

Agenda

Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Thursday, 23 March 2023, 10.00 am
Council Chamber, County Hall, Worcester

All County Councillors are invited to attend and participate

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DISCLOSING INTERESTS

There are now 2 types of interests:
'Disclosable pecuniary interests' and **'other disclosable interests'**

WHAT IS A 'DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST' (DPI)?

- Any **employment**, office, trade or vocation carried on for profit or gain
- **Sponsorship** by a 3rd party of your member or election expenses
- Any **contract** for goods, services or works between the Council and you, a firm where you are a partner/director, or company in which you hold shares
- Interests in **land** in Worcestershire (including licence to occupy for a month or longer)
- **Shares** etc (with either a total nominal value above £25,000 or 1% of the total issued share capital) in companies with a place of business or land in Worcestershire.

NB Your DPIs include the interests of your spouse/partner as well as you

WHAT MUST I DO WITH A DPI?

- **Register** it within 28 days and
- **Declare** it where you have a DPI in a matter at a particular meeting
 - you must **not participate** and you **must withdraw**.

NB It is a criminal offence to participate in matters in which you have a DPI

WHAT ABOUT 'OTHER DISCLOSABLE INTERESTS'?

- No need to register them but
- You must **declare** them at a particular meeting where:
You/your family/person or body with whom you are associated have a **pecuniary interest** in or **close connection** with the matter under discussion.

WHAT ABOUT MEMBERSHIP OF ANOTHER AUTHORITY OR PUBLIC BODY?

You will not normally even need to declare this as an interest. The only exception is where the conflict of interest is so significant it is seen as likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest.

DO I HAVE TO WITHDRAW IF I HAVE A DISCLOSABLE INTEREST WHICH ISN'T A DPI?

Not normally. You must withdraw only if it:

- affects your **pecuniary interests** **OR** relates to a **planning or regulatory** matter
- **AND** it is seen as likely to **prejudice your judgement** of the public interest.

DON'T FORGET

- If you have a disclosable interest at a meeting you must **disclose both its existence and nature** – 'as noted/recorded' is insufficient
- **Declarations must relate to specific business** on the agenda
 - General scattergun declarations are not needed and achieve little
- Breaches of most of the **DPI provisions** are now **criminal offences** which may be referred to the police which can on conviction by a court lead to fines up to £5,000 and disqualification up to 5 years
- Formal **dispensation** in respect of interests can be sought in appropriate cases.

Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Thursday, 23 March 2023, 10.00 am, Council Chamber, County Hall, Worcester

Membership: Cllr Alastair Adams (Chairman), Cllr Tony Muir (Vice Chairman), Cllr Mel Allcott, Cllr Paul Harrison, Cllr Aled Luckman, Cllr Emma Marshall, Cllr Beverley Nielsen, Cllr David Ross and Cllr Emma Stokes

Agenda

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1	Apologies and Welcome	
2	Declarations of Interest and of any Party Whip	
3	Public Participation Members of the public wishing to take part should notify the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance in writing or by e-mail indicating both the nature and content of their proposed participation no later than 9.00am on the working day before the meeting (in this case 22 March 2023). Further details are available on the Council's website. Enquiries can also be made through the telephone number/e-mail address listed in this agenda and on the website.	
4	Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous meeting Previously circulated.	
5	Flood Risk Management Annual Report/Update on Flooding 2022 (indicative timing: 10:05 to 11:05am)	1 - 36
6	Performance and In-Year Budget Monitoring (indicative timing 11.05am to 12 noon)	37 - 76
7	Refresh of the Scrutiny Work Programme 2023/24 (Indicative timing: 12.00 to 12.10pm)	77 - 80

Agenda produced and published by the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance, County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester WR5 2NP

To obtain further information or a copy of this agenda contact Alyson Grice/Alison Spall, Overview and Scrutiny Officers on 01905 844962/846607, scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

All the above reports and supporting information can be accessed via the Council's website

Date of Issue: Wednesday, 15 March 2023

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Notes

Webcasting

Members of the Panel are reminded that meetings of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel are Webcast on the Internet and will be stored electronically and accessible through the Council's Website. Members of the public are informed that if they attend this meeting their images and speech may be captured by the recording equipment used for the Webcast and may also be stored electronically and accessible through the Council's Website.

ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

23 MARCH 2023

FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT/UPDATE ON FLOODING 2022

Summary

1. The Panel will receive the Annual Report on Flood Risk Management in Worcestershire.
2. The Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Environment, the Council's Flood Risk Manager, representatives from the Council's Highways Department, Severn Trent, the Environment Agency, North Worcestershire Water Management and the South Worcestershire Land Drainage Partnership have been invited to attend the meeting.

Background

3. The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (FWMA) created a new lead role for the County Council in managing flood risk, as reported to Cabinet on 1 July 2010.
4. In 2007, Worcestershire suffered extensive flooding. Subsequently a joint scrutiny on flooding in Worcestershire (with the district councils) took place in 2008, which supported the findings of Pitt's national review of the lessons learned from the 2007 floods. These included a recommendation that overview and scrutiny committees should annually review arrangements for managing flood risk.
5. An Annual Report has been produced which summarises the flood risk management activities and progress during 2022 of the County Council (as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA)), and the other Risk Management Authorities. The Annual Report is attached as Appendix 1.
6. The County Council's website also includes information about flood risk management [Worcestershire County Council Flood Risk Management Information](#)
7. The discussion of flooding risk management last took place at the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 9 November 2021 which also looked at the role of external partners, including Severn Trent Water Ltd and the Environment Agency. A link to this meeting is included at the end of the report.

Purpose of the meeting

8. The Panel is asked to:
 - consider and comment on the Annual Report,
 - consider the information provided by external partners,
 - determine any comments or recommendations to the Cabinet Member with Responsibility.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1 – Flood Risk Management in Worcestershire 2022 Annual Report

- Annex A - Flood Alleviation Schemes – completed and planned
- Annex B – February 2022 Flood Event – impacted communities
- Annex C - Emergency Planning and Response
- Annex D - Risk Management Authority Roles
- Annex E - Role of Lead Local Flood Authority
- Annex F - Main Flood Risk Management Governance Groups
- Annex G - Flood Risk Management Abbreviations

Contact Points

Alyson Grice / Alison Spall, Overview and Scrutiny Officers, Tel: 01905 844962 / 846607
Email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

Agenda and Minutes of Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 9 November 2021, 11 September 2020, 18 January 2019, 12 January 2018, 23 November 2016 and 25 November 2015.

Minutes and Agendas are available on the Council's website a through this link:
[Economy and Environment O&S Panel agendas and minutes](#)

Flood Risk Management in Worcestershire

Annual Report 2022

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INTRODUCTION

This report is focussed on flood risk management activity during the 2022 calendar year. This period includes the significant flood event in February which was centred on the River Severn.



Figure 1: Flooding in Worcester in February 2022

In the week of 14th – 21st February 2022 a succession of low-pressure systems travelled across the UK (including three named storms – Dudley, Eunice and Franklin), bringing persistent frontal rain to large parts of the UK. The three storms contributed to a wetter than average February, with the UK seeing its eighth highest February rainfall total on record. Soil conditions within the upper Severn catchment were wetter than normal for the time of year.

The three named storms in rapid succession brought ‘Exceptionally High’ rainfall totals to the Welsh Mountains and Shropshire Plains catchments with above normal totals for the River Severn which impacted several communities downstream in Worcestershire. River levels along the River Severn peaked between 21st February and 25th February 2022.

35 Flood Alerts, 30 Flood Warnings, and 1 Severe Flood Warning were issued across Worcestershire in February 2022. Affected communities included Bewdley, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcester, Severn Stoke and Upton upon Severn (see Annex B), and across the county as a whole there were over 100 residential properties internally flooded, over 1000 properties evacuated and over 80 businesses affected.



Figure 2: River levels outflanked the Beales Corner temporary barriers

The repeated flood events on the River Severn reinforce why flood risk management remains a high priority for Worcestershire County Council, the other Risk Management Authorities and the Government. There were also isolated incidents of surface water flooding in various locations such as Fairway Drive in Rubery, Queen Street in Droitwich and Summerfield in Kidderminster.

Flood Risk Management Authorities continued during 2022 to work closely with other partners, landowners and impacted communities. Together they developed and delivered flooding and drainage schemes, scrutinised planning applications, managed watercourses, increased community resilience and improved drainage, sewerage and flood defence infrastructure so that more homes, businesses and pieces of important infrastructure had their risk of flooding reduced, where practicable.

1. UNDERSTANDING AND PRIORITISING FLOOD RISK

Flood risk management in Worcestershire continued to be guided by the statutory Local Flood Risk Management Strategy in 2022 which has ensured a continuing increase in the understanding of flood risk and prioritisation of resources and the management of flood issues.

Section 6 of this report gives a full list of plans and strategies that have been developed and are constantly being updated and referred to in the work of Worcestershire County Council and its partners in understanding and prioritising flood risk in the county.

The process of updating the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy continued in 2022 and engagement with partners and stakeholders will take place in due course.

Worcestershire County Council and its partners also investigated 58 cases of reported flooding in 2022.

2. REDUCING THE LIKELIHOOD AND IMPACT OF FLOODING

2.1 Flood alleviation schemes

All flood alleviation schemes can be found in Tables A1 and A2, which is given in Annex A.

Table A1 lists the Environment Agency, Worcestershire County Council, District, City and Borough Councils, Lower Severn Internal Drainage Board, and Severn Trent Water schemes completed since the last annual report.

Table A2 lists the schemes that are currently being planned. These range from those in the earliest stages of feasibility assessment to those that are in the final stages of being made ready for commencement on site.



Figure 3: Part of the proposed flood alleviation scheme at Beales Corner, Bewdley. See Annex A, Table A2, item P1 for more information on the development of the scheme.



Figure 4: Tree works were done in early 2023 to enable the scheme construction to follow on later in the year

The schemes in these two tables seek to reduce flood risk to domestic properties, businesses, key roads and other critical infrastructure.

Some of the schemes listed are 'programmes of work' and therefore appear in both the 'completed' and 'planned' tables. Property flood resilience measures, wherein works are done on individual properties to reduce the damage done by flooding / reduce the time taken to recover from flooding damage, are an example of the type of scheme that spans both tables.

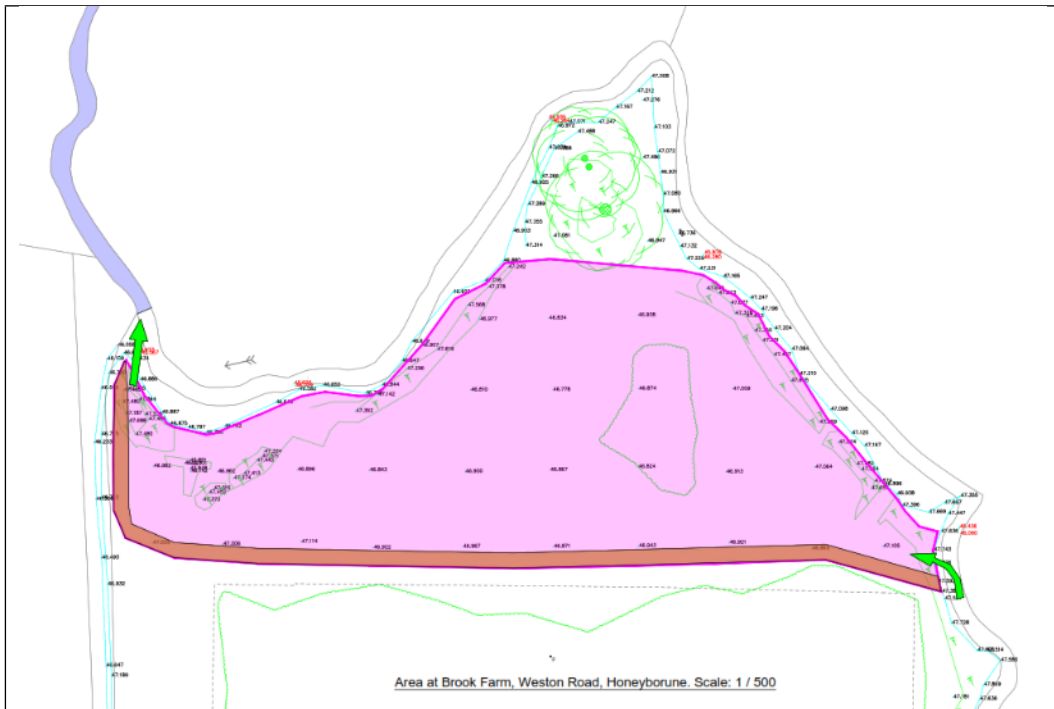


Figure 5: Flood detention area created on the Gate Inn Brook, Honeybourne (Annex A, Table A1, item C3 refers.)

Most flood risk management schemes receive funding via the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee, or RFCC, (from Government Grant in Aid and / or Local Authority-sourced Local Levy) which covers the English Severn and Wye catchment. The RFCC's previous six-year programme for schemes came to an end in March 2021. The new six-year programme, which has attracted increased government funding, was launched on 1 April 2021. Table A2 in Annex A contains schemes that are in the new six-year programme.

Both tables attribute a 'Delivery Lead' to each scheme but in many cases the schemes are underpinned by very close collaboration across the flood risk management authorities.



Figure 6: Frame for a flood barrier; part of a package of property protection works delivered at Powick Service Station. (Annex A, Table A1, item C1 refers.)

2.2 Maintenance

It would be impractical to report on all details of ongoing routine maintenance work but below is a summary of the main highlights.

2.2.1 Main Rivers

In addition to the assessment and development of flood alleviation schemes that are detailed in Table A2 in Annex A, in 2022 the Environment Agency continued to deliver its responsibility for the management of flood risk on 'Main Rivers' including:

- inspection, repair and maintenance of the Environment Agency's existing flood defences and structures following the major flood events to ensure they are fit for purpose when next called upon;
- pro-active maintenance works on more than 20 watercourses in Worcestershire including vegetation, debris and silt removal.

2.2.2 Ordinary Watercourses

In addition to the assessment, development and delivery of flood alleviation schemes that are detailed in Tables A1 and A2 in Annex A, over the report period the district council land drainage partnerships (North Worcestershire Water Management and the South Worcestershire Land Drainage Partnership) and the Lower Severn Internal Drainage Board continued to ensure that the extensive network of smaller watercourses and ditches is appropriately managed and maintained. This was achieved through the following.

- Inspection of nearly 100 km of the watercourse network.
- Liaison with riparian owners about maintenance and management of watercourses on their land.
- Implementation of land drainage consenting duties and powers including around 54 applications processed and a number addressed by pre-application discussions.
- Implementation of land drainage enforcement powers including nearly 100 successful informal enforcement actions.
- Recording and monitoring of flood risk management assets on the statutory 'Register & Record of Structures & Features'.

2.2.3 Sewerage network

Severn Trent (ST) continued to deliver its flood risk management duties through a range of activities during 2022.

- **Responding to incidents:** ST have responded to reports of operational issues on their network, including responding to internal and external sewer flooding incidents in the Worcestershire area during 2022. ST investigate the root cause of these issues (e.g. CCTV) and undertake work (e.g. clearing blockages) to ensure the sewer network is fully operational.

- **Proactive Works Programmes:** ST have increased their level of proactive investment to prevent flooding from their network (including flooding) associated with operational and structural defects on the sewer network. In 2022 and continuing into 2023 ST have a programme of work to CCTV approximately 19 km of sewers in Worcestershire.
- **Monitoring:** ST undertake regular inspections of key assets on their network, including overflows to rivers. By the end of 2022, they finished installing remote monitoring equipment in all of their storm overflows. See [Storm overflows | Looking after your sewers | Waste water | My Supply | Severn Trent Water \(stwater.co.uk\)](#) for information about storm overflows.
- **Education:** Severn Trent’s education teams visit schools across all the Severn Trent region. Some of the key topics last year were on ‘Using water, Hydration & Plastic Pollution.’ In Worcestershire in 2022 their education team visited 23 schools within the region delivering their messages to over 2000 children. For more info, please visit: [Education Zone | About Us | Severn Trent Water \(stwater.co.uk\)](#)

2.2.4 Highway drainage

Essential maintenance of highway drainage infrastructure continued over the report-period. Over 100 highway drainage schemes were delivered in 2022, including 200 new gully assets being installed to relieve drainage issues and over 2000 metres of highway drainage pipes being replaced. Over 1000 metres of ditches were dug as part of new works or maintenance.

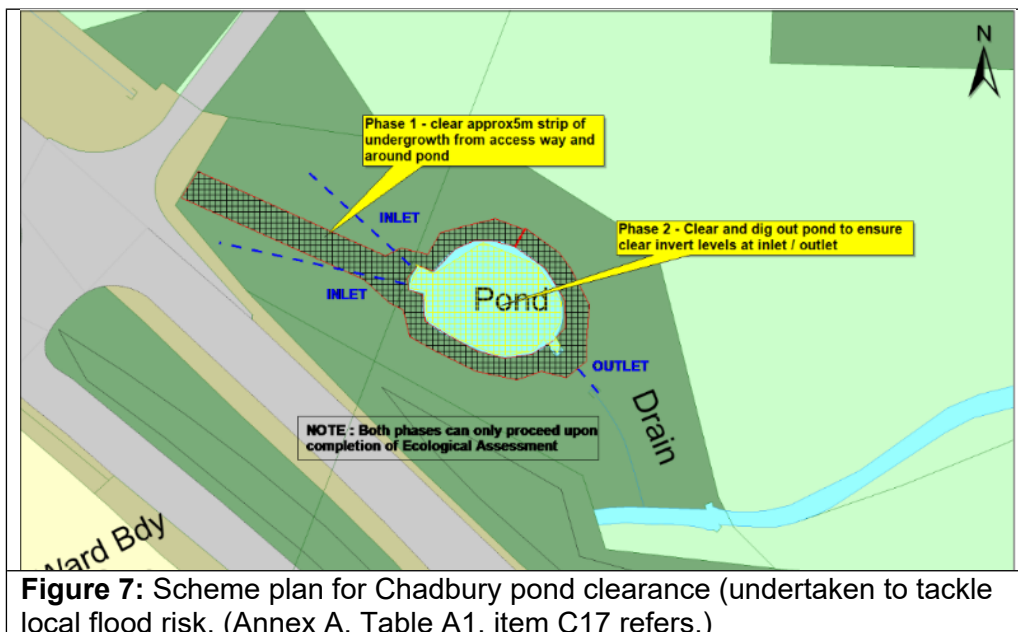


Figure 7: Scheme plan for Chadbury pond clearance (undertaken to tackle local flood risk. (Annex A, Table A1, item C17 refers.)



Figure 8: Part of the new drainage system to tackle a flood issue in chapel Lane, Bransford. (Annex A, Table A1, item C14 refers.)



Figure 9: New ditching to reduce flood risk to highway and property, Babylon Lane, Bishampton. (Annex A, Table A1, item C13 refers.)

2.3 Flood response and recovery

In addition to the day-to-day work of Worcestershire County Council and its partners to respond to and improve the response to flooding (see Annex C), the County Council, the Districts, the Environment Agency, Severn Trent and other partners maintained duty rotas and responded to flooding incidents during 2022. Of particular note is the multi-agency response to the larger flood event in February 2022 which required initiating the Tactical Co-ordinating group and Operational Cells in both north and south Worcestershire. Specific operations included the erection of demountable and temporary barriers by the Environment Agency in Bewdley and Worcester, the operation of the pumps at Kempsey, and the operation of flood gates in Upton upon Severn. Severn Trent worked alongside the Environment Agency in key locations of flood defences during the major flood events including the deployment of mobile pumps in Bewdley, Worcester and Upton upon Severn.

The County Council has also convened its Flood Response Group on a monthly basis with key officers from each relevant service area as part of its continuous improvement of flood response.



Figure 10: Flooding in Severn Stoke in February 2022

2.4 Natural Flood Management

The three-year initial Natural Flood Management pilot study, funded by the Department for Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), has come to an end. It was extremely successful, installing over 430 interventions to hold back water and slow the flow in the designated catchments of the River Isbourne, Merry Brook and Dowles Brook. Works were undertaken within these areas and strong relationships built with local communities, landowners, farmers, and contractors.

Funding has now been secured via the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee for a four-year project to continue this type of work in both the original catchments and others across Worcestershire including the Gallows Brook in Hagley, the Kyre Brook near Tenbury, the River Salwarpe, the River Cole, the Dick Brook near Astley.

With climate change projections for wetter winters and more intense rain events in the summer it is important that Natural Flood Management measures are identified and implemented on a catchment scale to slow, store and hold back water. This includes considering how land is used and farmed and what can be done collectively to help reduce run-off, overland flow and downstream flooding.

In March 2022 Severn Trent launched a new campaign to 'Get River Positive' which aims to improve the health of rivers and the environment. There are 5 key pledges with associated actions and timescales. Severn Trent also hosted Harriet Baldwin MP at Pershore Treatment Works to learn what Severn Trent are doing to reduce misuse of sewers, reduce flooding and the Get River Positive campaign.

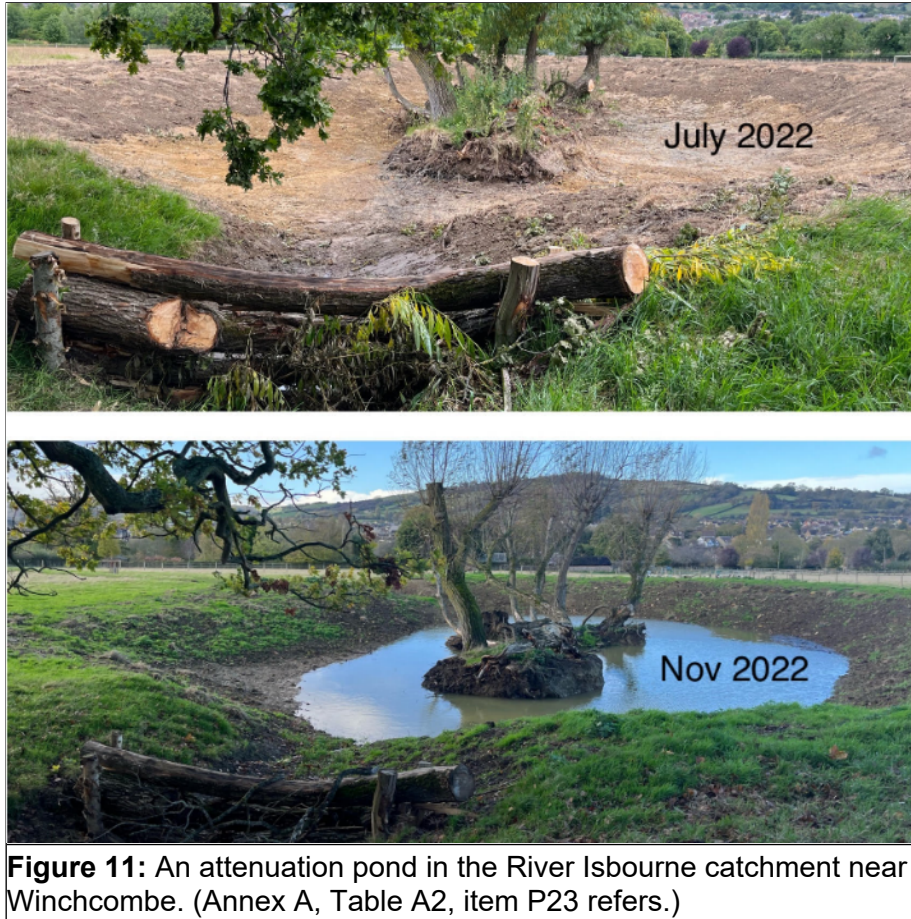


Figure 11: An attenuation pond in the River Isbourne catchment near Winchcombe. (Annex A, Table A2, item P23 refers.)

