



# Northumberland

## County Council

Your ref:

Our ref:

Enquiries to: Rebecca Little

Email: [Rebecca.Little@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Rebecca.Little@northumberland.gov.uk)

Tel direct: 01670 622611

Date: Wednesday, 10 November 2021

Dear Sir or Madam,

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the **NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND LOCAL AREA COUNCIL** to be held in **MEETING SPACE - BLOCK 1, FLOOR 2 - COUNTY HALL** on **THURSDAY, 18 NOVEMBER 2021 at 3.00 PM.**

Yours faithfully

Daljit Lally  
Chief Executive

To North Northumberland Local Area Council members as follows:-

G Castle (Chair), S Bridgett (Vice-Chair), T Thorne, T Clark, G Hill, W Pattison, G Renner-Thompson, C Seymour, J Watson, C Hardy (Vice-Chair (Planning)), I Hunter, M Mather and M Swinbank

Any member of the press or public may view the proceedings of this meeting live on our YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/NorthumberlandTV>. Members of the press and public may tweet, blog etc during the live broadcast as they would be able to during a regular Committee meeting.

*Members are referred to the risk assessment, previously circulated, for meetings held in County Hall. Masks should be worn when moving round but can be removed when seated, social distancing should be maintained, hand sanitiser regularly used and members requested to self-test twice a week at home, in line with government guidelines.*



Daljit Lally, Chief Executive  
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## **AGENDA**

### **PART I**

It is expected that the matters included in this part of the agenda will be dealt with in public.

#### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

#### **2. MINUTES**

(Pages 1  
- 14)

Minutes of the meeting of the North Northumberland Local Area Council held on Thursday 23 September 2021, as circulated, to be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

#### **3. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

Unless already entered in the Council's Register of Members' interests, members are required to disclose any personal interest (which includes any disclosable pecuniary interest) they may have in any of the items included on the agenda for the meeting in accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council on 4 July 2012, and are reminded that if they have any personal interests of a prejudicial nature (as defined under paragraph 17 of the Code Conduct) they must not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must leave the room. NB Any member needing clarification must contact the monitoring officer by email at [monitoringofficer@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:monitoringofficer@northumberland.gov.uk) . Please refer to the guidance on disclosures at the rear of this agenda letter.

#### **4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

To reply to any questions received from members of the public which have been submitted in writing in advance of the meeting. Questions can be asked about issues for which the Council has a responsibility. (Public question times take place on a bimonthly basis at Local Area Council meetings: in January, March, May, July, September and November each year.)

As agreed by the County Council in February 2012, the management of local public question times is at the discretion of the chair of the committee.

Please note however that a question may possibly be rejected if it requires the disclosure of any categories of confidential or exempt information, namely information:

1. Relating to any individual;
2. Which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual;

3. Relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person
4. Relating to any labour relations matters/negotiations;
5. Restricted to legal proceedings
6. About enforcement/enacting legal orders
7. Relating to the prevention, investigation of prosecution of crime.

And/or:

- Is defamatory, frivolous or offensive;
- It is substantially the same as a question which has been put at a meeting of this or another County Council committee in the past six months;
- The request repeats an identical or very similar question from the same person;
- The cost of providing an answer is disproportionate;
- It is being separately addressed through the Council's complaints process;
- It is not about a matter for which the Council has a responsibility or which affects the county;
- It relates to planning, licensing and/or other regulatory applications
- It is a question that town/parish councils would normally be expected to raise through other channels.

If the Chair is of the opinion that a question is one which for whatever reason, cannot properly be asked in an area meeting, he/she will disallow it and inform the resident of his/her decision.

Copies of any written answers (without individuals' personal contact details) will be provided for members after the meeting and also be publicly available.

Democratic Services will confirm the status of the progress on any previously requested written answers and follow up any related actions requested by the Local Area Council.

## 5. PETITIONS

This item is to:

**(a) Receive any new petitions:** to receive any new petitions. The lead petitioner is entitled to briefly introduce their petition and a response to any petitions received will then be organised for a future meeting.

**(b) Consider reports on petitions previously received:** no reports are due to be considered at this meeting.

**(c) Receive any updates on petitions for which a report was previously considered:** any updates will be verbally reported at the meeting.

**6. LOCAL SERVICES ISSUES**

To receive a verbal update from the Area Managers from Technical Services and Neighbourhood Services in attendance about any key recent, ongoing and/or future planned Local Services work for the attention of members of the Local Area Council, who will also then have the opportunity to raise issues with the Area Managers.

The Area Managers have principal responsibility for highway services and environmental services, such as refuse collection, street cleansing and grounds maintenance, within the geographic boundaries of the Local Area Council.

**7. WINTER SERVICES PREPAREDNESS AND RESILIENCE REPORT**

(Pages  
15 - 22)

To receive a report which provides an overall update of the pre-season preparations ahead of the forthcoming winter services season.

**8. DUALLING OF THE A1**

Highways England to provide an update on the dualling of the A1.

**9. NORTHUMBERLAND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER**

To receive a presentation on the work of Northumberland Communities Together.

**10. BERWICK REGENERATION PROJECT**

To receive an update (if any)

**11. LOCAL AREA COUNCIL WORK PROGRAMME**

(Pages  
23 - 30)

To note the latest version of agreed items for future Local Area Council meetings (any suggestions for new agenda items will require confirmation by the Business Chair after the meeting)

**12. URGENT BUSINESS**

To consider such other business, as in the opinion of the Chair, should, by reason of special circumstances, be considered as a matter of urgency.

**13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the North Northumberland Local Area Committee is scheduled for Thursday, 23 December 2021.

**IF YOU HAVE AN INTEREST AT THIS MEETING, PLEASE:**

- Declare it and give details of its nature before the matter is discussion or as soon as it becomes apparent to you.
- Complete this sheet and pass it to the Democratic Services Officer.

<b>Name (please print):</b>
<b>Meeting:</b>
<b>Date:</b>
<b>Item to which your interest relates:</b>
<b>Nature of Registerable Personal Interest i.e either disclosable pecuniary interest (as defined by Annex 2 to Code of Conduct or other interest (as defined by Annex 3 to Code of Conduct) (please give details):</b>
<b>Nature of Non-registerable Personal Interest (please give details):</b>
<b>Are you intending to withdraw from the meeting?</b>

**1. Registerable Personal Interests** – You may have a Registerable Personal Interest if the issue being discussed in the meeting:

a) relates to any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (as defined by Annex 1 to the Code of Conduct); or

b) any other interest (as defined by Annex 2 to the Code of Conduct)

The following interests are Disclosable Pecuniary Interests if they are an interest of either you or your spouse or civil partner:

(1) Employment, Office, Companies, Profession or vocation; (2) Sponsorship; (3) Contracts with the Council; (4) Land in the County; (5) Licences in the County; (6) Corporate Tenancies with the Council; or (7) Securities - interests in Companies trading with the Council.

