

Economic Success Policy Development Panel

Agenda

Members of the Panel:

Cllr A D Crotch (Chairman)	Cllr N J Harpley
Cllr N J Brennan (Vice Chairman)	Cllr L Hemsall
Cllr S C Beadle	Cllr G Peck
Cllr S J Catchpole	Cllr R Potter
Cllr J Davis	Cllr K A Vincent
Cllr R Foulger	

Ex-officio

Cllr J Copplestone

Cllr T Mancini Boyle

Date & Time:

Monday 7 November 2022 at 6pm

Place:

Council Chamber, Thorpe Lodge, 1 Yarmouth Road, Thorpe St Andrew, Norwich, NR7 0DU

Contact:

Leah Arthurton tel (01508) 533610

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Website: www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE:

If a member of the public would like to observe the meeting in person or to speak on an agenda item, please email your request to committee.bdc@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk, no later than 5.00pm on Wednesday 2 November 2022.

Large print version can be made available

If you have any special requirements in order to attend this meeting, please let us know in advance.

AGENDA

1. **To receive declarations of interest from members;**
(guidance and flow chart attached – page 3)
2. **To report apologies for absence and to identify substitute members;**
3. **To confirm the minutes of the meeting held 27 June 2022;**
(minutes attached – page 5)
4. **Matters arising from the minutes;**
5. **Rural England Prosperity Fund;** (report attached – page 10)
6. **Electric Vehicle Charging Point Installation on Council owned land;**
(report attached – page 16)
7. **Exclusion of the Public and Press;**
To exclude the public and press from the meeting under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act (as amended);
8. **Renewable Energy Infrastructure: Green Loan Project;** (report attached – page 20)

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AT MEETINGS

When declaring an interest at a meeting Members are asked to indicate whether their interest in the matter is pecuniary, or if the matter relates to, or affects a pecuniary interest they have, or if it is another type of interest. Members are required to identify the nature of the interest and the agenda item to which it relates. In the case of other interests, the member may speak and vote. If it is a pecuniary interest, the member must withdraw from the meeting when it is discussed. If it affects or relates to a pecuniary interest the member has, they have the right to make representations to the meeting as a member of the public but must then withdraw from the meeting. Members are also requested when appropriate to make any declarations under the Code of Practice on Planning and Judicial matters.

<p>Have you declared the interest in the register of interests as a pecuniary interest? If Yes, you will need to withdraw from the room when it is discussed.</p>
<p>Does the interest directly:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. affect yours, or your spouse / partner's financial position? 2. relate to the determining of any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to you or your spouse / partner? 3. Relate to a contract you, or your spouse / partner have with the Council 4. Affect land you or your spouse / partner own 5. Affect a company that you or your partner own, or have a shareholding in <p>If the answer is "yes" to any of the above, it is likely to be pecuniary.</p> <p>Please refer to the guidance given on declaring pecuniary interests in the register of interest forms. If you have a pecuniary interest, you will need to inform the meeting and then withdraw from the room when it is discussed. If it has not been previously declared, you will also need to notify the Monitoring Officer within 28 days.</p>
<p>Does the interest indirectly affect or relate any pecuniary interest you have already declared, or an interest you have identified at 1-5 above?</p> <p>If yes, you need to inform the meeting. When it is discussed, you will have the right to make representations to the meeting as a member of the public, but you should not partake in general discussion or vote.</p>
<p>Is the interest not related to any of the above? If so, it is likely to be an other interest. You will need to declare the interest, but may participate in discussion and voting on the item.</p>
<p>Have you made any statements or undertaken any actions that would indicate that you have a closed mind on a matter under discussion? If so, you may be predetermined on the issue; you will need to inform the meeting, and when it is discussed, you will have the right to make representations to the meeting as a member of the public, but must then withdraw from the meeting.</p>

**FOR GUIDANCE REFER TO THE FLOWCHART OVERLEAF.
PLEASE REFER ANY QUERIES TO THE MONITORING OFFICER IN THE FIRST
INSTANCE**

DECLARING INTERESTS FLOWCHART – QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF



ECONOMIC SUCCESS POLICY DEVELOPMENT PANEL

Minutes of a meeting of the Economic Success Policy Development Panel of Broadland District Council, held at Carrowbreck House, 7 Carrowbreck Road, Hellesdon, NR6 5FA on Monday 27 June 2022 at 6pm.