2.5 Spatial planning and development control

The South Worcestershire Land Drainage Partnership (a combined service covering Malvern Hills District, Worcester City and Wychavon District Councils), North Worcestershire Water Management (a combined service covering Bromsgrove District, Redditch Borough and Wyre Forest District Councils) and Worcestershire County Council collectively made representations on over 1500 planning applications and over 80 pre-application consultations.

In 2022 the Environment Agency made representations on 52 planning applications in Worcestershire. This work ensured that flood risk management and all matters relating to drainage were properly considered and embedded within the County's proposed developments.

Bromsgrove District Council continued to go through the process of reviewing its Local Plan which North Worcestershire Water Management commented on. They also input into the Hagley Neighbourhood Plan.

Severn Trent continued to engage with the Local Planning Authority and with developers in advance of and at planning application stage. See their website for details [Overview | Building and Developing | Severn Trent Water \(stwater.co.uk\)](#). In 2022, Severn Trent responded to over 200 pre-application and planning application consultations from the Local Planning Authorities in Worcestershire.

3. GOVERNANCE & PARTNERSHIPS

3.1 Regional Flood & Coastal Committee

The English Severn & Wye Regional Flood & Coastal Committee continues to play an important role in coordinating flood risk management including assessing proposed flood related schemes and allocating both Local Levy and Central Government Flood Defence Grant in Aid capital funding via its 6-year plan of flood alleviation schemes.

3.2 River Severn Partnership

Funding from the River Severn Partnership is helping to fund the Bewdley Beales Corner flood alleviation scheme and the potential scheme at Tenbury. A number of 'demonstrator' (pilot) projects are also in development including the following.

- *'Adaptive pathways' projects* – seeking ways to prepare for the potential impacts of climate change through interventions now which can easily be adapted and augmented in the future when the impacts of climate change become clearer and the case can be made for further funding of these adaptations.
- *Upper Severn catchment* – looking at large scale Natural Flood Management in the upper reaches of the River Severn catchment in order to reduce flood risk downstream.
- *Future options paper* – development of a future options paper which looks at the river as both an environmental and economic asset, and how the opportunities and threats can best be managed by the River Severn Partnership and the future structural opportunities for managing these.

There was a visit from senior figures in Defra and the Treasury in October 2022 to highlight opportunities. Discussions continued regarding how the River Severn Partnership works together with the English Severn and Wye Regional Flood and Coastal Committee.

3.3 Other groups, partnerships and fora

Representatives from Worcestershire County Council, the district councils and often the other Risk Management Authorities attended meetings and fora including the following.

- Worcestershire Land Drainage Group
- District Council Land Drainage Partnership Boards
- Regional Environment Agency / Lead Local Flood Authority Networking Group
- Worcestershire Natural Flood Management Project Steering Group
- The West Mercia Local Resilience Forum (Worcestershire) Severe Weather Group
- The Local Government Flood Forum
- The Worcestershire Local Nature Partnership
- The Worcestershire Green Infrastructure Partnership
- The Worcestershire Infrastructure Steering Group
- The Worcestershire Local Transport Board

4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & RESILIENCE

4.1 Local flood groups

In 2022 WCC again worked closely with an increasing number of community Flood Action Groups in Worcestershire including Hagley, Diglis, Hollywood, Powick, Severn Stoke and Tenbury Wells.

Supporting communities at risk of flooding and increasing their resilience is a key priority within the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. Work is under way to establish more Flood Action Groups in other at-risk communities, not least those severely impacted by the major flood events in the last 3 years.

This important work is being facilitated by partnering with the National Flood Forum, a Bewdley-based charity which specialises in empathically supporting flooded individuals and communities alongside forming partnerships with Flood Risk Management Authorities (FRMAs) to co-create a way forward to reduce the risk and increase resilience. The National Flood Forum provides emotional and practical advice, including support immediately after a flood event. In March 2022, the National Flood Forum hosted recovery sessions alongside the Risk Management Authorities in flood risk areas around Worcestershire.



Figure 12: Flood recovery in Upton upon Severn in 2022. Hosted by the National Flood Forum, WCC and RMA partners

The National Flood Forum is integral to the formation and development of community Flood Action Groups. These groups engage with their wider community, providing RMAs with their local knowledge and feedback on local issues. The National Flood Forum's extensive experience, empathy and critical independence is a vital element in its successful engagement record, and this helps to develop trust and partnership within communities. It is intended to extend this successful partnership into future years.

4.2 Other engagement

In 2022 Flood Risk Management Authorities also engaged with communities in Worcestershire outside the formation of community flood action groups. There was engagement with those at risk of flooding in a number of locations subject to

recent flooding, or at which a scheme is being developed. These include, Himbleton, Evesham, Wickhamford, Bewdley, Stourport, Droitwich, Summerfield, Upton upon Severn, and Worcester.

A number of communities benefitted from the County Council's flood grants following the flooding in February and March 2020 and February 2022. Severn Trent's community fund continued in 2022 supporting local projects across the Severn Trent region, including Worcestershire. North Worcestershire Water Management also undertook the following.

- A community planting day for residents in Lickey End and one at Shenstone Close.
- Liaison with the Wolverley Flood Group.
- Engagement with planning agents at the forum organised by Wyre Forest District Council.
- Engagement with university students by doing a presentation at Worcester University.

5. PLANS, POLICIES & STRATEGIES

5.1 Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

We have now received updated guidance on development of Local Flood Risk Management Strategies and we began the process of updating the Worcestershire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy in 2022.

5.2 Flood Risk Management Plans

There are several multi-agency Flood Risk Management Plan (FRMP) groups in Worcestershire that assess and plan mitigation measures to address flooding where there are high concentrations of past and future potential floodspots. A standard local FRMP process and reporting structure has been adopted and followed at a number of locations such as Bromsgrove, Droitwich, Hollywood, Redditch and Hagley. In 2022 these groups continued to meet to both further develop and implement the FRMPs. Also, a new FRMP group was initiated for Worcester City and this group has already met three times to discuss reducing flood risk in the city.

In addition, Worcestershire County Council, as Lead Local Flood Authority, has worked over the last two years with the Environment Agency to develop the national FRMP for the Severn and Humber River Basin Districts for the second cycle of plans to cover the period 2021-2027. Like the first cycle FRMPs covering the period 2015-2021, these were produced for each River Basin District in England and cover all sources of flooding. They can be found at [Flood risk management plans 2021 to 2027 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/flood-risk-management-plans-2021-to-2027)

5.3 Other related plans, policies and strategies

A range of other related plans, policies and strategies were produced and / or contributed to by the Risk Management Authorities during 2022 including the following.

- Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan (due to be published by Severn Trent this month – March 2023)

- Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment
- Worcestershire Surface Water Management Plan
- Local Flood Risk Management Plans
- Multi-Agency Flood Plans
- Green Infrastructure Concept Plans
- Worcestershire Minerals Local Plan
- District Local Development Plans
- Neighbourhood Plans
- Catchment Flood Management Plan



Figure 13: Soil being transported to Severn Stoke for use in the flood alleviation scheme. (Annex A, Table A2, item P7 refers.)

6. PROGRESS SINCE LAST ANNUAL REPORT

Table 1 below has a description of the intended areas of progress we identified in the last annual report (“We said”), alongside a description of the progress made in these areas in 2022 (“We did”).

Table 1: Progress made in 2022 against previous future priorities in the 2021 annual report.

We said	We did
Publication and implementation of the Hagley formal investigation report.	Completed and published
Continued implementation of the Hollywood formal investigation report recommendations, including appraisal of the potential flood scheme and continuing to work with partners to build a compelling business case for a flood scheme.	Modelling now completed and business case being developed.
Further development and implementation of the local FRMP for the new Redditch 'Flood Risk Area', as identified by the review of the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment.	Environment Agency Severn Flood Risk Management Plan completed with Worcestershire-wide and Redditch-specific measures included.
Implementation of the six-year, county-wide Natural Flood Management project.	Funding now secured and project underway.
Implementation of lessons learned from recent major flood events and further development and testing of emergency plans.	A number of recommendations now actioned, and the Worcestershire Flood Response Group continues to meet regularly for the purposes of continuous improvement.

7. FUTURE SCOPING

As previously reported, a great deal of progress was made with many aspects of flood risk management during 2022. However, considerably more work is still required. Priorities for the next 12 months include the following:

7.1 Understanding and Prioritising Flood Risk - Future actions

- Continue to increase understanding and appropriate prioritisation of flood risk through the ongoing multi-agency FRMP framework for Droitwich, Hagley, Wythall, Redditch, Worcester and Bromsgrove.
- Assess and investigate future potential surface water flood risk.

7.2 Reducing the Likelihood and Impact of flooding - Future actions

- Continue to develop and deliver major flood alleviation schemes at Severn Stoke, Toronto Close (Worcester), Bewdley and Tenbury.
- Continue delivery of other smaller flood alleviation schemes in locations such as Summerfield, near Kidderminster.
- Continue to develop and deliver Property Flood Resilience schemes in Evesham, Wickhamford, Droitwich, Worcester and Himbleton.
- Continue to develop and implement the county-wide Natural Flood Management programme.
- Implement lessons learned from recent major flood events and further develop testing of emergency plans.
- Introduce and implement new schemes onto the Regional Flood & Coastal Committee 6-year Medium Term Plan and complete schemes already on it.
- Continue to deliver the programme of the highway surface water drainage schemes.
- Continue the maintenance of flood risk management infrastructure including highway drainage and flood defences.

- Continue to discharge Land Drainage Act responsibilities including consent application processing and enforcement where required to ensure ongoing maintenance of the ordinary watercourse network.
- Continue to discharge statutory consultee duties and scrutinise planning application drainage plans.
- Prepare for the likely forthcoming statutory SuDS Approval Body (SAB) role.
- Explore options for the future maintenance of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS).

7.3 Governance and Partnerships - Future actions

- Continue management and implementation of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.
- Review and refresh of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.
- Renew the Worcestershire flood risk management partnership and governance framework.

7.4 Community Engagement and Resilience - Future actions

- Continue to support existing community flood action groups and support the establishment and development of new ones in areas at risk of flooding.
- Further engage with communities and landowners to increase their resilience.

7.5 Plans, Policies and Strategies - Future actions

- Further develop and maintain the Register & Record of Structures and Features.
- Further develop and maintain the Register of Flood Risk Management Schemes.
- Review and update the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment.
- Continue to engage with and support the development of the River Severn Partnership
- Review the Water Infrastructure for a Sustainable Economy (WISE) project and further integration between economic growth, infrastructure development and flood risk management.



Figure 14: A newly constructed storage pond at Padgets Lane, Redditch. To add ecological value it was designed to permanently hold water at low levels. (Annex A, Table A1, item C7 refers.)

ANNEX A. FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEMES – COMPLETED AND PLANNED

Table A1: Completed flood alleviation schemes

No.	Location	Delivery lead	Completed scheme details	Cost (£k)
C1	Malvern Hills District	MHDC	Property flood resilience measures were installed on 54 residential properties and 29 business properties within the Malvern Hills District.	375
C2	Broad Marston Manor, Broad Marston	WDC	Creation of swales and channels to help protect the manor, with the arisings used to form a bund that protects the village from fluvial flooding (from Noleham Brook). WDC provided survey and design advice, whilst the landowner funded the works.	No public-purse cost (see left)
C3	Honeybourne	WDC	As above, a range of measures to reduce flood risk locally (to the farmer's benefit, but also to the village's benefit), WDC provided survey and design advice, whilst the farmer funded and undertook the works.	No public-purse cost (see left)
C4	Bewdley and Stourport	NWWM	Administering of Defra's Property Flood Grant Scheme 2020 to fund up to £5,000 towards flood resistance and/or recoverability for 45 dwellings and 20 businesses internally flooded in February 2020.	286
C5	Blake Brook at White Wickets, Kidderminster	NWWM	Reinstatement of a headwall and installation of a trash screen at the inlet of a culverted watercourse on council owned land which will facilitate monitoring and maintenance visits and reduce the flood risk for the adjacent dwelling.	2
C6	Holly Lane, Portway	NWWM	Reinstatement of ditch to reduce flooding to nearby properties	1

No.	Location	Delivery lead	Completed scheme details	Cost (£k)
C7	Battens Drive, Redditch	NWWM	Construction of a storage pond at Padgets Lane, Redditch to reduce risk of flooding to Battens Drive. To add ecological value, it was designed to permanently hold water at low levels.	3
C8	Harport Road, Redditch	NWWM	Substantial ditch clearance work at Harport Road, Redditch, to reduce flood risk to nearby property and highway.	2
C9	Beacon Hill, Rubery	NWWM	Reinstatement of ditch on Beacon Hill, Rubery, reducing risk to highway and five garages after floods of 2021 and 2022.	3
C10	Cheviot Close, Stourport-on-Severn	NWWM	Scheme to install property level protection measures after Property Flood Grant application [2020] had to be cancelled (contractor pulled out at the last moment) and there was insufficient time to arrange another one within the grant deadline	7
C11	Kinsham	ST	Sewer improvements were completed in the village of Kinsham near Tewkesbury involving sewer lining, sewer replacement, new sewers and sealing manholes to reduce infiltration into the sewers. This has significantly improved the condition of the sewer network and reduces the risk of flooding and pollution in the village. The schemes alleviates flooding to 6 properties.	550
C12	Worcestershire	ST	Property Flood Resilience (PFR) - ST have a programme of PFR installations across the Severn Trent region, including Worcestershire. In 2022, ST fitted PFR to 6 properties in Worcestershire to reduce the impacts of flooding to properties.	To be determined
C13	Babylon Lane, Bishampton	WCC	New ditching to reduce flood risk to highway and property.	21

No.	Location	Delivery lead	Completed scheme details	Cost (£k)
C14	Chapel Lane, Bransford	WCC	New drainage system to tackle flood issue / wet spot outside properties.	25
C15	Eckington Road, Bredon	WCC	Clearance work, rebuilding of collapsed large culvert, rebuilding of headwall and installation of new gabion baskets.	40
C16	Manor Lane, Bredons Norton	WCC	Major scheme to reduce flooding to village; construction of new drainage outfall.	80
C17	A44 Worcester Road, Chadbury	WCC	Flooding to A44 / winter hazard offset by vegetation clearance and digging out of pond.	15
C18	Brickyard Lane, Drakes Broughton	WCC	Drainage works (including new pipe, headwall, manhole rebuild and ditch clearance) to tackle property flooding.	23
C19	Hanbury Road, Droitwich	WCC	Highway and property flooding reduced through spillway and drainage repair work (phase 1 completed; phase 2, which will see the scheme completed, about to start.)	15
C20	Briar Close, Evesham	WCC	New gulleys and connections to tackle highway flooding.	14
C21	Finstall Road, Finstall	WCC	Drainage improvements to offset property and highway flooding.	32
C22	Chapel Street, Hagley	WCC	Rectifying defective drainage	15
C23	Moat House Lane, Hindlip	WCC	New gulleys and two new soakaways to address property flooding.	15
C24	Stratford Road, Honeybourne	WCC	New gulleys, manholes and headwalls.	23

No.	Location	Delivery lead	Completed scheme details	Cost (£k)
C25	Stourport Road, Kidderminster	WCC	Tackling flooding of pedestrian crossing.	16
C26	B4424, Little Clevelode	WCC	Upsizing of system to alleviate flooding of gardens.	23
C27	Church Lane, Little Witley	WCC	Replacement of defective pipe.	15
C28	A38, Severn Stoke	WCC	Highway and property flooding reduced through various drainage works.	14
C29	Penn Hall Lane, Stockton	WCC	New pipe and spillways installed to reduce highway flooding.	15
C30	The Grove, Stourport	WCC	Two phases of work to reduce highway flooding.	23
C31	Worcester Road, Summerfield	WCC	Improvements of existing drainage and digging of new ditch to reduce flood risk to properties and highway.	27
C32	Malvern Road, Worcester	WCC	New drainage connection to tackle highway flooding.	20
C33	Hallow Road, Worcester	WCC	Drainage scheme to tackle highway flooding.	18
C34	County-wide	WCC	81 other highways drainage schemes of sub-£10K value delivered across the county.	353

No.	Location	Delivery lead	Completed scheme details	Cost (£k)
C35	County-wide	WCC	Programme of drainage and flooding problem investigation works (including jetting, trial holes and CCTV surveys).	269

Table A2: Planned flood alleviation schemes

No.	Location	Delivery lead	Planned Start	Planned finish	Planned scheme details	Est. Cost (£k)
P1	Beales Corner, Bewdley	EA	Summer 2023	To be determined	Permanent flood risk management scheme (which is likely to include some demountable sections) that will replace existing temporary barrier system. Designed with minimal operational and maintenance requirements in mind. Outline Business case signed off Sept 22. Planning Permission granted Feb 23.	7500
P2	Bromsgrove	EA	2022-23	2022-23	A strategic outline business case, which looks at a range of options, has been completed. The leading option to increase storage upstream (in a National Highways-controlled area) is being investigated. Outline business case is being developed, to include review of current modelling and further surveying along Spadesbourne Brook.	1107

No.	Location	Delivery lead	Planned Start	Planned finish	Planned scheme details	Est. Cost (£k)
P3	Diglis	EA	To be determined	To be determined	An initial feasibility study, carried out in July 2021, is being re-visited to identify viable options for reducing the flood risk at Diglis Avenue.	To be determined
P4	Evesham, Droitwich, Himbleton and Wickhamford	EA	2023 - 24	2026-27	Property flood resilience schemes in Evesham, Droitwich, Himbleton and Wickhamford. Droitwich property surveys to be completed late January 2023. Himbleton – engagement with property owners to start summer 2023. Wickhamford – Approx 13 properties to take up PFR offer. Evesham – working with Town Council to provide engagement support. 40 properties surveyed to date.	1806
P5	Hagley	EA	To be determined	To be determined	Feasibility study is under way to get a more complete understanding and identify potential flood risk management options, including Natural Flood Management (NFM), that will mitigate flood risk.	To be determined
P6	Himbleton	EA	Summer 2023	To be determined	Proposed PFR measures have received full business case sign off. Engagement with property owners to start summer 2023. A feasibility study is also underway to get a more complete understanding and identify further potential flood risk management options, including NFM, that will reduce flood risk.	To be determined

No.	Location	Delivery lead	Planned Start	Planned finish	Planned scheme details	Est. Cost (£k)
P7	Severn Stoke	EA	Spring 2023	Late 2023	Planning permission and full business case approval are both in place for this scheme. Pre-construction activities are taking place - including stockpiling of material in advance of construction, archaeological investigations and discharge of planning conditions.	1800
P8	Tenbury Wells	EA	Late 2023	To be determined	Design work continues on this complex scheme. There have been increased costs due to increased complexities of scheme. Further funding requested. Outline business case approved on 02/12/2022. Planning permission submission spring 2023. Possible planning determination Summer 2023. Full business case submission Summer 2023. Construction possibly late 2023 (18-24 month construction period).	9800
P9	Barbourne Brook, Worcester	EA	01/07/22	01/03/24	Work on a business case to reduce flood risk on the Barbourne Brook in Worcester is underway. This has included a number of culvert surveys and model updates	To be determined
P10	Toronto Close, Worcester	EA	To be determined	To be determined	This scheme consists of a flood wall and flood embankment. It is hoped the funding gap, due to increased construction costs, can be filled with the announcement of the frequently flooded communities allowance. Sufficient funding is in place to allow completion of pre-construction activities, however. As at February 2023: detailed design to be finalised and planning application to be submitted, with full business case approval anticipated mid-2023.	2100

No.	Location	Delivery lead	Planned Start	Planned finish	Planned scheme details	Est. Cost (£k)
P11	Peopleton	WDC	2023-24	2023-24	Clearance of 520m of drainage channel.	5
P12	Dunley Brook, Aerley Kings	NWWM	ongoing	2025	Installation of SuDS to reduce the risk of flooding for properties, if modelling (currently ongoing) demonstrates that approved development does not already fully mitigate the risk.	To be determined (FDGiA bid to be submitted)
P13	Stourport Road, Bewdley	NWWM	Ongoing	Feb-23	Installation of a communal barrier in a courtyard to create a dry evacuation route for multiple flats when the Severn is in flood.	10 (WCC Cllr funding)
P14	Millennium Way, Catshill	NWWM	Feb-23	Feb-23	Natural Networks & Worcestershire Working with Water (WWwW) project in partnership with WCC & Catshill and North Marlbrook Parish Council; reinstating a section of dilapidated watercourse, improving flow of the Battlefield Brook & improving habitat potential.	10
P15	Plack Brook, Feckenham	NWWM	To be determined	2026-27	Diversion of existing flows to create an additional watercourse and reduce flood risk to properties and roads that are important for school access.	To be determined
P16	Pearl Lane, Stourport	NWWM	Ongoing	Summer 2023	Working with landowner to de-culvert a section of the watercourse south of Malvern Edge Court which is in Malvern Hills but would reduce flood risk for Wyre Forest residents upstream	To be determined (Natural Networks bid submitted)

No.	Location	Delivery lead	Planned Start	Planned finish	Planned scheme details	Est. Cost (£k)
P17	Sycamore Drive, Wythall (phase 1)	NWWM	Summer 2023	Summer 2023	Offline balancing area and earth bund to reduce risk to around 20 properties downstream, using RFCC funding in partnership with BDC, WCC & ST.	To be determined
P18	Childswickham Road, Broadway	ST	2023/24	To be determined	Detailed design is in progress on a scheme to reduce flooding along Childswickham Road in Broadway. The proposed scheme includes new larger sewers and specialist manhole covers to reduce flood risk properties and reduce flooding of the highway	To be determined
P19	Sugarbrook, A38, Bromsgrove	ST	To be determined	To be determined	Feasibility work is underway to consider options to reduce flood risk from the sewer network in Bromsgrove.	To be determined
P20	Upton Upon Severn	ST	Underway	Spring 2023	Construction is underway of a new pumping station, together with significant other works all designed to reduce infiltration into the network. The scheme reduces the risk of flooding and pollution and addresses known issues in Upton.	To be determined
P21	Albany Terrace, Worcester	ST	Underway	To be determined	The replacement and upgrading of sewers to improve their condition and meet the demands of a growing population and climate change.	750
P22	North and Middle Littleton	WCC	2023/24	2023/24	Surface water drainage scheme. With a place secured in the 6-year programme, a business case and scheme development work will be the next steps.	75

No.	Location	Delivery lead	Planned Start	Planned finish	Planned scheme details	Est. Cost (£k)
P23	County-wide	WCC	01/12/21	01/03/27	Continuation and expansion of WCC's successful NFM pilot project into the new six-year programme.	1350
P24	Kidderminster road, Bewdley	WCC	23/01/23	03/02/23	Repairs to drainage pipes.	15
P25	Birmingham Road, Bromsgrove	WCC	06/02/23	17/02/23	Ditching and outlet clearance.	15
P26	Hanbury Road, Droitwich	WCC	06/02/23	24/02/23	Spillway and drainage repairs (this is the second and final phase of this scheme).	23
P27	Tewkesbury Road, Eckington	WCC	27/02/23	17/03/23	New drainage system to tackle highway flooding.	23
P28	Stratford Road, Honeybourne	WCC	20/03/23	31/03/23	Further drainage works on Stratford Road.	15
P29	Spring Lane, Malvern	WCC	23/01/23	03/02/23	New drainage connection to offset highway flooding.	15
P30	A441 Birmingham Road, Redditch	WCC	09/01/23	03/02/23	New drainage pipe to tackle highway flooding.	30
P31	A38, Severn Stoke	WCC	06/02/23	17/02/23	Second phase of drainage improvements, tackling property and highway flooding.	15
P32	County-wide	WCC	22/23	22/23	39 other highways drainage schemes of sub-£10K value planned across the county.	185

No.	Location	Delivery lead	Planned Start	Planned finish	Planned scheme details	Est. Cost (£k)
P33	County-wide	WCC	21/22	21/22	Programme of drainage and flooding problem investigation works, including jetting, trial holes and CCTV surveys. N.B. £269K worth of this work has been delivered so far.	369

ANNEX B. FEBRUARY 2022 FLOOD EVENT - IMPACTED COMMUNITIES

Details of the impacts in some of the worst-affected communities from the flood event in February 2022 are given below.

