









**Appendix A – 2021/2022 reporting against Projects identified in the Council Plan – as at 16/11/2021**

For **Q2 2021/2022** North Hertfordshire District Council is reporting against 14 Projects to support the Council Plan 2021 - 26







**Key for the Report**



<b>Status key</b>	
	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.




<b>Status</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Summary of Movement this Qtr.</b>
	1	1	
	3	3	
	10	10	
	0	0	
Total	14	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
<b>Status – COMPLETE - 0</b>						
<b>Status – GREEN -10</b>						
Refurbishment of lifts at Lairage Car Park – <b>Project will span more than 1 year</b>  (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  25/06/2021		Resources have been set up to receive and store the tree stock. Delivery of tree stock is dependent upon the weather at the tree nursery, as the trees can only be lifted after the first frosts to ensure they are dormant for the winter. We currently expect that we should be in receipt of the



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			<p>Commenced initial promotion of scheme – expressions of interest </p> <p>Investigate options and finalise distribution arrangements</p> <p>Commence full promotion of scheme</p> <p>Receipt of tree stock</p> <p>Distribution of trees to the community – 01/12/21 to 31/03/22</p>	<p>31/08/2021</p> <p>01/09/2021</p> <p>30/11/2021</p> <p>31/03/2022</p>		<p>trees by the end of November 2021. Therefore, arrangements for distribution, which will consist of a mixture of individuals and organisations helping us, have not been finalised yet. We are consulting with Parish Councils to seek their support in distributing trees to residents. Initial promotion of the scheme commenced in the summer and further ongoing promotion will commence once we have the trees in stock.</p>
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		The first Stakeholder Workshop was held in July 2021, to which Parish & Town Councils, as well as community groups, were invited to attend. Hosted by HCC and WSP (HCC's consultants) with NHDC officers in attendance, the workshop provided the opportunity for WSP to share the initial cycling and walking routes that have been identified for prioritisation in the four main towns across the District and Knebworth. The workshops provided the opportunity for those in attendance to comment and provide feedback. The next stage of the

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						LCWIP will see route audits undertaken by WSP during September 2021 of the prioritised routes to identify improvements required with the results to be shared in a second round of stakeholder workshops which are due to be held in October 2021. The officer working group has been continuing to meet fortnightly and the LCWIP is expected to be completed by the end of December 2021.
Trial / Experimental EV Charging Points in North Herts (Council Plan)			Adoption of EV Strategy and associated Action Plan in accordance with the Review and adoption of NHDC Climate Change Strategy. 	December 2021		A report outlining a proposed phased approach to EV charging within the District has been discussed (October 2021) with the Executive Member and Deputy. Phase 1 involve the car parks within the Council's control, seeking most of the funding from grant with the remainder from the private sector. A meeting has been arranged with the Energy Savings Trust who can advise with regard the current grant schemes.
		Details of approach and related actions to be presented to PLB	December 2021			
		Further milestones added to reflect the delivery of agreed actions and the investigation of suitable funding opportunities	March 2022			
Roll out separated recycling across the district,	Waste, Recycling & Environment		Roll out recycling bins in Great Ashby	March 2022		There are no plans to roll out recycling litter bins further than the major towns and Great Ashby. The recycling litter bins



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including bins in Parks and Green Spaces (Council Plan)  Project will span more than one year.			Investigate funding options for further roll out in towns and rural areas			for Great Ashby have been ordered but we have delays in stock being received due to Brexit and the pandemic. Further work will be considered at the shared service contract review in liaison with EHC and with consideration of the ongoing litter bin review and budgets
Provide Housing at Market Rents (Capital Programme)	Enterprise and Co-operative					A financial assessment has been undertaken for Harkness Court to be moved into the Property Letting Company, which demonstrates it is viable. Officers have also sought legal advice with regards to the company structure and how it is set up, based on this a full business case has been developed regarding the updated position of the property company, and is due to be presented to the Cabinet Sub Committee in November 2021
Introduce a North Herts Community Lottery	Enterprise and Co-operative		Obtain License  Run engagement events Go Live	31/10/2021 12/11/2021 31/01/2022		The Gambling licence has been approved. Dates for the good causes launch, ticket sales and first draw have been agreed for Jan-March 2022.
Disposal of surplus assets	Enterprise and Co-operative	Enable an Enterprising & Co-		31/03/2022		Cabinet approved the intention to dispose of land on 20/07/2021. Estates are now in negotiations for the sale of


