

Appendix B – Area Development (North) – 2012/13 Service Plan – Update November 2012

No.	Officer Dealing	Action / Service / Project Description (what is planned to be done this year)	Current position / update since April 12 (November 2012)
1	CJ/LC	Promote new opportunities to increase affordable housing and work with partners to deliver the current Area North Housing Programme.	Norton sub Hamdon Community Land Trust incorporated and planning application submitted for 10 affordable homes. Long Load scheme – local agreement to suspend / cancel. Long Sutton - two schemes with consent and funding; Yarlinton Homes on site to build 3 units. Ash - scheme in early stages, landowner / RSL discussions. Parish workshops arranged with Development Management / Spatial Planning Services for town and parish councillors, which covers future provision of affordable housing.
2	CJ / TO / PB	Promote local economic development creating or sustaining jobs;	Monitor weekly planning applications and engage as appropriate to promote local involvement or assist with evidence base for decision making. (A number of small scale 'high street' applications developing business use noted.) Reviewed prior allocations for employment space and current draft Local Plan. New workspace at Westover, Langport has consent – to be marketed in 2013. Current application for workspace at Lopenhead. Re-marketing for employment land at Old Kelways under assessment. Vacancy survey in Langport / Westover completed. Rural shops / pubs monitored. Business support / investment promoted via local business networks.
3	CJ / TO / PB	Support the re-use of vacant premises or redundant land and / or Historic Buildings at Risk ;	Seven projects activity monitored / supported to progress to enhance local well-being - four in SSDC ownership. Four are listed buildings. Old Kelways - part of former SSDC offices handed back and re-let for business use. SSDC former toilets at Stoke sub Hamdon - re-use secured through sale and COU to photographic studio. Officer / Cllr working group established for priority building at risk (Wessex ward). Marketing to re-let Langport Visitor Centre commenced.
4	CJ / TO	Work in partnership to assess and improve local access to advice, learning, skills and employment .	Supported start-up of Martock Job Club. NEETS programme on second phase. Contact with Somerset Skills and Learning and local groups maintained to promote locally led approach. Further research to consider job club & local access to advice in Langport / Somerton. Job Club to start in Langport by VISTA.

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5	TO / PB	Support development and success of local business networks	Langport Area Business Group - support to town centre marketing programme - with Langport Town Council. Martock Business Engagement Group - Growing Martock Business programme. Promote involvement with SSDC Tourism e-newsletter to tourism businesses. Assisted Somerton B&TA to publish new mini-guide for town. Town 'apps' project being developed in conjunction with local business groups in Somerton, Langport and Martock.
6	PB	Develop and implement a 'light touch' programme of visitor marketing promoting extended stay and spend in Area North.	New signage installed at Cartgate Picnic area. Links maintained with National Trust. Support to development of 'Walk Langport' project. Local tourist information through LICs. £20,000 allocated in Area North Capital programme towards signage. Westover business park signage project at design stage. Review of Langport Visitor Centre extended to consider role and investment in River Parrett Trail.
7	PB	Continue to monitor and support the completion of the Levels and Moors Local Action for Rural Communities (LARC) investment programme.	The programme is fully allocated and is now in the final phase. A total of 45 projects awarded grants, of which 11 (grants of £308k towards projects worth £661k) based in South Somerset, and a further 12 (grants of £581k worth £755,844) projects which cover the Levels and Moors area.
8	TO/PB	Support delivery of South Somerset Market Towns Investment Group programme (MTIG)	Projects completed locally led, from local priorities and Visitor Audit programmes. Involvement of MTIG group to prioritise investment of 'Portas' grant. Current projects include Market Towns "App", and grants to a series of local enhancement schemes.
9	TO/PB	Continue to support the network of voluntary run Local Information Centres serving residents and visitors.	Service Level Agreements reviewed and in place for 2012-13 in Martock, Somerton, Langport and South Petherton. (In 2011-12 around 80 volunteers recorded over 11,000 visitors). Assisted with new local information leaflets published by Langport Information Centre – hall hire, places to eat etc. End of year meeting with volunteers arranged by tourism team.
10	TO	Promote the availability of public transport , including review of current local transport options	Discussions with SSVCA Links community transport re future needs for finance and support. Information being prepared for discussion with councillors regarding transport available within Area North and options to assist with further development. SCC / Govt funding reviews of rural bus subsidies on-going.

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11	CJ / TO	Promote local access to ICT and broadband , including delivery of the <i>Somerset and Devon Broadband programme</i>	Assisted with promotion of 'Netbuddies' groups in Somerton / Langport. Working with SCC appointed consultants to plan and deliver programme of community / business engagement during 2013 across South Somerset, as part of <i>Somerset and Devon Broadband programme</i> . Support to Martock Community Partnership to establish local ICT sessions.
12	TO / MKO	Help residents access the services they need and raise awareness of the availability of local service provision.	Additional staff time from Housing and Welfare contracted from April 12 - provision of one day per week additional, targeted welfare benefits take-up advice and support. Simple publications produced for parishes / LICs as a guide to local public services. Use of community forum to promote services. Provision of SSSDC Community Office Service - a local source of face to face information, help and advice. Langport - Reduced hours approved by District Executive Nov 12. Somerton - Closure of Somerton Community Office - July 2012. Links made with Somerset Advice Network and Yarlinton Housing to consider additional training for staff and volunteers offering advice.
13	CJ / LC/TO	Continue to develop Area North Community Network for multi-agency / community problem solving (including community safety)	Regular liaison with Neighbourhood Policing team in place to agree joint work if required. Good progress to develop youth & community partnership working in Stoke. Support to Martock Local Action Group.
14	TO	Promote activities and opportunities for the development of children and young people .	Play scheme sessions booked via Community Resource Service at Aller, Kingsbury, Martock and Ilton. Help at Ilton Youth Club to ensure continuity. Youth workers appointed by Area North based youth project following 100% withdrawal of local services funded by SCC.
15	CJ / LC	Support the creation and delivery of local investment plans for community facilities	Parish level investment plans (funded by developer obligations; capital programmes; external grants and local fundraising) can assist where there are a number of facilities to consider, and differing timescales / ownerships to contend with. A number of developer obligations held by SSSDC, together with allocation in SSSDC capital programme. Current work with Langport / Huish; Ilton; South Petherton; Martock; Somerton; Curry Rivel; Tintinhull. Various local facilities offered help and advice to progress projects.