

CORPORATE PLAN 2013-2018 – HALF-YEAR REPORT ON IMPLEMENTING COUNCIL ACTIONS (SCRUTINY AND OVERVIEW / CABINET, 7 / 19 NOV 2013)

COUNCIL AIM AND ASSOCIATED ACTIONS (Lead Portfolio Holder / Management Team Lead)	HOW ARE WE DOING?	WHAT'S STILL LEFT TO DO THIS YEAR?
AIM A – We will listen to and engage with residents, parishes and businesses to ensure we deliver first class services and value for money		
<p>A1. Continue to invest in employees and members by carrying out actions in the Organisational and Member Development strategies</p> <p>(Simon Edwards and David Whiteman-Downes / Susan Gardner Craig and Fiona McMillan)</p>	<p>The East of England Local Government Association carried out the Council's 18 month review of the Councillor Development Charter on 17 June 2013 and confirmed that the Council has maintained the standards of the Charter.</p> <p>The Member Development Programme for 2013/14 continues to be rolled out, with numerous training and development courses/sessions having already been held this municipal year. Sessions that have taken place include statutory training for committees such as Employment, Licensing and Planning, together with some more generic sessions for chairing skills and public speaking. A code of conduct session was held in October, which Members and Officers from Huntingdonshire District Council also attended. Induction sessions have been held for the three Members elected in May 2013, together with the new Member for Sawston elected in July 2013.</p> <p>The Council continues to deliver a number of key</p>	<p>Specific training for Members of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee and Partnerships Review Committee, facilitated by the Centre for Public Scrutiny, will be held later in the year.</p> <p>Workshops have proved to be a very popular and effective means of engaging with Members. In view of this, workshops on the Corporate Plan, the Housing Company and Welfare Reform are being held in October/November.</p> <p>The current Member Development Strategy expires in 2014, so the Democratic Services team will be working with the Portfolio Holder later this year to review the document and recommend changes where necessary.</p> <p>EMT will be asked to agree a programme of</p>

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	<p>initiatives within its Organisational Development Strategy. We have introduced a Leadership forum for senior managers and begun a review of our Personal Development Review scheme for all staff.</p> <p>The second cohort on the Leadership Development Programme have commenced learning projects, forming teams to take forward corporate improvement projects linked to the Business Improvement and Efficiency Programme (see A4 below). Initial presentations to management team have taken place, with final recommendations to follow in February 2014.</p> <p>We launched a new Buying Additional Annual leave policy and Flexible Retirement policy earlier this year and several staff have made use of these new arrangements. Remote and homeworking policies are currently under review.</p>	<p>employee surveys. These will focus on key aspects of employee engagement and satisfaction. A revised Performance Development Review (PDR) scheme will be implemented from 1 April 2014.</p> <p>The final modules of the Leadership Development programme will be delivered by 31 March 2014.</p> <p>We will deliver programme of workshops on letter and report writing aimed at improving the standard of customer communication.</p>
A2. Maintain financial resilience whilst channelling our resources to create opportunities for investment, sustainable borrowing and economic growth (Simon Edwards / Alex Colyer)	The Council has introduced an integrated performance monitoring report bringing together headline information around budgets, performance indicators, key projects and strategic risks, enabling issues to be identified and addressed in a co-ordinated manner. Variance against capital, revenue and Housing Revenue Accounts budgets was below 3% at 31 August 2013.	<p>A draft Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2014-2019 will be presented to Cabinet for approval in November 2013 as the basis for the development of detailed financial estimates for 2014-15. Following consultation and review, a final draft will be submitted to councillors for approval in February 2014.</p> <p>Work is continuing to explore how the council's new housing company, South Cambs Limited, can best</p>

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	<p>There is a predicted overspend on refunds on bills issued to Non-Domestic Ratepayers as agreed by the Valuation Officer relating to previous years of £450,000. However, if no further refunds were to be made then, based on the current information, an under spend of approximately £321,000 would result. So as can be seen this item is very volatile and is dependent on how quickly the Valuation Officer resolves the outstanding appeals and the outcome of these appeals.</p> <p>The repurchase of HRA shared ownership properties so far this year has been less than estimated, therefore it is anticipated that there will be an underspend of £90,000.</p> <p>SCDC's external auditors have reported back on the results of their audit of our 2012/13 accounts. Their report found no issues to report and concluded that an unqualified audit opinion would be issued, representing a strong endorsement of the quality and robustness of our financial procedures and personnel.</p>	<p>deliver the range of new homes needed, whilst generating a financial return on investment. A scoping paper will be produced for Cabinet in November 2013, which will determine the scope of the company's work and objectives.</p>
<p>A3. Ensure best use of Council assets and benefit from opportunities to achieve efficiencies from working together (Simon Edwards / Alex Colyer)</p>	<p>Work is continuing to explore the possibility of shared operational waste facilities (see A8 below).</p> <p>The Council's shared Internal audit service with Peterborough City Council launched on 1 July 2013.</p>	<p>Work towards a shared Payroll service with Cambridge City Council is progressing well and anticipated to go live on 1 April 2014.</p>

