

APPENDIX A - CORPORATE PLAN 2013-2018 – UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTING COUNCIL ACTIONS (SCRUTINY AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEE AND CABINET, 11-13 FEBRUARY 2014)

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 confirmed that the Council maintained the standards of the Elected Member Development Charter in June 2013.</p> <p>The Member Development Programme for 2013/14 continues to be rolled out. Recent sessions have been held on public speaking and treasury management and Members have been supported in the rollout of iPads, with beginner and intermediate sessions held in January and advanced sessions planned for the end of February. The public speaking session was held by the East of England Local Government Association and remaining spaces were sold to Members of Cambridgeshire County Council and parish councils.</p> <p>Specific training for Members of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee and Partnerships Review Committee was facilitated by the Centre for Public Scrutiny in January 2014, both of which were</p>	<p>The Democratic Services team will be working with the Portfolio Holder to review the Member Development Strategy and recommend changes where necessary. The team has also commenced planning the content of the induction programme for those new Members elected in the May 2014 elections.</p> <p>EMT will be asked to agree a programme of 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>EMT will also be considering proposals to take forward coaching, building on skills developed during the Leadership Development programme.</p> <p>The final modules of the programme will be delivered by 31 March 2014.</p>

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	<p>positively received by those Members in attendance.</p> <p>53 of the Council's 57 Members have attended at least one training session or workshop this municipal year.</p> <p>The second cohort on the Leadership Development Programme are progressing through their learning projects, some of which take forward corporate improvement projects linked to the Business Improvement and Efficiency Programme (see A4 below). This includes a review of the way that we recruit and select employees to ensure that we attract the best candidates for our jobs.</p> <p>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>We are delivering a corporate skills programme to improve the way we communicate with our</p>	<p>The Organisational Development Strategy and Action Plan will be reviewed by Scrutiny with particular focus on Apprenticeships, Leadership/Management Development, Member Development and staff readiness to move towards a more commercial approach to service delivery.</p>

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	<p>customers, partners and stakeholders.</p>	
<p>A2. Maintain financial resilience whilst channelling our resources to create opportunities for investment, sustainable borrowing and economic growth (Simon Edwards / Alex Colyer)</p>	<p>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 1% at 30 November 2013, well within the 3% target.</p> <p>SCDC's external auditors issued an unqualified audit opinion of our 2012/13 accounts, representing a strong endorsement of the quality and robustness of our financial procedures and personnel.</p> <p>A draft Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2014-2019 was approved by Cabinet 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>Cabinet has authorised officers to carry out a pilot scheme for the Council's new housing company, South Cambs Limited, set up to meet unmet housing need and provide a financial return to support the Medium Term Financial Strategy. This included the allocation of £7 million to enable the company to acquire an initial portfolio of homes for rent during 2014-15.</p> <p>The draft Corporate Plan 2014-19 includes a strategic objective to improve efficiency and value for money within a viable financial strategy.</p>
<p>A3. Ensure best use of Council assets and benefit from opportunities to achieve efficiencies from working together (Simon Edwards / Alex</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</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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<p>Colyer)</p>	<p>Peterborough City Council launched on 1 July 2013.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>We have agreed a joint post with County Public Health team to take forward health partnership working, which commenced in November 2013 on a 12-month trial basis.</p>	<p>Following Cabinet agreement in principle, further work is underway to develop this proposal.</p>
<p>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)</p>	<p>Projects are well underway and subject to a rolling programme of weekly reviews by management team to ensure adequate progress towards objectives.</p> <p>The first emerging recommendations, arising from the review of agency and consultancy staff usage, were agreed by EMT in December 2013. Their subsequent implementation will reduce expenditure and improve working practice.</p> <p>The programme highlight report to the January meeting set out proposals to adapt existing projects to reflect the emerging corporate priority around commercial approaches to service delivery, noted positive outcomes from the review of document and space management which would generate income for the Council from the creation of additional office</p>	<p>We will ensure that projects deliver their objectives within timescale, identifying the savings required by the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) as well as tangible customer service improvements. Provision for a part-year saving of £300k, arising from the review of waste collection, has been included within draft estimates for 2014-15.</p> <p>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)</p>

