

Date: 4 July 2022

The logo for Eden District Council features the word "Eden" in a large, elegant, serif font. A stylized, wavy line is positioned above the letter 'E', extending across the width of the word.

District Council

Town Hall, Penrith, Cumbria CA11 7QF

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Dear Sir/Madam

Finance Scrutiny Committee Agenda - 12 July 2022

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Finance Scrutiny Committee will be held at 6.45 pm on Tuesday, 12 July 2022 in The Council Chamber, Town Hall, Corney Place, Penrith, CA11 7QF.

Please note: if you would like to attend this meeting, we request that you contact Democratic Services to let us know. Contact details are below*. We would also request that wherever possible, those attending continue to wear face coverings and practice hand sanitising measures. This is due to ongoing concerns in relation to the Covid pandemic.

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Minutes

To sign the minutes FSc/27/2/22 to FSc/36/2/22 of the meeting of this Committee held on the 8th February 2022 as a correct record of those proceedings (copies previously circulated).

3 Declarations of Interest

To receive any declarations of the existence and nature of any private interests, both disclosable pecuniary and any other registrable interests, in any matter to be considered or being considered.

4 Terms of Reference and Proposed Business for the Municipal Year 2022/23 (Pages 5 - 10)

To consider the attached report DoR54/22 of the Interim Director of Resources, which seeks to set out the Finance Scrutiny Committee Terms of Reference and highlight the proposed business for the Committee for the municipal year 2022/23.

RECOMMENDED that the Finance Scrutiny Committee notes the report.

5 Inspiring Eden Update (Pages 11 - 52)

To consider the attached report DCE40/22 of the Assistant Director Development, which seeks to provide an update to the Finance Scrutiny Committee regarding the

Inspiring Eden Project.

RECOMMENDED that the Finance Scrutiny Committee reviews the report and raises any questions for both consideration and response.

6 Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) – Finance Theme Update
(Pages 53 - 78)

To consider the attached report DoR56/22 of the Interim Director of Resources, which seeks to update the Finance Scrutiny Committee on the current position and proposals for the Finance theme of Local Government Reorganisation.

RECOMMENDED that the Finance Scrutiny Committee notes the report.

7 Gazprom Update (Pages 79 - 82)

To consider the attached report DoR53/22 of the Interim Director of Resources, which seeks to update the Finance Scrutiny Committee on the position regarding the Council's contract with Gazprom and present the latest on the changes in ownership and control within the company.

RECOMMENDED that the Finance Scrutiny Committee notes the report.

8 Work Programme 2022/23 (Pages 83 - 86)

To consider the attached report DoR55/22 of the Interim Director of Resources, which seeks to consider and approve the Finance Scrutiny Committee's work programme 2022/23.

RECOMMENDED that the Finance Scrutiny Committee note and approve the work programme.

9 Any Other Items Which the Chair Decides are urgent

10 Date of Next Scheduled Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of this Committee be confirmed as Tuesday, 13th September 2022 at 6.45 p.m.

Yours faithfully,



I Frost
Interim Chief Executive

*Democratic Services Contact: Email: cttee.admin@eden.gov.uk
or telephone: 01768 212266

Encs

For Attention

All members of the Council

Chair – Councillor P Dew (Conservative Group)

Vice Chair – Councillor D Ryland (Independent Group)

Councillors

G Nicolson OBE, Conservative Group

P G Baker, Liberal Democrat Group

N McCall, Liberal Democrat Group

W Patterson, Independent Alliance Group

D Wicks, Conservative Group

R Burgin, Liberal Democrat Group

S Lancaster, Independent Group

Standing Deputies

E Martin, Independent Group

C Atkinson, Conservative Group

D Banks, Independent Alliance Group

R Briggs, Conservative Group

L Harker, Liberal Democrat Group

D Holden, Liberal Democrat Group

A Meadowcroft, Conservative Group

G Simpkins, Liberal Democrat Group

M Clark, Independent Group

Please Note: Under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 this meeting has been advertised as a public meeting (unless stated otherwise) and as such could be filmed or recorded by the media or members of the public

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Report No: DoR54/22

**Eden District Council
Finance Scrutiny Committee**

12 July 2022

**Terms of Reference and Proposed Business for the
Municipal Year**

Portfolio:	All Portfolios
Report from:	Interim Director of Resources
Wards:	All Wards
OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To set out the Finance Scrutiny Committee Terms of Reference and highlight the proposed business for the Committee for the municipal year 2022/23.

2 Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee note the report.

3 Report Details

- 3.1 The Finance Scrutiny Committee (previously named Budget Planning Committee) was set up in April 2020 from the recommendation of the Budget Scrutiny Group approved by Full Council in February 2020.
- 3.2 The main role of the Finance Scrutiny Committee in previous years has been to consider the Medium Term Financial Strategy and undertake scrutiny on the budget setting process.
- 3.3 Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) means those activities will not need to be undertaken for EDC this year.
- 3.4 The Shadow Authority is responsible for the strategy and budget setting and has its own scrutiny committees for overseeing the process. It is however proposed to bring regular informal reports outlining the work that the Finance Theme Board is undertaking as a way of updating the Committee on progress through the LGR process.
- 3.5 This report sets out the terms of reference for the Committee setting out the key business for the municipal year along with a short commentary.

Terms of Reference

- 3.6 There is no need to amend the Terms of Reference as *Oversee the implementation of any financial reform that will significantly affect the Council* is one of the roles of this Committee. The Terms of Reference are attached at Appendix 1.
- 3.7 The Terms of Reference for Budget Monitoring, Treasury Management and the proposal for LGR are explained below:

Budget Monitoring for 22/23

- 3.8 Budget monitoring reports are produced on a quarterly basis and set out the year to date and projected outturn for both revenue and capital budgets.
- 3.9 Monitoring and management of budgets is key to ensure that expenditure is as anticipated or to understand the reasons where budgets have major variances.
- 3.10 The first quarter's monitoring will be presented to the Committee in September.

Treasury Management

- 3.11 The treasury management function is fundamental to the council's budget and financial control.
- 3.12 There are two statutory reports presented each year for treasury management. The annual report, which is presented to Council in February along with the budget, and a mid-year report, presented to Council in October/November.
- 3.13 The annual report looks forward at the strategy for the upcoming year and as such the report in February will be the responsibility of the new Council.
- 3.14 The mid-year report considers the performance in the first half of the year on Treasury Management and whether any material changes are required to the Strategy or Plan. This will be presented to this Committee in October.

Local Government Reorganisation

- 3.15 The plan is to bring informal progress update reports from the work being undertaken by the Finance Theme Board.

4 Policy Framework

- 4.1 The Council has four corporate priorities which are:
- Sustainable;
 - Healthy, safe and secure;
 - Connected; and
 - Creative

- 4.2 This report meets sustainable corporate priority

5 Consultation

- 5.1 The Terms of Reference have been developed in accordance with the resolution of Full Council on 27 February 2020. No further consultation has taken place.

6 Implications

6.1 Financial and Resources

- 6.1.1 Any decision to reduce or increase resources or alternatively increase income must be made within the context of the Council's stated priorities, as set out in its Council Plan 2019-2023 as agreed at Council on 7 November 2019.
- 6.1.2 There are no proposals in this report that would reduce or increase resources.

6.2 Legal

6.2.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

6.3 Human Resources

6.3.1 There are no human resource implications.

6.4 Environmental

6.4.1 Printing of meeting agendas and travel to meetings will create an environmental impact. No other implications arising from this report.

6.5 Statutory Considerations

Consideration:	Details of any implications and proposed measures to address:
Equality and Diversity	None arising from this report
Health, Social Environmental and Economic Impact	None arising from this report
Crime and Disorder	None arising from this report
Children and Safeguarding	None arising from this report

6.6 Risk Management

Risk	Consequence	Controls Required
Reputational risk to Council – scrutiny of the Council's budget is a vital part of transparent governance	Inadequate Terms of Reference could undermine public confidence in the effectiveness of the Council	Approval by the Full Council

7 Other Options Considered

7.1 No other options were considered

8 Reasons for the Decision/Recommendation

8.1 To set out the Terms of Reference for the Committee and to provide a framework for the Finance Scrutiny Committee which will enable strategic oversight of the Council's Budget.

Tracking Information

Governance Check	Date Considered
Chief Finance Officer (or Deputy)	29 June 2022
Monitoring Officer (or Deputy)	4 July 2022
Relevant Assistant Director	N/A

Background Papers: **None**

Appendices: **Appendix 1 – Budget Planning Committee Terms of Reference**

Contact Officer: **Paul Sutton, Interim Director of Resources**

Finance Scrutiny Committee – Terms of Reference

9 Members

The Finance Scrutiny Committee will consist of nine Members, and will have responsibility for overseeing the Council's budget and treasury management functions throughout the year. This will include responsibility for scrutinising the Council's Budget and Budget preparation process. This Committee will meet at least quarterly.

Terms of Reference

The Finance Scrutiny Committee is a committee of Council and will make recommendations to the Cabinet as appropriate within its terms of reference.

The Committee will:

- Provide strategic overview of all matters that could significantly impact upon the finances of the authority
- Oversee the implementation of any financial reform that will significantly affect the Council
- Consider the impact of business and housing growth in the district and estimate the financial impact of such growth;
- Be responsible for supporting and scrutinising the budget setting strategy and process for:
 - the general fund
 - capital programme
 - assets
 - treasury management
 - reserves
 - investments
 - recommending the Committee's preferred option, for formal considerations by Cabinet, in light of the Council's stated priorities
- Consider quarterly revenue and capital budget monitoring reports;
- Consider the medium term planning horizon, including the Council's medium term financial strategy and plan

- Consider how the Council respond to changes in the way the council is funded, value for money and other legislative initiatives and reforms;
- Innovate and challenge the way the Council manages its budget and financial affairs.

Report No: DCE40/22

Eden District Council
Finance Scrutiny Committee
12 July 2022

Inspiring Eden Project

Portfolio:	Economy & Enterprise
Report from:	Assistant Director Development
Wards:	All Wards
OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	

1 Purpose

- 1.1 Finance Scrutiny Committee have asked to scrutinise the Inspiring Eden Project.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee review the Inspiring Eden Update Report provided to Cabinet for their meeting on 27 June and raise any questions they have for consideration and response.

3 Report Details

Background

- 3.1 On 27 June 2022, Cabinet considered an update report on Inspiring Eden, this is attached at Appendix 1. They will also consider an update report at the Cabinet meeting on 19 July 2022.
- 3.2 The Inspiring Eden Programme seeks to support local businesses and drive economic prosperity in the area. It aims to do this by bringing together considering 14 workstreams (including Business Support; Sector Plan Rural Economy; Town Centre Plans; A66 Dualling). Each workstream will have its own vision brought together under one vision of rural excellence and with funding sought under the programme as a whole.

Funding Stream Opportunities

- 3.3 As part of the funding of Corporate Priorities in 22/23, the council approved a budget of £760k for the Economic Development Framework in 22/23 through the approval of the Quarter 2 Monitoring, Revised Budget and MTFP approved by Council on 25 November 2021 (£20k also approved for 21/22).
- 3.4 EDC has an opportunity to draw down its share of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund of £1,990,203 on submitting an investment plan by 1 August 2022.
- 3.5 EDC has the opportunity to bid for round 2 of Levelling Up Fund by submitting a bid by 6 July 2022. The bid is expected to be around £8m.
- 3.5 Through the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal, £50m has been committed by UK and Scottish Governments to the Borderlands Place Programme. This will target investment in places that will help boost economic activity across

the region and recognises the importance smaller rural market towns – like Penrith – play in the local economy. EDC are working with a range of local and strategic partners to develop the Penrith Town Plan. The next step will be to develop an investment plan to seek draw down of funding from the Growth Deal. This is expected to be around £3m.

Current Strengths/Opportunities of the Programme

- 3.6 EDC is currently developing a comprehensive pipeline/programme of projects to put Eden in a strong position going into Westmorland and Furness Council.
- 3.7 The bringing together of projects under the umbrella of Inspiring Eden Programme has created a strong policy position which is gaining momentum
- 3.8 There is a strong emerging pipeline and interest from local and strategic partners demonstrated via Inspiring Eden's Expression of Interest process where we have received 105 expressions of interest so far.

Current Challenges of the Programme

- 3.9 The Capability and Capacity within EDC to secure funding and develop and run projects (against ambition) within the timeframes of LGR is restricted due to the resources levels especially on the project delivery side.
- 3.10 The Programme works across a very complex landscape, especially working jointly with LGR partners.
- 3.11 Potential loss/lack of focus on economic development agenda post LGR.

Compliance with Prospectus

- 3.12 A prospectus covering the whole of the Inspiring Eden Programme has been published and can be found at Appendix B.
- 3.13 To ensure compliance with the prospectus the following governance arrangements have been put in place:
 - a) Regular reviews against an Inspiring Eden Monitoring Framework (based on workstreams) with the Portfolio Holder
 - b) Regular updates to Cabinet seeking decisions as required
 - c) Monthly reviews with partners via various working groups
 - d) Development of an Economic Development Service Plan (currently a working draft) to drive and focus individual and team work around Inspiring Eden's work streams

4 Policy Framework

- 4.1 The Council has four corporate priorities which are:
 - Sustainable;
 - Healthy, safe and secure;
 - Connected; and
 - Creative
- 4.2 The Inspiring Eden report itself will meet all four corporate priorities, however the purpose of this report is to scrutinize the financial elements and hence meets the sustainable corporate priority.

5 Consultation

- 5.1 The Portfolio Holder for Economies and Enterprise have been consulted on the report to Cabinet and Cabinet have received regular updates on the Inspiring Eden Programme.

6 Implications

6.1 Financial and Resources

- 6.1.1 Any decision to reduce or increase resources or alternatively increase income must be made within the context of the Council's stated priorities, as set out in its Council Plan 2019-2023 as agreed at Council on 7 November 2019.
- 6.1.2 There are no proposals in this report that would reduce or increase resources.
- 6.1.3 The nature of this report is to provide scrutiny on the financial matters of the Inspiring Eden Programme.

6.2 Legal

- 6.2.1 There are no legal implications of this scrutiny report.

6.3 Human Resources

- 6.3.1 There are no human resource implications to this scrutiny report.

6.4 Environmental

- 6.4.1 There are no environmental implications to this scrutiny report.

6.5 Statutory Considerations

Consideration:	Details of any implications and proposed measures to address:
Equality and Diversity	No implications.
Health, Social Environmental and Economic Impact	No implications.
Crime and Disorder	No implications.
Children and Safeguarding	No implications.

6.6 Risk Management

Risk	Consequence	Controls Required
Risk that the opportunities available to EDC are not maximised	EDC are not successful in receiving funding	The Inspiring Eden programme has sufficient resource to bid/apply for the funds available. Cabinet received regular reports on the progress of the programme.
Risk that the funding	The funding is allocated	Members approve the

Risk	Consequence	Controls Required
available to EDC is not utilised in the best manner for the community	to projects that do not maximise the benefit to the community	allocation of funds received to projects meeting criteria that maximise the likely benefit to the community.

7 Other Options Considered

7.1 No other options were considered.

8 Reasons for the Decision/Recommendation

8.1 To ensure financial scrutiny of the Inspiring Eden Programme.

Tracking Information

Governance Check	Date Considered
Chief Finance Officer (or Deputy)	N/A
Monitoring Officer (or Deputy)	N/A
Relevant Assistant Director	1 July 2022

Background Papers: Inspiring Eden Webpage: <http://investineden.co.uk/why-eden/inspiring-eden/>

Appendices: Appendix A - Inspiring Eden – Update Report to Cabinet on 27 June 2022

Appendix B - Inspiring Eden Prospectus

Contact Officer: Greg Macdonald, Interim Economic Development Manager

Report No: DCE34/22

Eden District Council

Cabinet

27 June 2022

Inspiring Eden – Update

Portfolio:	Economy and Enterprise
Report from:	Assistant Director Development
Wards:	All Wards
OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	

1 Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to present, for noting and approval:

- Updates on consultations on four Inspiring Eden work streams prospectuses (Visitor Economy, Business Support, Business Charter and Rural Economy) as the basis for producing the final versions for publication.
- An update on Inspiring Eden Expressions of Interest process and next steps.
- Proposal for inclusion in the Inspiring Eden Levelling Up Fund (LUF) Round 2 bid as the basis for finalising a bid for submission on 6 July 2022.
- An update on the Eden Investment Plan to draw down Eden's share of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF - £1,990,203) as the basis for submission on 1 August 2022.
- Governance arrangements for Inspiring Eden to enable sign off for LUF and UKSPF investment plan as required by Government guidance.
- Penrith Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.
- Extension of contract limit for current Inspiring Eden Project Management Consultant.

1.2 The Report also provides a progress update on the Inspiring Eden Delivery Programme and associated activity.

1.3 As well as driving local economic recovery and prosperity Inspiring Eden will ensure Eden District Council is well placed to shape the economic policy focus and associated work streams as part of both the local government reorganisation process across Cumbria and the national review of local enterprise partnerships.

2 Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. The updates to the work stream prospectuses, as detailed in Section 3.2 of this report, are approved with authority delegated to the Assistant

- Director Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economy and Enterprise, to finalise the documents ready for publication.
2. The proposal for inclusion in the Inspiring Eden Levelling up Bid, as detailed in Section 3.4 of this report, is approved with authority delegated to the Assistant Director Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economy and Enterprise, to finalise and submit the Bid by the deadline on 6 July.
 3. Progress on the development of the Inspiring Eden UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment plan, as detailed in Section 3.5 of this report, is noted and authority delegated to the Assistant Director Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economy and Enterprise, to finalise and submit the investment plan by the deadline on 1 August.
 4. The governance arrangements for the Inspiring Eden UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Levelling up proposals, as detailed in Section 3.6 of this report including the nominations of members to represent the Council, are approved.
 5. The Penrith Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan, as detailed in Appendix 3 to this report, is endorsed with authority delegated to the Assistant Director Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economy and Enterprise, to agree Eden District Council's input into the finalisation and delivery of the Plan.
 6. Agree a contract extension of up to a further £30,000 beyond the current £60k limit for the current Inspiring Eden Project Management contract.

3 Report Details

3.1 Inspiring Eden Work Stream Prospectus Consultation

3.1.1 Inspiring Eden is being developed around the following family of documents (which can be added to if /as required):

- **State of the District Report** – To be produce in autumn 2022
- **Economic Prospectus** – Published in January 2022
- **Work Streams Prospectuses** – To be produced through 2022
- **Annual Economic Report** – To be produce in autumn 2022

3.1.2 Inspiring Eden has established a clear policy position and direction of travel to galvanise the Council and it partners behind their collective response to current economic factors with a particular focus on the impact of the pandemic, Brexit, emerging national rural and environmental agendas and the opportunities presented in shaping an economy underpinned by decarbonisation. The flexibility of this approach will enable the policy focus and direction of travel to pivot as required to unlock the full potential of local and strategic capacity, capability and associated resources. It will also provide a clear direction for the new unitary authority in respect of economic development ambitions for Eden which could be applied on the wider geography of the new authority.