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	Cabinet has agreed in principle a proposal to create a publicly owned Joint Venture (MAC Public Property Partnership), in which South Cambridgeshire District Council would be a key partner, to manage public sector assets across Cambridgeshire.	In agreeing the principle, Cabinet authorised further work to develop this proposal.
A4 Carry out projects from the business efficiency programme (BIEP), working with services to reduce costs and deliver better ways of working (David Whiteman-Downes / Alex Colyer)	Projects are well underway and subject to a rolling programme of weekly reviews by management team to ensure adequate progress towards objectives. Following the departure of the Programme Manager (Paul Knight), the Council has appointed an internal replacement (Phil Bird) to ensure continuity.	We will ensure that projects deliver their objectives within timescale, identifying the savings required by the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) as well as as tangible customer service improvements. Risks around conflicting operational priorities and lack of stakeholder engagement have been included in the Strategic Risk register (STR26), along with control measures to mitigate their likelihood and impact – see Appendix F for details. BIEP delivery is also cited as a specific risk to the achievement of a balanced financial strategy (STR08)
A5 Further improve how we engage with residents, keeping them informed about the Council and its services and using their feedback to shape future service delivery (David	We're continuing to use our residents' magazine to seek feedback and signpost to further information, including the draft Local Plan (see Action A7 for full details – over 1500 responses received), and are running competitions which have generated over 250	We are reviewing engagement across the organisation as part of a corporate project to seek 'Excellent' accreditation against the government's equality standard for local government, which assesses the extent to which we know and understand the needs of our diverse communities

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Whiteman-Downes / Alex Colyer)	<p>entries.</p> <p>Social media engagement (followers) has increased by 20%, and we have joined the county council to launch the Shape Your Place website, through which local people can report and discuss issues of concern to them. The website has generated positive outcomes, for example the resolution of an issue of overhanging branches on a cycle path between Girton and Oakington.</p> <p>The Autumn 2013 of South Cambs magazine contained our annual Readers' Survey to assess satisfaction with the current magazine and how it can be further improved.</p>	<p>and their satisfaction with our performance, and how this information shapes service delivery.</p> <p>Dates for upcoming community fora and other consultation events relating to major developments will be announced in the next residents' magazine</p> <p>We are currently consulting on a draft Corporate Enforcement and Inspection Policy (see B4 below)</p> <p>Responses will be analysed to inform an action plan which identifies further improvements to the magazine. Early indications suggest the magazine continues to be valued by residents.</p>
A6. Increase the supply of temporary accommodation, prioritising council-owned properties whilst not restricting options in other sectors. (Mark Howell / Stephen Hills)	<p>The project to redevelop the Robson Court hostel site is progressing well. Following the grant of planning permission, work is anticipated to start on site in Autumn 2013, with an 18-month build-out programme. The current hostel provided shared accommodation for 16 households. The new development will provide 30 units of self-contained temporary accommodation, replacing both the 16 units at Robson Court, 4 units at the Bungalow (to enable Sanctuary Housing to manage the temporary accommodation on one site) and a further 10 additional units to help alleviate the need to use Bed and Breakfast. We are still on target with decant properties secured within Waterbeach to enable the</p>	<p>The Council has consulted on a revised Homelessness Strategy, one of the key objectives of which is to increase the amount of good quality temporary accommodation. The new strategy was approved by the Housing Portfolio Holder on 16 October 2013.</p> <p>Numbers in temporary accommodation have increased due to an increase in homeless applications and greater difficulty preventing homelessness through the private rented sector. However, this quarter's figures are slightly lower than last quarter (52 compared to 48). In addition through increasing more appropriate forms</p>