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	<p>space for rental, and agreed recommendations arising from the review of the Post Room service.</p>	
<p>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 Whiteman-Downes / Alex Colyer)</p>	<p>Updates to the focus of our residents' magazine have been made following a successful survey which attracted almost 200 responses. This has seen additional information on rogue traders covered and more focus on transport issues.</p> <p>Social media followers continue to increase and we are trying to use the channel to encourage engagement.</p> <p>A new business newsletter is being launched to give better and more targeted information to firms. This aims to improve the two way conversation we are having.</p> <p>To improve the quality of our tenants' magazine a review is being carried out with changes to design, production method and content.</p> <p>In 2013 the highest quantity of media coverage was achieved, with 93% being positive or neutral. An excellent result and is a good way to promote the work of the Council.</p>	<p>A media partnership is to be set up to help improve attendance at our annual Park Life event. Discussions have begun with Cambridge News.</p> <p>Promotion of key events such as the Tour de France coming through our district is also being done to help residents know how they can get involved and advice them of any possible issues to consider on the day.</p> <p>The Council's budget will be published in February and this will be a key piece of work to explain how taxpayers' money is being spent.</p>
<p>A6. Increase the supply of temporary accommodation, prioritising council-owned properties whilst</p>	<p>The project to redevelop the Robson Court hostel site is progressing well. Following the grant of planning permission, work started on site in Autumn 2013, with an 18-month build-out programme. The current</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</p>

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<p>not restricting options in other sectors. (Mark Howell / Stephen Hills)</p>	<p>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 (Sanctuary Housing are to manage the site and this is a scheme that we no longer have any influence/control) and a further 10 additional units to help alleviate the need to use B&B. We are still on target with decant properties secured within Waterbeach to enable the site to be cleared. The Council is continuing to be proactive in identifying suitable properties for purchase and use as temporary accommodation, with 10 properties completed and 3 more to purchase between April-December 2013.</p> <p>The Housing Director has amended the risk relating to Bed and Breakfast usage Likelihood score from 4 (Likely) to 3 (Possible) in line with the Affordable Housing risk register, as the mitigation measures are proving successful in reducing the likelihood of this risk happening.</p>	<p>approved by the Housing Portfolio Holder on 16 October 2013.</p> <p>The numbers in temporary accommodation are remaining steady compared with last quarter (though there has been an increase on previous years, which mirrors the national picture).</p> <p>Homeless prevention has increased – there was a substantial increase in quarter 2, and a further increase last quarter. This is largely down to successful private rent placements and social housing lets.</p> <p>The draft Corporate Plan 2014-2019 includes a strategic objective to increase the range and supply of temporary accommodation to help minimise the use of bed and breakfast accommodation for homeless households.</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</p>	<p>All 7,400 comments from the recent consultation have been published on the Council's website. The Planning Policy and Localism Portfolio Holder will be considering responses at her meeting on 11 February, at which she will recommend the Council either to submit the Local Plan to the Secretary of</p>

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	<p>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 2013. This included 17 more public exhibitions at 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 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>State with minor changes or whether major changes are required which would require a further round of consultation.</p> <p>.</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>

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<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 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 substantially reduce gross waste collection costs and so deliver savings of up to £400k per annum.</p> <p>The Council is taking part in a project to jointly purchase large refuse vehicles across RECAP partners, and recently agree a shared specification and Invitation to Tender.</p> <p>The Council’s reuse and recycling rate remains at over 58%.</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. A joint Invitation to Tender is due to be published in January 2014.</p> <p>Discussions are on-going with Cambridge City on opportunities for closer operational working and the 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>The Council is currently consulting on a revised corporate plan for 2014-2019 which retains waste partnership working as a strategic objective.</p>

