

## ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday 9 March 2021
<b>Report Subject</b>	Recovery Strategy (Streetscene and Transportation Portfolio)
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Transportation
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Executive and Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation)
<b>Type of Report</b>	Operational

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council has developed a corporate Recovery Strategy for the pandemic emergency situation which was endorsed at a special Cabinet meeting on 15 September.

Cabinet requested each of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees to support recovery in their respective portfolio areas, and specifically to have oversight of:-

1. The portfolio risk register(s) and the risk mitigation actions, both live and planned;
2. The objectives for recovery for the portfolio(s);
3. The immediate strategic priorities for recovery for the portfolio(s) extracted from the draft Council Plan for 2020/21; and
4. The set of revised performance indicator targets for the portfolio(s) for 2020/21.

This report provides the Committee with the latest update on the above recovery documents.

### Recommendations

1	That the Committee considers and supports the progress made to support Recovery Strategy by the Streetscene and Transportation portfolio.
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## REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EMERGENCY RECOVERY
1.01	<p>The Council has developed a corporate Recovery Strategy for the pandemic emergency situation. The Strategy covers:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The chronology of the emergency response phase and transition to recovery</li><li>2. The handover arrangements or recovery</li><li>3. Organisational recovery of the corporate organisation</li><li>4. Community recovery of the communities we serve</li><li>5. Strategic priorities and performance for the remainder of 2020/21</li><li>6. The roles the Council will play in regional recovery</li><li>7. The democratic governance of recovery</li></ol>
1.02	<p>The development of the Recovery Strategy been led by the Chief Executive and Leader and overseen by a cross-party Member Recovery Board. The Board, which was an advisory sub-committee of Cabinet, has completed its work and has stood down. Cabinet endorsed the Recovery Strategy at a special meeting on 15 September.</p>
1.03	<p>Cabinet invited each of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees to support recovery in their respective portfolio areas, and specifically to have oversight of:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The portfolio risk register(s) and the risk mitigation actions both live and planned;</li><li>2. The objectives for recovery for the portfolio(s);</li><li>3. The immediate strategic priorities for recovery for the portfolio(s) extracted from the draft Council Plan for 2020/21; and</li><li>4. The set of revised performance indicator targets for the portfolio(s) for 2020/21.</li></ol>
1.04	<p>The latest version of the risk register (Appendix 1) and table of risk mitigations (Appendix 2) for the Streetscene and Transportation portfolio are attached.</p>
1.05	<p>An update on the recovery objectives for the Streetscene and Transportation portfolio is shown below:</p> <p><b>Streetscene and Transportation</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Consolidate the Streetscene working standards at pre-COVID levels</li></ol> <p><b>Update March 2021.</b> Despite higher than normal absence levels due to sickness, shielding and isolation, the service continues to work towards achievement of all the previously member approved Streetscene Standards. Preparations are in place to commence the summer grounds maintenance operations which start in March. The flooding and snow in January has delayed some operations and the work to clear gullies and drainage systems on the network, that were silted up as a result of the flooding, are still on-going.</p>

2. Return workforce to standardised hours to ensure effective use of available resource.

**Update March 2021.** The waste staff returned to a 3 day working pattern (12.33 hours per shift) in January. This was due to the increased volume of waste and recycling (residual waste up by 7% and recycling by 25%) and to reduce the cross contamination across workforce bubbles. The arrangement will be viewed on 22 March with the crews returning their normal shift patterns on Monday 12 April, if COVID levels have fallen to an acceptable level.

3. Manage the recovery of the local bus network across the County while developing sustainable transport methods (Local travel Arrangements; Demand Responsive Services).

**Update March 2021.** The service is supporting the delivery of local transport arrangements across the County however, it is set against a backdrop of low utilisation levels and reducing commercial services on some routes.

4. Enable the recovery of waste and recycling performance through education, behavioural change campaigns and enhanced enforcement.

**Update March 2021.** Recycling quantities, in common with all other waste streams, have significantly increased since the start of the pandemic as more people work from home. Overall recycling percentages have however fallen due to the closure of Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) during the early stages of the emergency. The suspension of side-waste enforcement has again been extended however, we continue to monitor excessive quantities and advisory letters are being sent to the residents in such properties. The Council achieved the latest WG recycling target of 64% in 2019/20 - we achieved 66% which was 2% below the previous year's figure.

5. Develop Household Recycling Centres, working in partnership with charitable organisations to develop site "adoption" principles, to encourage re-use and recycling.

**Update March 2021.** Discussions with interested charities have been put on hold due to the difficulties in allowing volunteers to attend the sites, due to the current travel restrictions. No change

6. Progress the development of waste infrastructure to support increased recycling potential.

**Update March 2021.** The project to develop Standard Industrial Estate Waste Transfer Station is progressing, with funding approved for 2020/21 with the balance required in 2021/22. Construction work is expected to commence in March 2021, however, to speed up the construction period, the Standard site ceased to operate during early December to allow the demolition and contract preparation work to commence. A plan to improve the facilities at the waste treatment plant in Greenfield has also received Capital funding and work is ongoing at the site, with a completion date of August 2021.

7. Deliver the in-year Welsh Government (WG) funded transport schemes

	<p><b>Update March 2021.</b> All of the WG funded projects are on-track to complete within the Welsh Government funding window. No change</p> <p>8. Develop initiatives to increase active travel (walking; cycling) for localised journeys linking to town centre to support recovery.</p> <p><b>Update March 2021.</b> The Council has been successful in the bid for significant WG stimulus funding to support town centre regeneration. All of the schemes include Active Travel infrastructure at their core. No change</p> <p>9. Maintain the highway network during the winter period</p> <p><b>Update March 2021.</b> The network suffered significant damage as a result of the flooding and snowfall in January. A number of landslips and road collapses occurred across the County which are being repaired or contracts are being put in place for the necessary repair works, which will take place during the early summer. Contracts to repair the potholes have been also been put in place with the work now on-going. The winter maintenance arrangements which dealt with adverse weather conditions, operated satisfactorily and ensured the Council delivered its statutory responsibilities in this respect.</p>
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<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	There are no specific resource implications from this report. The service is experiencing additional costs across a number of service areas, which are being claimed through WG funding bids.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
3.01	None specific as this report is based on documented response and recovery work.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
4.01	This report specifically covers emergency situation risk management.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Appendix 1 - The latest version of the risk register Appendix 2 - Risk mitigation actions

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	<p><b>Contact Officer:</b> Stephen Jones  <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 704700  <b>E-mail:</b> stephen.o.jones@flintshire.gov.uk</p>