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	<p>site to be cleared.</p> <p>The Council is continuing to be proactive in identifying suitable properties for purchase and use as temporary accommodation, buying nine properties between April-September 2013.</p>	<p>of temporary accommodation, for example, through the Empty Homes Scheme, we have been able to reduce expenditure on bed and breakfast accommodation - during the last financial year this was approximately £8,000 per month, so far this financial year the average monthly expenditure has reduced to around £3,500 per month.</p>
<p>A7. Ensure the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan and Community Infrastructure framework are based on effective engagement (Pippa Corney / Jo Mills)</p>	<p>The Council has agreed a draft Local Plan, put together following options consultations which involved 30 public exhibitions and generated over 30,000 comments.</p> <p>During the Options consultations the majority of people told us they wanted our plan to focus development in new towns or villages rather than spreading housing across most existing villages, protect the green belt around Cambridge by planning new housing on brownfield land first, ensure the right services were delivered for new homes and take into account the transport implications of new development. Whilst the new plan will not be able to meet everyone's needs, we are confident it will largely achieve these key objectives.</p> <p>Consultation on the draft Plan ran from 19 July – 14 October. This included 17 more public exhibitions at</p>	<p>Comments from the recent consultation will all be published together on the Council's website. All views will then be considered at a Council meeting in the spring, before a decision is made on the plan to be submitted to government for independent examination.</p>

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	<p>venues across the district, attended by over 1,400 residents, and a feature article in the residents' magazine, including a feedback form for residents to give their views; this has attracted over 1,500 responses.</p> <p>Alongside the local plan, we also consulted on a draft Community Infrastructure Levy, a charge on some types of new development including houses to fund requirements including new or improved schools, health facilities, public transport routes and roads. We sought views from developers, parish councils and residents on what the right level of charge should be, and which development should be charged to ensure new development under the Local Plan leads to successful and sustainable new communities.</p>	<p>Feedback from this consultation will inform the preparation of a revised draft Schedule, which will be subject to further consultation alongside engagement with local communities on specific local facilities which should be funded through the levy. A report summarising responses and recommending next steps will be aligned with the Local Plan timetable, and presented to Cabinet in Spring 2014.</p>
<p>A8 Work with RECAP waste partners to reduce council tax costs, carbon impacts and waste sent to landfill (Mick Martin / Mike Hill)</p>	<p>The county-wide RECAP waste partnership has agreed to develop a full business case for implementation of a "whole systems approach" to waste collection. Ultimately the business case will need to demonstrate that there are significant benefits which can only be achieved by working together. The strategy is initially for each individual authority to make those changes, improvements and savings it is able to deliver on its own in preparation for future partnership working. SCDC has included a</p>	<p>The results of options appraisal will inform the production of an interim options report.</p> <p>We have begun the procurement of a joint Materials Recycling Facility contract for the processing and sale of "blue bin" recyclable materials, together with separate procurement of a joint contract for the sale of paper, to replace the current SCDC contracts when they expire in October 2015.</p> <p>Discussions are on-going with Cambridge City on possible sharing of waste depot facilities and the</p>

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	<p>project within its Business Improvement and Efficiency Programme (see A4 above), whose primary objective is to identify options for an Optimum Service Design for political consideration that would reduce gross waste collection costs by £10 per household and so deliver savings of £600k per annum.</p> <p>Work on the project is progressing according to timescale. Two full time fixed term (4 months) support officers have been recruited to join the team in late October to assist with data gathering and Route Optimisation Modelling. We have also carried out desk-based analysis to identify indicative potential savings and areas for further investigation ahead of Optimisation Modelling progressing.</p> <p>The Council has taken part in an initial project to jointly purchase 19 refuse vehicles across RECAP partners.</p>	<p>preparation of a Memorandum of Understanding and Service Level Agreement for cross-border working with Cambridge City at major growth sites including Cambridge North-West and Trumpington Meadows.</p>
<p>A9 . Ensure benefits reform is implemented as smoothly and as effectively as possible (Simon Edwards / Alex Colyer)</p>	<p>We have reallocated staffing resources to deal with the higher volume of customer enquiries arising from the implementation of the Localised Council Tax Support scheme in April 2013 and have closely monitored the financial impact of the new scheme, to explore whether it will require review to remain viable</p>	<p>We will continue to monitor the impact of the government's welfare reform programme with respect to Council Tax support, Universal Credit, fraud and over-accommodation on customers, the Local Support for Council Tax Scheme and the Council Tax Base. We will adapt our service to meet</p>

