



Telford & Wrekin  
C O U N C I L

Addenbrooke House Ironmasters Way Telford TF3 4NT

**ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Date **Thursday, 17 December 2020** Time **6.00 pm**  
Venue **Remote Meeting**

**Enquiries Regarding this Agenda**

Democratic Services	Kieran Robinson	01952 382061
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**Committee Membership:** Councillors M Boylan, C Cassar, V J Holt, T L B Janke, T J Nelson, G L Offland and G C W Reynolds (Chair),

**AGENDA**

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <u>Page</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. <b>Apologies For Absence</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |             |
| 2. <b>Declarations Of Interest</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |             |
| 3. <b>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 3 - 6       |
| 4. <b>RRR - Environmental &amp; Infrastructure Update</b><br>To receive the report of the Director: Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services.<br><br>Councillor C Healy (Cabinet Member for Visitor Economy, Historic & Natural Environment and Climate Change) will also attend for this item.                                                                 | 7 - 20      |
| 5. <b>Climate Change Update and Plan Refresh</b><br>To receive and discuss the update of the Director: Communities, Customer and Commercial Services and the Climate Change & Sustainability Coordinator.<br><br>Councillor C Healy (Cabinet Member for Visitor Economy, Historic & Natural Environment and Climate Change) will also attend for this item. |             |
| 6. <b>Work Programme Review</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 21 - 24     |
| 7. <b>Chair's Update</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |             |

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## **ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### **Minutes of a meeting of the Environment Scrutiny Committee held on Tuesday, 27 October 2020 at 6.00 pm by Remote Meeting**

**Present:** Councillors M Boylan, C Cassar, V J Holt, T L B Janke, T J Nelson, G L Offland and G C W Reynolds (Chair).

**Also Present:** Councillors L D Carter (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood, Commercial Services and Regeneration) and C Healy (Cabinet Member for Visitor Economy, Historic & Natural Environment and Climate Change)

**In Attendance:** D Germany (Service Delivery Manager: Strategic Waste & Neighbourhood Services Performance), A Lowe (Associate Director: Policy & Governance), M Powell (Service Manager: Strategic Transport, Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services), K Robinson (Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer), D Sargeant (Director: Neighbourhood and Enforcement Services), and S Worthington (Senior Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer)

#### **ENVSC9 Apologies For Absence**

None.

#### **ENVSC10 Declarations Of Interest**

None.

#### **ENVSC11 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

**RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting held on 22 July 2020 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.**

#### **ENVSC12 On Street Waste and Recycling Briefing**

The Director: Neighbourhood and Enforcement Services provided a brief overview of on street waste receptacles in the Borough.

Members heard that the Authority had looked to learn from other Local Authorities, and had identified that any recycling litter bin would have to be a standalone bin so that any visitor could identify and use it and should be co-located next to a regular waste bin for ease of use. The bins would need to be conveniently located, in high footfall locations. There were a number of recycling bins in the Town Park as well as one in Wellington and a container in Newport, on trial with the Town Council.

On the design of litter bins, lidded bins were deemed a fire risk and

inaccessible for some people with disabilities.

The Authority had also been trialling the separation of litter in Woodside, and it was noted that out of the litter collected 30% was recyclable. The Council weighed the litter and worked with Veolia on recycling it. The Council would be looking to expand the trial.

Officers noted among the things to consider on introducing recycling bins would be reducing contamination, promoting the benefits of using the bins, monitoring, and the one off costs of the containers themselves.

The Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood, Commercial Services and Regeneration expressed the Cabinet's openness to innovation. Members were assured that Cabinet wish to continue with the positive steps already made in recycling in the Borough.

A debate ensued and Members posed a number of questions:

*Was there anything the Council could do to work more closely with brands that contribute to the litter problem (e.g. fast food outlets)?*

The Government had launched proposals on how to reduce the use of materials that could not be recycled, such as taxation. The Cabinet would continue to feed back to the Committee on any information that was received.

The Council wrote to all fast food outlets ahead of reopening after the lockdown. Nonetheless, litter from such outlets began to appear soon after their reopening. The Council was looking to expand its enforcement efforts with data and intelligence gathering to optimise its approach to litter.

*Bins in high footfall areas of the Borough Towns had issues with overflowing bins that fill up quickly at peak times. The bins were unable to handle the large number of food outlets. Was this a normal problem?*

Bins in high footfall areas had seven-day coverage but some of these bins were not owned by the Council, and therefore would not be emptied by the Council.

