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Our Ref

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Date: 12 August 2020

Dear Councillor,

Housing and Community Services Committee

A Meeting of the **Housing and Community Services Committee** will be a **Virtual Committee**, held via Microsoft Teams on **Thursday, 20 August 2020 at 18:00**. You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,



Chief Executive

To:- **Conservative Group**

Councillor Pegg (Chairman), Councillor Corbin (Vice-Chairman) and Councillors Atkin, Churchill, Dawson, Mrs. Haines, Mrs. Patten, and Dr. Perry

Labour Group

Councillors Mrs. Heath, Mulgrew, Rhind, Richards and Shepherd

AGENDA

Open to Public and Press

- 1** Apologies and to note any Substitutes appointed for the Meeting.
- 2** To receive the Open Minutes of the following Meetings:

30th January 2020 **4 - 8**

12th March 2020 **9 - 11**
- 3** To note any declarations of interest arising from any items on the Agenda
- 4** To receive any questions by members of the public pursuant to Council Procedure Rule No.10.
- 5** To receive any questions by Members of the Council pursuant to Council procedure Rule No. 11.
- 6** HOUSING ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY **12 - 26**
- 7** CONTRIBUTION TO ACTIVE DERBYSHIRE **27 - 32**
- 8** NATIONAL FOREST SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS **33 - 47**
- 9** ENGLAND TREE STRATEGY CONSULTATION **48 - 57**
- 10** COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP SCHEME **58 - 62**
- 11** COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME **63 - 67**

Exclusion of the Public and Press:

- 12** The Chairman may therefore move:-

That in accordance with Section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Part I of the Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in the header to each report on the Agenda.

- 13** To receive the Exempt Minutes of the following Meetings:
30th January 2020
- 14** To receive any Exempt questions by Members of the Council pursuant to Council procedure Rule No. 11.
- 15** REVIEW OF HOUSING SERVICE
- 16** ACQUISITION OF NEW COUNCIL HOUSING AT ACRESFORD ROAD,
OVERSEAL

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

30th January 2020

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

Councillor Roberts (Chairman) Councillor Pegg (Vice-Chairman) and Councillors Atkin, Corbin, Churchill, Mrs Haines, Dr Perry and Mrs Wheelton

Labour Group

Councillors Mrs Heath, Mulgrew, Rhind, Richards, and Shepherd

HCS/70 **APOLOGIES**

The Committee was informed that no apologies had been received

HCS/71 **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st November 2019 were noted and approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

HCS/72 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Committee was informed that no declarations of interest from Members of the Council had been received.

HCS/73 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 10**

The Committee was informed that no questions from members of the public had been received.

HCS/74 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the Council had been received.

HCS/75 **REPORTS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

There were no Overview and Scrutiny Reports to be submitted.

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE**HCS/76 HOUSING ALLOCATIONS POLICY**

The Strategic Director (Service Delivery) presented the report to the Committee highlighting the following extended consultations the maximum household eligibility income had been raised from £40,000 to £60,000. The Housing Services Manager explained that the final policy document will be finished later in the year.

RESOLVED:-

- 1.1 That the responses to the consultation on the Housing Allocations Policy be accepted for inclusion within a revised policy which to be presented to the Housing and Community Services Committee later this year.***
- 1.2 That the Committee agreed to review the options for the procurement of a new Choice Based lettings system during 2020/21.***

HCS/77 HOMELESSNESS AND ROUGH SLEEPING STRATEGY

The Housing Services Manager presented the report to the Committee explaining that it was necessary to carry out a comprehensive review as it had been 10 years since the last review of homelessness and that the Government's homeless advisor is supportive of our approach.

Councillor Churchill enquired whether headlines covered within strategy document are fixed and Councillor Richards asked for clarity whether the impact of Universal Credit on homelessness will be considered. The Housing Services Manager informed the Committee that the LGA toolkit guidance will be used which tells the Council what the review should include. Members were also informed that changes to benefits will be in the scope of the review.

RESOLVED:

- 1.1 That the Committee noted the content of the Homelessness Strategy Statement be submitted to the Ministry of Community Housing and Local Government.***
- 1.2 That the Committee approved the procurement of an external provider to carry out a comprehensive review of homelessness services and produce a Homelessness, Rough Sleeping and Temporary Accommodation Strategy.***

HCS/78 TRANSFER OF HOUSING REPAIR CALLS INTO CUSTOMER SERVICES

The Head of Customer Services presented the report explaining then need to address customer dissatisfaction with the currently housing repairs call service.

Councillor Churchill enquired how will the improvement in service be measured. The Head of Housing Services informed Committee that customer satisfaction feedback forms will be used to measure the success of the changes.

Councillor Rhind asked how many of calls currently received are linked to reporting of outstanding repairs. The Housing Services Manager explained that as there are only two telephone lines available a lot of customers cannot get through but it is expected that by moving the calls to Customer Services this will help identify when repairs have not been carried out in time.

Councillor Perry enquired how will the Service know what the success rate is of the follow up calls regarding the progress of repairs. The Head of Customer Services informed the Members that both Customers Service Feedback and auditing will be used.

RESOLVED:-

- 1.1 That the Committee approved the transfer of Housing Repair calls into Customer Services which will require the creation of an additional Customer Services Advisor post on the Council's establishment, which will be either a full-time Modern Apprentice, or a part-time skilled Customer Services Advisor.***
- 1.2 That the Committee approved the financial and staffing implications of the transfer of calls be referred to the Council's Finance and Management Committee on 13th February 2020 for approval.***

HCS/79 ADOPTION OF THE STRATEGIC HOUSING MARKET ASSESSMENT (SHMA)

The Strategic Housing Manager delivered the report to the Committee explaining that this research can be used by the Council as a tool for future building including elderly provision and homes.

Councillor Atkin raised concern about the need for more elderly care provision and how this can be delivered. The Strategic Housing Manager informed the Committee that there is a reduction in residential care beds and therefore future proofing of homes to allow for increased provision for care in the home is needed.

RESOLVED:-

- 1.1 That the Committee formally adopted the updated Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) as per Appendix 1 of the Report.***
- 1.2 That the Committee noted the content of the Executive Summary document and the implications of the findings for South Derbyshire.***
- 1.3 That the report be referred to Environmental and Development Services Committee for its endorsement for use as a material consideration to assist in the determination of future planning applications.***

HCS/80 **SWAD IN BLOOM**

The Head of Cultural and Community Services presented the report to the Committee outlining the main purpose and intentions of the “Swad In Bloom” Group (SIBG).

Members were very supportive of this and keen that this movement will only help to improve many areas within Swadlincote. Councillor Atkin asked whether private sites could be used as well as Council Sites and if there was any funding available from the Council. The Head of Cultural and Community Services explained that all types and ranges of sites will be targeted and the Council was not giving the money to the movement but will support them to get sponsorship.

RESOLVED:-

- 1.1 That the Council join in with and support the national Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) “In Bloom” Scheme.***
- 1.2 That the Council supports the “Swad in Bloom” Group (SIBG) and its Action Plan.***
- 1.3 That the Committee approved permission for the SIBG to maintain and improve, in partnership with the Council, the areas of Council land, as delineated on the plans Appendix 1 and 2 of the Report.***
- 1.4 That the Council provides advice, help and support to the formative SIBG on volunteering protocols, insurance, risk assessment, proposed projects etc.***
- 1.5 That the Council supports the SIBG in any application for permissions, grant-aid and funding which affects Council land or impacts on the visual amenity of the town.***

HCS/81 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

RESOLVED:-

The Committee considered and approved the updated work programme.

HCS/82 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 (AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT [ACCESS TO INFORMATION] ACT 1985)**

RESOLVED:-

That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in brackets after each item.

MINUTES

The Exempt Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st November 2019 were received.

TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 11

The Committee was informed that no questions had been received.

STRUCTURE REVIEW CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Members approved the recommendations in the report.

The Meeting terminated at 7.05 pm.

COUNCILLOR A ROBERTS

CHAIRMAN

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

12th March 2020

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

Councillor Roberts (Chairman) and Councillors Atkin, Corbin, Churchill, Ford (substituting for Cllr Pegg) Mrs Haines, Dr Perry and Mrs Wheelton

Labour Group

Councillors Mrs Heath, Mulgrew, Rhind, Richards, and Shepherd

HCS/86 **APOLOGIES**

The Committee was informed that apologies had been received from Councillor Pegg

HCS/87 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Committee was informed that no declarations of interest from Members of the Council had been received.

HCS/88 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 10**

The Committee was informed that no questions from members of the public had been received.

HCS/89 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the Council had been received.

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE

HCS/90 **APPROVAL OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACE PROTECTION ORDER – MAURICE LEA PARK AND MARKET STREET**

The Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Officer presented the report highlighting the positive feedback following the statutory consultation and requested that the Committee approves the implementation of the Public Open Space Protection Order at Maurice Lea Park

RESOLVED

That the Committee approved the recommendation to implement a three-year Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for Maurice Lea Park and Market Street, Church Gresley following completion of the required formal consultation process

HCS/91 **SUBMISSION OF CONSULTATION RESPONSE TO MCHLG – FIRST HOMES**

The Strategic Housing Manager presented the report to the Committee informing Members that this will ensure that a percentage of new homes built will be offered at a minimum 30% reduction for local people and members of the Armed Forces

Councillor Rhind enquired whether there would be a limit to where these homes will be built. The Strategic Housing Manager informed the Committee that as part of the Section 106 any building project with over 15 units a percentage will be this new tenure.

RESOLVED

1.1 That the Committee approved the response, attached to the report, on behalf of the Council for submission to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MCHLG) by the 3rd April 2020.

1.2 That the Committee noted the content of the consultation response submission, the attached MCHLG guidance in First Homes as per Appendix 1 of the report, and associated implications of the introduction of First Homes within South Derbyshire.

HCS/92 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

RESOLVED:-

The Committee considered and approved the updated work programme.

HCS/93 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 (AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT [ACCESS TO INFORMATION] ACT 1985)**

RESOLVED:-

That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in brackets after each item.

**TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL
PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 11**

The Committee was informed that no questions had been received.

The Meeting terminated at 6.10 pm.

COUNCILLOR A ROBERTS

CHAIRMAN

REPORT TO:	HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 6
DATE OF MEETING:	20th AUGUST 2020	CATEGORY: RECOMMENDED
REPORT FROM:	STRATEGIC DIRECTOR SERVICE DELIVERY	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	PAUL WHITTINGHAM Paul.whittingham@southderbyshire.gov.uk	DOC:
SUBJECT:	HOUSING ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY	
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE: (See Notes)

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 That the updated Asset Management Strategy Action Plan is noted.
- 1.2 That a comprehensive review of the Asset Management Strategy is completed before the end of 2022 in conjunction with a review of the overarching Housing Strategy.
- 1.3 That the Committee approves the procurement of external consultancy to carry out a comprehensive options appraisal of an existing site (Smallthorn Place Woodville) and identify possible delivery options for refurbishment, redevelopment, or disposal of the site.
- 1.4 That a report is brought to the Committee which outlines future delivery options for new homes in the District, including the possibility of providing further "in house" development.

2.0 Purpose of the Report

- 2.1 To update the Committee on progress against the Housing Asset Management Strategy Action Plan, attached at Appendix A.
- 2.2 To confirm the intention for this Strategy to be comprehensively reviewed to link with the Corporate Asset Management Strategy and the overarching Housing Strategy, a review of which is also due by 2022.
- 2.3 To seek the Committee's approval, for a pilot, comprehensive options appraisal being completed on an existing Council owned site at Smallthorn Place.