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	<p>in future years. This monitoring has identified that the scheme is financially sound and has been easily understood by residents, consequently Council, at its September meeting, agreed to retain it for 2014-2015.</p> <p>Cumulative Council Tax and NNDR collection remained marginally below target at 30 September; however, performance is anticipated to meet target by year-end in both cases. Rent collection performance remains exceptional, achieving 97.9% during September 2013, against a target of 97.0%.</p>	<p>increased demand and plan for the possibility of the requirement to amend the LCTSS for 2015/16.</p>
<p>A10. Effectively influence the new Police and Crime Commissioner's Plans via improved engagement with our local communities and better sharing of intelligence with police and partners (Mick Martin / Mike Hill)</p>	<p>South Cambridgeshire remains one of the safest and most peaceful places in the UK in which to live, work, study and enjoy a great quality of life. To help maintain this, SCDC continues to work closely with key partners, including:</p> <p>SCDC, County Council children & young people's locality teams, Police and housing associations are now routinely working together to join up delivery and reduce duplication on individual and shared cases. Improved joint-working with police and partners is being supported by the introduction of a new IT system (E-CINS) which allows inter-agency case management of anti-social behaviour incidents. There are currently 15 cases being managed via the new system, which went live in September 2013.</p>	<p>Further training for partners, such as housing associations, on using E-CINS will take place in the coming months. All partners must sign the Crime and Disorder and E-CINS Information Sharing Agreements.</p> <p>In response to resident feedback which identified confusion and frustration caused by lack of clarity about who to contact about what, we will produce joint publicity with Neighbourhood Policing Teams clarifying the categories of incidents/problems that should be reported to the Police or to the District Council.</p>

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	<p>In July 2013, the Environmental Services Portfolio Holder agreed that the Council submit an application to the Chief Constable to become the first District to join the Cambridgeshire Police Community Safety Accreditation Scheme. This will enable some enforcement staff to use a small number of police powers to help us tackle anti-social behaviour issues.</p> <p>The South Cambridgeshire Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership took part in a positive “Star Chamber” discussion with the Police & Crime Commissioner to help shape the Commissioner’s plans for next year.</p>	
<p>We will work with partners to create opportunities for employment, enterprise, education and world-leading innovation</p>		
<p>B1. Work with partners to improve digital infrastructure (Nick Wright / Alex Colyer)</p>	<p>Connecting Cambridgeshire - a multi-million pound partnership investment project to provide superfast broadband - is underway. BT has been tasked with planning the broadband roll-out to make the best use of public money so that it reaches every Cambridgeshire community by 2015. The re-design of the network will involve upgrading over 100 telephone exchanges and installing many more new cabinets.</p> <p>Due to the generally poor network in the district,</p>	<p>Successful completion of the project will ensure that communities and businesses across Cambridgeshire will benefit from some of the best fibre broadband coverage in the county by the end of 2015. Over 98% of homes and businesses across the county can expect to have access to fibre-based broadband by the end of the contract, with 90% of homes and businesses having access to speeds of 24 MBPS and higher.</p> <p>Almost £2m has been secured as part of the</p>

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	<p>more work is needed to plan the roll-out in South Cambridgeshire, but it is expected we will see a substantial number of villages reached with fibre broadband during 2014. A new 'My Area' checker is now available on the Connecting Cambridgeshire website www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk to show how areas and parishes fit in to the roll-out plan as it progresses. It will be regularly updated.</p>	<p>Connecting Cambridgeshire project to support businesses. This will offer a package of support to hundreds of small and medium sized businesses improving their connectivity and use of digital technologies to increase productivity and create new jobs. Eligible companies will be able to access match funded grants and one-off payments for eligible companies to upgrade their connections to high speed broadband and invest in digital technologies. An article will be included in the next residents' magazine explaining how to register an interest.</p>
<p>B2. Support the local economy through developing a Register of Businesses and Business Support schemes (Nick Wright / Jo Mills)</p>	<p>The new Business Register is expanding prior to its formal launch in November 2013. The Register will be used to communicate with particular sectors, e.g. the Environmental Health & Licensing Team with food establishments, promote business support activities and seek feedback.</p> <p>Working with business support specialists Exemplas, we have set up a further series of free practical workshops, taking place in October 2013, to address specific issues raised by local firms.</p>	<p>The Cambridge Plus website will be updated, enabling it to be maintained and updated more easily and used, alongside the Business Register, as a means of communication with businesses.</p> <p>A series of 'business friendly' actions are being developed including Key Account Management, improved arrangements for dealing with business enquiries, and business support focussed on the needs of village businesses such as pubs. Progress will be reported to the Portfolio Holder in December 2013.</p>
<p>B3. Establish a Council 'Back to work' project, and promote</p>	<p>A Pathway to Employment strategy was approved by Cabinet in April 2013. Two apprentices have been</p>	<p>A review of the Strategy's progress is scheduled for</p>