3.1.3 Inspiring Eden will support delivery of the Council's Corporate Plan, other relevant policies (such as the local plan) and the Local Industrial Strategy as well as national agendas regarding productivity, entrepreneurship and rebalancing the economy along with best practice around economic development.

3.2 Inspiring Work Stream Prospectuses

3.2.1 Consultations has been undertaken for the following four Inspiring Eden work stream prospectuses:

- Visitor Economy
- Business Support
- Business Charter
- Rural Economy

3.2.2 Given the extensive stakeholder engagement already undertaken before this final round of consultations, the main thrust of responses was support and the need to focus on delivery. The only substantive proposed change is to embed the emerging Rural Enterprise, Arts and Culture Hub (REACH) theme across all Inspiring Eden policy and delivery documents. This theme has emerged from discussions around LUF, the ambition to unlock the full potential that arts and culture can bring to driving enterprise and entrepreneurship and contribute to achieving rural excellence. It is considered that this focus will help Eden stand out as a district at the forefront of grasping the levelling up challenges and opportunities facing rural communities and economies.

3.2.3 It is proposed that the Inspiring Eden Enterprise Hub (detailed in 3.4 below) is developed as a platform for delivering REACH and, for this reason, is recognised as a priority project and catalyst for achieving and driving forward the ambitions set out in the Inspiring Eden Economic Prospectus and associated work streams.

3.2.4 The other work stream prospectuses will be produced over the coming months and presented to Cabinet for approval following consultation.

3.3 Update on Development of Inspiring Eden Levelling Up Programme

3.3.1 To date 96 Inspiring Eden Expressions of Interest (EOI) have been received which are currently being evaluated to help develop a comprehensive pipeline and programme of projects to:

- Inform the LUF Round 2 Bid – Analysis has highlighted that only the REACH Inspiring Eden Enterprise Hub met all the necessary criteria (especially with regards to deliverability) – see Section 3.4 below;
- Inform the production of the UKSPF Investment plan over the coming weeks around a range of interventions; see Section 3.5 below. This will include working in partnership with South Lakeland District Council, Barrow Borough Council and Cumbria County Council to develop a joined up approach;
- Inform the production of other bids and investment plans including the current Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal for Penrith; and

- Produce an Inspiring Eden Levelling Up Prospectus to describe and present the overarching Inspiring Eden Programme and how the EOIs will be moved forward to support project development and delivery.

3.3.2 The evaluation of the EOIs will include an assessment of each project against strategic fit, value for money and deliverability along with a recommendation as to next steps which will include (not an exhaustive list):

- Being invited to complete a full application towards being considered for inclusion in funding bids or investment plans;
- Signposting to existing programmes to seek support e.g. Greening Eden Business Grants, Inspiring Eden Apprenticeship Grants and Inspiring Eden Welcome back Fund;
- Provision of project support to develop the project to a position where it could be considered ready for completing a full application; and
- Consideration for new local government arrangements post 1 April 2023.

3.4 Inspiring Eden Levelling Up Fund (LUF) Bid

3.4.1 Following an assessment of current proposals via the Inspiring Eden Expression of Interest process, the focus for the Inspiring Eden Levelling Up Bid will be REACH and the Inspiring Eden Enterprise Hub (IEEH), which will form the basis of a final bid for submission by 6 July 2022. The total value of the bid is £8 million with £7.2 sought from the LUF with the remainder being met by the landowner and the existing Inspiring Eden budget.

3.4.2 The IEEH will be a purpose built state of the art modern enterprise facility providing a mix of office, studio, workshop and collaborative spaces and strategically located north of Penrith at the junction of the A6 and B5305 leading to Junction 41 of the M6; see Appendix 1 for location of site. It will be built to the highest sustainability standards and provide an exemplar for commercial development across the wider area. A full feasibility study is underway and will be completed in time to support the bid. Initial analysis (which will be firmed up over the coming weeks) indicates that the key elements of the IEEH will include:

- Easy in/out terms to support new business start-ups and business acceleration across all sectors with a particular focus on creative, arts, and knowledge based businesses all driving rural excellence across Eden and the wider economy, generating up to an estimated 80 new businesses, 500 new jobs and £20m of economic benefits in the first 10 years of operation;
- A hub for local business support services from which to consolidate the existing offers and provide targeted outreach support to a range of locations across the whole district, thereby maximising the impact of business support to drive levelling up, economic recovery and prosperity;
- A live demonstration project to provide a living lab on how to shape and deliver strategic projects to drive economic recovery and prosperity in a rural economy;
- A collaboration space for nurturing cross sector and academia / business working to unlock the full potential of knowledge exchanges and transfers;

- A landing pad for inward investment to provide a base for forward teams to locate and plan and deliver the required accommodation, support and infrastructure required; this could be either on the same site as the Inspiring Eden Enterprise Hub or other sites across the district; and
- Providing a strategic hub to support the work of Lancaster University, the University of Cumbria and other academic research organisations in developing the opportunities offered by the M6 Cyber and Digital Corridor.

3.4.3 Discussions with the land owner Rayner Rowen Construction are well advanced and they have committed to providing the 2 acres required for the development of the IEEH. The partnering arrangements will be confirmed over the coming months ready for mobilisation this autumn; this will include exploring the option of EDC acquiring the site. The indicative timeframe for project development and delivery, subject to the outcome of LUF bid, is as follows:

- **April to July 2022** – Development of concept and submission of LUF bid
- **July to October 2022** – Confirmation of the position of the land with Rayner Rowen Construction and development of mobilisation timetable
- **September to November 2022** – Appointment of Project Manager/ Quantity Surveyor consultants to act as EDC's agents
- **November to February 2023** – Appoint of delivery team (Architect, Structural and Civil Engineer & Principal Designer)
- **February to September 2023** – Securing detailed planning permission
- **May to October 2023** – Procure main contractor
- **October to March 2024** – Procure operator
- **November 2023 to October 2024** – Construction
- **October to March 2024** – Procure contractor
- **December 2024** – Open

3.4.4 The bid will need to be signed off by the local and strategic partners which will be done via the Inspiring Eden governance arrangements which are currently being put in place; see section 3.6 below.

3.5 Inspiring Eden UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan

3.5.1 Eden's UKSPF investment plan will be developed around the following key themes as detailed in Government Guidance:

- Community and Place
- Supporting Local Business
- People and skills

3.5.2 The detailed interventions will be worked up in more detail as part of the final Investment Plan following the full assessment of the Inspiring Eden Expressions of Interest.

3.5.3 The investment plan and associated proposed interventions are being developed in partnership with Barrow Borough Council, South Lakeland District Council and Cumbria County Council so as to develop a common approach and enable a smooth transition as part of the local government reorganisation process. It is important to note that each district council will still

produce their own investment plan. To aid this common approach all three councils have agreed to appoint the same consultants (Hatch) to coordinate their respective plans.

- 3.5.4 The investment plan will need to be signed off by the local and strategic partners which will be done via the Inspiring Eden governance arrangements which are currently being put in place; see section 3.6 below.
- 3.5.5 Once the investment plans and associated interventions are developed, they require approval from by the respective Cabinets and the Westmorland and Furness Shadow Authority; EDC Cabinet will be on 19 July and the W&F Council meeting will be on the 22 July in time for submission of the final plans by the 1 August deadline. Following submission, work will begin to put in place the mechanisms to identify and secure delivery partners to drive implementation. Government guidance suggests this will can be done via a combination of commissioning, procurement and in house provision. It is currently envisaged that for the most part a commissioning approach will be adopted; this will be confirmed within the final investment plans.

3.6 Inspiring Eden Governance Arrangements

- 3.6.1 It is important that proposals developed via the LUF, UKSPF and other initiatives such as Borderlands are considered and shaped by local and strategic stakeholders and, although approved via the local authority, are also signed off by representatives from local and strategic partners (this is stipulated in Government Guidance for the UKSPF).
- 3.6.2 Appendix 2 details the current governance arrangements including proposals (with draft terms of references for Programme Board) for new boards including:
 - An Inspiring Eden Programme Board made of EDC members to ensure member oversight of emerging Eden programme and projects.
 - A Strategic Oversight Board (covering Eden, South Lakes and Barrow) which will include a number of local and strategic representative from across all sectors.
- 3.6.3 Given the position of local government reorganisation it is proposed that this Strategic Oversight Board is convened at Westmorland and Furness level to support a cohesive approach and smooth transition post vesting day.
- 3.6.4 To support these governance arrangements members are asked to nominate the Leader and Deputy Leader (and any other members as appropriate) as EDC representatives on the Programme and Strategic Oversight Boards.
- 3.6.5 It is important to note that these emerging bids and plans will also need to be considered by the Westmorland and Furness Shadow Authority; these arrangements are currently being considered and put in place.

3.7 Penrith Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan

- 3.7.1 Appendix 3 details the Penrith Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (2022 – 2037) as the basis for endorsement. The key points to note are:
 - The Cumbria Transport Infrastructure Plan (2022 – 2037) sets out the strategy for Active Travel in Cumbria which includes the development of

Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP). The Council has committed to the development of a series of LCWIP. The methodology for LCWIP is developed by the Department for Transport (DfT) as part of the national Cycling and Walking Investment Plan. DfT funding for local cycling and walking schemes will be dependent upon the schemes inclusion in a LCWIP, with infrastructure to be designed in line with the DfT Cycle Infrastructure Design guide issued in July 2020.

- The LCWIP for Penrith, outlines the network of key cycling and walking routes in the district. The focus of the Penrith LCWIP is the improvement of routes used for everyday shorter journeys, such as to work, school or the shops. It aims to identify good quality infrastructure that connects the places people need to get to, in a coherent, direct, safe and attractive way.
- Recognising that it is not always possible to connect everywhere and that funding for delivery needs to be secured, the Penrith LCWIP focuses on the routes where the most benefits can be realised. Support for walking and cycling infrastructure usually increases further once it is built and people are using it. Over time these priorities can be built on to deliver a more extensive network to encourage and support a step change in the number of people cycling and walking.
- The Penrith LCWIP is a not a funded plan however, having an LCWIP in place will put the Council in the best possible position to secure future funding for the delivery of improvements.
- Public consultation on the draft LCWIP proposals was undertaken in July and August 2021. During this consultation the draft priority network for cycling was presented. Feedback was sought on the existing barriers to cycling and walking and what improvements could be made to encourage more everyday short journeys to be undertaken by active travel. The consultation received a total of 209 questionnaire responses. Through the consultation it was established that 91% of respondents welcomed more money being spent on cycling and walking in Penrith and 57% felt the proposals in the Penrith LCWIP would encourage them to cycle or walk more often.
- A second round of public consultation took place in February 2022, presenting the updated priority cycling and walking networks reflecting the feedback received in the first consultation. 58 responses were received, showing the same strong desire for future investment in cycling and walking infrastructure.

3.8 Inspiring Eden Project Management Support Contract

- 3.8.1 Approval is being sought to extend payments by up to £30k beyond the existing limit of £60k for consultancy support for the Inspiring Eden delivery programme. This support was initially contracted in February 2021 to support COVID grant delivery and has been extended on 4 times to continue this support and help drive the design and development of the Inspiring Eden programme. Further support is critical for designing, developing and driving the Inspiring Eden Delivery Programme up to 31 March 2023.

3.9 Inspiring Eden Delivery Programme Progress Update

3.9.1 The key updates on the Inspiring Eden Delivery Programme are as follows:

- **Business Support** – Business support continues with a range of offers to meet the current and emerging needs of businesses with a particular focus on free memberships for business networks and targeted support for new start businesses. A successful Inspiring Eden Business Breakfast event was held jointly with the Cumbria Chamber of Commerce on 27 May as the first in a series of events over the coming months.
- **Sites and Premises** – Work is underway to assess the viability of developing a strategic employment site around junction 41 of the M6. This is being complemented by feasibility work for the provision of an Inspiring Eden Enterprise Hub (as mentioned above as part of REACH) to nurture and support local enterprise and entrepreneurship across all sectors with a focus on knowledge transfer between sectors.
- **Rural Economy** – Work is underway with the Farmers Network to deliver the Inspiring Eden Farmers Support and Advisory Service to provide bespoke and 1-1 assistance to local farmers.
- **Visitor Economy** – The Eden Tourism Network continues to support local visitor economy in addressing issues around recruitment and developing and promoting the local offer.
- **Skills and Employment** – The Inspiring Eden Apprenticeship scheme continues to be utilised by local business to help develop the local workforce. The Inspiring Eden Youth Hub is going from strength to strength in supporting local vulnerable young people back into training and employment.
- **Town Centres** – Work continues with a range of local partners to develop local initiatives to support the recovery of all of our local town centres. This includes a number of new markets across the district, improvements to buildings including, for example, the Moot Hall in Appleby and scoping an Inspiring Eden Hub in New Square Penrith.
- **Creative Industries** – Work is underway to drive a range of arts and culture activities across the district to unlock the full potential of local business and communities. Initial focus includes working with the Shakespeare Globe to provide a performance of their production of Julius Caesar at Penrith and Kirkby Stephen as the basis for follow on workshops in local schools and with local businesses.
- **Connectivity** – Work is underway across all areas to consider connectivity issues as the basis for developing and driving forward a range of projects with a particular focus on improving car parking provision, cycling, walking and access to broadband (noting focus on Penrith LCWIP as part of this report).
- **Circular Economy** – The roll out of the Green Eden Businesses continues with grants being offered to local businesses to assess their carbon footprints as the basis for developing and delivering actions plans.

- **A66 Dualling** – Work continues to ensure that this strategic investment benefits the local economy and communities.
- **Management** – Work is underway to put in place the necessary governance and management arrangements to support and drive delivery. This includes developing closer collaborations with partners and driving forward a bid to Government for Levelling Up Round 2 funding and developing investment plans for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal as detailed in this report.

4 Policy Framework

4.1 The Council has four corporate priorities which are:

- Sustainable;
- Healthy, safe and secure;
- Connected; and
- Creative

4.2 Inspiring Eden will help drive and support the delivery of all four corporate priorities. In particular it will:

- Support key sectors including a focus on the visitor economy and knowledge based industries;
- Drive investment into key infrastructure to improve physical and digital infrastructure;
- Focus on rural areas to provide targeted support and unlock potential and optimise our natural capital;
- Generate better employment and training opportunities to improve prosperity for all;
- Drive economic recovery to enable businesses and communities to thrive;
- Champion the decarbonisation agenda with a focus on the circular economy; and
- Contribute to spatial planning and place shaping to improve local towns as vibrant community hubs.

5 Consultation

5.1 The Portfolio Holder for Economies and Enterprise has been consulted on this report and Cabinet have received regular updates on the Inspiring Eden Programme. All relevant external stakeholders will be consulted on the initial draft of all Inspiring Eden documents before final approval and publication.

6 Implications

6.1 Financial and Resources

6.1.1 Any decision to reduce or increase resources or alternatively increase income must be made within the context of the Council's stated priorities, as set out in its Council Plan 2019-2023 as agreed at Council on 7 November 2019.

6.1.2 There are no new proposals in this report that would reduce or increase resources. Inspiring Eden will progress within current budgets, the ARG funds and £780k investment budget agreed by Council in November.

6.2 Legal

6.2.1 The provision of functions set out in this report shall be provided in accordance with relevant legal requirements including those that impact on equality and diversity and taking account of the legal duties that the Council has towards staff, residents and local businesses.

6.3 Human Resources

6.3.1 Inspiring Eden will provide the basis for driving service delivery with the newly restructured economic development team and contribute towards the One Eden initiative.

6.4 Environmental

6.4.1 Overall Inspiring Eden will have a significant positive impact on the environment as it is underpinned by an ambition to drive decarbonisation within the economy and extending sound environmental practice in the rural sector.

6.5 Statutory Considerations

Consideration:	Details of any implications and proposed measures to address:
Equality and Diversity	The Council is committed to ensuring it meets the Public Sector Equality Duty in order to provide equality of opportunity through access to services for all and delivering services which meet the needs other Council's customers. Inspiring Eden will underpin the Council's approach to supporting equality and diversity in the local community by promoting and driving economic prosperity for all.
Health, Social Environmental and Economic Impact	The Corporate Plan promotes the well-being of future generations, and the post pandemic recovery of our communities. There will be positive implications from the low carbon initiatives outlined in Inspiring Eden and benefits from on-going economic opportunities that seek to promote the growth of quality jobs as part of agenda of rebalancing the economy.
Crime and Disorder	Healthy, connected, prosperous communities will reduce the scope for crime and disorder. Inspiring Eden will promote and drive economic opportunities that seek to promote the growth of quality jobs and places which in turn should have a positive impact of crime and disorder.
Children and Safeguarding	The Council will work with other agencies to promote the well-being and safety of children and vulnerable adults. Inspiring Eden will include

Consideration:	Details of any implications and proposed measures to address:
	improving economic prosperity and outcomes for future generations which will ultimately help improve the quality of life for all including children.

6.6 Risk Management

Risk	Consequence	Controls Required
Lack of support from local and strategic partners	Inspiring Eden gains little traction and has limited impact	Engage partners in development and delivery of Inspiring Eden
Loss of focus due to local government review in Cumbria	Inspiring Eden gains little traction and has limited impact	Put in place Inspiring Eden and restructured Economic Development team to help shape and drive delivery. Ensure effective coordination of UKSPF with BBC and SLDC

7 Other Options Considered

- 7.1 The alternatives to the proposal in this report was to either do nothing (which is considered not a viable option in the current economic climate) or produce a traditional economic strategy which can take a number of years to bring forward. It is considered that in the current economic climate that an agile and flexible approach provided by Inspiring Eden is essential to support the local economy through a period of significant change resulting from the pandemic and Brexit as well as the future changes in local government across Cumbria.

8 Reasons for the Decision/Recommendation

- 8.1 To put in place an effective economic development policy and delivery framework that will drive the implementation of the Council's Corporate Plan and One Eden initiative in supporting local businesses within the current difficult economic climate and sustaining and developing this support through the local government review process.