3.0 Executive Summary

- 3.1 The overarching Housing Strategy 2016-2021 was approved by the Housing and Community Services Committee on 12th January 2016. This document will be reviewed and be the subject of a further report to Committee in 2021.
- 3.2 The Housing Asset Management Strategy was approved by the Housing and Community Services Committee on the 6th October 2016. The Strategy outlines a thirty-year plan for the investment, refurbishment and renewal of existing Council Housing stock.
- 3.3 An Action plan was included in the Asset Management strategy which is reviewed annually and the whole document is scheduled for a comprehensive review before the end of 2022.
- 3.4 An updated version of the Asset Management Strategy Action Plan is attached at appendix A.
- 3.5 A newly formed technical officer “Development Group” has recently been formed, Chaired by the Strategic Director, Service Delivery, comprising the necessary professional and technical officer disciplines necessary to drive forward the Council’s strategic approach to the refurbishment, redevelopment and regeneration of the Council’s housing stock and acquisition of new properties.

4.0 Detail

- 4.1 The Housing Strategy and Housing Asset Management Strategy were approved prior to the restructure of the Housing Service in 2017. Since their approval there have been several changes in the operating environment and the staffing within the Service.
- 4.2 The Housing Service was restructured during 2017 resulting in the Housing Asset Manager and Improvements Manager Posts being deleted from the structure. An Interim Manager was appointed for the whole asset management and repair service. A new Housing Services Manager post commenced in January 2018 and the Repairs Team Leader post commenced in February 2018 with responsibility for the whole repair and maintenance service.
- 4.3 Shortly after the restructure was implemented the Housing Quality Network (HQN) was commissioned to review the entire Housing repair and maintenance service. This review produced an action plan which was presented to Housing and Community Services Committee in June 2019. This review provided the detailed actions necessary to meet the requirements of the Asset Management Strategy.
- 4.4 In working to implement the action plan, the Repair and Maintenance Team’s initial focus was on Housing Safety, primarily ensuring the Council was effectively managing the implications of the Grenfell disaster. The risks identified were captured in the Service Delivery Risk Register and continue to be addressed through specialist contracts to complete fire, electrical, asbestos gas and water hygiene works.
- 4.5 The HQN review and action plan also identified customer service as a major area for improvement. All Housing staff undertook refresher Customer Care Training alongside all the Council’s front-line staff. Additional resource is being provided by the Council’s Customer Service Team to assist the Repairs Team in handling approximately 14000 repair calls per year. A report to Committee on 30th January 2020 outlined the benefits of this approach which are currently being realised.

- 4.6 There has been significant progress in achieving the objectives set out within the Asset Management Strategy. These include the procurement of new contracts for the provision of repair and maintenance services; the commissioning of an environmental survey of Council owned properties; and the completion of a stock condition survey. Work is well under way to produce a new suite of housing safety policies and a framework for the management of contracts has been implemented. This approach to contract management has been graded by Internal Audit as giving the Council “considerable assurance”.
- 4.7 Officers from across the Council are working together as part of a Development Group, Chaired by the Strategic Director, Service Delivery, to develop proposals that will enable Councillors to, in due course, be presented with a range of options for the refurbishment and/or redevelopment/regeneration of both existing stock and the acquisition and or development of new build sites.
- 4.8 For existing Council-owned properties, the results of the forthcoming environmental survey will inform the decision making process around which properties may need to be assessed further in order to decide whether future investment in carbon reduction technology is economically viable or whether more major refurbishment or total redevelopment provides a more environmentally and financially sustainable alternative. The Council is also planning to host a Low Carbon Housing event in the autumn in conjunction with Low Carbon Homes UK and the Local Authority Energy Partnership to potentially exploit new Government funding to retrofit Council and private owned properties with energy saving measures. More details of this will be made available later this year.
- 4.9 As a result of earlier stock condition work, several schemes have already been identified which will require a comprehensive options appraisal to determine whether future refurbishment, remodelling or redevelopment provides the most advantageous model for future investment. These are:
- Smallthorn Place, Woodville
 - Fisher Close, Repton
 - Holmes Court, Swadlincote
 - Brightman House, Swadlincote
 - Blacksmiths Lane, Woodville
- 4.10 It is proposed to procure consultancy services to carry out a detailed options appraisal of the Smallthorn Place scheme in the first instance as a pilot. The Smallthorn Place scheme has been identified as potentially requiring significant investment to improve its overall appearance and the condition of communal areas and staircases. The scheme also sits in a large “footprint” of land which includes unattractive and underused carparking areas, grassed areas and storage sheds. The site could possibly provide additional units of accommodation and create a more attractive living environment. The second part of the consultancy proposal is to provide an analysis of options for the delivery and funding of the range of options that are identified. in the appraisal. The Options and Delivery appraisals will cost around £13,000.
- 4.11 The possible options for the delivery of redevelopment and new build were presented to the Housing and Community Services Committee on 23rd November 2017. Since then the Council has been successful in both building new affordable homes in the

District and acquiring properties as part of larger developments. The options appraisal work will provide a new assessment of the options for the delivery of new homes including:

- Establishing a wholly owned company, which was previously considered and rejected by the Council
- Design and Build contracts to support local supply chains
- Working in partnership with other providers using Council land
- Working with other Districts to share risk and units on border sites
- As assessment methodology for the future acquisition of units utilising commuted sums
- The expansion of internal resource to deliver development

4.12 This piece of work will provide the Council with an example of how future investment options can be evaluated based on comprehensive asset data. Further investment will be required to enable the Council to carry out more of this options appraisal work itself. The software and training required to enable the Council to develop its own programme of options appraisal is estimated to cost around £38,000. This will in turn enable the Council in order to feed a “pipeline” of major refurbishment and possibly redevelopment of its housing stock. Further consideration of the benefit of investing in such software will be subject to a future business case for Committee consideration.

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 The initial options and delivery appraisal for Smallthorn Place will cost approximately £13,000 which can be met through existing Housing Revenue Account survey budgets.

6.0 Corporate Implications

Employment Implications

6.1 There are no direct employment implications contained within with this report.

Legal Implications

6.2 There are no direct legal implications contained within this report

Corporate Plan Implications

6.3 This report directly contributes to achieving the aims within the Corporate Plan:

- a. **Supporting and safeguarding the most vulnerable**
 - i. With partners encourage independent living and keep residents healthy and happy in their homes.
 - ii. Promote health and wellbeing across the District.
 - iii. Improve the condition of housing stock and public buildings.
- b. **Support economic growth and infrastructure**

- i. Encourage and support business development and new investment in the District.
- ii. Enable the delivery of housing across all tenures to meet Local Plan targets.

Risk Impact

- 6.4 This report directly contributes to the mitigation of Service Delivery Risk:SD9 - Failure to meet housing delivery targets set out in the five-year supply

7.0 Community Impact

Consultation

- 7.1 There are no direct requirements to consult with the public at this stage, However, any significant refurbishment or redevelopment proposals will require full consultation with Council tenants.

Equality and Diversity Impact

- 7.2 There is no direct Equality and Diversity impact within this report

Social Value Impact

- 7.3 There are no direct social value implications within this report

Environmental Sustainability

- 7.4 There are no direct environmental sustainability implications within this report however carbon reduction principles will be at the heart of any refurbishment or redevelopment project arising from the options appraisal.

8.0 Conclusions

- 8.1 Whilst the Council's stock of dwellings is in reasonable condition there are several sites where many different factors may be combining to make their long-term financial and environmental sustainability questionable.
- 8.2 At the same time, the Council is in a strong position to increase the Council Housing Stock and associated revenue income into the Housing Revenue Account.
- 8.3 There are a number of ways in which both the improvement of existing stock, the better use of existing assets and the development of new homes can be achieved. The Committee is now asked to consider how decisions regarding possible development sites and the possible delivery vehicles can be made.
- 8.4 An options report will be presented at a future Committee that will outline all the possible delivery vehicles for new build and acquisition. The report will outline a preferred option that would be suited to the Council's financial position, capacity to deliver and the specific requirements to meet demand within South Derbyshire.
- 8.5 The current reactive approach to housing acquisitions and opportunities to build does not enable longer-term strategic planning for new housing or increasing the rent roll.

A more pro-active approach to improving and increasing Council housing stock through regeneration, new build and acquisitions would enable a planned approach that would in turn reduce risk and unit costs over the longer-term.

9.0 Background Papers

- 9.1 Report to Housing and Community Services Committee (November 2017) – ***‘Increasing supply of affordable homes through direct acquisition and LA new build schemes – options report’***

Priority	Action/Task	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Links to Housing Strategy Outcome	Update 2020
AMS 01 – Achieving the South Derbyshire District Council standard for property condition, exceeding Decent Homes Standards	Finalise a programme to review all asset management policies and procedures.	Repair and Improvements Team Leaders	March 2017	HS01 – Improving access to and supply of housing HS02 – Well maintained, safer, greener homes	Five new compliance policies are being drafted. Repairs policy under review.
	Regularly review and monitor work programme progress against agreed KPI's and report any variances and amendments	Repair and Improvements Team Leaders	Monthly		<u>COMPLETE</u> KPIs for NOVUS and other contracts in place along with contract management arrangements Monthly internal and external progress/team meetings are now routine and all performance and commercial issues are considered
	Provide quarterly performance reports and programme progress to the Capital Programme Asset Monitoring Group and HCS (Half Yearly)	Repair and Improvements Team Leaders	June/October progress report to HCS		<u>COMPLETE</u>

	Publish asset data and statistic for the HRA Business Plan 2016-2046	Head of Housing			<u>COMPLETE</u>
	Ensure the Council's housing stock meets the Decent Homes Standard and voids are Fit to Let	Repair and Improvements Team Leaders	Annual Review		<u>COMPLETE</u> Decent Homes measured in the Stock Condition Survey A new standard for relet homes is being developed with NOVUS to include the redecoration of property
	Update stock condition survey data on 'Lifespan' as programme of works are completed	Repair and Improvements Team Leaders	Monthly		The Lifespan product has limited functionality. A new property/contract management system is being explored.
	Review condition of non-traditional stock	Repair and Improvements Team Leaders	Annually Reviewed		Condition of non-traditional stock reviewed in conjunction with new build and

					regeneration programme Non-traditional dwellings identified in Stock Condition Survey and will be paid special attention in the Nottingham City Environmental Project. Individual estates are already receiving more detailed structural/ engineers reports to establish necessary work.
	Set up working group to produce fully costed feasibility study to increase the standard of stock above the decent homes standard	Head <u>of</u> Housing	July 2017		<u>COMPLETE</u> Working in Partnership with NOVUS to agree a new minimum lettable standard.
Priority	Action/Task	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Links to Housing Strategy Outcome	
	Undertake procurement of all necessary contracts that complete during 2016/2017 and 2017/18, and thereafter for all subsequent years	Repair and Improvements Team Leaders	Annual Review		<u>COMPLETE</u>

Priority	Action/Task	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Links to Housing Strategy Outcome	Update 2020
AMS 02 – Improving energy efficiency and reducing fuel poverty	Review current programme of targeted works to improve the thermal efficiency of housing stock and reduce energy consumption	Repair and Improvements Team Leaders	December 2017	HS02 – Well maintained, safer, greener homes HS03 – Helping people to live independently	NCC review commissioned to address this
	Explore new and cost effective solutions for improving the energy efficiency of the Council's stock, and maximise all funding opportunities through continued engagement with suppliers	Repair and Improvements Team Leaders	Ongoing		NCC review commissioned to address this
	Publish a self-help video for tenants to reduce internal condensation and mould	Environmental Health Manager/Housing Asset Manger			<u>COMPLETE</u>
	Provide support to help tenants heat their homes efficiently and cost effectively by reducing their energy usage and reducing energy costs through advice and by working with external partners	Head of Housing	Annual Reviews		<u>COMPLETE</u> Gas/Elec –Housing assist the client with a USWITCH comparison search enabling the client with an informed decision to switch provider Water – tenants can access the two companies' social