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apprenticeships to equip all our young people for productive life (Mark Howell / Stephen Hills)	<p>appointed within housing, and a further apprentice recruited to start in November in the Revenues section.</p> <p>We have also carried out a successful work experience programme with a local school during July and hosted university student placements in Legal & Democratic Services and Conservation.</p>	March 2014.
B4. Continue an effective approach to enforcement to target residents' problems whilst effectively supporting local business success (Mick Martin / Mike Hill)	<p>The Tasking & Coordination Group continues to meet fortnightly to join up enforcement action across the organisation and focus on complex/cross-team cases.</p> <p>Workshops have taken place with Councillors, Officers, and Parish Councils to develop a new corporate Enforcement & Inspection Policy. The draft policy was approved for consultation by Cabinet in September 2013.</p>	<p>The consultation will explain how the policy is aiming to make the process clearer and easier to understand as more than eight enforcement policies have been in place and the new one brings these together into one.</p> <p>It will be supported by an article in the next residents' magazine promoting how we are trying to work with businesses to prevent problems in the first place, solve issues as they arise, and where required take fair and consistent action.</p>
B5. Work with the LEP and other partners to facilitate local innovation and entrepreneurship (Nick Wright / Jo Mills)	<p>The Greater Cambridge City Deal bid, put together by the district, city and county councils, Cambridge University and the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) will, if successful, will facilitate investment and economic growth. Presentations were made to government ministers during the summer, and formal feedback on the bid is awaited.</p> <p>The LEP has recently set up a senior officer forum that will provide new opportunities for partnership</p>	<p>Feedback on the City Deal bid is due in November. Involvement with the LEP continues. Engagement with member groups such as the Chamber of Commerce is being reviewed, with a refreshed approach due to be outlined early 2014.</p>

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	<p>approaches on business support and inward investment, and also help the district benefit from LEP-led initiatives.</p>	
<p>B6. Work with partners to deliver an effective, collaborative approach to strategic planning, transport and drainage (Pippa Corney / Jo Mills)</p>	<p>The Council's Draft Local Plan was developed in close collaboration with neighbouring authorities through the work of a district-city-county council spatial planning councillor group. The group coordinates spatial planning (including land use) and an integrated transport strategy for Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire, and provides high level oversight of current Cambridgeshire growth strategy. The Group made recommendations to both councils in respect of their draft Local Plans, prior to their agreement for consultation.</p> <p>At the same time as agreeing the Draft Local Plan, Cabinet agreed a Memorandum of Cooperation, put forward by the county-wide Joint Strategic Planning and Transport Group setting out objectively assessed housing needs for the area.</p> <p>The Council worked with authorities and LEPs to agree in principle a contribution towards the funding of the A14 upgrade, following the Government announcement in June 2013 that the scheme would start as early as 2016.</p> <p>Cabinet on 4 October agreed the SCDC response to the government's consultation on proposals for the</p>	<p>The Council continues to work very closely with Cambridge City and Cambridgeshire County Councils to consider the responses to the consultations that ended in October, and have co-ordinated timetables so that the Local Plans will be submitted for public examination at the same time. Discussions will take place with the Planning Inspectorate to arrange a joined up approach towards the consideration of shared matters.</p> <p>Following analysis of consultation responses, the</p>

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	upgrade, reiterating the important of improvements for the delivery of the growth agenda, the economy, village amenity and to improve journey times and road safety for the travelling public.	Highways Agency intend to make a Preferred Route announcement in late 2013, followed by further public consultation, in which the Council will participate.
B7. Ensure the effective delivery of Northstowe and other new communities (Tim Wotherspoon / Jo Mills)	<p>Northstowe – We are close to concluding negotiations on the section 106 legal agreement which will lead to the Planning Consent for the Northstowe Phase 1 development being issued. This will enable work to commence on the essential infrastructure works, land regrading, drainage, construction of roads and the provision of services. Those works will create serviced plots that will enable work to commence on the construction of houses and the first primary school. We have also prepared a strategic design code which was subject to a successful testing day on 7 October which identified a number of constructive potential changes.</p> <p>Progress highlights on other major development sites are include:</p> <p>Orchard Park – The development is over three quarters complete. Work on the Local Centre commenced in September 2013 and is due to be completed by March 2014.</p> <p>NE Cambridge – Joint comments for City and SCDC</p>	<p>Cambridge East – Continue pre-application discussions towards the receipt of an outline planning application for the site north of Newmarket Road.</p> <p>NW Cambridge (University) – Resolve design issues with the applicant, finalise Planning Performance Agreement to accelerate development and complete a shared service agreement in respect of household waste collection from the site.</p> <p>Orchard Park – We are working with the Community Council to broaden local participation and address concerns over youth anti-social behaviour, and are working with developers to bring forward undeveloped land, including the possibility of a self-build site.</p> <p>NE Cambridge – The planning application for the new station will be submitted to Planning Committee. We are forming a joint project team to look at development principles for the wider North East Cambridge area which could inform planning policy.</p> <p>Darwin Green 1 – Sign off the Section 106 legal</p>