Bewdley

- Flood warnings and a Severe Flood warning issued.
- Severnside demountable barriers and Beales Corner temporary barriers deployed – river levels exceeded height of temporary barriers.
- Bewdley gauge levels peaked at 5.34m (5th highest on record).
- Flooding to properties behind barriers at Beales Corner.
- Up to 80 properties impacted in Bewdley and surrounding area.
- River levels exceed height of Beales Corner temp barriers.

Stourport on Severn

- Up to 50 properties including businesses in Stourport are known to have been impacted in the February 2022 Flood.

Worcester

- Worcester river level gauge recorded 5.62m on 23/02/2022 (highest level since July 2007). Diglis river level gauge recorded 5.05m on 23/02/2022 (highest since Jan 2021)
- Flood alerts and warnings issued.
- Up to 30 properties impacted, including: community at Waterworks Road, and community at Diglis Avenue.

Severn Stoke

- Kempsey Yacht club gauge recorded 7.09m (highest since Feb 2014).
- Flood alerts and warnings issued.
- Properties in the community were impacted.

Upton upon Severn

- Saxons Lode river level gauge recorded 5.33m (highest since Feb 1990)
- Flood alerts and warnings issued.
- Approx 10 properties impacted.
- Waterside and New Street flood gates were operational during the February 2022 flood.

ANNEX C. EMERGENCY PLANNING & RESPONSE

Worcestershire County Council and district council emergency planning, drainage & highways officers work with other Risk Management Authority (RMA) partners, responders and the overarching West Mercia Local Resilience Forum in order to undertake the following.

- Help co-ordinate response to and recovery from the major flood events including:
 - provision of 24/7 Emergency Planning single point of contact for the Worcestershire Local Authorities to link with Local Resilience Forum partners through Command & Control arrangements
 - contribution to the West Mercia Local Resilience Forum Command & Control structure:
 - Bewdley Operational Co-ordination Group (Bronze Cell),
 - Tactical Co-ordination Group,
 - Strategic Co-ordination Group,
 - Communications Cell
 - operation of internal Gold, Silver and Bronze co-ordination structures.
 - co-ordination of support to the community and professional partners from the County Volunteers Emergency Committee (CVEC) including 4 x 4 support / Search and Rescue.
 - co-ordination, chairing and contribution to the Recovery Co-ordination Group.
 - contribution to and helping co-ordinate the flood event response debrief process.
- Contribute to the flood event formal investigation and production of an investigation report.
- Continue to support resilience within the identified Rapid Response Catchments.
- Continue development of a network of local rain gauges to assist in future investigations and flood warning.
- Attend parish council emergency planning fora and work with local communities to develop local resilience plans.
- Further develop individual organisation response plans.
- Install more remote watercourse monitoring equipment.
- Monitor and respond to watercourse gauge triggers.
- Further review sandbag policies.
- Produce generic resident update sheets for use during and after a flood event.

The Environment Agency continues to provide a 24/7 incident response capability. Rostered duty teams are available to respond to both flooding and environmental incidents.

ANNEX D. RISK MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY ROLES

Table 3: Risk management roles

Risk Management Authority	Core flood risk management role
Environment Agency	Main rivers, the sea and reservoirs
Water Authority (Severn Trent Water)	Sewerage system
Lead Local Flood Authority (Worcestershire County Council)	Surface water, groundwater, ordinary watercourses, Local Flood Risk Management Strategy, local leadership
Highway Authority (Worcestershire County Council)	Flooding caused by rain falling on the highway, highway drainage
District Councils (BDC, MHDC, RBC, WCityC, WDC, WFDC)	Ordinary watercourses
Internal Drainage Board (LSIDB)	Ordinary watercourses

ANNEX E. ROLE OF THE LEAD LOCAL FLOOD AUTHORITY

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (the Act) designated upper tier / unitary local authorities as Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFA) and gave them a number of duties and powers including those listed below.

Table 4: Lead Local Flood Authority roles

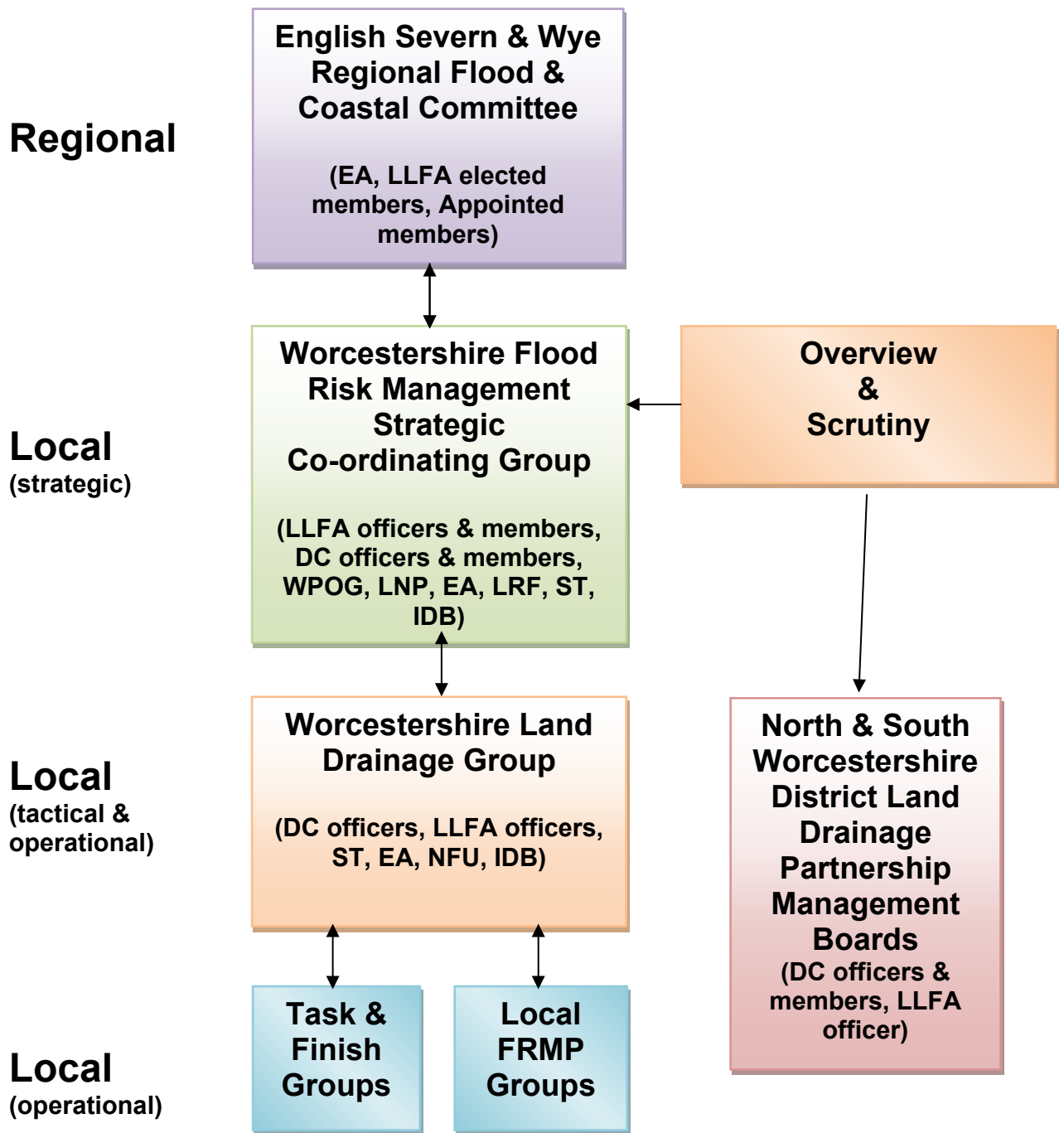
Lead Local Flood Authority Role	Summary of requirements
Duty to publish a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy	Develop, maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for local flood risk management of the area.
Duty to investigate flooding	Co-ordinate the investigation of significant flood events.
Duty to produce a record and register of structures and features	Maintain a register and record of structures and features which have a significant impact on flood risk.
Power to designate flood risk structures and features	Designate structures and features that affect flooding in order to safeguard them.
Power to carry out works	Undertake works to manage flood risk from surface runoff and groundwater.
Duty & power to administer and enforce the Land Drainage Act with regard to Ordinary Watercourses	Discharge consent applications for significant changes to ordinary watercourses and take enforcement action under the provisions of the act as required.
Duty to respond to requests for scrutiny of planning application surface water issues	Respond to requests from LPAs to scrutinise and report on surface water issues within planning applications

Under the Flood Risk Regulations (2009) Lead Local Flood Authorities have some additional duties listed below.

Table F: Further Lead Local Flood Authority roles

Lead Local Flood Authority Role	Summary of requirements
Duty to produce a PFRA	Produce a Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment by 2011 in partnership with the EA
Duty to review the PFRA every six years	Carry out a review in partnership with the EA
Duty to produce a map and Flood Risk Management Plan for 'Flood Risk Areas'	Production of Maps and Flood Risk Management Plans led by the EA supported by Lead Local Flood Authorities

ANNEX F. MAIN FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT GOVERNANCE GROUPS



ANNEX G. FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT ABBREVIATIONS

Table 6: Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Definition
CCTV	Closed Circuit Television
CIL	Community Infrastructure Levy
Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
EA	Environment Agency
EU	European Union
FDGiA	Flood Defence Grant in Aid
FMfSW	Flood Map for Surface Water
FRM	Flood Risk Management
FRMP	Flood Risk Management Plan
FRMA	Flood Risk Management Authority
FRMSCG	Flood Risk Management Strategic Co-ordinating Group
FRR	Flood Risk Regulations
FWMA	Flood & Water Management Act
GIS	Geographical Information System
HRA	Habitats Regulation Assessment
IDB	Internal Drainage Board
LEP	Local Economic Partnership
LFRMS	Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
LLFA	Lead Local Flood Authority
LPA	Local Planning Authority
LRF	Local Resilience Forum
LSIDB	Lower Severn Internal Drainage Board
MAFP	Multi-agency Flood Plan
NFF	National Flood Forum
NFM	Natural Flood Management
NFU	National Farmers Union
OWC	Ordinary Watercourse
PFR	Property Flood Resilience
PFRA	Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment
RFCC	Regional Flood & Coastal Committee
RMA	Risk Management Authority
SAB	SUDS Approving Body
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SFRA	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
SLA	Service Level Agreement
ST	Severn Trent Water Limited
SuDS	Sustainable Drainage Systems
SWMP	Surface Water Management Plan
SWDP	South Worcestershire Development Plan
WCC	Worcestershire County Council
WISE	Water Infrastructure for a Sustainable Economy
WLDG	Worcestershire Land Drainage Group

ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

23 MARCH 2023

PERFORMANCE AND 2022/23 IN-YEAR BUDGET MONITORING

Summary

1. The Panel will be updated on performance and financial information for services relating to the Environment.
2. The Cabinet Members with Responsibility for Environment, and Highways & Transport, Senior Officers from the Economy and Infrastructure (E&I) Directorate and the Acting S151 Officer have been invited to attend the meeting to respond to any queries from Panel Members.

Performance Information

3. Attached at Appendix 1 is a dashboard of performance information relating to Quarter 3 (October to December 2022). It covers the indicators from the Directorate and corporate level and other management information (as appropriate) which relate to services relevant to this Scrutiny Panel's remit.
4. The Scrutiny Panels consider this information on a quarterly basis and then report by exception to the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board (OSPB) any suggestions for further scrutiny or areas of concern.

Financial Information

5. The Panel also receives in-year budget information. The information provided is for Period 9 and is attached in the form of presentation slides at Appendix 2.

Purpose of the Meeting

6. Following discussion of the information provided, the Scrutiny Panel is asked to determine:
 - any comments to highlight to the Cabinet Members at the meeting and/or to Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board at its meeting on 29 March 2023
 - whether any further information or scrutiny on a particular topic is required.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1 – Environment Performance Summary Quarter 3 2022/23
Appendix 2 – Budget Monitoring Information for Period 9 2022/23

Contact Points

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Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

- Agenda and minutes of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 18 January 2023, 11 July, 7 October and 8 November 2022
- Agendas and minutes of the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 19 July, 20 September, 9 November 2021 and 1 March 2022
- Agendas and minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board on 7 December, 29 September, 20 July and 23 March 2022, 17 November, 30 September and 21 July 2021

[All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website here.](#)

Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel Performance Summary

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Economy and Infrastructure Directorate - Areas of Success and Challenge

Areas of Success

1) Condition of Highways

Improvements to highways has been one of Worcestershire residents' top priorities for many years. We continue to strive to ensure the condition of Worcestershire's roads remains above the national average and in the upper or top quartiles nationally. Periods of severe hot, cold, and wet weather and flooding make this challenging. However, Coarse Visual Inspections of the network of principal, non-principal, and unclassified roads during 2021/2022 show that for each category of road there has been a decrease in the percentage to be considered for maintenance. The latest Surface Condition Assessment of the National Network of Roads (SCANNER) results serve to confirm the improvement in the condition of principal and non-principal roads.

2) Highways PEMs Outstanding and PEMs completed in 28 Days

The total outstanding at the end of December was 1,307. This is the lowest month-end total since that for May 2021, when the total was 1,255. At the end of quarter two of this financial year, the outstanding total was 1,619, meaning the reduction during the October-to-December quarter was 19.3%. The reduction during December relative to the outstanding total at the end of November (1,691) was 22.7%. The percentage of PEMs completed in December within the 28-day service level agreement target was 88%, in line with the percentage for the October-to-December quarter and above the 85% target. At the end of quarter three, performance for the financial year was 87%. The percentage for the same period in the 2021/2022 financial year was 84%.

3) Corporate Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Early in quarter three of this financial year, the County Council's carbon emissions figures for 2021/2022 were confirmed. The absolute figure (not accounting for any offsetting) totalled 44,928 tonnes CO₂ equivalent (CO₂e). This was 41% below 2009/2010's baseline figure of 76,536. However, corporate procurement of green electricity for the authority's buildings and street lighting ensured it was possible to offset virtually all emissions associated with electricity use. After this offsetting, the emissions total for 2021/2022 fell to 40,642 tonnes CO₂e, a net reduction of 47% since 2009/10. The County Council's 2021/2022 performance placed it sixth out of 21 West Midlands authorities, outside the top five by only 0.1% and 3% below the second-best authority. In respect of carbon reduction, sustainable growth, and natural environment, however, Worcestershire was ranked first.

Areas of Challenge

1) Condition of Footways

Coarse Visual Inspection (CVI) surveys of footways in 2021/2022 were undertaken using the new inspection software, which makes use of Global Positioning System (GPS) technology. This reduces the time inspectors have to spend setting up and closing down each set of inspections. There is a need to fully validate, interrogate and understand the source data to be able to provide percentages that will help inform 2022/2023's extensive programme of maintenance and improvement work and the concurrent inspections schedule.

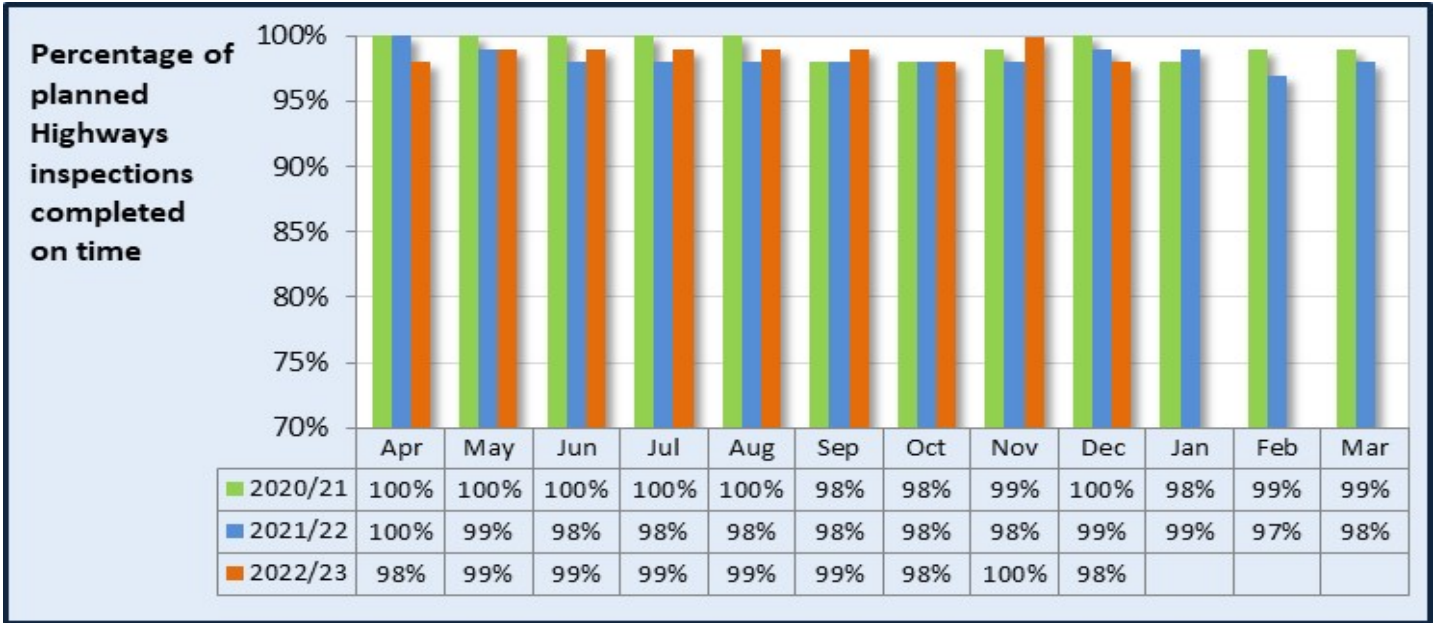
2) Residents' Satisfaction with the Condition of Highways

The 2022 Worcestershire County Council Viewpoint Survey results show 35% of residents very or fairly satisfied that the County Council is keeping public roads in a reasonable condition. This is two percentage points less than in 2021. Over the same period, however, highways assessments show an *improvement* in the condition of principal and non-principal roads. Keeping residents well informed of the extensive programme of road and footway improvements is clearly key, but there are many factors outside our direct control that can impact on levels of satisfaction.

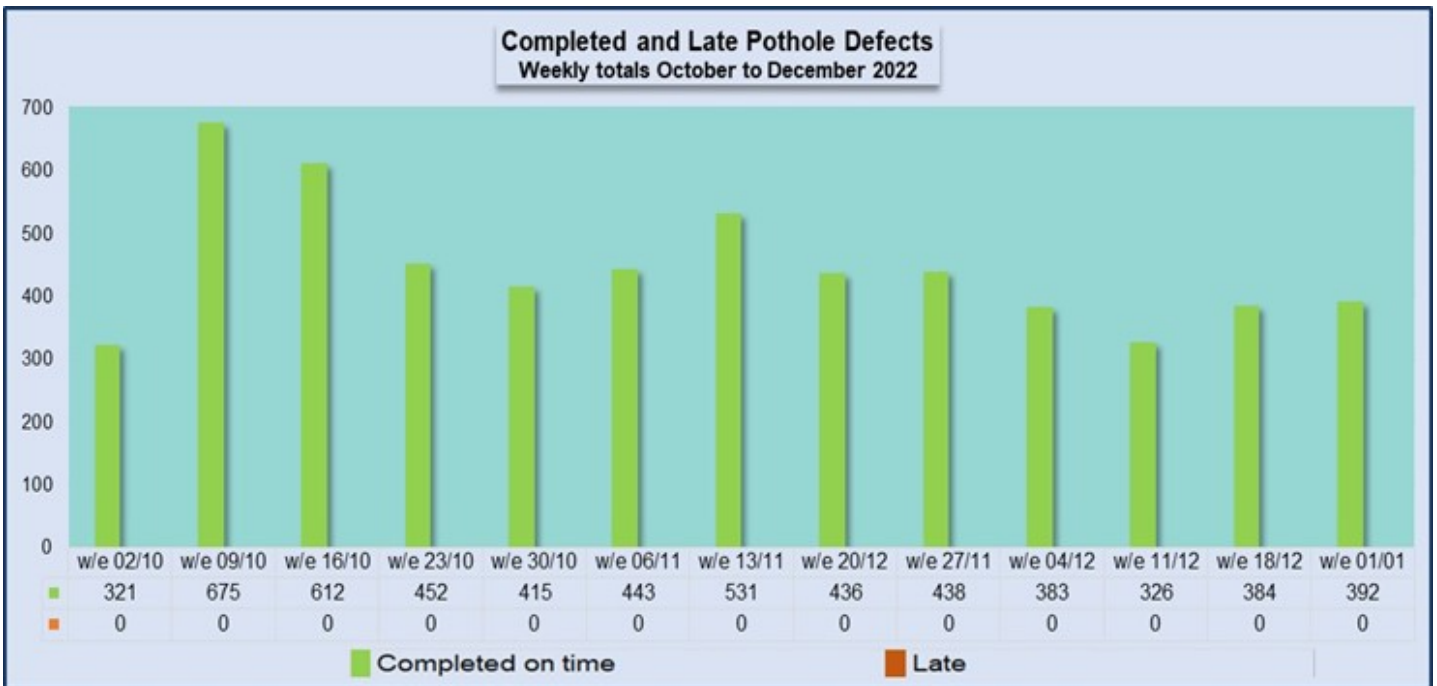
3) Household Waste Collected

Nationally, the COVID-19 pandemic had an impact on the collection and management of local authority municipal waste in 2020/2021 and 2021/2022. The periods of lockdown required people to spend much more time at home due to either furlough schemes or working from home, producing more waste in the process. This should be considered when comparing Worcestershire's last two annual figures with previous years' and when making comparisons between local authorities. Worcestershire's 2021/2022 figure for kilograms of waste collected per resident was 474.90, an increase of 0.3% compared with 2020/2021's 473.30. The size of the increase in 2020/2021 relative to 2019/2020 was 3.6%. The more recent, much lower increase shows the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic are starting to level off. Implementing behaviour-change initiatives that may help reduce the waste arisings per head present challenges and will continue to be a priority.