Committee Members Present: Councillors: A Crotch (Chairman), N Brennan, J Davis, S Prutton (sub for G Peck) and K Vincent

Cabinet Members Present: Councillors: J Copplestone and T Mancini-Boyle

Officers in Attendance: The Programme Manager – Economic Growth (DBM), the Market Town & Business Development Service Manager (DD), the Strategic Growth Projects Manager (NC), the National Management Trainee (EH) and the Democratic Services Officer (DM)

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER PROCEDURAL RULE NO 8

No declarations were made.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors L Hemsall, G Peck and R Potter.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 April 2022 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4 ECONOMIC GROWTH STRATEGIC PLAN

The Panel considered the report which invited members to review and recommend to Cabinet the approval and adoption of the Broadland Economic Growth Strategic Plan 2022 – 2027 and summary document.

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The Plan and the summary document had now been considered at a number of Panel meetings and the National Management Trainee detailed the latest revisions made to both documents arising from the last meeting. The Chairman welcomed the updated documents which were now more Broadland centric.

The National Management Trainee then answered a number of questions from members. She confirmed that performance would be measured in the increments set out in the report and that a base line of data had been sourced from existing national OS statistics or local KPs.

RESOLVED to recommend Cabinet to

approve and adopt the Broadland Economic Growth Strategic Plan 2022 – 2027 and use of the Summary as an externally facing document.

5 NORFOLK STRATEGIC FUND GRANT – BUSINESS BUILDER

Members considered the report which was seeking endorsement for the delivery of a suite of interventions to complement the Council's business support offer, enabled by the Norfolk Strategic Fund (NSF), and requesting authority be delegated to the Assistant Director for Economic Growth, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth to use the grant monies in support of the Business Builder programme outlined in the report.

The Market Town & Business Development Service Manager explained that the current proposals had been developed following the desire to look at an alternative to the specific branded programme originally offered as part of the NSF funded project. The current proposal was consistent with the aims of the NSF grant but was more in line with the Broadland established focus on holistic support where needed most. The proposal was a bespoke wraparound service which could in the main be delivered by existing officers who had a range of expertise in supporting start up business. Mindful of the anticipated ending of EU funding it was felt the proposed programme was the right intervention at the right time. The Market Town & Business Development Service Manager went on to outline the four main phases of support offered by the programme as set out in the report.

The Chairman welcomed the proposals which would enable the right support to be given to businesses and enable the scheme to be adapted in response to changing demands.

The Market Town & Business Development Service Manager then answered questions from members. He explained the phased interventions proposed and the support which could be offered at each phase subject to the business meeting the criteria.

A concern was raised that the environmental impact of the proposals could be given added weight mindful of the rising energy costs, for example the issue of insulation could be added to the range of measures to which businesses

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could be encouraged to consider. The lack of specific criteria could lead to it being overlooked. The Market Town & Business Development Service Manager commented that the existing list of potential measures was not exclusive and businesses would be supported and mentored in a wide range of measures to help with energy saving and reducing their environmental impact. It was not felt it would be helpful to include specific environmental criteria as this could remove flexibility to deal with a wide range of circumstances. The main purpose of the proposals was to help new business to start up – the main driver was not environmental criteria.

A suggestion was made that it would be helpful to facilitate networking between businesses and the Market Town & Business Development Service Manager agreed this was important and would be encouraged. With regard to evaluation of the programme, the Market Town & Business Development Service Manager commented that the programme would be subject to ongoing evaluation to ensure it met demand and any changes needed would be implemented based on what the demand was and how the scheme was responding.

With regard to the process for approving grants, the Market Town & Business Development Service Manager explained that the process was still to be finalised but all applications would be judged on merit and that there was a wealth of expertise within the team to assess applications. It was difficult to anticipate take up at this stage but adjustments would be needed if demand was high.

RESOLVED to recommend that Cabinet

1. endorses the proposed revised programme of activity to be funded from the NSF grant.
2. agrees to delegate authority to the Assistant Director of Economic Growth, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development to determine the use of the balance of the grant monies in accordance with the programme detailed in the report.
3. agrees to officers submitting a variation request to the NSF for the new programme of work detailed in the report.

6 SHARED PROSPERITY FUND – INVESTMENT PLAN

Members considered the report which explained that, to access Broadland's UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) allocation, an investment plan needed to be submitted setting out measurable outcomes that reflected local needs and opportunities. The report proposed Governance arrangements to ensure expenditure met the requirements of the funding and requested that delegated authority be given to finalise and submit an investment plan within the required timescales.