					<p>tariffs (Severn Trent – Big Difference Scheme, South Staffs – Assured Social Tariff).</p> <p>Energy efficiency, cases referred to Citizen’s Advice ‘energy champion’</p> <p>All tenants receive a British Gas leaflet at sign up which gives basic advice on energy efficiency.</p>
	Continually review positive effect of energy improvement works on the stock via the national Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP)	Repair and Improvements Team Leaders	March 2017/Annually		<p><u>COMPLETE</u></p> <p>SAP measured and recalculated through the data provided in Stock Condition Survey NCC project will further inform this data.</p>

Priority	Action/Task	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Links to Housing Strategy Outcome	Update 2020
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Asset Management Strategy Action Plan

AMS 03 – Repairing and maintaining properties to agreed standards	Train all asset management staff on policies and procedures relating to asset management to ensure effective and consistent service delivery	Repair and Improvements Team Leaders	September 2017	HS02 – Well maintained, safer, greener homes HS03 – Helping people to live independently	<u>COMPLETE</u> Training complete on project and contract management
	Undertake full modernisation of the direct labour <u>organisation</u> (DLO).	Repair and Improvements Team Leaders	March 2018		Housing Quality Network Completed Further Review which identified further service improvements that are required and are now in progress
	Produce five-year capital improvements programme 2017-2022, and report half yearly progress to HCS committee	Repair and Improvements Team Leaders			<u>COMPLETE</u> Annual programme of works in place. Five-year External Maintenance Programme in Development
	Engage with procurement consortia, suppliers and contractors to ensure latest modern methods of construction are utilised in maintaining and improving the stock.	Repair and Improvements Team Leaders	Ongoing		<u>COMPLETE</u> NOVUS and other contracts procured through framework process

Priority	Action/Task	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Links to Housing Strategy Outcome	Update 2020
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AMS 04 – Meeting the needs of older, vulnerable and disabled households	Provide technical advice and support to Housing Operation Manager in undertaking Supported Housing Review	Repair and Improvement Team Leaders	<u>January 2017</u>	HS03 – Helping people to live independently	Contracts extended until late 2021. Further review of Careline and Supported Housing underway in collaboration with DCC
	Review delivery of disabled adaptation service in conjunction with Derbyshire County Council	Repair and Improvements Team Leaders	March 2017		<u>COMPLETE</u> Further improvements to service and process recently agreed
	Review stock before being re-let to ensure it is sustainable for the incoming tenants who may have specific health needs	Repair and Improvements Team Leaders	Ongoing		<u>COMPLETE</u> DFG team now work with Allocations Team to achieve this Purchase of Foundation Software will assist team to better track the end to end process.
	Produce a fully costed programme of works to ensure DDA access is improved to all communal rooms	Repair and Improvements Team Leaders	March 2021		Included within 2020/21 Planned External Maintenance works

Asset Management Strategy Action Plan

Priority	Action/Task	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Links to Housing Strategy Outcome	Update 2020
AMS 05 – Being resilient: Identifying and regenerating uneconomic housing and communities through effective and accurate stock management information	Produce clear and accurate stock options appraisals on all stock	Repair and Improvements Team Leaders	December 2020	HS01 – Improving access to and supply of housing	Work in progress to procure suitable methodology for comprehensive stock options appraisals

Priority	Action/Task	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Links to Housing Strategy Outcome	Update 2020
AMS 06 – Managing investment opportunities and development potential of land and property to meet local needs	Set up a Registered Providers forum to increase opportunities to work collectively to increase housing supply within South Derbyshire	Housing Strategy Manager	November 2016	HS01 – Improving access to and supply of housing	<u>COMPLETE</u> Forums in place with other providers.
	Appoint external advisor to facilitate new build and regeneration opportunities with South Derbyshire	Housing Strategy Manager	Complete		<u>COMPLETE</u> Housebuilding Options previously presented to Committee 23/11/2017
	Progress Joint Venture to increase opportunities to increase supply of housing within South Derbyshire	Housing Strategy Manager	December 2017		<u>COMPLETE</u> Housebuilding Options previously presented to

Asset Management Strategy Action Plan

					Committee 23/11/2017
	Produce development appraisal of all land in Housing Revenue Account and General Fund ownership for potential development opportunity or sale	Housing Strategy Manager	Complete		An initial review was completed , newly formed Development group to consider financial appraisal model.

REPORT TO:	HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES	AGENDA ITEM: 7
DATE OF MEETING:	20th AUGUST 2020	CATEGORY: (See Notes) DELEGATED or RECOMMENDED
REPORT FROM:	STRATEGIC DIRECTOR- (SERVICE DELIVERY)	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	HANNAH PEATE EXT 5973. Hannah.peate@southderbyshire.gov.uk	DOC:
SUBJECT:	CONTRIBUTION TO ACTIVE DERBYSHIRE	
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE: HCS07

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 That the Committee approves a financial contribution to Active Derbyshire for 2020/21 of £12,191 for the delivery of outcomes set out in a Service Level Agreement with the Council (Appendix 1)
- 1.2 That delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director, Service Delivery, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee to sign any separate agreements necessary to ensure the delivery of the projects set out in the Service Level Agreement.

2.0 Purpose of the Report

- 2.1 To seek the Committee's approval to the Council making a financial contribution to Active Derbyshire for the 2020-21 financial year for the delivery of key outcomes for the District.
- 2.2 To seek approval for the Strategic Director, Service Delivery to be given delegated authority, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, to sign any separate agreements necessary to ensure the delivery of the projects set out in the Service Level Agreement.

3.0 Executive Summary

- 3.1 None

4.0 Detail

- 4.1 For a number of years South Derbyshire District Council (SDDC) has paid an annual subscription to the formerly named Derbyshire Sport; now hosted in a Trust called

Active Partners Trust. The Trust is a County-wide Partnership that acts collaboratively to deliver physical activity, sport, leisure and recreational activities across Derbyshire. All Local Authorities in Derbyshire have contributed financially to this arrangement. The Partnership has been successful in leveraging in significant resource for the County to further its aims.

- 4.2 The Active Partners Trust comprises Active Derbyshire and Active Nottinghamshire. The Active Derbyshire proposed draft service level agreement (SLA) for South Derbyshire for 2020-21 is attached at Appendix 1. This draft SLA outlines a core offer from Active Derbyshire across the County but also a bespoke offer for South Derbyshire following discussions with the Council. For some of the projects outlined in the SLA, for example developing satellite clubs at a local level, separate agreements will be drawn up to specially outline the exact detail of what both Active Derbyshire and the Council are required to deliver. Delegated authority for the Strategic Director to sign these separate agreements, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee is sought.
- 4.3 In light of the coronavirus pandemic all of the content included within the Core Offer and District Specific Offer will be adapted to reflect the current circumstances. This will include but not limited to connecting and enabling partner collaboration through virtual meetings, convening a virtual forum to share best practice from across the County and reviewing the use of investment to meet the current needs i.e. working across the Schools Games network to develop a series of active at home resources for young people.
- 4.4 All Derbyshire District and Borough Councils and Derby City Council have been requested to make financial contributions to Active Derbyshire on the above basis. This is the third year of a three-year funding in principle agreement with Active Derbyshire subject to Committee approval.
- 4.5
- 4.6 The key outcomes delivered through the 2019-20 SLA by Active Derbyshire included:
- Data packs and information provided to aid greater understanding of District residents and areas to help inform service delivery and design.
 - Support for the Young People Active Lives survey being conducted in selected schools.
 - County-wide conference events held including: Towards an Active Derbyshire Partnership event and Active Fostering, Active Design Conference, Teacher and Governor events and a Guide to Planning for non-planners' event. Talking Insights workshops – Disability and We are Undefeatable national campaigns.
 - Financial resource totalling £28,564.50 secured for South Derbyshire including a contribution to coach education programmes for clubs and community groups, Young Peoples Fund projects and Derbyshire County Council (DCC) Action Grant funding.
 - A County Derbyshire School Sports Awards, and Active Derbyshire Awards being hosted.
 - County Schools Games events and a flagship summer event held across the academic year.
 - County-wide investment from Sport England to investigate increasing and supporting the community use of schools; this included an audit, sharing good practice and potential future investment. South Derbyshire Schools have been audited and involved in this process.

- A Derbyshire Insight (information) pack created for Children and Young People year two data.
- A place-based approach to work in the District has been supported.
- Dissemination of information and insight, data and national campaigns at relevant partnership groups.
- A Strategic Lead post being resourced to support Active South Derbyshire's strategy delivery.

5.0 Financial Implications

- 5.1 Active Derbyshire has requested a Council contribution for 2020-21 of £12,191. This can be met from the Active Communities and Health budget.
- 5.2 Any future request for funding for future years would be brought to Committee for consideration.

6.0 Corporate Implications

Employment Implications

- 6.1 There are no direct employment implications of this paper; other than the hosting of relevant Active Derbyshire staff to fulfil their commitments into the District when required.

Legal Implications

- 6.2 None directly from this report

Corporate Plan Implications

- 6.3 The proposed contribution will support the Council to deliver services to the residents of South Derbyshire and fulfil elements of Our Environment, Our People and Our Future themes of the Corporate Plan.

Risk Impact

- 6.4 The Corporate and Departmental risk registers will be updated with any risks identified if they arise from this report.

7.0 Community Impact

Consultation

- 7.1 Active Derbyshire will make positive contributions to the Active South Derbyshire Physical Activity, Sport and Recreation Strategy 2017-2022 and all key themes within the Sustainable Community Strategy- Children and Young People, Healthier Communities, Safer Communities, Stronger Communities and Sustainable Development. These documents were developed in consultation with South Derbyshire residents and organisations.

Equality and Diversity Impact

7.2 This SLA supports targeted interventions with an evidence led approach.

Social Value Impact

7.3 Physical inactivity can cost the economy millions of pounds per year. By supporting the District's least active population to become active it will work to improve an individual's / community's health and wellbeing and potentially reduce wider costs to society such as the health service.

Environmental Sustainability

7.4 Where appropriate delivery of opportunities take place within local communities to reduce the barrier of rural isolation but also to enable people to cycle and walk to opportunities locally, which will potentially reduce traffic congestion and pollution.

8.0 Conclusions

8.1 The proposal for continuing the Council's contribution to Active Derbyshire will result in a joined-up approach to the aforementioned Corporate and District-wide strategies; and support the County-wide approach to this partnership work.

9.0 Background Papers

Draft SLA for 2020/2021

Schedule 1 (DRAFT)

1. Agreed support for joint working in 2020/21

Core Offer

To provide Strategic Lead support to work across the local authority area to develop physical activity

To share good practice from the local authority area across the County and region

To lobby and promote Derbyshire to secure resources from Sport England and other national, regional and County organisations

To provide support in terms of funding advice and promotion of funding opportunities to the local authority and its communities

To provide insight support through data gathering and analysis in the form of mapping and analysis of the Active Lives Survey data, to include:

- The production of a Derbyshire insight pack, which considers Active Lives, census and health data
- The production of a local authority area insight pack
- Mapping of inactivity levels and priority groups across the local authority area to help identify people and places in greatest need

To deliver Sport England funded programmes such as:

- Derbyshire School Games - three levels of activity: competition in schools, between schools, at county/area level engaging pupils of all abilities. Investment in Derbyshire is £30,000
- School Sport Premium Plus - funding to support the provision of physical education and sport in Primary Schools.
- Active Lives Young People's Survey - a nationwide survey to measure sport and physical activity levels of school children
- Satellite Clubs - local sport and physical activity clubs that are designed around the needs of young people and provide them with positive, enjoyable experiences that make it easy for them to become active or to develop more regular activity habits. Available investment across Derbyshire is £86,000 p.a.
- Workforce Development - funded programme to develop the enablers, deliverers and influencers across the sport and physical activity system to effectively reach, support and enable our target communities and groups to be more active.