*Concerns were raised about the design of some bins in the Borough due to frequent overturning and wind blowing rubbish out.*

Bins that had been overturned could be repaired in some cases but the Council was keen for operatives to record the condition of bins for monitoring. There were historic reasons for differing bins designs in the Borough.

*Who monitored recycling targets?*

The Council monitored the recycling rates, reports were provided by Veolia on a monthly basis. This data was audited and reported to The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA).

Members also discussed issues of contamination of recycling bins with non-recyclable waste.

**RESOLVED – that the Committee recommend to Cabinet the roll out of dual recycling bins in the high streets and parks of the Borough with detail to confirm the final wording delegated to the Chair of the Environment Scrutiny Committee.**

Councillor Cassar left the meeting at 18:55.

### **ENVSC13 Transport Briefing**

The Director: Neighbourhood and Enforcement Services informed Members that it had been a challenging year, with the flooding and then COVID-19. As the council had moved into recovery, transport actions had been moved front and centre. Despite the challenges the year had posed, progress had been made.

The Committee heard that there were 11 key actions, some of which were relatively broad, that had been identified for Transport. A brief verbal overview of the 11 actions was provided for Members.

The Council desired its Climate Change Action Plan to remain a live document, open to change as the situations changed and opportunities developed. For this reason, due to COVID-19, an updated version of the Action Plan would be brought to Cabinet in February 2021 before being published on the Council's website.

Members welcomed the presentation and the noted the opportunity presented by the pandemic to examine sustainable transport solutions.

The Committee asked a number of questions:

*Had the Council considered a commercial arm concerned with electric vehicle charging? Could the Council invest now so that it could profit in the longer term?*

This was an opportunity and it would likely come out during the Council's review. It was important to future proof infrastructure.

*What work was being done with developers to ensure that those without off street parking could charge their electric vehicle?*

The Council was engaging with other authorities, assessing the options that existed. After this, the Authority would be working with new developments to ensure that the infrastructure was in place.

There was also an issue with grid capacity and Western Power were going through consultation so that they could develop the grid in accordance with the Borough's aspirations and plans.

### **ENVSC14 Work Programme Review**

The Associate Director: Policy & Governance gave an overview of the Committee's work programme, discussing the comments and updates made by officers at the Council. Updates primarily focussed on the timeframe for items to come to the Committee.

**ENVSC15 Chair's Update**

The Chair expressed their hope that the Committee would meet again in December.

The meeting ended at 7.36 pm

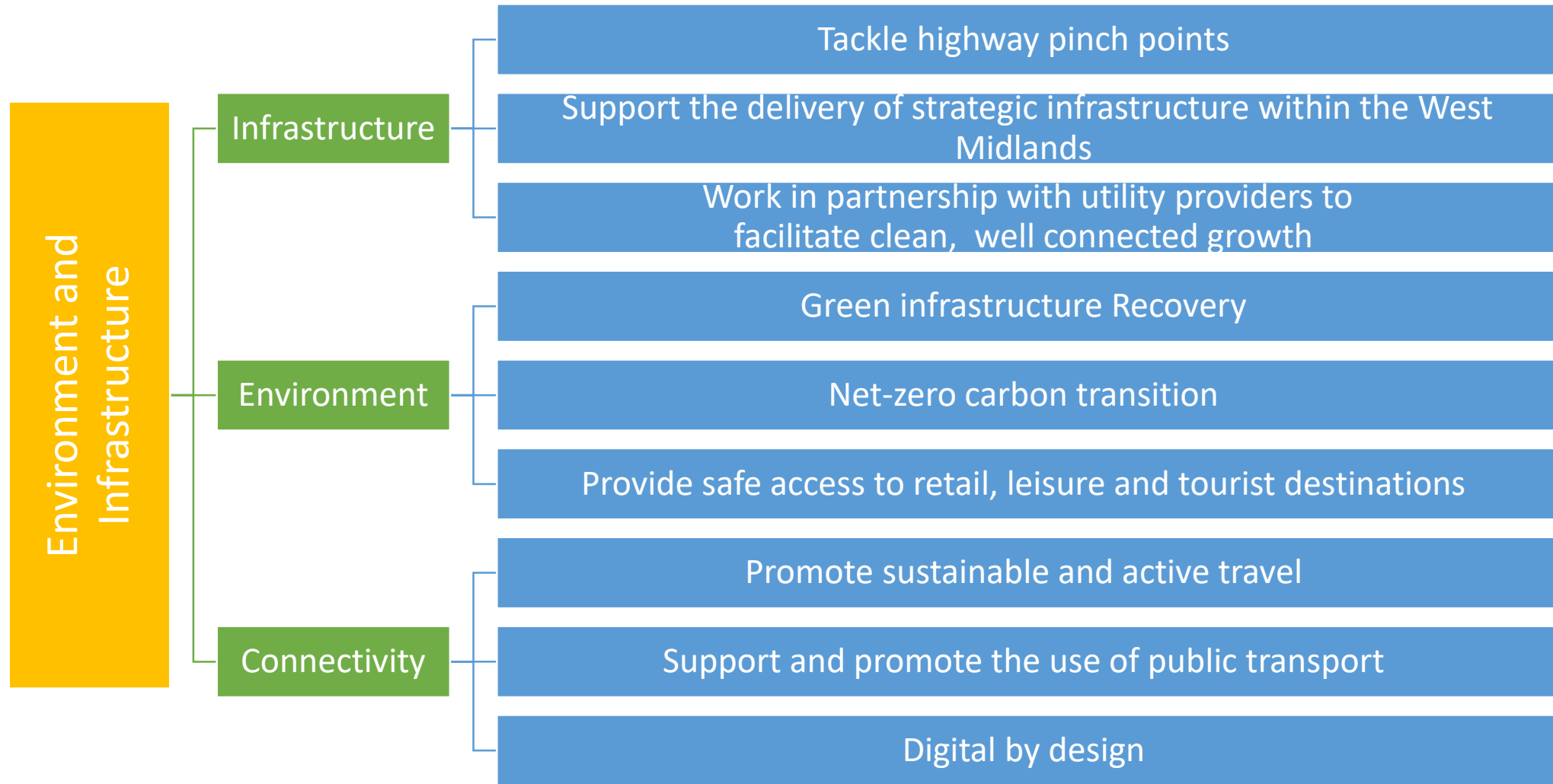
**Chairman:** .....