Tracking Information

Governance Check	Date Considered
Chief Finance Officer (or Deputy)	14 June 2022
Monitoring Officer (or Deputy)	15 June 2022
Relevant Assistant Director	15 June 2022

Background Papers:

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Inspiring Eden Enterprise Hub Site

Appendix 2 Inspiring Eden Governance

**Appendix 3 Penrith Local Cycling and Walking
Infrastructure Plan**

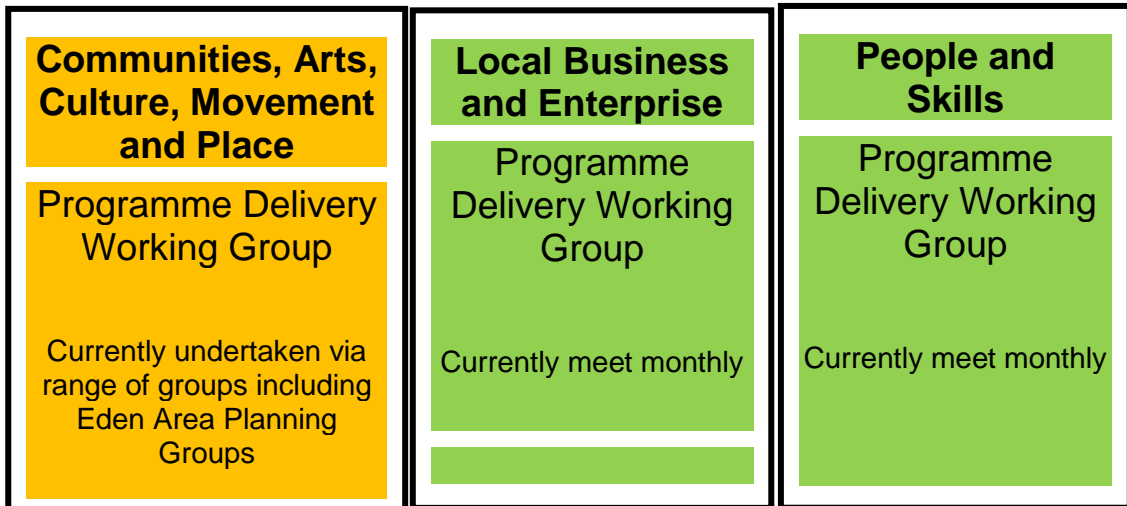
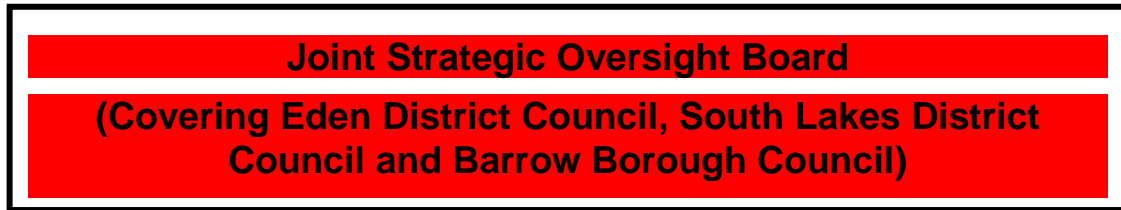
Contact Officer:

**Greg Macdonald, Interim Economic Development
Manager**

Appendix 1 – Inspiring Eden Enterprise Hub Site



Appendix 2 – Inspiring Eden Governance Arrangements



Underway / In Place

Planning Underway

Not Yet Agreed

Annex 1 – Draft Terms of References for Programme Delivery Boards

Inspiring Eden Programme Delivery Board Draft Terms of Reference	
Purpose:	
	To provide leadership and direction to the Inspiring Eden Programme Delivery Working Groups ensuring alignment with the Council's Corporate Priorities and current and emerging strategies with the aim of establishing the area as a centre of rural excellence that uplifts, diversifies and modernises the rural economy as an exemplar for rural living in a 21st Century
Objectives:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To direct the Inspiring Eden Delivery Programme to ensure delivery of policy projects and funding bids are on time, to budget and to expected quality including holding gateway meetings at critical points within the programme to ensure delivery is on track
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To report progress to the Inspiring Strategic Oversight Board
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure the focus of the Inspiring Eden Delivery Programme reflects current and emerging needs of local communities and businesses
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure effective and timely engagement of local and strategic stakeholders
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To receive reports of the Inspiring Eden Delivery Programme Delivery Working Groups and make decisions as required as basis for consideration by the Inspiring Eden Strategic Oversight Board
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To champion priority projects and work streams
Membership (Max 3):	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspiring Eden Lead for Communities, Arts, Culture, Place and Movement
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspiring Lead for Business and Enterprise
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspiring Eden Lead for People and Skills
Meetings:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings will be held every month starting early June 2022
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard agenda will be used (to be presented to and agreed at first meeting)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus will be on actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDC will provide the secretariat
Task and Finish Groups:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up task and finish groups as required to take forward particular actions
Decision Making:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All decision will be by consensus with all respective decisions relating to member organisation being taken by those organisations
Termination:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If this group agrees to close down then consideration needs to be given as to how the purpose and objectives will be taken forward

**Penrith Local
Cycling and
Walking
Infrastructure Plan
(LCWIP)
2022 - 2037**



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Foreword

I am pleased to introduce Cumbria County Council's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) for Penrith, which outlines the proposed network of key cycling and walking routes in the district. The plan will work in conjunction with our wider infrastructure plans, including the Cumbria Transport Infrastructure Plan to support transport and connectivity, which will help Cumbria to become one of the best-connected rural geographies in the UK, whilst also incorporating the growth of Cumbria and responding to climate change.

The LCWIP identifies cycling and walking improvements at a local community level and is designed to facilitate a long-term approach to developing cycling and walking networks. Encouraging people to adopt a more active lifestyle will benefit their health, but collectively this will have a positive impact on net zero carbon emissions.

This document gives a summary of the county council's goals and objectives, while sharing more specific information about the communities that we have consulted with in Penrith.

I'd like to thank all the residents, businesses, and visitors for their support and feedback on engagement and consultations to date.



Cllr Keith Little
Cumbria County Council Cabinet Member for
Highways and Transport

Our aim is to encourage more people to take up walking and cycling within Penrith, to improve connectivity and accessibility, boost health and wellbeing, and become a 'shining light' for climate action.

Through the delivery of the LCWIP we want cycling and walking to become the preferred way to travel for shorter journeys. Good infrastructure is key to achieving this and the LCWIP will ensure the right conditions are put in place to encourage people to cycle and walk more often. A coherent, direct and safe network of routes will allow our residents and visitors to explore the fantastic cultural and historic assets we have on our doorstep, as well as the stunning scenery. Additionally, we should not underestimate the role active travel will play in supporting the recovery of the economy. Through better connections and travel options, people will have access to education, training, and employment opportunities, which will contribute to a healthy, more reliable workforce.

I'm delighted with the progress that has been made through Eden Local Committee and I would also like to thank everyone who has taken the time to share their views and opinions.



Cllr Phil Dew
Cumbria County Council Chair of Eden Local
Committee

Vision and Aim

What is a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan?

A **Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)** is a document that identifies and prioritises cycling and walking improvements at a local level. It sets out an approach for developing prioritised routes over the period of the Plan (2022-2037), with the aim of **encouraging more people to make journeys on foot or by bike.**

The focus of the LCWIP is the improvement of routes used for **everyday shorter journeys**, such as to work, school or the shops. It aims to identify good quality infrastructure that connects the places people need to get to, in a coherent, direct, safe and attractive way. Recognising that it is not always possible to connect everywhere and that funding for delivery needs to be secured, the LCWIP aims to prioritise future investment where the most benefits can be realised. The LCWIP is not a funded plan. However, having an LCWIP in place will put the Council in the best possible position to secure future funding for the delivery of improvements.

The LCWIP has been developed using principles set out in the Government's first Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy, 2017. This Strategy sets out the ambition "**to make walking and cycling the natural choices for shorter journeys or as part of a longer journey**". Government guidance outlining a recommended approach for developing LCWIPs has also been followed.

The LCWIP is based on data and evidence of existing and future potential need and demand. It has also been guided throughout by effective engagement with partners, stakeholders and the public.

The LCWIP covers Penrith, with a focus on the urban centre but including links to surrounding communities such as Plumpton, Eamont Bridge and Stainton.

The LCWIP provides:


- Plans showing the most important routes for development
- Priorities and timescales for development
- A detailed evidence base to support future delivery funding bids
- A basis for securing government funding or developer contributions

Why is an LCWIP important for Penrith?

Creating Attractive Places to Live and Work

Penrith is the retail, commercial and social centre of Eden District. The district employs approximately 24,600 people, which accounts for 12% of all employment in Cumbria. The amount of businesses per head of population is above the national average reflecting the predominance of small businesses in the area and longstanding spirit of entrepreneurship. A significant proportion of Eden’s employment is concentrated in the LCWIP study area and primarily within Penrith itself. Many people live and work within a distance that can be undertaken on foot or by bike. Investment in the streets where people live or work could create more attractive and desirable places, particularly where the investment promotes sustainable modes of travel.

Responding to the Climate Crisis



Transport accounts for **27%** of the UK's greenhouse gas emissions – **61%** of this is from cars and taxis

(DTT Transport Statistics for Great Britain 2021)

Cumbria has set itself an ambitious challenge to be the first carbon-neutral county in the UK by 2037 (Cumbria Zero Carbon Partnership, 2021). De-carbonising transport is key to achieving this goal. Cycling and walking has a much lower carbon footprint compared to other forms of transport and undertaking more journeys on foot or by bike will help to tackle climate change. The LCWIP for Penrith focusses on everyday short journeys such as those to work, school and the shops, where there is the greatest potential for change.

Supporting Health, Wellbeing and Access for All

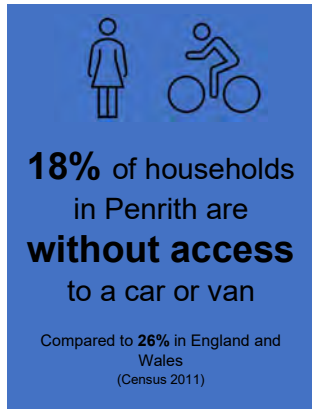
Active travel can play a crucial role in supporting public health and wellbeing. It is one of the simplest and most effective ways of enabling adults and children to meet the recommended levels of physical activity. The LCWIP for Penrith has an important role to play in promoting behavioural change. By setting out well planned networks that connect people to the places they want to go and focussing on inclusive design that ensures access for all, the LCWIP presents a real opportunity for behavioural change that will last for generations to come.



Driving Innovation and Creativity

The LCWIP will provide the basis for identifying and considering innovative and creative solutions in connectivity and how these can be utilised to meet local needs, demands and ambitions.

Improving Accessibility and Social Inclusion



Households who struggle to access employment and education opportunities, key services and facilities due to transport poverty can suffer from social exclusion. Cycling and walking are generally affordable modes of transport, accessible to most people. Enabling people to walk or cycle to the places they want to travel to can facilitate social inclusion. The LCWIP for Penrith aims to connect people to jobs, education and each other, which is especially important when other modes of transport are not available.

Improving the Tourism Offer

Cumbria is well known for the fantastic leisure cycling and walking opportunities that the landscape offers, and Penrith is a key gateway for visitors. The town is ideally located close to the Lake District National Park and rolling countryside of the Eden Valley and North Pennines. The National Park's second largest lake, Ullswater is located just 6 miles to the south-west and offers a variety of outdoor activities. The historic market town of Penrith is also a tourist destination in its own right, with a wealth of independent shops and heritage attractions such as Penrith Castle. Centre Parc's Whinfell Forest site lies on the south-eastern edge of the town along the A66 and attracts additional visitors, as well as providing local employment opportunities. The Penrith LCWIP aims to join many of these attractions together, facilitating walking and cycling trips across the town and wider connections across the A66 and M6.



Existing Context

National policy context

Gear Change: A bold vision for cycling and walking (DfT, 2020) ^[1]

Sets out the governments vision for the delivery of far higher quality cycling infrastructure. Accompanied by Local Transport Note 1/20 with new ambitious cycle design standards.

Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy (DfT, 2017) ^[2]

Aims to make active modes of transport the natural choice by 2040. Sets out the need for LCWIP to inform locally targeted investments.

Future of Mobility: Urban Strategy (DfT, 2019) ^[3]

Includes the principle that ‘walking, cycling and active travel must remain the best option for short urban journeys’.

Clean Air Strategy (DEFRA, 2019) ^[4]

A change to more sustainable modes of transport is key to delivering a reduction in emissions.

Decarbonising Transport: A Better, Greener Britain (DfT, 2021) ^[5]

Sets out the government’s commitments and actions needed to decarbonise the UK’s transport system.

Key Local Policy documents include:

- Cumbria Transport Infrastructure Plan, 2022-2037 ^[8]
- Cumbria Local Industrial Strategy, 2019 ^[10]
- Cumbria Cycling Strategy, 2017-2022 ^[11]
- Eden Local Plan, 2014-2032 ^[9]
- Economic Recovery Plan, 2020 ^[12]
- Destination Borderlands and the Borderlands Growth Deal, 2021-2031 ^[13]
- Cumbria Rural and Visitor Economy Growth Plan, 2017 ^[14]
- Inspiring Eden Economic Prospectus, 2021^[19]

National and local policy has guided and shaped the development of the Penrith LCWIP. The Plan supports key environmental, health, social, economic and sustainable mobility goals to better connect **people** and **places**.

UK Net Zero Target (2020) ^[6]

National target to bring all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050

Inclusive Transport Strategy (DfT, 2019) ^[7]

A need for inclusive infrastructure with streetscapes designed to meet the needs of all travellers.

Local policy context

There are strong levels of support for cycling and walking in existing local policy.

The **Cumbria Transport Infrastructure Plan (CTIP)**^[8] recognises the role that active travel schemes can play in improving health, access to education, employment and services and supporting the local economy. The CTIP places active travel centrally in the aim to develop a ‘Clean and Healthy Cumbria’.

The **Eden Local Plan, 2014-2032**^[9] cites cycling and walking as key mechanisms to achieve the goals outlined in several policies including:

- Policy ENV5 – Environmentally Sustainable Design
- Policy DEV3 – Transport, Accessibility and Rights of Way

The **Eden Infrastructure Delivery Plan, 2017** identifies sustainable transport schemes required to support the delivery of the Eden Local Plan. This is supplemented by the **Penrith Parking and Movements Study, 2020** which identifies packages of improvements to enhance cycling and walking connectivity.

The Eden Local Plan also sets out a number of housing and employment growth areas in Penrith which need to be considered when developing the active travel network. The main locations for housing are at Carleton to the east, and Salkeld Road, White Ox Farm and Raiselands to the north. Employment land is allocated as an extension to Gilwilly Business Park and at Skirsgill. A longer-term strategic growth opportunity is identified at Newton Rigg College.

Inspiring Eden, the district council's plan for economic recovery and prosperity, identifies connectivity and decarbonisation as key priorities for the future of Eden and to this end includes a specific work stream on Connectivity to ensure the associated opportunities and challenges are firmly grasped

Transport and placemaking schemes

Penrith is benefiting from significant investment across several transport and placemaking schemes. These schemes aim to improve the districts offer as an attractive place to live, work, study, visit and invest. They also feature improvements to connectivity by sustainable and active modes of travel. Schemes include:

A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project (NTP)

- National Highways are improving the A66 between the M6 at Penrith and the A1 at Scotch Corner.
- The project has the potential to provide direct and improved links eastward into Penrith's rural hinterland to support east-west cycling and walking trips. This could provide links from Penrith to Centre Parcs, and longer distance links to Temple Sowerby, Kirkby Thore, Appleby-in-Westmorland and beyond.

- Improvements to cycling and walking facilities at the M6 Junction 40 and Kemplay Bank roundabouts would be required to ensure that the proposals for the A66 do not act as a barrier to active travel in and around Penrith, particularly for communities to the south of Penrith in Eamont Bridge and Stainton. The routes shown on the plans will be subject to further assessment and where the route goes may change.
- The project is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) which will be considered through the Development Consent Order (DCO) regime, as prescribed by the Planning Act 2008. Cumbria County Council is a statutory consultee in this process and through the DCO process will seek to ensure that National Highways considers the likely impacts of the A66 NTP on cycling and walking and that solutions to mitigate effects are developed.

Borderlands Place Plan for Penrith

- The Borderlands Place Programme will support the development and renewal of towns across the Borderlands region through the development of Place and Town Investment Plans.
- Developed at a local level, the Place Plan for Penrith sets out the communities vision for the future of their area and provides a route map for targeted investment that will help boost economic activity and renewal of the town.
- The Place Plan includes a theme on 'capitalising on our connections' which recognises opportunities to enhance green routes, movement around the town and better wayfinding through investments in cycling and walking.
- The Penrith Place Plan is a strategic priority project within 'Inspiring Eden', the district council's initiative for economic recovery and prosperity.

How do people currently make local journeys?

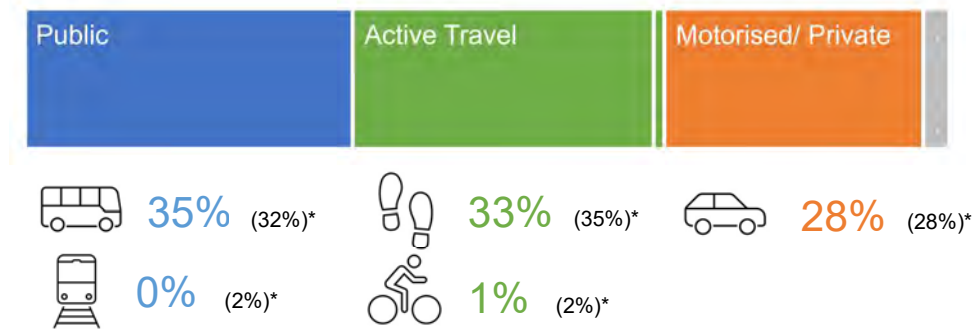
National **travel to work** data from 2011^[15] shows high levels of containment in Penrith with almost 69% of residents also working within the LCWIP area. The town centre is a key zone for employment, attracting the greatest volume of trips.

Despite short commuting distances there is a high level of car dependency with around **68%** of trips using this mode of travel. Only **2%** of journeys to work were found to be made by cycling and **26%** by walking.

Travel to school ^[16] data indicates **33%** of children in Eden district walk to school, whilst **1%** cycle. Private motorised transport as a means of getting to school accounted for **28%** of journeys.