To deliver an annual Derbyshire Physical Activity and Sports Awards event

To provide support and guidance in the development of a marketing led approach to the physical activity offer in the local authority area, including:

- Workforce training to develop marketing skills
- Support and training to create digital tools such as videos
- Opportunities to promote District work through Business-to-Business (B2B) Active Derbyshire communications e.g. website, newsletters, and social media

- General marketing and communications advice and support

To provide support and guidance in the development of open and built infrastructure including:

- Championing the use of engagement of local communities in facility provision
- Provide support for the use of Active Design principles in the planning of new housing developments
- Provide support, advice and comment on facility project and strategy groups

To provide support and advice on how to use the East Midlands Physical Activity Toolkit to monitor projects and guidance on how to use the Active Partners Trust Evaluation Framework to capture the value of your work, reflections of those involved, stories of change, and outcomes achieved

District Specific Offer

- Continue to facilitate learning within the education sector regarding community use of schools, working with schools in the urban core to understand current usage, success factors and support schools to open their sports facilities outside of the school day. Disseminating learning across all schools.
- In partnership with the National Forest explore the need of partners across the outdoor facilities sector, to better comprehend the support they need to understand and engage with the health and care sector. Whilst engaging partners in the development of the National Forest as a destination for physical activity.
- Support the development of place-based working. Following an insight-led approach, supporting local models and advocacy. Bringing additionality to the work in Newhall, Midway and the Urban Country Park Project.
- In order to reach residents in local communities, including those that do not have access to digital technology, options will be developed to ensure residents have the information they need to access services in a suitable way for them.
- To help develop the insight and understanding of people within the District with long-term health conditions, in line with the principles of We Are Undefeatable to support the delivery of the Active South Derbyshire Strategy and the South Derbyshire Partnership Health and Wellbeing Group Plan.
- Work with SDDC to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030, by supporting the developments of the South Derbyshire Sustainable Travel Plan Working Group and wider Active Travel opportunities.
- Identify and scope future priorities for the partnership and progress as appropriate.

*In light of the coronavirus pandemic all of the content included within the Core Offer and District Specific Offer will be adapted to reflect the current circumstances. This will include but not limited to connecting and enabling partner collaboration through virtual meetings, convening a virtual forum to share best practice from across the County and reviewing the use of investment to meet the current needs i.e. working across the Schools Games network to develop a series of active at home resources for young people.

REPORT TO:	HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES	AGENDA ITEM: 8
DATE OF MEETING:	20th AUGUST 2020	CATEGORY: (See Notes) DELEGATED or RECOMMENDED
REPORT FROM:	STRATEGIC DIRECTOR- (SERIVCE DELIVERY)	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	HANNAH PEATE EXT 5973. Hannah.peate@southderbyshire.gov.uk	DOC:
SUBJECT:	NATIONAL FOREST SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS	
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE: HCS07

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 That the Committee agrees to the Council entering into the Service Level Agreements (SLA) with the National Forest Company for the Get Active in the Forest Service (Appendix 1) and Environmental Education Project Service (Appendix 2) up to the 31st March 2021.

2.0 Purpose of the Report

- 2.1 For the Committee's to approve the Council entering into SLAs for the 2020-21 financial year with the National Forest Company which support the running costs for the Get Active in the Forest Service and Environmental Education Project Service, for the agreed outcomes attached in the appendices.

3.0 Executive Summary

- 3.1 None

4.0 Detail

- 4.1 For a number of years the National Forest Company has contributed into both the Get Active in the Forest Service and the Environmental Education Project Service which supports the services running costs; for agreed outcomes.
- 4.2 This financial contribution supports the delivery of the Council's Corporate Plan and that of the National Forest Company's Green Print which covers the key themes of Forest Environment, Forest Economy and Forest Society.
- 4.3 An SLA for the Get Active in the Forest Project has been prepared for the financial year 2020-21. The key outcomes are summarised below: -

- Delivery of the Walking for Health programme across South Derbyshire, including a plan of annual themed walks programme.
- Coordination and implementation of the National Forest Walking and Outdoor Festival.
- Delivery of Nordic Walking and Tai Chi opportunities in the District.
- Delivery of cycling opportunities across the District, including Friday cycling and Bikeability.
- Recruiting, training, and retaining volunteers who support the Get Active Services and hold volunteer appreciation events.
- Delivery of a range of outdoor activity opportunities including orienteering, archery and other activities through drop-in sessions and school and business visits.

4.4 The key outcomes for the 2020-21 SLA for the Environmental Education Project are summarised below: -

- Delivery of a range of events throughout the year.
- Engaging with schools through on-site and off-site visits.
- Delivery of activities to people from low social mobility areas in the District.
- Increasing opportunities for outdoor learning.
- Recruiting, training, and retaining Environmental Education Project volunteers.
- Delivery of outdoor outreach and on-site activities with Volunteers.
- Delivery of the District's free tree scheme.
- Delivery of Woodland Discovery Days.
- Supporting the District's Environmental Forum network

4.5 In light of the Covid-19 pandemic, adjustments to how work is conducted is being adapted to ensure delivery against the SLA's. This will be captured in the end of year reporting of both services to the National Forest Company.

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 The National Forest has agreed to contribute £11,000 to the Get Active in the Forest Service and £8,600 to the Environmental Education Service. It should be noted that the funding into the Environmental Education Service is also supported through sponsorship of £20,000 from Rolls-Royce making it a total of £28,600 in a joint agreement with parties into the service.

6.0 Corporate Implications

Employment Implications

6.1 There are no direct employment implications of this paper; other than those staff already employed by the Get Active in the Forest and the Environmental Education Project.

Legal Implications

6.2 The Head of Legal and Democratic Services has reviewed the SLAs and is content that they proceed.

Corporate Plan Implications

- 6.3 The proposed contribution will support the Council to deliver services to the residents of South Derbyshire, and fulfil elements of Our Environment, Our People and Our Future of the Corporate Plan.

Risk Impact

- 6.4 The Corporate and Departmental risk registers will be updated with any risks identified if they arise from this report.

7.0 Community Impact

Consultation

- 7.1 The work, in partnership with the National Forest Company, will make positive contributions to the Active South Derbyshire Physical Activity, Sport and Recreation Strategy 2017-2022. And all key themes within the South Derbyshire Partnership's (SDP) Sustainable Community Strategy- Children and Young People, Healthier Communities, Safer Communities, Stronger Communities and Sustainable Development. The Environmental Education Project carries out consultations with local interest groups under the SDP banner. These documents were developed in consultation with South Derbyshire residents and organisations.

Equality and Diversity Impact

- 7.2 The SLAs support targeted interventions with an insight led approach where appropriate. The wider general support will provide opportunities for all.

Social Value Impact

- 7.3 Physical inactivity can cost the economy millions of pounds per year. By supporting the least active population to become active it will work to improve an individual's / community health and wellbeing and potentially reduce wider costs to society such as the health service.
- 7.4 By providing outdoor activities across a range of themes from cycling and walking to conservation tasks both these services contribute towards providing opportunities for people less engaged in gym or indoor sports.

Environmental Sustainability

- 7.5 Where appropriate delivery of opportunities take place within local communities to reduce the barrier of rural isolation but also to enable people to cycle and walk to opportunities locally, which will potentially reduce traffic congestion and pollution.

Where possible Environmental Education project activities are aligned with the local bus services to enable wider participation. Activities also encourage participants to take an interest in learning about their local area and provide opportunities for people to learn more and engage in managing their local sites.

8.0 Conclusions

- 8.1 This proposal will result in a joined up approach to the aforementioned Corporate and District-wide strategies; and support the County-wide approach to this partnership work, and enable the continuation of work through the Get Active in the Forest Service and the Environmental Education Project.

9.0 Background Papers

Draft agreement for 2020/2021.

SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT

Between THE NATIONAL FOREST COMPANY

and South Derbyshire District Council (Get Active in the Forest)

2020-2021

This paper sets out the terms of an agreement between the National Forest Company (NFC) and South Derbyshire District Council Get Active in the Forest (SDDC/GAIF). The agreement covers the period from **01 July 2020 to 31 March 2021**. The success of the agreement will be judged by the achievements against the outputs & outcomes listed, and specific targets identified. The detailed project delivery is appended at Annexe A.

This contract in itself doesn't represent any commitment by the NFC towards future funding beyond this agreement.

NFC will provide funding of up to **£11,000** towards the full cost to SDDC/GAIF of delivering the outputs in this agreement, currently estimated at **£80,000**, as shown in the project budget. SDDC/GAIF will seek funding from other sources, and/or provide evidence of in-kind match funding, to enable it to meet the full costs incurred. The work is subject to the clauses and conditions set out in the attached Terms & Conditions of Grant. The project budget is attached to this agreement at Annexe B.

The NFC contribution is made up of **£11,000** from the Service Level Agreement budget of the Small grants fund.

The role of SDDC/GAIF

SDDC/GAIF agrees to assist the NFC in delivering the Greenprint through partnership working, creating a

Forest Environment, by:

- engaging with and showcasing environmental work taking place in the Forest
- supporting community management of woodlands and heritage assets

Forest Society, by:

- increasing volunteering opportunities
- promoting and improving awareness of the National Forest
- supporting the growing Woodland Communities networks
- creating opportunities for outdoor activity and participation
- improving the health and wellbeing of Forest residents

Forest Economy, by:

- increasing skills and knowledge through training and engagement
- developing new partnerships and opportunities

In addition, SDDC/GAIF will work with NFC staff to help promote and publicise the National Forest to as wide an audience as possible, support National Forest Campaigns and contribute articles and content for sharing on web and social media platforms.

Deliverables

SDDC/GAIF agrees to carry out all the work outlined below and contained at Annexe A, and to provide supporting evidence as requested (e.g. summary papers, case studies, interim and final reports, photographs and promotional material, invoices and payments) that can be used to formalise monitoring procedures and share best practice.

1. To deliver the Get Active in the Forest programme of activities for 2020/21 as detailed in the Project Delivery Plan and meet the targets for participation and engagement.

Payment Schedule

Claims for payment to be made as per schedule below, and accompanied by a short report, evidence of other spend (ie materials, expenses etc) and an invoice. The final payment must be invoiced for **no later than** 19th March 2021. A final report for the project should be submitted no later than 30th April 2021.

Claim date	Claim amount
19 th March 2021	£11,000

The Role of the NFC

The NFC will provide any information or assistance necessary to SDDC/GAIF in carrying out its responsibilities set out above.

General Conditions

Either party may terminate this agreement with two months' notice if the terms of the agreement are not being adhered to, or by the mutual agreement of both parties. Termination of the agreement following a failure by SDDC/GAIF to comply with its terms will require all funding to be paid back to the NFC immediately.

The terms of this agreement will be monitored regularly and assessed at least four weeks prior to the end of the financial year.

Responsibility for the operation and monitoring of the agreement will rest with Hannah Peate (SDDC/GAIF) and Zoe Sewter (NFC).

This contract should be signed and returned to The National Forest Company.