**Date:** Thursday, 17 December 2020

# Recovery, Reform, Reset

## Environmental & Infrastructure: Environment

# Priorities





# A Changing Landscape : Covid19

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Protect  
Care and Invest  
to create a  
better borough



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# Actions through The Planning System

## Short Term – Planning Applications

- Provision of renewable energy on site
- Reducing Energy Demand
- Transport and Movement
- Water Conservation and Sustainable Drainage Solutions
- Use of Materials in Construction
- Waste Management
- Multi Purpose Green Infrastructure
- Flexibility and Adaptability of Buildings
- Off site contributions

## Long Term – Emerging Policy

- Collection of evidence
- Evidence of viability
- Creation of Supplemental Planning Documents



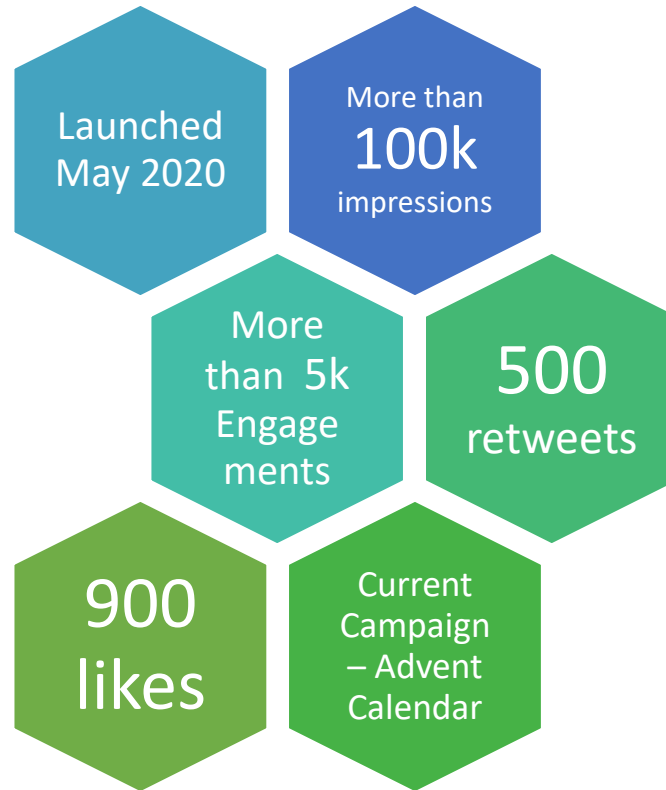


**My Wild Telford** @My\_Wild\_Telford · Nov 30  
 ❄️ COMING SOON #MWTAdvent! ❄️ 🌲 Count down the day's until #ChristmasEve with @My\_Wild\_Telford. . Gather your reindeer's and sleigh your way through @TelfordWrekin's #Telford50Trail! Explore and discover the hidden sites and special places of interest near you! #MWTAdvent



