



SSDC Annual Action Plan 2021-2022

Executive Portfolio Holder:	Val Keitch, Leader of Council
Strategic Director:	Kirsty Larkins, Director Strategy and Commissioning
Lead Specialist:	Peter Paddon, Lead Specialist Strategic Planning
Lead Officer:	Anna-Maria Lenz - Specialist Strategic Planning
Contact Details:	Anna-maria.lenz@southsomerset.gov.uk

Purpose of the Report

1. To invite Members to recommend the adoption of the Annual action plan 2021-2022.

Forward Plan

2. This report appeared on the District Executive Forward Plan with an anticipated Committee date of 4th February 2021.

Public Interest

3. The Annual Action Plan is a strategic document, which sits within the Council Plan 2020-2024 and sets out the strategic ambitions of South Somerset District Council. It is a key document and tool used to communicate and share the objectives for the Council. The Annual Action Plan is designed to articulate the commitments we make and milestones we set; as well as provide the basis on which to hold us accountable.

Recommendations

4. That District Executive recommend to Full Council to:
 - a) Agree the Annual Action Plan for 2021-2022 comprising of revised Areas of Focus, Priority Projects and Area Chapters.

The Annual Action Plan 2021-2022

5. The purpose of the Annual Action Plan (pg. 3-14 of 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, Priority Projects and Area Chapters. These are categorised into five themes (Protecting core services, Economy, Environment, Places where we live, and Healthy, self-reliant communities).
6. The 2021-2022 Annual Action Plan is the second Annual Action Plan within the 2020-2024 Council Plan period.



South Somerset District Council

7. Appendix A combines the Council Plan 2020-2024 which sets out the administration's vision for South Somerset including values, and aims for the District with the 2021-2022 Annual Action Plan.
8. Since the adoption of the 2020-2021 Annual Action Plan the Council and the communities that it serves have faced significant challenges due to the Covid Pandemic. The Annual Action Plan for the 2021-2022 period shows the Council's ongoing commitment to deliver services and priority projects that meet the needs of our residents, visitors and businesses.

Areas of Focus

9. 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. There is also a Community of Practice (COP) operating to support each theme.

Priority Projects

10. The reviewed list of priority projects reflects the close out of transformation, the programme management approach to regeneration and the inclusion of outstanding elements into Areas of Focus and new priority projects. The review has resulted in a reduced number of priority projects from eight last year (2020/21) to five for this coming year (2021/22) which, will also allow more focus on projects identified as particularly important for the 2021/22 period.
11. The proposed five Priority Projects for 2021-2022 are as follows:
 - Lead the recovery and revitalisation of our economy and communities to be stronger, more resilient and more vibrant than before Covid-19
 - Continue to deliver Regeneration Programmes
 - To develop proposals to accelerate the delivery of key housing sites and associated infrastructure
 - Address child poverty, social isolation and low levels of social mobility across the district
 - To accelerate action to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change and extreme weather
12. For each of the priority projects, key milestones and desired outcomes are identified for 2021-2022 (Appendix A).

Area Chapters

13. The Area Chapters have been reviewed and agreed in separate Member workshops for each Area. Area Chapters will be developed to determine the outcomes, milestones, key activities and resources needed from across the



South Somerset District Council

organisation to support the delivery of the area focused priorities set out in the relevant chapters. 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.

Financial Implications

14. Where the costs of implementing our Council-wide areas of focus and priority projects are known, where possible, this will be funded from an existing revenue budget. If funding from an existing revenue budget cannot be found a request will be made for additional revenue funding, which will be included in the Medium Term Financial Plan as a revenue pressure. If the funding required is capital, this will be included in the capital programme for 2021-22 onwards where appropriate.
15. For projects or areas of focus at an investigative or scoping stage funding will be subject to future capital bid processes or require external funding support.

Council Plan Implications

16. This report details the Council's strategic objectives for the 2021-2022 period.

Carbon Emissions and Climate Change Implications

17. None directly from this report. However, the Council Plan 2020-2024 and Annual Action Plan 2021-2022 emphasises our commitment to protecting the environment.

Equality and Diversity Implications

18. 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

19. None directly from this report.

Background Papers

20. DX report: SSDC Council Plan 2020-2024, Item 6 in the reports pack available here: <https://modgov.southsomerset.gov.uk/documents/g2573/Public%20reports%20pack%2006th-Feb-2020%2009.30%20District%20Executive.pdf?T=10>
21. Full Council Report: SSDC Council Plan 2020-2024, Item 7 in the reports pack available here: <https://modgov.southsomerset.gov.uk/documents/g2576/Public%20reports%20pack%2019th-Feb-2020%2019.30%20South%20Somerset%20District%20Council.pdf?T=10>