

Vale of White Horse District Council

Corporate Performance Report

2022/23 Quarter One

July 2022

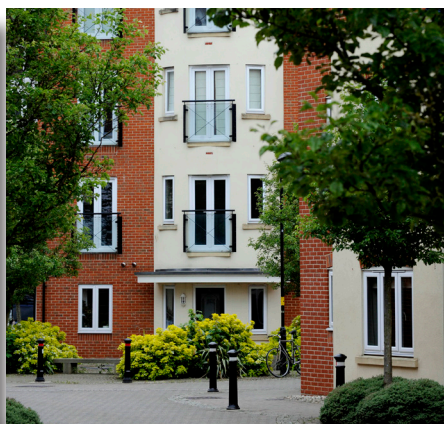


Table of content

Background	3
Strategic context	4
Quarter One 2022/23 Performance Highlights	6
Theme 1: Providing the homes people need	7
Theme 2: Tackling the climate emergency	8
Theme 3: Building healthy communities	10
Theme 4: Building stable finances	12
Theme 5: Working in partnership	14
Theme 6: Working in an open and inclusive way	16
Theme 1: Providing the homes people need - performance updates against reporting measures	18
Theme 2: Tackling the climate emergency - Performance updates against reporting measures	24
Theme 3: Building healthy communities - performance updates against reporting measures	31
Theme 4: Building stable finances - performance updates against reporting measures	39
Theme 5: Working in partnership - performance updates against reporting measures	43
Theme 6: Woking in an open and inclusive way - performance updates against reporting measures	51

Background

- The Council monitors performance and progress towards achieving the aims and priorities set out in the Vale of White Horse District Council **Corporate Plan 2020-2024**.
- This report provides a strategic overview of the performance for **quarter one (01 April to 30 June 2022)**, focusing on the activity to deliver our priorities in the Corporate Plan.
- In addition to providing a performance update and assurance against the delivery of the Council's six strategic themes in the Corporate Plan, this report will also provide any strategic context relevant to the Council's operations.
- This report is the fifth iteration, and it is expected that it will evolve in line with the new approach to Performance Management being embedded by the Council, as well as from feedback from senior officers and Members.



Strategic context

Quarter 1 of 2022/23 saw the global economic situation deteriorate further. Soaring prices for energy, food, petrol and durable goods have driven inflation across the world, stalling the post-pandemic recovery and placing individuals, families and businesses under increasing financial pressure. Within the UK, the rate of inflation reached a forty year high of 9.4 per cent in the 12 months to June 2022 – driven by rising food and fuel prices. The Bank of England forecast that inflation will continue to rise throughout much of 2022 (they expect it to peak at around 11.0 per cent during October when the impacts of a further prospective increase in the Ofgem price cap feed through into household bills) before gradually falling back.

The high rate of inflation in the UK has meant that household finances have been squeezed as incomes have failed to keep pace with the rising cost of living. Figures from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) show that, when adjusted for prices, average earnings were 3.4 per cent lower in April 2022 than a year earlier – the biggest drop since modern records began in 2001. In addition, those in receipt of benefits or a pension have found that the increase of 3.1 per cent for this year has been rapidly outpaced by the high rate of inflation.

In May, as part of efforts to try to mitigate the worst effects of the squeeze on household budgets, HM Government announced a

package of measures designed to provide over £15 billion in additional support to assist with the rising cost of living. As part of these proposals, every household in the UK will get an energy bill discount of £400 this October. In addition, households in receipt of means tested benefits will get a payment of £650 – divided into two lump sums – to help with the cost of living. There will also be separate one-off payments of £300 to pensioner households and £150 to individuals receiving disability benefits. Furthermore, the emergency Household Support Fund, which is allocated by councils in England, will be extended by £500m to £1.5bn. The cost of the measures will be partly offset by 25.0 per cent windfall tax on oil and gas firms' profits.

As the cost-of-living crisis has worsened throughout the quarter, the Council's Community Hub has offered practical help and advice to residents. It has also continued to distribute grants through the Household Support Fund to those in need of help with the purchase of essentials such as food, clothing and utilities.



The devastating war in Ukraine continued during quarter one. The latest estimates from the United Nations High Commissioner For Refugees (UNHCR) suggest that around a third of the country's population have been forced from their homes since February (around seven million people are internally displaced, while nearly five million have sought refuge in Europe). As part of the Council's ongoing response to this humanitarian crisis, it continues to work alongside partners across Oxfordshire to help provide 'wrap-around' care for refugees within the county through the Homes for Ukraine scheme (this offers the opportunity for individuals in the UK to sponsor named guests to come and live with them in their home). The Council's Community Hub continues to ensure that support is available for both guests and hosts in need of assistance.

During quarter one, HM Government published its Energy Security Strategy. This sets out how the UK will enhance its energy security and independence in the long-term. It contains proposals to accelerate the deployment of renewables such as solar and wind (both onshore and offshore), to significantly increase the delivery of new nuclear power plants, to improve energy efficiency and to realise the potential of hydrogen as a source of low-carbon energy. The importance of sourcing alternative, renewable energy sources is a major part of our Climate Action Plan (CAP).

On 28 June, the ONS released a first look at some of the data arising from the 2021 Census.

- Since 2011, the population of the Vale has increased by 14.8 per cent (from around 121,000 to 138,900). This is a higher overall increase than for England (6.6 per cent) or the South East region (7.5 per cent).

- Of the 309 local authorities in England, Vale of White Horse has the 164th largest population – it has moved up 14 places in the decade since 2011.

- The Vale is the 11th least densely populated of the South East region's 64 local authorities.

- Between 2011 and 2021 there has been an increase of 26.4 per cent in the number of people aged 65 and over in the Vale. This is above the figure for England (20.1 per cent). There have also been above the national average increases in the number of people aged 15 to 64 (11.6 per cent compared to 3.6 per cent) and those aged under 15 (15.3 per cent compared to 5.0 per cent).

From quarter one, the CAP is being monitored as part of the Vale's corporate performance management framework. It will be delivered in tandem with the Council's Corporate Plan performance reporting and will give a detailed overview of all actions that may have an impact on reducing carbon in the wider district.

HM Government also published a white paper on creating A Fairer Private Rental Sector. This sets out their proposals to reform the private rented sector and level up housing quality. Providing high-quality, affordable homes across a range of tenures is a key priority for the Vale.

Towards the end of quarter one, the number of people testing positive for Covid-19 started to increase – the most likely cause being infections caused by variants of the Omicron strain of the virus. While this rise in cases did lead to an increase in hospital admissions, it did not lead to the reimposition of any of the previous legal restrictions and requirements. However, the Council's Community Hub remains ready and mobilised to move to respond.



Quarter One 2022/23 Performance Highlights

Providing the homes people need

£180,000

The amount of funding from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to support the delivery of **Dalton Barracks Garden Village**



A new **Joint Design Guide** was agreed and incorporates guidance on zero and low carbon construction



Workshops were held between members and officers resulting in a first draft of the new **Joint Housing Strategy**

Working in partnership



We responded to two external consultations:

- Review of Local Air Quality Management Policy Guidance
- Designation of National Highways as a "Relevant Public Authority"



51 The number of Wantage based businesses who registered to be part of the newly launch **Virtual High Street** project with ShopAppy

Tackling the climate emergency



We ran several communications campaigns to help communities reduce their carbon footprint

- **Easter recycling campaign**
- **Council's Park and Charge project**
- **Earth Day promotion**
- **No Mow May campaign**
- **Climate Action Fund promotion**
- **Promoting an Oxfordshire wide climate change survey**



60 Number of electric vehicle charging bays operational in five council car parks as part of the **Park and Charge** project

We submitted our **Annual Air Quality Status Report** to Defra - view the air quality for areas in the Vale monitored by Air Quality England [online](#)



Building stable finances



We made a joint application for further **Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Funding**



Plans are now in place to move our grounds maintenance depot to council land as part of insourcing our grounds maintenance and public convenience contracts to save funds

Building healthy communities

2,357

The number of people engaged through activities run by the Active Communities team

£11,402



Total **Household Support Grants** distributed by the Community Hub to support Covid-19 community recovery

Working in an open and inclusive way



We ran **45** campaigns: **23** highlighted events and council news, **15** promoted behavioural change and **seven** promoted diversity and inclusion

400



The number of **Freedom of Information** and **Environmental Information Regulations** requests received - **93%** of these were responded to within the target time of **20** working days



100% of our public meetings were livestreamed

Theme 1: Providing the homes people need

We will:

- find ways to provide more genuinely affordable housing, including housing for social rent, to better provide for the needs of the Vale residents
- aim to provide a mix of tenures in each development to build sustainable homes in balanced and sustainable communities
- use our influence on decision makers, where the responsibility lies outside of Vale.

We will do this by:

- exploring and considering opportunities to bring forward the delivery of homes people can afford
- adopting a policy framework that ensures those homes could be delivered in a way that supports the environment and people living healthy lives.

The new Joint Design Guide (JDG) was agreed by Vale of White Horse's Cabinet during quarter one. The JDG incorporates new guidance on zero and low carbon construction.

Strategic Lead - Suzanne Malcolm (Deputy Chief Executive / Place)

Key Activities in quarter one

See Theme 1 performance updates against all reporting measures on page 18

During Q1, the Vale helped to provide more genuinely affordable housing by delivering, in partnership with Registered Providers, 74 affordable housing units.

As part of the Vale's efforts to explore and consider opportunities to bring forward the delivery of homes that people can afford, an Individual Cabinet Member Decision (ICMD) was approved to accept £180,000 of funding from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to support the delivery of Dalton Barracks Garden Village. This support will enable additional progress to be made on the governance, quality, innovation and stewardship workstreams.

Good progress continued to be made on the development of a new Joint Housing Strategy. Workshops were held between members and officers, and a first draft of the document has been produced.

In addition, following a meeting between officers and members, it was agreed that the most effective approach for delivering the

aims of an Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document – for example, in relation to affordability – was to pursue policy changes through the Joint Local Plan. It was also decided during quarter one that the Vale's existing affordable housing policies should be brought together into a single guidance document for both developers and registered providers. Planning and Housing officers are currently carrying out this work and aim to publish it on the Council's website in September.

With the aim of adopting a policy framework that ensures that homes can be delivered in a way that support the environment and the living of healthy lives, the Council's Planning Policy team continued to work on the development of the Joint Local Plan. Between 12 May and 23 June, a public consultation – known formally as a 'Regulation 18 Part 1 Issues Consultation' – was held. This asked for views on a draft vision for the Joint Local Plan and included matters relating to the environment, healthy lifestyles, infrastructure and sustainable growth. The Planning Policy team are currently processing the responses that were received.

Theme 2: Tackling the climate emergency

We will:

- do everything we can to help tackle the Climate Emergency
- reduce council emissions by 75% by 2025
- become a carbon neutral council by 2030
- reduce all emissions across the Vale District by 75% by 2030
- aspire to be a carbon neutral Vale district by 2045.

We will do this by:

- a Climate Emergency programme, focussed on what the council has control over, working
- towards our own targets for our own buildings, vehicles, leisure and arts centres
- a Climate Emergency programme focussed on encouraging the wider district community
- to reduce its carbon footprint in order to meet the Climate Emergency targets
- a programme around exercising our influence with partners on wider policy, working with neighbouring authorities, lobbying Government, and identifying environmental policy gaps.

Strategic Lead - Suzanne Malcolm (Deputy Chief Executive / Place)

Key Activities in quarter one

See Theme 2 performance updates against all reporting measures on page 24

After extensive preparatory work over recent months, progress against the Council's Climate Action Plan (CAP) is now being monitored as part of the Council's corporate performance management framework. The Plan will be delivered in tandem with the Council's Corporate Plan performance reporting and will give a detailed overview of all actions that may have an impact on reducing carbon emissions in our district.

The first public consultation on the Joint Local Plan took place in May and June. Topics raised included how the plan might promote sustainable growth and protect the environment. In June, the meeting of the Joint Local Plan Steering Group focussed on the topic of the environment. Members provided a steer for policy development regarding biodiversity net gain, landscape and the water environment.

In quarter one the Council continued to work closely with neighbouring authorities on environmental policies. At the meeting

of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership Environment Advisory Group in June, members discussed Pathways to Zero Carbon Oxfordshire and the Oxfordshire Food Strategy, which covers various approaches to reducing the carbon footprint and ecological impact of our food networks. Work also continued with neighbouring authorities on environmental policies within the Oxfordshire Plan 2050.

