

## Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny Panel – Action Log 2023

Area	Recommendation	Status	Officer notes	Cabinet date
<b>Tree Strategy (Idverde)</b>	The Panel recommended that the Council's Tree Strategy is reviewed and updated to include how new trees are established and how all trees are maintained	<b>Green</b>	The tree strategy is currently being undertaken. The strategy will be delivered in two parts with the first phase concentrating on Council-owned assets, maintenance regimes and risk management. The second phase will take into context private tree assets, planning considerations and the wider urban forest.	09.11.2021
<b>Green Spaces</b>	The Panel recommends that the Council create an overarching Green Spaces strategy in line with the Council's climate commitment and with a focus on community wellbeing	<b>Amber</b>	Cabinet Member updated at 19.01.23 that there has been a delay- it links to the wider green strategy across London. We're waiting for that guidance so that we can ensure we are feeding into a pan London approach.	09.11.2021
<b>Idverde</b>	The Panel recommends to Cabinet that the Council should consider developing a 'One Stop Shop' web-based reporting system to make it easier for our residents to report any issues relating to parks, waste and public spaces in one place and bring an update on this to the SC Panel AND To display signage in parks informing residents on how to report issues and express their views	<b>Amber</b>	Cabinet Member updated at 19.01.23 that Fix my street/reporting will be extended to parks and green spaces.	09.11.2021
<b>Idverde</b>	The Panel requested quarterly updates from officers on the performance of Idverde (as part of the standing performance monitoring item)	<b>Amber</b>	The Assistant Director for Public Space committed to meeting with Chair to agree on how performance will be reported to the Sustainable Communities Panel going forward e.g., a dashboard overview.	09.11.2021
<b>Idverde</b>	The Panel requested Cabinet identify timescales for the Idverde recommendations. Cabinet Member agreed to return to the Panel with	<b>Amber</b>	Add Idverde item to agenda - Autumn 2023.	N/A

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	timeframes for these, with the caveat that the timeframes presented back could change.			
<b>Flooding</b>	The Thames Water independent review of the flooding to be shared with the Panel once received.	<b>Green</b>	Presented to 23 February Panel. Thames Water to be invited to future panel.	N/A
<b>Tenants Champion</b>	See reference for full details.	<b>Green</b>	Cabinet response here: <a href="https://democracy.merton.gov.uk/documents/s48404/Housing%20enforcement%20and%20the%20tenants%20champion%20role%20002.pdf">https://democracy.merton.gov.uk/documents/s48404/Housing%20enforcement%20and%20the%20tenants%20champion%20role%20002.pdf</a>	19.09.2022
<b>Fly tipping</b>	Considering lack of access to disposal facilities is a driver, the Panel RESOLVED that "This panel requests Cabinet consider ways of bringing the collection of waste closer to the community	<b>Green</b>	The recommendation made by the Panel was welcomed by Cabinet and contributes to the existing developments being made to the service.	19.09.2022
<b>Clarion Housing</b>	This Panel recommends that it be a default procedure for all repairs to have before and after pictures.	<b>Green</b>		20.02.23
<b>Clarion Housing</b>	This Panel recommends that Clarion, at least once a quarter, help advertise the Resident Association meetings, including where and when they will be held, and that resident associations are allowed access to the communal boards for them to advertise these meetings.	<b>Green</b>		20.02.23
<b>Clarion Housing</b>	This panel request that Clarion report back on the improvements it makes to communications around repairs and update the panel at the next session they are due to report at.	<b>Green</b>		20.02.23
<b>Clarion Housing</b>	Clarion commit to review all their Merton properties with regards to retrofitting and improving their energy efficiency.	<b>Green</b>		20.02.23