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	<p>have been sent to the County Council in relation to its planning application for Cambridge Science Park Station.</p> <p>Trumpington Meadows – Barratts has secured the remainder of the residential sites, including the Local Centre. Preliminary discussions about its programme are taking place but it is anticipated that they will want to start pre-application discussions relating to reserved matters for infrastructure and two initial parcels. In addition, Grosvenor has retained the country park. The Community Access Agreement for Trumpington Primary School has been completed.</p>	<p>agreement and issue outline planning permission.</p> <p>Darwin Green 2 – Continue to work with the promoters towards the submission of an outline planning application by May 2014.</p> <p>Trumpington Meadows – Complete community access agreement with Haslingfield Parish Council regarding use of the new Primary School, which was opened in September 2013. Take forward phase 2 of the site development, following confirmation of the preferred bidder for the site.</p>
B8. Deliver a range of homes that are affordable and where people want to live in areas that will support economic growth (Mark Howell / Stephen Hills)	22 affordable homes in Meldreth and 29 in Impington have been completed up to October 2013.	The scheme to bring forward new affordable units at the Windmill Estate, Fulbourn, is due for completion in December 2014. 230 new affordable homes on rural exception sites are due for completion in 2013/14.
B9. Build the first of the new Council houses in the New Build Strategy 2012-15 (Mark Howell / Stephen Hills)	Contractors are on site and the scheme is progressing well. The topping out ceremony took place on 8 October 2013.	Full completion with tenants moved in is scheduled for December 2013.
B10. Set up a new way of delivering equity share, market sale and private rented properties (Mark Howell /	South Cambs Ltd was established in January 2013.	A scoping paper will be produced for Cabinet in November 2013, which will determine the scope of the company's work and objectives.

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Stephen Hills)		
We will make sure that South Cambridgeshire continues to offer an outstanding quality of life for our residents		
C1. Develop solutions to deliver co-ordinated community transport (Nick Wright / Mike Hill)	The Cambridgeshire Future Transport project has reviewed rural bus services and proposed new services, which are expected to start around Easter next year. In the meantime, community transport schemes grant-aided by SCDC are continuing to be supported. We have refreshed the data mapping for our community transport evidence base to ensure that our focus remains in the areas of greatest need.	As a result of the project, communities have opted for a bus service that will operate a fixed route schedule to manage peak demand, then become “demand responsive” allowing people to book the journeys they want to make. The bus can take them anywhere within a defined “Roam Zone”, or to join with connecting services if their destination is farther afield. To complement this service, Cambourne is to benefit from enhanced facilities to create a transport interchange on the High Street. We will continue to work with the County Council, other partners and residents to implement these changes.
C2 Work with older people and the voluntary sector to roll out the new ‘Community Navigators’ and ‘Safer Homes’ schemes as part of the Ageing Well Strategy (Mick Martin / Mike Hill)	23 professional community navigators and 11 individual community navigators are now in place across South Cambridgeshire. The professional volunteers are from Cambridgeshire Constabulary and Bluebird Care based in Hardwick. Work to explore possible future funding and procurement options and delivery models to enable this highly successful Handyperson (Safer Homes) Service to continue across the county is ongoing.	Provisional agreement has been reached to develop integrated Ageing Well, Health & Wellbeing and Children and Young People’s strategies, working with Cllr Corney as part of a Task & Finish Group. Options for future funding and procurement of a countywide Safer Homes work will continue to be progressed.