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<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 in future years. This monitoring has identified that the scheme is financially sound and has been easily understood by residents, consequently Council has agreed to retain it for 2014-2015.</p> <p>Consistently high first-time call resolution rates being achieved by the Customer Contact Service (averaging 82% during 2013) have helped the Benefits Team maintain and enhance its performance in processing new claims in spite of demand increasing. We are also maintaining outstanding performance in respect of rent (98.2%) and Council Tax (88.1% of 88.5% collectable to 31 December) collection rates.</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 increased demand and plan for the possibility of the requirement to amend the LCTSS for 2015/16.</p> <p>We have been given additional funds to support residents experiencing hardship resulting from under occupancy reductions in benefit, Benefit caps, Local Housing Allowance and to support claimants in specially adapted properties. Our next resident magazine will include an article reminding those receiving Housing Benefit and experiencing a shortfall between the rent charged and the amount of Housing Benefit received that they can apply for a Discretionary Housing Payment.</p> <p>The Council is currently consulting on a revised corporate plan for 2014-2019 which retains managing the impacts of welfare reform as a strategic objective.</p>
<p>A10. Effectively influence the new Police and Crime Commissioner's Plans via improved engagement with our</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</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</p>

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<p>local communities and better sharing of intelligence with police and partners (Mick Martin / Mike Hill)</p>	<p>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>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>Agreements.</p> <p>We produced joint publicity with Neighbourhood Policing Teams in our last residents' magazine, clarifying the categories of incidents/problems that should be reported to the Police or to the District Council. In the next edition, we'll be focussing on helping residents protect themselves from shed and garage burglaries, a local crime issue at the moment.</p> <p>SCDC staff, along with partners, will be undertaking anti-social behaviour injunctions training in February 2014.</p> <p>SCDC has been working with the police to launch a new format for Neighbourhood Panels that will begin in February 2014. There will now be three panels meeting three times a year and the district council will be contributing additional information to the meetings.</p>

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We will work with partners to create opportunities for employment, enterprise, education and world-leading innovation		
<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, 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>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>Over £4.5m has been secured as part of the Connecting Cambridgeshire programme to help businesses afford faster broadband connections and make the most of digital technologies. A new countywide business support scheme will be launched in January to help hundreds of small and medium-sized businesses get better connected so they can increase productivity and create new jobs. Eligible companies will be able to apply for match-funded grants and one-off payments of up to £4,000 to help upgrade to high speed broadband and invest in digital technologies.</p>
<p>B2. Support the local economy through developing a Register</p>	<p>The new Business Register had 400 applications as at December 2013. The Register will be used to</p>	<p>The Cambridge Plus website will be updated, enabling it to be maintained and updated more easily</p>

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<p>of Businesses and Business Support schemes (Nick Wright / Jo Mills)</p>	<p>communicate with particular sectors, e.g. the Environmental Health & Licensing Team with food establishments, promote business support activities and seek feedback. The first e-newsletter was circulated in January.</p> <p>Working with business support specialists Exemplas, we have run a further series of free practical workshops to address specific issues raised by local firms. Eight additional workshops were attended by 75 people; feedback suggests that the workshops continue to be well-received and highly regarded.</p>	<p>and used, alongside the Business Register, as a means of communication with businesses.</p> <p>The Planning and Economic Development Portfolio Holder has agreed an action plan for economic development containing business support as a key theme, both in terms of operational service delivery (e.g. Key Account Management) and support for the rural economy. These will be taken forward into 2014-15 as part of a draft strategic objective in the refreshed Corporate Plan to make the district an even more attractive place to do business.</p> <p>SCDC has agreed extra support for Waterbeach businesses suffering from a reduction in trade following the closure of the Barracks in the village.</p> <p>The pilot project in the village follows a recent summit held at South Cambridgeshire District Council's offices where local firms gathered with councillors and business groups. A breakfast business workshop will be held to agree a village business vision and action plan to help firms remain viable and attract new trade.</p>
<p>B3. Establish a Council 'Back to work' project, and promote apprenticeships to equip all our young people for productive life</p>	<p>A Pathway to Employment strategy was approved by Cabinet in April 2013. Two apprentices have been appointed within housing, and further apprentices recruited to start in November in the Revenues and</p>	<p>Skills and Employment have been identified as a key theme within the updated economic development action plan agreed by the Portfolio Holder in December 2013, under which we will be seeking to</p>