The following are other Registerable Personal Interests:

(1) any body of which you are a member (or in a position of general control or management) to which you are appointed or nominated by the Council; (2) any body which (i) exercises functions of a public nature or (ii) has charitable purposes or (iii) one of whose principal purpose includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a member (or in a position of general control or management); or (3) any person from whom you have received within the previous three years a gift or hospitality with an estimated value of more than £50 which is attributable to your position as an elected or co-opted member of the Council.

**2. Non-registerable personal interests** - You may have a non-registerable personal interest when you attend a meeting of the Council or Cabinet, or one of their committees or sub-committees, and you are, or ought reasonably to be, aware that a decision in relation to an item of business which is to be transacted might reasonably be regarded as affecting your well being or financial position, or the well being or financial position of a person described below to a greater extent than most inhabitants of the area affected by the decision.

The persons referred to above are: (a) a member of your family; (b) any person with whom you have a close association; or (c) in relation to persons described in (a) and (b), their employer, any firm in which they are a partner, or company of which they are a director or shareholder.

### **3. Non-participation in Council Business**

When you attend a meeting of the Council or Cabinet, or one of their committees or sub-committees, and you are aware that the criteria set out below are satisfied in relation to any matter to be considered, or being considered at that meeting, you must : (a) Declare that fact to the meeting; (b) Not participate (or further participate) in any discussion of the matter at the meeting; (c) Not participate in any vote (or further vote) taken on the matter at the meeting; and (d) Leave the room whilst the matter is being discussed.

The criteria for the purposes of the above paragraph are that: (a) You have a registerable or non-registerable personal interest in the matter which is such that a member of the public knowing the relevant facts would reasonably think it so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest; **and either** (b) the matter will affect the financial position of yourself or one of the persons or bodies referred to above or in any of your register entries; **or** (c) the matter concerns a request for any permission, licence, consent or registration sought by yourself or any of the persons referred to above or in any of your register entries.

**This guidance is not a complete statement of the rules on declaration of interests which are contained in the Members' Code of Conduct. If in any doubt, please consult the Monitoring Officer or relevant Democratic Services Officer before the meeting.**

## NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

### NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND LOCAL AREA COUNCIL

At the meeting of the **North Northumberland Local Area Council** held at Meeting Space  
- Block 1, Floor 2 - County Hall on Thursday, 23 September 2021 at 3.00 pm.

#### PRESENT

G Castle (Chair) (in the Chair)

#### MEMBERS

T Clark  
G Hill  
M Mather  
G Renner-Thompson  
M Swinbank  
J Watson

C Hardy  
I Hunter  
W Pattison  
C Seymour  
T Thorne

#### OFFICERS

J Blenkinsopp  
G Bucknall  
V Cartmell

B Hodgson  
J Hudson  
T Kirsop  
D Laux  
L Little  
S Pearson  
J Sharp  
G Younger

Solicitor  
Highways Delivery Area Manager  
Planning Area Manager - Development  
Management  
Neighbourhood Services Area Manager  
Planning Officer  
Community Regeneration Manager  
Head of Technical Services  
Senior Democratic Services Officer  
Senior Manager, Specialist Services  
Planning Officer  
Accommodation Lead

Around 3 members of the press and public were present.

#### 43      **PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED AT A PLANNING COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

#### 44      **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillor S Bridgett.

#### 45      **MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the North Northumberland Local Area Council held on Thursday 19 August 2021, as circulated, be agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

## 46 DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillor Swinbank advised that he had a disclosable pecuniary interest in planning application 21/02608/VARYCO and he would leave the room while the application was being considered.

## 47 POLICING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE

Inspector John Swan, and Sergeants Les Robson and Paul Sykes from the Neighbourhood Policing Teams were in attendance to provide an update on policing and community safety within the North Northumberland area. Information was noted as follows:-

### Berwick

- 1314 incidents had been recorded within the Berwick area 852 of which were in relation to Berwick town centre and the night time economy with very low figures in the more rural areas. Figures had peaked in the summer season which was thought to be due to visitors to the caravan parks in the area. Violent crime and disorder had reduced compared to the previous year.
- Reports of antisocial behaviour (ASB) had increased in March due to the lifting of the lockdown. Youth and alcohol ASB had increased in the town centre due to youths congregating and Op Inhibit had been created in the area to work with police colleagues in Scotland to target the problem areas especially on a Friday and Saturday night, with ASB reducing during the summer because of the visible presence.
- With the full reopening of the night time economy within Berwick additional resources had been drafted in to assist with issues and working in partnership with other organisations there had been a significant improvement.
- Operation Beach Watch had been brought in over the summer months due to the increased number of visitors to the area to provide a visible presence in areas of high foot fall, which had been successful.
- Op Acorn was an engagement initiative which had also been introduced within the more rural areas.
- Berwick was a safe place to live with lower crime rates than other areas covered by Northumbria Police.

### Alnwick

- 4651 incidents had been reported, 3208 within the Alnwick area and 1443 in the Rothbury area, with 708 in relation to public safety, 269 transport related, 220 crime related and 173 ASB.
- Crime levels were comparable with figures from 2019 with a slight increase in July/August which coincided with school holidays, with a spike in ASB incidents within Alnwick.
- ASB was dealt with by a multi-pronged approach working with Housing, Social Services and diverting youths into sporting groups,



ring leaders were identified and parents visited, with some success. Good quality CCTV had been installed by the Town Council around the bus station. Incidents related to the night time economy were lower with the pub watch scheme being utilised.

- Work was undertaken with other forces in relation to rural crime during night time operations.
- Coastal engagement had been undertaken in partnership with other agencies as the number of visitors had increased in relation to wild camping, walking, litter, parking etc., which had been well received.
- areas and lots of work and regular contact was undertaken with other partners to ensure this was the case.
- Operation Hawkeye had also been introduced to tackle rural crime with an Inspector and 5 officers which provided an extra resource.

