report for capital works for 2021/22 which was considered at scrutiny committee on the 7th June 2021, this will result in over £4.4m capital investment into the highways infrastructure from 2017/18 to the end of 2021/22.
- 2.2 During these meetings members have raised concerns around the quality of some pothole and patching works related to residential roads (un-classified roads) across the County Borough, where in some instances patching works have been undertaken to make the highway safe but unfortunately have become to look unkempt.
- 2.3 In response to these concerns and to commence the process to improve pothole and patching works in respect of residential roads (un-classified roads) only, it is proposed to undertake additional pothole and patching works during 2021/22, although, it should be noted that there is no backlog of pothole works required in respect to safety issues, however, there are outstanding works required related to highways patching operations, which these proposed works would provide a longer term solution to the maintenance of such areas.

- 2.4 It is intended that all 16 wards across the County Borough would benefit from this proposal targeting 400 sq. metres of highways residential road repairs per ward in consultation with ward members.
- 2.5 Currently the council employs just one team made up of 3-4 operatives to undertake highways pot hole and patching works, this team would not be sufficient to undertake any additional works.
- 2.6 This report has been prepared to seek support from members to move forward with one of the options below to undertake this one-off proposal for additional highways maintenance works to residential roads (un-classified roads) in the current financial year 2021/22.

3.0 **Options for Recommendation**

3.1 **Option 1**

Do nothing

This is simply not an option as the highway infrastructure will always be in need of repair and investment.

3.2 **Option 2 (Preferred Option)**

Identify necessary works across all 16 wards and tender to a private contractor.

Undertake a tendering exercise to acquire a cost of highways patching works per sq. metre. Targeting around 400 sq. metres of highways repairs per ward covering residential roads in all 16 wards.

3.3 **Option 3**

To carry out and undertake additional highways repair works in line with the Highways Maintenance Plan (HMP) and resurfacing scoring matrix.

This option would only allow for works to be undertaken on the roads most in need, however, would not allow for all wards to have works undertaken.

Works would be undertaken on a priority basis and would only allow for a total length of carriageway resurfacing of approximately 3,000 metres (with an approximately 7metre road width) based on earlier tendering exercises this could allow for an additional 9 or 10 resurfacing schemes being undertaken on residential estates.

3.4 **RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.4.1 It is recommended that;

- Option 2 is supported to undertake a tendering exercise to acquire a cost of highways patching works per sq. metre. Targeting around 400 sq. metres of highways repairs per ward covering residential roads in all 16 wards.
- Following the tender process, a further detailed report will be drafted for consideration at Council.

4. **Evidence of how does this topic supports the achievement of the Corporate Plan / Statutory Responsibilities / Blaenau Gwent Well-being Plan**

4.1 **Corporate Priorities**

4.1.1 This report supports the key priorities identified in the Corporate Plan namely – “Protect and enhance our environment and infrastructure to benefit our communities” in line with the Council’s Highways Maintenance Plan (HMP).

4.1.2 This report supports the Corporate Priority to “reinvestment in highways and improvements to the residential network”.

Well-being plan

4.2

4.2.1 This report supports the Blaenau Gwent Wellbeing Plan 2018-2023 by ensuring that having a “Street Scene and Landscape” that is well maintained enhances the perception of the area and can contribute to Blaenau Gwent being a better place to live, visit, invest in and work.

5. **Implications Against Each Option**

5.1.1 Option 1

No additional Highways works will be undertaken.

5.1.2 Option 2

Should option 2 not be supported then an opportunity will be lost to undertake some additional highways works in every ward across the County Borough.

5.1.3 Option 3

Although beneficial to highways maintenance, this option will not allow for all wards to have some work undertaken.

5.2 ***Impact on Budget (short and long term impact)***

5.2.1 **Revenue/Capital Costs**

The level of funding available will be based on historic costs, to achieve approximately 400 sq. metres of highways repairs per electoral ward across the County Borough (dependant on a favourable tendering process being completed).

This would be funded by a contribution from the General Reserve.

5.3 ***Risk including Mitigating Actions***

5.3.1 The risks associated with this report are as follows;

- An opportunity to improve the quality of the highway network will be lost.
- Level of General Reserve would reduce however it will continue to be above the target level set by Council of 4%.

5.4 ***Legal***

5.4.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

5.5 ***Human Resources***

5.5.1 There are no direct staffing implications associated with this report other than allocating officer time to the drafting of work specifications and the tendering process.

6 ***Supporting Evidence***

6.1 ***Performance Information and Data***

6.1.1 The overall % of poor conditioned Un-classified roads pre-commencement of highways capital works in 2017 was 17%. As a result of the previous three years' investment this figure improved and now stands at 11.4%.