Economy & Infrastructure Dashboard

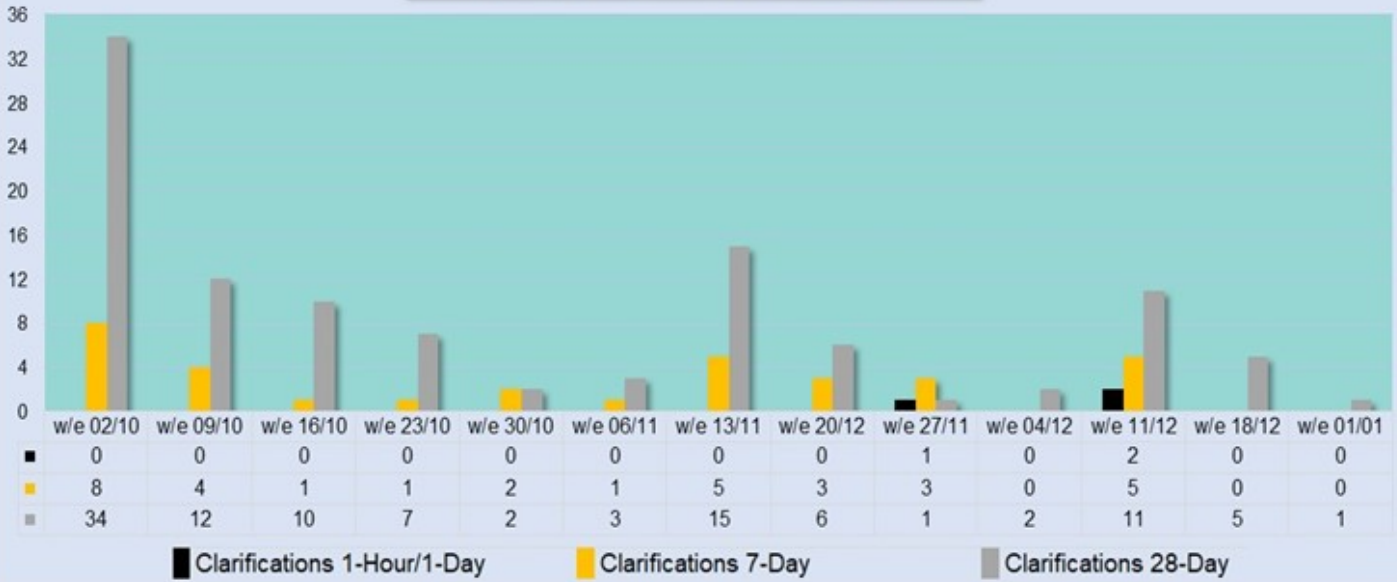


Percentage of inspections meeting national guidelines in Code of Practice for Maintenance Management "Well Maintained Highways".



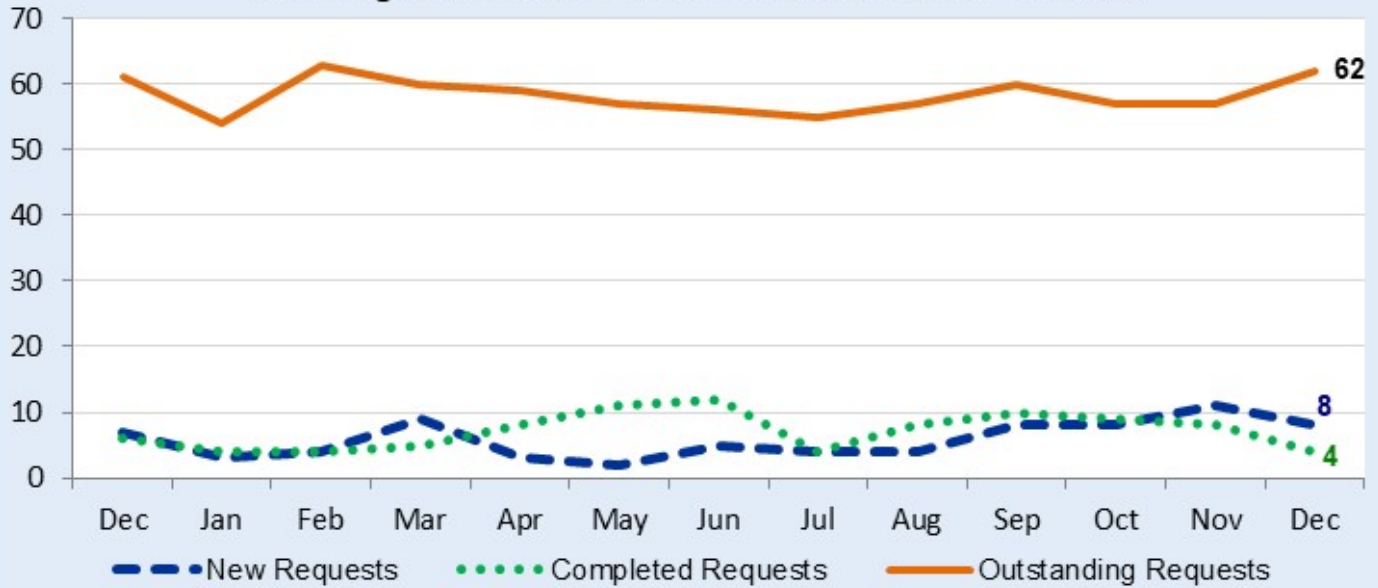
The weekly totals of pothole defects completed on time or late.

Pothole Defect Reports: Clarifications (Queries)
Weekly totals October to December 2022

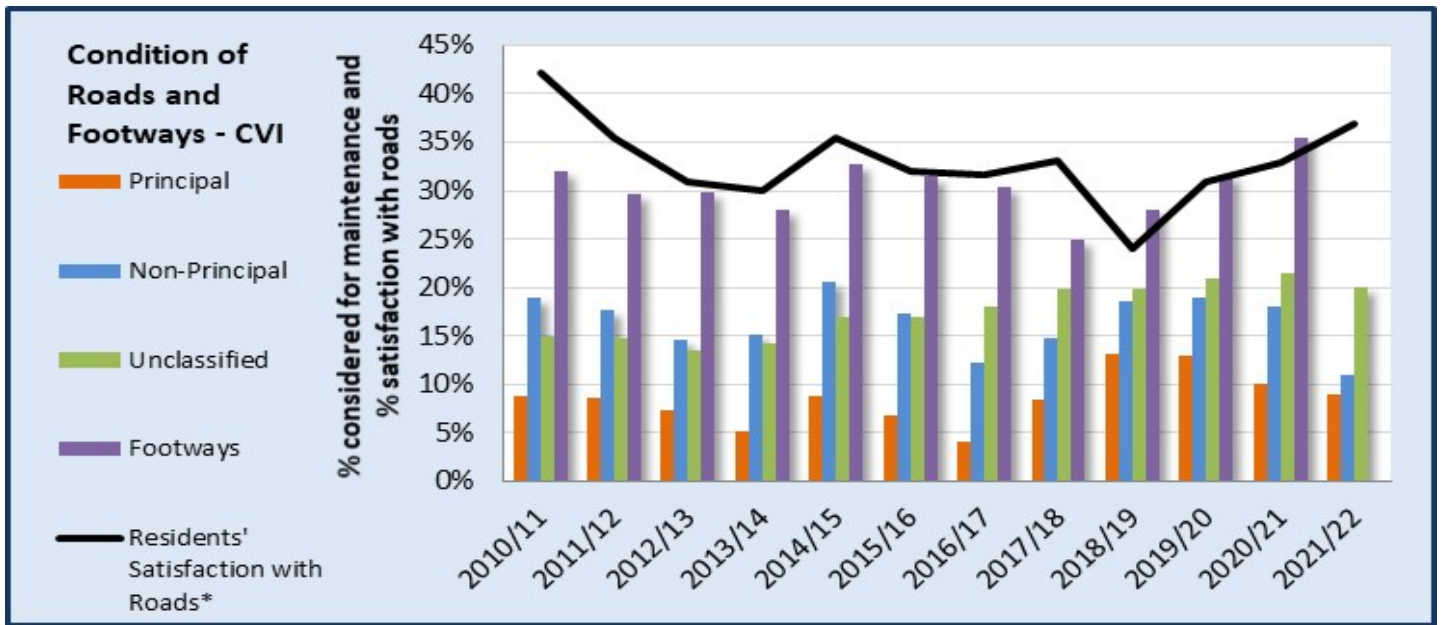


The weekly totals of defects for which clarifications are sought. Clarifications occur when a defect cannot be completed within the specified time frame because of external factors (e.g. because it is under flood water, snow or a parked vehicle or is located in an area that is too high-speed for a safe repair to be made during working hours). An attempt is always made to make safe the issue. The clock on the defect is then stopped until it can be accessed to undertake the original repair.

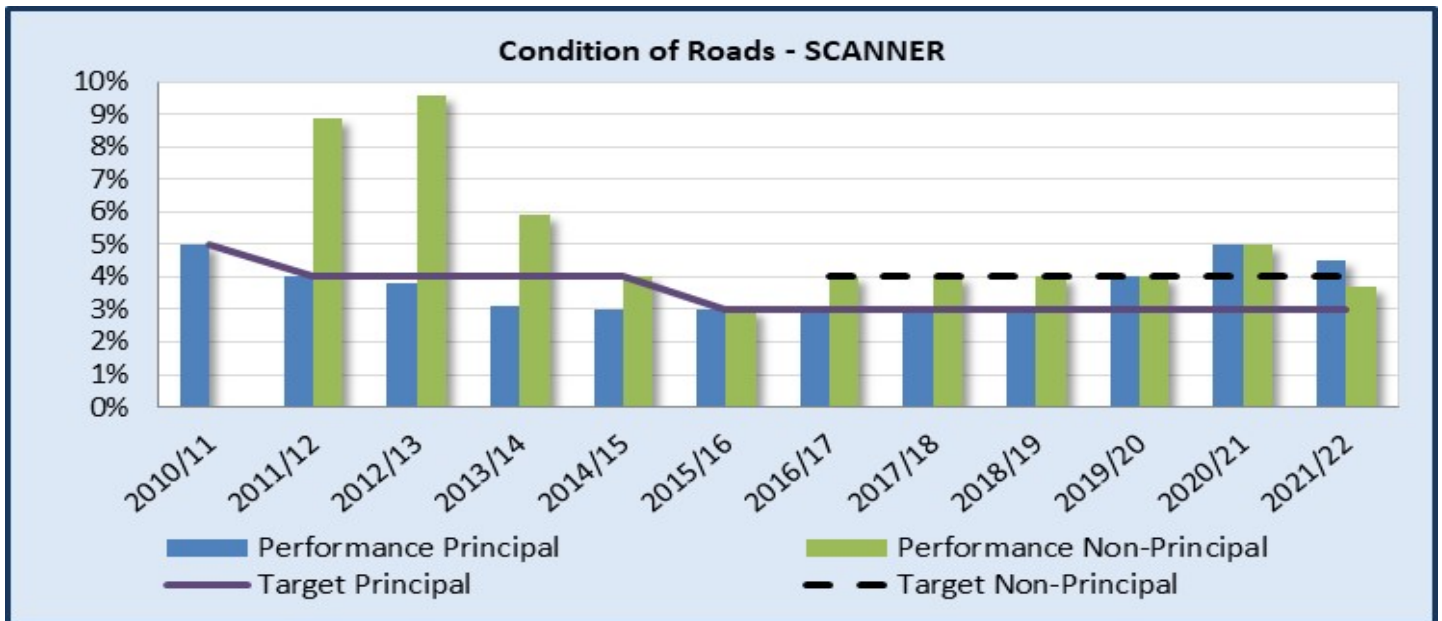
Traffic Regulation Orders - December 2021 to December 2022



The number of new, completed, and outstanding standard Traffic Regulation Orders, not including those associated with Development Control planning issues and internally-generated schemes.



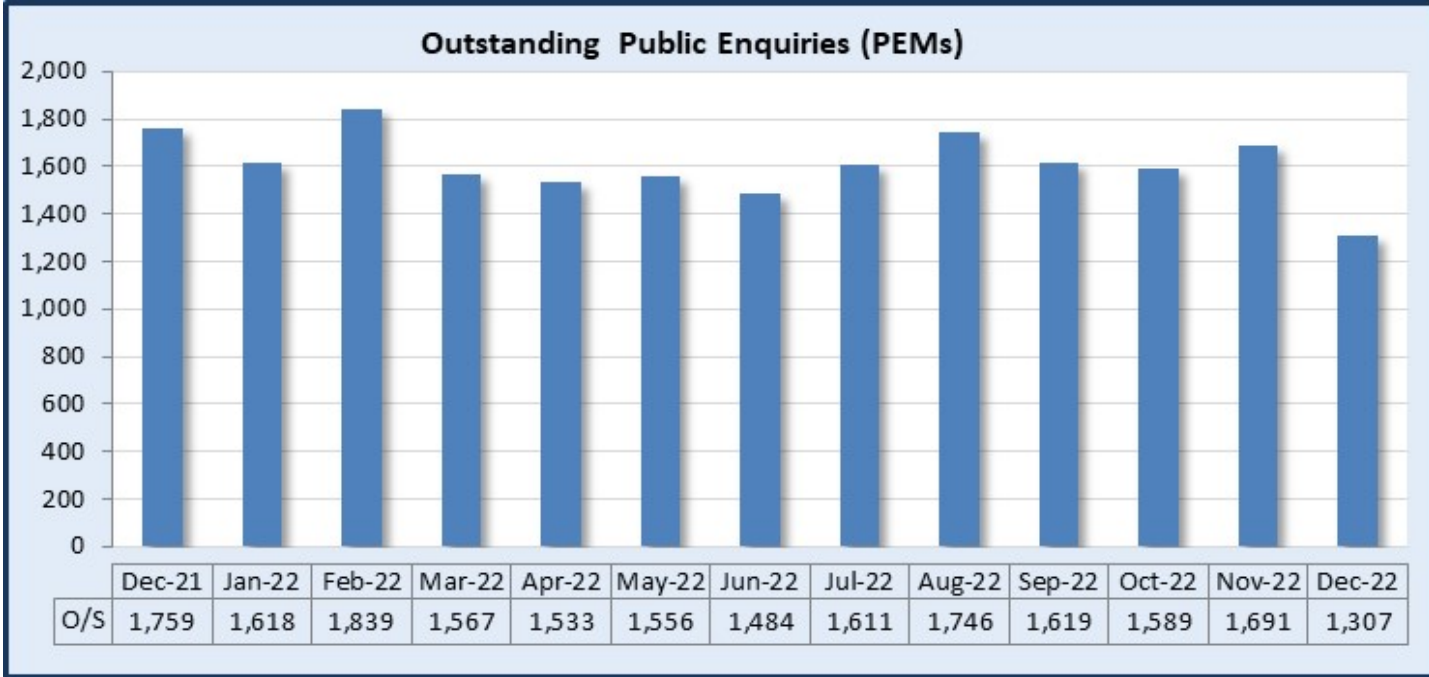
The percentage of footways and roads (Principal, Non-Principal and Unclassified) considered for maintenance after completion of the annual Coarse Visual Inspection (CVI) survey of the network. This is carried out from a slow-moving vehicle. A large part of a highways authority's road network is assessed each year. To produce the report, two years' data is combined, half the data being carried over from the previous year. Each year, 50% of Unclassified roads are the subject of a CVI. This exceeds the Department for Transport requirement of 25% inspection-coverage per annum. 'Major maintenance' is repairs to the edging, surface or structure of the carriageway. These involve at least one of edge patching or strengthening, carriageway strengthening (overlay, partial re-construction or full depth re-construction) or carriageway re-surfacing (inlay or overlay). Technical indices for edging, surface, and structure condition determine the point at which works are deemed necessary.



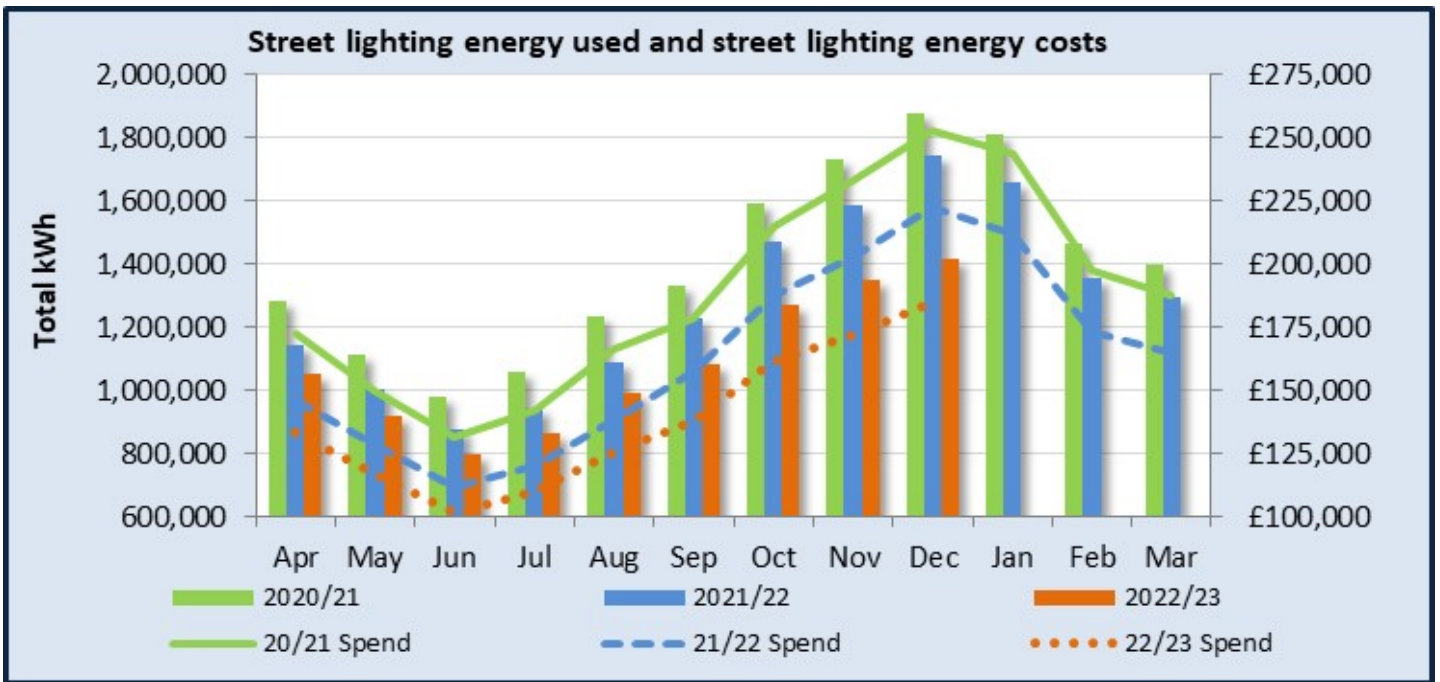
The percentage of principal (A-class roads) and non-principal roads (B- & C-class roads) that are deemed to require major maintenance following the annual Surface Condition Assessment of the National Network of Roads (SCANNER) survey.



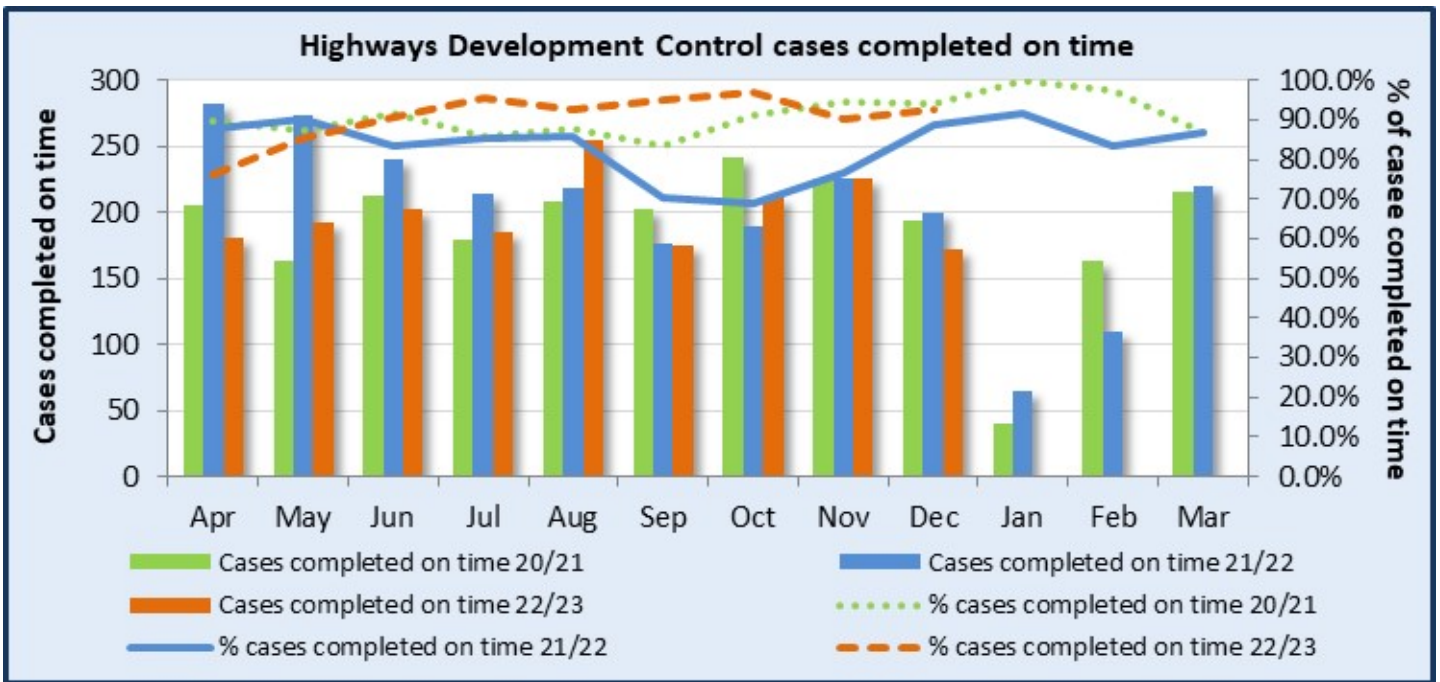
The percentage of PEMs (customer enquiries) completed on time within each month in accordance with the 28-day Service Level Agreement.