### Amble

- 1476 incidents had been reported in the Amble area, which was low in comparison to other areas with the majority in relation to public safety and welfare. Crime incidents were 376 and ASB 356 and when compared to the previous 2 years, reported incidents were less. The majority of crimes were in the violence without injury (Common Assault) category, which included the fear of being assaulted without any assault actually taking place.
- Crime within Amble had reduced over the last 3 years due to the work that had been undertaken including to address ASB in the Church Street/Queen Street area specifically in relation to a bus stop.
- Public perception was that there was an issue with drugs and related violence but this was not supported by the crime figures, however due to these concerns Op Watchtower had been introduced with additional resources put into Amble with stop and searches undertaken and vehicles uplifted for various offences.
- There was an issue with increased canoeists, paddleboarders and drones at the restricted Coquet Island and work was being undertaken with the Wardens to see how the Neighbourhood Team could help.
- With the resurgence of the night time economy following the opening after lockdown and linked to the perceived drug problem increased walk throughs were being undertaken and working with licensing and pubwatch to address issues.
- The potential to bring to Amble the Communities Together Programme, which had been used in Blyth, was being explored which would work with households etc to build trust.
- A lot of work had been done in Amble and this would continue.

In response to questions from Councillors the following information was provided:-

- Figures were not available at the meeting on outcomes of reported incidents. Positive action was always taken if there was a police attendance and incidents were dealt with appropriately and proportionately. It was the CPS who decided if there would be any prosecution.

- All incidents reported either by dialling 999 or 101 went to the control room and would be given a grading through a threat harm and risk assessment. All crimes reported were investigated proportionately which meant that whilst in the past a police officer would have automatically attended a low level incident to gather information, crime details would now be taken by telephone, which was a better use of resources. Northumbria Police ( had been the last force to introduce this way of working. An officer would attend all incidents which were identified as needing an initial response through the threat harm and risk assessment, if an officer was not required then incidents would go to the telephone investigation unit for details to be taken. Once all the crime details had been received if there was an investigative opportunity then it would go to the Special Investigation Unit. All crimes were investigated and there would never be an occasion when the response would be “we’re too busy”, and the specific incident referred to by the Councillor would be discussed outside of the meeting. Before any crime was closed down it would be looked at to make sure there was no further action required.
- All forces have to adhere to Home Office guidelines, and as much as a member of the public would wish a charge to be brought, if an out of court disposal could be used due to the nature of the crime and previous good behaviour of the person involved, then that was what had to happen.
- Sufficient data was gathered when a crime was being reported to decide the appropriate response and if there were no investigative opportunities then a crime number would be provided at the outset.
- General parking enforcement was undertaken by NCC and NP dealt with offences such as an obstruction which posed a danger to road users, however there was an element of greyness in respect of blocked access to driveways, and NP would generally try to resolve this by asking the person to move.
- Op Acorn had seen NP work closer with partners regarding additional visitor numbers and to provide additional car parking within the National Parks. Operation Acorn had improved the relationship between all partners and would continue.
- The use of CCTV and traffic patrol were being used to address vehicles being driven in an ASB manner and uplifting of vehicles undertaken for offences in the Berwick area. Issues should be reported to the relevant Neighbourhood Team by using the NP website so that problem areas could be targeted.
- There had not been an increase in reports of graffiti, however issues should be reported to the Neighbourhood Team. The issue of social media adding to public perception of crimes against the actual number of reports was highlighted.
- Community Speed Watch had ceased during the pandemic and NP were now looking at how they used volunteers and information would be provided once it was known.
- Visitor numbers had increased this summer to places such as Boulmer, Craster and Dunstanburgh however due to the work undertaken by Op Beach Watch, the work undertaken with partners and the engagement with members of the public there had been fewer issues with car parking than the previous year.

- Off road bikes were an ongoing issue in all areas and there was a force strategy in place. A lot of work was being undertaken in relation to this and more publicity should be provided by NP to let the public know what steps were being taken to address the problem.
- Town and Parish Councils should be aware of their relevant Neighbourhood teams and whilst officers did not attend every Parish Council meeting, officers were out on foot in communities gathering intelligence and allowing the targeting of specific areas of concerns. The Neighbourhood Teams did not work in silos and would be deployed in other areas when necessary to deal with specific issues. The possibility of NP liaison through the Council's Town and Parish Liaison Working Group would be taken up by Councillor Hunter who was the Chair of the Working Group.
- No details had been passed to NP of extreme far right literature which had been posted through letterboxes in Amble. Details should be forwarded to Sergeant Robson so it could be investigated.
- In relation to the non-enforcement of 20mph limits, it was clarified that whilst no enforcement action would be taken NP, as part of speed watch, would speak to drivers who did not adhere to the 20 mph.

Inspector Swan reiterated that every person who contacted NP and said they were a victim of a crime would have a crime created and investigated proportionately, there were different ways of doing this depending on the information provided at the beginning. The Telephone Investigation Unit would contact the victim who would take details and if there were investigative opportunities i.e. lead, suspect etc. then it would be allocated to the appropriate unit for investigation. If an early assessment indicated that the crime should not be allocated then a crime number would be provided.

Inspector Swan, Sergeants Robson and Sykes were thanked for their attendance.

Councillor Hardy, Vice-Chair Planning took the Chair at this point.

## 48 **DETERMINATION OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**RESOLVED** that this report was noted.

Councillor Swinbank left the room at this point.

## 49 **21/02608/VARYCO**

**Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) on approved application  
20/03155/FUL to allow changes to layout and design.  
Land North of North Farm, Embleton, Alnwick, Northumberland, NE66 3DX**

An introduction to the application was provided by J Sharp, Planning Officer with the aid of a power point presentation. For clarification Councillor Pattison advised that a request for the application to be referred to Committee had not been made by her. In response to questions from Members of Committee the following information was noted:

- Different policies in the emerging Local Plan attracted different

weight.

- The red line boundary was not changing and as the changes being proposed were not so significant they could be considered under a VARYCO as opposed to requiring a new planning application.

Councillor Thorne proposed acceptance of the recommendation to approve as outlined in the report as the revised layout respected more of the contours of the site, the Parish Council were in favour of these changes and the buildings would be more in keeping with the location more than caravans. This was seconded by Councillor Castle. A vote was taken as follows: FOR 9; AGAINST 1; ABSTENSION 1.

**RESOLVED** that the application be **GRANTED** for the reasons and with the conditions as outlined in the report.

Councillor Swinbank returned to the meeting at this point.

