

Recommendations and updates from other committees to Cabinet 27 September 2024



Joint Scrutiny Committee

The committee met on 15 July 2024 to discuss the Biffa annual performance report, the waste resources and street cleansing strategy and the transformation programme update.

Biffa annual performance report - The committee considered Biffa Municipal Ltd (Biffa) performance in delivering the household waste collection, street cleansing and ancillary services contract for the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 (2023 calendar year) and agreed with the assessment.

Waste resources and street cleansing strategy - Joint Scrutiny Committee considered the draft joint Waste Resources and Street Cleansing strategy and made comments before a final strategy is presented to Cabinet for decision. This is on the Vale Cabinet agenda for 27 September 2024.

The committee welcomed the report and recommended the following for consideration by Cabinet:

1. Make sure the font is clear on a readable background colour
2. Prepare people for change – education, preparation and communication
3. Suggestion of making an acronym glossary (from page 15 of the report)
4. Should we keep recycling figures or focus on reusing figures? Overall waste reduction targets were deemed more important than recycling rate.
5. Working across council teams – can we include our targets within licensing for events, planning, procurement etc?
6. To tackle fly tipping and roadside litter, members suggested ANPR, and asked can viable options be investigated for this issue?
7. Committee would like to show the aspiration to be a zero-waste council.
8. Requested investigation into recycling (sortation) locally before sourcing elsewhere.

Transformation programme update - Joint scrutiny committee noted the content of the refreshed Corporate Transformation Programme and the plans for its further development over the coming months. Committee commented that they wanted to see headline target dates as soon as possible and costings for projects. It was asked that recognition be given to potential larger financial burden. Members considered the private sector terminology “failing faster” and recommended that thought be given to this terminology, to consider appropriateness for a council.

Vale Climate Emergency Committee

The committee meet on 16 July 2024 to discuss the operational net zero target and the district net zero target both of which are on Cabinet's agenda for the 27 September 2024.

Operational net zero target – the committee made the following recommendations:

Recommendations:

- a) CEAC recognised the significant progress made in reducing our operational carbon emissions by 47 per cent since 2009/10. Members added that, to be more transparent about achievements, can this recommendation be more descriptive about what we had achieved. Committee suggested an additional point about 2019 onwards achievements and the percentage reduction achieved.
- b) CEAC recommended that Cabinet agrees to retain its operational net zero target of 2030, but do not agree that the interim target for a 75 per cent reduction in emissions should be dropped. Members suggested that officers work on a more realistic interim target that we can set with the knowledge and tools gained. Possibly a target in 2027/28 rather than 2025.

District net zero target – the committee made the following recommendations:

Recommendations:

- a) CEAC formally recognised that the interim aspirational target of achieving a 75 per cent reduction in district carbon emissions by 2030 cannot be met.
- b) CEAC agreed with the recommendation that Cabinet re-affirms its commitment to accelerating progress towards achieving an ambitious 2045 target to be a net zero carbon district

Added recommendation

- c) CEAC recommended that Cabinet considers developing new 5-year interim targets (carbon budget) up to 2045 using available updated data sources, for a more accurate interim target. (members mentioned Oxfordshire Net Zero Route Map and Action Plan which built on the PAZCO report)

Vale Scrutiny Committee

The committee met on 9 September 2024 to discuss the Local Plan Part 2 review which is on Cabinet's agenda for the 27 September 2024.

The committee made the following recommendation to Cabinet:

Committee voted in favour of Option 1 as listed in the officer report: To approve the Regulation 10A review of LPP2 for publication in October 2024 and decide not to revise LPP2 policies.

The report explained that this action would comply with Regulation 10A of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended). The review within the report shall fulfil the Council's duty to consider whether to revise the document.

Whilst this review concluded that there were LPP2 policies that required updating, the preparation of the JLP makes the revision of LPP2 policies not necessary as it would not produce a set of up-to-date development plan policies sooner than via the JLP process that was already underway and at an advanced stage. This was the recommended option from officers.

Concerns were raised in the meeting on higher allocation at Dalton Barracks and Grove can be raised at Full Council, with the Cabinet member also welcoming queries which would be given a written response.

Democratic Services

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