

Policy Panel Meeting

**Grand Jury Room, Town Hall, High Street,
Colchester, CO1 1PJ
Wednesday, 24 November 2021 at 18:00**

The Policy Panel considers strategies, policies and legislative changes identified by Cabinet that may require review and improvement, and seeks Cabinet's agreement as to whether and how they should be examined, and reviews issues at the request of Portfolio Holders.

Information for Members of the Public

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Policy and Public Initiatives Panel – Terms of Reference

- (1) To consider strategies, policies and legislative changes identified by Cabinet that may require review and improvement and to seek Cabinet's agreement as to whether and how they should be examined.
- (2) To review issues at the request of a Portfolio Holder and to make recommendations back to the Portfolio Holder for decision.

COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCIL
Policy Panel
Wednesday, 24 November 2021 at 18:00

The Policy Panel Members are:

Councillor Sam McCarthy	Chairman
Councillor Chris Pearson	Deputy Chairman
Councillor Peter Chillingworth	
Councillor Pam Cox	
Councillor Mark Goacher	
Councillor Chris Hayter	
Councillor John Jowers	
Councillor Martin Leatherdale	
Councillor Lesley Scott-Boutell	

The Policy Panel Substitute Members are:

All members of the Council who are not members of the Panel.

AGENDA
THE LIST OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING
(Part A - open to the public)

Please note that Agenda items 1 to 5 are normally dealt with briefly.

1 Appointment of Chairman of Policy Panel

The Panel will be asked to appoint a Chairman for the remainder of the 2021-22 Municipal Year.

2 Appointment of Deputy Chairman of Policy Panel

The Panel will be asked to appoint a Deputy Chairman for the remainder of the 2021-22 Municipal Year.

3 Welcome and Announcements

The Chairman will welcome members of the public and Councillors to the meeting and remind those participating to mute their microphones when not talking. The Chairman will invite all Councillors and Officers participating in the meeting to introduce themselves.

4 **Substitutions**

Councillors will be asked to say if they are attending on behalf of a Committee member who is absent.

5 **Urgent Items**

The Chairman will announce if there is any item not on the published agenda which will be considered because it is urgent and will explain the reason for the urgency.

6 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillors will be asked to say if there are any items on the agenda about which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest which would prevent them from participating in any discussion of the item or participating in any vote upon the item, or any other pecuniary interest or non-pecuniary interest.

7 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Councillors will be invited to confirm that the minutes of the meeting held on 22 September 2021 are a correct record.

Policy Panel Minutes 22 September 2021

7 - 12

8 **Have Your Say!**

The Chairman will invite members of the public to indicate if they wish to speak or present a petition on any item included on the agenda or any other matter relating to the terms of reference of the meeting. Please indicate your wish to speak at this point if your name has not been noted by Council staff.

9 **Mitigations Council can make regarding loss of Universal Credit uplift, and financial inequalities** 13 - 20

This report details how the Council can support residents who no longer receive the Universal Credit uplift, and help reduce financial inequalities.

10 **Work Programme 2021-22** 21 - 22

This report sets out the current Work Programme 2021-2022 for the Policy Panel, providing details of the items of business that are currently scheduled for each meeting during the municipal year.

11 **Exclusion of the Public (not Scrutiny or Executive)**

In accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the public, including the press, from the meeting so that any items containing exempt information (for example confidential personal, financial or legal advice), in Part B of this agenda (printed on yellow paper) can be decided. (Exempt

information is defined in Section 100I and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972).

Part B
(not open to the public including the press)

POLICY PANEL

22 September 2021

Attendees: Councillors Cox, Goacher, Hayter, Jowers, Leatherdale, McCarthy, Pearson and Scott-Boutell.

Substitutes: Councillor Hagon for Councillor Chillingworth.

Also Present:

24. Minutes of Previous Meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on 26 May 2021 and 4 August 2021 be confirmed as correct records.

25. Update on Covid 19 Commemorations

Hayley McGrath, Corporate Governance Manager, introduced her update on options for ideas to commemorate those lost to Covid-19 and remember the work and service given by people across our communities during the pandemic.

Cabinet had agreed to the recommendation to hold a Covid commemoration event, design and circulate a community support pack for Covid commemorations and to commission designs for a commemoration bench and a blossom circle.

