









Appendix A – 2021/2022 reporting against Projects identified in the Council Plan – as at 17/08/2021

For **Q1 2021/2022** North Hertfordshire District Council is reporting against 14 Projects to support the Council Plan 2021 - 26







Key for the Report



Status key	
	Project Halted / Funding not available / Extremely Late
	Project behind original due date/ unlikely to hit original due date.
	Project not due for completion in year / has not reached due date
	Project Completed.




Status	Q1	Summary of Movement this Qtr.
	1	Crematorium project has moved from Amber to Red
	3	
	10	
	0	
Total	14	




- Where projects are b/f from previous years, their status is retained until they are complete – to ensure transparency




Projects supporting the Council Plan 2021/2026


	Portfolio	Corporate Objective	Milestones for Completion in 2021 Year	Due Date Where available	Status	Comments
Status – COMPLETE - 0						
Status – GREEN -10						
Refurbishment of lifts at Lairage Car Park – Project will span more than 1 year (capital programme)	Finance and IT	A More Welcoming and Inclusive Council	Determine requirements  Procurement of Contractor  Practical completion	Summer 2020 Dec 2020 December 2021		Milestone complete Contract signed 11/12/2020 2021 Rubax Lifts Limited started work on the 17 June 2021 to replace the lifts at Hitchin multi-storey car park. The works will be carried out in stages so there will always be a lift in operation. It's anticipated that all the works will be completed by the end of December 2021.
Set up Community Tree Planting Programme (Council Plan)			Order Trees Finalise arrangements for receipt and storage of tree stock	30/04/2021  12/05/2021 		The project is on track and all milestones to date have been met.





			Commenced initial promotion of scheme – expressions of interest	25/06/2021 		
			Investigate options and finalise distribution arrangements	31/08/2021		
			Commence full promotion of scheme	01/09/2021		
			Receipt of tree stock	30/11/2021		
			Distribution of trees to the community – 01/12/21 to 31/03/22	31/03/2022		
Preparation of a Cycle and Walking Strategy (Capital Programme)	Planning & Transport		Working in partnership with HCC on the Preparation of Local Cycling, Walking & Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) – with identified schemes for implementation post 2021.	Nov 2021		NHDC and HCC are currently in the process of producing a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) for the district. LCWIPs were identified in the DfT's first Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy (2017) as a new strategic approach to identifying cycling and walking improvements at a local level. By having an adopted LCWIP, this will enable both NHDC and HCC to be in a stronger position to bid for any future Government funding opportunities. Work commenced in December 2020 with an officer working group meeting fortnightly and it is anticipated to be completed in Autumn 2021.

<p>Trial / Experimental EV Charging Points in North Herts (Council Plan)</p>			<p>Adoption of EV Strategy and associated Action Plan in accordance with the Review and adoption of NHDC Climate Change Strategy.</p> <p>Roll out of Trail/Experimental EV charging points together with seeking suitable funding opportunities for delivery</p>	<p>December 2021</p> <p>March 2022</p>		<p>Now that the Revised Climate Change Strategy has been adopted the EV Strategy can start to take form. HCC are no longer partnering with NHDC, so approach will need to be updated for actions NHDC will be able to take, particularly in light of resource issues within the service area.</p>
<p>Roll out separated recycling across the district, including bins in Parks and Green Spaces (Council Plan)</p> <p>Project will span more than one year.</p>	<p>Waste, Recycling & Environment</p>		<p>Roll out recycling bins in Great Ashby</p> <p>Investigate funding options for further roll out in towns and rural areas</p>	<p>March 2022</p>		<p>Due to Covid and other issues, the planned audit has been delayed until later this year. Future provision requirements to be determined following the audit.</p>
<p>Provide Housing at Market Rents</p>	<p>Enterprise and Co-operative</p>					<p>The utilities have not yet given firm dates for the completion of their work at Harkness Court. It is currently anticipated that the work will be completed by the end of August 2021. Likewise, the current</p>

(Capital Programme)						expectation is that the main contractor work will be completed by mid-September 2021.	
Introduce a North Herts Community Lottery	Enterprise and Co-operative		Obtain License	31/10/2021		The License Application has been submitted. The process can now take up to 16 weeks for the license to be approved.	
			Run engagement events	12/11/2021			
			Go Live	31/01/2022			
Disposal of surplus assets (Remove maintenance obligation and generate capital receipts) Will span more than one Financial year. (capital programme)	Enterprise and Co-operative	Enable an Enterprising & Co-operative Economy	Land at Clare Crescent, Baldock	31/03/2022		Cabinet approved the intention to dispose of land on 20/07/2021. Estates are now in negotiations for the sale of the land. A report to Cabinet will be produced once negotiations are complete, seeking approval for the sale.	
			Land adjacent 1 North End, Kelshall; 	31/03/2021			NHDC sold its freehold interest on 22 nd February 2021 achieving above market value. Sale subject to a restrictive covenant to restrict use to garden land and help NHDC secure a proportion of value uplift should the land be sold or used/developed for a higher value use by the new owner in the future
			Land adjacent 9 North End, Kelshall;	31/03/2022			

