Recovery and Renewal Progress Update

Responding to Increased Demands arising from COVID-19					
Action	Agreed funding	Target Start	Target End	Success	Progress at January 2022
Planning Development Control fixed term post	£35,000 Recovery Fund	ASAP		Backlog resolved and staff able to meet demands on the service	A contractor has in place since mid- October helping process both other and minor applications. This will continue until the end of the financial year when the expected the money allocated will be used up.
Planning Enforcement fixed term post	£35,000 Recovery Fund	ASAP	Mar-22	Backlog resolved and staff able to meet demands on the service	The fixed term post be changed to a consultant post given the difficulties in recruiting at a senior officer level. A consultant senior enforcement officer has been in post since mid-October-21 and funding is in place to continue this until the end of the financial year when the budget will be used up.
Increased capacity in Heritage and Landscape	£70,000 Recovery Fund	ASAP		Backlog resolved and staff able to meet demands on the service	The process is in place to recruit to several posts in HLD. One of which is for the appointment of a new fixed term (1 year) Landscape Conditions Implementation Officer post. The contract for the part-time Principal Conservation Officer post (2 days per week) comes to an end at the end of March 2022 and the post will be re-advertised as another 1- year fixed term contract. Additionally, a specialist contractor is about to be appointed for 4 months to help clear the backlog of tree applications. Funding will need to be carried forward to 2022/23 to accommodate these arrangements.