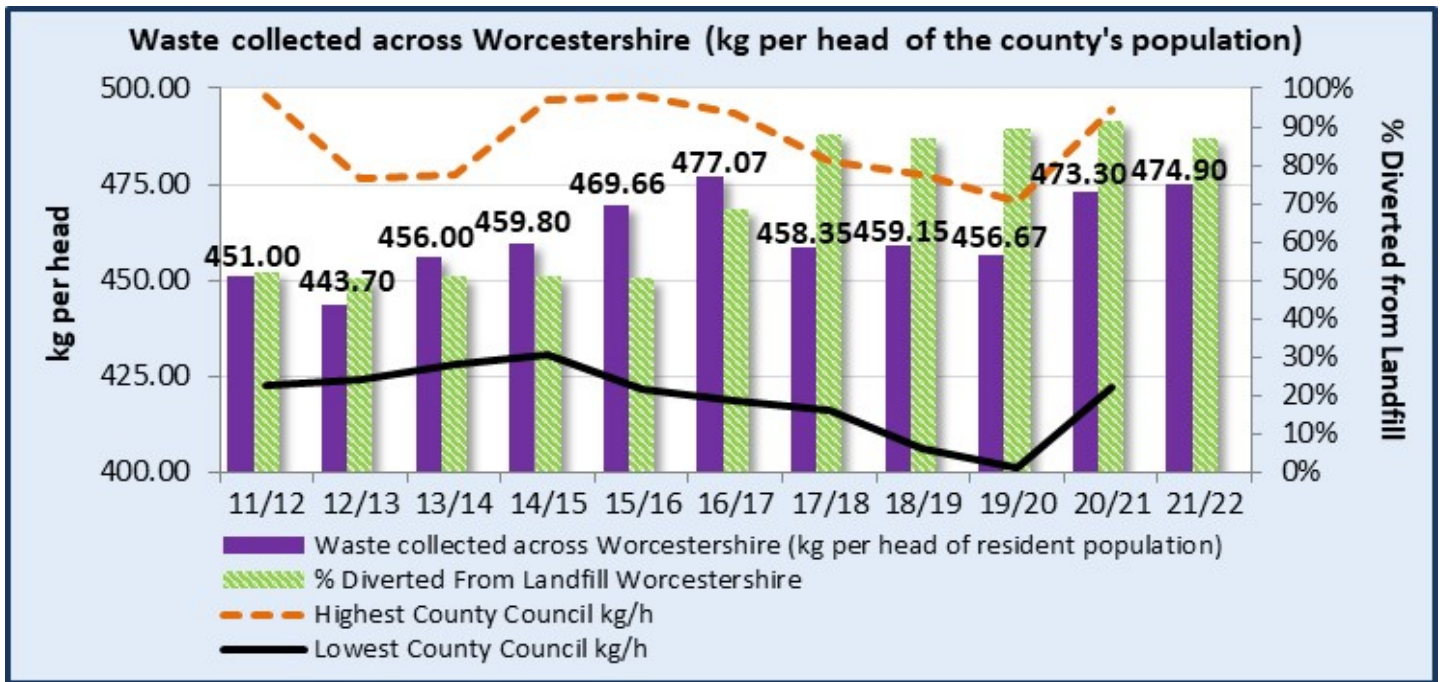
The number of Highways PEMs outstanding at the end of the last day of the month.



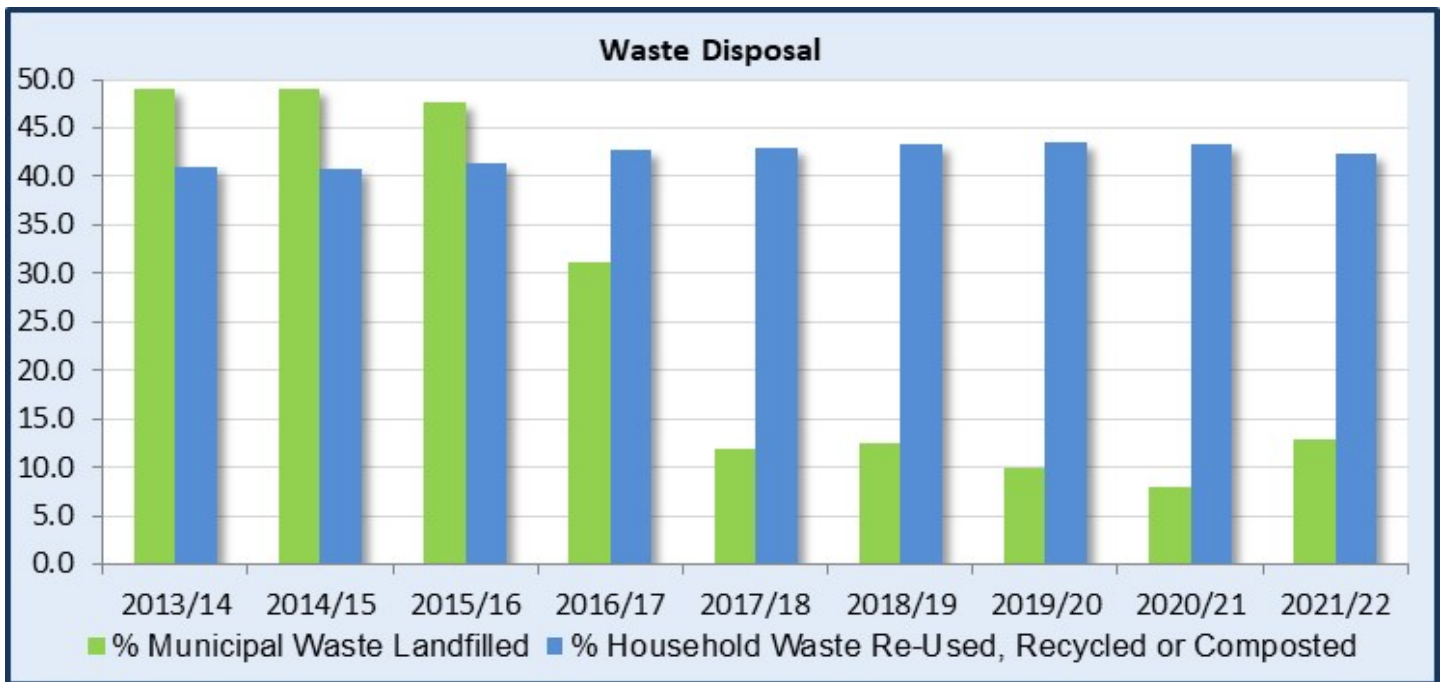
The columns show the total energy used for lighting County Council-owned street lights, whilst the lines indicate the amount spent on streetlighting per month.



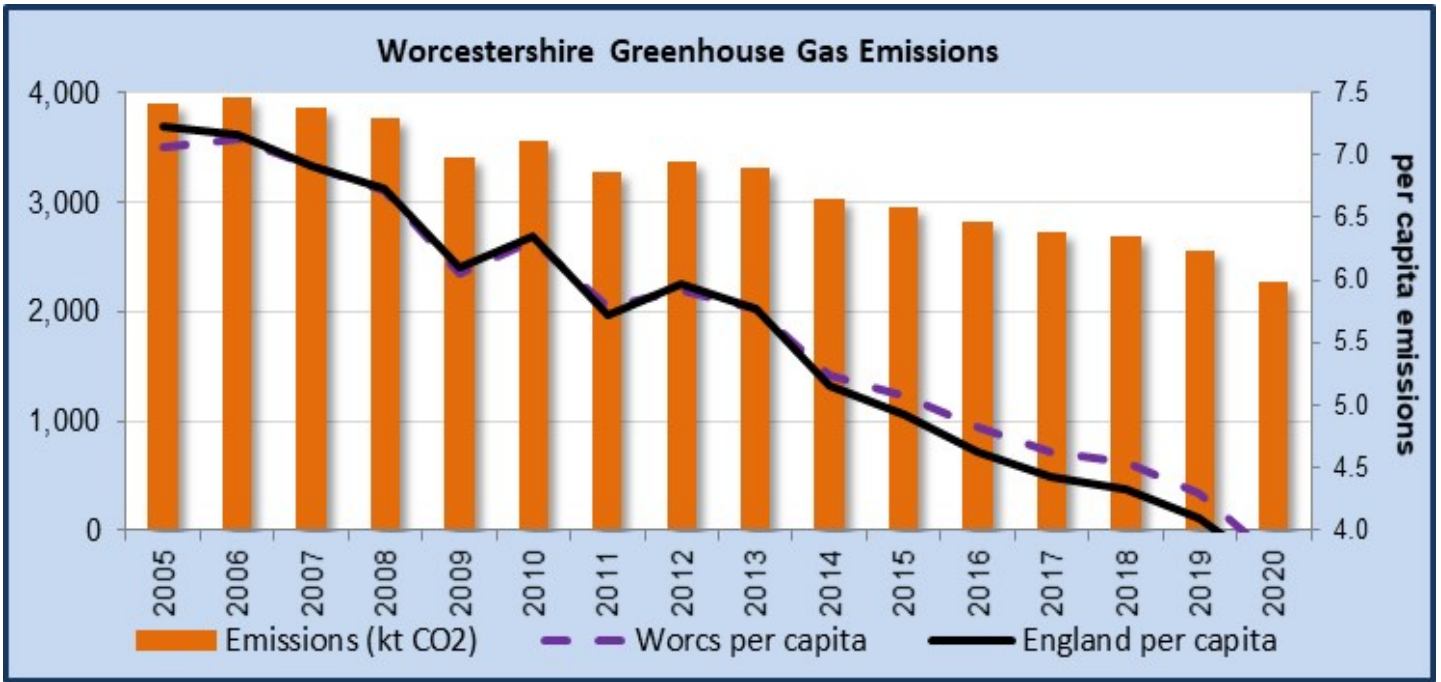
The number of Highways Development Control planning applications received each month and the percentage responded to within the required 21 days. This relates only to the providing of recommendations concerning each application to the relevant planning authority and is not linked to Highways Act section 278 and section 38 agreements.



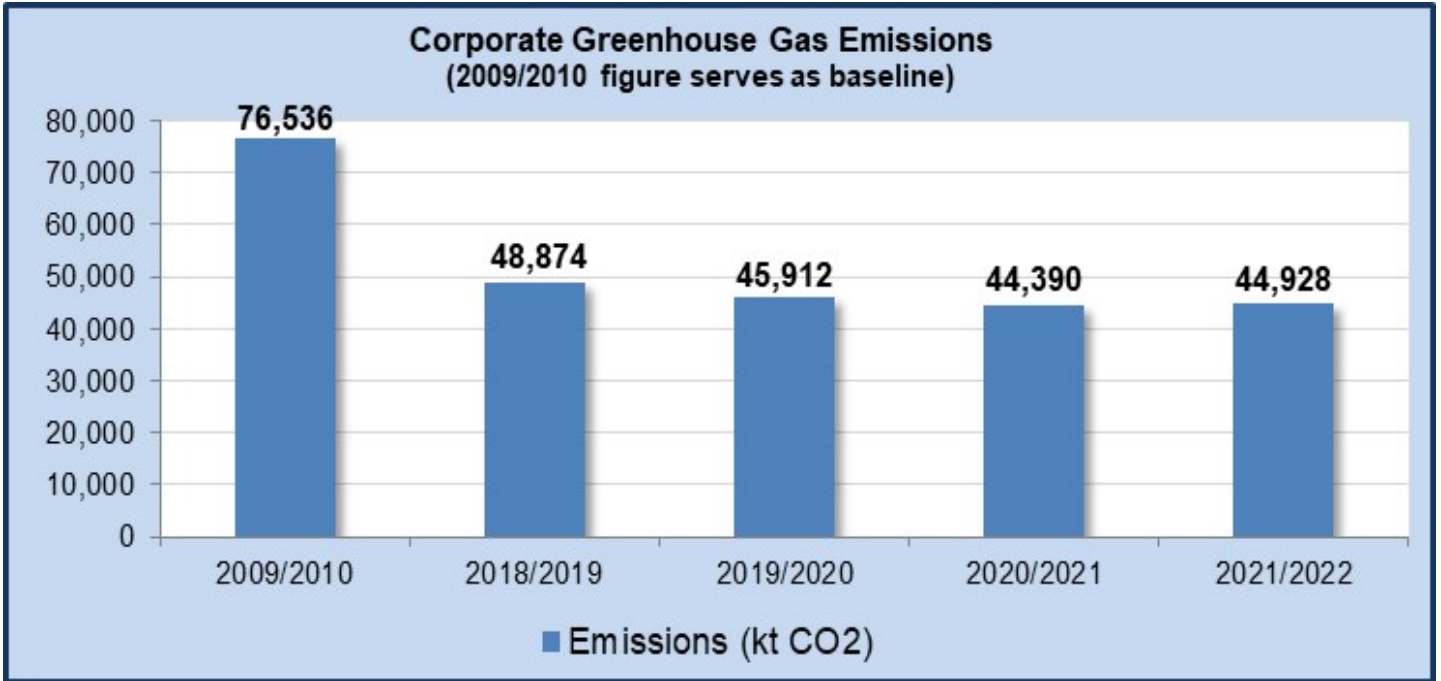
Kilograms of Household Waste (HHW) per resident of Worcestershire. The figure is from the verified tonnage data for HHW. Population data is from the Waste Data Flow (WDF) system, which also sets out the HHW definition. The County Council Waste Disposal Authority with the highest figure in 2020/2021 was North Yorkshire (494.4), while the lowest figure was Hampshire's 422.2. Publication date for 2021/2022's comparative data to be confirmed by Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA).



This indicator measures the percentage of municipal waste sent to landfill and applies only to Waste Disposal Authorities (WDAs). It also monitors the amount of waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting. The latest-available data (confirmed in November 2021) relates to the 2021/2022 financial year.



Worcestershire's estimated annual carbon dioxide emissions totals in kilotonnes of CO2. Also shown are per capita figures for the county and for England as a whole. The totals relate to emissions that can be influenced, i.e. they exclude emissions from large industrial sites, railways, and motorways. Data is published two years in arrears by Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. 2021's data is scheduled to be published in late-June 2023.



Corporate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reporting follows the international protocol guidelines. Emissions are categorised in three different 'scopes'. Between them, these cover direct emissions from Council activities under our control and all indirect emissions, whether they emanate from corporately-owned buildings or assets (e.g. street lights), staff travel or outsourced operations, including municipal waste-disposal. The 2009/2010 figure serves as the benchmark. The County Council's GHG Emissions Report for 2021/2022 was published in the autumn of 2022.

Planned Highways Inspections

Percentage completed on time (latest update: December 2022)

Month	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023
April	98%	90%	98%	100%	100%	98%
May	98%	90%	98%	100%	99%	99%
June	98%	95%	95%	100%	98%	99%
July	98%	95%	95%	100%	98%	99%
August	99%	95%	100%	100%	98%	99%
September	99%	95%	100%	98%	98%	99%
October	99%	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%
November	99%	100%	100%	99%	98%	100%
December	98%	100%	97%	100%	99%	98%
January	97%	100%	95%	98%	99%	
February	96%	100%	96%	99%	97%	
March	96%	98%	99%	99%	98%	

Highways Development Control Cases Dealt With On Time

Monthly figures in respect of cases completed and cases dealt with on time (latest update: December 2022)

2019/2020	Total on time	% cases completed on time	Total cases completed
April	208	77%	271
May	203	78%	258
June	230	81%	285
July	193	88%	219
August	163	89%	184
September	155	73%	213
October	185	86%	216
November	172	83%	206
December	157	87%	180
January	72	97%	74
February	138	97%	142
March	200	90%	223

2020/2021	Total on time	% cases completed on time	Total cases completed
April	205	90%	229
May	163	87%	187
June	213	92%	232
July	179	86%	208
August	209	88%	238
September	202	83%	242
October	241	91%	264
November	225	95%	238
December	194	94%	206
January	40	100%	40
February	164	98%	168
March	214	87%	247

2021/2022	Total on time	% cases completed on time	Total cases completed
April	282	88%	321
May	273	90%	302
June	240	83%	288
July	214	85%	251
August	219	86%	255
September	177	70%	252
October	190	69%	275
November	226	77%	295
December	200	89%	225
January	64	91%	70
February	109	83%	131
March	220	87%	254

2022/2023	Total on time	% cases completed on time	Total cases completed
April	181	76%	237
May	192	85%	225
June	203	91%	224
July	185	95%	194
August	254	93%	274
September	175	95%	184
October	211	97%	218
November	226	90%	251
December	172	92%	186

Traffic Regulation Orders

The average time it takes for standard Traffic Regulation Orders from initiation to implementation, not including those associated with Development Control planning issues and Internal Generated Schemes. (Latest update: December 2022)

2020	Average Weeks to Complete	Number Completed	Outstanding List of Requests	New Requests
January	26	11	91	10
February	39	9	90	11
March	31	10	87	8
April	42	6	70	3
May	27	4	71	6
June	0	0	76	10
July	34	7	57	5
August	30	8	67	11
September	40	9	68	16
October	43	11	72	6
November	45	11	66	7
December	40	7	70	11

2021	Average Weeks to Complete	Number Completed	Outstanding List of Requests	New Requests
January	37	10	60	2
February	41	10	63	6
March	34	9	67	8
April	36	11	66	10
May	37	6	72	10
June	40	11	74	8
July	30	14	70	2
August	32	10	57	5
September	37	15	51	11
October	26	6	58	10
November	23	9	58	12
December	27	6	61	7

2022	Average Weeks to Complete	Number Completed	Outstanding List of Requests	New Requests
January	24	4	54	3
February	22	4	63	4
March	31	5	60	9
April	31	8	59	3
May	31	11	57	2
June	27	12	56	5
July	25	4	55	4
August	36	8	57	4
September	27	10	60	8
October	26	9	57	8
November	32	8	57	11
December	30	4	62	8

Condition of Roads & Footways - Coarse Visual Inspection (CVI)

Percentage of footways and roads considered for maintenance after the annual CVI programme.

Year	Principal (A-class) Roads	Non-Principal (B- and C-class) Roads	Unclassified Roads	Footways
2010/2011	8.7%	18.9%	15.0%	31.9%
2011/2012	8.5%	17.6%	14.7%	29.7%
2012/2013	7.4%	14.6%	13.5%	29.8%
2013/2014	5.1%	15.1%	14.2%	28.1%
2014/2015	8.7%	20.5%	17.0%	32.8%
2015/2016	6.7%	17.3%	17.0%	31.5%
2016/2017	4.0%	12.3%	18.0%	30.4%
2017/2018	8.4%	14.7%	19.8%	25.0%
2018/2019	13.2%	18.5%	19.9%	28.0%
2019/2020	13.0%	19.0%	21.0%	31.6%
2020/2021	10.0%	18.0%	21.5%	35.4%
2021/2022	9.0%	11.0%	20.0%	--

Condition of Roads & Footways - Surface Condition Assessment of the National Network of Roads (SCANNER) Survey Results

Percentage of footways and roads considered for maintenance after the annual survey results have been received.

Year	Principal Roads %	Principal Roads Target	Non-Principal Roads %	Non-Principal Roads Target	Satisfaction with Roads
2010/2011	5.0%	5.0%	--		42.2%
2011/2012	4.0%	4.0%	8.9%		35.4%
2012/2013	3.8%	4.0%	9.6%		30.9%
2013/2014	3.1%	4.0%	5.9%		30.0%
2014/2015	3.0%	4.0%	4.0%		35.4%
2015/2016	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%		32.0%
2016/2017	3.0%	3.0%	4.0%	4.0%	31.7%
2017/2018	3.0%	3.0%	4.0%	4.0%	33.1%
2018/2019	3.0%	3.0%	4.0%	4.0%	24.0%
2019/2020	4.0%	3.0%	4.0%	4.0%	31.0%
2020/2021	5.0%	3.0%	5.0%	4.0%	33.0%
2021/2022	4.5%	3.0%	3.7%	4.0%	37.0%

Each year's figure for satisfaction with roads is the percentage of Viewpoint Survey panel members who state they are satisfied or very satisfied with the condition of the county's roads. 2021/2022's percentage is derived from 1,984 responses to the question in October 2021's survey.