_____ Zoe Sewter (NFC) _____ Date

_____ Sue Anderson (NFC) _____ Date



_____ Hannah Peate (SDDC/GAIF) _____ 9-7-2020 _____ Date

_____ Allison Thomas (SDDC/GAIF) _____ Date

ANNEXE A: SDDC/GET ACTIVE IN THE FOREST – project delivery plan 2020-21

Walking

Action	Target
New Branding Launch	To engage partners, volunteers and participants in the new logo. Reference NF in launch.
Plan annual themed walks programme Regularly direct people to NFC site via social media. <u>Covid additional:</u> Provide online links to local walking routes. Create virtual walk events to encourage people to walk the routes separately during lockdown.	15 walks with 200 participations in total
Co-ordinate National Forest Walking and Outdoor Festival Organise planning meetings Co-ordinate leader info and support. New Outdoor activities to be included in 2021 festival as well as many of the unused walks and activities from the cancelled 2020 festival Produce brochure Produce report	Co-ordinate and deliver 2021 Festival Inclusion of Nordic Walking taster at Ros.
Hold appreciation walks inviting all Volunteers from all groups <u>Covid additional:</u> During lockdown, thank you emails sent for National Volunteers week. Regular updates sent out to volunteers providing community feeling and support during lockdown. To calculate the monetary value of volunteering to the project.	Thank you events held prior to lockdown. Value calculated at £22,800 per year.
Deliver 2 walk leader courses Deliver refresher first aid training to existing walk leaders as required	10 new walk leaders with at least 50% retention rate after 6 months. Walk leader training and refresher training on hold until after lockdown.
Deliver a weekly work place walk at SDDC <u>Covid additional:</u>	Training 2 new walk leaders Target 200 participations

Weekly walk and talk taking place on teams to continue discussions about walking and physical activity. We will report attendance figures for this.	
<p>Contribute quarterly to the Active South Derbyshire Newsletter and is distributed to walk leaders.</p> <p><u>Covid additional:</u></p> <p>Continuing to do this online and encouraging walk leaders to keep in touch with each other.</p> <p>Sending regular emails to all volunteers and keeping in touch with phone calls throughout lockdown.</p>	To keep walk leaders and Get Active community informed of wider project activities.
<p>Review existing Nordic walking provision with the aim to make sessions self-sustainable.</p> <p>Train one new instructor to support ever growing demand</p> <p><u>Covid additional:</u></p> <p>Twice weekly virtual Nordic walking sessions for those walkers who have already physically attended a session and received training prior to lockdown.</p> <p>We will report attendance figures for this.</p>	Nordic Walking sessions currently postponed.
Maintain dementia walk at Oaklands Village by training additional walk leaders as Dementia Friends.	<p>Retain existing 2 walk leaders.</p> <p>3 walk leaders trained as dementia friends</p> <p>Attend South Derbyshire Dementia Café to promote Walk Quarterly</p> <p>Run weekly sessions when they restart after lockdown.</p>
Review all existing walks to look at current provision and potential areas for expansion.	Possible locations Newhall Day Centre, Woodville, Aston/Weston area.
<p>Raise the profile of Bertie Bear and the Teddy Walks</p> <p>Put teddy trails on SDDC website.</p> <p><u>Covid additional:</u></p> <p>Continue to post the Teddy Trails on social media.</p>	Attending events such as Festival of Leisure to promote teddy trails.
<p>Continue to support the Measham and Ashby Health Walks. Keep the option of expansion open throughout the national forest when deemed appropriate.</p> <p><u>Covid additional:</u></p> <p>Provide support to walk leaders with paperwork, admin support, and updated information on WfH nationally.</p>	Train up walk leaders to lead these walks as required.

Re-engage Bankhouse to establish regular weekly walk to support service users.	1 regular weekly walk.
<p>Work to increase participation of buggy walks.</p> <p>Work with Active Derbyshire to produce marketing for the targeted audience.</p> <p><u>Covid additional:</u></p> <p>We will continue to use social media to send out information about walks and keep previous walkers engaged. We will also send out routes, such as the Teddy Trails, for families to do together during lockdown.</p>	<p>Train one walk leader to support buggy walks.</p> <p>Engage previous volunteers to support.</p> <p>Potential for new stay and play buggy walks in Swadlincote town centre.</p>

Cycling

Action	Target
Support Mercia CC & CC Giro in holding events on-site	Programme of club events including Monster Cycle Ride taking place throughout the year with 500 participants involved
<p>Deliver Bikeability programme in local schools</p> <p>Deliver early rider in primary schools and Children's Centres.</p> <p>Run Learn to Ride Sessions</p>	<p>In accordance to Bikeability grant.</p> <p>365 places had been scheduled to be delivered between April and July 2020.</p> <p>Learn to ride sessions also fully booked have had to be put on hold</p>
Hold Teddy cycle rides to promote teddy walks and family cycling opportunities	25 participants
<p>Review Inclusive cycle provision at Rosliston Forestry centre and assess suitability for sessions to run off site.</p> <p>Support Over 50's cycling group.</p> <p><u>Covid additional:</u></p> <p>This group have created a Whatsapp chat group to keep discussion about cycling going throughout lockdown.</p>	<p>Establish a sustainable site and use for the cycles, e.g. Potential to lend inclusive cycles to other inclusive cycle hubs to increase their ability to deliver.</p> <p>Name changed to 'Friday Cycling' and membership rules relaxed to promote inclusivity.</p>
Train female member of staff to deliver Breeze rides	6 week pilot

Outdoor Activity

Actions	Target
Develop ideas for Wild Play event	Explore new opportunities at RFC with new operator

Host inter-schools orienteering competition for local senior/junior schools	10 schools participating
Support Merica Archery Club to establish permanently. Work with them on funding bids to train new instructors. Support them to run an archery beginners course to attract new archers to the sport.	10 participants
Host 2 Family Bushcraft Evenings	25 participants
Host Dance in The Forest Event Event on hold and will not run in the summer term 2020	200 participants Event was planned for 10 th June 2020. Unlikely to take place this financial year. 2021 event to be scheduled.
Create marketing plan to promote Get Active Sessions, including after-school sessions e.g. soft archery, teambuilding, orienteering 'Get Active goes Mobile'	30 sessions booked previously. Marketing plan to be created still during lockdown where possible.
Work in partnership with EEP to engage volunteers and community groups to maintain RFC through the Rosliston Rangers. Establish links with grow outdoors, exploring potential to expand offer across the National Forest.	This project has been temporarily put on hold during the coronavirus pandemic.
On-going support for parkrun team to deliver weekly runs on site. <u>Covid additional:</u> Parkrun are currently doing virtual run data via facebook to encourage ongoing participation	Regular weekly parkruns
Report on all Tai Chi figures from Get Active in the Forest Tai Chi sessions. Explore setting up new session in partnership with SNF	400 Tai chi instructor working on setting up online sessions soon.

Sustainability

Actions	Target
Actively seek funding to secure long-term sustainability for the project	Investigate opportunities for Corporate team building days as income generation.

ANNUAL MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT
Between THE NATIONAL FOREST COMPANY
AND SDDC ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROJECT (EEP)
2020-2021

This paper sets out the terms of an agreement between the National Forest Company (NFC) and South Derbyshire District Council (SDDC). The agreement covers the period from April 2020 to March 2021. This contract in itself does not represent any commitment by the National Forest Company towards future funding.

The intention of this contract is to build upon the programme of activities developed by SDDC in The National Forest area and detailed in the Environmental Education Project Development Plan 2019-2025. The success of the Project will be judged by the achievement of the outputs listed in Table 1 below.

In consideration of the sum of £28,600 which is a contribution towards the total project budget of £152,720 (paid at the end of Feb 2020) and subject to the clauses and conditions set out in the attached Conditions of Grant, SDDC agrees to carry out all the work detailed below.

The sum of £28,600 is made up as follows:

- £20,000 sponsorship from Rolls-Royce.
- £8,600 from the National Forest Company's Small Grants Scheme towards delivery of the outputs in Table 1 and the work detailed below from Page 3 as agreed and monitored by SDDC EEP Steering Group.
- The £8,600 is made up of £7000 towards core funding, £1,100 towards Woodland Discovery Days at Ratby and £500 towards the purchase of trees for the Garden Tree Giveaway Scheme.

The Role of SDDC EEP

SDDC EEP agrees to assist the NFC in delivering the Greenprint through partnership working creating a

Forest Environment, by:

- engaging with and showcasing environmental work taking place in the Forest
- supporting community management of woodlands and heritage assets

Forest Society, by:

- increasing volunteering opportunities
- promoting and improving awareness of the National Forest
- creating spaces and opportunities for outdoor learning and participation
- celebrating local heritage and culture
- Embracing new technologies to develop access to learning opportunities and promote the Forest through new channels including social media

Forest Economy, by:

- increasing skills and knowledge through training and engagement
- developing new partnerships and opportunities across a range of local industries/ businesses
- Working with NFC and partners towards the Green Recovery post-Covid pandemic

SDDC EEP will assist the NFC in creating an accessible and sustainable Forest by delivering the outputs listed on the following page. SDDC EEP activity will increase opportunities for outdoor learning, volunteering and it will support NFC's campaigns and activities.

SDDC EEP will assist the NFC in achieving the relevant targets set out in the Rolls Royce project, specifically encouraging girls into science, opportunities to support and enhance employee engagement and development and overall focus on social mobility and wellbeing.

SDDC EEP will promote and publicise the National Forest to as wide an audience as possible, support National Forest Campaigns and assist in the development and management of the National Forest and agrees to carry out all the work set out below, and to provide supporting evidence as requested (e.g. Summary papers, case studies, interim/final report, photographs and promotional material) that can be used to formalise monitoring procedures and share best practice. The measurable outputs are shown in *italics* below and should be reported against with each claim.

1. Carry out the work identified in the **Environmental Education Project Five-Year Development Plan (below)** agreed by the Steering Group, in order to deliver the outputs identified in Table 1 *

TABLE 1 Outputs to be monitored	Targets
Total number of events (of these 'Wildlife Watch' or other family events)	24 (12)
People at events	1000
School visits to Rosliston Forestry Centre	75
Outreach visits at other sites/ school grounds (no of sites used, list sites)	6
Pupils at school visits (includes outreach)	2500
Adults at school visits (includes outreach)	300
No of outdoor Outreach and on site activities with Volunteers	50
Volunteer hours	600 hours
Delivery of activities for people from areas of low social mobility to work towards raising aspirations, resulting in a positive social impact	10 separate occasions, 200 people to benefit from the activities
Estimate of pupils at school visits from socially disadvantaged groups	450
Estimate of participants at events from socially disadvantaged groups	200
Free trees distributed	1000
Participants in Free Tree Scheme	400
Pupils at Woodland Discovery in TNF	120
Adults at Woodland Discovery in TNF	12
Number of days delivery of Woodland Discovery	3

*in the event that activities and participation numbers are severely restricted by the Covid Pandemic, equivalent or alternative targets and activities to be agreed.

2. Ensure that all personnel are fully briefed on The National Forest, Timber and identify opportunities for schools, volunteers and communities to further develop their interest including promoting activities at other sites.
3. Maintain contact with a wide variety of groups to ensure that they are all aware of support, funding and training opportunities locally. To provide NFC with participation figures-TBD
4. To share the message of our aspirations to develop a woodland culture where young families look for schools with outdoor learning as part of their ethos. Link into CF4L project and help to facilitate the network
5. Produce quarterly reports on the work carried out through this agreement and a summary report of the draft data outputs from Table 1 to accompany final claim for payment in February. A final version of the data

outputs should be completed by the end of May 2021 with a final report by the end of July 2021. This report should include: Images of projects in progress; Details of News Releases and other publicity; Brief descriptions of each activity delivered including the numbers of people involved and the name of groups involved.

The Role of the NFC

The NFC will provide any information or assistance necessary to SDDC in carrying out its responsibilities outlined above.