50      **21/01840/FUL**

**Replacement of timber cladding with new natural cedar boarding. Change of balustrade to glazed and patio size as built. (retrospective)  
The Signal Box, Farley Cottage, Ellingham, Chathill, Northumberland, NE67 5HA**

J Hudson, Planning Officer provided an introduction to the report with the aid of a power point presentation. In response to questions from Members the following information was provided:

- The application had been brought to Committee as the result of an objection by the Parish Council and after being considered through the delegation scheme, the Director of Planning and the Vice-Chair had thought it appropriate to refer the application to Committee.
- The development was not in a conservation area and therefore the Conversation Officer had not been consulted.

Councillor Watson proposed acceptance of the recommendation to approve the application as outlined in the report advising that he did not like retrospective applications. Councillor Thorne seconded the proposal also advising of his dislike of retrospective applications and although he did not consider this promoted good design he considered that there was insufficient reason to refuse the application.

Councillor Pattison questioned the process as she had wished to proposed refusal of the application as she felt it did not fit in with the rurality of the village. Councillor Renner-Thompson agreed with this statement and said he would have seconded a proposal to refuse as it looked very much out of place. Other Members also advised that they did not feel that the use of glass was appropriate in the area. Councillor Pattison was advised there was a motion before the members which would have to be dealt with.

A vote was taken on the proposal to approve the application as follows: FOR 4; AGAINST 8; ABSTENSIONS 0; and therefore the motion fell.

Councillor Pattison proposed refusal of the application due to the visual impact in or around a rural village which was seconded by Councillor Renner-Thompson. Clarification was provided on the reason for refusal as follows:

The reason for the proposal to refuse the application was by virtue of its design, would have a harmful effect on the character and appearance of the existing property and surrounding area. The proposal would thus be contrary to Local Plan Policy F4 and paragraphs 126 and 127 of the NPPF. This was accepted by Councillors Pattison and Renner-Thompson.

A vote was taken on the proposal to refuse the application for the reason above as follows: FOR 8; AGAINST 2; ABSTENSIONS 2.

**RESOLVED** that the application be **REFUSED** as the proposal, by virtue of its design, would have a harmful effect on the character and appearance of the existing property and surrounding area. The proposal would thus be contrary to Local Plan Policy F4 and paragraphs 126 and 127 of the NPPF.

51 **APPEALS UPDATE**

**RESOLVED** that the information be noted.

52 **SECTION 106**

**RESOLVED** that the information be noted.

*The meeting was adjourned whilst planning officers left the meeting and Councillor Castle took the Chair. The meeting recommenced at 4.55 pm.*

53 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

No questions had been received.

54 **PETITIONS**

Members were advised that an e-petition had been opened entitled **Protect our loved ones remove badgers safely** - Safely remove badgers from the cemetery and place deterrents around the perimeter to prevent more devastation. A report would be brought to a future meeting should it meet the required number of signatures.

There were no petition reports to be considered and no updates on petitions previously received.

55 **LOCAL SERVICES ISSUES**

G Bucknall - Lead Highways Delivery Manager provided a verbal update on north area highways. The update and subsequent questions included information on the following:

- Minor surfacing projects coming up were at Lordenshaw Road near Simonside in early November; Blakelaw in Alnwick October and

Albert Road, Spittal.

- A wide range of traffic schemes including 20mph zones around schools were continuing to be delivered along with work on Bridges and structure schemes.
- It would be 6 weeks until completion for the access to the Leisure Centre at Berwick, which unfortunately was causing problems.
- Winter services preparedness was underway and the refilling of grit bins would commence in October. Rotas for gritters were filled by NCC staff and as usual farmers and contractors would be on standby for more challenging weather events.
- A study was being undertaken and a report prepared which could result in more resources being provided in respect of gully maintenance and clearing.
- The progress on the chicane and bollards which were still in place on the Rothbury road would be ascertained.
- The retaining wall had been built for the bus shelter in Shilbottle and the shelter was now being manufactured.
- Proposed shrub planting for the Felton exit on the northbound A1 as raised by Councillor Thorne would be looked at. Disappointment was expressed that the excellent work undertaken on the Newton on the Moor to Longframlington road had not extended to the bank where lorries and buses often had trouble with slipping.
- Councillor Hill expressed appreciation for the swift response to issues by G Bucknall, B Hodgson and T Kirsop. In response to a query regarding scheduling of works, Members were advised that there was a Streetworks Team who co-ordinated works however there were occasions when emergency work clashed with programmed work.
- An issue with signage left after works had been completed within Berwick was highlighted this would be looked into.
- Councillor Castle highlighted a dangerous fissure in the road on the Eglington to Chatton road close to Harehope Hall and asked for this to be looked at. Councillor Mather advised that he had reported this earlier that day and that the road had been marked up on 3 separate occasions.
- Councillor Mather asked that thanks be passed on to staff for the work undertaken at High Humbleton and on the road between Wooler to Chatton. In respect of an impact on the bridge between Chillingham New Town and Chillingham Castle this had been reported by Tillside Parish Council, but no response had been received. Sandbags were required for the low kerb at Doddington and he would like to see improved gritting provided in the Kirknewton Valley (route 2). G Bucknall would investigate these issues.
- Councillor Renner-Thompson advised that he was grateful that road closures had been delayed in order to avoid harvest time and also advised that the square of tarmac outside Coastal Grains at Belford needed to be replaced again.
- The issue of a fence erected in Alnwick was in the hands of the Legal Department.
- An update was requested on the road closure in the Ord area and also the stone surfacing failure on the footpath on the Bridge.

B. Hodgson - Neighbourhood Services Area Manager provided a verbal update on North area neighbourhood issues. The update and subsequent questions included the following information:

- Grass cutting was on target with cut 11 of the season and work would move to leaf hotspots within the next month and these should be reported in order to help keep gullies clear.
- Winter work schedules were being looked at and early requests from Members would be welcomed.
- Weeds had been a concern in all areas. The glyphosate alternative weed trial was coming to an end and the results would be reported around November.
- Waste services had continued to work well despite staff shortages and income from garden waste, commercial and bulk waste were all expected to exceed targets. Extra slots had been created with staff working overtime on Fridays.
- Verge cutting had been completed within the target timescales.
- Covid procedures would continue to be reviewed.
- It was requested that the annual cut to the former Alnwick cricket site be undertaken shortly.
- A site meeting would be undertaken with Councillor Thorne in relation to the Longframlington Village Green Cemetery.
- In relation to complaints regarding the lack of grass collecting in Guyzance Avenue, North Broomhill this year unlike previous years, this would be investigated as the Council had a policy not to collect grass.
- Councillor Hunter would email details of areas which had been missed from the grass cutting schedule and grass verge which had not been cut.