Public Enquiries (PEMs)

Percentage completed within 28 days

Latest update: December 2022

	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023
April	89%	76%	87%	71%	76%	93%	89%	86%
May	89%	45%	83%	75%	81%	88%	80%	88%
June	90%	63%	82%	77%	80%	86%	84%	89%
July	90%	77%	82%	78%	78%	85%	82%	88%
August	87%	73%	78%	81%	76%	78%	79%	84%
September	87%	72%	78%	81%	79%	83%	86%	81%
October	86%	83%	84%	85%	78%	88%	84%	87%
November	90%	82%	81%	89%	69%	90%	91%	90%
December	83%	77%	84%	83%	69%	86%	84%	88%
January	85%	83%	79%	84%	76%	86%	93%	
February	85%	83%	78%	86%	78%	84%	89%	
March	82%	81%	78%	86%	85%	80%	90%	

Public Enquiries (PEMs) Received in Each Month

Latest update: December 2022

2019/2020	Received	Average per Day
April	1,501	50
May	1,614	52
June	2,160	72
July	2,112	68
August	1,801	58
September	1,991	66
October	2,188	71
November	2,506	84
December	1,892	61
January	2,605	84
February	3,185	110
March	1,509	49
Totals	25,064	68

2019/2020	Received	Average per Day
Quarter 1	5,275	58
Quarter 2	5,904	64
Quarter 3	6,586	72
Quarter 4	7,299	80
Totals	25,064	68

2020/2021	Received	Average per Day
April	596	20
May	925	30
June	1,638	55
July	1,572	51
August	1,808	58
September	1,652	55
October	1,653	53
November	1,337	45
December	1,674	54
January	2,478	80
February	2,314	83
March	1,956	63
Totals	19,603	54

2020/2021	Received	Average per Day
Quarter 1	3,159	35
Quarter 2	5,032	55
Quarter 3	4,664	51
Quarter 4	6,748	75
Totals	19,603	54

2021/2022	Received	Average per Day
April	1,426	48
May	1,917	62
June	2,097	70
July	2,107	68
August	1,811	58
September	1,901	63
October	1,884	61
November	1,743	58
December	1,478	48
January	1,699	55
February	2,023	72
March	1,764	57
Totals	21,850	60
2022/2023	Received	Average per Day

2021/2022	Received	Average per Day
Quarter 1	5,440	60
Quarter 2	5,819	63
Quarter 3	5,105	55
Quarter 4	5,486	61
Totals	21,850	60

April	1,311	44
May	1,694	55
June	1,458	49
July	1,519	49
August	1,430	46
September	1,314	44
October	1,380	45
November	1,874	62
December	1,199	39
Totals	13,179	48

2022/2023	Received	Average per Day
Quarter 1	4,463	49
Quarter 2	4,263	46
Quarter 3	4,453	48
Totals	13,179	48

Public Enquiries (PEMs) Outstanding

Total outstanding at the end of each month and each financial-year quarter-end (Latest update: December 2022)

Month	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023
April	1,104	723	856	1,533
May	1,206	705	1,255	1,556
June	1,475	790	1,355	1,484
July	1,600	740	1,641	1,611
August	1,399	968	1,658	1,746
September	1,615	882	1,681	1,619
October	1,291	683	1,859	1,589
November	2,019	512	1,736	1,691
December	1,900	924	1,759	1,307
January	1,935	1,031	1,618	
February	2,087	1,205	1,839	
March	1,217	1,041	1,567	

Quarter	Outstanding at Quarter-End 19/20	Outstanding at Quarter-End 20/21	Outstanding at Quarter-End 20/21	Outstanding at Quarter-End 22/23
Quarter 1	1,475	790	1,355	1,484
Quarter 2	1,615	882	1,681	1,619
Quarter 3	1,900	924	1,759	1,307
Quarter 4	1,217	1,041	1,567	

Public Enquiries (PEMs) by Subject

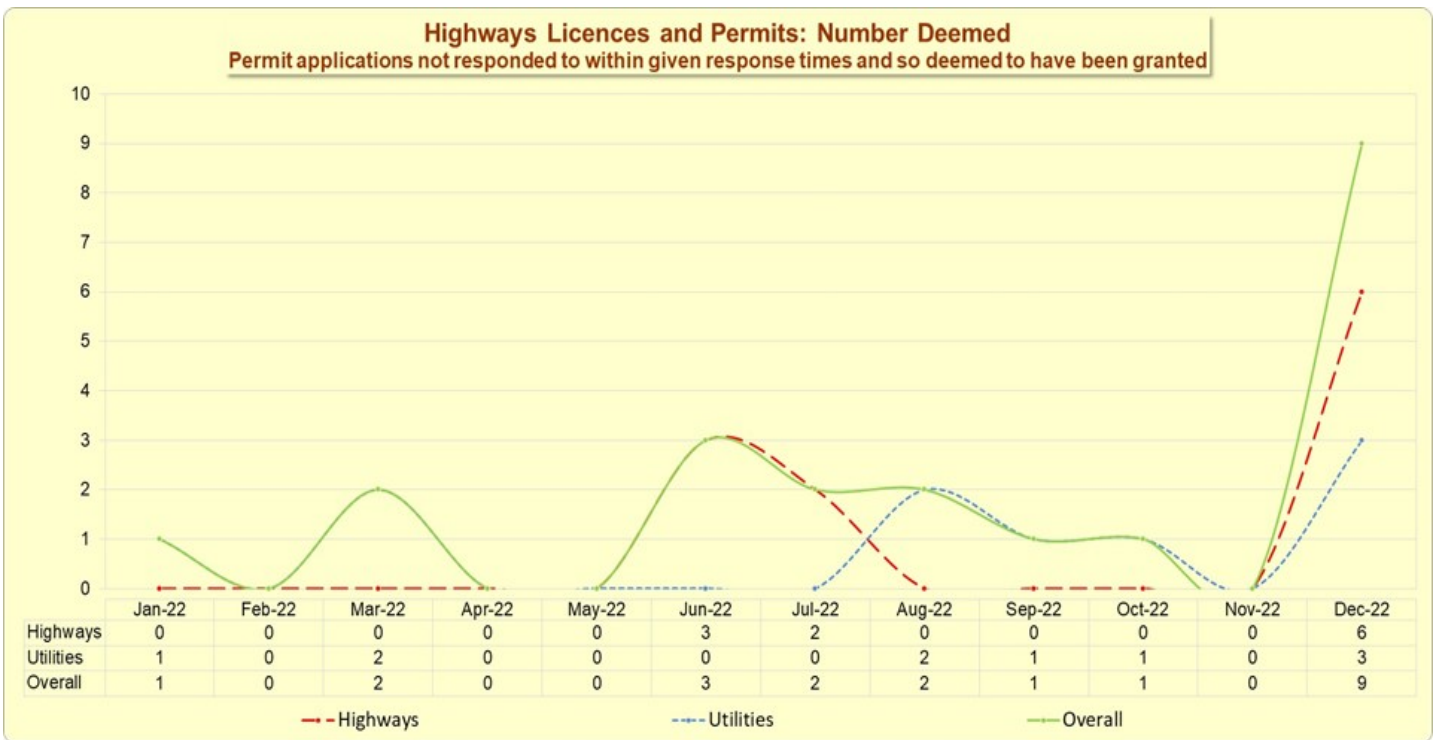
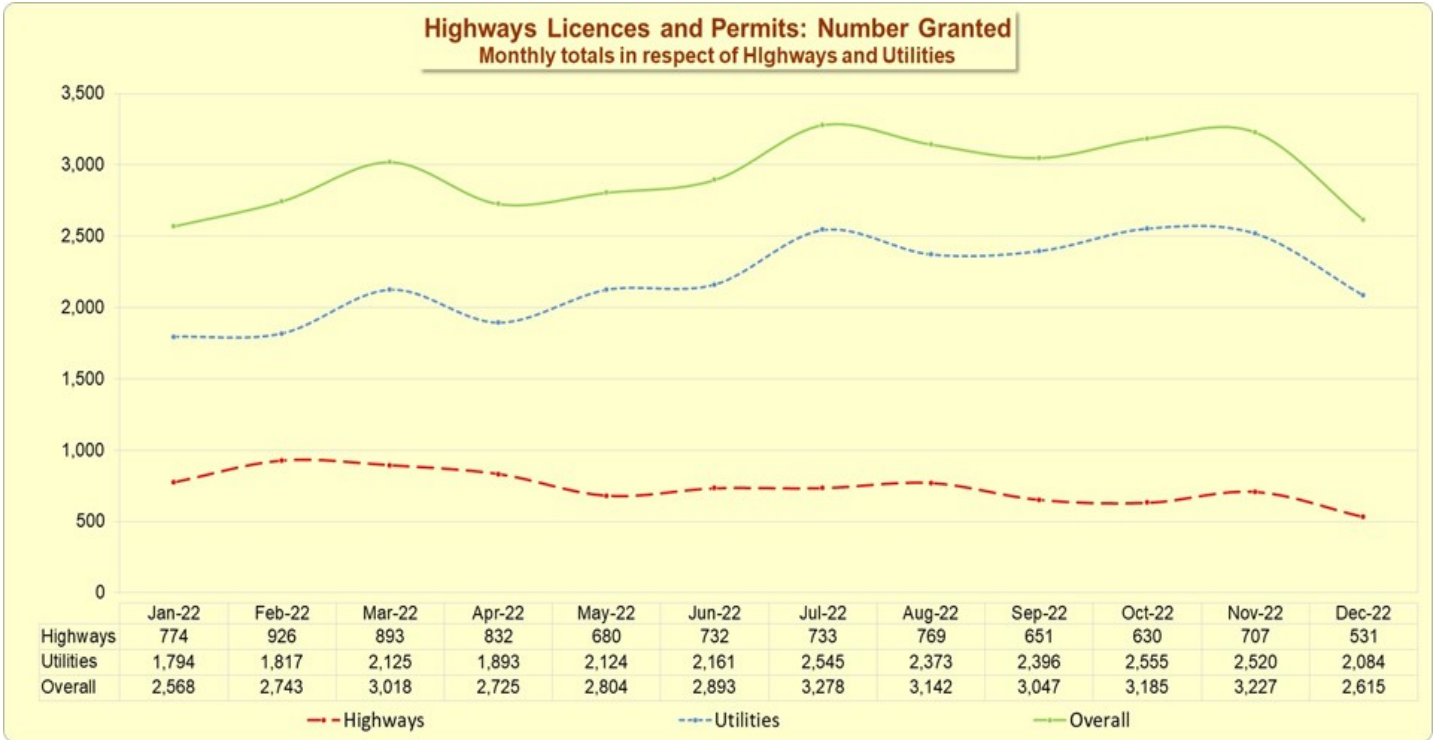
Subject and number of enquiries/reports received from the public (Latest update: December 2022)

Subject of Enquiry	Oct 2022		Nov 2022		Dec 2022		Oct-Dec 2022		Oct-Dec 2021	
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
Bridgeworks	13	0.9	7	0.4	8	0.7	28	0.6	60	1.2
Drainage	365	26.4	780	41.6	216	18.0	1,361	30.6	986	19.3
Existing Signs - Unlit	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	15	0.3
Flooding	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Fences and Furniture	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	27	0.5
Grass Cutting / Verges	260	18.8	213	11.4	126	10.5	599	13.5	547	10.7
Grit Bin Service request	4	0.3	14	0.7	100	8.3	118	2.6	13	0.3
Hedge & Trees	2	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.0	74	1.4
Highways Search / Adopted	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0
Ice Snow and Gritting Requests	0	0.0	0	0.0	35	2.9	35	0.8	93	1.8
Major Highway Projects	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0
Mud / Hazard on Highway	35	2.5	43	2.3	19	1.6	97	2.2	197	3.9
New Dropped Kerb	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0
New Signs and Road Markings	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	8	0.2
Potholes	147	10.7	257	13.7	259	21.6	663	14.9	686	13.4
Road Works Enquiry	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	39	0.8
Roads Footpaths and Cycle Tracks	480	34.8	485	25.9	355	29.6	1,320	29.6	2,209	43.3
Scaffold / Skip Permits / Temporary Road or Lane Closure / Building Materials	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Section 38 / 278 - Development Control	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Speed Limits	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	0.1
Traffic Calming	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.0
Traffic Regulation Orders	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	19	0.4
Traffic Signals - Permanent	13	0.9	43	2.3	43	3.6	99	2.2	68	1.3
Traffic Signals - Temporary	61	4.4	32	1.7	38	3.2	131	2.9	55	1.1
Utility Company Apparatus / Works	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Totals	1,380	100.0	1,874	100.0	1,199	100.0	4,453	100.0	5,105	100.0

Streetworks Licences and Permits

Highways and Utilities Permits granted and deemed and summary of inspections

Latest update: December 2022



Inspections Summary - 2019/2020	Total Category As	Total Category Bs	Total Category Cs	Total Category Ds	Total Permits	Total Defects	Total Inspections
Apr-Jun	1,189	533	792	295	786	430	4,025
Jul-Sep	867	654	604	482	586	1,218	4,411
Oct-Dec	1,054	1,103	1,137	536	734	976	5,540
Jan-Mar	1,263	1,018	1,051	485	932	955	5,704
Total	4,373	3,308	3,584	1,798	3,038	3,579	19,680

Inspections Summary - 2020/2021	Total Category As	Total Category Bs	Total Category Cs	Total Category Ds	Total Permits	Total Defects	Total Inspections
Apr-Jun	1,189	533	792	295	786	430	4,025
Jul-Sep	1,519	1,216	1,536	669	976	850	6,766
Oct-Dec	1,590	1,967	1,797	847	1,142	1,275	8,618
Jan-Mar	1,853	1,638	1,742	1,007	1,163	1,218	8,621
Total	6,151	5,354	5,867	2,818	4,067	3,773	28,030

Inspections Summary - 2021/2022	Total Category As	Total Category Bs	Total Category Cs	Total Category Ds	Total Permits	Total Defects	Total Inspections
Apr-Jun	1,983	1,167	2,147	947	1,432	1,196	8,872
Jul-Sep	2,099	1,555	1,907	1,256	1,607	1,150	9,574
Oct-Dec	2,047	1,596	2,093	1,148	1,613	1,264	9,761
Jan-Mar	2,384	1,238	1,841	1,196	1,758	1,356	9,773
Total	8,513	5,556	7,988	4,547	6,410	4,966	37,980

Inspections Summary - 2022/2023	Total Category As	Total Category Bs	Total Category Cs	Total Category Ds	Total Permits	Total Defects	Total Inspections
Apr-Jun	2,169	2,232	2,677	1,095	1,483	1,800	11,456
Jul-Sep	2,794	2,311	2,101	1,647	1,967	2,021	12,841
Oct-Dec	2,239	2,473	1,611	1,261	1,492	2,183	11,259
Total	7,202	7,016	6,389	4,003	4,942	6,004	35,556

For definitions of each of the categories of inspections in the tables, please refer to the glossary, which forms Appendix 1 of this report.

Street Lighting Energy Consumption

Calendar-month totals of energy used by County Council-owned streetlights and street lighting energy costs (Latest update: December 2022)

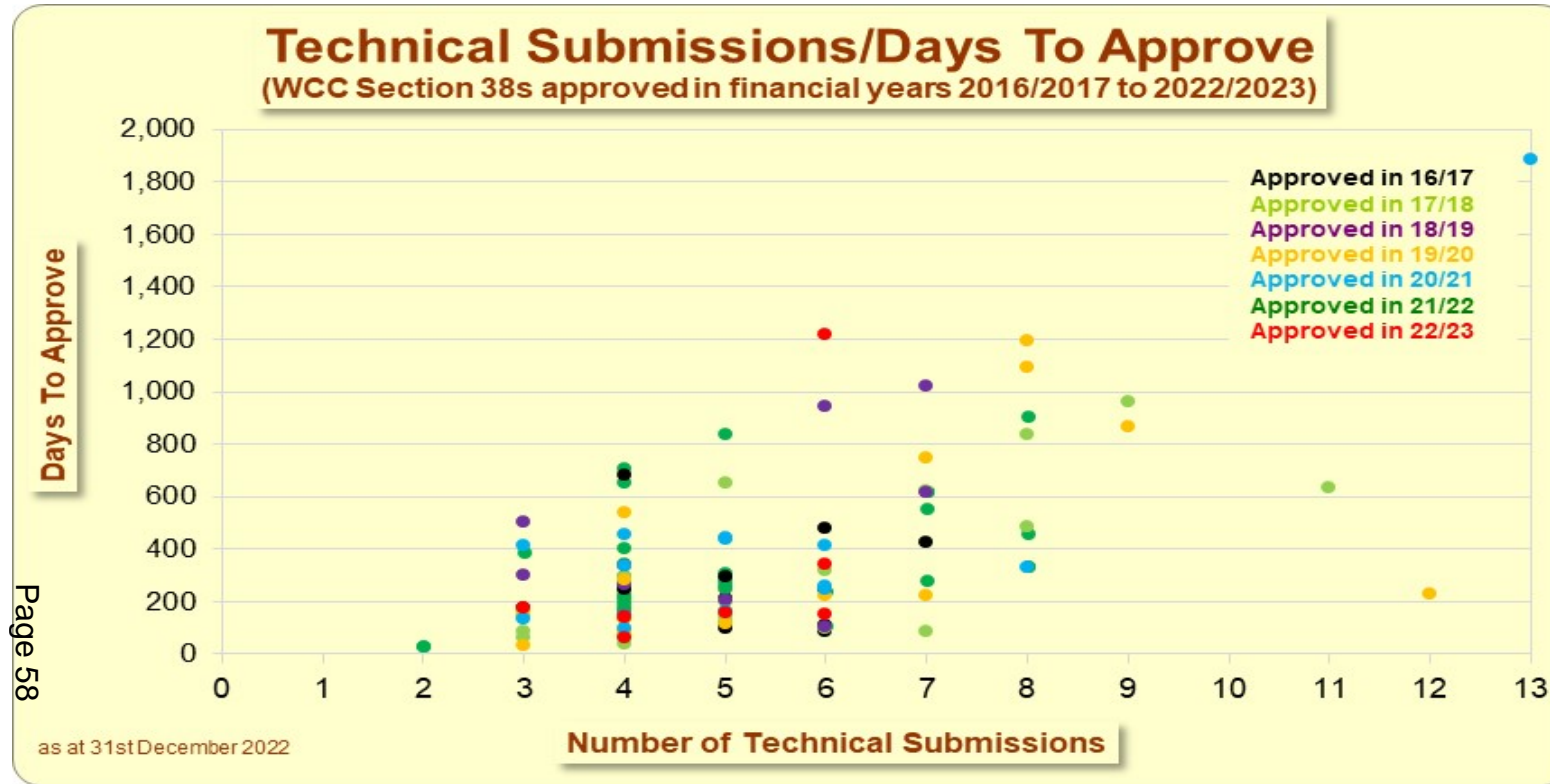
Year	Total (Annual)	Apr kWh	May kWh	Jun kWh	Jul kWh	Aug kWh	Sep kWh	Oct kWh	Nov kWh	Dec kWh	Jan kWh	Feb kWh	Mar kWh
2012/13	22,092,112	1,616,050	1,414,056	1,224,429	1,325,052	1,544,212	1,754,119	2,099,387	2,283,098	2,501,979	2,426,921	1,985,936	1,916,874
2013/14	22,074,495	1,598,089	1,397,565	1,215,750	1,319,907	1,542,914	1,766,583	2,124,409	2,293,261	2,494,577	2,427,819	1,984,869	1,908,753
2014/15	21,323,429	1,579,957	1,377,198	1,184,729	1,276,190	1,505,677	1,703,392	2,051,200	2,228,522	2,409,414	2,326,843	1,886,775	1,793,533
2015/16	20,236,063	1,453,173	1,265,786	1,085,762	1,181,794	1,395,073	1,598,872	1,937,053	2,122,625	2,317,472	2,243,437	1,891,674	1,743,341
2016/17	19,563,456	1,405,973	1,217,648	1,057,199	1,141,479	1,348,397	1,537,804	1,875,059	2,060,268	2,264,689	2,193,015	1,773,924	1,688,001
2017/18	19,052,069	1,365,933	1,189,413	1,037,269	1,130,145	1,333,283	1,529,746	1,853,163	2,006,613	2,177,150	2,098,502	1,697,195	1,633,657
2018/19	18,457,931	1,331,816	1,151,340	993,727	1,082,584	1,281,116	1,448,438	1,760,351	1,942,887	2,141,210	2,063,869	1,674,834	1,585,759
2019/20	18,269,388	1,292,581	1,123,235	983,411	1,063,770	1,252,667	1,436,531	1,749,274	1,924,699	2,105,215	2,047,659	1,719,621	1,570,726
2020/21	16,874,248	1,280,336	1,110,931	980,406	1,058,243	1,235,707	1,328,746	1,592,725	1,732,248	1,880,342	1,811,463	1,465,666	1,397,435
2021/22	15,402,926	1,145,766	1,005,040	875,776	941,971	1,086,596	1,231,355	1,469,940	1,589,187	1,744,917	1,662,161	1,355,068	1,295,150
2022/23	9,738,031	1,049,984	917,278	798,257	864,532	989,861	1,082,772	1,268,447	1,349,675	1,417,225			

Street Lighting Spend

Calendar-month totals (in £s) for County Council-owned streetlights (Latest update: December 2022)

Year	Total (Annual)	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
2016/17	2,209,301	158,488	137,303	119,887	128,167	151,887	173,450	211,570	233,115	259,175	249,768	198,168	188,323
2017/18	2,479,439	179,003	155,878	135,773	147,204	173,898	197,159	238,615	259,312	284,576	276,772	219,691	211,558
2018/19	2,671,459	192,447	166,948	143,841	156,155	184,884	209,593	254,683	281,659	313,081	300,332	240,357	227,479
2019/20	2,884,348	207,374	180,855	158,180	170,150	200,794	225,817	274,910	303,184	334,093	320,764	265,568	242,659
2020/21	2,270,768	172,289	149,496	131,934	142,407	166,351	178,803	214,861	233,094	253,021	243,753	197,224	187,535
2021/22	1,965,695	146,222	128,263	111,777	120,221	138,672	157,139	188,049	202,797	222,669	212,113	172,924	164,849
2022/23	1,244,473	133,644	116,753	101,604	110,039	125,991	137,817	161,450	171,789	185,387			

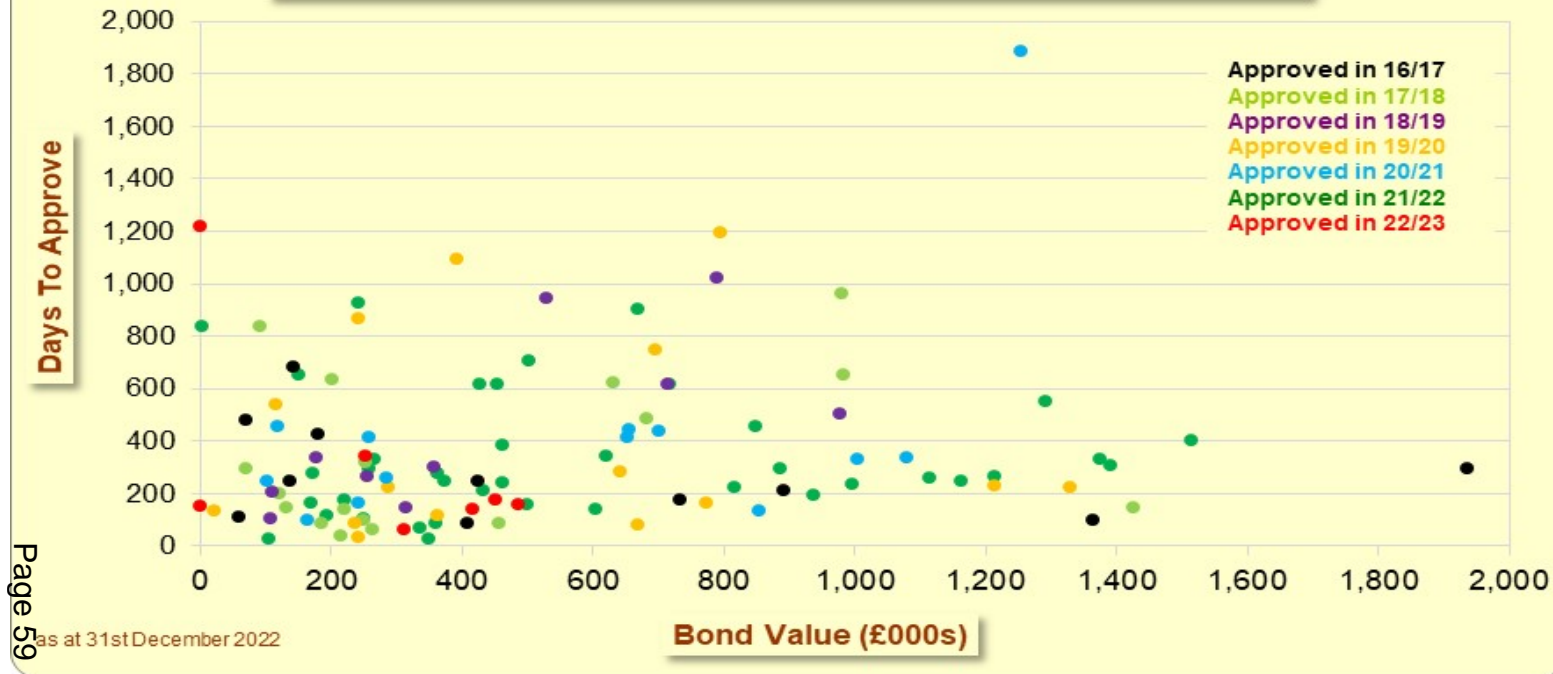
Development Control Technical Submissions/Days To Approve Graphs