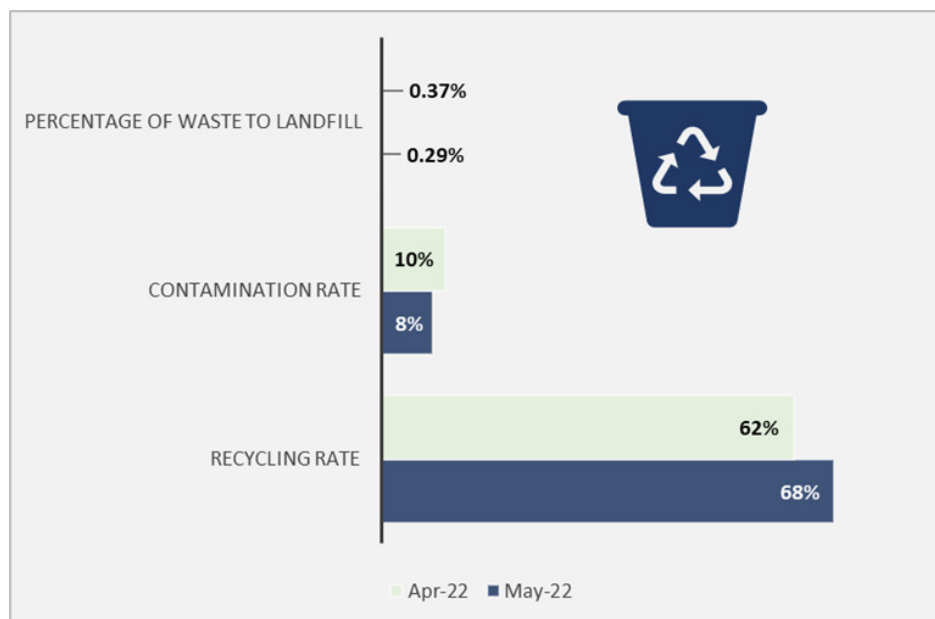
After extensive work over previous months, in quarter one, 60 electric vehicle (EV) charging bays became operational in five of the Council's car parks as part of the Oxfordshire-wide "Park and Charge" project. Officers also worked with colleagues from Oxfordshire County Council to make a joint application for further EV Infrastructure funding.



Emissions from our leisure facilities make up a significant proportion of our carbon footprint. During quarter one, the Vale received the finalised decarbonisation assessments and plans for both the Wantage Leisure Centre and the White Horse Leisure Centre. The Council is now awaiting a further opportunity to bid into the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme in order to support the decarbonisation of the centres.

Taking action to improve air quality in the district is a key commitment for the Council. During this quarter, the tendering process began to engage consultants to develop new Air Quality Plans for the district. The Council also submitted its Annual Air Quality Status Report (2021) to Defra. Particulate Matter and Nitrogen Dioxide monitoring in Marcham continued throughout the quarter. Provisional results show no exceedances in national air quality objectives.

Communications remained an important aspect of the Council's work to support and encourage residents and businesses to reduce their carbon footprint. In quarter one campaigns included: information about the Council's Park and Charge project, highlighting Earth Day and 'no mow May', promoting the Climate Action Fund and informing residents of an Oxfordshire-wide climate change survey. On waste reduction, campaigns included promoting the Great British Spring Clean and a recycling campaign around Easter, encouraging composting and the use of Real Nappies and promoting our litter mapping project.



Q1 Recycling rates - June figures not available at time of reporting



Theme 3: Building healthy communities

We will:

- contribute to making people's lives healthier by encouraging the switch to more active travel, improving air quality where people work and live, and providing active opportunities.

We will do this by:

- building strong communities and connections with a sense of place and strong community identity
- promoting healthy place shaping and active communities for everyone
- safeguarding and supporting our vulnerable residents

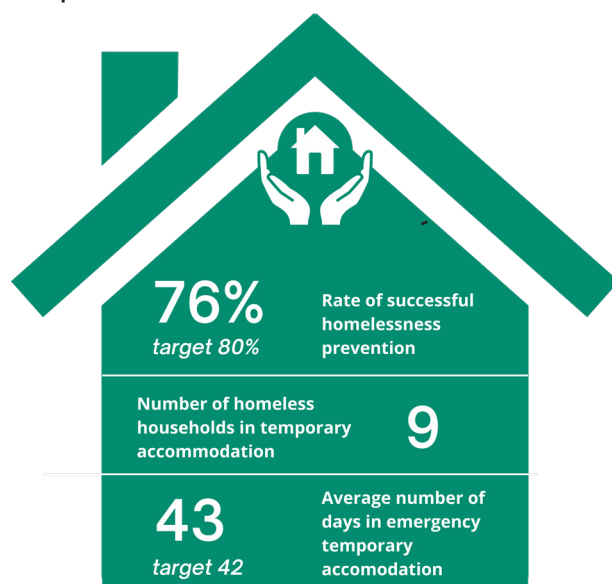
Strategic Lead - Adrianna Partridge (Deputy Chief Executive / Transformation and Operations)

Key Activities in quarter one

See Theme 3 performance updates against all reporting measures on page 31

At the end of quarter one, the Council recorded only one rough sleeper – this reflects the success of the Vale's preventative approach.

The number of homeless households at the end of June 2022 was nine – a reduction of five on the previous quarter. The average length of stay in emergency accommodation was 43 nights, marginally above the ceiling target of 42. This reflects the increasingly complex needs of homeless clients.



During quarter one, the rate of successful homelessness prevention was 76.0 per cent – this was slightly below the target of 80.0 per cent.

As part of the Vale's commitment to safeguarding and supporting the district's vulnerable residents, it continues to actively participate in the countywide Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy. At this Oxfordshire-level, quarter one saw the successful launch of the county's innovative alliance approach to single homelessness services.

Quarter one also saw the launch – using a district-wide local distribution model – of the Household Support Fund Extension which provides support to residents in need of assistance. The Council's Community Hub works closely with both the voluntary and community sector to help ensure that this help reaches those who require it.

In addition, the Vale continues to support the Homes for Ukraine scheme. While the pace of ongoing accommodation booking slowed, other work on matters such as community integration, rematching requests etc continued apace.

With the aim of building strong communities and connections with a sense of place, the Council's Planning Policy Team continued to make progress on the Joint Local Plan. Between 12 May and 23 June, a public consultation was held which asked for views on a draft vision for the Joint Local Plan. This included consideration of the following: "A place where history is still visible, where heritage and landscape character are safeguarded and valued, and the beauty and the distinctive local identity of our towns and villages have been enhanced." The Planning Policy team are currently processing the responses that were received.

The new Joint Design Guide was agreed by Vale of White Horse's Cabinet in June 2022. It contains provisions relating to importance of a sense of place and identity in developments.

In addition, during quarter one the Vale started their pilot of a simpler approach to neighbourhood planning. Three parishes within the Vale (West Challow, Kennington and Fyfield & Tubney) were selected to trial this new method. Following an introductory meeting with the pilot groups in May (which explored the aims, parameters and expectations of the project), the first of a series of capacity building workshops (detailing how the planning system works and some of the key concepts around placemaking) was held on 28 June.

In order to promote healthy place shaping and active communities for everyone, Vale's Scrutiny Committee considered the draft Active Communities Strategy at its June meeting. It was well received by members and will come before Cabinet during quarter two, 2022/23. A draft delivery plan for the Active Communities Strategy is also being developed. This will identify the key interventions that enable people to live active, healthier lives.

During quarter one, a procurement exercise was held to appoint a consultant to develop a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan for Didcot Garden Town and its environs. This project is scheduled to be completed by December 2022 and will recommend improvements to both existing and new cycling/walking routes for commuting and leisure.

Oxfordshire County Council's Public Health Team, in conjunction with the districts, redeployed air quality sensors to primary school locations across the county. These devices will not only help to provide baseline data but will also monitor any changes in air quality resulting from any potential interventions. In the Vale, the air quality sensor is located at St. Nicholas Primary School, Abingdon.

The Vale supported the launch of the You Move programme (designed to help families on low incomes engage with physical activity)

in conjunction with other local authorities in Oxfordshire. The Council also continued to promote the Move Together scheme and its own wellbeing activities. In addition, the Women's Cycle Tour event visited the district. The Vale used this opportunity to not only generate positive engagement with its partners and communities, but also promote a range of cycling and other wellbeing activities.

The Council also started to map the various cultural and physical activities being undertaken in the Vale. This information will be used to update a database listing all of the current locally run classes and events.

During quarter one, the Active Communities team ran a GP support service pilot in Wantage. As a result of its success, the Council will look to promote its expansion later this year.



Theme 4: Building stable finances

We will:

- manage the council's resources responsibly and make effective use of the council's assets
- do our best to build financial resilience to protect the council against future uncertainties
- work across the public sector to influence and maximise funding for local government, in order to continue to invest and provide the services residents and businesses need.

We will do this by:

- exploring and actively considering all avenues to deliver financial stability, including maximising income available to the council
- making effective use of the council's assets acting in a manner that ensures the long-term financial viability for the benefit of our residents and the environment.

Strategic Lead - Simon Hewings (Head of Finance)

Key Activities in quarter one

See Theme 4 performance updates against all reporting measures on page 39

With the aim of managing the Council's resources responsibly and to make effective use of its assets, the Vale's Asset Management Group (established during quarter three 2021/22) continues to meet on a quarterly basis to progress implementation of the Strategic Property Review. The aim of the Group is to assess the Council's land ownerships in a holistic manner and consider opportunities for their development, usage or disposal. Any outcomes from these meetings are progressed as business as usual.

Arrangements were also made in quarter one to move the Grounds Maintenance depot from its current location at Kingston Bagpuise to Council land at Crowmarsh and the White Horse Leisure Centre. In addition, Cabinet reports evaluating the cost of purchasing vehicles for the service – as opposed to leasing – have been prepared. As part of this work, Vale have engaged with the Earth Trust to survey the Council's needs and make recommendations on the use of alternative fuels etc.

As part of the Vale's ongoing project to improve the performance of the Council's finance systems, progress continued to be made on utilising Unit 4 to deliver budget setting. A demonstration of progress has been shown to both the Head of Finance and the Strategic Finance Manager. In addition, the deployment of "Workspaces" – designed to help improve the day-to-day efficiency of users by allowing them to access all the information and functionality they need with one click through a "dashboard" style interface – has also proceeded, with a presentation provided to the Finance Portfolio Holder ahead of its rollout to Cabinet members.

With the intention of building financial resilience to protect the Council against future uncertainties, the Strategic Property Team continued to lease vacant properties, progress lease renewals and review rents during quarter one 2022/23. Progress was also made on work regarding potential housing development sites – and their promotion - via the Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment.

In order to help deliver on the Vale's ambition to work across the public sector to influence and maximise funding for local government, work has continued during quarter one on embedding the External Funding Lead within the organisation. Progress has also been made on introducing the necessary governance structures and documentation to ensure that any future funding bids align are deliverable and align with the Vale's goals.



Theme 5: Working in partnership

We will:

- work in partnership with other councils, authorities and businesses, non-profit organisations, community and residents' groups, to achieve our aims and objectives effectively, efficiently and fairly
- provide support to residents and organisations to effect and drive change in the community
- provide all the support we can to businesses in the Vale to help them succeed.

We will do this by:

- working in partnership to influence and shape regional and national agendas to maximise opportunities for our communities and businesses
- working with and supporting our residents, businesses and communities to effect and enable change.

Strategic Lead - Suzanne Malcolm (Deputy Chief Executive / Place)

Strategic Lead - Adrianna Partridge (Deputy Chief Executive / Transformation and Operations)

Key Activities in quarter one

See Theme 5 performance updates against all reporting measures on page 43

To help realise the Council's commitment to provide support to businesses in order to help them succeed, the Virtual High Street Initiative was officially launched in Wantage during quarter one. This Initiative will enable the consolidation of Vale based independent retailers on a single e-commerce platform. A total of 51 traders are currently established on the portal, with over 1,450 products available to order through the site.