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**My Wild Telford** @My\_Wild\_Telford  
 🌲 Day 1 🌲 'Tis The Season to be Jolly!' Sleigh your way around the great outdoors of Telford by #downloading @TelfordWrekin's handy Telford 50 Trail Guide here: [bit.ly/Telford50Trail](https://bit.ly/Telford50Trail). Explore and discover the hidden sites and special places of interest near you! #MWTAdvent



## BENEFITS OF NATURE TO OUR WELLBEING

Everyday experiences with nature matter for our wellbeing

↓ REDUCES ↓	Chronic Stress	Good mood	↑ INCREASES ↑
	Depression	Empathy	
	Anxiety	Concentration	
	Negative thoughts	Focus	
		Productivity	
		Personal fitness	

Notice the small things in nature that are around you and make every day amazing!

It doesn't take much for nature to do you some good

Only 10mins in green space can increase your well being - so find a green space near to you and visit it a little, but often!

Protect Care and Invest to create a better borough



# Promotion of Public Rights of Way

## A NEW DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT FOR TELFORD & WREKIN

- Electronic version – online and accessible
- Consolidation of all confirmed Modification orders
- Precise location of PROW
- Enable reviews more easily
- Can then actively promote routes as a response to COVID

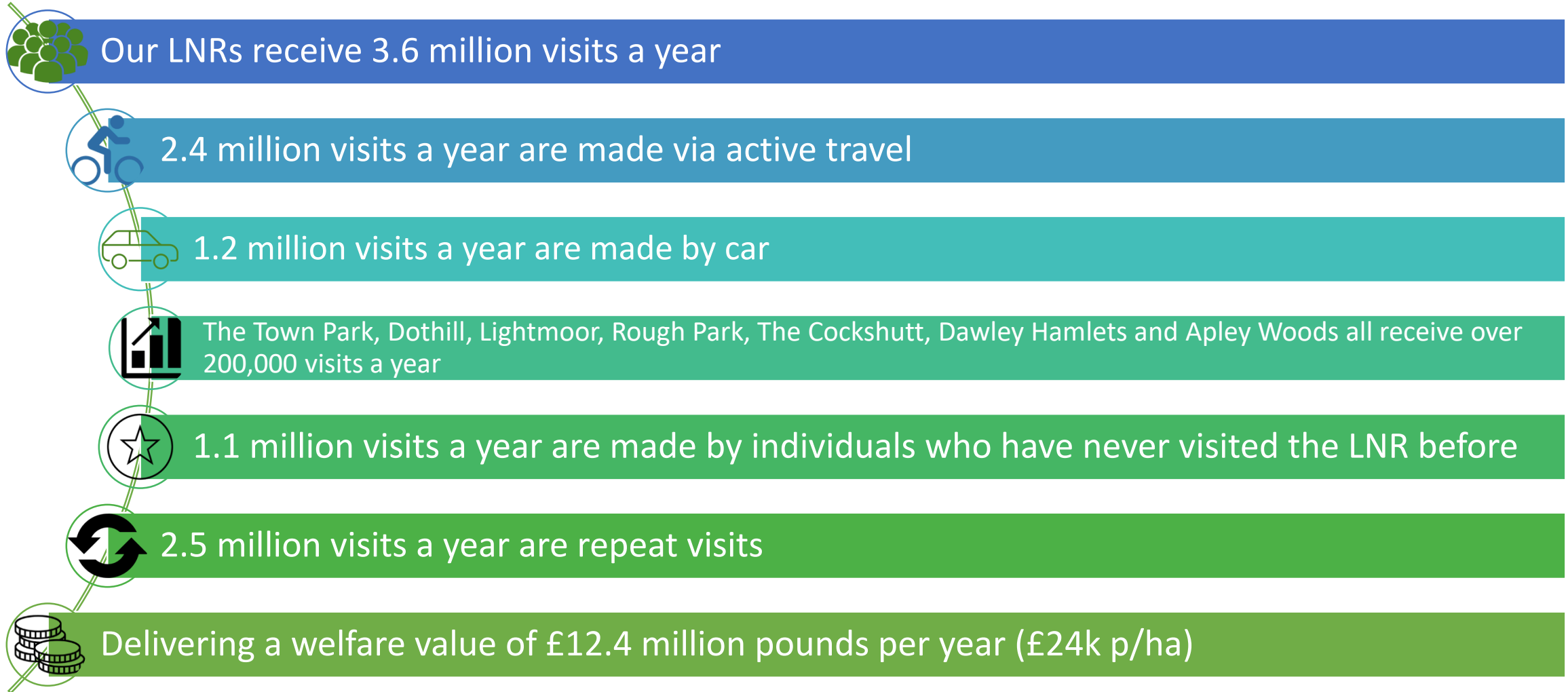
## DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER POLICY AND PROCESS

