Our Corporate Plan 2016 to 2020



Our Vision: Your council, your future



Our priorities:

We will focus on:

Bringing new businesses into the District

Business development and growth

Improving and regenerating our town centres

Growing the tourism sector

We will focus on:

Building more council houses

Facilitating the housing growth that Mid Devon needs, including affordable homes

Planning and enhancing the built environment

We will focus on:

Working with local communities to encourage them to support themselves

Working with town and parish councils

Promoting physical activity, health and wellbeing

We will focus on:

Increasing recycling and reducing the amount of waste

Reducing our carbon footprint

Protecting the natural environment

Overarching priorities:

- Efficiencies and value for money
- Digital transformation
- Staff and Member development

Priority 1: Economy

Over the next four years we will:

Aim 1 - Attract new businesses to the District

- Focus on particular sectors and their supply chains e.g. agriculture, food and drink offer, leisure and tourism, professional scientific and technical, etc.
- > Actively market and promote the employment sites within our Local Plan by improving the marketing of Mid Devon as a place for business

Aim 2 - Focus on business retention and growth of existing businesses

- Work with education providers to ensure that skills training matches the needs of businesses and creates jobs through apprenticeships
- > Lobby Devon County Council and others for faster Broadband
- Work with the business groups in the area to improve local economic vitality

Aim 3 - Improve and regenerate our town centres with the aim of increasing footfall, dwell-time and spend in our town centres

- Improve the Tiverton Pannier Market and support other local markets in the District
- Focus on projects that will regenerate and increase footfall in our town centres
- Focus on projects in town centres that will enable heritage and/or the Arts and economy to work together

Aim 4 - Grow the tourism sector

- Increase the number of people visiting, staying and spending money in the District
- Improve the marketing of Mid Devon as a visitor destination

Other

- Act as a champion to improve local rail services
- Work in partnership with the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership, Devon County Council and Exeter, East Devon and Teignbridge on projects that will support and grow the local economy
- ➤ Be proactive in bringing funding into the District to support economy projects
- > Be more entrepreneurial and commercial as a council

| Our priority activities for 17/18 | Lead Portfolio | Service Area | Responsible Officer |
|---|----------------|--------------|---|
| Develop an Economic Strategy for Mid Devon | Planning and | Growth, | Adrian Welsh, Group Manager – Growth, |
| | Economic | Economy & | Economy & Delivery |
| | Regeneration | Delivery | |
| Support the Local Plan examination | Planning and | Forward | Jenny Clifford, Head of Planning, Economy |
| | Economic | Planning | & Regeneration |
| | Regeneration | _ | |
| Adopt the Local Plan and Community Infrastructure | Planning and | Forward | Jenny Clifford, Head of Planning, Economy |
| Levy | Economic | Planning | & Regeneration |
| | Regeneration | _ | |
| Secure the delivery of the enabling A361 access | Planning and | Growth, | Jenny Clifford, Head of Planning, Economy |
| junction to unlock Tiverton EUE | Economic | Economy & | & Regeneration |
| | Regeneration | Delivery | |
| Consult on and adopt the Tiverton Town Centre | Planning and | Growth, | Jenny Clifford, Head of Planning, Economy |
| Masterplan | Economic | Economy & | & Regeneration |
| | Regeneration | Delivery | |
| Resubmit the Heritage Lottery Fund bid for the | Planning and | Growth, | Adrian Welsh, Group Manager – Growth, |
| townscape heritage scheme for Cullompton | Economic | Economy & | Economy & Delivery |
| | Regeneration | Delivery | |
| Reduce the number of empty shops across the | Planning and | Growth, | Adrian Welsh, Group Manager – Growth, |
| three market towns | Economic | Economy & | Economy & Delivery |
| | Regeneration | Delivery | , |
| Increase the number of (rateable) businesses in the | Planning and | Growth, | Adrian Welsh, Group Manager - Growth, |
| District. | Economic | Economy & | Economy & Delivery |
| | Regeneration | Delivery | |

| Scope and develop a project to provide business | Planning and | Growth, | Adrian Welsh, Group Manager – Growth, |
|---|--------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| incubator space | Economic | Economy & | Economy & Delivery |
| | Regeneration | Delivery | |

Strategic Risks to the Economy Priority

- Brexit and related impacts on trade, finance and economy
- Connectivity failing to provide/secure the physical and digital networks needed for strategic growth
- Failing to plan for, and react to, the shrinking need for physical retail provisioning and the commensurate impact on our places
- Planning legislation driving unwanted outcomes eg. Potential housing need targets linked to affordability (price suppression)

Priority 2: Homes

Over the next four years we will:

Aim 1 - Build more council houses

> Build 250 council houses

Aim 2 - Facilitate the housing growth that Mid Devon needs, including affordable housing

- ➤ Deliver 360 homes per annum as per the Strategic Housing Market Assessment
- > Support opportunities to provide high quality affordable housing
- Promote significant growth east of Cullompton
- > Work with developers to ensure that the sites in the Local Plan come forward for development
- > Work with developers to ensure that the houses being built meet the needs of our population
- Continue to work with private sector landlords and other partners to bring empty homes back into use and improve housing standards

