

<b>Report to:</b>	Cabinet	06 February 2024
<b>Lead Cabinet Member:</b>	Cllr Bridget Smith (Leader)	
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	Anne Ainsworth (Chief Operating Officer)	
<b>Key Decision:</b>	No	

## Draft 2024-25 Business Plan Action Plan

### Executive Summary

1. The Council agreed four key priorities during the development of its 2020-25 Business Plan. Beneath these sits an Action Plan detailing the objectives the Council will seek to deliver under each of the four priority areas.
2. It was agreed that the Business Plan Action Plan would be reviewed annually to ensure that priorities continue to deliver the outcomes needed for local people. When developing the latest updates, the four priority areas have remained unchanged, but a review has been undertaken of the Action Plan.
3. The updates that have been made reflect work that has been ongoing throughout 2023-24, the continuing evolution of Council priorities, and planned works coming forward from service areas. The updated version of the plan for 2024-25 is intended to provide clear priorities that will make sure we can easily track progress and delivery of the agreed outputs, outcomes and priorities.
4. Following Cabinet, the plan will be submitted to Council on 27 February 2024 for consideration and approval.

### Recommendations

5. It is recommended that Cabinet:
  - a. Consider the proposed Business Plan Action Plan for 2024-25 (**Appendix A**) and recommend any changes that may be required, prior to submission to Council for approval.
  - b. Authorise the Chief Executive to make any minor wording changes required to final drafts, in consultation with the Leader.

## Details

6. Each of the four priority areas at **Appendix A** contain a number of objectives, outputs for delivery in 2024-25, and longer-term outcomes that the Council is seeking to progress.
7. A selection of output achievements from the 2023-24 financial year so far are detailed under each of the four priority headings.
8. In addition, an appendix has been included containing outcome information for each of the Business Plan objectives.

## Reasons for Recommendations

9. The business plan action plan outlines clear and measurable objectives, outcomes and outputs for delivery in 2024-25 and beyond. It is used to ensure officer and financial resources are allocated appropriately.

## Implications

10. In the writing of this report, taking into account financial, legal, staffing, risk, equality and diversity, climate change, and any other key issues, the following implications have been considered:-

The Business Plan Action Plan is used to ensure officer and financial resources are allocated appropriately. It also reflects a number of key strategy documents and aims, such as the Council's Equality Scheme, Zero Carbon and Doubling Nature Action Plan, Local Plan, Housing and Asset Management strategies, Medium Term Financial Strategy and others.

Consideration of this broad range of policy areas is evident throughout **Appendix A**.

11. The contents of the business plan action plan also reflect the Council's strategic risks. For example, generating income and ensuring best use of Council resources; attracting, retaining and developing the best talent; working with partners to address water scarcity in the region; compliance with landlord safety checks, are a few of the many objectives within the draft business plan action plan that directly relate to risks within the Council's Strategic Risk Log.

## Consultation responses

12. A public engagement exercise has previously been undertaken, the findings of which were used to help develop the four key priority areas within the business plan. These four areas remain unchanged.

## Alignment with Council Priority Areas

13. This report does not change any of the Council's four priority areas but establishes clear priorities falling within each of these for coming financial year.

## **Background Papers**

[2023-24 Business Plan Action Plan \(scams.gov.uk\)](https://www.scams.gov.uk/2023-24-Business-Plan-Action-Plan)

## **Appendices**

Appendix A: Draft 2024-25 Business Plan Action Plan

## **Report Author:**

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