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<p>(Mark Howell / Stephen Hills)</p>	<p>Finance, Policy and Performance teams.</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>	<p>develop the Pathway to Employment strategy to expand our apprenticeship programme, develop a Community Impact Strategy and establish the potential for a young persons foyer scheme, aimed at providing intensive training and support.</p> <p>The Planning and New Communities directorate will be running another work experience programme this summer due to popular demand.</p> <p>The 2-week structured programme will take place in July 2014 and aims to provide young people the opportunity to gain skills and practical work experience in urban design, architecture, town planning, landscape design, transport planning, ecology, sustainability and historic buildings. A forthcoming residents' magazine article will encourage students aged 15 to 18 to participate and develop skills and experience.</p>
<p>B4. Continue an effective approach to enforcement to target residents' problems whilst effectively supporting local business success (Mick Martin / Mike Hill)</p>	<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 has been consulted on between October-December 2013, with feedback to be incorporated into a final adopted version.</p>

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<p>B5. Work with the LEP and other partners to facilitate local innovation and entrepreneurship (Nick Wright / Jo Mills)</p>	<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 the prospect of a deal has recently moved closer as Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg signed a Memorandum of Understanding. This was the first formal step in delivering a deal which would mean a portion of the tax generated in the area from growth would be kept locally – known as gain share.</p> <p>The signing followed the announcement in the Chancellor's Autumn Statement which committed the Government to deliver the gain share proposals for the Greater Cambridge City Deal.</p> <p>The Deal includes measures to bring forward the new Cambridge Science Park station (B7), support the delivery of affordable housing (B8) and allow skills funding to be used in different ways which will target training more at the particular needs of local employers (B3) (references to other relevant Actions in brackets).</p> <p>The LEP has set up a senior officer forum that will provide new opportunities for partnership approaches on business support and inward investment, and also</p>	<p>City Deal negotiations with government are continuing, and we hope to conclude them in time for the Budget in March 2014.</p> <p>In addition to funding for transport and affordable housing, the Deal would see the three councils (County, Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District Councils) pooling some of their funding and powers, and working even more closely than now in a form of "combined authority". This requires Government to change current legislation, but would allow for the creation of a single strategic vision for the future of the area covered by Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire.</p> <p>We have been working with the LEP to develop a region-wide local growth strategy for submission to central government during January. The strategy will inform crucial funding decisions around transport and other priorities.</p>

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	<p>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 upgrade, reiterating the important of improvements for the delivery of the growth agenda, the economy, village amenity and to improve journey times and</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 Highways Agency intend to make a Preferred Route announcement in early 2014 (this was initially anticipated in late 2013 but has been put back to</p>