NFC will fund 1000 trees to be distributed by SDDC EEP through the Free Tree scheme @ 0.50p per tree, total £500

General Terms and Conditions

1. This agreement may be terminated by either party if the terms of the agreement are not being adhered to, or by the mutual agreement of both parties. Termination of the agreement will require all Grant Aid to be paid back to the NFC to NFC, wholly or in part, dependent upon the proportion of outputs delivered.
2. The terms of this agreement will be monitored within a steering group meeting and assessed at least six weeks prior to the end of the financial year.
3. Responsibility for the operation and monitoring of this agreement will rest with Caroline Scothern (NFC) and Kate Allies (SDDC).

This contract should be signed and returned to The National Forest Company.

Caroline Scothern (NFC) *Date 6/7/20*

_____ *Sue Anderson (NFC)* *Date* _____

_____ *Kate Allies (SDDC)* *Date* _____

REPORT TO:	HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES SERVICES COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 9
DATE OF MEETING:	20th AUGUST 2020	CATEGORY: RECOMMENDED
REPORT FROM:	ALLISON THOMAS, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR – SERVICE DELIVERY	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	KEVIN EXLEY, PLANNING POLICY OFFICER 01283 228717	DOC:
SUBJECT:	ENGLAND TREE STRATEGY CONSULTATION	
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE: EDS01/HCS14

1. Recommendations

That the Committee:

- 1.1 Notes the content of the consultation on the England Tree Strategy
- 1.2 Approves the response outlined in this report and authorises its submission to DEFRA.

2. Purpose of the Report

- 2.1. To inform the Committee of the proposals outlined in the England Tree Strategy Consultation and to approve the Council's response to the Consultation questionnaire.

3. Detail

- 3.1 The Government is currently consulting on the England Tree Strategy. The Strategy will be fundamental in ensuring the planned expansion for trees and woods for the benefit of wildlife and the global climate crisis by protecting, restoring and expanding England's woodland and tree cover. The Consultation runs until September the 11th 2020 and is accompanied by a number of targeted questions concerning aspects of the strategy and proposed approach to delivering an increase in woodland and tree cover in England.
- 3.2 Responses to the specific questions are proposed later in this document. Initially, however it is useful to outline some background information including the tree cover and planting in South Derbyshire and England generally and

provide a general overview of what the Strategy is trying to achieve and how it will do this. **The National Context**

- 3.3 Woodland which includes plantation forests, more natural forested areas and lower density or smaller stands of trees accounts for 13.1¹% of the total UK land area. Land covered by forestry has increased steadily by 4.4% from 3.05 million hectares (ha) in 2009 to 3.19 million ha in 2019. Scotland has 46% of the UK's woodlands, England has 41%, Wales has 10% and Northern Ireland has 4%. As a percentage of the total land area, woodlands account for:
- 10% of England
 - 15% of Wales
 - 18% of Scotland
 - 8% of Northern Ireland
- 3.4 In addition to the woodland areas above, the Forestry Commission estimates there are 390,000ha of small woods in Great Britain (non-national forest inventory wooded areas of over 0.1 ha in extent). There are also 255,000 ha of groups of trees (that is, clusters and linear tree features of less than 0.1ha in extent) and an estimated total canopy cover of 97,000ha from lone trees in Great Britain accounting for 2.6% of the 'wooded area'. For Great Britain, that is a total woodland area of 3,719,000 ha.
- 3.5 Forestry is a devolved matter and so the government is working with the devolved administrations in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to determine how best to achieve the UK manifesto commitment to plant 30,000ha of woodland per annum.
- 3.6 The requirement to plant 30,000ha (116 square miles) of woodland per year in the UK up to 2050 is a recommendation made by the Committee on Climate Change to assist in the Government's commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to Net Zero Carbon by 2050. The recent budget held in March 2020 included a commitment to plant around 30,000ha of trees over the next five years in England². The technical paper released alongside the England Tree Strategy indicates that the Government estimates '*that planting 10,000ha per year by 2025 is the highest possible planting rate for conventional forestry (i.e. excluding planting energy crops) in England*'.³ Whilst the draft of the Strategy does not include any tree planting targets for England, it seems likely that England's future apportionment for the targeted 30,000ha of new planting per year will be somewhere between one fifth and one third of the total UK requirement (i.e. 6,000-10,000ha per annum). The remaining four fifths to two thirds of the committed planting will therefore be delivered in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- 3.7 Recent tree planting across the UK has averaged less than 15,000ha per year since 2002 and for eight of the past 18 years been less than 10,000 ha⁴. In recent years 10-15% of total UK planting has taken place in England, with the vast majority happening in Scotland⁵.

¹ <https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/tools-and-resources/statistics/forestry-statistics/> Table 1.2 Woodland area in the United Kingdom

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/budget-speech-2020>

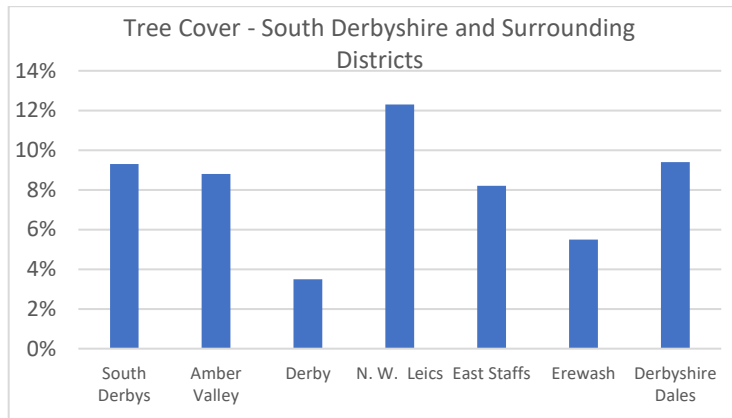
³ https://consult.defra.gov.uk/forestry/england-tree-strategy/supporting_documents/englandtreestrategyconsultationtechnicalannex.pdf

⁴ <https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/tools-and-resources/statistics/forestry-statistics/> Figure 1.6 New planting in the UK, 1976-2019

⁵ https://consult.defra.gov.uk/forestry/england-tree-strategy/supporting_documents/englandtreestrategyconsultationtechnicalannex.pdf

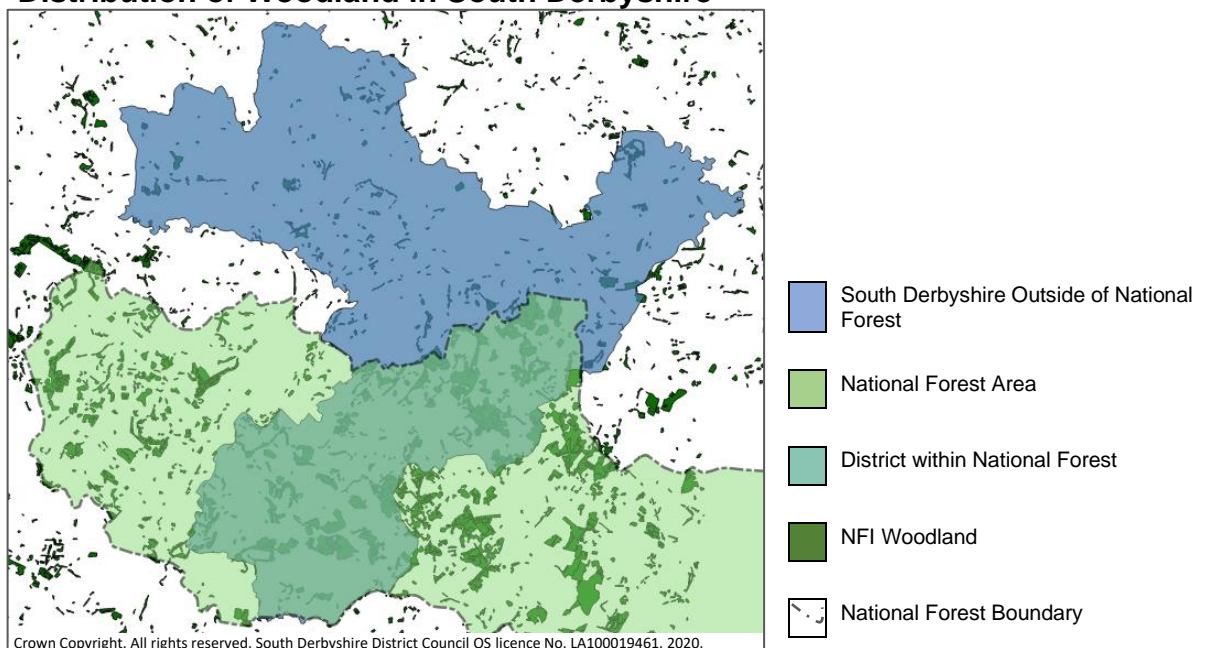
The Local Context

- 3.8 South Derbyshire has slightly less woodland and wooded areas than the UK and England average⁶. This figure is based solely on woodland within the national forest inventory (NFI) which is a national inventory of woodlands over 0.5ha and so could exclude some smaller areas of tree cover. However, based on the NFI, 9.3% of the District is covered in woodland. Woodland cover is also comparatively low in many of the surrounding districts and boroughs and reflects the lowland character of the broader area, the urban nature of many of the districts and the competing land uses facing local areas.



- 3.9 The headline figure of 9.3% tree cover in South Derbyshire hides a clear difference in tree and woodland cover within the District. This is best shown visually in the map below, but the differences shown on the map are attributable to the southern half of the District falling within the National Forest, which over the past 30 years or so has tripled tree cover within its operational area⁷.

Distribution of Woodland in South Derbyshire



⁶ <https://takeclimateaction.uk/download/woodland-cover-local-authority>

⁷ https://www.nationalforest.org/sites/default/files/media/documents/1693%20NFC%20Brand%20Vision%20Report%20AW_SCREEN%20%281%29.pdf

General comments on the Strategy

- 3.10 Whilst it should be recognised that the delivery of 30,000ha of new woodland and tree cover would represent a significant increase in woodland creation compared to recent delivery levels, significantly more planting should be directed towards England and clear targets should be set within the strategy concerning how the 30,000ha will be apportioned across the UK.
- 3.11 A review of Office of National Statistics (ONS) data on the value of woodland arguably suggests that perhaps greater priority ought to be given to planting in England.

Table 1 Woodland ecosystem asset values, £ million (2018 prices), UK, 2017

Service	2017
Timber	7,306
Wood fuel	1,656
Carbon Sequestration	54,620
Pollution removal	31,673
Urban woodland cooling	4,608
Flood prevention GB	6,513
Noise reduction	833
Recreation	22,534
Total	129,743

- 3.12 The ONS⁸ places the value on the ecosystem's services, provided by woodland at £130 billion in 2017. The asset value of the regulating services makes up 77% of the overall value of woodlands, the recreation (cultural) asset value is 18% of the overall, and only 6% of the value is from the provisioning of timber and fuel. However, placing most new woodland in less populated areas of the UK, largely because land values are lower and there is less competition for land will significantly undermine the potential for new woodland to generate the added value that could be derived from focusing on more populated areas. For example, whilst it is likely that the value derived from timber and wood fuel production, as well as the carbon sequestration benefits of woodland creation would accrue irrespective of location, many of the benefits associated with pollution removal, flood prevention, urban woodland cooling and recreation will be lost if woodland creation is pushed to sparsely populated areas which already have very high levels of woodland cover. Greater priority should be given to delivering the bulk of new woodland close to where people live in order to realise the full value of its creation. If the costs of providing this woodland increase, this may not matter so long as additional value is derived from the ecosystem services gain as a result of it being close to existing communities. The consultation is very light in its reference to biodiversity and the importance of hedgerows and hedgerow trees in providing wildlife corridors and connected habitat. There is a potential for other threatened habitats, such as meadow, acid heathland etc. to be further compromised unless integrated into the plans to plant more trees.