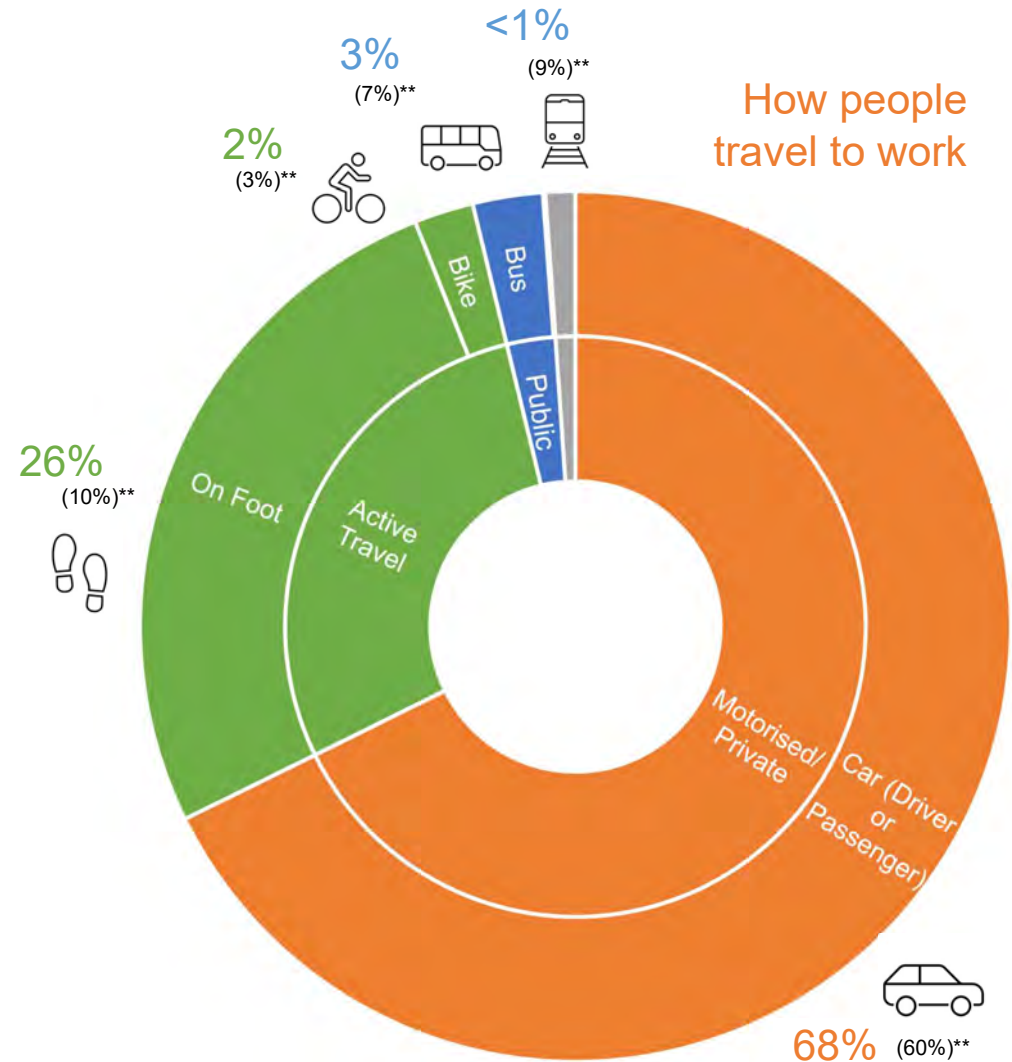
The most popular cycle routes ^[17] for both school and travel to work journeys within the district are mainly located within the **urban area of Penrith**. These include sections of the A6, B5288 and A592 which converge on the town centre and/or are located within proximity to larger educational establishments.

How children travel to school



Based on Eden District average v * County average.
Data taken from School Travel Demand Surveys 2021, providing an indication of travel modes to/from schools in Eden District pre-COVID. Statistics are based on 2089 respondents countywide and 147 respondents for schools in Eden District.

How people travel to work



Based on averages within LSOA relevant to the Penrith LCWIP area v ** England average.
Data taken from 2001 Census. Method of Travel to Work.

Potential for more walking and cycling

57% of respondents said **improvements to cycling and walking routes** would encourage them to walk and/or cycle **more often** than they do currently.



68%
of **journeys to work** are made by private motorised transport in the Penrith LCWIP area

however..

40%
of **journeys to work** are **<5km^[18]**



31%
of **journeys to work** are **<2km^[18]**

but did you know...

Distances of **5km** can be covered in **20 minutes** by **bike**



Distances of **2km** can be covered in **25 minutes** on **foot**



Levels of cycling and walking in Penrith increased during the COVID-19 lockdown in Spring/Summer 2020. This was in part because roads were less busy and quieter, offering more desirable conditions for cycling and walking. The reduction in traffic emissions also led to improvements in air quality. As people returned back to places of work and to school, levels of cycling and walking reduced. This demonstrates that the potential for cycling and walking exists if the right conditions are put in place. Improvements to active travel infrastructure will form part of this.

Despite high levels of car dependency across the Penrith LCWIP area, a high proportion of everyday journeys to work, school or the shops are within a distance which is easily achievable either on bike or on foot.

An initial round of public consultation on the Penrith LCWIP undertaken in July/August 2021, asked for feedback on what would encourage people to change to cycling and walking for short journeys. Findings were consistent with national data whereby, a large proportion (66%) of respondents identified they currently make journeys by car to places that were within cycling and walking distance. Journeys to the shops and to/from leisure activities were the main reasons given.

Cycling and Walking Infrastructure

Developing the LCWIP

The LCWIP for Penrith has been developed in accordance with government guidance and has followed a six stage process.

- **Stage 1: Determine the scope** – establish the geographical context and arrangements for governing and preparing the plan.
- **Stage 2: Gathering information** – identify existing walking and cycling patterns and potential new journeys. Review existing conditions and identify barriers to walking and cycling. Review related transport and land use policies and programme.
- **Stage 3: Network planning for cycling** – identify origin and destination points and cycle flows. Convert flows into a network of routes and determine the improvements required.
- **Stage 4: Network planning for walking** – identify key trip generators, core walking zones and routes, audit existing provision and determine the improvements required.
- **Stage 5: Prioritising improvements** – prioritise improvements to develop a phased programme for future investment.
- **Stage 6: Integration and application** – integrate outputs into local planning and transport policies, strategies and delivery plans.



Engagement and public consultation

Public consultation and stakeholder engagement have played a key part in the development of the Penrith LCWIP with an initial public consultation undertaken in July/August 2021 and a follow up in February 2022. In addition, regular workshops have been undertaken with key stakeholders throughout.

The initial public consultation focused on gaining an understanding of:

- Current travel behaviour – cycling and walking journeys and why these are undertaken;
- Public opinion on the current active travel provision in Penrith;
- Any barriers on active travel routes that may prevent cycling and walking;
- What would encourage modal shift to cycling or walking for short journeys; and,
- Feedback on the emerging priority cycling network.

A total of **209 responses** were received for this consultation.

The follow up consultation offered a second opportunity to comment on proposals prior to finalising the Penrith LCWIP. This consultation focused on:

- Gauging the level of support for the draft prioritised cycling and walking network plans;
- Whether the network and interventions proposed would encourage the respondent to use active modes more often; and,
- Whether there was support for reduced space for cars to prioritise active modes.

A total of **58 responses** were received for this consultation.

The results of the consultation exercise demonstrate a **desire for future investment** in cycling and walking infrastructure. Responses emphasised the importance of providing **safe, segregated routes** that provide **direct connections** to the places people want to get to. The need to provide routes that were **separate from other modes of travel** was a common theme in the responses and was identified as a key measure for encouraging more cycling and walking. The creation of more **traffic free neighbourhoods** and **lower speed limits** were also supported, along with **more crossings** and **priority for cyclists at junctions**.

The main perceived barriers to cycling and walking were:

- Busy roads
- Quality of routes
- Feeling unsafe
- Junctions that are difficult to cross

The draft priority cycling and walking networks presented received a **high level of support** and the majority of respondents felt that the proposals would encourage them to cycle or walk more often.

“It should absolutely be a priority in Penrith - for so many reasons: health, air quality, congestion, climate and the safe enjoyment of the town for residents and visitors..”

- a local resident, open ended question response,
July/August 2021

Existing cycling and walking routes

49% felt the existing cycling routes **do not** connect to the places they want to go

15% felt the existing walking routes **do not** connect to the places they want to go

Cycling and walking barriers and opportunities

75% identified **“busy roads”** as top 3 reason for why it is difficult to cycle

41% identified **“difficult junctions to cross”** as top 3 reason for why it is difficult to walk

66% identified **“cycle routes separated from other modes of travel”** as a top 3 reason for encouraging them to cycle more

47% identified **“better maintained pavements/footways”** as a top 3 reason for encouraging them to walk more

“A properly planned and joined up cycling network is needed, with segregated cycle lanes preferred and cycling priority on other routes and at junctions.”

- A local resident, open ended question response, February 2022

“I started cycling in the pandemic and found that a wonderful thing. But the amount of traffic and the attitude of drivers towards cyclists, plus I would be cycling with young children, makes it too unsafe.”

- A local resident, open ended question response, February 2022

Support for proposals

81% said they would support cycling and walking improvements even when this could mean less space for other road traffic

91% welcomed more money being spent on cycling and walking in Penrith

63% strongly agreed or agreed with the routes prioritised in the draft Penrith LCWIP cycling network

69% strongly agreed or agreed with the routes prioritised in the draft Penrith LCWIP walking network

57% felt the proposals in the Penrith LCWIP would encourage them to cycle or walk more often



See Penrith LCWIP Technical Report Appendix C for copies of the Consultation Reports

Cycling infrastructure improvements

The Penrith LCWIP broadly identifies the types of improvements that could be implemented. All improvements are subject to funding and further development.

On-Highway Fully Segregated Cycleways



Segregated cycleways offering separation from pedestrians and motor vehicles.

Photo shows a stepped cycle track.

On-Highway Lightly Segregated Cycleways



Light segregation providing a protected space.

Photo shows light segregation using 'wands'.

Off-Road Cycleways



Greenways providing rural connections. Shared use paths where pedestrian number are low.

Photo shows a greenway with segregated facilities

Upgrades to Existing Facilities



Removal of through-traffic to create Low Traffic Neighbourhoods. Slowing traffic i.e. 20mph zones.

Photo shows a Low Traffic Neighbourhood

Road Crossings and Junctions



Strong visual priority for cyclists and walkers on side junctions. Crossings and junctions offering separation and improved safety.

Photo shows a 'CYCLOPS' junction.

Secure Cycle Parking



Short stay and long stay solutions that are secure and positioned at strategic locations.

Photo shows a secure cycle hub.

Walking infrastructure improvements

Public Realm



Enhancing the look and feel of an area through, planting, paving, seating, and street art.

Photo shows public realm improvements.

Road Crossings



Widening refuges, improving timings, signals and markings.

Photo shows an improved signalised junction .

Blended Footways



Continuing footways across junctions to enforce pedestrian priority.

Photo shows a blended footway

Wayfinding



Providing simple directional signage, larger maps or interactive screens

Photo shows information and wayfinding signage.

Maintenance

Short term maintenance to bring a route up to standard or planning for longer term maintenance.

Increased Surveillance

Improving sightlines, additional access points or installing CCTV.

Footway Widening

Proving adequate footway widths.

Speed Reduction

Through physical traffic calming measures, enforcement cameras or public realm.

Dropped Kerbs and Tactile Paving

Improving access for pedestrians with limited mobility or sight impairments.

Reduced Kerb Radii

Limiting the speed of motor vehicles at junctions to allow pedestrians to cross more safely

Cycling Network

The Priority Cycling Network reflects the importance of connectivity across the city to increase active travel and reduce car journeys. Key aspects of the network include:

- Connections to the town centre, railway station and bus station;
- Links to education sites including Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Ullswater Community College and several primary schools;
- Links to outlying Eden Valley towns and villages including Stainton, Eamont Bridge, Plumpton
- Access to allocated housing and employment sites.

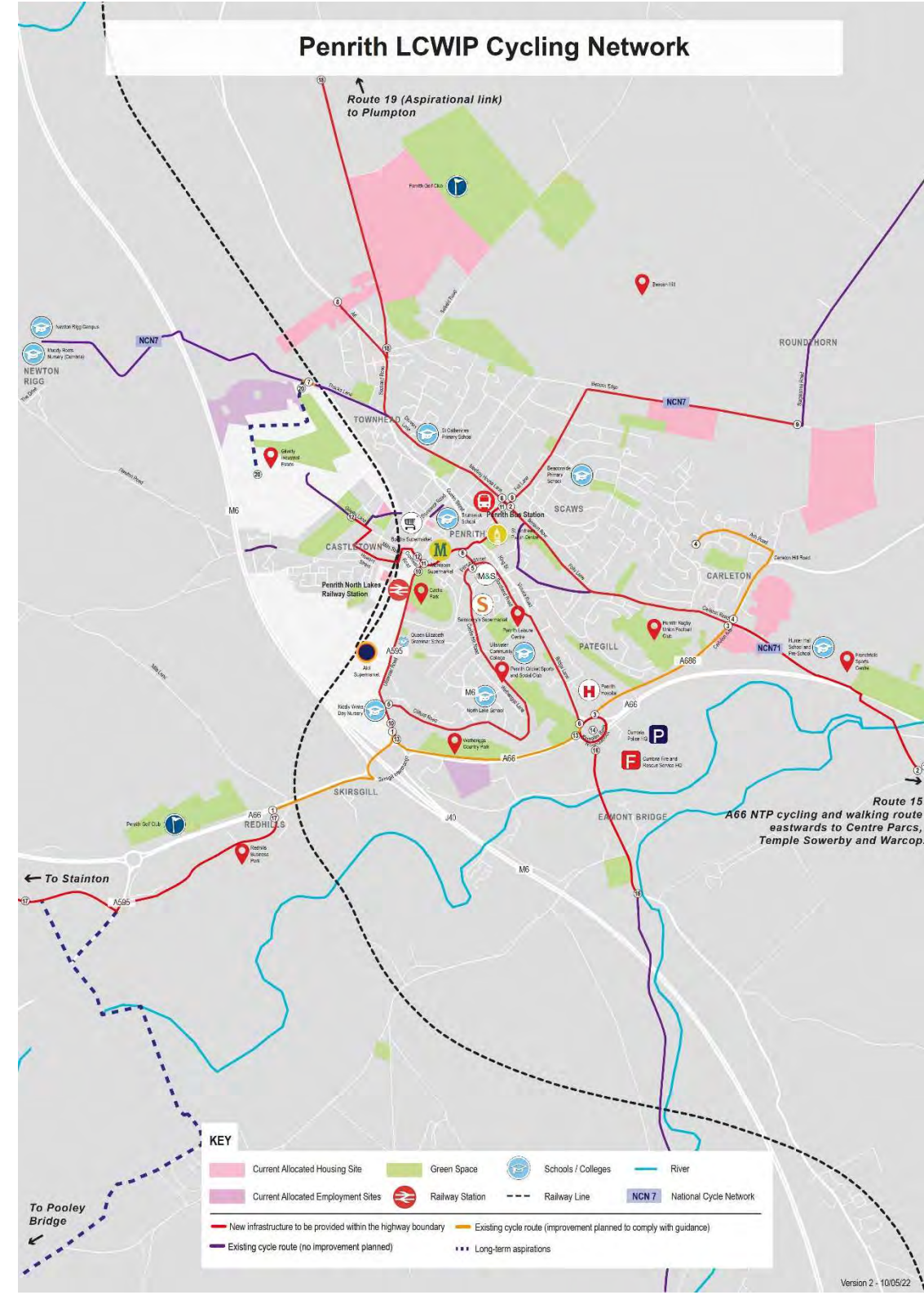
Recognising that it is not possible to connect everywhere, the LCWIP focuses on the most important routes to secure funding for. Support for walking and cycling infrastructure usually increases further once it is built and people are using it. Over time these priorities can be built on to deliver a more extensive network to encourage and support a step change in the numbers of people cycling and walking.

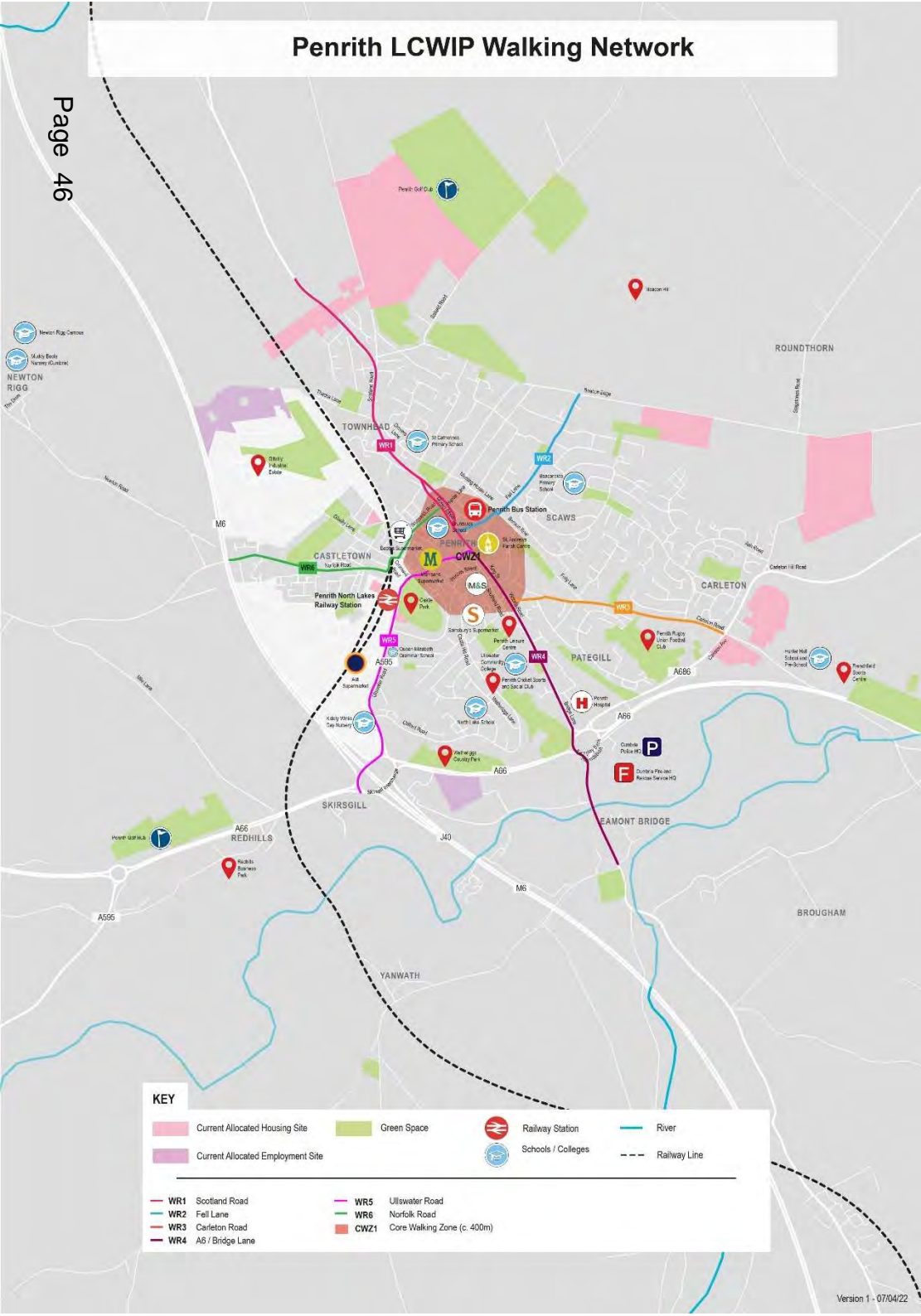


See Penrith LCWIP Technical Report Appendix A for a copy of the Cycling Network Map

The network incorporates new cycling routes and improvements to existing routes, alongside existing provision to provide a coherent, direct, safe, comfortable, and attractive cycle network for Penrith.