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(Remove maintenance obligation and generate capital receipts)  Will span more than one Financial year. (capital programme)		operative Economy	Land at Clare Crescent, Baldock  Land adjacent 1 North End, Kelshall;   Land adjacent 9 North End, Kelshall.	31/03/2021  31/03/2022		the land. A report to Cabinet will be produced once negotiations are complete, seeking approval for the sale.  NHDC sold its freehold interest on 22 <sup>nd</sup> 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  Outline planning consent for a single dwelling was granted at NHC's Planning Committee in September 2021. NHC is now seeking quotations from local property agents to market the land in late autumn/winter 2021 for sale with the benefit of outline planning, with a view to disposing of NHC's freehold interest. Work towards this goal will be handed over to the recently appointed part-time Estates Surveyor when he commences work on 10th November 2021. It is difficult to be certain on the timeline, but currently anticipate sale completion in Quarter 1 of 2022/23.

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			Land at The Green, Ashwell Road, Newnham. 	31/08/2021		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  Cabinet adopt Strategy  Further Milestones to follow on.	30/03/2022  30/06/2022		The draft Strategy has been written and is currently being reviewed, prior to being taken to Cabinet for approval. The current expectation is that it will go to Cabinet once resources to deliver the strategy have been identified through the budget process.
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 opportunities, if they meet			The Commercial team continue to explore acquisition opportunities within the District. Due diligence will be completed for each potential acquisition and relevant Executive Members will be regularly updated on progress made. Each successful acquisition will be subject to Full Council.

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			the acquisition criteria each one will require a business case to seek approval for the Council to proceed.			
<b>Status – AMBER - 3</b>						
Examination and Adoption of the Local Plan 2011 - 2031 (b/f form previous year)	Planning and Transport	Build Thriving & Resilient Communities	<p>Milestones and dates will depend on the Planning Inspectorate</p> <p>Consultation on Main Modifications following March 2021 Cabinet</p> <p>Letter from the Inspector</p> <p>Full Council for adoption of the Local Plan</p>			<p>We have been told to expect the Inspector's report on the Local Plan in November 2021 and so are probably now looking at Q1 in 2022 for a Council decision on adoption.</p> <p>All information has been added to the Council's website at the link below. <a href="http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/localplan">www.north-herts.gov.uk/localplan</a></p>
Develop long term museum storage solution  To equip the museum service with a sustainable storage solution	Enterprise and Co-operative	Build Thriving & Resilient Communities	<p>Develop Fully Costed Proposal</p> <p>Further Milestones to follow</p>	Nov 2020		Officers have now received cost plans on different ways to develop the site, with the museum storage facility supplemented by a commercial storage facility being one possible option. Officers plan to present these plans to Political Liaison Board and begin the approvals process in the months ahead once further investigations on the



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<p>suitable for the effective management of the collection for the foreseeable future.</p> <p>(capital programme)</p> <p>Project will span more than 1 year</p>						<p>potential returns from such a project are completed. Grant funding towards this project has so far proved unsuccessful</p>
<p>Renovate play area Howard Park, Letchworth</p> <p>(capital programme b/f from previous year)</p>	Environment & Leisure	Build Thriving & Resilient Communities	<p>Consultation on Design </p> <p>Complete renovation</p>	<p>10/08/2020</p> <p>30/11/2021</p>		<p>Work has commenced at Howard Park &amp; Gardens play area in Letchworth now that the paddling pool has closed for the winter.</p> <p>The renovation includes replacing and removing worn out equipment, improvements to the sandpit, and the construction of a new sensory pathway in the junior area. The renovation is likely to take 6 to 8 weeks. Areas that are being worked on will be fenced off and inaccessible to the public to keep everyone safe</p> <p>The project is running behind original timescales due to supply issues following Brexit.</p>
<b>Status RED - 1</b>						

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Development of a Crematorium in North Hertfordshire  (b/f from previous year)	Environment & Leisure		<p>Appeal Hearing</p> <p>Obtain outline planning permission from Central Beds</p> <p>Review Options for obtaining detailed planning permission.</p>	13/05/20		On 21 September 2021, having considered all reported matters, Cabinet approved the ceasing of the Crematorium project at Wilbury Hills Cemetery. Officers from the Commercial and Greenspace teams will now investigate alternative commercial opportunities for the site, whilst continuing the current letting arrangement with the tenant. Any commercial options proposed will be presented to Cabinet by March 2022.