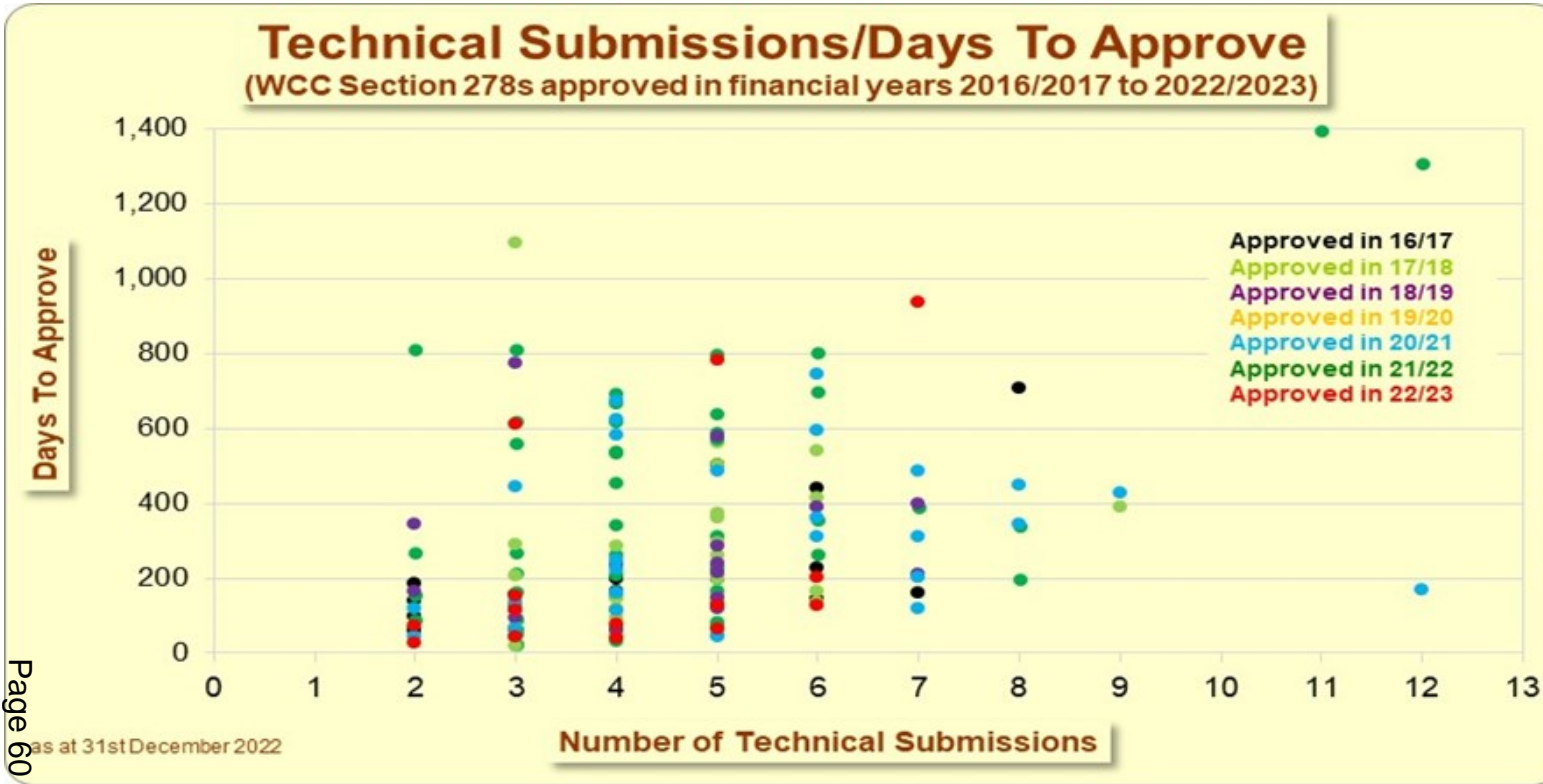
- The average number of days to approve the 7 38s approved in the three complete quarters of the current financial year was 327.
- The average number of days to approve the 27 38s approved in the 2021/2022 financial year was 372.
- The average days-to-approve figure for the 16 38s approved in the 2020/2021 financial year was 411.
- Average days-to-approve figures can be significantly affected by one or two schemes that take longer to reach approval, hence the measures put in place to improve monitoring and to address key issues.
- The 38s approved in this financial year have involved on average 5 Technical Submissions, although 4 required only 4 or less. The highest number required so far: 6.
- For those 38s approved in the 2021/2022 financial year, the average number of Technical Submissions was 5. Of those 27 approvals, 14 (51.9%) required 4 or less.

Bond Value/Days To Approve

(WCC Section 38s approved in financial years 2016/2017 to 2022/2023)



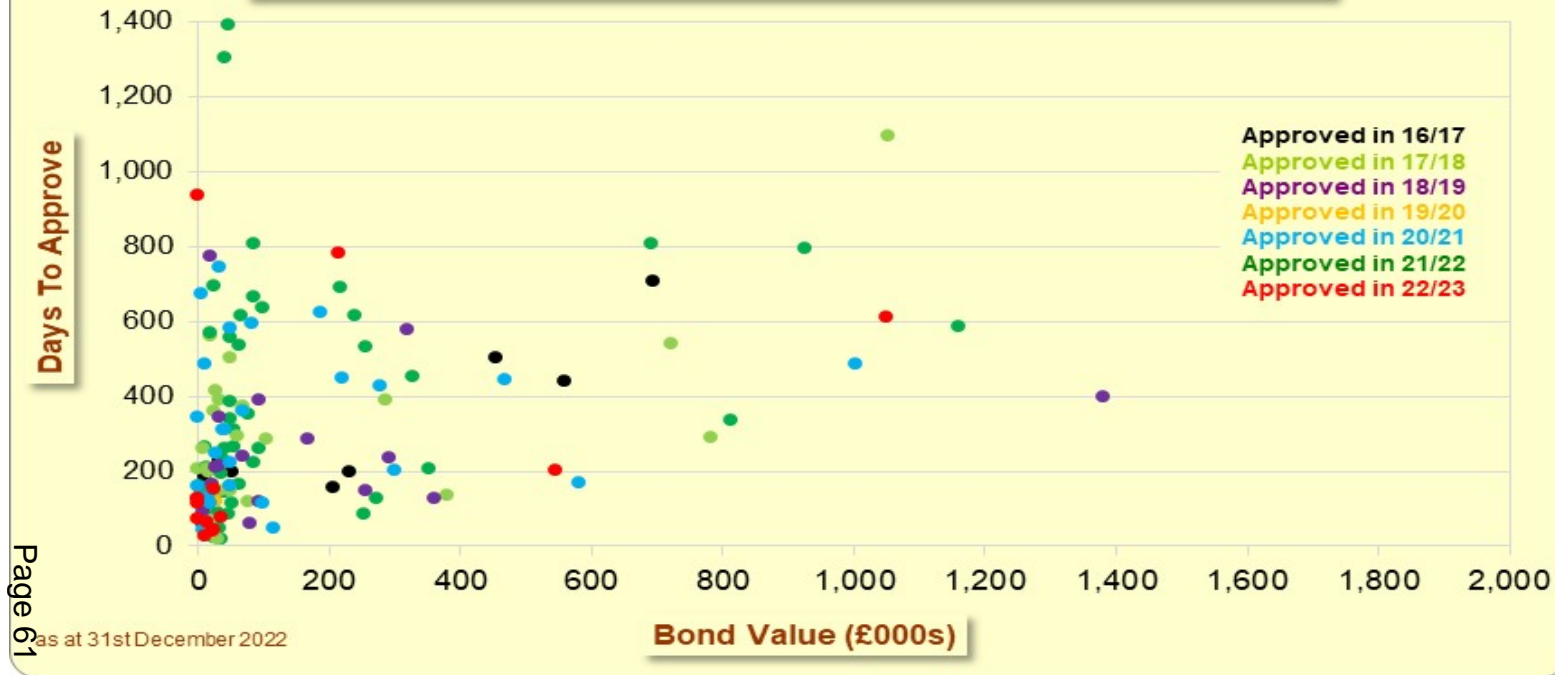
- The average bond value of the 7 38s approved in the first half of this financial year was £817,183.
- The average is inflated somewhat by the combined figure of £3,239,000 for phases 2 and 3 of Bellway's residential development at Whitford Road, Bromsgrove. Both schemes were approved after 151 days and 5 Technical Submissions.
- The average bond value of schemes reaching approval in 2021/2022 was £595,699. The highest bond value was £1,390,700 for phase 2 of the Lea Castle development in Kidderminster, which was approved after 308 days and 5 Technical Submissions.



- Of the schemes submitted since the review of the Development Control function began in January 2021, the average number of related Technical Submissions is 3 and the days-to-approve average is 90.
- The 27 278s submitted in the year prior to the review commencing and which have reached approval required on average 278 days and 5 Technical Submissions, although 16 (59.3%) involved 4 or less Technical Submissions.
- For any new schemes, regular monitoring is in place to manage the Technical Approval process more effectively. This is coupled with closer liaison and meetings with developers where required.
- Of the schemes approved in 2022/2023 so far, the one with the longest period from initial submission to approval date is Persimmon Homes' access road scheme for Kidderminster Road, Bewdley. It reached approval 168 days after the receipt of the first of 5 Technical Submissions.

Bond Value/Days To Approve

(WCC Section 278s approved in financial years 2016/2017 to 2022/2023)



- The average bond value of the 15 278s reaching approval in the period from 1st April to 31st December 2022 was £22,714.
- Of 2022/2023's submissions, the highest Bond Value (£59,900) relates to the access road scheme for Kidderminster Road, Bewdley, received from Persimmon Homes.
- The average value for schemes approved in 2021/2022 was £174,443, with the highest bond being £925,000 for Bloor Homes' Martley Road, Lower Broadheath (B4204) roundabout.

Household Waste

Waste collected across Worcestershire (kg per head of resident population)

The latest DEFRA WasteDataFlow summary (published November 2022) is for the 2021/2022 financial year. DEFRA has not published a data-set that provides each local authority's figures for 2021/2022 and has yet to confirm a publication date.

	kg/h Worcestershire	Highest County Council kg/h	Lowest County Council kg/h	% Diverted From Landfill Worcestershire
2011/2012	451.00	497.80	422.70	51.95%
2012/2013	443.70	476.70	424.10	50.73%
2013/2014	456.00	477.70	428.40	50.88%
2014/2015	459.80	497.20	430.80	50.95%
2015/2016	469.66	497.79	421.65	50.55%
2016/2017	477.07	493.40	418.80	68.80%
2017/2018	458.35	481.20	416.13	88.20%
2018/2019	459.15	477.70	406.00	86.98%
2019/2020	456.67	470.80	401.13	89.65%
2020/2021	473.30	494.40	422.20	91.62%
2021/2022	474.90	TBC by DEFRA	TBC by DEFRA	87.20%

Municipal waste sent to landfill and waste sent for re-use, recycling or composting

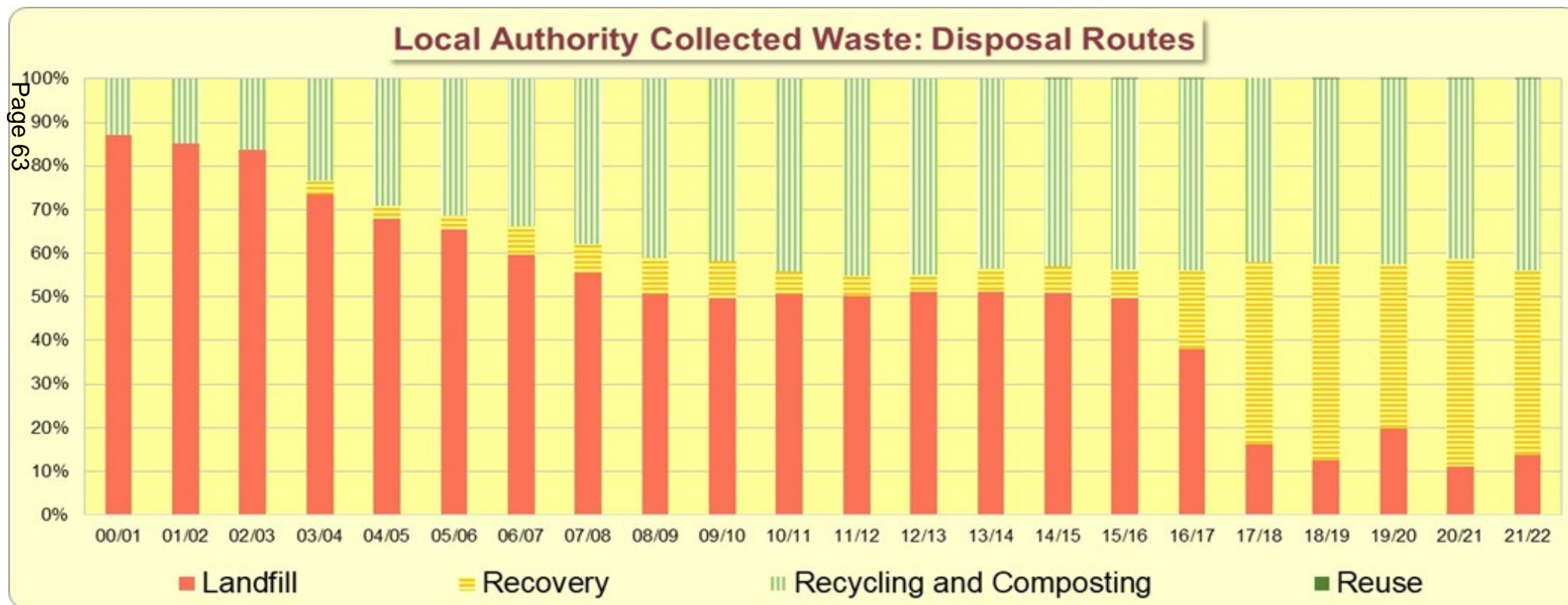
The latest DEFRA WasteDataFlow summary (published November 2022) is for the 2021/2022 financial year. The percentage of municipal waste sent to landfill has increased by 4.8 percentage points when compared to 2020/2021's figure. This is mainly due to the increase in waste tonnages handled by the County Council following the COVID-19 pandemic and residents working from home.

Year	% Municipal Waste Landfilled	% Household Waste Re-Used, Recycled or Composted
2013/2014	49.1	40.9
2014/2015	49.1	40.8
2015/2016	47.6	41.4
2016/2017	31.2	42.7
2017/2018	11.8	42.9
2018/2019	12.4	43.3
2019/2020	9.9	43.6
2020/2021	8.0	43.3
2021/2022	12.8	42.4

Table and graph showing the percentage for each method ('route') of disposal, 2000/2001 to 2021/2022

Disposal Method/Route	2000/2001	2001/2002	2002/2003	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011
Landfill	87.21%	85.26%	83.66%	73.55%	67.88%	65.58%	59.73%	55.62%	50.79%	49.66%	50.64%
Recovery	0.00%	0.00%	0.06%	3.11%	3.06%	3.10%	6.43%	6.47%	8.10%	8.50%	5.03%
Recycling and Composting	12.79%	14.74%	16.28%	23.34%	29.06%	31.31%	33.84%	37.91%	41.11%	41.85%	44.33%
Reuse	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

Disposal Method/Route	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
Landfill	50.10%	51.28%	51.16%	50.84%	49.61%	38.04%	16.25%	12.53%	19.94%	11.06%	13.77%
Recovery	4.73%	3.77%	5.37%	6.06%	6.58%	17.89%	41.67%	44.97%	37.46%	47.71%	42.29%
Recycling and Composting	45.17%	44.95%	43.47%	43.10%	43.80%	44.05%	42.35%	42.48%	42.59%	41.22%	43.93%
Reuse	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.01%	0.01%	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%	0.02%	0.01%	0.01%



Worcestershire Greenhouse Gas Emissions – kilotonnes of CO₂ emissions estimates 2005-2020

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy - UK Local Authority and Regional Carbon Dioxide Emissions National Statistics (Latest update: June 2022 for calendar years 2005 to 2020).

Year	Industrial	Commercial	Domestic	Public Sector	Transport	Land use, land-use change, and forestry	Agriculture	Waste Management	Total	Worcs. per capita emissions	England per capita emissions
2005	772.8	427.4	1,428.5	205.2	1,788.4	-25.3	--	--	4,597.0	8.3	8.7
2006	801.1	459.2	1,440.9	208.7	1,784.2	-25.7	--	--	4,668.3	8.4	8.6
2007	762.2	431.3	1,391.5	194.9	1,810.3	-30.2	--	--	4,560.0	8.2	8.3
2008	735.9	419.0	1,387.1	187.9	1,730.9	-35.4	--	--	4,425.4	7.9	8.1
2009	607.2	350.1	1,260.0	161.1	1,687.1	-34.3	--	--	4,031.4	7.2	7.2
2010	650.0	368.1	1,355.1	172.2	1,668.2	-34.5	--	--	4,179.1	7.4	7.4
2011	589.4	347.2	1,177.8	160.2	1,637.5	-37.2	--	--	3,874.9	6.8	6.7
2012	614.7	361.3	1,263.0	166.1	1,578.2	-35.1	--	--	3,948.2	6.9	7.0
2013	601.7	349.8	1,227.7	163.1	1,582.3	-39.6	--	--	3,885.0	6.8	6.8
2014	551.9	300.4	1,046.7	140.1	1,614.1	-39.1	--	--	3,614.1	6.3	6.1
2015	522.9	273.7	1,014.5	126.6	1,651.7	-43.3	--	--	3,546.1	6.1	5.9
2016	478.7	231.5	963.2	109.6	1,678.6	-37.2	--	--	3,424.3	5.9	5.5
2017	471.4	209.8	902.6	110.3	1,672.6	-40.4	--	--	3,326.4	5.7	5.3
2018	462.3	202.9	885.4	118.7	1,625.9	-39.8	325.7	213.1	3,794.2	6.4	6.0
2019	424.6	180.3	852.9	104.9	1,600.3	-40.6	327.7	215.9	3,665.9	6.2	5.7
2020	371.4	145.4	842.8	97.6	1,277.8	-37.5	316.7	200.9	3,215.1	5.4	5.1

Worcestershire Greenhouse Gas Emissions – kilotonnes of CO₂ emissions estimates 2005-2020 - Scope of Influence

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy - UK Local Authority and Regional Carbon Dioxide Emissions National Statistics (Latest update: June 2022 for calendar years 2005 to 2020. Next update due mid-2023 to include 2021's figures. Totals exclude large industrial sites, railways, motorways, and land-use).

Year	Industrial	Commercial	Domestic	Public Sector	Transport	Agriculture	Waste Management	Total	Worcs. per capita emissions	England per capita emissions
2005	717.3	414.1	1,384.8	198.9	1,100.9	72.6	9.6	3,898.0	7.1	7.2
2006	745.5	445.9	1,398.6	202.7	1,080.5	78.5	6.9	3,958.6	7.1	7.2
2007	705.9	419.4	1,351.8	189.4	1,104.9	74.9	7.4	3,853.7	6.9	6.9
2008	679.6	407.6	1,349.0	182.8	1,069.1	74.0	7.4	3,769.4	6.7	6.7
2009	574.3	339.7	1,223.2	156.3	1,033.3	67.2	7.7	3,401.8	6.0	6.1
2010	616.6	357.9	1,317.3	167.4	1,023.4	69.3	7.6	3,559.5	6.3	6.4
2011	558.6	337.2	1,142.3	155.5	1,011.4	67.4	7.1	3,279.5	5.8	5.7
2012	584.8	351.5	1,225.0	161.4	974.2	69.5	6.5	3,372.7	5.9	6.0
2013	573.6	341.4	1,193.9	158.9	960.8	68.9	6.8	3,304.3	5.8	5.8
2014	522.1	292.2	1,015.0	136.2	982.3	64.3	7.4	3,019.5	5.2	5.2
2015	492.8	266.0	983.6	122.9	1,007.3	63.7	6.4	2,942.7	5.1	4.9
2016	449.0	225.3	935.7	106.6	1,025.8	63.0	7.1	2,812.6	4.8	4.6
2017	437.0	204.1	877.1	107.4	1,031.3	61.4	7.3	2,725.4	4.6	4.4
2018	425.6	197.3	860.1	115.5	1,019.3	60.9	6.7	2,685.4	4.5	4.3
2019	391.1	175.0	828.0	101.9	993.1	59.3	8.2	2,556.7	4.3	4.1
2020	343.1	141.1	818.5	94.9	799.8	58.4	8.0	2,263.8	3.8	3.7

Worcestershire County Council Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Scope (Type of Activity)

The last four columns in the table below show the percentage change in each financial year compared with 2009/2010's baseline. Latest update: November 2022.

Emissions Category (please see notes for details)	2009/2010 (baseline)	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
Scope 1	4,598	2,669	2,467	2,480	2,300	-42.0	-46.3	-46.1	-50.0
Scope 2	16,672	7,934	6,459	5,273	4,286	-52.4	-61.3	-68.4	-74.3
Scope 3	55,266	38,271	36,986	36,637	38,342	-30.8	-33.1	-33.7	-30.6
Totals	76,536	48,874	45,912	44,390	44,928	-36.1	-40.0	-42.0	-41.3

Scope 1: Natural gas use in WCC buildings (excluding schools); fuel use in WCC vehicle fleet; residual fuel use (e.g. burning oil, LPG, etc.) consumed at WCC sites (excluding schools).

Scope 2: Indirect emissions - electricity use in WCC buildings (excluding schools) and street lighting (grid generation).

Scope 3: Other indirect emissions, e.g. electricity use in WCC buildings (excluding schools) and street lighting (grid transmission and distribution); staff mileage travelled by WCC staff for business purposes; electricity and gas consumption in buildings operated by the main out-sourced contractors for Waste Management and Highways services; fleet and staff mileage undertaken by main out-sourced contractors for Waste Management and Highways services on behalf of WCC; petrol and diesel consumption by contracted fleet vehicles; emissions from municipal waste disposal.

During 2021/22, WCC purchased green electricity for all corporate sites and street lighting that met the Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGO) standard. All Scope 2 emissions associated with the generation of REGO-accredited electricity can be classed as a net benefit (carbon offset) for reporting purposes. The elimination of all the Scope 2 emissions reduces the overall 2021/2022 emissions figure from 44,928 to 40,642, down 46.9% compared with 2009/2010's baseline figure of 76,536.