The design and location for a blossom circle were being worked upon before they are taken to the relevant Portfolio Holder for approval. This would consist of rings of trees with paths betwixt them. The trees would be fruit-bearing and flowering, including ornamental cherry trees, a 'memory circle' and trees which would ensure blossoming all year round. Subscription options were one possibility for funding these.

Memorial benches could be made available for purchase by councillors (e.g., using locality budgets), individuals or groups. Options for a public competition to design the benches were being considered. Other options, such as the provision of trees of remembrance (oaks, silver birch or wild cherry trees). Work would go forward with the Neighbourhood Team to ensure that all plantings were appropriate.

Ward events were being considered, which could be organised by councillors or local groups. A small working group had been formed, as recommended, to look at planning for a remembrance event. This was being supported by Steve Mannix and the Mercury Theatre. This was likely to be held in March 2022, subject to any restrictions which might be in place at that time. A Panel member recommended that

events should not be made overly formal, in order to make them accessible for as many people as possible.

The Corporate Governance Manager confirmed that the original budget of £10k, from the Budget for 2021-22, would fund the blossom circle separately, and that reasonably sized saplings would be used. Funding for installing blossom circles across different communities had been considered but ruled out as not being possible. It was considered potentially possible that support and funding could be provided for others to install blossom circles in different areas. A Panel member voiced dissatisfaction with this, insisting that communities needed remembrance sites specific and special to them. The Corporate Governance Manager gave assurance that she would pass this view forward to Cabinet. Another panel member reminded members and officers that the Panel had previously recommended that remembrance sites should be found as focal points within each community, rather than as a single site in the centre of Colchester. Further detail was requested on the potential for funding of blossom circles, with the Panel being informed that this funding came from the 2021-22 budget for strategic priorities.

Caution was raised by the Panel at only scheduling a single day for remembrance activities and events. A recommendation was made to have a date for commencing commemorations, with a longer time set out for events and ceremonies to be held.

A Panel member asked for information as to any consultation carried out to try to identify additional funding sources. The Panel were informed that Steve Mannix and the working group were looking at potential funding avenues which could be available. It was intended that most of the cost of remembrance activities and events would be met by donations, sponsors and other external funding. Rory Doyle, Assistant Director (Environment) gave assurance that, whilst planning for the funding for the blossom circle was in its early stages, details would be brought to the Panel as they became clearer. Costs needed to be confirmed and the overall cost would be over £10,000 in order to ensure it was tasteful and of an appropriate scale. Plantings were also a possible option for the Jubilee celebrations.

26. Graffiti Policy Review

Rosa Tanfield, Group Manager – Neighbourhood Services, presented the review and explained that the existing policy on graffiti was in need of review. Officers sought a clear statement as to how the Council tackles graffiti.

The Group Manager was asked whether graffiti on private property next to highways would be removed for free, or a charge imposed for such work. The Group Manager outlined the Council's approach, which was to first ask owners to remove graffiti on their premises and then either work with the owner to remove it, if necessary, or look at enforcement as a last resort. If an owner could not be contacted, then the priority was to remove the offending graffiti. Panel members suggested that the Policy wording should make clear that due discretion would be exercised by officers dealing with such cases and potentially levying a charge on the property owner/owners.

The Group Manager was asked about any problems when attempting to contact the owners of affected properties, and whether the Council could summarily clean graffiti off, where contact could not be made quickly, and then decide whether it was

appropriate to levy a fee for the work. Rory Doyle, Assistant Director – Environment, explained that the Council was required to carry out enforcement in line with national regulations and legislation. Tagging and graffiti deemed to be antisocial in nature would continue to be dealt with as quickly as possible, as would flyposting and stickering of street furniture and infrastructure.

Officers were asked whether the Council still maintained a graffiti/tag database, to identify prolific offenders, and recommended that links to utility companies were cultivated to expedite graffiti removal on sites, infrastructure and street equipment owned by them. The Panel were informed that the database was still in use and was used to identify trends and take action against identifiable individual malefactors.

A Panel member enquired as to whether exemptions would be incorporated into the Policy, such as for graffiti that was deemed to be of artistic merit or of a nature which was appropriate or beneficial for the local community or site. Potential difficulties were discussed, including how to set criteria, how to maintain a standard and balanced approach and how to judge what is and isn't appropriate. It was confirmed that there were places within the Borough where street art was allowed, and assurance that the Council did not want to stifle lawful use of these, or the creativity of people who used such sites. The Group Manager directed attention to the Strategy, where it was detailed how the Council worked with partners to best utilise such areas/sites as well as to reduce antisocial graffiti instances.