Councillor Watson proposed a vote of thanks to Bill Pringle who was about to retire from the Council, his work over the last 40 years was much appreciated and he would be missed. This was unanimously agreed.

Officers were thanked for their attendance and updates.

## 56 **LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN UPDATE**

D Laux, Head of Technical Services was in attendance and provided an introduction to the report which provided an update on the Local Transport Plan (LTP) programme for 2021 and the preparation for the 2022/23 programme.

Within the North Northumberland area there were 71 projects on the integrated transport side, of which 21 were complete, although some were design projects and included the following:

- Togston North gateway signs and markings
- Safety schemes at Thrum Mill and Debden Mill on the B6344
- Fenwick to West Kyloe horse warning signs
- Ingram and Branton gateway signage

A further 10 schemes had works orders issued and were either just about or had started these included:

- Lucker footway and streetlighting scheme
- Pedestrian crossing at the Leisure Centre in Berwick
- Victoria Terrace, Alnwick pedestrian crossing

34 were in the design process and included:

- Berwick Road in Wooler
- St James Roundabout, West Street in Berwick
- 20 mph schemes in schools
- Rural road safety schemes in Elingham and Rothbury

6 schemes were still waiting to go to the design team.

In relation to the maintenance programme there were 49 in the North Northumberland area, with 30 completed, 10 of which were surface dressing schemes and 15 resurfacing schemes, with the Berwick Old Bridge scheme also completed. Another 10 had works orders issued and included:-

- High Trewick to Netherton C176
- Bamburgh to Glororum B1341
- Swarland Mill to Longframlington on the B6345
- Rockmidsteads U3089

There were a further 6 schemes still in the design phase.

Preparation was underway for the 2022/23 LTP however the funding would not be known until after the Government's spending review. Letters had been issued in July for County Councillors and Town and Parish Councils to put forward priorities for the LTP programme with a deadline of 8 October. It was hoped that each area would have their own LTP workshop which would possibly be held virtually.

The following information was noted in response to questions from Members:-

- Percy Drive, Amble a check would be made to see if funding had been allocated for this.
- Any schemes which required additional phases should be included in the priorities for the forthcoming year.
- Rumble strips would need to be included as a priority if they were desired.
- Expensive schemes should still be included in priorities.
- In respect of the Bamburgh to Glororum road improvements, if it had been picked up through the asset management information that there was a need for the scheme to carry on to a further phase then this would be picked up at some point but it would depend on other priorities within the County.
- Supporting information would be looked at when considering priorities, however it was likely that there would be a reason why a footpath was overgrown and it was possible that it would be broken up even if uncovered.
- Members advised that local knowledge was really important in the process and ensuring that Town and Parish Councils were well informed of what could be put forward and understood the process would be taken on board in preparation for next year's process.
- Work on the Berwick Bridge would be undertaken in stages. The £450,000 work allocated for this year would start later this year and would probably continue into next year with a further stage starting the year after. The total cost was not known.



Mr Laux was thanked for his attendance.

**RESOLVED** that the information be noted.

## 57 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

As the meeting approached the 3 hour limit Members were asked if they wished to suspend standing orders in order to continue the meeting. Upon being put to the vote it was:

**RESOLVED** that in accordance with the Council's constitution, standing orders be suspended and the meeting continue over the 3 hour limit.

## 58 **YOUTH SERVICE PRESENTATION**

S Pearson, Senior Manager - Specialist Services and G Younger, Accommodation Lead, were in attendance to provide Members with information on the Youth Service. A copy of the power point presentation would be filed with the signed minutes and circulated to Members after the meeting. Northumberland Adolescent Services (NAS) was made up of services to meet the needs of all adolescents across Northumberland and included:

- Youth Service Participation & Advocacy and Prevention/Detached
- Sorted Substance Misuse Service
- Youth Justice Service, Missing & Exploitation
- 14+/18+ Teams One & Two
- Accommodation Team
- Business Administration Team

An explanation was provided on the role and function of each of the services and how they supported young people in Northumberland around three distinct strands:

- Prevention
- Participation and Advocacy
- Early Help/Missing

The provision of universal youth services were developed and delivered across Northumberland working in partnership with the Voluntary Sector and it was through data analysis and feedback from partners it was decided in which area to deploy resources.

In response to questions from Members the following information was provided:-

- In the press it had been reported that NCC had over the last four years suffered cuts to budgets, however the Youth Service joined with Northumberland Adolescent Service (NAS) four years ago, which gave an opportunity to broaden/extend the resource to look at all different aspects of services. Northumberland were very fortunate and proud that we still have a youth service provision as no other County Council in the region had this service.

- In respect of sexual health and promotion of information, there had been a dip during the pandemic with a lack of training being undertaken during this time. This was now back and online training was available for all the adolescent service workers within Northumberland this also was available for the voluntary sector.
- In relation to homelessness there was an excellent joint housing protocol (JHP) in place which was signed up to by a large number of organisations who supported the provision and for all young people who were referred there was a multi-agency team in place to help. More would be done to ensure that the voluntary sector were aware of the protocol.
- An offer was available for volunteer organisations to receive face to face training and there was also some training provided to voluntary organisations but this would be at their request. There was no offer to assess any external person for the Assessors Award at the current time.

Councillor Renner-Thompson advised that youth services was not a statutory function and the Council provided this service voluntarily and confirmed we were the only local authority to do so. S Pearson advised that there were 35 staff with an office base in Cramlington and detached youth workers were deployed to identified targeted areas. A meeting between all third sector parties was being developed to discuss how we could support them rather than duplicate service delivery and work was also ongoing on how local communities could grow their own provision.

Officers were thanked for their attendance and presentation.

## 59 **BORDERLANDS**

T Kirsop, Community Regeneration Manager was in attendance to provide an update and a presentation to Members on the Borderlands Programme. A copy of the presentation would be forwarded to Members of the Committee and a copy filed with the signed minutes of the meeting. Details provided included information on the Growth Deal Commitment, the Place Programme Process, the Town prioritisation process and how the qualitative analysis for Northumberland was undertaken. The towns prioritised to prepare a place plan were as follows:

- Wave 1 - Alnwick, Bedlington / Bedlington Station and Newbiggin-by-the-Sea
- Wave 2- Bellingham, Haltwhistle, Prudhoe and Rothbury

Members were advised that there were no timescales at the current time as this was a 10 year programme and that place plans would probably take at least a year to complete.

In response to questions from Members the following information was noted:-

- Alnwick had been prioritised as there was a disconnect between the town centre and the visitor attractions of Alnwick Castle and Gardens with very little investment having been made within the town centre.