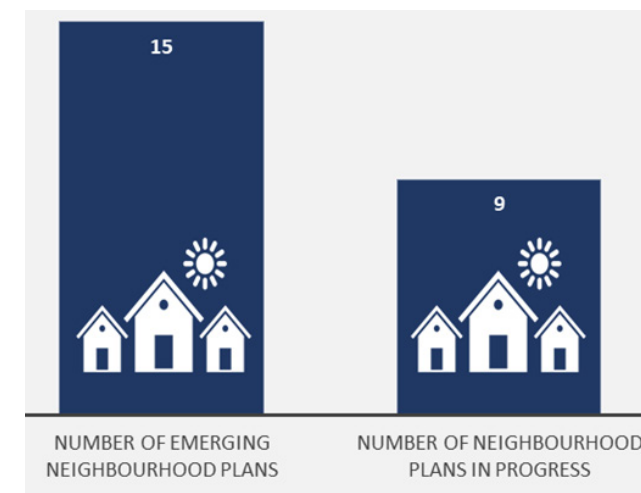
In addition, the Economic Development team ran four in-person digital business skills events between April and June 2022:

1. Advertising on Facebook and Instagram
2. Selling on Facebook and Instagram
3. Creating and sending newsletters using Mailchimp
4. Using LinkedIn to generate Business

They also ran four online Digital Skills workshops for businesses looking to reach new customer bases.

As part of the Vale's efforts to support residents and organisations to effect and

drive change in the community, the Council started its pilot of a simpler approach to neighbourhood planning in three parishes (West Challow, Kennington and Fyfield & Tubney) within the district during quarter one. This new method is designed to help provide communities with an additional tool to effect and enable change and is a reaffirmation of the Vale's commitment to neighbourhood planning. Following an introductory meeting with the pilot groups in May (which explored the aims, parameters and expectations of the project), the first of a series of capacity building workshops (detailing how the planning system works and some of the key concepts around placemaking) was held on 28 June.



The Council have also continued to promote and register new causes to the White Horse Community Lottery Scheme – one “good cause” was approved during quarter one. Throughout the quarter, 12,042 lottery tickets were sold generating an annual estimated income of £30,295 for the voluntary sector.

In addition, officers have continued, where differing views exist, to advise Town and Parish Councils of their recommendations on planning applications. They have helped to explain why decisions are being made and this in turn has improved relationships between the Vale and these organisations.

With the intention of progressing the Vale’s goal of working in partnership to influence and shape regional and national agendas, the Council continued to respond to external consultations (two during quarter one) with the intention of helping to guide and mould both regional and national policy in a way that reflects the Vale’s ambitions. Work also progressed throughout the quarter on assessing the impact of the Council’s previous submissions.

The Economic Development team have also carried out extensive work in preparing a bid for funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. A draft investment plan for the initial three years of the scheme has been produced and is scheduled to be finalised in quarter two.



Theme 6: Working in an open and inclusive way

We will:

- work openly and transparently, promoting a world in which all can participate equally
- listen to feedback from local residents, communities, businesses, partners and our own officers
- ensure our work particularly aims to include those groups that have historically been
- marginalised or those that have been hard to reach
- ensure we are accountable and that our decisions are open to appropriate scrutiny, and we will admit when we get things wrong.

We will do this by:

- improving our use of technology to increase understanding and access to what we do, how we work and the decisions we make
- increasing meaningful engagement and communication with everyone
- strengthening our governance framework and address our policy gaps, improving transparency.

Strategic Lead - Adrianna Partridge (Deputy Chief Executive / Transformation and Operations)

Key Activities in quarter one

See Theme 6 performance updates against all reporting measures on page 51

In order to facilitate the Council's commitment to working openly and transparently, substantial progress was made in relation to the procurement of a new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system during quarter one. This work is almost complete, subject to an Individual Cabinet Member Decision (ICMD) approving the budget to implement the preferred option. It is hoped that the system will help improve communications – and relationships – between the Council and its customers.

Furthermore, during quarter one, the performance management report for quarter four 2021/22 was published on the Vale's website. This is intended to increase the public's understanding of what the Council does, how it works and how decisions are made.

As part of the Vale's ambition to improve its use of technology to increase understanding and access to what the Council does, it continued to livestream all public meetings during quarter one. This not only helped to

ensure a greater degree of accessibility for residents, but also allowed them an insight into our decision-making processes. Officers are currently working on business continuity plans to ensure that this continues when the Council vacates the offices at Milton Park. To help facilitate the future livestreaming of meetings, a dedicated Teams room is being installed at Abbey House.

In addition, the Comms team, in collaboration with Planning Policy, were able to produce an innovative, interactive website for the first Joint Local Plan (JLP) consultation. This allowed users to explore the details of the Plan across infographics, images and maps that could be moved and manipulated. In addition, Smart Survey was also embedded within the website to allow people to respond as they explored the themes of the JLP. This approach received widespread praise from the public, councillors and other local authorities.

During quarter one, the communications team integrated its social media accounts to the Hootsuite platform. This has helped to increase efficiency and productivity, as officers no longer have to work through each account's native site. In addition, it allows for all of the analytics to be gathered in one place which will make it easier to compare and optimise performance in the future.

Progress was also made on upgrading the system that delivers online E-forms and the Binzone app. These improvements will make it more resilient and provide a better platform – the updated software will provide opportunities to improve E-forms and make them more 'mobile-friendly'.

With the aim of increasing meaningful engagement with everyone, a report on the Vale's consultation and engagement approach was considered by the Scrutiny Committee during the quarter. The feedback and suggestions arising from members is being worked into the Community Engagement team's future plans.

Discussions began between the Community Engagement and Planning Policy teams on increasing the active involvement of young people in the next stage of the Joint Local Plan. Moreover, the Vale continued to gather baseline data on how many young people the Council is engaging with. This information will be used to help increase the reach of future consultations.

Quarter one also saw the Vale prepare a communications and engagement Plan for the Council's Diversity and Inclusion Strategy. It is designed to raise awareness of the Strategy amongst all of the district's residents and encourage their participation in the ongoing public consultation on the document. Of particular importance is the feedback from minority groups on the accessibility of our services.

As part of the Vale's commitment to strengthening the Council's governance framework, work continued on the development of the Articles of Constitution (having been approved by the Constitution Review Group). Progress is scheduled to continue throughout the summer, with a report being taken to Full Council in quarter two.

Vale of White Horse quarter one independent cabinet member decisions

Date	Description
07/04/2022	Didcot Local Development Order - to approve the draft order for consultation
28/04/2022	Joint Local Plan - to launch the consultation on issues and supporting documents
05/05/2022	Procurement of merchant banking services - to award a contract
23/05/2022	Discretionary fuel payments scheme - to approve the scheme
20/06/2022	Dalton Barracks Garden Village project funding
21/06/2022	Taxi tariff - to approve the consultation of the review of the tariff

Theme 1: Providing the homes people need - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
PROGRAMME 1	Explore and consider opportunities to bring forward the delivery of homes people can afford	Narrative report of newly identified opportunities to bring forward/expedite the delivery of affordable homes	Cllr Judy Roberts	Head of Housing and Environment	The Council is seeking to build upon the success of delivering two affordable housing projects using commuted S.106 sums. Bidding is currently open for registered providers and community land trusts to submit applications for grant funding to deliver new affordable housing schemes.
PHPN1.1	Explore a council-owned holding company/vehicle, to focus on delivering a wide range of regeneration and community benefits including housing, community facilities, land maintenance and health	Narrative update on the potential opportunities/challenges around the creation of a holding company/SPV (special purpose vehicle)	Cllr Judy Roberts	Master Planning Lead	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Council continued to discuss with the Defence Infrastructure Organisation their plans for Dalton Barracks.</p> <p>The Vale also liaised with the County Council regarding the Oxfordshire Mobility Model and Strategic Transport issues.</p> <p>In addition, conversations continued to be held with Berkeley Homes over their plans for a joint venture company at Ock Valley Business Park.</p> <p>On 18 June, a public consultation event for the Central Abingdon Regeneration Framework was held. This marked the beginning of a four week public engagement exercise on the project/proposals.</p>
PHPN1.2	Explore how the council can provide low-cost sustainable housing. Include working with developers, registered providers, community trusts, as well as new partnerships. Include council owned housing. Include a definition of affordability relative to ability to pay, not to market value, and social rent definitions	Narrative report on provision of low cost housing, focusing on partnership working, including an update on the shifting metric of affordability based on relative ability to pay rather than market value and social rent definitions	Cllr Judy Roberts	Head of Housing and Environment	<p>Following a meeting in May between lead members and officers, it was agreed that the most effective approach for delivering the aims of an Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document – for example, in relation to affordability – was to pursue policy changes through the Joint Local Plan.</p> <p>It was also decided during Q1 2022/23 that the Vale's existing affordable housing policies should be brought together into a single guidance document for both developers and registered providers. Planning and Housing officers are currently carrying out this work and aim to publish it on the Council's website in September.</p> <p>During Q1, the Council, in partnership with Registered Providers, delivered 74 affordable homes.</p>

Theme 1: Providing the homes people need - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
PHPN1.3	Review our affordable housing planning policies and ensure they are providing what's needed in the Vale	Narrative report on review of planning policies	Cllr Judy Roberts	Head of Housing and Environment	<p>During Q1 2022/23, good progress continued to be made on the development of a new Joint Housing Strategy. Workshops were held between members and officers, and a first draft has now been produced.</p> <p>The appointment of a new Housing Delivery Manager will help to accelerate this work going forwards.</p>
PHPN1.4	Review our strategy for spending s106 sums paid in lieu of onsite affordable housing and identify how earmarked funds, including retained S106 monies, can be best utilised to deliver affordable homes	<p>Narrative report on s106 spend, focusing on the stated aim and any updates to the existing strategy</p> <p>Additional quantitative elements - s106 spend/units provided from spend</p>	Cllr Judy Roberts	Head of Housing and Environment	Bidding is currently open for registered providers and community land trusts to submit applications for grant funding to deliver new affordable housing schemes. Officers are actively promoting submissions and, when appointed, the new position of Housing Delivery Manager will help to implement new procedures to facilitate the delivery of projects.
PHPN1.5	Explore how mobile homes might be better used as affordable homes, reviewing sites and policies to ensure good use of available space	Narrative update on utilisation of mobile homes/mobile home sites or opportunities for creating such sites	Cllr Judy Roberts	Head of Development and Corporate Landlord	<p>During Q1 2022/23, progress was made on updating the Pebble Hill site plan, constraints and costings. In addition, a tree survey was procured.</p> <p>A project plan has now been established with the expected delivery of additional mobile home berths scheduled for Autumn 2023.</p>
PHPN1.6	Use Garden Villages and Towns designation as a mechanism to introduce innovative housing to meet our needs for high quality, low energy, zero-carbon homes	Narrative report on garden village and town designation utilisation and any projects which fall within this designation. Also to include initiatives which will result in low energy, zero carbon homes	Cllr Judy Roberts	Head of Policy and Programmes	On 20 June 2022, an Individual Cabinet Member Decision (ICMD) was approved to accept £180,000 of funding from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to support the delivery of Dalton Barracks Garden Village. This support will enable additional progress to be made on the governance, quality, innovation and stewardship workstreams.