Local authorities have removed schools' emissions from their Greenhouse Gas reporting. In Worcestershire, an exercise was undertaken in 2019 to remove schools' emissions from the 2009/2010 data. This was done to ensure the baseline total against which progress is being monitored was calculated using the same methodology as has been applied for all years from 2018/2019. Re-calculation of figures for years from 2010/2011 to 2017/2018 would be a major piece of work.

Worcestershire County Council Greenhouse Gas Emissions - Share of Annual Corporate Emissions by Activity

Latest update: November 2022 for 2021/2022

Share of Annual Corporate Emissions by Activity	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
Waste Disposal	67%	69%	72%	74%
Street Lighting	12%	11%	10%	8%
Severn Waste	4%	5%	4%	5%
Buildings - Gas	3%	3%	4%	3%
Ringway	4%	3%	4%	3%
Buildings - Electricity	5%	4%	3%	2%
Fleet	2%	2%	1%	2%
Staff Mileage	2%	2%	1%	2%
Contract Fleet	1%	1%	1%	1%
Residual Fuels	0%	0.4%	0%	0%
Staff Air Travel	0%	0.1%	0%	0%

Countryside Access – Reports and Resolutions Summary 2022/2023

Latest update: December 2022

	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Outstanding Public Rights of Way (PROW) reports	5,696 (includes 4,841 defects & 855 obstructions)	5,750 (includes 4,892 defects & 858 obstructions)	5,835 (includes 4,978 defects & 857 obstructions)	5,783 (includes 4,927 defects & 856 obstructions)	5,768 (includes 4,903 defects & 865 obstructions)	5,767 (includes 4,896 defects & 871 obstructions)	5,759 (includes 4,881 defects & 878 obstructions)	5,792 (includes 4,865 defects & 927 obstructions)	5,714 (includes 4,836 defects & 878 obstructions)
New reports received in month	233 (includes 203 defects & 30 obstructions)	281 (includes 246 defects and 35 obstructions)	247 (includes 220 defects & 27 obstructions)	269 (includes 240 defects & 29 obstructions)	256 (includes 227 defects & 29 obstructions)	217 (includes 187 defects & 30 obstructions)	194 (includes 170 defects & 24 obstructions)	212 (includes 187 defects & 25 obstructions)	87 (includes 76 defects & 11 obstructions)
Reports resolved in month	209 (includes 191 defects & 18 obstructions)	264 (includes 243 defects & 21 obstructions)	195 (includes 169 defects & 26 obstructions)	309 (includes 281 defects & 28 obstructions)	306 (includes 275 defects & 31 obstructions)	202 (includes 184 defects & 18 obstructions)	227 (includes 207 defects & 20 obstructions)	203 (includes 176 defects & 27 obstructions)	122 (includes 107 defects & 15 obstructions)
Reports resolved by volunteers (Cumulative, for this financial year)	29	44	61	103	111	143	150	181	187
New Definitive Map Modification Orders (DMMOs) submitted in month	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
DMMOs completed in month	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
DMMOs outstanding on the register	78	79	79	80	79	80	79	80	79

Outstanding Public Rights of Way (PROW) reports: The bulk of outstanding reports are of low priority (such as missing signs and waymarking). At the end of December, the total of outstanding reports was 5,714, down 53 (0.9%) compared with the total at the end of the previous quarter (30th September). The number of defect reports outstanding at the end of December (4,836) is the lowest month-end total since January 2020's 4,775.

New reports received each month: The number received remains very seasonal, with the bulk of new reports being in early-/mid-summer. Other variations are normally due to submission of surveys from The Ramblers. The October-to-December reports-received total was 493, a 24.7% share of the figure for the current financial-year's April-to-December total of 1,996.

Reports resolved each month: The number of reports resolved per month is more consistent throughout the year. Variations tend to be due to the completion of large programmes of planned work (such as those concerning signage) and shortfalls in capacity due to vacancies, annual leave, and sickness absence. In the three complete quarters of this financial year, 2,037 reports were resolved. The number resolved in the October-to-December quarter was 552.

Reports resolved by Volunteers (Cumulative, for this financial year): This is the number of defects resolved by volunteers, both individuals and groups. The true figure is higher as much of their work is not recorded on encompass but identified and resolved onsite when out on the network.

New Volunteer Groups: There are 16 groups across the County. This doesn't indicate how active the groups are (some do work several times a month, others only very occasionally). Reports resolved by volunteers provides a much better gauge of the success of our volunteer scheme.

New Definitive Map Modification Orders (DMMOs) submitted by month: This includes any applications submitted, but still awaiting validation. Applications will not be added to the register of applications until they have been validated in line with legislation.

DMMOs completed by month: This includes all DMMOs for which a determination not to make an Order has been made or, alternatively, the determination has been made to make the Order, which has then been made and confirmed either by WCC or (if required) by the Secretary of State's inspector.

Cumulative number of outstanding DMMOs: This includes all DMMOs currently on the register, whether under investigation or awaiting investigation. It will not include any applications received but still being validated.

Countryside Access – Reports and Resolutions Summary 2021/2022

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Outstanding Public Rights of Way (PROW) reports	6,205 (5,424 defects & 781 obstructions)	6,190 (5,411 defects & 779 obstructions)	6,384 (5,601 defects & 783 obstructions)	6,372 (5,575 defects & 797 obstructions)	6,378 (5,563 defects & 815 obstructions)	6,296 (5,482 defects & 814 obstructions)	6,232 (5,396 defects & 836 obstructions)	6,119 (5,283 defects & 836 obstructions)	6,016 (5,171 defects & 845 obstructions)	5,844 (5,008 defects & 836 obstructions)	5,816 (4,981 defects & 835 obstructions)	5,674 (4,841 defects & 833 obstructions)
New reports received in month	288 (226 defects & 62 obstructions)	219 (184 defects and 35 obstructions)	388 (359 defects & 29 obstructions)	418 (391 defects & 27 obstructions)	343 (285 defects & 58 obstructions)	319 (280 defects & 39 obstructions)	209 (178 defects & 31 obstructions)	274 (236 defects & 38 obstructions)	154 (130 defects & 24 obstructions)	155 (131 defects & 24 obstructions)	199 (184 defects & 15 obstructions)	314 (289 defects & 25 obstructions)
Reports resolved in month	198 (169 defects & 29 obstructions)	207 (172 defects & 35 obstructions)	246 (214 defects & 32 obstructions)	358 (339 defects & 19 obstructions)	397 (367 defects & 30 obstructions)	394 (356 defects & 38 obstructions)	246 (234 defects & 12 obstructions)	342 (313 defects & 29 obstructions)	321 (299 defects & 22 obstructions)	265 (237 defects & 28 obstructions)	277 (262 defects & 15 obstructions)	467 (440 defects & 27 obstructions)
Reports resolved by volunteers (Cumulative)	10	33	60	88	99	146	173	199	221	240	263	286
New Definitive Map Modification Orders (DMMOs)	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
DMMOs completed in month	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DMMOs outstanding on the register	68	68	70	72	72	72	74	74	75	75	76	76

Countryside Access – Reports and Resolutions Summary 2020/2021

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Outstanding Public Rights of Way (PROW) reports	5,992 (4,964 defects & 628 obstructions)	5,726 (5,068 defects & 658 obstructions)	5,905 (5,249 defects & 656 obstructions)	5,968 (5,306 defects & 662 obstructions)	6,017 (5,355 defects & 662 obstructions)	6,073 (5,388 defects & 685 obstructions)	6,127 (5,427 defects & 700 obstructions)	6,151 (5,430 defects & 721 obstructions)	6,096 (5,386 defects & 710 obstructions)	6,050 (5,329 defects & 721 obstructions)	6,105 (5,389 defects & 716 obstructions)	6,086 (5,342 defects & 744 obstructions)
New reports received in month	176 (110 defects & 66 obstructions)	290 (228 defects and 62 obstructions)	359 (314 defects & 45 obstructions)	293 (253 defects & 40 obstructions)	197 (166 defects & 31 obstructions)	231 (185 defects & 46 obstructions)	212 (172 defects & 40 obstructions)	231 (172 defects & 59 obstructions)	195 (164 defects & 31 obstructions)	212 (183 defects & 29 obstructions)	245 (207 defects & 38 obstructions)	330 (276 defects & 54 obstructions)
Reports resolved in month	45 (34 defects & 11 obstructions)	119 (93 defects & 26 obstructions)	227 (188 defects & 39 obstructions)	194 (163 defects & 31 obstructions)	139 (110 defects & 29 obstructions)	157 (137 defects & 20 obstructions)	164 (135 defects & 29 obstructions)	220 (182 defects & 38 obstructions)	223 (183 defects & 40 obstructions)	256 (238 defects & 18 obstructions)	193 (165 defects & 28 obstructions)	326 (290 defects & 36 obstructions)
Reports resolved by volunteers (Cumulative)	10	26	34	42	46	59	64	106	118	131	152	166
New Definitive Map Modification Orders (DMMOs)	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
DMMOs completed in month	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DMMOs outstanding on the register	68	68	67	68	68	68	68	68	68	68	68	68

Countryside Access – Reports and Resolutions Summary 2019/2020

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Outstanding Public Rights of Way (PROW) reports	5,107 (4,624 defects & 483 obstructions)	5,133 (4,650 defects & 483 obstructions)	5,223 (4,733 defects & 490 obstructions)	5,341 (4,844 defects & 497 obstructions)	5,403 (4,894 defects & 509 obstructions)	5,436 (4,911 defects & 525 obstructions)	5,416 (4,888 defects & 528 obstructions)	5,307 (4,778 defects & 529 obstructions)	5,288 (4,761 defects & 527 obstructions)	5,215 (4,775 defects & 540 obstructions)	5,390 (4,840 defects & 550 obstructions)	5,446 (4,875 defects & 571 obstructions)
New reports received in month	253 (220 defects & 33 obstructions)	153 (138 defects and 15 obstructions)	202 (190 defects & 12 obstructions)	332 (299 defects & 33 obstructions)	240 (212 defects & 18 obstructions)	193 (165 defects & 28 obstructions)	199 (178 defects & 21 obstructions)	123 (107 defects & 16 obstructions)	119 (111 defects & 8 obstructions)	169 (150 defects & 19 obstructions)	165 (151 defects & 14 obstructions)	143 (117 defects & 26 obstructions)
Reports resolved in month	123 (113 defects & 10 obstructions)	143 (125 defects & 18 obstructions)	120 (112 defects & 8 obstructions)	188 (170 defects & 18 obstructions)	173 (164 defects & 9 obstructions)	166 (153 defects & 13 obstructions)	233 (216 defects & 17 obstructions)	224 (211 defects & 13 obstructions)	147 (134 defects & 13 obstructions)	152 (141 defects & 11 obstructions)	94 (90 defects & 4 obstructions)	84 (79 defects & 5 obstructions)
Reports resolved by volunteers (Cumulative)	36	53	99	136	161	186	211	234	275	286	312	319

Appendix 1 - Glossary of Abbreviations and Technical Definitions

Term	Abbreviation	Description
Category A inspection		Inspections undertaken during street works, carried out against the Department for Transport publication Safety at Street Works and Road Works. Compliance with the document is statutory for street works and became statutory for Works for Road Purposes as of 1 st October 2014.
Category B inspection		Inspections undertaken between the date the street work finishes to any time up to six months later.
Category C inspection		Check of street works at the end of 2-year guarantee period.
Category D inspection		Undertaken either at the point defective street works are identified, during remedial works, or once the remedial works have been completed.
Clarification		It may not always be possible to make good a reported highways defect within the specified time frame due to a number of reasons, which require clarification. These will be beyond the County Council's control (e.g. the defect is under a parked vehicle; is inaccessible due to it being within a road closure governed by a utility service; is under flood water or compacted snow; requires a piece of repair equipment that is not a standard stock item or is currently unavailable; is located in a high-speed area, which means a safe repair can only be made outside standard working hours. In all cases, an attempt is made to make safe the issue. The clock on the defect is stopped until the repair(s) can be undertaken. Clarifications are checked every week to ensure they are not left and then never actioned.
Coarse Visual Inspection	CVI	Coarse Visual Inspection (CVI): A CVI Survey provides a visual condition assessment of the highway. It is a simple and efficient survey, providing a reliable method of assessing the 'coarse' condition of a network. Undertaken from a slow-moving vehicle, the survey team use a laptop computer linked to a digital trip meter. As each defect is observed it is recorded for distance, position and extent using a Condition Index (CI) score. There are 4 categories within a CVI, covering surface properties, wearing, structural condition, edging. Each category has a numerical range, which, when combined, gives the overall Condition Index. A higher Index indicates more extensive remedial work is required.
Deemed		A street works permit authority should reply to permit applications within the given response times. If it fails to do so, however, under the terms of the Traffic Management Act 2004, a permit is deemed to be granted in the terms of the application.
Fixed-Penalty Notice	FPN	In this context, this refers to penalties imposed on street works contractors in relation to permissions, timeliness, and quality of work, as set out in the New Road and Street Works Act 1991
Footways - Prestige Walking Zones		Areas with a high proportion of public space with high footfall, often in large retail areas or approaching a transport hub.
Footways - Primary Walking Routes		Busy urban shopping and business areas and main pedestrian routes.
Footways - Secondary Walking Routes		Medium-usage routes through local areas that feed into primary walking routes, local shopping centres, etc.
Footways - Link Footways		In urban areas, these provide connections between local-access urban routes; in rural areas, any busy route.
Footways - Local Access Footways		Low-usage routes, short estate-road pathways, and cul-de-sac walkways.
Footways - Minor Footways		Little-used rural footways serving a very limited number of properties.
Household Waste	HHW	
Household Waste Recycling Centre	HWRC	County Council administers the rubbish tips / household recycling centres provided for residents to recycle and dispose of their household waste. Sites are located in Bromsgrove, Droitwich, Kidderminster, Malvern, Pershore, Redditch, Stourport, Tenbury, Upton, and Worcester (Bilford Road and Hallow Road).
Kilowatt hour	KWh	The kilowatt hour is commonly used as a billing unit for energy delivered by electric utilities. The total energy in kilowatt hours is equal to the power in kilowatts multiplied by the time in hours.

Licences and Permits		Required when undertaking street works on the highway in Worcestershire. Only registered companies can apply for licences and permits on the highway. Applications are required for road closures, footpath closures, speed restrictions, temporary traffic signals, lane closures, diversionary routes, cranes, fencing, hoardings, Mobile Elevated Working Platforms (MEWPs), scaffolding, skips, welfare cabins.
Mobile Elevating Work Platform	MEWP	Mobile Elevating Work Platforms provide safe and quick access to trees and a secure working platform.
New Road and Street Works Act 1991	NRSWA	An Act relating to provision of new roads (including Development Control) and to make provisions with respect to street works
Office for National Statistics	ONS	The executive office of the UK Statistics Authority, a non-ministerial department which reports directly to the UK Parliament. Population and economic data used in the performance indicators is taken from ONS data-sets.
Public Enquiries Management System	PEM	Members of the public are able to use our website to report highways issues on-line via our Public Enquiry Management (PEM) system. This has a tracking facility and allows our Highways and Transport Control Centre to review all requests received each day and determine the most appropriate action. The PEM system allows members of the public to be updated about the progress of their reported issue. As a result of using the system to log and track enquiries, 'PEMs' has become the generally-used term for the enquiries themselves.
Permits		Please see 'Licences'

Appendix 2 - Traffic Management Act 2004: Application and Response Times

Activity Type	Minimum application periods ahead of proposed start date	Minimum application periods ahead of proposed start date	Minimum period before permit expires for application for variation (including extension)	Response Times for issuing a permit or seeking further information or discussion	Response Times for issuing a permit or seeking further information or discussion	Response times to applications for permit variations
	Application for provisional advance authorisation	Application for permit		Application for provisional advance authorisation	Application for permit	
Major	3 months	10 days	2 days or 20% of the original duration whichever is longest	1 calendar month	5 days	2 days
Standard	n/a	10 days	2 days or 20% of the original duration whichever is longest	n/a	5 days	2 days
Minor	n/a	3 days	2 days or 20% of the original duration whichever is longest	n/a	2 days	2 days
Immediate	n/a	2 hours after	2 days or 20% of the original duration whichever is longest	n/a	2 days	2 days

Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel

23 March 2023

**Forecast Outturn 2022/23
As at Period 9 (December)**

P9 (Quarter 3) Forecast Financial Position – E&I

E&I Revenue Forecast	2022-23 Gross Budget Q3	2022-23 Net Budget Q3	2022-23 Forecast Outturn Q3	2022-23 Forecast Variance Q3	2022-23 Forecast Variance Q1	2022-23 Forecast Variance Q2
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Economy & Sustainability	5,688	1,425	1,276	-149	-133	-138
Planning and Regulation	1,482	724	1,131	407	275	385
Infrastructure & Contracts	1,509	1,509	1,549	40	40	40
Major Projects	3,814	1,238	1,147	-91	89	119
Passenger Transport Operations	16,860	10,354	9,908	-446	50	-594
Highways Operations & PROW	8,754	8,733	8,785	52	275	18
Business Management	827	-30	-50	-20	-30	-28
Road Lighting	4,913	4,849	4,879	30	31	31
Waste Management	51,044	29,805	29,746	-59	-28	-30
Network Management	3,767	452	21	-431	-223	-126
Development Management - S278/S38	1,113	166	151	-15	0	-16
TOTAL ECONOMY & INFRASTRUCTURE	99,771	59,225	58,543	-682	346	-339
Skills and Investment	7,172	430	126	-304	0	-63

Key Headlines - 1

Improved position for the directorate with a £0.7m underspend forecast at P9, with key variances being:

- Forecast £0.4m overspend in Transport Planning and Strategic Planning (part of Planning and Regulation) due to reduction in expected levels of capitalisation, inflationary increases and impact of contractor staff costs to cover hard to recruit vacancies
- Network management are forecasting a surplus of £0.4m due to an increase in fees and charges
- Passenger Transport Operations is showing a surplus of £0.4m due to savings within Concessionary fares and the over achievement of income with regard to driver training

Key Headlines – 2

- The waste contract extension has been successfully concluded with a reduction in contract price which will now fully mitigate the previously unachieved savings target
- Work continues within the directorate to monitor and evaluate the impacts of the current economic climate and establish mitigating action to ensure budget pressures can be contained
- The 2022/23 pay award has been reflected with corresponding funding from reserves where necessary
- E&I have contributed £435k towards the £5.1m corporate savings target

ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL 23 MARCH 2023

REFRESH OF THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2023/24

Summary

1. The Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel is asked to consider suggestions for its 2023/24 Work Programme prior to it being submitted to Council for approval.

Background

2. Worcestershire County Council has a rolling annual Work Programme for Overview and Scrutiny. The Panel routinely reviews its work programme at each meeting to consider which issues should be investigated as a priority.
3. In addition, on an annual basis, the rolling annual Work Programme for Overview and Scrutiny is approved by Council.

Scrutiny Work Programme 2023/24

4. The Scrutiny Work Programme for 2023/24 is now being refreshed. Panel Members and other stakeholders have been invited to suggest topics for future scrutiny.
5. Members are asked to consider the draft Work Programme and agree its priorities for 2023/24. Issues should be prioritised by using the scrutiny feasibility criteria agreed by OSPB.
6. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board will receive feedback on the HOSC's and Scrutiny Panels' discussions and agree the final Scrutiny Work Programme at its 27 April meeting. Council will be asked to agree the Work Programme at its meeting on 18 May.

Feasibility Criteria

7. The criteria (listed below) will help to determine the scrutiny programme. A topic does not need to meet all of these criteria to be scrutinised, but they are intended as a guide for prioritisation.
 - Is the issue a priority area for the Council?
 - Is it a key issue for local people?
 - Will it be practicable to implement the outcomes of the scrutiny?
 - Are improvements for local people likely?
 - Does it examine a poor performing service?
 - Will it result in improvements to the way the Council operates?

- Is it related to new Government guidance or legislation?

Remit of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel

8. The Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel is responsible for scrutiny of:

- Environment (including Net Zero Plans)
- Highways
- Flooding
- Waste

Dates of Future Meetings

- 26 May 2023 at 10am
- 19 July 2023 at 10am
- 25 September 2023 at 2pm
- 30 November 2023 at 2pm

Purpose of the Meeting

9. The Panel is asked to consider and prioritise the draft 2023/24 Work Programme and consider whether it would wish to make any amendments. The Committee will wish to retain the flexibility to take into account any urgent issues which may arise.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1 – Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel Work Programme 2023/24

Contact Points

Alyson Grice/Alison Spall, Overview and Scrutiny Officers, Tel: 01905 844962/846607
Email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the Proper Officer (in this case the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance), the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

[Agenda for Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board 29th June 2022](#)

[Agenda for Council on 14th July 2022.](#)

All Agendas and Minutes are available on the Council's website [weblink to Agendas and Minutes](#)

Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Work Programme 2022/23

Date of Meeting	Issue for Scrutiny	Date of Last Report	Notes/Follow-up Action
23 March 2023	Performance (Q3 October to December) and In-Year Budget Monitoring		
	Flood Risk Management Annual Report	9 November 2021	
26 May 2023	Road Diversion Signs		Requested by Chairman 22 November 2022
	Performance (Q4 January - March) and In-Year Budget Monitoring		
19 July 2023	Update on Street Lighting (to include LED conversion)		Requested by Panel 18 Jan 2023
	Solar Power Generation & Use		Requested by Panel 18 Jan 2023
25 September 2023	Update on Buses	September 2022	Requested by Panel 18 Jan 2023
	Performance (Q1 April to June) and In-Year Budget Monitoring		
30 November 2023	Net Zero Plan Update		Regular update requested by Panel Nov 2022
	Performance (Q2 July to September) and In-Year Budget Monitoring		
Possible Future items			
TBC	Update on buses, including update on Bus Service Improvement Plan, co-operative transport.		Requested by Chairman April 2022

TBC	Monitoring of Section 38 agreements		Requested by Chairman Feb 2023
TBC	Severn Trent Water emergency work permits		Requested by Chairman Feb 2023
TBC	Demand Responsive Transport		Requested by Panel on 7 October 2022
TBC	Environment Act - update on developments when further guidance has been provided by Central Government		Requested by Panel on 7 October 2022
TBC	Worcestershire Streetscape Design Guide		To be considered by Panel before going to Cabinet
TBC	Waste Management Service Contract	8 November 2022	Update report once contract extension has been agreed
TBC	Cycling and Walking Infrastructure	13 May 2022	Update in 12 to 18 months
TBC	Cutting Congestion Programme	13 May 2022	Update in 12 to 18 months
TBC	Road Safety and Reduction of Speeding by use of Built Highways Infrastructure	13 May 2022	Update in 12 to 18 months
TBC	Environment approach: partnership working		Suggested by CMR June 22
TBC	Rainbow Crossings		Suggested at OSPB on 29 June 2022
Standing Items			
March/July/ Sept/Nov	Budget and In-year performance monitoring		
November/January	Budget Scrutiny Process		
Annually	Flood Risk Management Annual Report	9 November 2021	