- As part of the prioritisation process it had been necessary to discount towns which had previously received Government funding such as Amble, as Government had been keen to see funding used in towns which had not previously benefited. There were other funding streams coming forward which Amble could possibly bid for if there was a suitable scheme.
- There had not been any open rounds for bidding, all analysis had been undertaken internally with filters being used. In respect of Wooler and the Ad Gefran Brewery, being in a similar situation to Alnwick in the future, Members were advised that work was being undertaken now with the Rural Growth Team and others to ensure connectivity between the town centre and the Brewery to ensure that the town also benefitted from visitors to the Brewery.
- The Government had specified that there must be an Independent Board in each area with a private sector chair, however as some towns were unlikely to have an appropriate private sector representation it was likely that T Kirsop would chair the Boards in each area. There was no opportunity for increased representation from Town or Parish Councils and in Alnwick there would be four places on the Board, two for County Councillors and two for Town Councillors.
- In respect of concerns raised regarding Berwick town centre and the number of shops closing and development of shops at the Morrisons end of town, T Kirsop advised that early discussions were being undertaken in respect of Marygate and what could be done.
- Seahouses had not been included due to the level of population and had previously received some small funding from Coastal Communities funding.

T. Kirsop was thanked for his attendance and presentation.

## 60 **LOCAL AREA COUNCIL WORK PROGRAMME**

The Chair advised that the Local Area Council Chairs' Briefing had been cancelled due to the current review of Local Area Councils which was being undertaken.

Any items Members wished to have included on future agendas should be emailed to the Chair.

**RESOLVED** that the information was noted.

## 61 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday 21 October 2021 and this was a planning only meeting.

In response to a question related to meetings being held in County Hall, the Chair advised that this was being discussed as part of the Review.

**CHAIR.....**

**DATE.....**

**COMMITTEE: NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND LOCAL AREA COUNCIL**

**DATE: 18 NOVEMBER 2021**

**TITLE OF REPORT: Winter Services Preparedness and Resilience Report**

**Report of Interim Executive Director – Rob Murfin**

**Cabinet Member:** Councillor John Riddle

**Purpose of report**

The purpose of this report is to provide an overall update of the pre-season preparations ahead of the forthcoming winter services season.

**Recommendations**

The Local Area Council is recommended to accept this report as an information item.

**Key Issues**

The County Council undertakes its winter services activities to ensure, 'as far as is reasonably practicable' that the highway is maintained in a safe condition in accordance with our legal obligations under the Highways Act 1980.

There has been no change to the service standards or winter maintenance policy since last winter. The Council is still treating the same lengths of road within the same agreed timeframes and meeting all of the Council's agreed policies and standards for winter services.

Arrangements are still in place to ensure operations are Covid-19 compliant to protect the operational teams delivering the service throughout the winter period.

**Background**

**Staffing and Control of Operations**

Winter Services are carried out by the Technical Services division within Local Services. Kris Westerby, Highways Delivery Manager, has countywide responsibility for winter services, with Michael Carle, Lead Highways Delivery Manager, acting as countywide operational lead.

The Council undertakes its winter services activities to ensure, 'as far as is reasonably practicable' that the highway is maintained in a safe condition in accordance with our legal obligations under the Highways Act 1980. All of our primary and secondary routes remain unchanged from the 2020/21 season. Following the completion of previous contracts, the arrangements for additional support from agricultural contractors for dealing with snowfall and prolonged periods of extreme cold weather have been re-procured.

The delivery of the winter service overall requires 105 staff, including managers, supervisors, drivers and operatives. Staffing rotas are in place to ensure sufficient staffing resource is available on the three-shift rota.

The majority of staff involved in winter services come from Technical Services, with a small number of drivers also coming from within Neighbourhood Services.

Highways have 2 Winter Services Delivery Managers (Michael Carle and Andrew Olive) who operate on a two-week rota (24/7) and whose job it is to consider the variable forecasting information and make a decision on the most appropriate course of action and what, if any, treatment is necessary based on the forecast information provided by our forecaster (Meteogroup) and bureau provider (Vaisala). The Winter Services Delivery Managers then pass instructions on to the Winter Services Supervisors who manage the gritting operations. The Winter Services Supervisors also work on a rota basis with their shifts.

The rota for the Winter Services Delivery Managers will be circulated to Members shortly. As you can imagine, this role can be very stressful and hectic at times. Members are, therefore, asked to only contact them directly in an **emergency situation**. All non-emergency situations should be reported through the Council's contact centre and the out of hours arrangements via Northumberland Fire and Rescue Service in the usual way. Similarly, Members are requested not to contact Winter Services Supervisors out of hours as their rotas can change and officers not on call or on rest periods can be unnecessarily disturbed.

### **Weather Monitoring**

Arrangements are in place for the winter services manager to use the web based Vaisala weather system which collates all of our local weather station data. This also gives the Council direct access to regional forecasting information across neighbouring authorities. The Council has access through the MeteoGroup system and the Met office Hazard Manager for accurate weather data/forecasts.

Vaisala is a company who collect weather information from various sources including the Meteogroup and their own weather and road surface temperature monitoring equipment on site. They then run a large amount of weather models with this information to accurately predict weather conditions over the next 24 - 36 hrs using weather stations which are positioned around Northumberland. This allows the Council to make informed decisions on road surface treatment.

Forecasts are received on three occasions through the day to allow operational decisions to be made, with any change of forecast also notified to the Winter Services Delivery Manager at any time 24/7 so that changes to planned actions can be made as necessary.

### **Covid 19 Measures**

The Highways team have reviewed existing processes and brought them in line with the current Covid 19 guidance. This has meant the introduction of revised risk assessments and operational procedures to make sure we keep all staff involved in winter services as safe as possible. To minimise the potential impact Covid 19 may have on the delivery of winter services we have reviewed how we deliver the services and introduced new operational guidance to staff and additional checks to ensure the working environment is as safe as possible. Any necessary PPE has been provided to all winter services drivers. Antibacterial wipes are available for vehicle cleaning between shift swaps. All staff involved in winter services have also been strongly encouraged to have a flu jab.

Managers and supervisors will conduct winter services activities remotely using the web-based software systems we have available, as well as on site should the requirement arise. Supervisors and managers will have the ability to communicate with operational staff through a new radio communication which is installed on laptops. All staff involved in Winter Services are available on mobile communication. This allows the teams to still ensure the operation is being conducted in an efficient and effective manner.