Penrith LCWIP Cycling Network





KEY			
	Current Allocated Housing Site		Green Space
	Current Allocated Employment Site		Railway Station
	WR1 Scotland Road		Schools / Colleges
	WR2 Fell Lane		River
	WR3 Carleton Road		Railway Line
	WR4 A6 / Bridge Lane		
	WR5 Ullswater Road		
	WR6 Norfolk Road		
	CWZ1 Core Walking Zone (c. 400m)		

The walking network map shows Primary and Secondary routes to Penrith Town Centre Core Walking Zone. Throughout the lifespan of the LCWIP a more complete walking network will be established by identifying routes and improvements for other Core Walking Zones.

Walking Network

As part of the LCWIP, we have identified Core Walking Zones across the study area, along with primary and secondary routes linking into those Core Walking Zones.

- **Core Walking Zones** are areas with the highest potential for footfall such as town centres and employment sites.
- **Primary routes** are those routes that are generally the most direct and have the highest usage.
- **Secondary routes** are alternative routes that are generally less direct but quieter

The LCWIP identifies potential improvements within the Core Walking Zones and along the primary routes which, could include: new or enhanced road crossings; better quality public spaces and paths; and the provision of dedicated and separated space for walkers.

Improvements have been identified for the Penrith Town Centre Walking Zone (CWZ1) and connecting primary routes. These are shown on the plan adjacent and further detail is provided in the LCWIP Technical Report.

Throughout the lifespan of the LCWIP, improvements will be identified for the remaining Core Walking Zones and connecting primary routes across the LCWIP area.



See Penrith LCWIP Technical Report Appendix A for a copy of the Walking Network Map

Prioritisation

In developing the LCWIP, government guidance setting out a recommended approach to prioritising networks of walking and cycling routes, has been followed. The guidance recommends that priority should be given to areas which have the **greatest potential for increasing cycling and walking trips** and offer the **greatest value for money**.

The delivery of all improvements identified in the Penrith LCWIP is subject to securing funding. Routes for delivery have been prioritised using a framework that assesses:

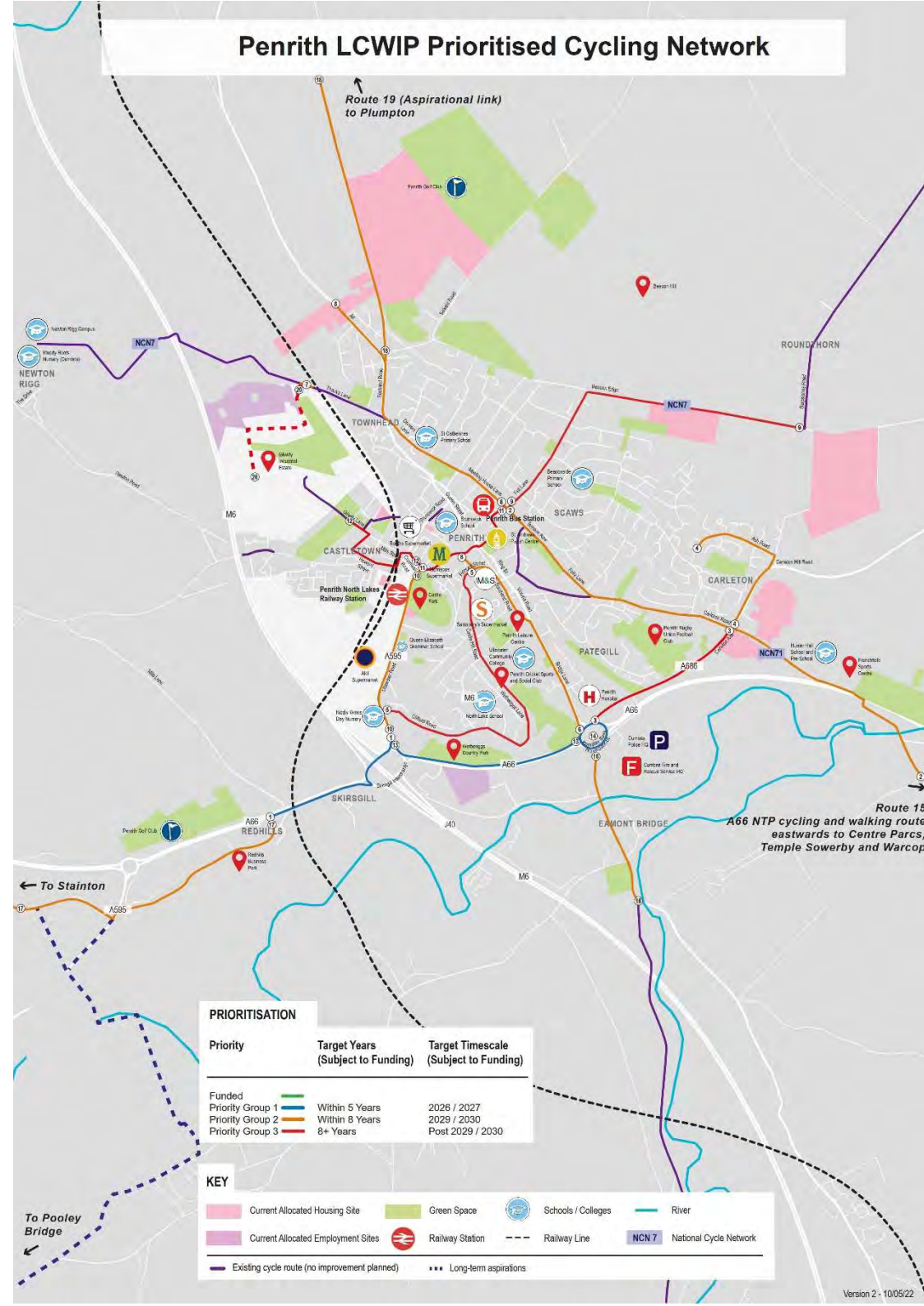
- Effectiveness – the potential to generate cycling trips
- Alignment with policy objectives – such as those in the CTIP
- Economic factors – scheme cost, value for money and likelihood of attracting funding
- Deliverability – engineering constraints, land ownership and stakeholder support

The cycling routes have been prioritised as shown on the adjacent plan. The routes have then been categorised according to the targeted timescale for delivery:

- **Funded:** These will be delivered in line with the timescales of the funding source
- **Priority 1:** Delivery within 5 years (2026/27), subject to funding
- **Priority 2:** Delivery within 8 years (by 2029/30), subject to funding
- **Priority 3:** Delivery 8 years plus (post 2029/30), subject to funding.



See Penrith LCWIP Technical Report Appendix B for a copy of the Prioritised Cycling Network Plan



Conclusion and Next Steps

The Penrith LCWIP provides a prioritised investment plan for cycling and walking in Penrith over the next 15 years.

The LCWIP takes into account the overlaps and synergies with other plans, schemes and strategies. This means the network priorities will be reviewed and updated periodically, particularly if there are any significant changes in local circumstances, such as the publication of new policies or strategies, new development sites, if funding bids are successful and as walking and cycling networks mature and expand.

The LCWIP for Penrith is a live document that will be regularly reviewed to ensure the most appropriate routes for cycling and walking are identified and prioritised for future delivery.

The document will be used to assist in securing funding for the delivery of the identified improvements.

Further Information

For further information please refer to our webpage for accompanying reports:

www.cumbria.gov.uk/cyclingandwalking

- Penrith LCWIP Technical Report
 - Appendix A – Cycling Network Plan and Walking Network Plan
 - Appendix B – Cycling Prioritised Network Plan
 - Appendix C – Supporting Information
- Consultation Reports

Thank you for reading
this document

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ECONOMIC PROSPECTUS Inspiring Eden

ACHIEVING RURAL EXCELLENCE

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS...

This Economic Prospectus is part of our Economic Development Framework and provides an overarching summary of the Council's economic plans. It expands on the vision and priorities in the Council's Corporate Plan for Eden as a place where people act together to meet the needs of all and ensure the well-being of future generations. It reflects the changing local and strategic contexts, including the impact of the pandemic and Brexit and the opportunity to focus on greening the economy through the recovery process and unlocking the full potential of our towns and rural areas. This Framework also provides a local platform for delivering the vision and priorities of the Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership and developing a collaborative approach to economic development as part of the local government review process. An annual economic report will be produced to review progress and inform delivery.



GREAT PLACE TO DO BUSINESS...

For business, Eden is located in one of the most accessible locations in the UK with excellent transport links to the whole of the country. It is situated on the north/south M6 corridor and West Coast mainline; this is intersected by the A66 which links east to west which will be the subject of further improvements. Eden is within easy reach of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Manchester, Leeds, Glasgow, Edinburgh and a train journey of approx. 3 hours to London. With ambitious plans to unlock the full potential of our district Inspiring Eden will also play a key role in driving prosperity across Cumbria and the wider region and, as a result, contribute to the success of UK Plc on a global stage.

GREAT PLACE TO LIVE...

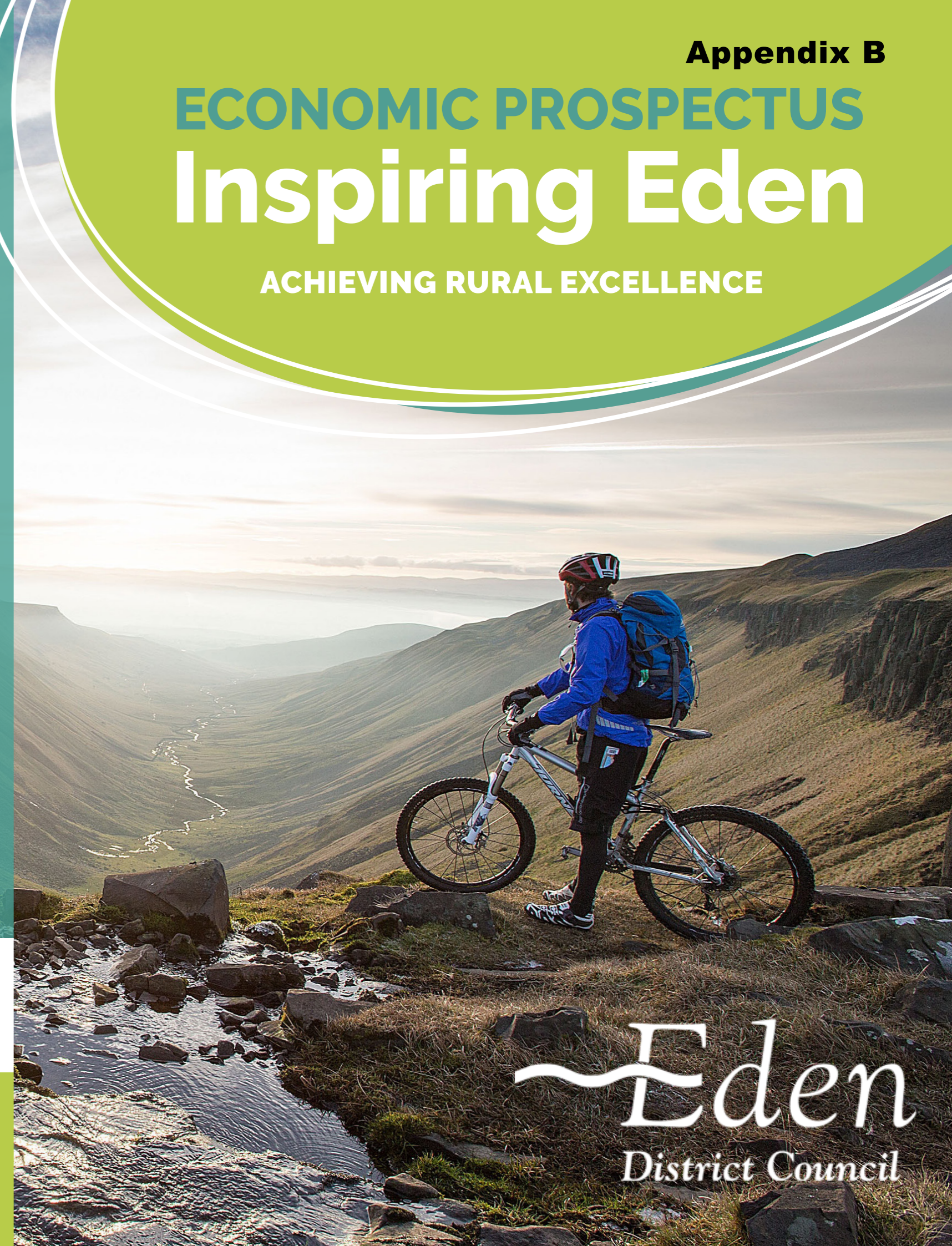
Eden enjoys a diverse housing stock that meets a range of housing needs and demands. It is the eighth largest District in England but has the lowest population density which, along with outstanding landscapes and historic places, high quality schools and low unemployment and crime levels, makes Eden a great place to live.

GREAT PLACE TO VISIT...

Eden offers an excellent quality of life as it spans across the Lake District National Park and into the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the Yorkshire Dales National Park all of which provide a range of sporting and leisure activities in a natural setting of international significance.



For more information about Inspiring Eden,
Email: econ.dev@eden.gov.uk
Telephone: 07912 501 836
Web: www.eden.gov.uk
Business focused advice: www.investineden.co.uk
Visitor destination site: www.visiteden.co.uk



Eden
District Council

OUR VISION...

To unlock the full potential of our communities, places and economy and ensure shared prosperity and inclusive growth, our overarching vision is:

To improve prosperity and the quality of life for residents whilst enhancing the area as an attractive place to live, work, visit and invest with a particular focus on:

Sustainable:

Unlocking, shaping & driving economic opportunities which will protect Eden's working cultural landscapes and biodiversity whilst reducing the district's carbon footprint through reducing carbon emissions and utilising innovations around carbon capture.

Healthy & Safe living:

Improving living conditions for all including affordable homes, higher wages and working towards self-sufficiency in energy to support healthy, connected and prosperous communities.

Connected:

Improving digital and physical connectivity to support connected communities with access to both key local services and global economies and associated knowledge networks. This will include making sure spatial policy embraces the emerging demands for commercial space with a particular focus on live work space as part of new developments.

Creative:

Supporting businesses to respond to national and global changes through nurturing diversification within farming and the wider land based sector, encouraging innovation in tourism, food and green industries and developing arts and cultural activities to enhance town centres and rural communities.



OPPORTUNITIES...

- Potential quality sites adjoining high quality transport and digital infrastructure
- National Parks, AONB, World Heritage site and higher profile due to staycationing



OUR PRIORITIES...

Securing Green Growth by ensuring that decarbonisation underpins all elements of the local economy including, in particular, energy provision.

Generating & Sustaining Quality Places across all our towns, rural communities and countryside.

Increasing Spend & Job Creation within the Visitor Economy with a focus on our fantastic world class landscapes.

Nurturing Business Recovery & Growth with focused business support, infrastructure investment and alignment of Council services behind the economy.

The vision will be shaped and driven forward by 6 priority themes:

Attracting Investment to secure and deliver strategic physical and digital infrastructure, sites and premises to improve connectivity and support sustainable economic growth.

Enhancing the Skill Base of residents and businesses to meet the needs of businesses and aspirations of local communities whilst addressing the current challenges within the labour market.



OUR ASSETS...

- Location and strategic connectivity including M6, A66 (including proposed improvements) West Coast Mainline, Settle Carlisle Railway & access to Teesside Freeport
- Environmental Assets: Two National Parks (the Lake District National Park and Yorkshire Dales National Park) as well as the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- Attractive natural landscape, high quality natural capital, diverse cultural and heritage offer
- Lake District World Heritage Site Status
- Attractive historic towns and villages/living environments
- Strong local and strategic partnerships with a track record of successful delivery



KEY CITIES & AIRPORTS:

- NEWCASTLE
- GLASGOW
- CARLISLE
- MANCHESTER
- EDINBURGH
- LANCASTER
- LEEDS
- LIVERPOOL

ACCESS TO FREEPORTS:

- TEESSIDE
- LIVERPOOL CITY REGION
- HUMBER

TRAINLINES:

- WEST COAST MAINLINE
- SETTLE CARLISLE RAILWAY

Delivery will also include a focus on a number of Strategic Priority Projects which will be driven forward within and across the relevant work streams:

- Penrith Borderlands Programme
- Junction 41 Employment Site
- A66 Improvements
- Eden Community Hubs
- Bespoke Business Support for Farmers
- Buildings and Public Realm Improvement Scheme
- Arts and Culture Activation Programme
- Eden Youth Hub

WORK STREAMS...

The Vision & Priority Themes will be delivered through the following work streams which will be underpinned and driven by collaborative working with local and strategic partners:

Business Support: With initial focus on supporting economic recovery and a particular focus on supporting farming and the wider land based sector.

Business Charter: Confirming commitment of the Council to local businesses.

Connectivity: Covering road, rail, air, water and digital communications.

Employment Sites & Premises: Covering strategic and local employment sites and supply of commercial premises to support businesses, with a particular focus on live work space as part of new developments.

Inward Investment (Invest In Eden): Covering marketing and promoting the area to local, national & international markets.

Sector Plan Visitor Economy (Visit Eden): To support tourism businesses across the district including a focus on creative industries and encouraging geographical and seasonal reach.

Sector Plan Circular Economy:

To embed green credentials across the whole economy, including leading by example by installing electric charging points within Council car parks, and focussing on utilising renewable non carbon based energy.

Sector Plan Rural Economy:

Supporting farming and the land based sector and wider rural economy whilst enhancing & protecting biodiversity.

Sector Plan Knowledge Based Industries:

Supporting emerging knowledge based businesses across the district to help focus business support, development and investment.

Sector Plan Creative Industries:

Supporting creative based businesses across the district to help focus business support, development and investment.

Town Centre Plans: Supporting development of town centres as community hubs with a particular focus on the art and culture activation which will also help promote the evening economy and provision of activities for young people.

Public Realm Framework:

Promoting gateways, signage & enhancement of open spaces.

A66 Dualling: Unlocking the full potential for local people and businesses whilst enhancing and protecting biodiversity.

Skills & Employment: Covering skills development to unlock the potential of the labour market.

The focus of each of these work streams will be detailed and presented in a Work Stream Prospectus that will define the challenges and opportunities faced and the focus for action, all of which will be shaped by discussions with relevant organisations.

It is important to note that the position and level of involvement of Eden District Council will vary between work streams ranging from being a lead active partner to being a supportive passive partner.

The exact role of the Council (and other partners) will be defined in the Work Stream Prospectuses which will be produced by the Council through 2022/23 to help inform delivery.