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	SCDC is playing a key role in the process.	
C3. Work with GPs and Local Health Partnership to improve the health of new communities, access to mental health services and support for emerging vulnerable groups (Mick Martin / Mike Hill)	<p>Relationships continue to be built between planners and health colleagues. We are exploring options for a possible joint post with County Public Health team to include a focus on this area.</p> <p>Emerging Vulnerable Groups: Attempts are being made to secure District involvement in the CCG Older People's Programme Board and its work to let a £850m contract for older people's services with a view to creating a "whole system approach" to older people's health & wellbeing and joining-up with Housing services. Initial meetings have also been held to discuss the response to Ormiston work with the Gypsy and Traveller community and intelligence on housing-related matters.</p> <p>The South Cambridgeshire Local Health Partnership has begun projects looking at better support for our Council tenants with mental health issues, exploring the links between housing and health (namely discharge planning with Addenbrookes), Procurement for new Cambridgeshire Community Services contract, pulling together an ageing well programme to support older people remain independent and stay in their own homes.</p>	SCDC is beginning a Portfolio Holder Task & Finish Group to develop an SCDC Health & Wellbeing Plan.

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C4. Address the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers (Mark Howell / Stephen Hills)	<p>The Council's draft Local Plan proposes provision will be made for at least 85 permanent Gypsy and Traveller pitches between 2011 and 2031, and at least 4 plots for Travelling Showpeople between 2011 and 2016. Provision for the 85 pitches has now been identified and Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) money secured to invest in current provision to ensure that this can be sustained for the future.</p> <p>Council in September 2013 gave approval for the purchase of the site at Fen Road, Milton, and the acquisition and refurbishment of the county-owned sites at New Farm, Whaddon and Blackwell, Milton.</p>	<p>We are developing a detailed business case demonstrating financial viability to be agreed by the Section 151 (Chief Finance) Officer in consultation with the Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holder.</p>
C5. Work with local communities and businesses to develop and deliver actions on green issues that make a difference (Nick Wright / Mike Hill)	<p>The Council has appointed Climate Energy as its Green Deal provider partner, which will enable the Action on Energy project to proceed. Action on Energy is a long-term retrofit support programme. It will help our residents to have better and more comfortable homes, more manageable fuel bills and smaller carbon footprints.</p> <p>The project also seeks to maximise use of local companies to supply and install measures and provide opportunities for developing skills and training in this sector.</p> <p>The Council commissioned a report on pubs and farms, following a series of Green Business</p>	<p>SCDC will work closely with Climate Energy to ensure the community and environmental benefits of the scheme can be realised locally.</p> <p>The county-wide Action on Energy launch is planned for 13 November 2013, with subsequent events in each of the districts across Cambridgeshire. We will be working with Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership (SPEP) groups to plan this, as well as promoting Action On Energy at village energy days.</p> <p>Climate Energy's Project Plan will seek to deliver 600 measures in 400 homes in its first year, lifting 60 households out of fuel poverty.</p>

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	<p>Breakfasts held during 2012/13. The report has been completed, and in July 2013, the PFH endorsed further work to develop approaches to support the rural economy of villages.</p>	<p>There are currently only 10 Green Deal accredited installers in Cambridgeshire so a particular focus of the project over the coming 6 months will be on the recruitment and up-skilling of local installers to help them achieve Green Deal accreditation and setting up a new Cambridgeshire Apprenticeship scheme.</p> <p>We will also be launching the Collective Switching scheme in the district, which aims to save residents money on their energy bills by signing up with energy suppliers who then use their collective buying power to negotiate with energy providers for cheaper tariffs. It has been run in many other parts of the country with good results, saving on average £100-£200/year on energy bills for consumers.</p>
<p>C6. With the new Youth Council, develop an integrated plan to improve health, success and opportunities for young people (Pippa Corney / Mike Hill)</p>	<p>The Children and Young People's Plan Development Project Initiation Document has been prepared for EMT consideration. Outline agreement has been obtained from the Portfolio Holder (PFH) for Task & Finish Group to take the plan forward, possibly jointly with Cllr Martin as PFH with responsibility for development of SCDC Health & Wellbeing and Ageing Well strategies.</p> <p>The Youth Council itself has been active in a number of areas:</p>	<p>Nominations are now open for places on our 2014/15 Youth Council, and we're advertising for young people aged 13 to 17 and living in South Cambridgeshire with a real interest in having a say on the things the Council does to get involved.</p> <p>In the New Year, the Youth Council will be launching a Young People's Grant that aims to award financial aid to projects that support young people.</p>