Theme 1: Providing the homes people need - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
PROGRAMME 2	Adopt a policy framework that ensures those homes could be delivered in a way that supports the environment and people living healthy lives	Narrative report against the Programme aim	Cllr Judy Roberts	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Council's Planning Policy team has continued to work on the development of the Joint Local Plan. Between 12 May and 23 June, a public consultation – known formally as a 'Regulation 18 Part 1 Issues Consultation' – was held. This asked for views on a draft vision for the Joint Local Plan and included matters relating to the environment and healthy lifestyles.</p> <p>The Planning Policy team are currently processing the responses that were received.</p>
PHPN2.1	Develop a s106 obligations strategy to inform negotiations between planners and developers		Cllr Judy Roberts	Head of Policy and Programmes	No progress to report Q1 2022/23 - Project completed.
PHPN2.2	Update the CIL spending strategy and associated procedures to accelerate the delivery of local infrastructural improvements for our communities both in line with our corporate objectives and, where appropriate, to support current spending on existing infrastructure	<p>Narrative update on CIL spend to support the delivery of local infrastructure</p> <p>Total CIL spend + CIL spend breakdown</p>	Cllr Judy Roberts	Head of Finance	<p>During April 2022, £580,130 was paid to town and parish councils that had seen CIL liable developments in their areas during the previous six months.</p> <p>Since the introduction of CIL in 2017, £1,880,352 has been made available to town and parish councils for use on local projects to support development.</p>
PHPN2.3	Consider ways we can encourage lower-carbon construction in Vale	Narrative update to include any activity supporting lower-carbon construction in the Vale	Cllr Judy Roberts	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>The new Joint Design Guide (JDG) was agreed by Vale of White Horse's Cabinet in June 2022. The JDG incorporates new guidance on zero and low carbon construction.</p> <p>In addition, the Future Oxfordshire Partnership received an update on the Pathways to Zero Carbon Oxfordshire routemap during Q1. Workshops to inform this project are scheduled for later in the year – one of these will focus on retrofit and low carbon construction methods.</p>

Theme 1: Providing the homes people need - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
PHPN2.4	Develop an affordable housing SPD. Evidence of housing needs, housing mix, self-build, rural exception sites. Include definition of 'affordable'	Narrative update on the development of an affordable housing SPD, additionally include information on planning permissions granted with affordable housing numbers	Cllr Debby Hallett	Head of Housing and Environment	<p>Following a meeting in May between lead members and officers, it was agreed that the most effective approach for delivering the aims of an Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document was to pursue policy changes through the Joint Local Plan.</p> <p>It was also decided during Q1 2022/23 that the Vale's existing affordable housing policies should be brought together into a single guidance document for both developers and registered providers. Planning and Housing officers are currently carrying out this work and aim to publish it on the Council's website in September.</p> <p>During Q1, the Council, in partnership with Registered Providers, delivered 74 affordable housing units.</p>
PHPN2.5	Develop a Land Use strategy to inform and guide OxPlan2050 and Vale Local Plan with proposed need for housing, retail, employment, leisure, open spaces	Narrative update on progression against stated aim of PHPN 2.6 in the corporate plan	Cllr Judy Roberts	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Council's Planning Policy team continued to work on the development of the Joint Local Plan. Between 12 May and 23 June, a public consultation – known formally as a 'Regulation 18 Part 1 Issues Consultation' – was held. This asked for views on a draft vision for the Joint Local Plan. The Planning Policy team are currently processing the responses that were received.</p> <p>Work also continued to progress on the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 throughout the quarter.</p>
PHPN2.6	Update the Local Development Plan to reflect the Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (OxIS) and connecting our strategic housing sites with employment land	Narrative update on progression against stated aim of PHPN 2.7 in the corporate plan	Cllr Judy Roberts	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Council's Planning Policy team continued to work on the development of the Joint Local Plan. Between 12 May and 23 June, a public consultation – known formally as a 'Regulation 18 Part 1 Issues Consultation' – was held. This asked for views on a draft vision for the Joint Local Plan and included matters relating to infrastructure. The Planning Policy team are currently processing the responses that were received.</p> <p>Work also continued to progress on the Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy throughout the quarter.</p>

Theme 1: Providing the homes people need - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
PHPN2.7	Update Vale's Local Plan and OxPlan2050 with modern environmental policies in support of government's and Vale's goals	Narrative update on progression against stated aim of PHPN 2.8 in the corporate plan	Cllr Debby Hallett	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Council's Planning Policy team has continued to work on the development of the Joint Local Plan. Between 12 May and 23 June, a public consultation – known formally as a 'Regulation 18 Part 1 Issues Consultation' – was held. This asked for views on a draft vision for the Joint Local Plan and included matters relating to sustainable growth and the environment. The Planning Policy team are currently processing the responses that were received.</p> <p>In June, the meeting of the Joint Local Plan Steering Group focussed on the topic of the environment. Members helped to provide a steer for policy development in regards to biodiversity net gain, landscape and the water environment.</p> <p>Work also continued to progress on the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 throughout the quarter.</p>
PHPN2.8	Develop a Housing Policy: that outlines the types of housing we are going to provide, in what mix of design and for what demographic and tenure, to inform our Local Plan and future work. Include affordable housing aspirations, consideration of an aging population, and environmental policies for housing	<p>Narrative update on housing policy and adherence</p> <p>Include quantitative measures for housing mix, tenure, and affordable and shared ownership</p>	Cllr Judy Roberts	Head of Housing and Environment	<p>During Q1 2022/23, good progress continued to be made on the development of a new Joint Housing Strategy. Workshops were held between members and officers, and a first draft has now been produced.</p> <p>The appointment of a new Housing Delivery Manager will help to accelerate this work going forwards.</p> <p>The quantitative measures regarding housing mix, tenure and affordability will be determined as the development of the strategy progresses.</p>

Theme 1: Providing the homes people need - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
PHPN2.9	Work with partners to produce an Active Travel Network map of current and required coverage across the Vale to include commercial and community buses, cycle paths and storage facilities, pavements and footpaths, green and blue infrastructure, and local taxi firms. Encourage systems that increase use of the Active Travel Network	Narrative update on progress toward completion of map, once map completed, this should transition to an annual review of the accuracy of map	Cllr Judy Roberts	Head of Policy and Programmes	During Q1 2022/23, Oxfordshire County Council tendered for a consultant to develop a Strategic Active Travel Network. An appointment is due to be made by the end of August 2022.

Theme 2: Tackling the climate emergency - Performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
PROGRAMME 1	A climate emergency programme, focussed on what the council has control over, working towards our own targets for our own buildings, vehicles, leisure and arts centres	A narrative summary comprised of all new activity to reduce the carbon footprint of all Council assets on a quarterly basis		Head of Policy and Programmes	During Q1 2022/23, the Vale received the finalised decarbonisation assessments and plans for both the Wantage Leisure Centre and the White Horse Leisure Centre. The Council also received preliminary indications of when phase 3b of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme will open for applications.
TCE1.1	Develop a Climate Emergency Strategy for the Council, setting out how we will reach Zero Carbon for all Vale assets by 2030. Identify energy saving opportunities in council-owned buildings and fleets	A narrative report of activity underway to design the plan to achieve a zero carbon position for all Vale assets by 2030	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Head of Policy and Programmes	Climate Action Plan (CAP) monitoring commenced during Q1 2022/23. It will be delivered in tandem with the Council's Corporate Plan performance reporting and will give a detailed overview of progress on all the climate actions set out in the adopted CAP.
TCE1.2	Complete the CEAC Year One Climate Action Plan and plan for future years	Narrative report on progress	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>Climate Action Plan (CAP) monitoring commenced during Q1 2022/23. It will be delivered in tandem with the Council's Corporate Plan performance reporting and will give a detailed overview of progress on all the climate actions set out in the adopted CAP.</p> <p>No meetings of the CEAC were held in Q1 2022/23. Both the Chair of the Committee and the Cabinet Member for Climate and Environment have, however, changed.</p>
TCE1.3	Include in Councils Open Space Strategy opportunities to increase biodiversity, increase tree cover, and (other things we want to do on Council's open spaces)	Narrative report on specific opportunities which have arisen for the council to improve open spaces. Also include any additional policy developments	Cllr Judy Roberts	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>The Vale received no new applications relating to the Tree Planting on Council Owned Land Policy during Q1 2022/23. (The Council have, though, been exploring other opportunities to plant more trees across the district. These include a "Tiny Forest" project and a potential strategic partnership).</p> <p>In Q1 2022/23, the Vale did, however, receive a high volume of applications that focused on improvements to open spaces and increasing biodiversity into the Climate Action Fund.</p>

Theme 2: Tackling the climate emergency - Performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
PROGRAMME 2	A climate emergency programme focussed on encouraging the wider district community to reduce its carbon footprint in order to meet the Climate Emergency targets	A narrative update of the work of the comms team in promoting measures/initiatives which will help the community to reduce it's carbon footprint		Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Vale ran several successful comms campaigns and initiatives designed to increase awareness of the Climate Emergency and to help the community to reduce its carbon footprint. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a recycling campaign around Easter information about the Council's Park and Charge project highlighting Earth Day details about "no mow May" the promotion of the Climate Action Fund informing residents of an Oxfordshire wide climate change survey
TCE2.1	Complete those tasks in Year one Climate Action Plan that have to do with reducing carbon in the wider district	Narrative report on progress	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Head of Policy and Programmes	Climate Action Plan (CAP) monitoring commenced during Q1 2022/23. It will be delivered in tandem with the Council's Corporate Plan performance reporting and will give a detailed overview of all actions that may have an impact on reducing carbon in the wider district.
TCE2.2	Introduce policies for zero carbon construction requirements	Narrative update on progress toward design guide implementation, transitioning into review of relevant information/developments in this area	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>The new Joint Design Guide (JDG) was agreed by Vale of White Horse's Cabinet in June 2022. The JDG incorporates new guidance on zero and low carbon construction.</p> <p>In addition, the Future Oxfordshire Partnership received an update on the Pathways to Zero Carbon Oxfordshire routemap during Q1. Workshops to inform this project are scheduled for later in the year – one of these will focus on retrofit and low carbon construction methods.</p>

Theme 2: Tackling the climate emergency - Performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
TCE2.3	Introduce sustainable growth and environmental policies to our Local Plan	Narrative update on the progress towards development of new local plan, specifically referring to details in TCE2.3/4	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Council's Planning Policy team has continued to work on the development of the Joint Local Plan. Between 12 May and 23 June, a public consultation – known formally as a 'Regulation 18 Part 1 Issues Consultation' – was held. This asked for views on a draft vision for the Joint Local Plan and included matters relating to sustainable growth and the environment. The Planning Policy team are currently processing the responses that were received.</p> <p>In June, the meeting of the Joint Local Plan Steering Group focussed on the topic of the environment. Members helped to provide a steer for policy development in regards to biodiversity net gain, landscape and the water environment.</p>
TCE2.4	Ensure our Local Plan contains policies to make new buildings carbon zero to build and to live/work in	Narrative update on the progress towards development of new local plan, specifically referring to details in TCE2.3/4	Cllr Debby Hallett	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Council's Planning Policy team has continued to work on the development of the Joint Local Plan. Between 12 May and 23 June, a public consultation – known formally as a 'Regulation 18 Part 1 Issues Consultation' – was held. This asked for views on a draft vision for the Joint Local Plan and included matters relating to sustainable construction. The Planning Policy team are currently processing the responses that were received.</p> <p>At the Oxfordshire Plan level, work also progressed on developing a policy approach on zero carbon for the county.</p>
TCE2.5	Develop a year two plan with CEAC for meeting our Climate emergency goals	High level narrative on progress towards approval of two year plan	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>From Q1 2022/23, the Climate Action Plan (CAP) is being monitored as part of the Council's corporate performance management framework. It will be delivered in tandem with the Council's Corporate Plan performance reporting and will give a detailed overview of all actions that may have an impact on reducing carbon in the wider district.</p>

Theme 2: Tackling the climate emergency - Performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
TCE2.6	Improve how we measure air quality. Explore particulate measurement in our sensitive areas. Explore ways to publish AQ measurements in live time, so people can make decisions on whether it's healthy outside for them today	Narrative containing updates/ changes to AQ monitoring techniques, an update on work with partners to monitor AQ and details of published AQ measures	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Head of Housing and Environment	<p>Particulate Matter (PM) and Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2) monitoring in Marcham continued throughout Q1 2022/23. Provisional results (to date) show no exceedances in national air quality objectives for NO2, PM10 and PM2.5. (NB: This provisional data will need to be corrected and ratified at the end of the calendar year).</p> <p>The Council submitted its Annual Air Quality Status Report (2021) to Defra during Q1. Feedback on this is expected later in the year.</p> <p>Real Time Air Quality Data for sites within Vale of White Horse is available at https://www.airqualityengland.co.uk</p>
TCE2.7	Update the Air Quality Action Plans for our Air Quality Management Areas	Until funding confirmed for development of new AQAP's, narrative update on any significant deviation from last relevant AQAP. Once funding confirmed, this can report on the development of the new AQAP.	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Head of Housing and Environment	During Q1 2022/23, tender documents to engage consultants to develop new Air Quality Plans were published. The closing date for returns is in July, after which submissions will be evaluated and a consultant appointed.
TCE2.8	Explore setting up a Habitat Bank to deliver biodiversity offsetting requirements and facilitate tree planting	Narrative update as to progress of potential pilot and other relevant initiatives	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Habitat Banking Pilot Scheme identified a potential developer who is keen to work with the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust on delivering their Biodiversity Net Gain requirements. This potential relationship will be subject to further discussions in Q2.</p> <p>The overall Habitat Banking Pilot Scheme still, however, remains dependent on the publication of HM Government's regulations and guidance on Biodiversity Net Gain.</p>