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The Strategic Growth Projects Manager presented the report and updated the annex with changes to the named persons representing the Norfolk Chamber of Commerce and the Department of Work and Pensions on the Shared Prosperity Fund Board. To adhere to the guidelines, two meetings of the Board would be held prior to the submission of the investment plan, the first was scheduled for 1 July.

The Strategic Growth Projects Manager detailed the recommendations in the report and summarised the key issues. As with all district councils, Broadland had been awarded an allocation of funding via a funding formula. The proposal was to focus on three principal interventions, building on existing work streams to maximise the impact of funding and better secure the delivery of outcomes within the required timeframe. As there was no ability to carryforward any underspends, careful consideration of spent profiles was needed. The three areas being funded included: Communities and Place (pride in place work programme), Support for Local Business (Cambridge Norwich Tech corridor work programme) and People and Skills (apprenticeships work placements and a council led training offer). Discussions were ongoing with other Districts and the County Council and with the LEP regarding wider possibilities. A question was raised about the evaluation and sustainability of projects and a comment was made that those projects that were successful and met an ongoing demand would likely continue where as others which did not deliver would not be sustained e.g. the creation and subsequent success of Community Connectors during COVID was likely to be continued post COVID.

In response to a question, the Strategic Growth Projects Manager stated that the proposals could involve Town and Parish Councils. A member commented on the challenge of engaging smaller councils and this was acknowledged. It was suggested that district councillors had a role in facilitating their involvement. In addition to town/parish councils, there was a need to identify other community groups / individuals / councillors involved in community projects including Community Action Norfolk and Norfolk Community Foundation. The Strategic Growth Projects Manager commented that at its future meeting, the Board could look to identify other potential sources of community representatives.

RESOLVED to recommend that Cabinet

- 1 Approve the principal areas of investment as set out within this report.
- 2 Delegate to the Director of Place, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer, the Managing Director and the Leader of the Council, for the sign off and submission of a three-year investment plan to meet the requirements of the UKSPF.
- 3 Delegate to the Director of Place to finalise the initial and ongoing Governance arrangements for the UKSPF.

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- 4 Delegate to the Director of Place, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer, the Managing Director and the Leader of the Council, to make any non- substantive changes to the investment plan as required by the Department of Levelling up Housing & Communities and to sign the contract and accept the terms of the UKSPF, subject to appropriate legal advice.
- 5 Delegate to the Director of Place, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer, the Managing Director and the Leader of the Council, for the commitment and expenditure of the Council's allocation of UKSPF in line with the investment plan.

(The meeting concluded at 6.55pm)

Chairman

Agenda Item: 5
Economic Success Policy Development Panel
7 November 2022

Rural England Prosperity Fund

Report Author(s): Nina Cunningham & Debra Baillie-Murden
Strategic Growth Projects Manager & Programme Manager –
Economic Growth
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Portfolio: Economic Development and Finance

Ward(s) Affected: All

Purpose of the Report:

To access Broadland's Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) allocation, an addendum to UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) investment plan must be submitted setting out measurable outcomes that reflect local needs and opportunities.

Recommendations:

Economic Success Policy Development Panel to recommend to Cabinet to:

- 1** Approve the principal areas of investment as set out in section 4 of this report.
- 2** Delegate to the Director of Place, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer, the Managing Director and the Leader of the Council, for the sign off and submission of an addendum to the UKSPF investment plan to meet the requirements of the funding.
- 3** Delegate to the Director of Place, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer, the Managing Director and the Leader of the Council, to make any non-substantive changes to the principal areas of investment as required by the Department for Environmental, Food and Rural Affairs.