⁸ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/environmentalaccounts/bulletins/woodlandnaturalcapitalaccountsuk/2020> Table 17: Woodland ecosystem asset values, £ million (2018 prices), UK, 2017

3.13 The remainder of this report will set out questions which are considered to be of most relevance to this Authority and will outline the proposed response given the word limits imposed by DEFRA in respect of this consultation.

6. Which actions would address the financial barriers that prevent the creation of new woodland?

7. Which actions would be most effective in addressing the financial barriers that prevent the creation of new woodland?

8. Woodlands provide a range of ecosystem services that provide benefits to businesses and society. How could government better encourage private investment in establishing trees and woodland creation?

3.14 Consolidating the number of grants would help individuals and organisations understand the incentives they could access. In addition and critical to delivering the step change in planting required is increasing the value of grants and aligning these to the benefits that will actually be delivered by proposals. For example, it is suggested that additional grant should be paid where landowners open up sites for public access, or where sites can be demonstrated to deliver natural flood management for the benefit of downstream communities. It is crucial that government makes tree planting attractive to landowners. Most planting in England is on private land but currently many policies disincentivise planting on private land holdings. In particular classing woodland creation as a permanent land use change under the UK Forestry Act and therefore effectively devaluing land is a major deterrent which prevents many private landowners from embracing woodland creation.

13. How can we most effectively support the natural establishment of trees and woodland in the landscape? (Maximum 100 words)

3.15 Local Nature Recovery Strategies should be required to consider the most appropriate areas to support natural regeneration and habitat management at a landscape scale, these areas should be mapped and made publicly available. These opportunity maps should feed into local plans and land management strategies of governance organisations and environmental charities, and inform where natural regeneration or habitat restoration/ creation could be pursued, either in isolation, or in conjunction with new planned planting to create new wildlife networks accessible to local communities.

14. Are there any other actions - beyond the options you have already selected or submitted - that would help landowners and managers to transform the level of woodland creation and increase the number of non-woodland trees in England? (Maximum 150 words)

3.16 For 30 years in South Derbyshire within the National Forest new developments have been required to deliver 20-30% tree planting within the development site area. This has contributed towards tripling tree cover in the Forest. This requirement is not a break on development, as evidenced by South Derbyshire's recent growth, and can be easily accommodated provided developers are aware of this requirement when valuing and purchasing land. A further requirement outside of the National Forest for 10% tree planting is to be pursued in the emerging South Derbyshire Local Plan where this is acceptable in landscape character terms. Over time this will increase forest cover in locations accessible to new communities.

15. Which of the following actions would be most effective in helping expand woodland creation in locations which deliver water, flood risk benefits and nature recovery? (select up to three options).

3.17 Widening the eligibility criteria for woodland creation grants so more applicants can apply, and more forms of woodland can qualify would be most effective. There is also a need to pay landowners and managers more for sites that deliver more public benefits. On this basis grant payments for riparian planting along watercourses should be higher than sites where planting would not provide benefits in respect of Natural Flood Management (NFM) and/or water quality improvements etc.

3.18 The final option proposed is to highlight the need for resources to be set aside and made available to the Environment Agency or Lead Local Flood Authorities to allow modelling to be undertaken to understand the beneficial effects of natural flood risk management measures in high risk areas as well as provide support to target those measures to the most effective parts of the catchment. This would allow agencies to identify where NFM interventions may be appropriate and could provide opportunity to identify low cost natural flood management measures upstream of areas prone to flooding whilst providing amenity, water quality and ecological benefits to local communities. However given the 25 word limit to make this point it is proposed the following be submitted: Resources should be available to the EA/LLFAs to allow modelling of catchments to understand the beneficial effects of NFM in high flood risk areas.

18. Which actions would best help the planning system support better protection and enhancement of the ancient and wider woodland environment and trees? (select up to two options)

3.19 Encouraging more woodland to be brought into management where it is impacted by development. Positively managing existing woodland potentially affected by development could offer opportunities to provide long-term improvements to amenity and ecology.

3.20 The second factor most likely to support the planning system better protect woodlands and trees is the timely delivery of the Environment Act and the protections proposed in this emerging legislation. The England Tree Strategy consultation outlines the threat to some woodland from the unlicensed pre-emptive clearance of trees ahead of planning applications being submitted. The report indicates that at least 43% of illegal felling in 2019-20 was as a result of development. Part of the problem is the fines from illegal felling are based on the value of the timber, rather than the potential increased value of sites that can accrue from development, the limited value of fines is, therefore, a poor deterrent to the clearing of sites with development potential ahead of an application being made.

3.21 The Environment Bill will address this issue. Fines for illegal felling will be unlimited, giving the courts discretion to punish offenders appropriately. The Forestry Commission will be given new powers to make Restocking and Enforcement Notices more effective. For example, a Restocking Notice would become a charge on the land where the felling had taken place, so it would appear on the local land charge register – visible to any prospective buyer and

binding on them if they bought the land⁹. In addition, the Environment Act will introduce a requirement for development to achieve biodiversity net gain. This requirement should help to discourage the loss of woodland to development by firstly valuing woodland as a habitat making its loss relatively expensive or difficult to offset, but will also reduce the risk of pre-emptive habitat and tree clearance, and help to ensure that any losses are properly compensated for as any gain will be based on the pre cleared value, not on the sites value after its loss. Ensuring that environmental protections are not sidestepped in advance of development is key to safeguarding habitats and spatial planning. However, given the 25-word limit to make this point it is proposed the following be submitted: The prioritisation of the Environment Bill through parliament in order that the currently stated provisions within it can be brought into effect expeditiously.

28. Which of the following actions are or would be most appropriate for England's trees and woodlands to contribute to climate change mitigation and helping to achieve net zero? (pick up to three options)

3.22 Of the options highlighted in the paper it is likely that a combination of the options highlighted will be needed to meet the Climate Challenge. However, within South Derbyshire, given its low lying area and relatively high agricultural land values, it is likely the most appropriate approach to addressing climate change will be the planting predominantly native woodland to act as a long-term store of carbon, encouraging agroforestry to increase the amount of carbon stored on productive farmland and strengthening the protection of all woodland to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation. Although some biomass can be derived from future management such as thinning sites as they mature it is unlikely that growing woodland solely for biomass will support a significant increase in woodland cover.

31. Are any of the following significant barriers to securing and maintaining street trees? (select up to three option)

3.23 The adoption of street trees by local highway authorities is a major barrier to the planting of street trees. Many highways authorities refuse to accommodate planting in the highways due to the costs associated with their future management. Others make provision for street trees, so long as sometimes significant planning obligations are collected for future management. Given the pressure on Council finances it is rational to resist the accommodation of street trees in new development and in some cases to remove existing street trees where these are inappropriate or could damage nearby buildings.

32. How could government overcome the barriers to securing and maintaining street trees you have identified in question 30? (Maximum 150 word response)

3.24 Authorities could be given better guidance and advice on the best tree to plant where, reflecting development characteristics, local ground conditions etc. Selecting the right tree for the right location could help reduce future management costs. However, absolutely crucial will be to provide Councils (Highways Authorities) with sufficient resources to manage trees, many of which will require crown reduction or other works on an ongoing basis. In the absence of funds to support the delivery of street trees it is likely that these will

⁹ <https://forestrycommission.blog.gov.uk/2019/10/25/cracking-down-on-illegal-felling/>

continue to make up only a tiny and insignificant proportion of new planting associated with new development and some existing healthy trees will continue to be removed by Council's due to the unaffordability of future management.

33. Which of these actions would be most effective in increasing the number/coverage of trees in and around urban areas? (rank the following options in order of preference)

3.25 Of the options put forward in the consultation paper it is proposed that the three most significant options to increase tree coverage in urban areas are the promotion through national policy (including England Tree Strategy and national planning policy). These include: recognition that trees and woodlands are key components of green infrastructure, with equal status to other green and built infrastructure; the development and implementation of Local Tree and Woodland Strategies and local planning policies - setting local targets for tree canopy cover and recognition that trees and woodlands are key components of green infrastructure (noting that this could potentially be done as part of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy).

38. Which of these actions would best address the funding challenge for the planting and on-going maintenance of trees in urban areas? (select up to two options)

3.26 This issue has been touched upon previously, but essentially central funding is required for establishing street trees in existing urban areas. However, the use of planning policy levers can also ensure that trees can be delivered in all appropriate developments, for example by requiring that a proportion of larger development sites is passed over to tree planting.

39. What could the England Tree Strategy do to encourage the use of timber in construction? (select up to two options)

3.27 The Strategy should require that Local Plans incorporate policies for new development to use sustainable materials. South Derbyshire has policies to encourage the use of wood in new development in both its Local Plan Part 1 (Policy BNE1 Design Excellence) and in its Design Guidance Supplementary Planning Document reflecting its location in the National Forest. However, most developers have standardised house types that use a standard palette of materials. In this context it is difficult to encourage the use of materials which for many developers are non-standard. If the greater use of timber was supported or perhaps even required by national policy it would be more likely that timber would become more widely used in new development and support the growth of this market.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 Neutral Impact

5. Corporate Implications

Employment Implications

5.1 Beneficial. Any increase in woodland cover and urban tree cover as a result of increased targets for tree canopy cover will improve the attractiveness of the District as a great place to live, visit and invest.

Legal Implications

5.2 None Identified

Corporate Plan Implications

- 5.3 The preparation of an England Tree Strategy, and potential associated requirement to create local tree and woodland strategies will support a number of Corporate Plan objectives. These include:
- to enhance biodiversity across the District (Our Environment)
 - to improve public spaces to create an environment for people to enjoy. (Our Environment)
 - Promote health and wellbeing across the District. (Our People)
 - To influence the improvement of infrastructure to meet the demands of growth. (Our Future)

Risk Impact

5.4 None identified at present.

6. Community Impact

Consultation

6.1 None

Equality and Diversity Impact

6.2 None.

Social Value Impact

6.3 Beneficial. Increased tree planting and woodland creation will support improved access and awareness to green space within the District.

Environmental Sustainability

6.4 Beneficial. Increase tree planting could have beneficial effects in respect of natural flood risk management, the provision of new amenity green space, and could contribute towards urban cooling, and reducing pollution locally.

7. Conclusions

7.1 The Strategy to significantly increase tree planting compared to recent historic trends should generally be welcomed but greater emphasis should be placed on woodland creation close to existing urban areas, particularly in England in order to fully realise the full range of benefits that can be accrued from woodland creation.

8. Background Papers

- 8.1 England Tree Strategy Consultation Document
8.2 England Tree Strategy Consultation - Technical Annex

REPORT TO:	HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES	AGENDA ITEM: 10
DATE OF MEETING:	20th AUGUST 2020	CATEGORY: *SEE BELOW DELEGATED/ RECOMMENDED
REPORT FROM:	STRATEGIC DIRECTOR (SERVICE DELIVERY	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	IAN HEY (EXT 8741)	DOC:
SUBJECT:	COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIPS SCHEME	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE: ***SEE BELOW

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 That the Committee accepts the recommendations of the Community and Environmental Partnership Scheme Assessment Panel, to award grants as detailed in section 4.13 of this report.

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To inform the Committee of the applications for Community and Environmental Partnership Scheme (CEPS) funding received by the Council.
- 2.2 To seek approval to award grants in line with the recommendations of the Committee's appointed Assessment Panel established to consider such applications.