During the summer we have set up and are now completing the testing and introduction of a new IT system and vehicle hardware for specialist winter maintenance route management and automated salt spreading technology across the Council's gritter fleet. This will provide a system that allows enhanced vehicle tracking, route management, automated navigation, automated gritting spread patterns, improved data collection and recording, and improved live monitoring of operations. This will improve the resilience of operations considerably as we will be able to deploy any driver with any gritter to any of the routes across Northumberland without them needing prior training on navigation and gritting spread patterns on the particular route. It also improves driver health and safety by automating the control of the spreading rate and patterns for the salt, so that they can focus on driving the vehicle in often very challenging weather conditions. This new system once fully installed and tested will be extremely valuable given the risks of potential driver absence due to seasonal illnesses and coronavirus.

### **Vehicles and Gritting Routes**

The fleet of 28 multi-purpose gritting vehicles with plough attachments have been serviced and prepared ahead of the winter so that all vehicles are on station by mid to late October. In addition to the front line gritters, we also have 2 purpose built snowblowers for use in the high areas of the County to be deployed when conditions dictate, as well as a fleet of 4 gully tankers that are deployed throughout the County, which are available to assist should the need arise with flooding caused by rapid snow melt.

This coming season, we have 28 primary gritting routes. These routes are gritted regularly throughout the winter period in accordance with forecasts as a precaution against icing. In addition, we have 26 secondary gritting routes which are treated in more severe conditions and after the primary routes have been satisfactorily treated.

As part of the ongoing Fleet Replacement programme we are about to take delivery of nine state of the art Mercedes/Econ 6m<sup>3</sup> and 9m<sup>3</sup> capacity gritters. These will be put into service as the winter commences replacing selected existing fleet.

Fleet Services supply all the necessary expertise to keep the vehicle's operating at full capacity throughout the winter period.

Five Hiltip spreaders and ploughs have been put in service and fitted to NCC 4x4 vehicles. These are placed across the operational areas and provide another highly useful piece of equipment that can be deployed rapidly to some of the more difficult areas across the network. This will reduce demand on our gritting fleet and allow it to continue to be dedicated to the primary and secondary network during snow events.

### **Salt Management**

The operation is delivered from 11 manned or unmanned depots across Northumberland. Michael Carle has the responsibility for ordering and management of salt and will oversee the ordering, delivery and ongoing monitoring of stock levels throughout the winter period for each depot assisted by the area based Quantity Surveyors. As mentioned above our new route optimisation software will also monitor exact salt use across the entire fleet and across the network. This will provide the most accurate salt usage data the Council has ever received.

At the end of last season, we had 14,000T of salt in stock across Northumberland. This is being replenished in all of our main depots and we will have a starting stock of 44,000 tonnes at the commencement of winter. This includes our strategic reserve in Powburn which holds 6,000 tonnes to add to Northumberland's resilience levels.

The service is continuing to progress the construction of new salt barns. The Council has constructed a new salt barn in Otterburn highways depot. We are also going through the process of identifying locations for two more salt barns/strategic storage structures in Bellingham and Morpeth, so that once these final two salt barns are constructed all of Northumberland's 42,000 tonnes of salt will be covered. This investment in salt barns is essential to deliver increased efficiency, better consistency of gritting, reduced wastage of rock salt.

### **Grit Bins/Heaps**

All grit bins and salt heaps throughout the County are currently being inspected and replenished as necessary. This includes removing litter etc and making sure the existing condition is to standard. The service supports an inventory of over 1,600 grit bins and over 200 heaps. Each bin has a notice and serial number attached giving contact details so members of the public can report a bin or heap requiring a refill during the winter period via the website or the Councils call centre.

Whilst the majority of grit bins are bright yellow, you may notice some green grit bins. These bins have been provided by the town or parish council who remain responsible for their upkeep and replenishment although, in practice they generally ask NCC to carry out this service on their behalf on a rechargeable basis.

### **Customer Services**

For all winter service requests for additional gritting, grit bin replenishment and general enquiries please contact our customer services and out of hours teams on **0345 600 6400**.

Winter services information contained on the NCC website is being reviewed and updated accordingly to accurately reflect our operations. There will also be ongoing meetings between Technical Services and Customer Services to ensure call handling procedures and internal communications are in place so that a joined-up service is delivered to the customer with one point of contact.

As with previous years, we will again be producing our customer information leaflet titled 'Highway Services in Winter', that provides useful information to the public on all aspects of the service. The leaflet, which includes when gritting will take place and on which roads and footpaths, as well as giving general advice on how to drive in winter conditions, will be available by the end of November following a thorough review of the information it contains. Given Covid considerations this will be distributed electronically rather than in the usual paper format, with paper copies available on request. The document will be distributed to all County Councillors and Town and Parish Councils. Information on the website includes details of our policies and maps of our primary gritting routes, along with those showing our strategic footpath network which will be treated in severe conditions such as snow or heavy icing.

Alerts are sent out daily during the winter using social media. This will advise people on weather conditions and our proposed response. This information is also made available on the Northumberland County Council website.

### **Additional Support**

We have recently renewed our Snow Clearing contract with local Farmers and sub-contractors to assist our operations by removing snow from the more remote roads in rural Northumberland. We are currently issuing pre-start letters to the farmers and contractors. The Council has requested copies of insurance documentation and a schedule of equipment to be made available to provide support. We are conducting an audit of the equipment and its condition. This is ahead of the winter period and the exercise will be completed by the end of October early November 2021. The new contract will provide the farmers and sub-contractors with designated routes. This will ensure that we are clearing the area in the most efficient way we can during a snow event and not revisiting areas which have been cleared. The contractor's plant and equipment will be integrated into our new automated gritting system to allow the Council full visibility of resources during intense periods of weather.

The Council has still retained the 5 voluntary groups which we refer to as "snow squads" who help with snow clearing from footpaths in villages such as Wooler, Belford and Bamburgh; Hexham Town Council also aid with snow clearance. The offer to be included in the 'Snow Squads' will be rolled out again this winter. All volunteers have been trained, equipped with tools, and supplied salt to assist the Council and clear local footpaths around the County helping to keep residents safe.



In addition, we rely on our colleagues from Neighbourhood Services to assist with snow clearing and gritting of key car parks and footpaths.

### **Cross Boundary Working**

Arrangements are in place with Newcastle City, Durham County Council, Cumbria County Council & Scottish Borders Council, Colas and Highways England to aid each other in periods of heavy snow, to ensure that the strategic routes such as the A69, A686 and A68 are kept clear as far as possible. It should also be noted that the County Council supplies a management service to Newcastle City Council, whereby we decide when precautionary salting is needed across their administrative area as well as in Northumberland. This service is provided under a contractual arrangement and generates added income for the County Council, which helps protect front line services from budget cuts.