- Defined approach to DMMO's
- Ability to consider and process easier
- Transparent and detailed process
- Online accessibility
- Ability to Promote the route

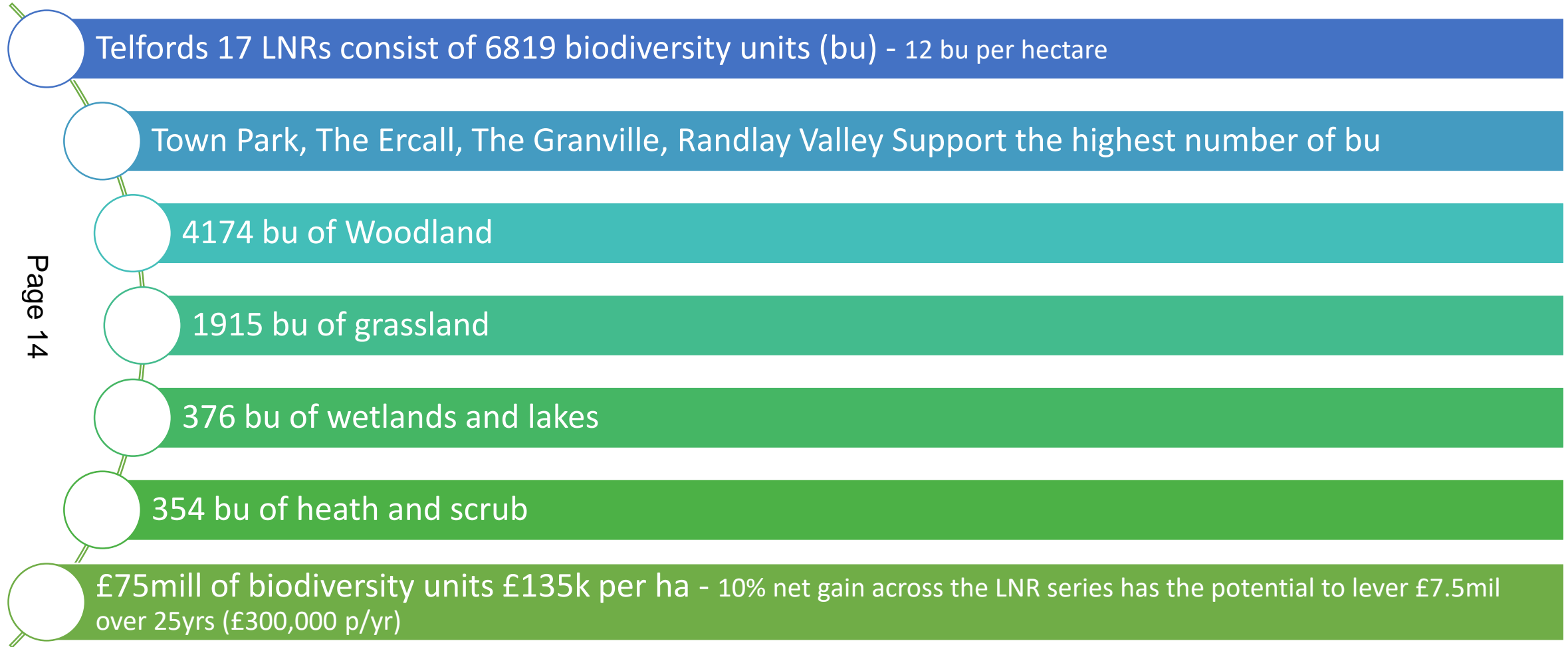
## Categorisation of Public Rights of Way

- Current Classifications as given do not represent importance
- Classified as Major/ Minor/ Other
- Ability to audit the route, prioritise finance, and act as evidence for funding – S106 obligations