A Panel member suggested that an addition could be made to the first sentence of the final paragraph of the Policy's introduction, to then read as 'The defacement caused by graffiti is an act of criminal damage and should not be considered the same as legitimate commissioned pieces of street art and pieces of art considered to be valuable by the local community.'

The Panel asked how large or small was the problem caused by graffiti in the Borough and whether there were any statistics to evidence this, and to show the scale of Council action to tackle graffiti. The Group Manager offered to provide more indicative data to the Panel, if this would be helpful to their consideration of the Strategy. A Panel member commented that, whilst Colchester did not have a bad problem with graffiti, it remained wise to stay ahead of the curve. The difficulties facing officers in judging what was or wasn't of artistic merit were discussed and it was suggested that clear protocols would be needed to guide this.

Officers were asked if the Council's website could include more content to better signpost ways in which residents could report graffiti and tagging. Assurance was given that this was underway, alongside improvements as to how these are reported to Neighbourhood Services, including a new application for people to report and send pictures of graffiti.

RECOMMENDED to CABINET that the refreshed Graffiti Policy be approved, subject to the following additions: -

- (a) That the Policy gives assurance that officer discretion will be shown regarding decisions as to whether to levy charges on owners of private residential

property targeted by graffiti, where the Council undertakes work in default to remove that graffiti;

- (b) That wording is added to the Policy to clarify how and why exceptions might be made for street art which is deemed to be of artistic benefit, or of value to the community within which it is located, and detailing how 'out-of-policy' exceptions might be made;
- (c) That more provision be made for legitimate and legal graffiti/street art to be practiced, such as on designated art/graffiti walls within the Borough;
- (d) That a collaborative approach be emphasised, where the Council works in partnership with independent parties, as well as in consultation with the local ward councillors, to achieve the best approach and actions, area by area.

27. Litter and Dog Bin Policy

Rosa Tanfield, Group Manager – Neighbourhood Services, presented the current draft of this proposed new Policy and directed the Panel's attention to the Terms of Reference for this review that had been circulated as a supplementary document to the agenda. Apologies were made for the formatting issues within the covering report, and assurance given that the text of the Policy itself was clean.

The Policy was proposed to help address issues, including the current lack of an audit programme to monitor usage and placement and the need to reduce the number of bin types in use (which would go from eight designs down to four)

This would be a public policy but would also allow officers to conduct infrastructure audits and improve the efficiency of collections. An example was that emptying requests would be recorded and the data used to drive improvements in collections. This was welcomed by the Panel, with members discussing parts of the Borough where lack of bins was a problem. The need for clarity as to the decision-making process on bin placement was emphasised by members, with statistics and data provided to support decisions made. It was suggested by the Panel that there would be a good opportunity for the statistics and data collected to be brought back to the Panel at some point in the future, along with information on decisions taken based on them.

It was confirmed that the current capital cost of providing litter and dog bins was £1,014,170, with each bin costing over £300, plus staffing and disposal costs.

The Panel asked whether there would be any bin loss through the audit process, or if obsolete bins to be removed would be replaced with newer models. Members stressed that robust evidence would need to be provided should any bins be removed without replacements installed. It was further asked whether there would be any increase in the provision of recycling bins for public use.

A Panel member requested that more anti-littering and anti-fouling signs be put in place, and for the process for the public to request these to be made easier to use.

The Panel considered issues such as the importance of coordinating bin placement with other organisations which provided bins, the challenges faced in preventing and remediating contamination of recycling bins, possible removal of bins which attract fly tipping and ways to provide bins for dog waste which minimise odour and cleanliness problems. It was also asked whether there was the potential for compactor/smart bins to be installed in high density areas and whether bins near schools could have their inserts designed by children at those schools. The Group Manager (Neighbourhood Services) agreed that contamination of recycling facilities was a nation-wide issue and that the key was to educate people in their correct use. The Council worked to use a range of sites for recycling facilities, such as at High Woods Country Park. Smart bins were being looked at and plans were being drawn up to trial them. Some models were solar powered and could notify officers when they neared becoming full. This was expected to be valuable functionality. Bin sizes could be increased where necessary, but it was noted that it was important that this not impede collection efficiency.