### **Severe Weather Procedures**

During heavy snow conditions, it is normal for a “snow room” to be set up to coordinate our response to ensure efficient service delivery on the ground. Also, if required due to the severity of the event we will open the incident support room and work alongside the civil contingencies team and all emergency services within the area.

### **Winter Storms/ Flooding**

Staff on the Winter Service rota will respond to precautionary gritting and winter events as normal. Where applicable and when the weather dictates, they will also respond to flooding issues supporting the existing Out of Hours rota in anything above and beyond the normal response levels. The authority receives severe weather warnings many days in advance from several sources including the Met Office Hazard Manager. This gives us the ability to track storms and plan resources around the potential impact.

## **Implications**

<b>Policy</b>	There are no changes to winter services policy or gritted network for the 20/21 winter season.
<b>Finance and value for money</b>	None
<b>Legal</b>	None
<b>Procurement</b>	None
<b>Human Resources</b>	None
<b>Property</b>	None
<b>Equalities</b> (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	None
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	Additional risks due to coronavirus have been considered in operational processes
<b>Crime &amp; Disorder</b>	None
<b>Customer Consideration</b>	The delivery of winter services will assist the public to travel safely during the winter period.
<b>Carbon reduction</b>	None
<b>Wards</b>	All

## **Background papers:**

None

**Report sign off.**

***Authors must ensure that officers and members have agreed the content of the report:***

	Full name of officer
Monitoring Officer/Legal	N/A
Executive Director of Finance & S151 Officer	N/A
Relevant Executive Director	Rob Murfin
Chief Executive	N/A
Portfolio Holder(s)	John Riddle

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**Northumberland County Council  
North Northumberland Local Area Council  
Work Programme 2021/22**

Rebecca Little : 01670 622611 : [Rebecca.Little@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Rebecca.Little@northumberland.gov.uk)

**UPDATED: 10 November 2021**

14 July 2021

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

- (a) To enhance good governance in the area and ensure that the Council's policies take account of the needs and aspirations of local communities and do not discriminate unfairly between the different Areas.
- (b) To advise the Cabinet on budget priorities and expenditure within the Area.
- (c) To consider, develop and influence policy and strategy development of the Council, its arms-length organisations, and other relevant bodies, to ensure that they meet local requirements and facilitate efficient and transparent decision making.
- (d) To receive information, consider and comment on matters associated with service delivery including those undertaken in partnership agencies, affecting the local area to ensure that they meet local requirements, including matters relating to community safety, anti-social behaviour and environmental crime.
- (e) To consider and refer to Cabinet any issues from a local community perspective with emerging Neighbourhood Plans within their area, and consider local planning applications as per the planning delegation scheme
- (f) To consider and recommend adjustments to budget priorities in relation to Local Transport Plan issues within their area, and to make decisions in relation to devolved capital highway maintenance allocations.
- (g) To engage, through the appropriate networks, with all key stakeholders from the public, private, voluntary and community sectors to facilitate the delivery of area priorities. This will include undertaking regular liaison with parish and town councils.
- (h) To inform, consult and engage local communities in accordance with Council policy and guidance, through the appropriate networks.
- (i) To, as appropriate, respond or refer with recommendations to local petitions and councillor calls for action.
- (j) To make certain appointments to outside bodies as agreed by Council.
- (k) To determine applications for grant aid from the Community Chest, either through Panels for individual Local Area Councils, or through the Panel of Local Area Council Chairs for countywide applications.
- (l) To refer and receive appropriate issues for consideration to or from other Council Committees, and as appropriate invite Portfolio Holders to attend a meeting if an item in their area of responsibility is to be discussed.
- (m) To exercise the following functions within their area:-

14 July 2021

- (i) the Council's functions in relation to the survey, definition, maintenance, diversion, stopping up and creation of public rights of way.
- (ii) the Council's functions as the Commons Registration Authority for common land and town/village greens in Northumberland.
- (iii) the Council's functions in relation to the preparation and maintenance of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan.
- (iv) the Council's functions in relation to the Northumberland National Park and County Joint Local Access Forum (Local Access Forums (England) Regulations 2007).
- (v) the Council's role in encouraging wider access for all to the County's network of public rights of way and other recreational routes.

## ISSUES TO BE SCHEDULED/CONSIDERED

**Standard items updates:** Public question time (bimonthly, not at planning only meetings), petitions, Members' Local Improvement Schemes (bimonthly, not at planning only meetings), Berwick Regeneration Commission (bimonthly, not at planning only meetings)

### To be listed:

Enhanced Services with Town and Parish Councils  
Off-street Electric Vehicle Charging Points  
Cycling and Walking Board  
Enforcement

Northumberland County Council North Northumberland Local Area Council Work Programme 2021-22	
22 July 2021	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Planning</li><li>• Local Services Update</li><li>• Appointments to Outside Bodies</li><li>• Members Local Improvement Schemes</li><li>• Berwick Regeneration Project</li></ul>
19 August 2021	



14 July 2021



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning Applications</li> </ul>
<b>23 September 2021</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning</li> <li>• Local Services Update</li> <li>• Policing Update</li> <li>• Local Transport Plan Update</li> <li>• Berwick Regeneration Project</li> <li>• Borderlands</li> <li>• Youth Service Presentation</li> </ul>
<b>21 October 2021</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning</li> </ul>
<b>18 November 2021</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning</li> <li>• Local Services Update</li> <li>• Berwick Regeneration Project</li> <li>• Dualling of the A1 – Update from Highways England</li> </ul>
<b>23 December 2021</b>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning</li> </ul>
<b>20 January 2022</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning</li> <li>• Budget Presentation</li> <li>• Local Services Update</li> <li>• Berwick Regeneration Project</li> </ul>
<b>24 February 2022</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning</li> <li>• Local Transport Plan</li> </ul>
<b>24 March 2022</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning</li> <li>• Local Services Update</li> <li>• Members Local Improvement Schemes</li> <li>• Berwick Regeneration Project</li> </ul>
<b>21 April 2022</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning</li> </ul>

14 July 2021

**NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL  
LOCAL AREA COUNCIL - NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND  
MONITORING REPORT 2020/21**

<b>Ref</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Report</b>	<b>Decision</b>	<b>Outcome</b>