Aim 3 - Planning and enhancing the built environment

- Ensure that our special landscape assets are considered during the planning process so that we do not waste our valuable natural assets
- Ensure development works to enhance the character of the local environment
- Ensure good design and quality of new housing and associated environment together with necessary supporting infrastructure
- > Ensure consideration is given to the public health impact of every development

Other

- > Continue to manage our council homes efficiently
- Continue to work to prevent homelessness
- Consider the impact of an aging population and help elderly people retain their independence and remain in their own

| Our priority activities for 17/18 | Lead Portfolio | Service Area | Responsible Officer |
|--|----------------|---------------|---|
| Agree a 10 year strategic Council Housing Supply | Housing and | Housing | Andrew Pritchard, Director of Operations |
| | Property | | |
| Bid submission for capacity funding for Culm | Planning and | Growth, | Adrian Welsh, Group Manager – Growth, |
| Garden Village | Economic | Economy & | Economy & Delivery |
| | Regeneration | Delivery | |
| Cosy Devon Initiative (ECO scheme) Local Energy | Community | Public Health | Simon Newcombe, Group Manager for |
| Advice Program (LEAP) | Well Being | | Public Health & Regulation |
| Commence masterplanning for Culm Garden | Planning and | Planning | Jenny Clifford, Head of Planning, Economy |
| Village | Economic | | & Regeneration |
| - | Regeneration | | - |
| Infrastructure business case for Junction 28 to | Planning and | Growth, | Adrian Welsh, Group Manager - Growth, |
| unlock housing delivery | Economic | Economy & | Economy & Delivery |
| | Regeneration | Delivery | |
| Bring Empty Homes back into use to maximise | Housing and | Private | Simon Newcombe, Group Manager for |
| utilisation of housing stock | Property | Sector | Public Health & Regulation |
| | | Housing | |

Strategic Risks to the Homes Priority

- Brexit and related impacts on national economy and housing market
- National legislation around 'Right to Buy' or rental values impacting case for investment against our improvement programme and/or our ability to replace stock
- Garden Village failing to secure Ministerial support
- Universal Credit and impact on arrears
- Any national intervention taking decision-making away from local councils (e.g. commercialising 'processing' of apps)

Priority 3: Community

Over the next four years we will:

Aim 1 – Work with local communities to encourage them to support themselves

- Work with health partners and community groups to provide a stronger voice for health and wellbeing throughout the District
- Support local communities to retain and develop their local facilities and services

Aim 2 - Work with Town and Parish Councils

Ensure that town and parish councils have access to the advice they need to carry out their functions legally and efficiently and are supported to take on County and District Council services where appropriate

Aim 3 - Promote physical activity, health and wellbeing

- Ensure the financial sustainability of our leisure centres
- Introduce "trim-trails" across the District
- Work with schools and community groups to encourage young people to participate in sport and other physical activity
- Actively promote the facilities that are available in our District for health and wellbeing such as walking (footpaths, open spaces and parks) and cycle paths
- Work with partners such as Devon County Council, the National Health Service and others on the public health agenda to address health inequalities
- Develop cultural, sport, leisure and heritage facilities with activities that benefit the entire District

Other

- Help people access our services digitally
- Embrace opportunities that devolution may bring
- Support our food businesses and outlets to achieve good food safety practices

| Our priority activities for 17/18 | Lead Portfolio | Service Area | Responsible Officer |
|---|----------------|---------------|--|
| Complete the Exe Valley extension | Community | Leisure | Andy Busby, Group Manager for Corporate |
| | Well Being | | Property & Commercial |
| Develop a framework approach to play and open | Environment | Property | Andrew Pritchard, Director of Operations |
| space within Mid Devon – 10yr mgmt. plan and | | | Andrew Jarrett, Director of Finance Assets |
| design principles | | | & Resources |
| Actively support the South West Youth Games | Community | Leisure | Andrew Pritchard, Director of Operations |
| | Well Being | | |
| Monitor the food rating system and assist | Community | Environmental | Simon Newcombe, Group Manager for |
| businesses in achieving the highest standards – | Well Being | Health | Public Health & Regulation |
| scores on the doors targets | | | |
| Continue to work on digital inclusion and digital | Community | Customer | XX, Group Manager for Business |
| transformation projects to help people access our | Well Being | First and IT | Transformation |
| services digitally | | | |
| Deliver a divestment framework policy | Housing and | Property | Andy Busby, Group Manager for Corporate |
| | Property | | Property & Commercial |
| Crediton & Cullompton Air Quality Action Plans | Community | Environmental | Simon Newcombe, Group Manager for |
| renewal | Well Being | Health | Public Health & Regulation |
| Refurbish Amory Park play area | Housing and | Property | Andy Busby, Group Manager for Corporate |
| | Property | | Property & Commercial |
| | | | |