Theme 2: Tackling the climate emergency - Performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
PROGRAMME 3	A programme around exercising our influence with partners on wider policy, working with neighbouring authorities, lobbying Government and identifying environmental policy gaps	General Narrative update		Head of Policy and Programmes	During Q1 2022/23, the Vale, through its membership of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership Environment Advisory Group, continued to work with neighbouring authorities in relation to climate and environmental matters. At the Group's meeting in June, members discussed issues regarding Pathways to Zero Carbon Oxfordshire and the Oxfordshire Food Strategy. They were also presented with a paper on adaptation.
TCE3.1	Complete the CEAC Year One Action Plan and plan for future years	Narrative report on progress	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Head of Policy and Programmes	From Q1 2022/23, the Climate Action Plan (CAP) is being monitored as part of the Council's corporate performance management framework. It will be delivered in tandem with the Council's Corporate Plan performance reporting and will give a detailed overview of all actions that may have an impact on reducing carbon in the wider district.
TCE3.2	Work with partners to define a waste reduction scheme: including ways to reduce bulky waste headed to landfill and reduce recycling contamination	Narrative report to outline steps to influence partners and our actions to reduce overall waste	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Head of Housing and Environment	<p>The April 2022 recycling rate was 66.25%, the landfill rate was 0.21% and the contamination rate was 9.64%.</p> <p>The May 2022 recycling rate was 62.69%, the landfill rate was 0.21% and the contamination rate was 7.56%.</p> <p>The figures for June have yet to be finalised.</p> <p>During Q1 2022/23, the Vale ran several comms campaigns. These included: promoting the use of Real Nappies the Great British Spring Clean a litter mapping project encouraging composting</p>
TCE3.3	Develop a tree-planting strategy and work with partners to plant more trees across the district	Narrative update to include development of the tree policy and subsequent activity	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Head of Policy and Programmes	The Vale received no new applications relating to the Tree Planting on Council Owned Land Policy during Q1 2022/23. The Council have, however, been exploring other opportunities to plant more trees across the district. These include a "Tiny Forest" project and a potential strategic partnership.

Theme 2: Tackling the climate emergency - Performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
TCE3.4	Develop a Biodiversity Net Gain Targeting Strategy and contribute to a Nature Recovery Network for Oxfordshire	Narrative update on related work, including but not limited to the work to support the Oxfordshire Plan.	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>"During Q1 2022/23, Natural England appointed a new Senior Advisor for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) in Oxfordshire. They will initially focus upon working with partners on preparatory work for the production of the Strategy – this will begin when HM Government releases the supplementary regulations and guidance (this is not expected before the end of Q2 2022/23).</p> <p>The LNRS will include a Nature Recovery Network which will form the main focus for the targeting of Biodiversity Net Gain funding. All of Oxfordshire's local authorities (along with many other stakeholders) will be involved as partners in the production of the Strategy.</p>
TCE3.5	Work with partners to provide electric charging points in Vale car parks and at our buildings, and increase charging infrastructure across Oxfordshire	<p>"A narrative update to include work to promote and develop EV infrastructure across the district.</p> <p>Quantitative element - breakdown of existing/planned EV charging points"</p>	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Head of Development and Corporate Landlord	<p>During Q1 2022/23, 60 electric vehicle (EV) charging bays became operational in five of the Council's car parks as part of the Oxfordshire wide "Park and Charge" project.</p> <p>Officers also worked with colleagues from Oxfordshire County Council to make a joint application for further Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) funding. We are currently awaiting the outcome.</p>
TCE3.6	Take an active role in the Oxford-Cambridge arc to influence the inclusion of sustainable growth and environmental policies	A narrative update on the work of the Oxford-Cambridge arc and our influencing activity	Cllr Emily Smith	Head of Policy and Programmes	No progress to report in Q1 2022/23 – HM Government's work on the Arc appears to have paused.
TCE3.7	Take an active role in the Growth Deal and the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 to influence the inclusion of sustainable growth and environmental policies	Narrative report on work to support the Oxfordshire Plan in accordance with TEC3.7	Cllr Emily Smith	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Vale continued to work in partnership with neighbouring local authorities on progressing the next stage of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 and raised the need to ensure the climate emergency and the Oxfordshire Vision previously agreed by all partner councils remained central to the Oxfordshire Plan. Members and officers provided input on both the quantity of development and environmental policies.</p> <p>In Q1, Cllr Smith chaired, and Cllr Hallett participated in meetings of the Oxfordshire Plan Advisory Group.</p>

Theme 2: Tackling the climate emergency - Performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
TCE3.8	Work with local partners and Government to encourage retrofitting houses with sustainable energy schemes; help residents take advantage of schemes that come along to help with costs	Narrative report on work influencing work, comms activity and direct engagement with residents.	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Head of Policy and Programmes	During Q1 2022/23, the Future Oxfordshire Partnership received an update on the Pathways to Zero Carbon Oxfordshire routemap during Q1. The Vale has been invited to attend workshops – scheduled for later in the year – that will inform this project. One of these will focus on retrofit and low carbon construction methods. This will afford the Council and its partners the opportunity to establish a common set of actions to help address this shared challenge.

Theme 3: Building healthy communities - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
PROGRAMME 1	Building strong communities and connections, with a sense of place and strong community identity	Narrative update		Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>The new Joint Design Guide was agreed by Vale of White Horse's Cabinet in June 2022. It contains provisions relating to importance of a sense of place and identity in developments.</p> <p>In addition, during Q1 2022/23 the Council's Planning Policy Team continued to make progress on the Joint Local Plan. Between 12 May and 23 June, a public consultation was held which asked for views on a draft vision for the Joint Local Plan. This included consideration of the following: "A place where history is still visible, where heritage and landscape character are safeguarded and valued, and the beauty and the distinctive local identity of our towns and villages have been enhanced."" The Planning Policy team are currently processing the responses that were received.</p>
BHC1.1	Review the use of Community buildings and other facilities owned or managed by the council to maximise usage, income for the council and ensure communities have spaces in which to come together.	Narrative update as to the progress/outcomes from the Strategic Property Review	Cllr Helen Pighills	Head of Development and Corporate Landlord	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the District Centre on Great Western Park continued to see good growth in community use bookings.</p> <p>Work also continued on reviewing the usage of community buildings to determine their best future operational models.</p>
BHC1.2	Establish a Public Arts policy	Narrative update on the progress towards developing a public arts policy	Cllr Helen Pighills	Head of Policy and Programmes	No progress to report Q1 2022/23.

Theme 3: Building healthy communities - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
BHC1.3	Maintain and develop the council's Community Enablement function to respond to changing needs because of Covid-19	Narrative update on relevant areas of the Council response to Covid 19 as the needs/ requirements change	Cllr Helen Pighills	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>The Community Enablement team maintained close connections with colleagues in the Community Hub throughout the quarter. They also circulated relevant information to support the voluntary sector in its recovery from the impact of Covid-19 either directly or through the team's newsletter.</p> <p>In addition, the Community Hub continued to work closely with voluntary and community sector to distribute the Household Support Grant to those in need of assistance and support.</p>
BHC1.4	Work with others to promote Active Travel and support the development of Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure plans to help shape new developments that link homes to work, recreation and social spaces within communities	<p>Narrative report on the work with partners to promote active travel and encouragement of cycling and walking infrastructure</p> <p>Quantitative measure of amount of new footpaths/cycle paths approved since last report/YTD etc.</p>	Cllr Judy Roberts	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>During Q1 2022/23, a procurement exercise has been held to appoint a consultant to develop a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan for Didcot Garden Town and its environs. This project is scheduled to be completed by December 2022 and will recommend improvements to both existing and new cycling/walking routes for the purposes of commuting and leisure.</p> <p>The draft Active Communities Strategy was considered by Vale's Scrutiny Committee in June 2022. It was well received by members and will come before Cabinet during Q2 2022/23. One of the key themes of the Strategy is to: 'create healthier communities through walking and cycling'.</p> <p>Plans have also been made for a summer activity programme. This includes safe cycling courses – run in partnership with a local cycling club – designed to help children aged 6-8 to become more proficient and confident. (Future learn to ride programmes will extend to other age groups).</p>

Theme 3: Building healthy communities - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
BHC1.5	Develop planning policies to ensure careful consideration of the effect of air pollution on the lives of people who will live there	<p>Narrative update to include information relevant to BHC1.5,</p> <p>Quantitative measure - the number of neighbourhood plans and the stage they are current at</p>	Cllr Debby Hallett	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Council's Planning Policy team has continued to work on the development of the Joint Local Plan. Between 12 May and 23 June, a public consultation – known formally as a 'Regulation 18 Part 1 Issues Consultation' – was held. This asked for views on a draft vision for the Joint Local Plan and included matters relating to air quality. The Planning Policy team are currently processing the responses that were received.</p> <p>As of 30 June 2022, there are 15 made Neighbourhood Plans in the district (one of which is currently under review). There are nine plans in progress, three of which have completed pre-submission consultations. Of the 15 made Neighbourhood Plans, North Hinksey, Drayton and West Hanney have policies dealing with air quality considerations. Those for Cumnor and Chilton address the topic through supporting text or community action plans.</p> <p>In Q1 2022/23, the Vale started their pilot of a simpler approach to neighbourhood planning. Three parishes within the Vale (West Challow, Kennington and Fyfield & Tubney) were selected to trial this new method. Following an introductory meeting with the pilot groups in May (which explored the aims, parameters and expectations of the project), the first of a series of capacity building workshops (detailing how the planning system works and some of the key concepts around placemaking) was held on 28 June.</p>

Theme 3: Building healthy communities - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
BHC1.6	Update the Air Quality Management Action Plans for the Vale's air pollution hotspots; Work with Oxfordshire County Council to improve how we measure and report air pollution and how we will work with schools and community groups to raise awareness of our clean air campaigns	Narrative update on activity related to BHC 1.6	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Head of Housing and Environment	<p>During Q1 2022/23, tender documents to engage consultants to develop new Air Quality Plans were published. The closing date for returns is in July, after which submissions will be evaluated and a consultant appointed.</p> <p>The Council also submitted its Annual Air Quality Status Report (2021) to Defra Feedback on this is expected later in the year.</p> <p>In addition, OCC's Public Health Team, in conjunction with the districts, redeployed air quality sensors to primary school locations across the county. These devices will not only help to provide baseline data but will also monitor any changes in air quality resulting from any potential interventions. In the Vale, the air quality sensor is located at St Nicholas Primary School, Abingdon.</p> <p>The Vale also ran a number of comms campaigns during Q1 2022/23 related to improving air quality. These included: promoting Walk to Work Day highlighting Clean Air Day marking Earth Day</p>
PROGRAMME 2	Promoting healthy place shaping and active communities, for everyone	Narrative update		Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Council started to map the various cultural and physical activities being undertaken in the Vale. This information will be used to update a database listing all of the current locally run classes and events.</p> <p>Participants in the Move Together programme have been signposted to both existing (and new) physical activities located within their vicinity.</p> <p>Between April and June, 2,357 people participated in activities run by the Vale.</p>

Theme 3: Building healthy communities - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
BHC2.1	Produce an Active communities strategy; setting out how the council will work with our communities and partners and enable everyone to participate in physical activities	Narrative update on progress against strategy development and work with partners to encourage involvement in physical activities	Cllr Helen Pighills	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>The draft Active Communities Strategy was considered by Vale's Scrutiny Committee in June 2022. It was well received by members and will come before Cabinet during Q2 2022/23.</p> <p>In addition, a draft delivery plan for the Active Communities Strategy is also being developed. This will identify the key interventions that enable people to live active, healthier lives.</p>
BHC2.2	Work with Active Oxfordshire to target get active projects in our most deprived communities	Narrative update on proposals from Active Oxfordshire	Cllr Helen Pighills	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>Activators – who will help to deliver the You Move project – have been in post since 30 May. The aim of the scheme is to help families on low incomes engage with physical activity. In their first month, the activators have signed up 129 participants within the district. Expressions of Interest for funding from the Together Fund have also been received from several clubs looking to support the You Move project.</p> <p>In addition, a programme of events is being offered throughout the summer holidays – including free activities and food provision – at two leisure centres within the Vale.</p>
BHC2.3	Promote use of the Council's public green spaces for exercise and activity.	Narrative update on the work to promote green spaces for exercise and activity	Cllr Helen Pighills	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>During Q1 2022/23, new orienteering routes have been charted at Harcourt Hill and Shrivenham. This brings the total number of routes mapped in the Vale to seven.</p> <p>In addition, outdoor table tennis tables have been installed in Kennington, Shrivenham and Kingston Bagpuise with further fittings scheduled over the coming months (in Wootton, Fernham, East Hanney and Cumnor). Events to promote the use of existing tables have also been included as part of the Vale's summer programme of activities.</p> <p>Meetings have also taken place with Cherwell District Council and Oxfordshire County Council to gain insight into the development of signage for animal trails.</p>
BHC2.4	Identify councils owned land for community gardening and allotments projects	Narrative update on the work/outcomes from the Strategic Property Review	Cllr Helen Pighills	Head of Development and Corporate Landlord	No progress to report in Q1 2022/23.