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Clarion Housing	The panel recommends that Clarion undertakes a review of all empty or unused Community spaces so that some, if usable, can be allocated for use by resident associations.	Green		20.02.23
Clarion Housing	Clarion to review its protocols for communicating with freeholders and leaseholders on its properties with regards to complaints and repair response times.	Green		20.02.23
Clarion Housing	Recommend greater transparency published about individual estates data on repairs and the satisfaction rates from residents.	Green		20.02.23
Waste & Recycling	This Panel recommends that further details of the contract specifications for each service are brought back to a future Sustainable Communities Panel at an appropriate time.	Green		20.02.23
Waste & Recycling	That street sweeping schedules are published on the Merton website	Green		20.02.23
Waste & Recycling	That 'prioritising street sweeping after bin collection' should be included in the specification.	Green		20.02.23
Waste & Recycling	The Council continue the work already underway in support of Net Zero by 2030, ensuring that the waste collection contract agreed will state that the vehicle fleet needs to be carbon neutral by 2030.	Green		20.02.23
Waste & Recycling	The Panel requests that performance monitoring officers come up with a process for the Sustainable Communities Panel can feed in and scrutinise contract performance.	Green		20.02.23
Waste & Recycling	This Panel recommends that the Council introduces ward-based dashboards for identifying fly tip hot spots.	Green		20.02.23
Waste & Recycling	That the Cabinet Member for Local Environment, Green Spaces and Climate Change returns to the	Green		20.02.23

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	Sustainable Communities Panel once the Environment Bill and legislation has been published.			
<b>School Streets</b>	The Council explore the possibility for planters and particular features that make it clear it is a school street.	<b>Green</b>		19.06.23
<b>School Streets</b>	Cabinet to review the communication of zones including term times in school streets	<b>Green</b>		19.06.23
<b>Active Travel</b>	Cabinet looks at resourcing for and prioritise the walking and cycling master plan.	<b>Green</b>		19.06.23
<b>Active Travel</b>	Recommend to Cabinet that they examine any potential quick wins that are already identified and still relevant.	<b>Green</b>		19.06.23
<b>Development Control</b>	<p>Recommend an officer taskforce is established to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Scope opportunities to maximise and optimise current development control software. This would include opportunities to improve data quality.</li> <li>2. Subject to available resource, and increasing returns to scale, implement improvement opportunities identified that support system migration.</li> <li>3. Scope the resource and processes required to stand up a programme of work to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replace the current development control software</li> <li>• Iterating processes to improve efficiency and software utilisation following migration</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p>Both with the aim of being compliant with the regulations following the Royal Assent of the Levelling up and Regeneration Bill.</p>	<b>Green</b>	Cabinet welcomed these recommendations and advised that an officer working group has already been set up to scope the replacement for the development control software, which will be looking at the opportunities for improvement and efficiency as part of the brief for this work.	19.06.23

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	The Panel also ask that the findings from the task group be brought back to the scrutiny in due course			
<b>Homelessness</b>	This Panel recommends supporting the council's plans to increase the amount of temporary accommodation through schemes such as the Empty Houses scheme which is coming forward.	<b>Green</b>	Cabinet welcomed these recommendations, and noted these recommendations are in line with current policy and are already being implemented.	19.06.23
<b>Homelessness</b>	The Panel recommends that the council do everything within its power to house people in Merton as a top priority and as close as possible to the borough. Also, to increase the procurement of accommodation through empty homes and capital lettings.	<b>Green</b>	Cabinet welcomed these recommendations, and noted these recommendations are in line with current policy and are already being implemented.	19.06.23
<b>Call in – Traveller's site</b>	This Panel recommends that the Director of Adult Social Care, Integrated Care and Public Health and the Cabinet Member for Housing and Sustainable Development arrange for inspection of the Brickfield Road site, to explore the issues raised by the Councillors who submitted the call-in.	<b>Green</b>	Cllr Judge has visited the site with officers to explore the issues raised.	19.06.23
<b>EV charging task group</b>	See reference for full details. <a href="#">Agenda for Cabinet on Monday 19 June 2023, 7.15 pm - Merton Council</a>	<b>Green</b>	Cabinet agreed to the implementation and inclusion of the recommendations through the Electric Vehicle Strategy due to be written by Future Merton, working with the Cabinet Member for Transport	19.06.23
<b>Community Toilet Scheme</b>	See reference for full details. <a href="#">Agenda for Cabinet on Monday 18 September 2023, 7.15 pm - Merton Council</a>	Pending	Scheduled for Cabinet 18.09.23	

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