OPPORTUNITIES...

- Local and strategic partnerships, investment and funding streams
- A66 Upgrade
- Green Growth and lowering of carbon footprint
- Government support for tourism, rural communities and town centres
- Changing attitude to flexibility of work location
- Increasing importance given to environment in investment decision making
- Sector focus growth including tourism, land based businesses, business services and food and drink

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Report No: DoR56/22

**Eden District Council
Finance Scrutiny Committee**

12 July 2022

Local Government Reorganisation - Finance Theme Update

Report from:	Interim Director of Resources
Wards:	All Wards
Open Public Item	

1 Purpose

1.1 To update the Committee on the current position and proposals for the finance theme of Local Government Reorganisation.

2 Recommendation

It is recommended that Committee note the report.

3 Report Details

3.1 Local Government Reorganisation for Cumbria means that there is no formal budget process for the Council to undertake in the lead up to vesting day.

3.2 The responsibility for setting both the financial strategy and the budgets for 2023/24 rests with the two shadow authorities Westmorland and Furness for the Eden district area.

3.3 Whilst the formal scrutiny roles will also be undertaken by the shadow authorities there will be a need for the sovereign authorities to input towards the financial strategy and the setting of the budgets for the new authorities from 2023/24.

3.4 This report and presentation at the meeting will provide an update of the current position with the finance theme board and the proposed future activities along with any input or impact on the Council.

3.5 The main current impact on the Council relates to the Section 24 direction a report was considered by Westmorland and Furness Shadow Council on the matter on 10 June and is attached at Appendix 1.

4 Policy Framework

4.1 The Council has four corporate priorities which are:

- Sustainable;
- Healthy, safe and secure;
- Connected; and
- Creative

4.2 This report meets the sustainable and healthy, safe and secure corporate priorities.

5 Consultation

5.1 None.

6 Implications

6.1 Financial and Resources

6.1.1 Any decision to reduce or increase resources or alternatively increase income must be made within the context of the Council's stated priorities, as set out in its Council Plan 2019-2023 as agreed at Council on 7 November 2019.

6.1.2 There are no financial or resources implications arising from this report.

6.2 Legal

6.2.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

6.3 Human Resources

6.3.1 There are no Human Resource implications arising from this report.

6.4 Statutory Considerations

Consideration:	Details of any implications and proposed measures to address:
Equality and Diversity	None arising from this report.
Health, Social Environmental and Economic Impact	None arising from this report.
Crime and Disorder	None arising from this report.
Children and Safeguarding	None arising from this report.

6.5 Risk Management

Risk	Consequence	Controls Required
Members of the Committee do not know what reports will be presented.	Could affect the effectiveness of the Committee	Maintained work programme to each Committee.

7 Other Options Considered

7.1 No other options were considered.

8 Reasons for the Decision/Recommendation

8.1 To update the Committee on the current work of the LGR finance theme.

Tracking Information

Governance Check	Date Considered
Chief Finance Officer (or Deputy)	4 July 2022
Monitoring Officer (or Deputy)	N/A
Relevant Assistant Director	N/A

Background Papers: None

Appendices: Appendix 1 – Westmorland and Furness Section 24 Report

Contact Officer: Paul Sutton, Interim Director of Resources

Westmorland and Furness Shadow Cabinet

Date 10 June 2022

Title Agreement of General Consent in Response to Direction Issued Under Section 24 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007

Report from: Councillor Andrew Jarvis, Finance Portfolio Holder
Report Author: Helen Smith, Interim S151 Officer, Westmorland and Furness Council
Wards: All
Key Decision: Yes

1.0 Purpose/Summary of report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to consider the Secretary of State's Direction restricting certain transactions and made under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (the 2007 Act). The Cabinet is asked to consider granting a series of General Consents to the District Councils and County Council to enable the business of existing District Councils and County Council to continue to proceed in the run up to Vesting Day.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that Shadow Cabinet:-

- (1) **approve the General Consents to the District Councils and County Council under the Direction made under Section 24 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 as attached in Appendix 2; and**
- (2) **provide delegated authority to the Finance Portfolio Holder in consultation with the S151 Officer and Monitoring Officer for all subsequent matters requiring consent which fall within the range £2m to £5m and other matters as delegated within the Consent.**

3.0 Background and Proposals

- 3.1 Section 24 of the 2007 Act permits the Secretary of State to issue a Direction against all Authorities being dissolved under a Structural Change Order. Following the making of the Cumbria (Structural Changes) Order 2022 the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) made such a Direction on 10th May 2022. A copy of the Direction and the accompanying letter and Guidance Note is attached as Appendix 1. Essentially, the Direction will restrict District Councils and the County Council from entering into revenue contracts and disposals of land over £100,000 or “capital contracts” exceeding £1m (or where the term for payment of such contracts is variable) without the consent of the Executive (Cabinet) of the Shadow Authority. The Direction also gives the Executive (Cabinet) of the Shadow Authority oversight of significant contracts and projects that will have an impact on their financial situation.
- 3.2 The sanctions for not complying with the Direction and consent regime are severe. Any contracts entered into by an authority without the required consent will be legally unenforceable by, or against, the authority in question and its successor new unitary council, and any transfer or acquisition relating to land will be void.
- 3.3 It is essential that all the affected local authorities (which are subject to this direction) are able to continue delivering high quality services to the public and run their day-to-day business in the period prior to 1 April 2023. Therefore, it has been acknowledged that a General Consent would be helpful to the continued delivery of services to the public in this period. As the Secretary of State’s Direction will come into force on 30 June, the principles behind the General Consent will need to be formally considered by the Cabinet and authority given to determine what financial decisions the District Councils and County Council can make prior to Vesting Date.
- 3.4 Prior to Vesting Date of 1 April 2023, the six District Councils within Cumbria and Cumbria County Council will continue to operate and make decisions for their residents, businesses and visitors. The Secretary of State has issued a Direction which gives the Shadow Executive of Cumberland Council and Shadow Cabinet of Westmorland and Furness Council the power to veto any relevant financial decision which could bind the new authority in a potentially unfavourable way. However to enable those Councils to continue to function it is suggested that there will be many decisions that will be made by the seven Councils which should continue without requiring individual permissions to be sought of the Cabinet. Therefore it is proposed that those decisions listed in the General Consent document at Appendix 2 should be approved. This will provide the opportunity for the Cabinet to concentrate on the relevant decisions that will need

political oversight without creating additional bureaucracy in needing to approve every individual decision by the District Councils and the County Council.

- 3.5 The lack of a general consent does not mean that the associated financial commitment cannot be made. It simply means that there is not an automatic consent and approval will need to be sought following the relevant Council putting forward their rationale. Any such request would initially be considered by the Leader and the Shadow Authority's Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer.

4.0 Consultation

- 4.1 The principles in the general consent have been considered by the Cumbria LGR Programme Board and the detailed proposals have been considered by the Section 151 Officers and Monitoring Officers of the existing seven Cumbrian councils. The seven Section 151 officers had requested the Secretary of State to amend the Section 24 spending limits to £5m for capital and revenue projects; spending above these levels requiring the consent of the new councils. This was not approved and would have required a change in the legislation.

5.0 Alternative Options

- 5.1 The Cabinet could choose not to grant a General Consent and seek to grant individual decisions for every decision that fall under the Direction. However the low financial thresholds and the wording of the legislation and the Direction, this would mean that a large and unmanageable number of decisions would come to the Cabinet for approval and provide a bureaucratic burden for the seven Councils in running their services.
- 5.2 Alternatively the Cabinet could choose to provide greater or lesser consent as detailed in Appendix 2. However it is proposed that the attached Appendix provides the appropriate level of balance in ensuring oversight by the Cabinet responsible for the new unitary council whilst allowing freedom of the District Councils and the County Council to continue running their services.

6.0 Implications

Financial, Resources and Procurement

- 6.1 The s24 Direction is intended to ensure that the new authorities are financially sustainable and will also give the Shadow Cabinet of each new authority oversight of major initiatives that they will be responsible for in the future.

- 6.2 Outgoing councils are required to notify the S151 Officer of the relevant Shadow Authority of contracts and other changes of circumstances that will result in changes the financial position of the successor authorities, including use of reserves beyond budgeted levels, disposals and acquisition of assets and liabilities and any other issue considered relevant by individual S151 Officers.
- 6.3 Schedule 1 to Appendix 2 of this report will be circulated prior to the Cabinet meeting.

Human Resources

- 6.4 This report has no direct human resources implications.

Legal

- 6.5 The s24 Direction made under s24 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 must be read in the context of s24 to 30 of the Act.
- 6.6 A disposal made in contravention of a direction under S 24 is void. A contract entered into by an authority ("the sovereign authority") in contravention of a direction under section 24 is not enforceable against a successor authority.
- 6.7 Under the Direction disposing of land include references to (a) granting or disposing of any interest in land; (b) entering into a contract to dispose of land or grant or dispose of any such interest; (c) granting an option to acquire any land or any such interest. The General Consent includes land and property transaction
- 6.8 The Direction seeks to ensure that implementation process for LGR proceeds on a clear and sound basis. Balancing also the need to continue with sovereign council business as usual prior to April 2023.
- 6.9 The report proposes that a General Consent is provided under S26 (2) of the Act. This provides that a consent for the purpose of the direction may be provided (a) in respect of particular contracts, in respect of disposals or contracts of any description (b) unconditionally or subject to conditions. The amounts outlined within the report exceed the Direction thresholds.
- 6.10 The General Consent does not require sovereign councils to apply a cumulative contract approach as required by the Direction
- 6.11 Alongside this sovereign councils are required to notify the S151 officer of any planned expenditure that result in changes to the financial position of the successor authorities, including use of any

reserves beyond budgeted levels, disposals and acquisition of assets and liabilities

- 6.12 Advice has been received that Grants are covered by the Direction and this is covered by the General Consent wording.
- 6.13 The Secretary of State recognises that in issuing the Direction under S24 of the 2007 Act that there may be a degree of inconvenience and inefficiency in day to day BAU and that it could impose a substantial burden on the Shadow Authorities. Therefore S26(2) of the 2007 Act makes provision for the issuing of a consent (which we call a general consent) to allow what is effectively a pre authorisation of disposals and contracts in excess of values specified in the Direction.
- 6.14 However, it is important to note that S26(2) contemplates that certain controls may be placed on the exercise of a general consent by the imposition of conditions to avoid the risk that transactions by authorities to be dissolved might conflict with the expectation of the Shadow Authority.
- 6.15 Conditions to the General consent are proposed and we would advise that alongside this there is a robust spending protocol to record any such expenditure/ income, to ensure a smooth transition and transparency of application of the General Consent criteria.

Health and Sustainability Impact Assessment

- 6.16 Have you completed a Health and Sustainability Impact Assessment? No
- 6.17 If you have not completed an Impact Assessment, please explain your reasons: this General Consent applies to a number of services and projects which will all have individual impacts and where reports are prepared for sovereign councils an assessment will be carried out as required by that council.

Equality and Diversity

- 6.18 Have you completed an Equality Impact Analysis? No
- 6.19 If you have not completed an Impact Analysis, please explain your reasons: this General Consent applies to a number of services and projects which will all have individual impacts and where reports are prepared for sovereign councils an assessment will be carried out as required by that council.

Risk Management	Consequence	Controls required
<p>That the s24 Direction limits the ability of existing Councils to deliver essential services.</p>	<p>Failure to delivery timely and relevant services to the public and provide for need especially in crisis care, response to health and safety needs and to meet statutory duties and timescales.</p> <p>With inflation running at its highest rate in 40 years, delays in the capital programme can lead to additional costs due to rising material prices and labour costs</p>	<p>To introduce a General Consent to permit business as usual to continue within the agreed limits.</p> <p>Opportunity to modify General Consent if issues are identified.</p>
<p>That the General Consent permits additional financial commitments to be made that would have a negative impact on the future financial sustainability of the new authorities.</p>	<p>Need to identify future savings, including potentially increased income or efficiency savings, in order to achieve 2 financially sustainable organisations.</p>	<p>To ensure the General Consent is not so flexible as to permit such commitments to be made.</p> <p>To set up monitoring processes to understand changes in the financial position of existing Councils and the implications for the financial sustainability of the new authorities.</p> <p>Any matters not covered by the general consent will be required to be discussed with the</p>

Risk Management	Consequence	Controls required
		Finance Portfolio Holder, S151 and Monitoring Officer and further reports and consents may be required.

Contact Officers

Helen Smith, Interim S151 Officer Westmorland and Furness Council, 01539 793147, helen.smith@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk

Appendices Attached to this Report

Appendix No.	Name of Appendix
1	Direction made under Section 24 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.
2	General Consent (Schedule 1 of Appendix 2 to follow)

**Direction made under section 24 of the Local Government and Public
Involvement in Health Act 2007**

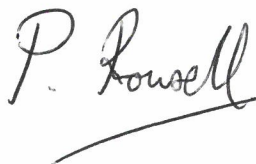
In exercise of the powers under section 24 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (“the Act”):

1. The Secretary of State directs each authority listed in Column A of the attached Schedule, being an authority which is to be dissolved by virtue of an order made under section 7 of the Act, that it may not, without the consent of the authority(ies) listed in Column B of the attached Schedule, from the date in Column C:
 - a) dispose of any land if the consideration for the disposal exceeds £100,000;
 - b) enter into any capital contract-

under which the consideration payable by the relevant authority exceeds £1,000,000; or

which includes a term allowing the consideration payable by the relevant authority to be varied;
 - c) enter into any non-capital contract under which the consideration payable by the relevant authority exceeds £100,000, where-
 - (i) the period of the contract extends beyond 1 April 2023; or
 - (ii) under the terms of the contract, that period may be extended beyond that date.

Signed by the authority of the Secretary of State



PAUL ROWSELL

A senior civil servant in the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

Date: 10 May 2022.

Schedule

Column A – authorities to be wound up and dissolved on 1 April 2023	Column B – authorities specified under section 24 of the Act as the person whose written consent is required for the matters specified at article 1(b) of this direction and the body through which that power is exercised	Column C – date effective from
Allerdale Borough Council	Cumberland Shadow Authority, power to be exercised by the executive of that council	30 June 2022
Carlisle City Council	Cumberland Shadow Authority, power to be exercised by the executive of that council	30 June 2022
Copeland Borough Council	Cumberland Shadow Authority, power to be exercised by the executive of that council	30 June 2022
Barrow-in-Furness Borough Council	Westmorland and Furness Shadow Authority, power to be exercised by the executive of that council	30 June 2022
Eden District Council	Westmorland and Furness Shadow Authority, power to be exercised by the executive of that council	30 June 2022
South Lakeland District Council	Westmorland and Furness Shadow Authority, power to be exercised by the executive of that council	30 June 2022
Cumbria County Council (in respect of decisions relating to the area of one or more of Allerdale Borough Council, Carlisle City Council or Copeland Borough Council)	Cumberland Shadow Authority, power to be exercised by the executive of that council	30 June 2022
Cumbria County Council (in respect of decisions relating to the area of one or more of Barrow-in-Furness Borough Council, Eden District Council or South Lakeland District Council)	Westmorland and Furness Shadow Authority, power to be exercised by the executive of that council	30 June 2022
Craven District Council	The council of the county of North Yorkshire, power to be exercised by the executive of that council	23 May 2022
Hambleton District Council	The council of the county of North Yorkshire, power to be exercised by the executive of that council	23 May 2022
Harrogate Borough Council	The council of the county of North Yorkshire, power to be exercised by the executive of that council	23 May 2022
Richmondshire District Council	The council of the county of North Yorkshire, power to be exercised by the executive of that council	23 May 2022
Ryedale District Council	The council of the county of North Yorkshire, power to be exercised by the executive of that council	23 May 2022
Scarborough Borough Council	The council of the county of North Yorkshire, power to be exercised by the executive of that council	23 May 2022
Selby District Council	The council of the county of North Yorkshire, power to be exercised by the executive of that council	23 May 2022
Sedgemoor District Council	The council of the county of Somerset, power to be exercised by the executive of that council.	16 June 2022
Mendip District Council	The council of the county of Somerset, power to be exercised by the executive of that council.	16 June 2022
Somerset West and Taunton District Council	The council of the county of Somerset, power to be exercised by the executive of that council.	16 June 2022
South Somerset District Council	The council of the county of Somerset, power to be exercised by the executive of that council.	16 June 2022

Control of Contracts

Explanatory Note

1. This explanatory note accompanies a direction made under section 24 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (the Act) and must be read in the context of sections 24 to 30 of that Act.

Context

1. Proposals for restructuring local government are being implemented by Structural Changes Orders in Cumbria, North Yorkshire and Somerset.
2. The Cumbria (Structural Changes) Order 2022¹, which came into force on 18 March 2022, establishes two unitary councils from 1 April 2023, and provides for:
 - the abolition of the existing county and district councils in Cumbria,
 - transitional arrangements for implementing the structural change, and
 - elections to the two new unitary councils in shadow form in May 2022.

The existing county and district councils remain responsible for delivering their respective functions until 1st April 2023 when the two unitary councils take on the role of providing both county and district services across their defined area.

3. The North Yorkshire (Structural Changes) Order 2022² which came into force on 18 March 2022, establishes a single unitary council in North Yorkshire from 1 April 2023, which is to be a continuing authority of North Yorkshire County Council, that is the body corporate of the existing county council with a new name and new membership. The Order provides for:
 - the abolition of the district councils in the area,
 - transitional arrangements for implementing the structural changes, and
 - elections to the new unitary council, in transitional form, in May 2022.

The district councils in North Yorkshire remain responsible for delivering their respective functions until 1st April 2023 when the unitary council takes on the role of providing both county and district services across the area.

4. The Somerset (Structural Changes) Order 2022³, which came into force on 18 March 2022, establishes a single unitary council in Somerset from 1st April 2023, which is a continuing authority of the county council, that is the body corporate of the existing county council with a new name and new membership. The Order provides for:
 - the abolition of the district councils in Somerset,
 - transitional arrangements for implementing the structural changes, and
 - elections to the new unitary council, in transitional form, in May 2022.

¹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2022/9780348231359/contents>

² <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2022/9780348231380/contents>

³ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2022/9780348231366/contents>

The district councils in Somerset remain responsible for delivering their respective functions until 1st April 2023 when the unitary council takes on the role of providing both county and district services across their defined area.

5. It is essential that all the affected local authorities (which are subject to this direction) are able to continue delivering high quality services to the public and run their day-to-day business in the period prior to 1 April 2023.
6. It is also of great importance that the authorities that have general transitional duties under the structural changes orders of preparing for and facilitating the transfer of functions to the new unitary authorities are able to discharge their duties effectively.
7. Therefore, in these three areas, the Secretary of State considers that the body with general transitional duties should have a say on agreements to be entered into, including in consideration of whether those agreements will be in the best interests of the new council or the residents of the area, and ensuring agreements do not undermine or diminish the benefits or savings anticipated as a result of unitarisation or which may have an effect on the financial position of the new council. As specified in the schedule to the directions, the consenting bodies for the councils to be abolished by the structural changes orders are for Cumbria the two shadow councils, and for North Yorkshire and Somerset, the newly elected councils of the two continuing authorities.
8. The Secretary of State has, therefore, made the direction to ensure that the implementation process can proceed on a clear and sound basis.