# Value of our Local Nature Reserves : Recreation



# Value of our Local Nature Reserves : Net Gain



# Value of our Woodlands



Telford's Canopy Cover

Ward level Canopy cover

Land ownership and Protection

Accessibility

Targeted planting

# Telford's Canopy Cover: Carbon Sequestration



15% of the borough is wooded

Sequestering on average 36,431 tco2e/yr

A value of £2.4m non-traded carbon per year



27% of woodland in the borough is in the ownership of TWC

Sequestering on average 10,697 tco2e/yr

A value of £706K non-traded carbon per year



# Net-zero carbon transition

## Funding

- Utilised to focus immediate recovery actions as well as economic growth
- The Council is leading the recovery process and acting as a enabler / confidence builder in the local economy.
- The Council has promoted building efficiency grants and schemes for renovations and retrofits including improved insulation and heating.

## Switch Telford

- White label energy comparison and switching site;
- **Connected for Warmth** (first time central heating),
- Launched the **Telford Energy Advice Service**.

## Retrofit

- Council programme to retrofit schemes across Council owned buildings.
- For example, funding has been approved for PV at Oakengates Theatre, CO2 Emissions Avoided: 17775kg pa.

# Green Recovery



- Working From Home: long-term impacts on the demand for office space.
- The Council are re-thinking existing office space which also reduces energy consumption.

- Ensure that strategic decisions drive green recovery
- Utilising the Local Plan Review to complement wide range of issues:
  - Including identify natural flood management approaches and Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) to increase carbon sequestration.

# Summary

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Place Leader

Facilitator

Communicator

Funder

Vision Setter

Protect  
Care and Invest  
to create a  
better borough

a co-operative  
council



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# Questions?

1

- Are there any matters which are not covered?

2

- Does the approach need any further focus?

## Environment Scrutiny Committee – 2019/20 and 2020/21 Work Programme

Key:-

\* New Suggestions Received and Shared with Scrutiny Assembly on 24 October 2019

	Issue / Topic	Purpose	Status / Source if New	Service Area	SMT Feedback (if any)	KIT comments
*	Climate Change Emergency and Plastic Free Telford & Wrekin	<p>Consideration to be given to steps that this Council can take to reduce its impact upon climate change, ways in which the Council can influence businesses to do the same and ways in which the Council can influence communities to do likewise</p> <p>The Council and the Borough's progress to net zero and then zero carbon emissions. As a subset of this, reporting analysis and challenge on specific progress to 50% energy from sustainables across Shropshire, progress towards Ulevs, Progress towards passive house standards for new housing and retrofit insulation to existing housing, progress towards a Shropshire wide food policy, and progress towards Plastic Free status for the Borough.</p>	<p>New - Scrutiny Chairs</p> <p>Cllr Tim Nelson</p>	Commercial Services	<p>Large subject matter. Transport update to be discussed at October meeting.</p> <p>Update on plastic free and climate change in October and identify topics to focus on at that point.</p>	Initially, October 2020 with further focused review on an ongoing basis due to breadth of subject.

	Issue / Topic	Purpose	Status / Source if New	Service Area	SMT Feedback (if any)	KIT comments
*	Waste & Recycling	Monitoring of Implementation of contracts	New - Scrutiny Chairs	Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services	Robust contract monitoring against key basket of KPI's undertaken both monthly by officers and quarterly by the leader and Cabinet Members. KPI's available for sharing.	Annual review – approx. Feb 2021.
*	Waste Receptacles (SMB suggest adding this to the Plastic Free scope and widening the remit to incorporate on street recycling facilities)	Replacement of open topped concrete litter bins with wheelie bins secured in metal frame.	New - Public	Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services		October 2020
	Flood Water Management	Considered in 2016/17	Statutory responsibility	Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services	Linked to flooding response. Improvements have been made to enable response to be targeted to appropriate locations.	<b>Feb – March 2021</b> - Now recommended for Summer to avoid stretching resources during a time of expected flooding.

	Issue / Topic	Purpose	Status / Source if New	Service Area	SMT Feedback (if any)	KIT comments
	Grounds and cleansing service contract procurement	Monitoring of new contract	Monitoring	Neighbourhood & Enforcement Services	Contract monitored on a daily/weekly/monthly set of meetings by officers with quarterly strategic meetings attended by Leader and Deputy Leader. KPI's available for scrutiny. To include method of delivery and whether or not it is most effective.	Approx February 2021.

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