3.0 Executive Summary

- 3.1 The CEPS is continuing to operate according to processes and procedures as previously agreed and reported to the Committee.
- 3.2 In total, six new capital grant applications were reviewed by the Assessment Panel, requesting £93,731 against a total budget of £250,000.
- 3.3 The total value of the six projects is £193,131.
- 3.4 Five applications have been recommended for grant support by the Assessment Panel, with a total value of £88,731. One application has not been recommended for a grant.
- 3.5 The five projects recommended to receive grant support are as follows:

- £8,000 to Aston & Weston Bowls Club: To support the installation of an automated watering system to reduce water usage and improve the quality of the playing surface.
- £13,231 to Citizens Advice Mid Mercia: Reconfiguration of meeting and office space to enable services to restart, taking into account the additional space requirements as a result of COVID-19.
- £25,000 to Etwall Parish Council as Trustees of Frank Wickham Hall: To support the development of an additional meeting space allowing new/additional activities at the hall.
- £17,500 to Melbourne Parish Council: To install play equipment targeting families with toddlers.
- £25,000 to Melbourne Sporting Partnership: The grant will pay for car park surfacing which will contribute to the development of the on-site offer and improve local road safety.

3.6 The Assessment Panel decided that the application from Elvaston Parish Council would not be recommended for a grant. Ownership of the land is not clear and it is not possible to identify security of tenure. The Parish Council is to be encouraged to clarify the situation and resubmit the funding bid for re-assessment.

4.0 Detail

- 4.1 The CEPS offers capital grants of up to £25,000 to support projects brought forward from the voluntary and community sector. A sum of £250,000 has been allocated to the Scheme to enable grants to be made in support of applications received during the current funding cycle.
- 4.2 An Assessment Panel comprising five Councillors, with support from the Community Partnership Officer, met to consider applications that had been submitted. Councillor Dan Pegg acted as Chair for the CEPS Assessment Panel.
- 4.3 Submitted applications were assessed against set criteria and recommendations about grant distribution were identified to forward to the Housing and Community Services Committee.

Applications

4.4 The following applications were received and considered for capital funding:

4.5 **Aston & Weston Bowls Club** – Project value £17,000: grant applied for £8,000.

This project will result in the installation of an automated watering system to reduce water usage and improve the quality of the playing surface. It will allow watering to take place over night extending the time available for play. This is especially important at present as restrictions imposed by the response to COVID-19 has reduced the number of participants that can use the green at any one time.

The total balance of funding required is already in place.

4.6 **Citizens Advice Mid Mercia** – Project value £26,461: grant applied for £13,231.

The CAB building at Church Gresley provides a base for the CAB itself as well as several partner organisations. The aim of the project is to reconfigure space to allow the adherence to Government guidelines regarding space and social distancing. This will allow them to continue current services as well as adapting to new conditions.

The total balance of funding required is already in place.

4.7 Elvaston Parish Council – Project value £5,000: grant applied for £5,000.

The project is to reinstate a footpath between Sturgess Lane and Shardlow Road. This is a very busy stretch of road and has been highlighted as a concern by local residents.

The grant requested is for 100% of the project cost.

4.8 Etwall Parish Council (as Trustees of Frank Whickam Hall) – Project value £84,070: grant applied for £25,000.

This project is targeted at developing the facility to allow for additional classes / activities to take place. The aim is to develop a new meeting room and additional toilet facilities. Currently small meetings take place in the large hall. This project will free up time in the larger hall for additional activities. At present the hall is fully booked at peak times.

All additional funding required has been secured.

4.9 Melbourne Parish Council – Project value £35,000: grant applied for £17500.

The Parish Council is looking to completely refurbish a play area at Lothian Gardens that targets families with children aged two to five years. Initial consultation was carried out with one of the local pre-school groups within Melbourne. The results from this were then used as the basis for wider consultation and the equipment identified has been chosen to encourage imaginative play.

All additional funding is in place.

4.10 Melbourne Sporting Partnership – Project value £25,600: grant applied for £25,000.

The application will allow Melbourne Sporting Partnership to increase onsite parking. The additional spaces will enable a reduction of parking on Cockshut Lane, reducing traffic congestion, and support the development of Tennis as part of the Partnership.

Assessment Panel

4.11 The Community and Environmental Partnership Scheme Assessment Panel met on 3rd August to review the applications against the questions and criteria previously agreed. The criteria included links with corporate priorities, security of external funding, sustainability, value of other contributions, value for money, community involvement, risk and commitment to equal opportunities.

- 4.12 Prior to making a recommendation, the Assessment Panel considered the Scheme's current budget position regarding capital monies. The Scheme has £250,000 budgeted prior to the allocation of any grants. In light of the above information it was identified that there was sufficient funding for all recommended grants to be covered in full should they meet the Scheme's criteria.

Assessment Panel Recommendations

- 4.13 The Assessment Panel's recommendation for distribution of grant is as follows:

- **£8,000 to Aston & Weston Bowls Club:** The grant will enable the installation of an automated watering system to reduce water usage and improve the quality of the playing surface.
- **£13,231 to Citizens Advice Mid Mercia:** The grant will part fund reconfiguration of meeting and office space to enable services to restart taking into account the additional space requirements as a result of COVID-19.
- **£25,000 to Etwall Parish Council as Trustees of Frank Wickham Hall:** The grant will support the development of an additional meeting space, allowing new/additional activities at the hall.
- **£17,500 to Melbourne Parish Council:** The grant will part fund play equipment targeting families with toddlers.
- **£25,000 to Melbourne Sporting Partnership:** The grant will pay for car park surfacing which will contribute to the development of the on-site offer.

- 4.14 All grant offers for building-based projects are required to evidence appropriate planning / building control permissions.

- 4.15 Following the review by Assessment Panel members it was decided that the application from Elvaston Parish Council would not be recommended for a grant. The ownership of the land is not clear and it is not possible to identify security of tenure. The Parish Council are to be encouraged to clarify the situation and resubmit the funding bid for re-assessment.

- 4.16 VAT on project costs are only covered where the organisation is not VAT registered and cannot reclaim VAT paid.

5.0 Financial Implications

- 5.1 The award of grants falls within the CEPS' budget allocation of £250,000. The total of the grants recommended for award is £88,731, allowing a balance of £161,269 to be allocated at later grant rounds.

6.0 Corporate Implications

- 6.1 The scheme contributes to all of the priority areas in the Council's Corporate Plan, with individual projects contributing to Our Environment, Our People and Our Future through delivering inward investment, independent living, leisure and cultural activity and focus on the community as customers.

- 6.2 The projects supported will also address outcomes that contribute to the Sustainable Community Strategy themes of Children & Young People, Healthier Communities, Safer and Stronger Communities, as well as Sustainable Development.

7.0 Community Implications

- 7.1 The scheme maximises funding available for community investment by providing both direct funding and enabling leverage from other funding sources. It also continues to offer a direct line of communication with the voluntary and community sector.
- 7.2 The impact on the community and amount of community involvement in each individual project has been assessed as part of the appraisal process.

8.0 Conclusions

- 8.1 The Community and Environmental Partnership Scheme continues to provide the Council with an excellent means to support a variety of community partners in improving the quality of life for local residents. It also enables community partners to lever additional external funding to the District.

REPORT TO:	HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 11
DATE OF MEETING:	20 th AUGUST 2020	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	STRATEGIC DIRECTOR (SERVICE DELIVERY)	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	DEMOCRATIC SERVICES 01283 59 5848/5722 democraticservices@south-derbys.gov.uk	DOC:
SUBJECT:	COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE: G

1.0 Recommendations

1.1 That the Committee considers and approves the updated work programme.

2.0 Purpose of Report

2.1 The Committee is asked to consider the updated work programme.

3.0 Detail

3.1 Attached at Annexe 'A' is an updated work programme document. The Committee is asked to consider and review the content of this document.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 None arising directly from this report.

5.0 Background Papers

5.1 Work Programme.

Housing and Community Services Committee – 20th August 2020 Work Programme

Work Programme Area	Date of Committee meetings	Contact Officer (Contact details)
Reports Previously Considered By Last 5 Committees		
Public Space Protection Order Consultation- Maurice Lea Park and Market Street.	21 st November 2019	Mary Bagley Head of Culture and Community Services
New Arrangements for the Delivery of Derbyshire County Council Contracts for Telecare (Careline) and Independent Living Services	21 st November 2019	Paul Whittingham Housing Services Manager (01283) 595984
New Arrangements for the Delivery of Derbyshire County Council Contracts for Telecare (Careline) and Independent Living Services	21 st November 2019	Paul Whittingham Housing Services Manager (01283) 595984
Services and Support for Homeless People	21 st November	Paul Whittingham Housing Services Manager (01283) 595984
Housing Environmental Impact Project	21 st November 2019	Paul Whittingham Housing Services Manager (01283) 595984
Corporate Plan 2016-21: Performance Report Q2 – 1 st July to 30 th September)	21 st November 2019	Communications (01283 228705)
Proposed Service Budget 2020/21	7 th January 2020	Kevin Stackhouse Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) Kevin.stackhouse@southderbshire.gov.uk (01283 595811)

Adoption of the Strategic Housing Market Assessment	30th January 2020	Eileen Jackson Strategic Housing Manager (01213) 595763
Allocations Policy	30 th January 2020	Paul Whittingham Housing Services Manager (01283) 595984
Approval of A Public Space Protection Order -Maurice Lea Park and Market Street	12 th March 2020	Claire Rawlins Anti-Social Behaviour Officer Communities Team
Submission of Consultation Response – 1 st Homes	12 th March 2020	Eileen Jackson Strategic Housing Manager (01283) 595763
Community and Environment Partnership Scheme Grant	7 th July 2020	Chris Smith / Ian Hey
Review of the South Derbyshire District Council Surveillance Policy	7 th July 2020	Chris Smith / Ian Hey
Homelessness and Rough Sleeping	7 th July 2020	Paul Whittingham Housing Services Manager (01283) 595984
Corporate Plan 2020-24: Performance Report (2019-2020 Quarter 4 – 1 January to 31 March)	7 th July 2020	Fiona Pittman Head of Organisational Development & Performance 01283 595735
Disabled Facilities Grants	7 th July 2020	Paul Whittingham Housing Services Manager (01283) 595984

Provisional Programme of Reports To Be Considered by Committee		
Housing Asset Management Strategy	20 th August 2020	Paul Whittingham Housing Services Manager (01283) 595984
National Forest Service Level Agreements	20 th August 2020	Hannah Peate Active Communities & Health Partnership Manager 01283 595973
England Tree Strategy Consultation	20 th August 2020	Mary Bagley Head of Culture and Community Services
Contribution to Active Derbyshire	20 th August 2020	Hannah Peate Active Communities & Health Partnership Manager 01283 595973
Community and Environmental Partnership Scheme	20 th August 2020	Ian Hey Community Partnership Officer (01283) 228741
Corporate Plan 2016-21: Performance Report Q3	TBC 2020	Communications (01283 228705)
Land Transfer at Orchard Close – Newhall	TBC 2020	Eileen Jackson Strategic Housing Manager (01213) 595763
Swadlincote Woodlands Management Plan	TBC 2020	Malcolm Roseburgh Cultural Services Manager (01283) 5955774
Improvements to Midway Community Centre	TBC 2020	Malcolm Roseburgh Cultural Services Manager (01283) 5955774

Homeless Strategy (Including Temporary Accommodation)	TBC 2020	Paul Whittingham Housing Services Manager (01283) 595984
Rent/Income Management Policy	TBC 2020	Paul Whittingham Housing Services Manager (01283) 595984
Tenant Involvement Strategy	TBC 2020	Paul Whittingham Housing Services Manager (01283) 595984