



SSDC Annual Achievements Report 2019-20

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Purpose of the Report

1. This report presents a summary of outcomes achieved against the Council Plan Annual Action Plan for the year April 2019 to March 2020.

Public Interest

2. South Somerset District Council (SSDC) is an ambitious and forward-thinking council that is committed to transforming, improving and adapting to be ready for the future. We place our residents and businesses firmly at the centre of everything we do and we are incredibly proud of the work we have achieved alongside our communities in 2019/20.

Recommendations

3. That the District Executive:-
 - a. notes and comments on the attached achievements report at Appendix A.
 - b. recommends to Council to approve the 2019/20 achievements report for publication.

Council Plan and Annual Action Plan 2018-19

4. The Council Plan 2020-24 sets out what the Council wants to achieve in support of our vision for South Somerset - ***a place where businesses flourish, communities are safe, vibrant and healthy; where residents enjoy good housing and cultural, leisure and sporting activities.*** An Annual Action Plan for 2020-21 was agreed by Full Council in February 2020 which included eight priority projects and 38 areas of focus under five themes: - Protecting Core Services; Economy; Environment; Places where we live and Healthy, Self-reliant Communities.
5. Our Council Plan shows our ambitions to make major changes in the way that we operate and deliver services over the next few years whilst continuing to deliver services and priority projects that meet the needs of our residents, visitors and businesses.
6. Despite the challenges of Covid-19 we continue to strive to provide excellent services. There are still some areas within the Council which need improvement and we will be focussing on these over the coming year.

7. Just some of last year's highlights and achievements are –

- A balanced budget was delivered with no cuts to services
- Launched regeneration projects which will support three of our key towns in South Somerset – Yeovil, Chard and Wincanton
- A 10-year Economic Development Strategy was launched to ensure we are well-placed to attract new businesses, help start-ups and encourage diversity and innovation.
- We are continuing to be a more commercial organisation, investing in projects that will provide essential income to pay for our highly-valued services.
- Alongside this we continue to improve customer service with new technology, providing dedicated resources to support those who are most vulnerable, continuing our great work to alleviate homelessness and working hard to protect the environment.
- The Council received or is shortlisted for a range of national awards or commendations for our work.

8. The attached draft report in Appendix A provides an overview of just some of the great work being undertaken across the Council as we continue to commit to our goals of being great to work for, excellent to work with, leading the way and delivering for our communities.

Financial Implications

9. None.

Council Plan Implications

10. This is the annual report relating to the delivery of the Council Plan

Carbon Emissions and Climate Change Implications

11. None

Equality and Diversity Implications

12. None

Privacy Impact Assessment

13. None.

Background Papers

13. Council Plan 2020-24 and Annual Action Plan 2020-21.
