

SSDC Council Plan 2020-2024

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Purpose of the Report

1. To invite Members to recommend the adoption of the South Somerset District Council (SSDC) Council Plan 2020 – 2024, Annual action plan 2020-2021 and a revised set of Key Performance Indicators.

Forward Plan

2. This report appeared on the District Executive Forward Plan with an anticipated Committee date of 6th February 2020.

Public Interest

3. The Council Plan is a strategic document, which sets out the Council's vision, values and aims. It is a key document and tool used to communicate and share the administrations' ambitions and objectives for the Council. The Council Plan is designed to support us to create a focussed and streamlined operation as well as hold us accountable to the commitments we make and milestones we set.

Recommendations

4. That District Executive recommend to Full Council to:
 - a) Endorse the new Council Plan 2020-2024 and vision, values and aims it includes
 - b) Agree the annual action plan and key performance indicators for 2020-2021
 - c) Note the detailed milestones and desired outcomes for each Priority Project

Background

5. Since the District Council election in May 2019, the newly formed Leadership Team spent some time reconsidering their priorities for the term. They translated their vision and aspirations into a new Council Plan and Annual action plan.
6. The new Council Plan for the period 2020-2024, shows the Council's ongoing commitment to make changes in the way that it operates and delivers services over the coming years whilst continuing to deliver services and priority projects that meet the needs of our residents, visitors and businesses. It highlights the administration's desire to be ambitious for South Somerset and deliver outstanding services for our communities and residents.

The Council Plan 2020-2024

7. The Council Plan (Appendix A) draws together the administration's vision for South Somerset and sets out its values, and aims for the District.
8. The vision for South Somerset: **a naturally beautiful and sustainable environment, which also allows business to flourish and good homes to be delivered. A place where our**

communities are safe, vibrant and healthy and have access to exceptional cultural and leisure activities

The Annual Action Plan 2020-2021

9. The purpose of the Annual action plan (Appendix A) is to help us deliver the Council Plan 2020-24 and the vision, values and aims it includes. This is achieved by translating the vision and aims into key areas of focus and priority projects, which are categorised into five themes (protecting core services, economy, environment, places where we live, and healthy, self-reliant communities).
10. The Annual action plan draws together our areas of focus, priority projects and Area Chapters for the year ahead and is supported by a revised set of key performance indicators.

Areas of Focus

11. The areas of focus within each of the five themes help us streamline our resources and efforts to deliver for our residents, communities and businesses. The areas of focus are aligned to key strategies including our Commercial, Economic Development, Environment and Housing and 'Improving Lives' (Somerset's Health and Wellbeing) Strategy.
12. Communities of practice have been established for each of the five council Plan themes which, bring together accountable and responsible staff from across the organisation (including external stakeholders and partners as and where appropriate) in order to achieve a coordinated and collaborative way to assure delivery of identified outcomes for our communities.

Priority Projects

13. The proposed eight priority projects for 2020-2021 are as follows:
 - Fully realise the benefits of Transformation and further embed the Commercial Strategy
 - Progress implementation of the Chard regeneration project
 - Continue the refresh of Yeovil Town Centre
 - Progress project to aid the regeneration of Wincanton Town Centre
 - Develop proposals to accelerate the delivery of key housing sites and associated infrastructure
 - Assess options for improving community transport links
 - Develop proposals to support struggling families and help address child poverty and low rates of social mobility in the district
 - Accelerate action to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change and extreme weather
14. For each of the priority projects, key milestones and desired outcomes are identified for 2020-2021 (Appendix A). Progress and performance of the projects will be monitored through the appropriate Project Boards.

Area Chapters

15. Area Chapters have been developed using area focused priorities identified through Member workshops, along with information from the Area+ delivery Team.
16. The Area Chapters have been agreed by each Area Committee. Delivery plans will be developed to determine the outcomes, milestones, key activities and resources needed from

across the organisation to support delivery. The overall approach to delivery will be based on the principle that we will enable others to deliver, partner where it makes sense and deliver where we are able to and others cannot.

17. There is a SLT sponsor for each Area who will be an advocate for implementation of the Area Chapter and ensure that activities remain aligned with the strategic objectives of the District Council.

Key Performance Indicators

18. It is important to have relevant and appropriate Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) which provide assurance on progress and delivery, allow customers to hold us to account and help inform ongoing learning and evaluation.
19. The current KPI's, agreed by Full Council in 2019, have been reviewed and updated to provide high level measures of corporate performance aligned to the new Council Plan. The proposed set of indicators are shown in **Appendix A**.

Financial Implications

20. Where the costs of implementing our Council-wide areas of focus and priority projects are known, an allocation of revenue budget has been made, or capital funding included in the capital programme for 2020/21 onwards where appropriate.
21. For projects or areas of focus are at an investigative or scoping stage funding will be subject to future capital bid processes or require external funding support.

Council Plan Implications

22. This report details the Council's vision, values and aims.

Carbon Emissions and Climate Change Implications

23. None directly from this report. However, the Council Plan 2020-2024 emphasises our commitment to protecting the environment. We will ensure that Carbon Emissions and Climate Change Implications are considered as part of each report presented to Committee.

Equality and Diversity Implications

24. An Equality Impact Relevance Check Form has been completed and is attached to this report (Appendix B). In producing the plan itself there are no direct impacts. However, it is likely that individual equality impact assessments will need to be carried out for the individual areas of focus and priority projects.

Privacy Impact Assessment

25. None directly from this report.

Background Papers

26. None