6.2 ***Expected outcome for the public***

6.2.1 The public will experience improved quality of residential highways patching works, improved safety to highway network and roads not looking unkempt.

6.3 ***Involvement (consultation, engagement, participation)***

6.3.1 Where time allows, consultation, engagement and involvement with the public, members and interested parties will be carried out as part of the delivery process.

6.4 ***Thinking for the Long term (forward planning)***

6.4.1 Investment in the residential highway network in Blaenau Gwent is identified to ensure sustainability for the future, bringing our roads up to a good standard and improving our highway infrastructure to meet the service requirements of the future.

6.5 ***Preventative focus***

6.5.1 By investing now will prevent problems getting worse with the highways infrastructure, thus making prudent decisions to invest now rather than later when the costs are likely to be higher through further deterioration and inflation.

6.6 ***Collaboration / partnership working***

N/A

6.7 ***Integration (across service areas)***

6.7.1 The highways maintenance team works closely with a number of services in the delivery of maintenance programmes including; education, regeneration and the council's engineering section.

6.8 ***EqIA***

An EQIA is not relevant to the content of this report.

Monitoring Arrangements

7

7.1.1 The works will be initiated and monitored in line with contractual arrangement and progress can be reported if necessary through scrutiny and executive committees.

7.2 **Background Documents /Electronic Links**

None

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Agenda Item 9

Executive Committee and Council only

Date signed off by the Monitoring Officer: N/A

Date signed off by the Section 151 Officer: N/A

Committee: **Community Services Scrutiny Committee**
Date of meeting: **19th July 2021**
Report Subject: **Forward Work Programme: 4th October 2021**
Portfolio Holder: **Cllr Joanna Wilkins, Executive Member
Environment**
Report Submitted by: **Cllr Mandy Moore, Chair of the Community
Services Scrutiny Committee**

Reporting Pathway								
Directorate Management Team	Corporate Leadership Team	Portfolio Holder / Chair	Audit Committee	Democratic Services Committee	Scrutiny Committee	Executive Committee	Council	Other (please state)
x	x	08.07.21			19.07.21			

1. **Purpose of the Report**
 - 1.1 To present to Members the Community Services Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme for the Meeting on 4th October 2021 for discussion and agreement.
2. **Scope and Background**
 - 2.1 The Scrutiny Work Programmes are key aspects of the Council's planning and governance arrangements and support the requirements of the Constitution.
 - 2.2 The topics set out in the Forward Work Programme link to the strategic work of the Council as identified by the Council's revised Corporate Plan, corporate documents and supporting business plans.
 - 2.3 Effective work programmes are essential to ensure that the work of scrutiny makes a positive impact upon the Council's delivery of services.
 - 2.4 The Committee's Forward Work Programme was agreed in June 2021, recognising the fluidity of the document to enable the Committee to respond to urgent and emerging issues, and included timescales when reports will be considered by the Committee. The work programme is managed and implemented by the Scrutiny and Democratic Officer under the direction of the Chair and Committee.
 - 2.5 The forward work programme for the forthcoming meeting will be presented to Committee on a 6 weekly cycle in order that Members can consider the programme of work; request information is included within the reports, as appropriate and / or make amendments to the work programme.

3. **Options for Recommendation**

3.1 **Option 1:** The Scrutiny Committee consider the Forward Work Programme for the meeting 4th October 2021, and

- Make any amendments to the topics scheduled for the meetings;
- Suggest any additional invitees that the committee requires to fully consider the reports; and
- Request any additional information to be included with regards to the topics to be discussed.

3.2 **Option 2:** The Scrutiny Committee agree the Forward Programme for the meeting 4th October 2021, as presented.

Background Documents /Electronic Links

- Appendix 1 – Forward Work Programme – Meeting on 4th October 2021

Community Services Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme

Dates	Scrutiny Topic	Purpose	Lead Officer	Executive / Council
Monday 4th October 2021 Deadline: 20th September 2021	Biodiversity and Ecosystem Resilience Forward Plan (2019-2022) 2020/21 annual report	Performance Monitoring Annual report of the implementation of the Environment Act and the Council's Biodiversity duties throughout 2020/21 and consideration of the proposed actions for 2021/22.	Chris Engel	Executive 10.11.21
	Community Services Directorate Performance report	Performance Monitoring Members to monitor the performance of the Directorate.	Richard Crook Clive Rogers	Executive 10.11.21
	Waste and Recycling Performance 2020/21	Performance Monitoring Members to monitor the performance.	Matthew Stent	Executive 10.11.21
	Silent Valley Waste Services Performance	Performance Monitoring Members to monitor the performance	Matthew Stent	Executive 10.11.21
	Section 19 Flood Investigation Report – Llanhilleth	Members to receive a report in relation to the Section 19 Flood investigation.	Clive Rogers	Executive 10.11.21

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