Specified person/authority whose consent is required

9. The direction specifies which person is required to give consent in relation to the matters covered in the direction. The schedule to the directions sets out, for each of the councils that will be abolished by one of the structural changes orders, who is the person specified for giving consent for all matters and how that power is to be exercised.

Cumulative amounts and general consents

10. Under this direction, from the date set out in Column C of the schedule to the direction, the consent of those specified in the schedule will be required for the entry into any contract falling within paragraphs 1.c) of the direction. This may include routine contracts that authorities enter into on a regular basis. In order to ensure these can continue unhindered, as appropriate, the consenting body may issue general consents for types or categories of contracts which it may specify.
11. Under section 26(2) of the Act, such general consent may be given:
 - a. in respect of a particular contract, or in respect of contracts of any description;
 - b. unconditionally or subject to conditions.
12. In practice, this means that the consenting body could, for example, issue a general consent for all non-capital contracts with a value not exceeding £100,000 which are for similar descriptions of matter (such as all social care contracts, or all leisure or cultural services contracts) or it could give consent in relation to contracts relating to specific programmes or projects.
13. Paragraph 3 of the direction should be read in conjunction with sections 27(2) and (3) of the Act. The capital and non-capital contract value thresholds of £1,000,000 and

£100,000 respectively are cumulative where multiple contracts are entered into with the same organisation, or individual, or of a similar description, and the consent requirement may therefore apply to many 'business as usual' contracts. Moreover, provisions in the Act were drafted to apply in the first instance to the programme of unitarisations underway in 2008/9. Therefore, accumulation of amounts, for the purpose of calculating the value of contracts to which a direction may apply, date back to 1 January 2007.

14. Whether or not a contract relates to another of the 'same or similar description of matter' will be a question of fact and degree in each case. So, a contract to sweep the streets might not be in the same category as park maintenance services, although both are broadly environmental services, but a contract for the supply of office chairs may well fall within the same category as another contract for the supply of other office equipment.
15. New contracts of employment come within the scope of this direction and as a category of contracts relating to a similar matter, i.e. employment, the threshold of £100,000 may be reached quite quickly.

Interaction with other consent regimes

16. As stated in section 26(4) of the 2007 Act, the issuing of a consent by a consenting body in relation to this direction does not remove any requirement on any authority to seek separate consent from any relevant person under any other applicable consent regime.

In the event of a disagreement

17. In the event that the person seeking consent and the person whose consent is required under this direction fail to reach agreement as to the value of any consideration which might be covered by the direction, in accordance with section 26(6) of the Act, the matter is to be referred to the Secretary of State so that the value may be determined.

Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007

CHAPTER 2 CONTROL OF DISPOSALS ETC

24 Authorities dissolved by orders: control of disposals, contracts and reserves

(1) The Secretary of State may direct that, with effect from a date specified in the direction, a relevant authority may not without the written consent of a person or persons so specified—

(a) dispose of any land if the consideration for the disposal exceeds £100,000;

(b) enter into any capital contract—

(i) under which the consideration payable by the relevant authority exceeds £1,000,000; or

(ii) which includes a term allowing the consideration payable by the relevant authority to be varied;

(c) enter into any non-capital contract under which the consideration payable by the relevant authority exceeds £100,000, where—

(i) the period of the contract extends beyond a date specified in the direction; or

(ii) under the terms of the contract, that period may be extended beyond that date; or

(d) include an amount of financial reserves in a calculation under section 31A(3) or 42A(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (c. 14).

(2) In this Chapter “relevant authority” means a local authority—

(a) which by virtue of an order under section 7 or 10 is to be dissolved; and

(b) which is specified, or of a description specified, in the direction.

(3) In this section—

- “capital contract” means a contract as regards which the consideration payable by the relevant authority would be capital expenditure for the purposes of Chapter 1 of Part 1 of the Local Government Act 2003 (c. 26) (capital finance);
- “non-capital contract” means a contract which is not a capital contract.

(4) A person specified in the direction as a person whose consent is required may be the Secretary of State or such authority or other person as he thinks appropriate; and the direction may specify different persons—

(a) in relation to different matters for which consent is required;

(b) in relation to different relevant authorities or descriptions of relevant authority.

25 Directions: further provision about reserves

(1) A direction under section 24—

(a) may provide that the consent of the person or persons specified in the direction is not required for the inclusion, in a calculation under section 31A(3) or 42A(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, of financial reserves of a description specified in the direction;

(b) may, in relation to any authority or description of authority, provide that that consent is not required for the inclusion in such a calculation of an amount of financial reserves not exceeding an amount specified in or determined under the direction.

(2) If a direction contains provision by virtue of subsection (1), the reference in section 24(1)(d) to an amount of financial reserves is to be read as a reference to an amount of financial reserves other than an amount permitted by the direction.

26 Directions: supplementary

(1) In this section “direction” means a direction under section 24.

(2) A consent for the purposes of a direction may be given—

(a) in respect of a particular disposal or contract, or in respect of disposals or contracts of any description;

(b) unconditionally or subject to conditions.

(3) The following enactments have effect subject to any direction—

(a) section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70) (power to dispose of land);

(b) any other enactment relating to the disposal of land by local authorities.

(4) The consent required by a direction is in addition to any consent required by the enactments mentioned in subsection (3)(a) and (b).

(5) Where the consideration or any of the consideration under a contract is not in money, the limits specified in a direction by virtue of section 24(1)(a) to (c) apply to the value of the consideration.

(6) Where—

(a) a question arises in relation to a direction as to the value of any consideration, and

(b) the relevant authority concerned and the person or persons specified under section 24(1) fail to reach agreement,

the value is to be determined by the Secretary of State.

(7) A direction may be varied or revoked by a subsequent direction.

27 Consideration to be taken into account for purposes of direction

(1) In determining whether the limit specified in a direction by virtue of section 24(1)(a) is exceeded in the case of a disposal of land by a relevant authority, the consideration with respect to any other disposal of land made after 31 December 2006 by the relevant authority is to be taken into account.

(2) In determining whether a limit specified in a direction by virtue of section 24(1)(b) or (c) is exceeded in the case of a contract entered into by a relevant authority (“the

contract in question”), the consideration payable by the relevant authority under any other relevant contract shall be taken into account.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (2) a “relevant contract” means a contract which is either or both—

(a) a contract entered into after 31 December 2006 by the relevant authority and the person with whom the contract in question is entered into;

(b) a contract entered into after that date by the relevant authority which relates to the same or a similar description of matter as that to which the contract in question relates.

28 Contraventions of direction

(1) A disposal made in contravention of a direction under section 24 is void.

(2) A contract entered into by an authority (“the old authority”) in contravention of a direction under section 24 is not enforceable against a successor.

(3) In subsection (2) a “successor” means a local authority (other than the old authority)—

(a) which is established by an order under section 7 or 10; and

(b) whose area consists of or includes the whole or part of the area of the old authority.

(4) A contract which apart from this subsection would be a certified contract for the purposes of the Local Government (Contracts) Act 1997 (c. 65) is not a certified contract for those purposes if it is entered into in contravention of a direction under section 24.

(5) If an authority includes financial reserves in a calculation under section 31A(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (c. 14) in contravention of a direction under section 24, the authority is to be treated for the purposes of section 30(8) of that Act as not having made the calculations required by Chapter 3 of Part 1 of that Act.

(6) If an authority includes financial reserves in a calculation under section 42A(3) of that Act in contravention of a direction under section 24, the authority is to be treated for the purposes of section 40(7) of that Act as not having made the calculations required by Chapter 4 of Part 1 of that Act.

29 Power to amend

(1) The Secretary of State may by order—

(a) substitute another sum for any sum for the time being specified in section 24(1);

(b) substitute another date for the date for the time being specified in section 27(1) and (3).

(2) An order under this section may include transitional or saving provision.

30 Definitions for purposes of Chapter 2

(1) In this Chapter—

- “local authority” means a county council in England, a district council in England or a London borough council;

- “relevant authority” has the meaning given by section 24(2).

(2)References in this Chapter to disposing of land include references to—

- (a)granting or disposing of any interest in land;
- (b)entering into a contract to dispose of land or grant or dispose of any such interest;
- (c)granting an option to acquire any land or any such interest.

Spending Protocol and General Consent: Westmorland and Furness Council

Overarching Principles

The Secretary of State has issued a direction under s24 Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (the “s24 Direction”) which requires that Allerdale Borough Council, Copeland Borough Council and Carlisle City Council (the “Cumberland Councils”) obtain the written consent of the executive of the Cumberland Shadow Authority (the “Cumberland Shadow Executive) before entering into certain contracts and that Barrow-in-Furness Borough Council, Eden District Council and South Lakeland District Council (the “Westmorland and Furness Councils”) obtain the written consent of the executive of the Westmorland and Furness Shadow Authority (the “Westmorland and Furness Shadow Cabinet” before entering into certain contracts. Decisions of Cumbria County Council relating to the area of one or more of Allerdale Borough Council, Copeland Borough Council or Carlisle City Council must receive written consent from the Cumberland Shadow Executive. Decisions of Cumbria County Council relating to the area of one or more of Barrow-in-Furness Borough Council, Eden District Council or South Lakeland District Council must receive written consent from the Westmorland and Furness Shadow Cabinet. Decisions of Cumbria County Council will need consent from both Shadow Executives/Cabinet if their decision relates to both areas.

This General Consent applies to all decisions relating to the Westmorland and Furness area. A separate General Consent with different limits applies to all decisions relating to the Cumberland area.

The scope of this General Consent means that it will only apply to matters which are currently within the definition in Section 24 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (and have been made the subject of a Direction made by the Secretary of State under that section in relation to the Cumbria area) and therefore in particular involve the following:

- a) dispose of any land if the consideration for the disposal exceeds £100,000;
- b) enter into any capital contract-
under which the consideration payable by the relevant authority exceeds £1,000,000; or
which includes a term allowing the consideration payable by the relevant authority to be varied;
- c) enter into any non-capital contract under which the consideration payable by the relevant authority exceeds £100,000, where-
 - (i) the period of the contract extends beyond 1 April 2023; or
 - (ii) under the terms of the contract, that period may be extended beyond that date.

Section 24 allows aggregation of these limits for disposals/contracts after 31 December 2006. The Direction makes it clear that aggregation of the limits will apply.

The purpose of the s24 Direction is to ensure Shadow Authorities consider and approve contracts that will become their responsibility, and to ensure that Cumberland Council and Westmorland and Furness Council (the “Unitary Authority”) are in the best possible financial position. However, it is recognised that the effect of the s24 Direction in Cumbria will be that the majority of the Councils’ transactions will be affected by this restriction, negatively affecting Councils’ ability to deliver statutory services and business as usual.

The matters which fall within the definitions of the General Consent can proceed in the normal way as they are subject to a General Consent from the Shadow Cabinet. These matters are approved and require no further consent to be obtained. Nevertheless in these cases it is

expected that outgoing councils will ensure that contracts and agreements allow the maximum flexibility to the successor authorities to achieve future economy, efficiency and effectiveness. For example, limited extensions of existing contracts and break clauses in new contracts will provide early scope for reappraisal.

Outgoing councils are required to notify the S151 Officer of the relevant Shadow Authority of contracts and other changes of circumstances that will result in changes the financial position of the successor authorities, including use of reserves beyond budgeted levels, disposals and acquisition of assets and liabilities and any other issue considered relevant by individual S151 Officers.

Where matters fall outside the definition of the proposed written general consent then approval of the Shadow Cabinet will be required if the contract/ disposal is not to be void. The process for seeking and providing such Consents, including delegation, is set out in the next part of this document.

All references to S151 Officer and Monitoring Officer of the relevant Shadow Authority will also apply to the Interim S151 Officer and Interim Monitoring Officer of the relevant Shadow Authority.

Process for seeking, and giving, of specific Consents

Where a Specific Consent is required, the Authority seeking the Consent shall submit a written request to officers designated for these purposes by the Shadow Cabinet (the “Designated Officers” are the Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer of the relevant Shadow Authority) in question providing such information as is reasonably required by those officers.

The Shadow Cabinet will be responsible for determining whether consent should be given to the Councils entering into any of the transactions list above provided that the Shadow Cabinet delegates to the Finance Portfolio Holder in consultation with the s151 Officer the power to grant consent in respect of any transaction where the decision is urgent and any delay incurred in taking the decision would seriously prejudice the relevant Council’s, the Shadow Authority’s or the public interest to the extent that it is appropriate to take the decision before the next meeting of the Shadow Cabinet.

General Consent

General consent under the direction made under s26(2) of the Local Government and Public Involvement Health Act 2007 is granted by the Shadow Cabinet to all contracts and disposals of land as set out below:

1. To dispose of any land and/or property if the market value of the land does not exceed £1,000,000;
2. To enter into any capital contract (as defined for the purposes of Section 24) where the consideration payable or maximum consideration payable under that contract does not exceed £2,000,000 or the contract includes a term to allow the consideration to be varied to but not to more than £2,000,000; or
3. To enter into any non-capital contract
 - under which the consideration payable or maximum consideration payable under that contract does not exceed £2,000,000 the period of the contract extends beyond 1 April 2023 or under the terms of the contract of the period may be extended beyond that date; and
 - where the contract is for an educational or care placement for a specific individual and or a contract for care services to be provided to a specific individual household; or
 - for essential responsive maintenance of buildings and highways; or

- for goods or services which is required as an essential response to a civil emergency; or
- for the supply of utilities (e.g. gas or electricity) for no more than 5 years; or
- relating to the employment of staff or agency workers in positions provided for in the current establishment for each council;
- Enter into any contract relating to those projects listed in schedule 1 for which specific consent of the Shadow Cabinet is also granted.

Conditions

For those matters listed in 1- 4 above the existing Councils can enter into such transactions or disposals without referral to the Finance Portfolio Holder, Section 151 Officer, Monitoring Officer or the Shadow Cabinet of the Shadow Authority on the condition that in cases which fall within 1-4 above but the matter is not within existing approved budgets and cannot be address by existing Council budget virement rules then the General Consent does not automatically apply and specific approval must be sought. The decision to apply or disapply this consent is delegated to the Finance Portfolio holder in consultation with the S151 Officer.

All decisions over the value of £2,000,000 and not covered by this General Consent will be a key decision of Westmorland and Furness Shadow Authority and therefore must be included on the Westmorland and Furness Forward Plan at least 28 days before the spend is to be committed.

All S151 officers to send monthly budget reporting to the Westmorland and Furness S151 Officer as soon as prepared.

Clarifications

All contract values are for the full value of the contract (not annual value), including extensions and exclude VAT unless where it is not recoverable.

For the avoidance of doubt, the following transactions are included in the general consent and do not require further approval:

1. Activities of Cumbria Local Government Pension Scheme (CLGPS) where the amounts involved are likely to exceed the amounts covered by the Section 24 Direction including:
 - 1.1. The investment and divestment of pension fund assets (as agreed by either the Pensions Committee or the S151 Officer in consultation with the Investment Sub Group in accordance with the Constitution);
 - 1.1.1. this includes the payment of investment draw down amounts which is essentially CLGPS paying out to previously agreed investments and takes place where an investment manager invest monies over time (the payments can be in sterling, Euros or US dollars);
 - 1.2. Payment of other investment and administration costs e.g. investment manager fees;
 - 1.3. Pension transfers (i.e. payments by CLGPS to another pension fund e.g. when a fund member moves to another employer and elects to combine their old pension with their new pension); and
 - 1.4. The payment of pension benefits in line with regulations (this would exceed the Section 24 value in aggregate and death grant lump sums may exceed the limit individually on occasion).
2. Transactions relating to treasury management activities in accordance with the approved Treasury Management Strategy and Investment Strategy of each individual authority.

3. Receipt and expenditure 100% funded by revenue grants issued under Section 31 Local Government Act 2003.
4. Payments of levies and taxes.
5. This consent does not require authorities to apply a cumulative amount in applying the general consent.

Grants and Matters Requiring Consent of the Shadow Cabinet

For the avoidance of doubt, the following transactions are not included in the general consent and do require further approval:

- Receipt of grants over £2,000,000 and expenditure of those grants, other than where 100% funded by revenue grants issued under Section 31 Local Government Act 2003; or
- Issuing of grants over £2,000,000.

Review

This General Consent will be kept under review by the Shadow Cabinet and amended or developed as necessary in the light of experience and practical application.