Strategic Risks to the Community Priority

- Brexit national decisions made on digital infrastructure and any changes to state aid principles
- Leisure is a discretionary service, therefore budget context will place increased focus on its ability to adequately commercialise its product offering

Priority 4: Environment

Over the next four years we will:

Aim 1 - Increase recycling and reduce the amount of waste

- Provide a high standard waste and recycling service for the benefit of all households
- > Reduce the amount of residual waste produced
- Work with businesses, especially pubs and restaurants, to encourage recycling to improve business efficiency and reduce commercial waste going to landfill
- Increase understanding of environmental sustainability and recycling initiatives through education and promotional activities

Aim 2 - Reduce our carbon footprint

- > Seek new ways to improve our operational efficiency, reducing energy use and lowering our carbon footprint
- Continue to promote energy saving initiatives
- Continue to promote "green" initiatives which can be installed in homes and which can help to improve energy efficiency and sustainability

Aim 3 - Protect the natural environment

- Look after our heritage assets by managing designated conservation areas, protecting listed buildings and monuments, and preserving trees that are important
- Protect the natural environment and encourage biodiversity
- Prosecute dog fouling and littering to ensure the cleanliness and attractiveness of our public realm and open spaces for all residents
- Improve air quality through action planning

| Our priority activities for 17/18 | Lead Portfolio | Service Area | Responsible Officer |
|---|----------------|---------------|--|
| Resubmit Heritage Lottery Fund bid for Cullompton | Planning and | Growth, | Adrian Welsh, Group Manager – Growth, |
| heritage townscape | Economic | Economy & | Economy & Delivery |
| | Regeneration | Delivery | |
| Work with Cullompton Neighbourhood plan group | Planning and | Planning | Jenny Clifford, Head of Planning, Economy |
| towards country park | Economic | | & Regeneration |
| | Regeneration | | |
| Generate 10,000 customers on chargeable garden | Environment | Waste & | Stuart Noyce, Group Manager for Open |
| waste service | | Recycling | Space & Waste Services |
| Implement the recommendations from the Street | Environment | Waste & | Stuart Noyce, Group Manager for Open |
| Cleansing Service Review | | Recycling | Space & Waste Services |
| Open the waste transfer facility at Carlu Close | Environment | Waste & | Stuart Noyce, Group Manager for Open |
| | | Recycling | Space & Waste Services |
| Expand areas covered by the Trade Recycling | Environment | Waste & | Stuart Noyce, Group Manager for Open |
| Service (% covered by MDDC) | | Recycling | Space & Waste Services |
| Develop a framework approach to play and open | Environment | Property | Andrew Pritchard, Director of Operations |
| space within Mid Devon – 10yr mgmt. plan and | | | Andrew Jarrett, Director of Finance Assets |
| design principles | | | & Resources |
| Launch Energy Switching Scheme on MDDC | Community | Public Health | Simon Newcombe, Group Manager for |
| website | Well Being | | Public Health & Regulation |
| Reduce residual household waste to 420kg per unit | Environment | Waste & | Stuart Noyce, Group Manager for Open |
| | | Recycling | Space & Waste Services |

Strategic Risks to the Environment Priority

- Substantial changes to waste disposal costs (impacting on MDDC via partnership arrangements with DCC)
- Public appetite for waste reduction
- Public attitudes to acceptability of littering in public space

PRIORITY 5: CORPORATE

| Our priority activities for 17/18 | Lead Portfolio | Service Area | Responsible Officer |
|--|----------------|--------------|---|
| Enable Premier Inn Development through to | Housing and | Property | Andrew Jarrett, Director of Finance, Assets |
| construction (incl amends to MDDC car park) | Property | | & Resources |
| Adoption of the Local Plan following examination | Planning and | Planning | Jenny Clifford, Head of Planning, Economy |
| | Economic | | & Regeneration |
| | Regeneration | | |
| Preparation for GDPR | Working | ICT & | Catherine Yandle, Group Manager for |
| | Environment | Customer | Performance , Governance & Data Security |
| | and Support | First | |
| | Services | | |
| Business Transformation Restructure and Business | Working | Leadership | Jill May, Director of Corporate Affairs & |
| case | Environment | Team | Business Transformation |
| | and Support | | |
| | Services | | |
| Reduce levels of sickness absence | Working | Leadership | Jill May, Director of Corporate Affairs & |
| | Environment | Team | Business Transformation |
| | and Support | | |
| | Services | | |
| Deliver a commercial return on assets | Housing and | Property | Andy Busby, Group Manager for Corporate |
| | Property | | Property & Commercial |
| Continue to update and improve corporate | Working | Performance | Catherine Yandle, Group Manager for |
| performance management to drive achievement of | Environment | | Performance , Governance & Data Security |
| strategic objectives | and Support | | |
| | Services | | |

Strategic Risks to the Corporate Priority

- Delays to Local Plan being adopted
 Further changes to legislation surrounding the holding of data and information
 Pay restraint and national impacts on resource cost