1. Summary

- 1.1 The REPF supports the aims of the government's Levelling Up White Paper and Future Farming Programme. It funds capital projects to support business development, farm business diversification and community infrastructure with the aim of improving productivity and strengthening the rural economy and rural communities.
- 1.2 The REPF is integrated into the UKSPF which supports productivity and prosperity in places that need it most. For eligible local authorities, the REPF is a rural top-up to UKSPF allocations. It supports activities that specifically address the particular challenges rural areas face. It is complementary to funding used to support rural areas under the UKSPF. Broadland District Council has been allocated £569,552, subject to the receipt of a compliant proposal.
- 1.3 The REPF replaces European Funding from LEADER and the Growth Programme which were part of the Rural Development Programme for England. It provides £110m of funding for local investment between April 2023 and March 2025 with local authority allocations based on their population, the importance of farming to the area and the number and productivity of rural businesses in the area.
- 1.4 It is proposed that Broadland District Council focuses on two principal interventions, linked to the Pride in Place and Cambridge Norwich Tech Corridor work programmes. If approved, this approach will maximise the impact of the funding and better secure the delivery of outcomes within the required timeframe.
- 1.5 The deadline for submission of the addendum to the Council's investment plan is 30 November 2022. The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs will then undertake an assessment and provide feedback as required, with approval anticipated in January 2023.
- 1.6 The first payments are expected to be received in April 2023.

2. Background

- 2.1 In August 2022, Cabinet approved the principal areas of Broadland's UKSPF investment plan and the governance arrangements of the fund. The investment plan has been submitted and feedback is expected shortly.
- 2.2 The REPF objectives fit within the UKSPF investment priorities for supporting local business and community and place, providing capital funding to:
 - 2.2.1 Support new and existing rural businesses to develop new products and facilities that will be of benefit to the local economy. This includes farm businesses looking to diversify income streams.
 - 2.2.2 Support new and improved community infrastructure, providing essential community services and assets for local people and businesses to benefit the local economy.

- 2.3 Projects must be in a rural area i.e. in a town, village or hamlet with a population below 10,000 or in a market or 'hub town' with a population of up to 30,000 that serves the surrounding rural area as a centre of employment and in providing services.
- 2.4 The REPF prospectus contains information on interventions, outputs and outcomes. To access the allocation, an addendum to the UKSPF investment plan must be submitted by 30 November 2022. Broadland District Council has been allocated a total of £569,552 over the two-year period from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2025.
- 2.5 The funding must be used on capital projects with grants provided for business or community purposes. Where consistent with the investment plan submitted, UKSPF funding may be used for the administration of grants, and any revenue costs associated with projects. No further revenue funding is included in the REPF.
- 2.6 To access the allocation, each authority has been asked to submit an addendum to the UKSPF investment plan by 30 November 2022.

3. Current position/findings

- 3.1 The REPF is additional capital funding, allocated to rural local authorities to support rural businesses and communities. Funding will be received as part of the UKSPF allocation. Details of the estimated funding allocations per annum are as follows:

	2023/24	2024/25	Total
BDC Total	£142,388	£427,164	£569,552

- 3.2 There is a requirement for local rural partners to be consulted as part of the development of proposals and delivery of the fund. The prospectus document includes guidance on utilising a local partnership group, i.e. Broadland's UKSPF board, and inviting additional members with a particular specialism in rural development.
- 3.3 The REPF is additional funding linked to the UKSPF; the ongoing governance and financial monitoring of the funding will be managed in line with UKSPF requirements.

4. Proposed Action

- 4.1 It is proposed that two primary programmes included within Broadland's UKSPF investment plan are supported. Full details of proposals will be finalised in time for the addendum to be submitted and are subject to change following negotiations with DEFRA:

- 4.2 **Programme 1: Pride in Place.** This project fits into the supporting rural communities investment priority, directly linking to intervention 2.2: *capital grant funding for investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups*. The objectives of this investment are to strengthen our social fabric and foster a sense of local pride and belonging through investment in activities that enhance physical, cultural and social ties and amenities including community infrastructure and local green space.
- 4.3 In the Council's UKSPF investment plan it has been proposed funding is used to expand and enhance the *Community Infrastructure Funding* offer by providing grant funding to bring forward delivery of key pieces of infrastructure. To support this, it is proposed £100,000 of REPF funding is made available to community groups to improve the environmental credentials of new or existing buildings for example installing renewable heating. It is proposed grants of up to 25% of the cost of capital works are offered, with a maximum grant of £25,000.
- 4.4 Measureable outputs for this programme include:
- 4.4.1 Number of organisations receiving grants.
 - 4.4.2 Number of facilities supported, created or installed.
 - 4.4.3 Amount of green or blue space created or improved.
- 4.5 Indicative outcomes for this programme include:
- 4.5.1 Improved perception of facilities or amenities.
 - 4.5.2 Increased users of facilities or amenities.
 - 4.5.3 Improved perceived or experienced accessibility.
- 4.6 **Programme 2: Cambridge Norwich Tech Corridor.** This project fits into the supporting rural business investment priority and links closely with intervention 1.1: *capital grant funding for small scale investment in micro and small enterprises in rural areas*. The objectives of this investment is to create jobs and boost community cohesion and increase private sector investment in growth-enhancing activities through targeted support for small and medium sized businesses.
- 4.7 Linking to the food and drink cluster support funded through the UKSPF, it is proposed £200,000 of REPF is used to purchase a piece of food processing equipment for the Broadland Food Innovation Centre which will be available for the use of tenants and other businesses within the food and drink cluster to enable on site processing/manufacturing supporting businesses to adopt new processes and increasing growth.
- 4.8 It is proposed the remaining £269,552 of funding be made available for eligible businesses by expanding the development grants element of Broadland's Business Builder programme. The current offer is for capital grants of up to £5,000 at a 50% intervention rate allowing for the purchase of specific equipment etc. to facilitate growth within the business. It is proposed REPF funding be used to enable the purchase of higher value equipment or improvements to commercial sites offering grants of up to £25,000 at a 50% intervention rate.