Theme 3: Building healthy communities - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
BHC2.5	Active engagement with the Oxfordshire Health Improvement Board and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to ensure the Vale has strong representation in countywide health forums	Narrative update on work with the Oxfordshire Health Improvement Board/Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Cllr Helen Pighills	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>The Oxfordshire Joint Health and Overview Scrutiny Committee met in May and June 2022. At these events, the Committee received updates on:</p> <p>GP Patient Survey Access to Services – Primary Care Healthwatch Report Patient Survey on online services Maternity Services Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Berkshire West Integrated Care Board (BOB ICB) Strategy for Working with People and Communities Oxford University Hospital NHS FT Quality Account Emotional Wellbeing of Children Overview of Integrated Care Programme Co-Opted Members of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Health and Care Act Briefing from the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny and its Translation for Health Overview and Scrutiny in Oxfordshire</p> <p>The Health Improvement Board met on 19 May 2022 and received updates on:</p> <p>Health Protection Update Screening and Immunisation Performance and Recovery Healthwatch Performance Deep Dive into Health Place Shaping Indicators Active Oxfordshire – Physical Activity Strategy in Oxfordshire</p>
PROGRAMME 3	Safeguarding and supporting our vulnerable residents	Narrative report on support provided by the VCS and potentially the number of properties approved with special adaptations (drawn from AMR data, available annually)	Cllr Helen Pighills	Head of Legal and Democratic	<p>During Q1 2022/23, 13 safeguarding concerns were raised with the Council – the majority of these were for poor mental health. Seven of these resulted in referral to Oxfordshire Safeguarding Teams.</p> <p>Eight closure orders were issued during Q1 (a closure order acts to safeguard access to properties where vulnerable tenants are being exploited). This was an increase on the previous quarter.</p>

Theme 3: Building healthy communities - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
BHC3.1	Work as part of the South and Vale Community Safety Partnership on the agreed priorities: tackling Domestic abuse; exploitation of vulnerable people and children (including modern slavery, county lines); and reducing knife crime, harm and vulnerability caused by drugs and alcohol	Narrative report on work with partners, to include relevant published statistics as quantitative measure for information	Cllr Helen Pighills	Head of Legal and Democratic	<p>The data from the domestic abuse service for Quarter 1 2022/23 will be available at the beginning of Q2 2022/23.</p> <p>During Q4 2021/22, the countywide service received 1,441 calls to their helpline, an increase on the previous quarter. Of these, 404 were new contacts, 88 of whom came from South and Vale.</p> <p>Across Oxfordshire, 64 new clients were referred for outreach – of which 20 from South and Vale were provided with support.</p> <p>In Q1 2022/23, there were 20 referrals to the South and Vale domestic abuse sanctuary scheme. This was a decrease on Q4 2021/22 (31) and on the same quarter last year (25).</p>
BHC3.2	Develop a new framework on vulnerability, responding to changes in needs arising from the Covid-19 pandemic	Narrative update on related work	Cllr Helen Pighills	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Household Support Fund Extension was launched using a district-wide local distribution model devised by the Council. Progress also continued to be made on the wellbeing strategy.</p> <p>The Council continued to support the Homes for Ukraine scheme during Q1. While the pace of ongoing accommodation booking slowed, other work on matters such as community integration, rematching requests etc continued apace.</p> <p>Throughout the quarter, the Vale also collaborated with system partners on the development of the Oxfordshire Food Strategy. This aims to ensure that residents can access healthy, affordable and local food.</p> <p>Work is also underway to ensure that the Community Hub can continue to support residents going forwards – in line with the Oxfordshire Recovery and Renewal Framework.</p>
BHC3.3	Review and Revise the Joint Taxi Licensing Policy	Narrative update on the JTLP	Cllr Helen Pighills	Head of Legal and Democratic	No progress to report Q1 2022/23 - the work to review, revise and embed the new Joint Taxi Licensing Policy was completed during Q2 2021/22.

Theme 3: Building healthy communities - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
BHC3.4	Take a key role in countywide homelessness prevention and provision for young people, those with mental health conditions and review of adult homelessness pathway	<p>Narrative update on influencing/partnership activity, new initiatives.</p> <p>Quantitative update on successful homelessness cases + other homelessness stats, TA stats including average length of stay etc.</p>	Cllr Helen Pighills	Head of Housing and Environment	<p>The Vale recorded only one rough sleeper at the end of Q1 2022/23. The very low levels of rough sleeping in the district reflects the success of the Council's preventative approach.</p> <p>The number of homeless households in temporary accommodation (TA) on 30 June 2022 was nine – a reduction of five on the previous quarter. The average length of stay in emergency accommodation was 43 nights, marginally above the ceiling target of 42. This reflects the increasingly complex needs of homeless clients.</p> <p>During Q1 2021/22, the rate of successful homelessness prevention was 76.0 per cent. This was slightly below the target of 80.0 per cent.</p> <p>The Vale also continues to actively participate in the countywide Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy (and in fact currently chairs the countywide Homelessness Steering Group). At this Oxfordshire-level, Q1 saw the successful launch of the county's innovative alliance approach to single homelessness services.</p>

Theme 4: Building stable finances - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
PROGRAMME 1	Explore and actively consider all avenues to deliver financial stability, including maximising income available to the council	Narrative update on initiatives to deliver financial stability and maximise income across the Council	Cllr Andrew Crawford	Head of Finance	No progress to report in Q1 2022/23.
BSF1.1	Introduce an Investment Strategy and associated Investment Policy which gives the Council greater ability to invest in a wider range of assets to maximise its return on capital and therefore improve its income	Narrative update on the introduction of an introduction of the investment strategy and subsequent decision-making around investing	Cllr Andrew Crawford	Head of Finance	No progress to report in Q1 2022/23.
BSF1.2	Commit resources to identify more third-party income, including government and other grants, to help pay for our services	Narrative update as to current initiatives to increase external funding for Council activities, with details of additional resources committed to support these activities	Cllr Andrew Crawford	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>During Q1 2022/23, work has continued to embed the External Funding Lead within the organisation. Progress has also been made on introducing the necessary governance structures and documentation to ensure that any future funding bids align are deliverable and align with the Vale's goals.</p> <p>Officers worked with colleagues from Oxfordshire County Council to make a joint application for further Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) funding. We are currently awaiting the outcome.</p> <p>Work also continued on ensuring that the Council is prepared for phase 3b of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme.</p>
BSF1.3	Identify opportunities to generate additional income from our services and assets and review these annually as part of the budget setting process	Narrative describing activity/ referring to programme 1 narrative	Cllr Andrew Crawford	Head of Finance	No progress to report in Q1 2022/23.

Theme 4: Building stable finances - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
BSF1.4	Review the schedule of existing contracts to identifying opportunities for rationalisation and savings	Narrative update initially detailing BAU activity to support this aim, until specific project is kicked off at which point reporting would be based on the project activity	Cllr Andrew Crawford	Head of Finance	No progress to report Q1 2022/23. This action is identified in the procurement plan for 2022/23.
BSF1.5	Upgrade the council's finance IT systems to improve functionality and support in-year budget monitoring	Narrative report on the implementation of new systems, and then a yearly light-touch review	Cllr Andrew Crawford	Head of Finance	<p>During Q1 2022/23, work has continued on utilising Unit 4 to deliver budget setting. A demonstration of progress has been shown to both the Head of Finance and the Strategic Finance Manager.</p> <p>In addition, the deployment of "Workspaces" has also proceeded, with a presentation provided to the Finance Portfolio Holder ahead of its rollout to Cabinet members.</p>
BSF1.6	Lobby for the ability to set our Council Tax at a level that can sustain council services while seeking opportunities to reduce council tax for those on the lowest incomes	Narrative report covering external influencing/lobbying work (and work with partners) and additionally, relevant information pertaining to Council Tax decisions within the Council	Cllr Andrew Crawford	Head of Policy and Programmes	No progress to report in Q1 2022/23.
BSF1.7	Lobby for a fairer distribution of government funding and more devolution of funding to councils to sustain essential local services	Narrative report detailing lobbying activity over the period and any successes occurring as a result	Cllr Andrew Crawford	Head of Policy and Programmes	No progress to report in Q1 2022/23.

Theme 4: Building stable finances - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
PROGRAMME 2	Make effective use of the council's assets acting in a manner that ensures the long-term financial viability for the benefit of our residents and the environment	Narrative report on the progress of the Strategic Property review and other relevant initiatives	Cllr Andrew Crawford	Head of Development and Corporate Landlord	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Strategic Property Team continued to lease vacant properties, progress lease renewals and review rents.</p> <p>Progress was also made on work regarding potential housing development sites – and their promotion - via the Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment.</p> <p>In addition, the Asset Management Group (established during Q3 2021/22) continues to meet on a quarterly basis to progress implementation of the Strategic Property Review and to consider assets in line with the council's corporate priorities.</p>
BSF2.1	Develop a comprehensive and ethical Procurement Policy that reflects our corporate goals and aims	Narrative update reporting on completion of activity and an annual review of success	Cllr Andrew Crawford	Head of Finance	No progress to report Q1 2022/23.
BSF2.2	Conduct a Strategic Property Review to identify opportunities to enhance, redevelop, transfer the councils assets to maximise income and/or benefit to the district	Narrative report on the progress of the SPR	Cllr Andrew Crawford	Head of Development and Corporate Landlord	<p>"No progress to report Q1 2022/23 – the Strategic Property Review was completed in Q3 2021/22.</p> <p>The Asset Management Group (established during Q3 2021/22) meets on a quarterly basis to progress implementation of the Review and to consider assets in line with the council's corporate priorities. Any outcomes from these meetings are progressed as business as usual.</p>
BSF2.3	Complete an asset management plan to provide a comprehensive policy to inform how assets may be most efficiently maintained	Narrative report on progress of this within the SPR	Cllr Andrew Crawford	Head of Development and Corporate Landlord	No progress to report in Q1 2022/23.
BSF2.4	Undertake a full review of all leases and licences to ensure council income is collected when due and maximised	Narrative report on progress of this within the SPR	Cllr Andrew Crawford	Head of Development and Corporate Landlord	No progress to report Q1 2022/23 - the review was completed during Q1 2021/22.