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	<p>road safety for the travelling public.</p> <p>In response to pressure from local authorities including SCDC, the government announced in December 2013 that plans to toll the A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon improvement scheme would not go forward.</p>	<p>enable longer to consider consultation responses), followed by further public consultation, in which the Council will participate.</p>
<p>B7. Ensure the effective delivery of Northstowe and other new communities (Tim Wotherspoon / Jo Mills)</p>	<p>Northstowe – A report presented to the Northstowe Joint Development Control Committee on 29 January outlined the terms of a £30 million agreement which will enable the first phase of 1,500 homes to proceed.</p> <p>The legal agreement includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - £10 million for a new primary school - £8 million contribution toward a new secondary school - Almost £6 million toward transport, including new cycle routes, footpaths and a contribution for the Cambridgeshire Guided Busway which is already in place - £1.5 million for a community centre - £1.5 million for sports pitches 	<p>Northstowe - The legal agreement will soon be signed by all parties before being sealed. Once completed the outline planning permission already approved by councillors for phase one will be issued.</p> <p>Once planning permission has been granted, a series of detailed planning applications will follow, which will include the design and appearance of homes. These will be consulted on with residents.</p> <p>Subject to the detailed planning applications being agreed, developers have said to the councils that work could begin on site later this year.</p> <p>One in five of the homes in the initial development will be affordable rented or shared ownership. However, we expect that a variety of other homes will be built in the first phase that are open to buy or rent for all residents with the support of schemes such as 'Help to Buy', mortgage guarantee and similar Government backed initiatives which may be available.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - £1.1 million for a sports pavilion - Over £1 million for drainage, which will include improvements for nearby Longstanton - Over £500,000 for parks and open spaces <p>The first phase of new homes will also include a local centre with shops and employment opportunities as well as a household recycling centre.</p> <p>NE Cambridge – The planning application for the new station at Chesterton Sidings, near the Science Park, has been approved. 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>Work will start on the new station this year with a planned opening at the end of 2015. It will generate benefits to residents and commuters in terms of improved access to the north of Cambridge, to the rail network, and to connecting services without having to go through the City centre; and in stimulating further economic growth.</p>	<p>To make sure the secondary school can be delivered as early as possible alongside the first development of homes at Northstowe, the Homes and Communities Agency – which owns the majority of the government land that the future town will be built on – will make land available. The Agency is working together with Gallagher, the County Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council to bring forward the new town which will have up to 10,000 homes.</p> <p>Cambridge East - A six-week consultation on plans for up to 1,300 homes north of Newmarket Road, Cambridge, began on 3 January. The proposed development incorporates 40% affordable housing, a primary school, food store, sports pitches and play areas.</p> <p>The Council's draft Corporate Plan for 2014-2019 includes a strategic objective to establish successful; and sustainable new communities with housing and employment and Northstowe and the major growth sites, served by an improved A14.</p>
<p>B8. Deliver a range of homes that are affordable and where people want to live in areas that</p>	<p>171 affordable homes have been completed in the nine months to 31 December, far exceeding our</p>	<p>The scheme to bring forward new affordable units at the Windmill Estate, Fulbourn, is due for completion in December 2014. A total of 237 new affordable</p>

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<p>will support economic growth (Mark Howell / Stephen Hills)</p>	<p>target of 120.</p> <p>We are part-funding three Passivhaus homes for rent on land at Horseheath that Hastoe Housing Association received free from us. Passivhaus buildings provide a high level of occupant comfort while using very little energy for heating and cooling. They are built with meticulous attention to detail and rigorous design and construction according to principles developed by the Passivhaus Institute in Germany. These cutting edge energy efficiency features have led to up to 90% reductions in annual fuel bills for occupiers in similar properties elsewhere.</p>	<p>homes are due for completion by April 2014 across the District.</p> <p>The Council's draft Corporate Plan for 2014-2019 includes a strategic objective to build new council houses to provide affordable homes to meet the needs of local communities.</p>
<p>B9. Build the first of the new Council houses in the New Build Strategy 2012-15 (Mark Howell / Stephen Hills)</p>	<p>The new development at Chalklands, Linton, was completed on time, with tenants now in residence.</p>	<p>Other schemes in progress:</p> <p>Approx. 15 properties in Foxton – Feb 2015 planning application scheduled</p> <p>Approx. 11/12 properties in Bourn- still at the discussion stage</p> <p>Willingham - being reviewed to identify possibilities</p>
<p>B10. Set up a new way of delivering equity share, market sale and private rented properties (Mark Howell / Stephen Hills)</p>	<p>South Cambs Ltd was established in January 2013. Cabinet has authorised officers to carry out a pilot scheme for the new housing company, with £7 million allocated to enable the company to acquire an initial</p>	<p>Following Cabinet authorisation we are setting up the company structure and brand and carrying out market research to inform the subsequent purchase programme. Developing the pilot scheme into a full business plan has been provisionally identified as a</p>