The Panel discussed the need for the Bin Policy to be linked to the existing policies on environment and sustainability, such as the recycling and waste reduction strategies. It was suggested that these could be tied together, with key performance indicators [KPIs] to be used to set and monitor targets. The Group Manager (Neighbourhood Services) explained that this Policy was currently a stand-alone policy, with work on a littering policy paused until the County Council had produced their littering strategy, at which point Colchester Borough Council would draft a new littering policy, to sit under the County strategy, which could then be brought to the Policy Panel for consideration. The Environment Bill would mean changes, including a revised waste strategy. Work was engaged upon with Essex County Council to coordinate approaches.

Significant engagement and communications work would be conducted to drive behavioural change, reduce waste and increase recycling. There was no engagement element in the bins policy as this was more of an element for the littering strategy/policy to be produced following the confirmation of the County Council's littering strategy.

It was queried whether this new Policy could help the Council take a more proactive approach to tackling fly tipping and bin cleanliness/maintenance. Enforcement against littering and fly tipping was carried out, but officers stressed the difficulties, especially as officers needed to be on-scene to witness littering. Fly tipped items are checked to attempt the identification of transgressors, and enforcement action is taken where this is possible.

The audit process was explained as a rolling process, with each area assessed once per year. Maintenance issues and cleanliness would be assessed as part of the audit. Dedicated dog bins were being considered for removal and replacement with all-purpose general waste bins. Issues regarding smell would be noted and the potential need for a lidded bin considered. There would be no official 'sign off' on the audit process used, but officers would work with local councillors to provide information on their wards.

Officers were asked whether the County Council charged for bin licenses. Assurance was given by the Group Manager (Neighbourhood Services) that this would be checked and an answer given to members following the meeting.

RECOMMENDED to CABINET that: -

- (a) Cabinet approve the Litter and Dog Bin Policy; -
- (b) Cabinet give approval for the Policy Panel to consider, when possible, the expected draft Essex County Council Litter Strategy and make recommendations to Cabinet as to suggestions that Cabinet might wish to make to the County Council regarding the content of that document.

28. Drone Policy Review

Rosa Tanfield, Group Manager – Neighbourhood Services, explained that the current Policy had been in operation since 2018 and was being updated to reflect further legislative changes. The Panel noted that, to a great extent, drone use was subject to the rules of the Civil Aviation Authority.

RECOMMENDED to CABINET that the Drone Policy be approved.

28. Work Programme 2021-22

Thanks were given by the Panel to Councillors Chris Pearson and Adam Fox for attending the previous Cabinet meeting to speak in favour of the recommendations given at the last Policy Panel meeting. It was suggested by a member that the Panel should consider whether to seek approval to add items to the work programme for its January meeting. Rory Doyle, Assistant Director [Environment], explained that the Jubilee item was likely to be larger than members might expect, but that other items could be suggested.

It was recommended that the River Strategy be kept on the agenda for the meeting in March 2022, to best fit the schedule in place for it to be drafted.

It was noted that the meeting on 24 November 2021 would see the Grounds Maintenance contract business case come to the Policy Panel for scrutiny.

RESOLVED that the Work Programme for 2021-22 be approved as shown, with the addition of updates information on plans for work on memorials and commemoration events relating to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Report of	Assistant Director – Customer	Author	Jason Granger ☎ 07889 445614
Title	Mitigations Council can make regarding loss of Universal Credit uplift and financial inequalities		
Wards affected	All Wards		

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 In response to the Covid-19 pandemic the Government announced an uplift to Universal Credit and Working Tax credits worth £20 a week. Initially planned to last for a year, the policy was extended by six months in the March 2021 budget. The uplift has ended from 6 October 2021.
- 1.2 This report details how the Council can support residents who no longer receive this uplift and help reduce financial inequalities.

2. Action Required

- 2.1 The panel is invited to review and comment on how the Council is supporting residents affected by the removal of the £20 uplift.

3. Reason for Review

- 3.1 The Covid-19 pandemic resulted in significant Government support for residents, businesses, and communities. Many of these support schemes have, or are, being withdrawn. This could lead to a rise in financial inequality.
- 3.2 The Council, alongside key partners, can offer practical support to residents adjusting to the withdrawal of support with the intention of preventing hardship and financial inequality.