Theme 4: Building stable finances - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
BSF2.5	Undertake a detailed review of the financial position of the Beacon in Wantage and determine what changes to its operations can be made to improve its viability	Narrative update on the review of financial position of the Beacon	Cllr Andrew Crawford	Head of Development and Corporate Landlord	During Q1 2022/23, the Beacon continued to operate under an interim operating model. Formal building and operational reviews are currently being commissioned.
BSF2.6	Insourcing our grounds maintenance and public conveniences contracts to save funds and increase flexibility over how our public spaces are used and managed	Narrative update on the activities of the new insourced team and the initiatives being undertaken	Cllr Andrew Crawford	Head of Development and Corporate Landlord	<p>During Q1 2022/23, officers carried out a formal review of the job descriptions of grounds maintenance staff with the aim of bringing them in line with other council posts. Once the outcome of the review is known, the Council will continue to assess the terms and conditions of staff under TUPE.</p> <p>Arrangements were made in Q1 to move the depot from its current location at Kingston Bagpuise to council land at Crowmarsh and the White Horse Leisure Centre. Officers are also exploring the potential for establishing a long-term depot at Great Western Park.</p> <p>Cabinet reports evaluating the cost of purchasing vehicles for the Grounds Maintenance service – as opposed to leasing – have been prepared. As part of this work, the Council have engaged with the Earth Trust to survey our needs and make recommendations on the use of alternative fuels etc.</p> <p>Negotiations are also underway with the Grounds Maintenance manager to amend the terms and conditions for vehicle use.</p>

Theme 5: Working in partnership - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
PROGRAMME 1	Work in partnership to influence and shape regional and national agendas to maximise opportunities for our communities and businesses	Narrative report on work with partners across the organisation which will maximise opportunities for communities and businesses		Head of Policy and Programmes	Updates below on action taken to maximise opportunities for communities and business during Quarter 1 2022/23.
WIP1.1	Create a partnerships protocol. Map our current partnerships and assess the effectiveness of each. clarify which local, regional, and national partnerships Vale needs to have an active presence in and focus resource accordingly.	Narrative update on the position of this work and an annual review after it's completion	Cllr Bethia Thomas	Head of Policy and Programmes	No progress to report Q1 2022/23 – this work was completed during Q4 2021/22. It will now be subject to an annual review.
WIP1.2	Develop an enhanced consultations strategy and process to ensure we respond to consultations and proactively lobby national government and other bodies on matters that impact our corporate priorities	<p>Narrative update on proactive work to lobby govt and key organisations, update on key consultations responded to within the period.</p> <p>Quantitative -- Number of consultations replied to.</p>	Cllr Neil Fawcett	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Vale responded to two external consultations.</p> <p>Defra Consultations – Review of Local Air Quality Management Policy Guidance Consultation on Designation of National Highways as a “Relevant Public Authority”</p> <p>In addition, work continued on assessing the impact of the Council’s submissions. This is designed to ensure that our responses are consistent and lead to demonstrable change in policy/decisions.</p>
WIP1.3	Create a framework that sets out how we will engage with developers, other councils, and members to maximise opportunities for our priorities to shape development	Narrative update on the work of planning and engagement activity	Cllr Judy Roberts	Master Planning Lead	During Q1 2022/23, several meetings have been held with developers, promoters and landowners. Officers have also continued to meet with members, interested stakeholders, Oxfordshire County Council and Homes England. These events are part of the Vale’s framework of coordinated activity in this area.

Theme 5: Working in partnership - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
WIP1.4	Work with businesses to undertake economic development review to ensure that council is providing support to SMEs, homebased businesses, supporting skills development, and ensuring that businesses are playing a role in place making	<p>A narrative report of activity to undertake an economic development review and details of how the Council is supporting SME's at this time.</p> <p>Quantitative information from CRM detailing number of businesses engaged with</p>	Cllr Neil Fawcett	Head of Development and Corporate Landlord	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the reconciliation work for the Additional Restrictions Grant Fund commenced. Over the entirety of scheme, the Vale distributed grants totalling £5,264,788.</p> <p>Also, during Q1 2022/23 nine enquiries were logged on Tractivity. Ongoing grant enquiries (non-covid related) made up the majority of most complex asks.</p>

Theme 5: Working in partnership - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
WIP1.5	Strengthen any existing network of local business groups to increase awareness of the council's ED programmes and communication throughout the district	Detail engagement with small business newsletter, number of recipients, clickthrough	Cllr Neil Fawcett	Head of Development and Corporate Landlord	<p>By the end of Q1 2022/23, there were 2,468 subscribers to South and Vale's economic development newsletter – an increase of 19 over the previous reporting period. There was 1,641 clickthroughs from these – and the average open rate was 54.2 per cent (much higher than the industry average).</p> <p>From April and June, there were 2,792 users of the South and Vale Business Support Website – of these 2,702 were new visitors. Between them they generated 7,324 page views.</p> <p>The Business Support Twitter feed had 1,473 followers by the end of Q1 2022/23. Activity undertaken during the quarter created 12,996 impressions, 408 engagements, 15 new followers and 1,444 profile visits.</p> <p>At the end of Q1 2022/23, South and Vale Business Support's Facebook page had 146 likes, with quarterly activity creating 5,312 impressions and 144 engagements.</p> <p>The Economic Development team ran four in-person digital business skills events with a total of 199 attendees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertising on Facebook and Instagram • Selling on Facebook and Instagram • Creating and sending newsletters using Mailchimp • Using LinkedIn to generate Business <p>They also ran four online Digital Skills workshops for businesses looking to reach new customer bases. These events were well attended and provided an opportunity to encourage local companies to join the Council's Virtual Hight Street Initiative.</p> <p>In addition, they also hosted a 'Make a difference' business workshop (with Oxfordshire Greentech and Jennings Business Parks) on 10 May. There were 41 registered attendees.</p> <p>The Council also sent out 13 Start Your Own Business Guides and seven Greening the Web Guides during the quarter.</p>

Theme 5: Working in partnership - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
WIP1.6	Input into countywide and Arc-wide economic recovery plans to maximise understanding of the local impact of Covid-19 and to help shape the support available to our local economy	Narrative update on activity supporting WIP 1.5	Cllr Neil Fawcett	Head of Development and Corporate Landlord	<p>During Q1 2022/23, officers from the Council continued to contribute to the Economic Recovery Task Group.</p> <p>The Economic Development team also carried out extensive work in preparing a bid for funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. A draft investment plan for the initial three years of the scheme has been produced and is scheduled to be finalised in Q2.</p>
WIP1.7	Work with Oxfordshire County Council to introduce civil parking enforcement for the Vale	Narrative update on progress in this area, if impacts are seen in other areas as a result of this activity, those impacts should be included (PnD parking income for example)	Cllr Neil Fawcett	Head of Development and Corporate Landlord	<p>Civil parking enforcement – undertaken by Oxfordshire County Council contractors – is in place in the district.</p> <p>A report detailing the outcomes of a consultation on a new car park order has been drafted. It will be considered by the Cabinet in July.</p>

Theme 5: Working in partnership - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
PROGRAMME 2	Work with and support our residents, businesses and communities to effect and enable change	<p>Narrative update on work with Parish Councils, particularly relating to the transfer of management of assets. Update on other activity that directly supports residents and business effecting change</p> <p>Quantitative elements - number of neighbourhood plans adopted, number of community initiatives undertaken, breakdown of assets where management has been transferred</p>		Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Vale started their pilot of a simpler approach to neighbourhood planning. Three parishes within the Vale (West Challow, Kennington and Fyfield & Tubney) were selected to trial this new method. Following an introductory meeting with the pilot groups in May (which explored the aims, parameters and expectations of the project), the first of a series of capacity building workshops (detailing how the planning system works and some of the key concepts around placemaking) was held on 28 June.</p> <p>As of 30 June 2022, there are 15 made Neighbourhood Plans in the district (one of which is currently under review). There are nine plans in progress, three of which have completed pre-submission consultations.</p> <p>In April, Marcham Parish Council applied to designate the parish as a neighbourhood area. If successful, they will be able to exercise neighbourhood planning rights and access both funding and technical support.</p> <p>The Council liaised with Community First Oxfordshire during Q1 2022/23, to cover their options from Community Led Plans to Neighbourhood Planning.</p> <p>Officers were invited by Ardington and Lockinge Parish Council to attend their annual meeting.</p>

Theme 5: Working in partnership - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
WIP2.1	Support new business start-ups and support schemes for businesses and residents through post Covid-19 economic recovery initiatives, by implementing the "Opening Up High Streets Safely Fund" and associated schemes	Narrative update on support schemes for businesses and residents. Updates on any relevant schemes should be included	Cllr Neil Fawcett	Head of Development and Corporate Landlord	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Virtual High Street Initiative was officially launched in Wantage and was met with enthusiasm by local traders. This Initiative will enable the consolidation of Vale based independent retailers on a single e-commerce platform. A total of 51 traders are established on the portal, with over 1,450 products available to order through the site.</p> <p>There is a staged rollout of the Initiative to individual towns, with Abingdon, Faringdon and Botley due to follow Wantage in the next two quarters. Ahead of these scheduled launches, there has been strong interest from local businesses in signing up for the scheme.</p> <p>In addition, officers from the Economic Development team visited the new Business and Intellectual Property Centre at Oxford County Library in Q1. The Centre represents a substantial new asset for businesses in the area, with access to over £5m worth of resources available free of charge. It has been heavily promoted to companies in the Vale.</p>
WIP2.2	Find ways to elevate the understanding of and promote Neighbourhood Plans in planning decisions with a review of development appraisal and communications with all parties prior to an application coming to committee	<p>Narrative update on activity to support and promote Neighbourhood plan adoption.</p> <p>Quantitative measure - number of Neighbourhood plans adopted</p>	Cllr Bethia Thomas	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>Internal planning communications confirm new neighbourhood plans and the significant weight they carry when determining planning applications. All relevant parish councils are informed of the council's decision to make Neighbourhood Plans and webpages are updated accordingly.</p> <p>As of 30 June 2022, there are 15 made Neighbourhood Plans in the district (one of which is currently under review). There are nine plans in progress, three of which have completed pre-submission consultations.</p>

Theme 5: Working in partnership - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
WIP2.3	Review the planning committee process to identify ways to maximise public understanding, engagement and participation as well as supporting member input into the committee meetings with opportunities for training and development	<p>Narrative update on activities to review and promote the activities and understanding of the planning committee.</p> <p>Quantitative elements - Online engagement figures relating to the planning portal/planning sections of the website.</p>	Cllr Bethia Thomas	Head of Planning	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Vale maintained the processes that had been developed around the Planning Committee over the last year. This meant that the Weekly Chair Briefing sessions continued – including debriefs on the meetings of the Committee.</p> <p>In addition, the Chair and the Deputy Chair, along with the Development Manager, have regularly reviewed all call-in requests to determine which should be referred to the Planning Committee. They have also decided which Committee items require a site visit.</p> <p>The Chair and Deputy Chair continue to receive the Planning Committee decision monitoring report, which in conjunction with the Weekly Chair Briefings, help to inform any requirements for member training sessions.</p> <p>The Vale have proceeded with the Town and Parish Council Surgeries during Q1 2022/23 with one meeting being held between April and June. Uptake, however, has not been as much as was expected – based on the pilot project. A further reminder has, therefore, been sent to all town and parish councils. Nevertheless, the feedback that has been received from those who have taken part in these events has been positive.</p> <p>Officers also continue, where differing views exist, to advise town and parish councils of their recommendations on planning applications. This helps to explain why decisions are being made and improves partnership working between the Vale and these organisations.</p> <p>Three Planning Committee meetings were held between April and June 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20/04/2022 – this had 112 views. • 11/05/2022 – this had 103 views • 20/06/2022 - this had 40 views

Theme 5: Working in partnership - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
WIP2.4	Review developer contribution collection and spend policy and improve ward member and parish council involvement with a clear timetable that is triggered by officers, with improved communication from the council	<p>A narrative update on activities relating to the spend of CIL</p> <p>Quantitative element - Breakdown of CIL spend by type/amount/area</p>	Cllr Judy Roberts	Head of Finance	<p>During April 2022, £580,130 was paid to town and parish councils that had seen CIL liable developments in their areas during the previous six months.</p> <p>Since the introduction of CIL in 2017, £1,880,352 has been made available to town and parish councils for use on local projects to support development.</p> <p>The Vale's new capital programme came into effect at the start of the quarter. Within this programme, £2,259,000 of CIL funding is allocated for 2022/23.</p>
WIP2.5	Refresh our community grants scheme and introduce a Community Lottery to raise funds for groups to develop in line with our corporate objectives	Narrative report on activity relating to new community grants, information relating to the implementation of the Community Lottery, and once implemented performance metrics	Cllr Bethia Thomas	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Council continued to promote the White Horse Community Lottery Scheme. One new "good cause" was approved between April and June.</p> <p>Throughout the quarter, 12,042 lottery tickets were sold generating an annual estimated income of £30,295 for the voluntary sector.</p>