4.9 Measureable outputs for this programme include:

4.9.1 Number of businesses supported

4.9.2 Number of micro businesses supported

4.10 Indicative outcomes for this programme include:

4.10.1 Jobs created/safeguarded.

4.10.2 Number of new businesses created.

4.10.3 Number of businesses adopting new technologies or processes.

4.10.4 Number of businesses with improved productivity.

4.10.5 Number of businesses experiencing growth.

5. Issues and risks-

- 5.1 **Resource Implications** – No additional revenue funding is available through REPF for the administration of the fund. The 4% administration allowance within the UKSPF can be utilised to assist in managing grant calls and appraising grant applications, monitoring contract compliance and administering grant payments, however administering multiple, smaller grant calls will required significantly more resource than larger investments.
- 5.2 **Legal Implications** – As with UKSPF, appropriate UK government logos and reference to REPF and UKSPF must be prominently displayed on all websites and printed materials relating to funded activity. A plaque of significant size must also be installed at a location readily visible to the public, bearing the appropriate UK government logos, project name and standardised text.
- 5.3 **Equality Implications** – It is a requirement for all decision making to meet the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty.
- 5.4 **Environmental Impact** – A requirement of the funding is for projects to support green growth, working with the natural environment to achieve the UK's legal commitment to cur greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050 and improve resilience to natural hazards.
- 5.5 **Crime and Disorder** – N/A
- 5.6 **Risks** – A risk register will be developed on approval of the Investment Plan and maintained throughout programme delivery.
- 5.7 The programme is reliant on working closely with external stakeholders. There is a reputational risk associated with poor stakeholder engagement leading to disengagement and possible bad press.

6. Recommendations

Economic Success Policy Development Panel to recommend to Cabinet to:

- 6.1 Approve the principal areas of investment as set out in section 4 of this report.
- 6.2 Delegate to the Director of Place, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer, the Managing Director and the Leader of the Council, for the sign off and submission of an addendum to the UKSPF investment plan to meet the requirements of the funding.
- 6.3 Delegate to the Director of Place, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer, the Managing Director and the Leader of the Council, to make any non-substantive changes to the principal areas of investment as required by the Department for Environmental, Food and Rural Affairs.

Background papers

Rural England Prosperity Fund: prospectus - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Rural England Prosperity Fund interventions objectives outputs and outcomes list.pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk)

Electric Vehicle Charging Point installation on Council owned land

Report Author(s): Annie Sommazzi
Clean Growth and Sustainability Manager
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Portfolio: Economic Growth

Ward(s) Affected: District Wide

Purpose of the Report:

Public Electric Vehicle Charging Point (EVCP) infrastructure is an important way to reduce on-road emissions and to support in achieving the Government's net-zero 2050 target.

This report seeks the relevant approvals to enable the installation of EVCP infrastructure within council owned carparks.

Recommendations:

Economic Success Policy Development Panel to recommend to Cabinet to:

1. Agree to the principal that EVCPs should be installed at council owned and managed carparks
2. Delegate decisions regarding an award of contract to a third-party supplier to the Assistant Director of Economic Growth in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth.