4. Background Information

- 4.1 Universal Credit helps those of working age with living costs, including rent, and can be claimed by those on a low income, out of work or by those who cannot work. It is paid monthly. Currently 14,801 residents are claiming Universal Credit in Colchester.
- 4.2 In his initial response to the Covid-19 crisis in the March 2020 Budget, the Chancellor announced a temporary one-year uplift in entitlements to Universal Credit and Working Tax Credit, of £20 per week. In the following Budget – March 2021 – the Universal Credit increase was extended for another six months, and claimants of Working Tax credits were paid a one-off equivalent amount (£500).
- 4.3 The Universal Credit uplift has now permanently ended from 6 October 2021. This means most residents would have received their final increased payment in September 2021.
- 4.4 The 2021 Autumn Budget and Spending Review announced further changes to Universal Credit. The Government announced:
- The Universal Credit taper rate – the amount of benefit taken away for every £1 earned above the work allowance – will be reduced by 8% from December 2021 bringing it down from 63% to 55%. This will mean those in work and claiming Universal Credit will be able to keep an additional 8p for every £1 of net income they earn.
 - An increase of the work allowances by £500 per year. This will increase the amount that households with children or a household member with limited capability for work can earn before their Universal Credit award begins to be reduced

These uplifts to Universal Credit will apply only to those working. Whereas the £20 weekly uplift applied to those claiming Universal Credit whether in work or not.

- 4.5 **Appendix A** is a presentation by Assistant Director – Customer that details the practical support that is being provided by the Council to help residents navigate changes to Universal Credit and the wider financial implications of the Covid-19 pandemic.

5. Equality, Diversity and Human Rights implications

- 5.1 This report deals with a local response to prescribed national legislative amendments. Therefore, an Equality Impact Assessment has not been completed.

6. Strategic Plan References

- 6.1 The Council's Strategic Plan sets out 15 priorities, one of which being:

'Tackle the causes of inequality and support our most vulnerable people'

6.2 This report details Council interventions and how these can help mitigate financial inequalities with Colchester.

7. Consultation

7.1 None required.

8. Publicity Considerations

8.1 Much of the work to support residents will be carried out by the Financial and Employment Support team. The team is publicised via our website and through a network of partners.

8.2 Residents can make direct contact with the team, and they also accept referrals from community partners acting under authority of the resident.

9. Financial implications

9.1 There are no financial implications above the approved budget for the Financial and Employment Support Team and other substantive services.

10. Health, Wellbeing and Community Safety Implications

10.1 The proposals contain provision for dealing with welfare concerns of residents, particularly vulnerable people and the support is intended to limit hardship.

11. Health and Safety Implications

11.1 There are no health and safety implications.

12. Risk Management Implications

12.1 This report outlines support provided to residents as national government Covid-19 support schemes are withdrawn. The support is intended to mitigate any resulting financial inequalities.

13. Environmental and Sustainability Implications

13.1 There are no environmental and sustainability implications.

Appendices

- **Appendix A** – Presentation by Assistant Director – Customer ‘Mitigations Council can make regarding loss of Universal Credit uplift and financial inequalities - Support for residents’

Appendix A

Mitigations Council can make regarding loss of Universal Credit uplift and financial inequalities

- Support for residents

Policy Panel – 24 November 2021



Financial and Employment Support

Issues faced by residents

Resolution

15,000 of our residents are claiming Universal Credit and many will be losing £20 per week temporary uplift due to Covid

Working with County partners and our colleagues in DWP to support residents to maximise their income

We will be working in the Job Centre Plus in Chapel Street and two new Job Centres to offer a wraparound service that is not provided by DWP (including priority debt and housing support)

Residents being told to self-isolate leading to financial hardship

We administer Test and Trace Support Payments - further allocations from Central Government and ECC are continuing into the winter

Many who are currently employed could be affected by the end of the furlough scheme and radical changes in the job market

Support residents (who may be claiming Benefits for the first time) to maximise their income through Benefits and make them aware of what is available to them

Rising fuel costs

Work with residents to ensure they are accessing services such as The Green Doctor, Extra Winter Fuel Payments, Warm Home initiatives

Ability to meet basic day to day living expenses

Partnership working with Colchester Foodbank where CBC officers provide users with specialist advice on income maximisation and employment/training opportunities

Vulnerable households across the country will be able to access a new £500m support fund to help them with essentials over the coming months as the country continues its recovery from the pandemic.

Financial and Employment Support Team

Issues faced by residents	Resolution
Residents struggling to find work	<p>We have recruited (funded by DWP) two Employment Support Officers to help those who are furthest from the employment market to find work</p> <p>These officers will be based at Job Centre Plus locations to be available for immediate referrals on a day to day basis</p> <p>We will work across partnerships (for example ECC, University and Institute) and through One Colchester embedding their role as key anchor institutions</p>
Residents who are unable to access the internet to apply for jobs	<p>We will enhance the role of the Digital Access Team who, along with many other partners, provide devices and digital support to minimise the challenges faced by residents who have trouble accessing online opportunities</p>
Residents struggling to manage work and family life	<p>As part of the Working Families Strategy ECC are launching an Essex Employers Family Friendly Charter to enable working families to balance their work and caring commitments</p> <p>This will commit organisations to develop and agree a set of principles that govern effective family friendly employment practice across the county to actively promote family friendly practice to the employment market and wider supply chains</p>
Lack of opportunities and change in the employment market	<p>We are working with partners to promote local jobs (for example - The Knowledge Gateway at Essex University, New Health Academy in North East Essex and CBC)</p> <p>We are part of the ECC Anchor Network who are working on five key themes to help residents including employment, skills and workforce</p> <p>This work is developing fast and providing opportunities for our residents</p>

Housing Support Colchester Borough Homes and Colchester Borough Council

Issues faced by residents	Resolution
Residents facing eviction	<p>Colchester Borough Homes will only evict as last resort</p> <p>Support for residents renting privately is available to help prioritise debt and manage repayment plans to prevent homelessness</p> <p>Discretionary Housing Payments and Exceptional Hardship Payments to help those struggling to meet their rent and council tax liabilities</p>
Rough sleeping	<p>Rough sleeper team restructured to strengthen prevention work with partners and now includes secondments from mental health, trauma informed counselling and support with addiction</p> <p>New supported accommodation pathways are in place for winter</p> <p>Demand and emerging issues are complex, with high physical and mental health problems that cannot be resolved without long term supported housing projects</p>
Residents living in unsuitable housing	<p>Healthy Homes Team within CBC ensuring the most clinically vulnerable have an improved living environment</p> <p>Grants and Loans are available to help with home adaptations</p> <p>Our Private Sector Housing Team is focussed on ensuring people live in safety and will prosecute criminal landlords when necessary</p>



Policy Panel

Item
10

24 November 2021

Report of	Assistant Director, Environment	Author	Owen Howell
Title	Work Programme 2021-22		☎ 282518
Wards affected	Not applicable		

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the current Work Programme 2021-2022 for the Policy Panel, providing details of the items of business that are currently scheduled for each meeting during the municipal year.

2. Recommended Decision

- 2.1 The Panel is asked to note the contents of the Panel's Work Programme for 2021-2022 as set out below and to confirm the appropriate scheduling of work items.

3. Alternative Options

- 3.1 This function forms part of the Panel's Terms of Reference and, as such, no alternative options are presented.

4. Background Information

- 4.1 The Policy Panel's Work Programme will evolve as the municipal year progresses. Items can be added to the Work Programme by request of Portfolio Holders and/or Cabinet requesting policies, strategies or other issues to be reviewed.
- 4.2 When the Panel considers the grounds maintenance contract, it will be provided with a full report and background information on the decision making relating to the grounds maintenance contract and the Panel's previous work on this during the 2020-21 municipal year.
- 4.3 The Grounds Maintenance contract business case has been rescheduled to the meeting on 12 January 2022.

5. Standard References

- 5.1 There are no specific references to publicity or consultation considerations; or financial; equality, diversity and human rights; community safety; health and safety or risk management implications.

6. Strategic Plan References

- 6.1 Policy review is integral to the delivery of the Strategic Plan's priorities and direction for the Borough as set out under the four themes of growth, responsibility, opportunity and wellbeing.

Policy Panel Work Programme 2021-22

16 June 2021
1. Work Programme 2021-22.
4 August 2021
1. Covid 19 Commemorations 2. Work Programme 2021-22.
22 September 2021
1. Review & recommendations relating to proposed Neighbourhood Services Policies (Litter Strategy, Bin policy, Graffiti policy, Drone policy) 2. Work Programme 2021-22.
24 November 2021
1. Mitigations Council can make regarding loss of Universal Credit uplift, and financial inequalities 2. Grounds Maintenance Contract – Business Case 3. Work Programme 2021-22.
12 January 2022
1. Queens's Platinum Jubilee 2. Grounds Maintenance Contract – Business Case
2 March 2022
1. River Strategy

Items to be scheduled for the 2021-22 Municipal Year.

None at this time.