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	<p>portfolio of homes for rent during 2014-15.</p>	<p>corporate objective in the draft 2014-2019 Corporate Plan.</p>
<p>We will make sure that South Cambridgeshire continues to offer an outstanding quality of life for our residents</p>		
<p>C1. Develop solutions to deliver co-ordinated community transport (Nick Wright / Mike Hill)</p>	<p>The Cambridgeshire Future Transport project continues to review local bus services. Clusters of villages are being looked at together, with the county subdivided into many such clusters, each to be looked at in turn.</p> <p>Two areas of the district under have been reviewed – Area F - villages along the A14 corridor between Cambridge and Huntingdon - and Area G - villages currently served by services 31 (Stapleford, Fowlmere) and 75 (Tadlow, Haslingfield and Orwell). Area J is currently being reviewed – including Balsham, Carlton Green, Carlton, Willingham Green, Weston Colville, West Wratting, Weston Green, West Wickham, Linton and Horseheath. Area M - Melbourn and Bassingbourn - will be tackled later in the year.</p> <p>The South Cambs Transport Directory was updated by SCDC in May 2013 and has been widely distributed.</p>	<p>As a result of the first stage 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.</p> <p>Details of how the responsive transport scheme will work, between Comberton and Gamlingay, will be included in the next residents’ magazine, including a map of the ‘Roam Zone’ and details of other operators’ routes in the area.</p>

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<p>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)</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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. SCDC is playing a key role in the process.</p> <p>Portfolio Holder task and finish work has begun to develop integrated Ageing Well, Health & Wellbeing and Children and Young People's strategies.</p>	<p>Options for future funding and procurement of a countywide Safer Homes work will continue to be progressed.</p> <p>We will continue to promote the Community Navigators scheme via staff, parishes and other local groups we are in contact with.</p>
<p>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>	<p>Relationships continue to be built between planners and health colleagues. a regular meeting between the growth teams, NHS England, CCC and CATCH (local commissioning group) is now taking place. We have agreed a joint post with County Public Health team to include a focus on this area, which commenced in November 2013 on a 12-month trial basis.</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</p>	<p>SCDC has begun a Portfolio Holder Task & Finish Group to develop an SCDC Health & Wellbeing Plan, integrated for Children and Young People and Older People (see C2 above).</p> <p>The Council is currently consulting on a revised corporate plan for 2014-2019 which retains improving the health of our communities as a strategic objective.</p> <p>We will continue to progress the mental health project to establish closer working with mental health teams and better support residents.</p> <p>We will commission a playing pitch assessment,</p>

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	<p>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 residents 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>	<p>across South Cambs and Cambridge, to support the new Local Plan and respond to representations.</p>
<p>C4. Address the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers (Mark Howell / Stephen Hills)</p>	<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>The Council is currently consulting on a revised corporate plan for 2014-2019 which retains providing affordable homes, including existing and Gypsy and Traveller sites, as a strategic objective.</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, by</p>

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		October 2014.
<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>	<p>Significant progress has been made in implementing specific South Cambridgeshire elements of the Green Deal scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The scheme launched under the brand name “Action on Energy Cambridgeshire” on 13 November 2013, with a launch event at the Smartlife Low Carbon Centre, which was attended by councillors officers, community group representatives and press. Reporting of the launch was positive with good coverage by the Cambridge Evening News and BBC radio Cambridgeshire local radio. - The scheme website www.actiononenergy.net is up and running. - Two Cambridgeshire based staff have been employed so far to work on the scheme: . - Contacts have been made and are being developed with the Cambridge Citizens’ Advice Bureau and Cambridge Council for Voluntary Service (CCVS). - Although South Cambridgeshire has not yet been the focus for a marketing campaign the scheme has nevertheless processed 36 	<p>SCDC will work closely with Climate Energy to ensure the community and environmental benefits of the scheme can be realised locally.</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> <p>The Action on Energy delivery plan going forward includes performance monitoring, a marketing schedule and programmes to recruit local installers into the scheme and engage local community groups.</p> <p>The countywide Green Deal project board has applied for significant funding from central government for a project to encourage uptake of wall insulation for privately owned houses with solid walls (older homes which don’t have cavity walls and cannot benefit from simpler and cheaper cavity wall insulation). An article in the next residents’ magazine will cover what is involved in insulating solid walls, explain when planning permission is needed and the council’s approach where it is applied for. It will outline typical costs and savings and additional incentives available.</p> <p>We will be promoting the Collective Switching scheme in the district, which aims to save residents</p>

