

## Annual Action Plan 2022/23

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## Purpose of the Report

1. To invite Members to agree the adoption of the Annual Action Plan 2022-2023.

## Public Interest

2. The Annual Action Plan is a strategic document, which sits within the overall Council Corporate 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

3. That Full Council agree to adopt the Annual Action Plan for 2022-2023 comprising of the revised Areas of Focus and Priority Projects.

## Background

4. The Annual Action Plan is required to focus resources on priority projects that are realistic in the final year of South Somerset District Council before the new Unitary Authority commences on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.

## The Annual Action Plan (2022 – 2023)

5. The purpose of the Annual Action Plan (pg. 5 - 14 of Appendix A) is to help us deliver the Corporate 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. These are categorised into five themes (Environment, Healthy and Self-Reliant Communities, Places where we live, Economy and Covid-19 Recovery and Local Government Reorganisation).
6. The 2022-2023 Annual Action Plan is the third Annual Action Plan within the 2020-2024 Corporate Council Plan period. Due to the new Unitary proposal this will be the Council's last annual action plan.
7. Appendix A combines the administration's vision for South Somerset including values, and aims for the District with the 2022-2023 Annual Action Plan.



8. A Scrutiny Consultation Group took place on the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and Senior Leadership Team (SLT) responded to the points raised.

## 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 Economic Development, Environment and Housing and 'Improving Lives' (Somerset's Health and Wellbeing) Strategy.

## Priority Projects

10. The reviewed list of priority projects reflects the need to complete priority projects in our final year of South Somerset District Council.
11. The proposed five Priority Projects for 2022-2023 are as follows:
  - Priority 1: (Environment)  
To accelerate action to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change which includes reducing the Carbon footprint of the authority and enhancing the natural environment.
  - Priority 2: (Healthy and Self-Reliant Communities)  
To enable healthy communities which are cohesive, sustainable and enjoy a high quality of life.
  - Priority 3: (Economy and Covid-19 Recovery)  
To assist businesses to recover from the Covid-19 pandemic whilst supporting growth within the South Somerset economy in partnership with other organisations.
  - Priority 4: (Places where we live)  
To enable housing and communities to meet the existing and future needs of residents and employers.
  - Priority 5: (Local Government Reorganisation)  
To effect a safe and legal transition to the new Somerset Council on 1st April 2023.
12. For each of the priority projects, key milestones and desired outcomes will be provided in collaboration with the Council's Performance Team.

## Financial Implications

13. Our revenue budgets support the priority projects and areas of focus in the 2022- 2023 Corporate Action Plan including Covid 19 recovery, grants to voluntary organisations and delivery of the key projects and strategies using staff resources. The capital programme will fund a number of key projects across the District including the Regeneration programmes and the Octagon Theatre.



14. For a full breakdown of associated costs please see the 2022/2023 Budget Report.

### Legal implications (if any) and details of Statutory Powers

15. None directly from this report.

### Council Plan Implications

16. This report details the Council’s strategic objectives for the 2022-2023 period.

### Carbon Emissions and Climate Change Implications

17. None directly from this report. However, the Council Corporate Plan 2020-2024 and Annual Action Plan 2022-2023 emphasises our commitment to protecting the environment. An environment assessment has been made and is included as Appendix B.

### Equality and Diversity Implications

<i>An Equality Impact Relevance Check Form has been completed in respect of the Proposal?</i>	<i>Yes / <del>No</del></i>
<i>The Impact Relevance Check indicated that a full EIA was required?</i>	<i><del>Yes</del> / No</i>

<b>Additional Comments</b>	
<i>An Equality Impact Relevance Check Form has been completed and is attached to this report (Appendix C). 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.</i>	

### Privacy Impact Assessment

18. None directly from this report.

### Background Papers

19. 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>

20. 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>

21. Scrutiny Consultation Group Discussion Notes from 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022.