1 Summary

- 1.1 This project enables the installation of EVCPs within council carparks and will therefore contribute towards the delivery of a publicly accessible EVCP network.
- 1.2 It is proposed that the Council award a contract to a third-party supplier for an end-to-end delivery solution. This means the supplier are responsible for funding and delivering the necessary civil engineering works as well as the ongoing management, maintenance, and operation of EVCPs on council owned carparks. The supplier would also own the EVCP units.
- 1.3 On the basis outlined within 1.2 of this report, a supplier would pay the Council an annual licence fee for any EVCPs which they own and operate on council owned carparks.
- 1.4 At the end of the licence fee term an opportunity would exist for all relevant EVCP infrastructure to be transferred to the Council.

2 Background

- 2.1 In 2020 the Council adopted an Environmental Strategy. This outlined the Council's commitment to addressing the impacts of climate change.
- 2.2 A revised Environmental Strategy and Action Plan highlights the Council's alignment to the Government's 2050 net-zero emission target and strengthens commitments to enable district-wide decarbonisation. The Strategy and Action Plan is currently being considered by Council Members for adoption.
- 2.3 Alongside the 2050 net-zero emission target, the Government have also committed to end the sale of new petrol and diesel cars and vans by 2030, with all new cars, and vans, being fully emission free at the tailpipe from 2035 onwards.
- 2.4 To support a transition towards low emissions vehicles ten council carparks have been provisionally identified as suitable for EVCP installation and a Request for Quotation has been submitted to enable suppliers to bid for an award of contract.

3 Other options

- 3.1 To not approve the principal for EVCPs to be installed on council carparks and to therefore not support with the delivery of a publicly accessible EVCP network.
- 3.2 To approve the principle for EVCP installation on council owned carparks, but to *not award* a contract to a third-party supplier for an end-to-end delivery solution, as outlined within section 1.2 of this report.

This would require the Council to fund and deliver the civil engineering, installation, and ongoing maintenance, and operation of EVCPs on council carparks. There may be an opportunity within this model to investigate solar carports, however, this may delay the timeframes for EVCP delivery on council owned land and is a more costly alternative to the proposals outlined within section 1.2 of this report.

- 3.3 To progress with the proposals outlined within section 1.2 of this report and to also explore, as an additional project, solar canopy carports and the role they may play in supporting with a phase two roll out of EVCP infrastructure.

4 Issues and Risks

4.1 Resource Implications

Under the proposals outlined within section 1.2 of this report, the Council would not be required to fund the delivery of EVCP infrastructure at council carparks and would receive an annual licence fee from a third-party supplier.

4.2 Legal Implications

Legal advice will be sought by NPLAW on the licence fee arrangements.

As referenced in 2.2 of this report, an end to the sale of all new petrol and diesel cars and vans by 2030 has been enshrined within law, while all new cars, and vans, must be emission free at the tailpipe from 2035 onwards - EVCP infrastructure will support the transition to low/no emissions vehicles by this date.

4.3 Equality Implications

There are no equality implications.

4.4 Environmental Impact

This proposal will support the revised Environmental Strategy and Action Plan, which highlights the Council's commitment to align to the Government's 2050 target for wider district decarbonisation.

Public EVCP infrastructure is an important way to reduce on-road emissions and will support in achieving the national net-zero 2050 target. Furthermore, a reduction in petrol and diesel vehicles will improve air quality across the district.

4.5 Crime and Disorder

There are no crime and disorder implications.

4.6 Risks

Under the proposals outlined within 1.2 of this report, EVCP infrastructure will be owned and operated by a third-party supplier. Whilst a contract and licence fee will outline the terms of engagement, the Council will not have the same level of control over the EVCP units as they would have if they fully owned and operated them.

Delaying the installation of EVCPs will impact on the delivery of a publicly accessible EVCP network and therefore threatens progress towards national net-zero 2050 emissions target.

5 Conclusion

- 5.1 Publicly accessible EVCP infrastructure enables the transition towards low emission vehicles whilst reducing on-road emissions. This is an important route towards achieving a national net-zero 2050 target and will improve air quality in towns and villages whilst supporting the Council's own ambitious economic growth agenda.
- 5.2 Installing EVCPs at council carparks is a good opportunity to improve the public network.
- 5.3 Issuing an award of contract to a third-party supplier for an end-to-end delivery solution will enable an expeditious delivery of EVCPs across council carparks at no cost to the Council.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 Agree to the principal that EVCPs should be installed at council owned and managed carparks.
- 6.2 Delegate decisions regarding an award of contract to a third-party supplier to the Assistant Director of Economic Growth in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth.