
General Public Services, Community Safety & Infrastructure MINUTES

**Of a meeting held in the Penn Chamber, Three Rivers House, Rickmansworth, on
Tuesday, 15 October 2024 from 7.30 - 9.31 pm**

Present: Councillors Sarah Nelmes (Chair), Stephen Giles-Medhurst, Philip Hearn,
Lisa Hudson, Kevin Raeburn, Ciaran Reed, Andrew Scarth (Co-Chair) and Narinder Sian

Also in Attendance:

Councillor Rue Grewal

Officers in Attendance:

Emma Lund, Senior Committee Officer
Tom Rankin, Principal Sustainable Travel Planner and Transport Officer
Kimberley Rowley, Head of Regulatory Services
Alison Scott, Director of Finance
Emma Sheridan, Associate Director for Environment
Kimberley Utley, Anti-Social Behaviour Officer
Michelle Wright, Community Safety and Safeguarding Manager
Rebecca Young, Head of Community Partnerships

External in Attendance

Peta Mettam, CEO of Citizens' Advice Service Three Rivers (CASTR)

8 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Cooper, Price, Alley and King.

The substitutes were Councillor Reed for Councillor Cooper, Councillor Giles-Medhurst for Councillor Price, and Councillor Hearn for Councillor Alley.

9 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the General Public Services, Community Safety and Infrastructure Committee held on 23 July 2024 be confirmed as a correct record subject to the following minor amendment:

Minute 4 (Declarations of Interest) to read:

Councillors Giles-Medhurst, Raeburn, Scarth and Nelmes declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 6 by virtue of owning, or having the use of, an electric vehicle.

10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

11 NOTICE OF OTHER BUSINESS

An item of business to seek approval for a public consultation on a proposed 3-year extension of the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) was accepted by the Chair under Council Procedure Rule 30 on the grounds that it was in the interest of members of the public for the consultation to be able to proceed in a timely way.

12 PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER (PSPO) PERMISSION TO CONSULT

The Associate Director for Environment presented the report.

In response to questions it was confirmed that a map would be included as part of the consultation which would indicate the areas to be covered by the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO). If strong indication was received during the consultation that a wider area should be covered, this would be included in the recommendations to be brought back to the Committee at a later date for a decision. It was also confirmed that site notices would be displayed as part of the consultation, and clarification was given that 'land adjacent to the highway' was generally taken to mean footpaths.

RESOLVED:

- i. That approval is given for a public consultation to extend the current PSPO (with variations as outlined in the report) relating to dog control for a further 3 years.
- ii. That the results of the public consultation be collated and presented to the Committee in January 2025 for a decision.

13 ANNUAL CASTR UPDATE

The Chair welcomed Peta Mettam, CEO of Citizens Advice Three Rivers (CASTR) to the meeting. Peta Mettam presented the CASTR annual update.

Areas covered during the presentation included the services provided by CASTR and the number of clients assisted; the financial value to the community; the other value provided (for example by promoting inclusion and providing advice across a wide range of areas); individual case studies; means of access; the benefits of volunteering; feedback from clients; the impact of CASTR; and research and campaign work and national campaign successes.

The Chair commended CASTR for their valuable services and thanked Peta for her presentation.

RESOLVED: To note the annual report of Citizens Advice Three Rivers.

14 BUDGET MANAGEMENT REPORT P3

The Head of Finance presented the budget monitoring report for period 3, which had previously been presented to the Policy and Resources Committee.

The Committee noted the key change on the revenue side relating to a reduction in recycling income. On the capital programme the key changes related to adding in CIL and grant monies.

RESOLVED:

- i. To note the report.

15 ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR POLICY

The Community Safety and Safeguarding Manager presented the report.

In response to a question it was noted that the increase in animal nuisance relating to dogs largely arose from dogs which were left on their own for long periods of time and therefore caused a nuisance by barking, although there were also occasional cases of dogs being mistreated. There was close co-operative working between the Council and housing providers in relation to instances of animal nuisance.

In response to a question about the process for Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) case reviews and whether the threshold of 3 complaints in the last 6 months was appropriate, it was noted that there had only been 2 ASB case reviews in the last 6 months. Cases where a review was sought were discussed with partner agencies and at the Anti-Social Behaviour Action Group which collectively took the decision as to whether the threshold for a case review had been met.

RESOLVED:

- i. That the Committee agrees the Three Rivers District Council Anti-Social Behaviour Policy 2024 and recommends it to the Policy and Resources Committee and Full Council.

16 CAPITAL GRANTS

The Head of Community Partnerships presented the report.

In response to a question as to whether food or heating vouchers could be provided using capital grant funding, the Committee heard that this was not possible as the use of capital grants was restricted to the purchase of items. The Household Support Fund had been extended and could also be used to support the healthy hubs and food banks, although this would also be through the purchase of specific items.

A Committee Member noted that the capital grants funding had remained at £20,000 for a number of years; officers responded that any increase to the amount would need to be agreed through the budget process.

RESOLVED:

- i. That the Committee agrees to continue to use the Capital Grants funding of £20,000 per year for the next 5 years to support health and wellbeing initiatives in the district between Strategy and Partnerships and Leisure and Natural Infrastructure teams. The financial split between the teams will be Strategy and Partnerships £13,000 and Leisure and Natural Infrastructure £7,000. Individual projects will be costed and agreed through the service planning process. This resolution is subject to continuing budget provision.
- ii. That the Committee agrees that decisions for the 2024/25 allocation be delegated to the Associate Director for Corporate, Customer and Community in consultation with Group Leaders.

17 DRAFT SERVICE PLAN 2025-28

The Head of Community Partnerships presented the report.

Committee Members commented on the service plans as shown below.

Planning Policy and Conservation

Conservation Area Appraisal locations (under 'Projects, Policies and Strategies'): information relating to the appraisal locations will need to be added when the final version is presented to the Committee later in the year.

Key Performance Indicator ESD04 ('Percentage of new homes built on previously developed land') shows a target of 60% which isn't feasible. Officers to check whether this is a national indicator.

Key Performance Indicator ESD01 ('Net additional homes provided'): this indicator shows a 2024/25 target of 640, which is closer to the national (NPPF figure) target rather than the Council's own current target. Officers to check whether this is a national indicator. If ESD01 and ESD04 are national indicators, text should be added to the page to reflect that they are imposed targets.

Regulatory Services

The Projects, Policies and Strategies section should reflect that delivery of the LCWIP will be dependent on input from HCC and Parish Councils, and will also be dependent on funding being available. Officers should therefore review the wording 'agree and deliver the LCWIP....'.

Strategy and Partnerships

No comments.

Waste and Environmental Protection

Members discussed whether key performance indicator EP10 ('Percentage of household waste diverted from landfill') should show 100%, given that it was HCC's stated objective to stop sending any waste to landfill in the future. It was noted that there was as yet no definitive timescale for the stopping of waste to landfill, and so the service plan needed to reflect the current position.

RESOLVED:

- i. That the Committee notes the draft service plans for 2025-28 and comments as shown above.

18 LOCAL CYCLING AND WALKING INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

The Principal Sustainable Travel Planner and Transport Officer presented the report.

The Committee noted that the proposals for Chorleywood had been amended following strong objections received during the consultation. A meeting had been held with the Chorleywood Residents' Association and Chorleywood Parish Council to consider possible alternative options. The suggested alterations to routes 8 and 14 would be reviewed by officers for inclusion prior to the LCWIP final version being agreed or as part of local route developments.

In response to a question about route 2 from Watford to Croxley along the A412, and whether a quieter route had been considered, the committee heard that as LCWIPs were strategic routes they generally followed the most direct route provided that space allowed for a cycleway and the route was deemed to be safe by the highways authority. The route along the A412 had been deemed as a viable route.

