

10. Area West Development Plan 2007/8

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Purpose of the Report

To report on changes, progress and achievements.

The attached table (pages 14-24) provides brief updates for members on the progress made to date and any significant changes in the plan for 2007/8. These are noted in italics in the "Update " column. In many instances, these provide a useful summary of matters already reported to the committee in greater detail in separate reports.

Recommendation

That the report be noted.

The Area West Development Plan 2007/8

The Area West Development Plan for 2007/8 contains ambitious projects to support the further development of sustainable communities in Area West. These are a combination of new and continuing projects rolled forward from the 2006/7 plan.

We continue to develop a community planning framework, focussing in particular on our three market towns that allows us to;

- Work with local communities to identify the areas issues and needs.
- Develop actions that address the most important issues through partnerships with other service providers and agencies.
- Scrutinise local services and make sure these are accountable to local people.

In the Council's Corporate plan our style of working is called 'enable, partner -deliver'. Most of the aspirations set out in the Area Development Plan 2007/8 are being achieved through formal and informal partnership working arrangements. Area members are actively involved in these. In some cases we include projects to develop the partnership working arrangements themselves.

Through these partnership arrangements we aim to deliver better outcomes for local people across a wide range of projects.

It is a working document, which guides the activity of the Area Development Team, and other service based staff, within the framework of available resources.

Financial Implications

There are no new financial implications as a direct result of this report.

Implications for Corporate Priorities

The Area Development Plan contains projects that contribute directly and indirectly towards many of the Councils corporate priorities and in particular towards these corporate objectives;

- Raise the skill level of the local workforce to achieve a higher average relative wage across South Somerset by 10 per cent by 2012.
- Work in partnership with the public and private sector in developing and delivery of the Market Towns Vision.
- Identify and address the particular issues affecting rural areas.
- Work in partnership with others to improve the health prospects for all.
- Maintain above 90 per cent the people who generally feel safe in their communities.
- Increase to 65 per cent by 2010 the people who feel engaged in and can influence decisions that affect their communities.
- Maintain above 80 per cent the people satisfied with their neighbourhoods as a place to live.

Background Papers: *Area West Action Plans 2005-7*
SSDC Corporate Plan 2005 -12