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	<p>enquiries from South Cambridgeshire residents, via magazine articles, events and thermal imaging projects.</p> <p>The Council commissioned a report on pubs and farms, following a series of Green Business Breakfasts held during 2012/13. The report has been completed, and in July and December 2013, the PFH endorsed further work to develop approaches to support the rural economy of villages as part of an updated Economic Development Action Plan.</p>	<p>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>Progressing the Action on Energy and Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership remain priorities as part of the draft Corporate Plan 2014-2019 objective to sustain vibrant, successful villages.</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>Portfolio Holder task and finish work has begun to develop integrated Ageing Well, Health & Wellbeing and Children and Young People's strategies.</p> <p>The Youth Council has had an active year, participating in a number of initiatives SCDC's Park Life event and BBC3's Free Speech, a current affairs show which aired live from Cambridge in October.</p> <p>The Leader has agreed a plan that will see youth councillors consider all applications for project funding targeted at people aged up to 18 years old, as part of the Community Chest grant scheme.</p>	<p>Nominations remain 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>C7. Celebrate rural life through the Community Pride, Village Heroes and best-kept garden</p>	<p>The Best Kept Garden competition was held during Summer 2013 for SCDC tenants and leaseholders,</p>	<p>Nominations for the annual Community Pride and Village Hero Awards, which recognise the contributions local people make to their communities,</p>

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<p>awards (Ray Manning and Mark Howell / Mike Hill and Stephen Hills)</p>	<p>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>Community Right to Bid: Village pubs in Grantchester and Stapleford have been added to the list assets of community value in December 2013. Listing provides a moratorium on the sale of up to six months in the events of the assets coming to be sold, giving local communities greater opportunity to consider bidding for ownership of the asset.</p> <p>We have launched a new online grant grabber which helps groups locate avenues of funding from the Council and beyond. This can be found by visiting www.scambs.gov.uk/grant-search-service.</p>	<p>closed on 24 January 2014; a total of 36 nominations have been received. 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 on March 2014.</p> <p>Cllr Manning has agreed to increase the amount communities can bid for under the Council's community chest grant scheme. The new £1,500 limit, which has been increased from £1,000, will mean communities can make more substantial purchases and deliver bigger projects.</p> <p>So far this financial year £22,000 has already been awarded for projects through the Community Chest scheme and funding is still available.</p>
<p>C8. Continue support for community orchards, allotments, hedgerows, tree-</p>	<p>Progress has been made on several enhancement projects:</p>	<p>SCDC is combating the impact of external insulation on wildlife through the installation of locally designed and built bird and bat boxes, which are fitted at the</p>

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<p>planting and other conservation and enhancement schemes, including the Chalk Rivers project (Nick Wright / Jo Mills)</p>	<p>Chalk Rivers: Developed restoration of Hoffer Brook; management of improved areas on Rivers Mel and Shep involving Harston Scouts.</p> <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>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> <p>Four areas in the district have already been identified</p>	<p>same time as wall insulation.</p> <p>Council tenants who live in properties considered suitable will be asked if they would like a box fitted. There will be three types of bird box available and one type of bat box. Working with a local supplier, we will be offering discounted bird and bat boxes to all residents via an article in the next residents' magazine.</p>

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	<p>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>	
<p>C9 Establish projects to consider the options for upgrading and improving Council homes (Mark Howell / Stephen Hills)</p>	<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>
<p>C10 Jointly lead the 'Together for Families' partnership project to improve the lives of families with the most complex needs (Mick Martin / Mike Hill)</p>	<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 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>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 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>