			Land at The Green, Ashwell Road, Newnham; 	31/08/2021		Highway's consent are granted, NHDC will aim to sell its freehold interest in this site following an open marketing exercise. Difficult to be precise on expected disposal date but estimate Quarter 4 of Financial Year 2021-22. The sale of land adjacent to The Green, Ashwell Road, Newnham completed on 29 June 2021.
Develop and Implement a cohesive Empty Homes Strategy (project will span more than 1 year)			Develop Strategy Further Milestones to follow on.	31/03/2022		The draft Strategy has been written and is currently being reviewed, prior to being taken to Cabinet for approval. More detailed milestones can then be determined to enable implementation.
Acquisition of Property investments (capital programme)	Enterprise and Co-operative	Enable an Enterprising & Co-operative Economy	Continue to explore opportunities to improve the financial viability of property letting company and seek to explore other opportunities for trading companies. The commercial team will explore acquisition			The Commercial team continue to explore acquisition opportunities and if they meet the acquisition criteria, each one will require a business case to seek approval for the Council to proceed. Recently the Council bid for an investment opportunity (Leasehold for the Garden Square Shopping Centre) but was unfortunately outbid by another company. A financial assessment has been undertaken for Harkness Court to

			opportunities, if they meet the acquisition criteria each one will require a business case to seek approval for the Council to proceed.			be moved into the Property Letting Company, which demonstrates it is viable. Officers are now seeking legal advice with regards to the company structure and how it is set up. Once this work has been completed a full business case will be developed. Currently, it is hard to set a definite timeframe for finalising the company structure and completing the business case, as we need external advice and at the moment, we do not know how long this might take. The current estimate is that it could be completed in 3-4 months.
Status – AMBER - 3						
Examination and Adoption of the Local Plan 2011 - 2031 (b/f form previous year)	Planning and Transport	Build Thriving & Resilient Communities	Milestones and dates will depend on the Planning Inspectorate Consultation on Main Modifications following March 2021 Cabinet Letter from the Inspector Full Council for adoption of the Local Plan			The consultation period on further proposed main modifications has now ended. NHDC administers the consultation on behalf of the Inspector and so there is some processing and reviewing to be done before the representations get returned to him. The aim is to get them back within the next few weeks. The next steps are up to the Inspector, but – subject to no significant new issues being raised – he has previously indicated his intention to move to issuing his report. Officers are currently working to an assumption of receiving his report in Autumn 2021 and a Council decision on adoption following receipt. All information has been added to the Councils website at the link below. www.north-herts.gov.uk/localplan

Develop long term museum storage solution To equip the museum service with a sustainable storage solution suitable for the effective management of the collection for the foreseeable future. (capital programme) Project will span more than 1 year	Enterprise and Co-operative	Build Thriving & Resilient Communities	Develop Fully Costed Proposal Further Milestones to follow	Nov 2020		Having fully established the needs and potential layout for the museum storage facility, NHDC has engaged with a developer via a framework to gain a more accurate idea of costs. The indicative cost plan sent back contrasted with earlier feasibility studies for the development of additional facilities in this location and suggested an overall cost of the development in excess of the identified budget. Officers are currently investigating whether this can be offset through commercial use of the rest of the plot or through the sourcing of grant funding. Once commercial investigations are completed, officers will undertake a procurement to source alternative quotes for the overall scheme and gain a clear picture of the costs involved.
Renovate play area Howard Park, Letchworth (capital programme b/f from previous year)	Environment & Leisure	Build Thriving & Resilient Communities	Consultation on Design  Complete renovation	10/08/2020 30/11/2021		The Howard Garden Play Equipment has been received and is now in storage. The plan is to commence works on site mid-September once the paddling pool closes.
Status RED - 1						
Development of a Crematorium in	Environment & Leisure		Appeal Hearing	13/05/20		Central Bedfordshire refused the outline planning application in March 2019.

<p>North Hertfordshire</p> <p>(b/f from previous year)</p>			<p>Obtain outline planning permission from Central Beds</p> <p>Review Options for obtaining detailed planning permission.</p>		<p>Cabinet approved funding for an appeal on 26 March 2019</p> <p>The appeal was submitted in September 2019. The Hearing date was originally set for 13/05/2020, however this was postponed due to Covid19. A further hearing planned for the 18th November 2020 was also cancelled by the planning Inspector. The new Inquiry took place on 22/02/2021.</p> <p>A decision was received week commencing 19 April 2021, with the appeal against refusal of outline planning permission being dismissed. Officers are now considering the Inspector's reasons for this decision and are assessing the options regarding the next steps</p> <p>An options report is due to be presented to Cabinet on 21 September 2021. Executive Members are being briefed.</p>
--	--	--	---	--	--