Theme 6: Working in an open and inclusive way - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
PROGRAMME 1	Improve our use of technology to increase understanding and access to what we do, how we work and the decisions we make.	Narrative update on any work relating to technological implementation/adaptation and processes making greater use of existing technology to bring about efficiency or increase accessibility.	Cllr Bethia Thomas	Deputy Chief Executive - Transformation and Operations	<p>During Q1 2022/23, substantial progress was made in relation to the procurement of a new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system. This work is almost complete, subject to an Individual Cabinet Member Decision (ICMD) approving the budget to implement the preferred option. It is hoped that the system will help improve communications – and relationships – between the Council and its customers.</p> <p>Separately, the Communications team, in collaboration with Planning Policy, were able to produce an innovative, interactive website for the first Joint Local Plan (JLP) consultation. This allowed users to explore the details of the Plan across infographics, images and maps that could be moved and manipulated. In addition, Smart Survey was also embedded within the website to allow people to respond as they explored the themes of the JLP. This approach received widespread praise from the public, councillors and other local authorities.</p>
WIOI1.1	Provide and maintain a new Vale website with increased accessibility to services and information, on multiple devices	Quantitative report on website usage	Cllr Bethia Thomas	Deputy Chief Executive - Transformation and Operations	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Communications team – in response to the issues previously identified with Google Analytics – decided to invest in an analytics platform that does not require any cookies. This new platform went live on 14 April and, therefore, the statistics below do not fully reflect the website usage for the quarter.</p> <p>Web Usage Figures: Q1 (Partial) 188k visitors 513k page views 2m03s average visit duration</p> <p>In addition, progress was made on upgrading the system that delivers online E-forms and the Binzone app. These will make it more resilient and provide a better platform – the updated software will provide opportunities to improve E-forms and make them more 'mobile-friendly'.</p>

Theme 6: Working in an open and inclusive way - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
WIOI1.2	Develop our use of social media platforms to reach and engage with more residents and local businesses	<p>Narrative report on new social media initiatives</p> <p>Quantitative report on social media engagement</p>	Cllr Bethia Thomas	Deputy Chief Executive - Transformation and Operations	<p>During Q1 2022/2, the Communications team integrated its social media accounts to the Hootsuite platform. This has helped to increase efficiency and productivity, as officers no longer have to work through each account's native site. In addition, it allows for all of the analytics to be gathered in one place which will make it easier to compare and optimise performance in the future.</p> <p>Given the move to Hootsuite – and its use of different algorithms etc – it is unlikely that the stats from Q1 2022/23 are directly comparable to those from previous quarters.</p> <p>Facebook</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posts: 239 • Reach: 481,000 • New fans: 299 Total fans: 5,790 <p>Instagram</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posts: 137 • Reach: 5,600 • New followers: 26 Total followers 530 <p>Twitter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tweets: 242 • Impressions: 109,000 • New followers: 64 Total followers: 9,174
WIOI1.3	Introduce live streaming and recordings of public meetings to increase accessibility and understanding of the democratic process	<p>Number/Percentage of public meetings streamed live</p> <p>Number/percentage of public meetings available to watch online</p>	Cllr Debby Hallett	Head of Legal and Democratic	<p>All meetings continue to be livestreamed. Officers are currently working on business continuity plans to ensure that this continues when the Council vacates the offices at Milton Park. To help facilitate the future livestreaming of meetings, a dedicated Teams room is being installed at Abbey House.</p> <p>During Q1 2022/23, 100% of public meetings were broadcast.</p>

Theme 6: Working in an open and inclusive way - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
WIOI1.4	Review the current use of online surveys assessing their take up over time, and by subject, as well as reviewing survey design	Narrative update on survey utilisation/progress towards this review/details of any particularly successful surveys	Cllr Bethia Thomas	Deputy Chief Executive - Transformation and Operations	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Vale ran an innovative Joint Local Plan consultation. Due to the pioneering nature of the engagement exercise it is difficult to ascertain exactly how many responses were received, but officers do know that it was in excess of 487 – which is a very high level for such an activity. The feedback received from the consultation is still being assessed and analysed.</p> <p>In addition to the Local Plan, the Council completed two other smaller local consultations in Q1. It also launched a further 13 consultations that are still currently open.</p> <p>A report on the Vale's consultation and engagement approach was considered by the Scrutiny Committee during the quarter. The feedback and suggestions arising from members is being worked into the Community Engagement team's future plans.</p> <p>Officers have also been designing a consultation and engagement process for the Council's Diversity and Inclusion Strategy.</p>

Theme 6: Working in an open and inclusive way - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
PROGRAMME 2	Increase meaningful engagement and communication with everyone	Narrative update on successful communication initiatives		Deputy Chief Executive - Transformation and Operations	<p>Following the agreement (during Q4 2021/22) of an overarching Communications and Engagement Strategy, Q1 saw the Vale prepare a launch plan for this document. The first step of this work will involve communicating with staff about their roles and responsibilities in helping to deliver the Strategy. Its launch will be timed to complement the Council's recently unveiled Style Guide (which itself, is a key item in the Strategy's action plan).</p> <p>Progress was also made during Q1 2022/23 on an engagement plan to support the Council's draft Diversity and Inclusion Strategy.</p> <p>In Q1, the Vale ran 45 campaigns. 23 of these highlighted/ publicised events and council news, 15 promoted behavioural change and seven promoted diversity and inclusion.</p> <p>Between April and June 2022, the Vale also issued 29 press releases, produced three town and parish and residents' newsletters and sent out six InFocus newsletters to share important information with our communities.</p>
WIOI2.1	Ensure the creation of community liaison groups form part of all early stages of development planning, to understand local infrastructure needs and support community cohesion	<p>Narrative update on the creation and utilisation of community liaison groups and the development of the policy</p> <p>Quantitative measure - number of community liaison groups</p>	Cllr Bethia Thomas	Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Council's Planning Policy team has continued to work on the development of the Joint Local Plan. Between 12 May and 23 June, a public consultation – known formally as a 'Regulation 18 Part 1 Issues Consultation' – was held. This asked for views on a draft vision for the Joint Local Plan and opportunities to address this vision. As part of this exercise, the team reached out to stakeholder contacts and community groups.</p> <p>In addition, and in collaboration with Comms, the Planning Policy team trialled new ways of making the local plan engaging and easy to view on digital devices. They also continued to make hard copies available to residents in libraries.</p> <p>The Planning Policy team are currently processing the responses that were received.</p>

Theme 6: Working in an open and inclusive way - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
WIOI2.2	Refresh Town and Parish Forums so they are more interactive and useful for communities and develop the Connecting Communities Policy	Narrative update on Town and Parish Forums and the development of the connected communities policy	Cllr Bethia Thomas	Head of Policy and Programmes	No progress to report Q1 2022/2023 – the Connecting Communities Plan has been superseded by the Community Wellbeing Strategy (which is currently being drafted).
WIOI2.3	Work with communities, schools and other local organisations on shared campaigns and initiatives that help further our corporate objectives	Narrative update on comms and engagement activities which interface with communities, schools and other local organisations	Cllr Bethia Thomas	Deputy Chief Executive - Transformation and Operations	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Vale undertook a considerable amount of work to promote healthy communities within the district. It supported the launch of the You Move programme (designed to help families on low incomes engage with physical activity) in conjunction with other local authorities in Oxfordshire. The Council also continued to promote the Move Together scheme and its own wellbeing activities.</p> <p>In addition, the Vale's Active Communities team ran a GP support service pilot in Wantage. As a result of its success, the Council will look to promote its expansion later this year.</p> <p>In Q1 2022/23, the Women's Cycle Tour event visited the district. The Vale used this opportunity to not only generate positive engagement with its partners and communities, but also promote a range of cycling and other wellbeing activities.</p> <p>As part of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, the Council – throughout the quarter – encouraged people to take part in The Queen's Green Canopy to plant trees.</p> <p>The Vale joined up with several local organisations (including Citizens Advice and the Earth Trust) to support Volunteers' week. They also continued to promote the Council's Community Lottery and its role in helping "good causes" across the district.</p> <p>The Council provided updates to members and staff on its role in helping Ukrainian refugees.</p>

Theme 6: Working in an open and inclusive way - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
WIOI2.4	Reinstating residents surveys in a refreshed form - deliver effective ways for the public to have their say, to reach more people, mechanisms for feedback, more timely dialogue, educate and provide subject matter information to facilitate opinions being more informed	Narrative update to be provided on the progress of this work	Cllr Bethia Thomas	Deputy Chief Executive - Transformation and Operations	Q1 2022/23 saw the Vale prepare a communications and engagement plan for the Council's Diversity and Inclusion Strategy. It is designed to raise awareness of the Strategy amongst all of our residents and encourage their participation in the ongoing public consultation on the document. Of particular importance is the feedback from minority groups on the accessibility of our services.
WIOI2.5	Explore initiatives to increase voter registration and turnout levels at elections, especially amongst young people	Narrative update on individual initiatives and opportunities to encourage voter registration	Cllr Debby Hallett	Deputy Chief Executive - Transformation and Operations	No progress to report in Q1 2022/23.
WIOI2.6	Ensure council's consultations engage specifically with young people and other under-represented groups	A narrative report with input from the engagement/ comms teams and the equalities officer on activity to encourage these groups	Cllr Bethia Thomas	Deputy Chief Executive - Transformation and Operations	<p>During Q1 2022/23, the Vale continued to gather baseline data on how many young people the Council is engaging with. This information will be used to help increase the reach of future consultations.</p> <p>Discussions also began between the Community Engagement and Planning Policy teams on increasing the active involvement of young people in the next stage of the Joint Local Plan. It was agreed that there should be direct engagement with children and teenagers in local colleges and schools.</p> <p>In addition, the Vale carried out a direct engagement survey with teenagers about the impact that child sexual exploitation (CSE) can have on a young person's life. The results from this have helped to inform and shape the work of the Community Safety Partnership in this area (specifically keeping young people informed about the dangers of CSE).</p>
PROGRAMME 3	Strengthen our governance framework and address our policy gaps, improving transparency	Narrative update on policies/ strategies currently in development/awaiting approval/recently approved.		Head of Policy and Programmes	<p>The governance arrangements for the Joint Local Plan were updated in May 2022.</p> <p>During Q1 2022/23, the Dalton Barracks Supplementary Planning Document and Joint Design Guide were adopted.</p>

Theme 6: Working in an open and inclusive way - performance updates against reporting measures

Corp Plan ID	Stated Aim/Project description	Reporting Measure	Cabinet Lead	Officer Lead Title	Q1 Performance Update
WIOI3.1	Work to adopt new CIPFA financial management code to enhance our financial governance	Narrative update detailing the elements of the code which have been implemented, which are underway and which are yet to be started	Cllr Andrew Crawford	Head of Finance	No progress to report Q1 2022/23.
WIOI3.2	Council reporting and decision-making templates to include impact on the climate emergency	Narrative update on significant decisions which have key environmental considerations, additionally any updates to key policies which have an focus on the climate emergency	Cllr Debby Hallett	Head of Legal and Democratic	The action is complete. All council reporting and decision-making templates have been updated to include climate change considerations.
WIOI3.3	Review the councils constitution and scheme of delegation annually	Narrative update with the outcome of the review	Cllr Debby Hallett	Head of Legal and Democratic	During Q1 2022/23, work continued on the development of the Articles of Constitution (having been approved by the Constitution Review Group). Progress is scheduled to continue throughout the summer, with a report being taken to Full Council in Quarter 2.
WIOI3.4	Increase and improve publicly available information – e.g.- code of conduct complaints (decision noted) FOIs (responses), corporate complaints (data) Improve accessibility of corporate information through publishing on our website	<p>Narrative update on relevant reviews/newly available information/website improvements and metrics</p> <p>Quantitative - FOI/ Complaints data</p>	Cllr Debby Hallett	Deputy Chief Executive - Transformation and Operations	<p>During Quarter 1 2022/23, the performance management report for Q4 2021/22 was published on the Vale's website. This is intended to increase the public's understanding of what the council does, how it works and how decisions are made.</p> <p>Freedom of Information (FOI) and Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) contact with the council remains high. In Q1 2022/23, Vale received 400 FOI/EIRs. 93% of these were responded to within the target time of 20 working days – this is in line with the ICO's target.</p> <p>The Council received 29 stage one complaints, 9 stage two complaints and 0 Local Government Ombudsman complaints between April and June 2022.</p>