In response to a question about route 14 and the proposal to look at slowing vehicle speeds to improve conditions for cycling, the Committee heard that these would likely include junction protection and junction changes, but this would be subject to consultation with a traffic engineer. The existing traffic calming measures were expected to remain in place.

An amendment to the recommendations which sought the removal of routes 8, 14 and 7 and the addition of a proposal to investigate working with Transport for London to put a pedestrian bridge under the railway in Chorleywood was moved and seconded. On being put to the vote the amendment fell.

RESOLVED:

- i. That the Committee notes the report and approves the proposed changes as a result of the public consultation and further investigations detailed in the table below:

Route	Description of Route	Proposed Changes
2	Watford via Croxley to Rickmansworth High Street	None at this stage.
3	Rickmansworth to Denham Way via Nightingale Road and Springwell Avenue	Include the alternative route through Townfield alongside Fire station.
8	Rickmansworth Station across the common to Chorleywood Station	Route across the common and alternative one way along Common Road to be removed, consider extending route along the A404 to Clement Danes school.
14	Stag Lane and Shepherds Lane, Mill End	Remove modal filter but maintain the minor junction improvements and look at slowing vehicle speeds to improve conditions for cycling.
21	Chalfont Road to towards Denham and Bucks border	None at this stage.
7	Not a priority LCWIP route, this is a TRDC local route	Route to remain as local cycling route but modal filter to be removed as not supported.
Walking Routes	5 routes in South Oxhey	None at this stage.

- ii. That Officers continue to pursue the LCWIP for presentation of a Plan for adoption at a future Committee meeting.

19 THREE RIVERS DISTRICT COUNCIL CCTV POLICY 2024

The Community Safety and Safeguarding Manager presented the report.

The Committee discussed the policy for deployment of CCTV cameras, and the process and criteria for seeking the location of a CCTV camera at a particular location.

RESOLVED:

- i. That the Committee approves the new CCTV policy 2024-2028 and recommends it to the Policy and Resources Committee and Full Council.
- ii. That the Committee agrees to give delegated authority to the Associate Director of Corporate, Customer and Community to authorise minor changes to the policy such as terminology, clarification or administrative corrections with no significant impact.

20 PROPOSALS FOR AN OFF STREET PARKING PLACES ORDER TO ALLOW PARKING CONTROLS TO BE IMPLEMENTED AT NEW PARKING BAYS AT SCHOOL MEAD, ABBOTS LANGLEY, HERTS.

The Head of Regulatory Services presented the report.

In relation to the proposed controls to be consulted upon, the Committee noted that the parade of shops to the west of the parking bays included a restaurant/café and a funeral director. It was considered that one hour's parking would not be sufficient for visitors to those businesses. The option to have two hours' parking on one side and one hour's parking on the other had been rejected due to the likelihood of this arrangement causing confusion resulting in the application of penalty charges. The recommendation for 2 hour's parking with 2 hours no return was therefore the option which was favoured by the Committee.

RESOLVED:

- i. That the Committee agrees to an Off Street Parking Places Order to be implemented to impose parking controls on the new parking bays at School Mead (and vary the existing TRO and controls if required).
- ii. That the Committee confirms the initial controls proposed and to be consulted upon as:
 - to introduce a new TRO on all the existing and proposed bays
 - for 2 hour parking with 2 hours no return
 - the Order would operate Monday to Saturday 8am to 6.30pm
- iii. That authority is delegated to the Director of Finance, in consultation with the Lead Member for General Public Services together with relevant Ward Councillors, to implement the Order and for Officers to make any necessary amendments or variations to the proposal as may be required including as a result of responses to any consultation, as well as to address or set aside any formal objections to any Notice of Proposal in connection with approval of the final Order scheme.

21 WORK PROGRAMME

RESOLVED: that the work programme was noted.

CHAIR