









Appendix A – 2021/2022 reporting against Projects identified in the Council Plan – as at 02/03/2022

For **Q3 2021/2022** North Herts Council is reporting against 13 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	Q3	Q2	Q1	Summary of Movement this Qtr.
	0	1	1	Crematorium project ceased and removed from reporting
	4	3	3	Preparation of a Cycling and Walking Strategy
	7	10	10	
	2	0	0	Renovate Play area, Howard Park, Letchworth/ Refurbishment of Lifts at Lairage Car Park
Total	13	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
Status – COMPLETE - 2						
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		
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 The lifts were signed off as completed in February.



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Status – GREEN 7						
Set up Community Tree Planting Programme (Council Plan)			Order Trees 	30/04/2021		The trees have been delivered and full promotion of the scheme is underway. The first event was held in Royston on 7 December 2021, with four more events held across the district before Christmas. Distribution of the trees will continue over the coming months, with required distribution arrangements being kept under review.
			Finalise arrangements for receipt and storage of tree stock 	12/05/2021		
			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		
Trial / Experimental EV			Adoption of EV Strategy and associated Action	December 2021		Following a report to PLB phase 1 has commenced with the starting of the initial




	Portfolio	Corporate Objective	Milestones for Completion in 2021 Year	Due Date Where available	Status	Comments
Charging Points in North Herts (Council Plan)			<p>Plan in accordance with the Review and adoption of NHDC Climate Change Strategy. </p> <p>Details of approach and related actions to be presented to PLB </p> <p>Procurement of a private sector partner</p> <p>Grant application submitted</p> <p>Further milestones will be added upon the outcome of the grant application</p>	<p>December 2021</p> <p>March 2022</p> <p>April 2022</p>		procurement work to find a private partner. The partner will assist with a grant submission to the Energy Savings Trust to seek to secure part government grant funding for the provision of EV chargers to Council owned car park(s) within each of the four towns. The criteria requirements of the grant seek to establish additional chargers for residents to use who do not have the ability to charge at home. There will be secondary benefits for other car park users.
Roll out separated recycling across the district, including bins in Parks and Green Spaces	Waste, Recycling & Environment		<p>Roll out recycling bins in Great Ashby</p> <p>Investigate funding options for further roll out in towns and rural areas</p>	March 2022		The dual recycling bins have now been received (delayed due to Brexit and covid). The installation for both Gt Ashby and Baldock, commenced on Jan 22, with a target completion of end Feb. Further work will be considered in


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(Council Plan) Project will span more than one year.						liaison with EHC, dependant on future budgets. Recycling bins have been installed in the parks originally identified. Priory Memorial Gardens Royston, Avenue Park Baldock, Howard Gardens Letchworth and Bancroft Hitchin. Each location has 5 recycling litter bins and were chosen due to the presence of the splash pads and the high levels of use over the summer months.
Provide Housing at Market Rents (Capital Programme)	Enterprise and Co-operative			01/04/2022		The intention is for NHDC to lease the entire block to NHDC's company, which will then lease out the four individual flats to four separate private tenants under Assured Shorthold Tenancies at full market rents. NHDC will retain the freehold. We are aiming for the start of the forthcoming Financial Year, but it depends on how soon the building becomes habitable. Property Services and Estates are closely monitoring progress by statutory undertakers to install the various mains services and

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						meters. As we cannot influence their timescales it is difficult to be precise on when the block will be ready, but 1 st April 2022 is the current target date.
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		Lottery was launched to good causes on 18 th January. Organisations are now invited to sign up and advertise to their members/supporters and ticket sales went live on 15 th Feb. The first draw is planned for 19 March.
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		A record of decision under delegated authority was made in January with no call in. The granting of authority has been communicated to NHDC's solicitors and the land buyer to facilitate the remaining process towards disposal completion. It is anticipated that completion will take place by the end of this Financial year.

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			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		Outline planning consent for a single dwelling was granted at NHDC's Planning Committee in September 2021. NHDC is in the advanced stages of appointing a local marketing agent to advertise the site for sale, with outline planning permission in place. The intention is to commence marketing in early March 2022 for a period of 4 – 6 weeks inviting bids by informal tender. The marketing period may be extended. The aim is to dispose of NHDC's freehold interest and achieve a capital receipt. It is difficult to be certain on a timeline, but currently anticipate sale completion by end of Quarter 1 of 2022/23 perhaps moving into Quarter 2. The overall objective is to achieve best consideration for taxpayers.

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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.
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 acquisition criteria each one will require a business case to seek approval for the Council to proceed.			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.

	Portfolio	Corporate Objective	Milestones for Completion in 2021 Year	Due Date Where available	Status	Comments
Status – AMBER - 4						
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 Letter from the Inspector Full Council for adoption of the Local Plan			The Inspector has advised that he is not at this point going to be drawn into any further forecasting about when his report may be completed. However, the Council and all other participants can be assured that his aim is to release a robust report as soon as possible. No further update has been received from the Inspector. All information has been added to the Councils website at the link below. www.north-herts.gov.uk/localplan
Develop and Implement a cohesive Empty Homes Strategy (project will span more than 1 year)			Develop draft Strategy Identify external funding for additional resource to work on Strategy Cabinet adopt Strategy Further Milestones to follow on.	30/03/2022 31/03/2022 31/03/2023		Certainty on resources has prevented finalisation of the strategy at this time. The 2022/23 budget process includes a post to be able to deliver the actions out of an adopted strategy, however the post has no funding, and would be reliant on securing external funding. The milestones for the project have been updated to reflect what could be achieved by the end of this Financial year.
Preparation of a Cycle and Walking Strategy	Planning & Transport		Working in partnership with HCC on the Preparation of Local	Nov 2021		The project is taking a little longer than originally planned. HCC's consultants now expect to be issuing a draft for

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(Capital Programme)			Cycling, Walking & Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) – with identified schemes for implementation post 2021.			consultation around March 2022 before final adoption by the HCC Highway and Transport Panel. We are waiting for HCC to advise on the updated programme, and it is unlikely that it will be completed within 2021/22 given the lead time for committee reports etc. Although the due date has currently been estimated as 30 June 2022, the project could be completed earlier dependent on confirmation of the revised programme from HCC in the new year
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.	Enterprise and Co-operative	Build Thriving & Resilient Communities	Develop Fully Costed Proposal Further Milestones to follow	Nov 2020		Having explored a number of options, officers are now finalising the Business Case and accompanying Report for what is the most effective use of the overall site. This will include a fully costed museum collections storage facility alongside a commercial self-storage facility, generating a long-term income stream for the Council. The proposal will begin the approvals process in April 2022 and pending favourable decisions from Councillors, we hope to apply for planning permission and begin work on the project in Summer 2022

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(capital programme) Project will span more than 1 year						
Status RED - 0						