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	<p>In June our youth councillors attended the voluntary group Cambridge Conversations' event to help launch its 'Ten Sofas Ten Minutes' initiative. The idea was to put one or two sofas up at various events in and around South Cambridgeshire and invite young people across the district to stop, sit and talk for ten minutes about what they'd like to see in their local areas, and what their concerns might be.</p> <p>In July, youth councillors attended the UNITE Summer Business Forum at Elms BMW in Cambourne where they chatted to businesses about employment opportunities for young people and asked what skills employers look for. They also had the chance to talk to the speakers from B SkyB, BT, the Chamber of Commerce, BMW and also the founder of the Big Issue, John Bird.</p> <p>Youth Council representatives hosted the entertainment stage at our annual Park Life event.</p> <p>BBC Three's Free Speech – a current affairs show for young people – is touring the UK and on 9 October, aired live from Cambridge. Youth councillors joined the audience and took part in the live debate, using it as a platform to express their opinions on some of the big political and social issues we face today.</p> <p>The show centred on whether zero hours contracts</p>	

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	<p>are fair. Many young people are on the contracts, which expect them to be available for work but only pay for the hours they are needed. Our youth councillors said it was interesting to learn that some young people are not given enough hours to cover living costs whilst others praised the flexibility of this way of working.</p>	
<p>C7. Celebrate rural life through the Community Pride, Village Heroes and best-kept garden awards (Ray Manning and Mark Howell / Mike Hill and Stephen Hills)</p>	<p>The Best Kept Garden competition was held during Summer 2013 for SCDC tenants and leaseholders, with the Awards Ceremony held on 4 October.</p> <p>The Park Life event attracted record crowds of almost 5,000 people to Milton Country Park, with staff from teams across the council coming together to make the event a success. Over 450 people had a go at water sports alone, including canoeing, kayaking and paddleboarding, whilst almost 100 checked out the woodland activities in the Wild Place and many more tried their hand at archery, trampolining, golf, fencing and cycling.</p>	<p>An article in the next residents' magazine will seek nominations for the annual Community Pride and Village Hero Awards, which recognise the contributions local people make to their communities. As well as Village Hero and Young Village Hero, there will be three categories for the Community Pride Award, recognising individuals' contribution to local services, the environment and the health and wellbeing of their local community. The award ceremony will take place March 2014.</p>
<p>C8. Continue support for community orchards, allotments, hedgerows, tree-planting and other conservation and enhancement schemes, including the Chalk Rivers project</p>	<p>Progress has been made on several enhancement projects:</p> <p>Chalk Rivers: Developed restoration of Hoffer Brook; management of improved areas on Rivers Mel and Shep involving Harston Scouts.</p>	<p>We are launching an initiative to plant mini-meadows on underused amenity grass across the district. The idea is to transform Council-owned areas of mown grass to colourful, interesting and long flowering displays of native and more exotic non-native species of wildflower that become a haven for wildlife.</p>

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(Nick Wright / Jo Mills)	<p>Wildlife Enhancement Scheme: Supported Emmaus pond, Well House, Haslingfield.</p> <p>Support for other local projects: including Stockbridge Meadows, pond advice and wild flower planting</p> <p>Enhancement through planning: including reinstating of Repton landscape at EDF Milton</p> <p>Community Orchards: we are proposing a community orchard as part of a new planning development in Waterbeach.</p> <p>Conservation projects have been awarded funding from the Community Chest Grants Scheme at Histon and Impington (trees for community orchard - £1,000) and Little Eversden (tree planting - £242)</p>	<p>Four areas in the district have already been identified and residents/landowners will be invited to go through their own parish councils to find out if they can nominate plots of land. The seeds for the first four areas will be planted this autumn and they will flower in spring 2014.</p>
C9 Establish projects to consider the options for upgrading and improving Council homes (Mark Howell / Stephen Hills)	<p>The Council is due to undertake a community consultation exercise for the potential major redevelopment of the site at Wilford Furlong, Willingham. Initial design options are currently being prepared. The findings will be reported in October 2014.</p>	<p>Resident consultation will be undertaken during Spring 2014.</p>
C10 Jointly lead the 'Together for Families' partnership project to improve the lives of families with the most complex needs	<p>Data is now regularly shared by SCDC to identify families that meet the government and local criteria.</p> <p>Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) locality meetings now include discussion of Together</p>	<p>SCDC will continue to work with partners to identify families that meet the government and local criteria. We will also be training staff as lead professionals to provide resilience to the Together for Families</p>

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(Mick Martin / Mike Hill)	<p>for Families cases as well as Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) cases to ensure a joined up approach and avoid duplication.</p> <p>The expanded Family Intervention Project is now in place and accepting new cases.</p>	<p>project.</p> <p>The future work on rolling out the new IT system, E-CINS, will help us to deliver a joined-up programme of support to families on the scheme (see A10).</p>