Schedule 1: Projects for which consent to award contracts of more than £2m is granted based on the medium term financial plans of the Westmorland and Furness Councils and Cumbria County Council

List to be provide with budget approved amounts

This schedule lists areas where Barrow Borough Council, Cumbria County Council, Eden District Council or South Lakeland District Council request consent to enter into contracts as required under the the Westmorland and Furness General Consents under the Direction made under Section 24 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

Ref	Council	Project / Contract	Proposal within budget? Yes / No	Estimated Budget / Contract Value	Budget approved by	Date budget approved	Contract dates (where applicable)	Reasons why this should be approved
A	Cumbria County Council	Safer Roads, Kirkstone Pass Improvements	Yes	£4,000,000	Cumbria County Council	Feb-22	Sep-22	<p>The Council is seeking to undertake a series of works on one of the County's most well known routes the Kirkstone Pass. A timely decision to award this contract will enable works to be progressed in optimal working windows which have been communicated with the local community.</p> <p>Summary: The A592 was identified as part of the Department for Transport (DfT) research as requiring improvements to make the road safer. This was based on surveys of the road as well as reviewing accident data.</p> <p>Previously, road safety measures tended to be 'reactive' - in other words making safety improvements after a collision. This method is more proactive, looking at the infrastructure of a road to make safety improvements before a collision happens.</p> <p>The aim of this commission is for the successful contractor to undertake the successful design and build of identified safety works on a section of the A592. Safety measures and some outline designs have been completed for this project.</p> <p>The nature of this road, a high, steep Cumbrian pass, a busy tourist route and inclement weather means that a significant amount of planning and co-ordination is required to ensure the work is carried out to a high standard but also minimising impact on local users and tourists. It is likely that delivery of this scheme will be over several years to consider minimising impact.</p>
B	Cumbria County Council	Marina Village, Barrow Construction	Yes	£3,000,000- £4,000,000	Cumbria County Council	Feb-22	Aug-22	<p>The Council is seeking to undertake remediation of the Marina Village Site. A timely decision to award this contract will enable works to be progressed before the core winter weather period. A large proportion of the works involve earth moving and would benefit from drier working conditions.</p> <p>Summary: The Marina Village site is a key development site within Barrow-in-Furness Town Centre and is approx. 26 hectares in area. The site presents an opportunity to enliven the waterfront, provide a new diverse housing offer and bringing a unique and perception changing development to the town.</p> <p>The project will support the wider ambitions for growth in Barrow through enabling development of new higher quality housing in order to attract people to live and work in the town and to help address the labour supply shortages.</p>
C	Cumbria County Council	Grizebeck A595 Improvements Design and CPO	Yes	£2,000,000	Cumbria County Council	Jun-22	Jul-22	<p>Awarding a contract for the Design/ Compulsory Purchase Order process for the A595 Grizebeck project will enable the wider multimillion project to progress towards construction phase. The Design stage has been tendered and is approaching a decision to award. Any delay to the award in July will delay the project programme which must be reported to Cumbria LEP and the Department for Transport.</p> <p>Summary: The A595 Grizebeck Improvement is a proposed 1.4km single carriageway road between Chapels and Grizebeck on the A595. Improving the highway network on the A595 has been identified as critical to support economic growth and the movement of goods and people between West and South Cumbria. The scheme will also ensure the A595 can function adequately as a strategic diversion route for the A590.</p>

Ref	Council	Project / Contract	Proposal within budget? Yes / No	Estimated Budget / Contract Value	Budget approved by	Date budget approved	Contract dates (where applicable)	Reasons why this should be approved
D	Cumbria County Council	Property Minor Works Framework Extension	Yes	£3,000,000	Cumbria County Council	Feb-22	Jul-22	<p>Extension of the property minor works framework is scheduled for the end of June/ Beginning of July 22. To enable the framework to continue to function, providing visibility to the supplier, a timely decision must be made.</p> <p>Summary: The Property Maintenance Minor Works Framework was established in 2020 and provides the Capital Programme Property team with five countywide lots each with multiple Suppliers.</p> <p>The agreement has an option to extend by two single year periods after the initial term of two years and is currently 18 months into this initial term. The period of notice for the first additional year (Year 3) is three months prior to the end of the initial term; being 31st August 2022.</p> <p>The Council has a programme of capital maintenance, new build and extensions for all its property. Many of these schemes are delivered through the Capital Works Framework (CWF), which is established to deliver schemes generally within the range of £0.050m to £5m. However, for a number of lower value schemes (up to £0.100m in value) the contractors on the CWF are not the most appropriate or would not offer best value.</p> <p>This Property Maintenance Minor Works framework facilitates the procurement of these low value schemes in a process compliant with procurement rules. Work packages are called off via mini-competition with an option for emergency work only to procure through a direct call-off process. This maintains price competition and ensure value for money as far as is reasonably possible.</p>
E	Cumbria County Council	Highway Surface Treatment Contract Extension	Yes	£5,000,000- £6,000,000	Cumbria County Council	Feb-22	Jul-22	<p>Extension of the Highways Surface Treatment Contract is scheduled for the end of June/ Beginning of July 22. To enable the framework to continue to function, providing visibility to the supplier, a timely decision must be made. In particular, designs must commence for the surface treatment programme for 2022.</p> <p>Summary: The Highways Surface Treatment contract was established in 2018 and provides the Highways Service with a single supplier (Kiely Bros Ltd) to undertake Surface Dressing, Micro Asphalt, Slurry Sealing and High Friction surfacing works. The agreement has an option to extend by three single years after the initial period and is currently 9 months into the first of the single year extension periods. (i.e. Year 4).</p> <p>The contract arrangement allows the Council to procure Surface Treatment works in accordance with the area priorities to improve the standard of the network and extend its operational life.</p> <p>In the main, Kiely's have performed well during the first 4 years of the contract especially with the additional constraints and restrictions caused by the Covid-19 outbreak and the Russia/ Ukraine crisis. This is reflected in good overall KPI scores for each of these years.</p> <p>This contract ensures that the works are carried out to the required specifications. It provides continuity of supply and consistency of pricing. It also standardises the delivery of the surface treatment work across the whole County. There is no minimum guaranteed annual spend on the contract, so the Council only pays for the works they require to be carried out.</p>
F	South Lakeland District Council	Ulverston Leisure Centre Phase 1	Yes	£1,173,000	South Lakeland District Council	Feb-22		<p>Approval would see the first phase of development progress which would enable the relocation of leisure uses from the GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) sports site to the SLDC site at Priory Road, Ulverston. This will release land for future employment use. Further project development work on phases 2 and 3 will enable the Westmorland and Furness Council to determine an appropriate strategy for provision and reinvestment in leisure facilities. The scheme includes receipt of £2m from GSK relating to re-provision of facilities to meet planning conditions.</p>

Ref	Council	Project / Contract	Proposal within budget? Yes / No	Estimated Budget / Contract Value	Budget approved by	Date budget approved	Contract dates (where applicable)	Reasons why this should be approved
G	Eden District Council	Microsoft Enterprise Licence	Yes (for Eden District Council)	£240,000 for first 3 years based on existing Eden District Council requirements & existing Shadow Westmorland and Furness Requirements	Eden District Council		3 years from Aug-22 with optional 1 year extension	To award a contract for Microsoft Licences for Eden District Council (and Shadow Westmorland and Furness Council) with effect from 1 August 2022 with an option that can be used to ensure licences are in place for the Westmorland and Furness Unitary Council from 1 April 2023. This procurement process has been managed strategically to ensure that the Council's requirements are met, whilst at the same time building options, which will benefit readiness for the new Westmorland & Furness Council by using 'multi tenancy' facility that will allow the Microsoft Licences used by Eden District Council, Barrow Borough Council, South Lakeland District Council and the disaggregated functions of Cumbria County Council to become part of a Master License Agreement that will facilitate the merging and moving of licenses to meet the requirements of the Westmorland and Furness Council, which may total up to c7900 licences which could potentially increase the contract value to £8.2m. The contract will only commit the Council to pay for the licenses required for its own operations.
H	Barrow Borough Council	Town Deal grant funding agreement with University of Cumbria for Barrow Learning Quarter.	Yes	£10,366,667	Barrow Borough Council	Feb-22	Mar-22	Town Deal - The Barrow Learning Quarter project is delivered by the University of Cumbria. An initial grant funding agreement was entered into in March 2022 and a full grant agreement is required for the lifetime of the project. This project will create a new University of Cumbria campus on Barrow Island along with an expanded and upgraded facility at Furness College's Rating Lane site. BAE Systems Ltd are providing the land for the new university campus. The full grant funding agreement will encompass the initial facility, hence the March 2022 contract date.
I	Barrow Borough Council	Town Deal grant funding agreement with CCC for Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure.	Yes	£3,966,667	Barrow Borough Council	Feb-22	Mar-22	Town Deal - The Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure project is delivered by Cumbria County Council. An initial grant funding agreement was entered into in March 2022 and a full grant agreement is required for the lifetime of the project. This project will deliver improvements to three key highways in the town – improving the connection between neighbourhoods and making journeys by bike or on foot easier, safer and more enjoyable. The full grant funding agreement will encompass the initial facility, hence the March 2022 contract date.
J	Barrow Borough Council	Town Deal grant funding agreement with CCC for Community Wellbeing Hubs.	Yes	£3,866,667	Barrow Borough Council	Feb-22	Mar-22	Town Deal - The Community Wellbeing Hubs project is delivered by Cumbria County Council. An initial grant funding agreement was entered into in March 2022 and a full grant agreement is required for the lifetime of the project. There are four centres that will bring residents together and encourage users to make positive lifestyle choices by providing an easily accessible home for a variety of activities and experiences which are in the process of being developed. The fourth hub is a new, multi-million pound outdoor learning centre at Earnse Bay on Walney, which will provide access for local communities to open spaces and education. The Earnse Bay Outdoor Centre will be built on land presently owned by Cumbria County Council. The full grant funding agreement will encompass the initial facility, hence the March 2022 contract date.
K	Barrow Borough Council	Levelling Up Fund – Public Realm works contract.	Yes	£11,000,000	Barrow Borough Council	Feb-22	Jul-22	Levelling Up Fund - The Public Realm project is directly delivered by Barrow Borough Council and will improve the Market Hall, improve the frontage and access to the Forum Theatre, and together with the Accessibility project, will enhance access to these cultural assets/attractions and connect them to the rest of the town through better transport infrastructure and improvements to the public realm. The opportunity is out for tender and the contract award is estimated as July 2022.
L	Barrow Borough Council	Town Deal - Housing Market Renewal works contract.	Yes	£3,000,000	Barrow Borough Council	Feb-22	Jul-22	Town Deal - The Housing Renewal project is directly delivered by Barrow Borough Council and is a multi-million pound scheme that will see investment in almost 300 residential properties across Barrow along with 39 commercial properties. The first phase will deliver improvements to 16 residential properties and 39 commercial premises on Rawlinson Street. The improvements will have a significant impact on the wellbeing of local residents and improve perceptions of Barrow as a great place to live. The specification is currently being prepared for tender and contract award is estimated as July 2022.

Report No: DoR53/22

**Eden District Council
Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

7 July 2022

Finance Scrutiny Committee

12 July 2022

Gazprom Update

Report from:	Interim Director of Resources
Wards:	All Wards
Open Public Item	

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To update the Committee on the position regarding the Council’s contract with Gazprom and present the latest on the changes in ownership and control within the company.

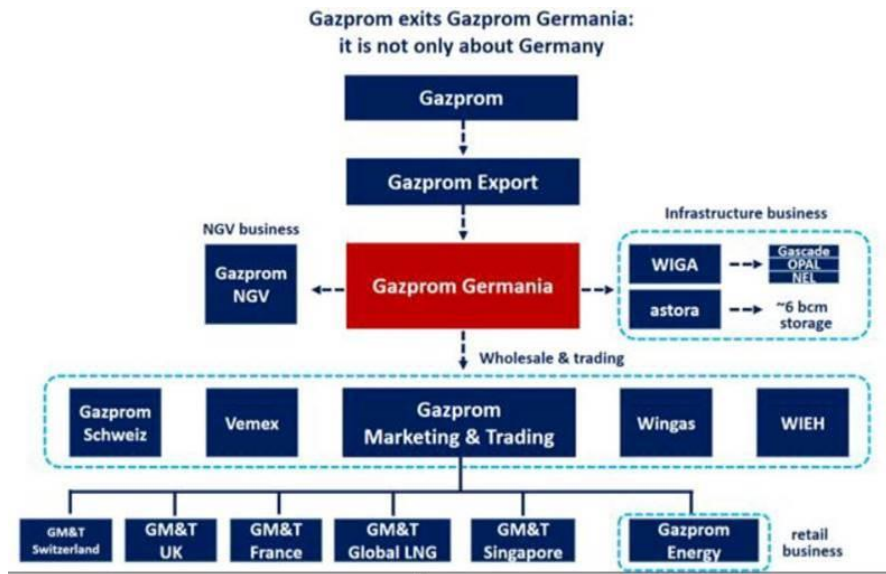
2 Recommendation

It is recommended that Committee note the report.

3 Background

- 3.1 The Committee will be aware that the Council has contracts with GM & T (UK) who are a wholly owned subsidiary of Gazprom Germania that were entered in to prior to the war in Ukraine. The contract is for the supply of gas to five municipal buildings, totalling £27k p.a and the contract expires on 31 March 2023.
- 3.2 The concerns around funding from Russian State companies being used to support the Russian Army led the Council to consider its position regarding the contract. The Council, through Beond, the framework provider used to secure the contract, sought to establish the costs/consequences of terminating the contract early.
- 3.3 Beond approached Gazprom, but also provided information on the changes that the Gazprom Germania, the parent of GM & T (UK) had made to distance itself from Russian control and funding.
- 3.4 Gazprom refused to consent to an early termination of the contract meaning the Council would have been in breach of contract if it had ended the contract early.
- 3.5 Work was undertaken to establish the costs of new supply, although the sanctions for breaching the contract couldn’t be accurately estimated. The best prices at the time would have resulted in a 563% increase in costs i.e. £157k p.a. excluding any costs for breaching the contract.

- 3.6 The information provided by Beond on Gazprom Germania showed that the group had sought to distance itself from Russian control. The table below was the group structure provided back in April.



- 3.7 The change in ownership set out above meant the UK arm of Gazprom fell under the control of the German Government, as they had taken control of Gazprom Germania and its trading arm Gazprom Marketing & Trading (GM&T), which owns GM & T (UK).
- 3.8 The change in ownership meant that the Council’s contract was with the German Government and not with Russia. The Council therefore had no direct contract with Russia for its gas supply.
- 3.9 Given the change in ownership and the huge increase in costs that would arise from breaking the existing contract the decision was taken to not seek to break the existing contract. The situation was though, to be kept under review and the Council will take appropriate action should circumstances change.
- 3.10 The main reason for keeping this under review was that the change in ownership by the German Government was undertaken on a temporary basis due to the legislation used to enact it. The end date was the end of September.

4 Report Details

- 4.1 The German Government on 14 June announced that its trusteeship of Gazprom Germania will be extended beyond September 2022.
- 4.2 In addition, KfW, Germany’s state-owned investment and development bank, will provide Gazprom Germania and its subsidiaries with a loan to protect it from financial difficulties caused by sanctions implemented by the Russian Federation against Gazprom Germania and its subsidiaries. The loan will be used to secure operations and stabilise the energy supply landscape in Europe and will not flow to Russia (so called ring-fencing).
- 4.3 Gazprom Germania GmbH will be renamed and operate under the name “SEFE Securing Energy for Europe GmbH” (SEFE). The subsidiaries of

Gazprom Germania that currently use Gazprom trademarks will also be renamed in the near future.

4.4 The actions taken have been done so to give customers and stakeholders full reassurance in terms of the financial security and future reliability of the companies and that the any ownership, control or cashflows with Russia have been ended.

4.5 The fact that the changes are now indefinite gives us confidence that they will be in place past the point of the end of the Councils contract with SEFE. The reassurance reinforces the information the Council had at the point the decision was made to continue with the existing contract.

5 Policy Framework

5.1 The Council has four corporate priorities which are:

- Sustainable;
- Healthy, safe and secure;
- Connected; and
- Creative

5.2 This report meets the sustainable and healthy, safe and secure corporate priorities.

6 Consultation

6.1 The Cabinet have been consulted on the decision as to whether to break the contract or not although no formal decision is required unless the decision is taken to break.

7 Implications

7.1 Financial and Resources

7.1.1 Any decision to reduce or increase resources or alternatively increase income must be made within the context of the Council's stated priorities, as set out in its Council Plan 2019-2023 as agreed at Council on 7 November 2019.

7.1.2 There are no financial or resources implications arising from this report.

7.2 Legal

7.2.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

7.3 Human Resources

7.3.1 There are no Human Resource implications arising from this report.

7.4 Statutory Considerations

Consideration:	Details of any implications and proposed measures to address:
Equality and Diversity	None arising from this report.
Health, Social Environmental and Economic Impact	None arising from this report.
Crime and Disorder	None arising from this report.

Consideration:	Details of any implications and proposed measures to address:
Children and Safeguarding	None arising from this report.

7.5 Risk Management

Risk	Consequence	Controls Required
Members of the Committee do not know what reports will be presented.	Could affect the effectiveness of the Committee	Maintained work programme to each Committee.

8 Other Options Considered

8.1 No other options were considered.

9 Reasons for the Decision/Recommendation

9.1 To update the Committee on the Council's contract with Gazprom.

Tracking Information

Governance Check	Date Considered
Chief Finance Officer (or Deputy)	29 June 2022
Monitoring Officer (or Deputy)	N/A
Relevant Assistant Director	N/A

Background Papers: None

Appendices: None

Contact Officer: Paul Sutton, Interim Director of Resources

Report No: DoR55/22

**Eden District Council
Finance Scrutiny Committee
12 July 2022
Work Programme 2022/23**

Report from:	Interim Director of Resources
Wards:	All Wards
Open Public Item	

1 Purpose

1.1 To consider and approve the Committee's work programme.

2 Recommendation

It is recommended that Committee note and approve the work programme.

3 Report Details

3.1 The Work Programme for the Committee is set out at Appendix 1 for comment and approval.

4 Policy Framework

4.1 The Council has four corporate priorities which are:

- Sustainable;
- Healthy, safe and secure;
- Connected; and
- Creative

4.2 This report meets the sustainable and healthy, safe and secure corporate priorities.

5 Consultation

5.1 Not applicable.

6 Implications

6.1 Financial and Resources

6.1.1 Any decision to reduce or increase resources or alternatively increase income must be made within the context of the Council's stated priorities, as set out in its Council Plan 2019-2023 as agreed at Council on 7 November 2019.

6.1.2 There are no financial or resources implications arising from this report.

6.2 Legal

6.2.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

6.3 Human Resources

6.3.1 There are no Human Resource implications arising from this report.

6.4 Statutory Considerations

Consideration:	Details of any implications and proposed measures to address:
Equality and Diversity	None arising from this report.
Health, Social Environmental and Economic Impact	None arising from this report.
Crime and Disorder	None arising from this report.
Children and Safeguarding	None arising from this report.

6.5 Risk Management

Risk	Consequence	Controls Required
Members of the Committee do not know what reports will be presented.	Could affect the effectiveness of the Committee	Maintained work programme to each Committee.

7 Other Options Considered

7.1 No other options were considered.

8 Reasons for the Decision/Recommendation

8.1 To maintain an up to date work programme for the Committee.

Tracking Information

Governance Check	Date Considered
Chief Finance Officer (or Deputy)	4 July 2022
Monitoring Officer (or Deputy)	N/A
Relevant Assistant Director	N/A

Background Papers: None

Appendices: Appendix 1 – Work Programme 2022/23

Contact Officer: Paul Sutton, Interim Director of Resources

Budget Planning Committee – Work Programme

Committee Date	Report Title	Public/ Private
12 July 2022	Terms of Reference and Proposed Business for the Municipal Year	Public
12 July 2022	Inspiring Eden Update	Public
12 July 2022	LGR – Finance Theme Update	Public
12 July 2022	Gazprom Update	Public
12 July 2022	Work Programme Update	Public
13 September 2022	Provisional Outturn 2021/22	Public
13 September 2022	Quarter 1 – Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring	Public
13 September 2022	Voreda House Update	Public
13 September 2022	LGR – Finance Theme Update	Public
13 September 2022	Work Programme Update	Public
14 October 2022	Quarter 2 – Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring	Public
14 October 2022	LGR – Finance Theme Update	Public
14 October 2022	Half Year – Review of Treasury Management	Public
14 October 2022	Work Programme Update	Public
6 December 2022	LGR – Finance Theme Update	Public
6 December 2022	Work Programme Update	Public
10 January 2023	LGR – Finance Theme Update	Public
10 January 2023	Treasury Management Strategy 2020/21	Public
10 January 2023	Work Programme Update	Public

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