

Delivering the County Council Vision: our Plan for 2018-19

The Business Plan contains four strategic outcomes that show what the Council will focus on to deliver its Vision and improve lives. Beneath each strategic outcome sits four key priorities and a range of activities. By lining up these activities, priorities and strategic outcomes with the Vision we can plan ahead, monitor progress and above all ensure that we are working within our financial means.

The Business Plan shows our strong ambitions. This means that some activities are aspirational, and funding will need to be secured and formal decisions taken before they can begin.

A county infrastructure that drives productivity, supports economic prosperity and sustainable public services	Safe, vibrant and well-balanced communities able to enjoy and benefit from the natural environment	Fairer life chances and opportunity for all	Improved health and wellbeing and more people living healthy and independent lives for longer
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure that the Council is financially sustainable and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Has sustainable services. ○ Makes decisions based on evidence and need. ○ Has the organisational, people and digital capacities and capabilities to deliver efficiently and effectively. 2. Enable economic and housing growth by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improving transport infrastructure and digital connectivity. ○ Working more effectively with developers and District Council planning colleagues. 3. Create the climate for enterprise and innovation that businesses need to grow and collaborate. 4. Deliver the Heart of the South West Productivity Strategy and influence the local Industrial Strategy for the benefit of Somerset. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support development of stronger communities including working with them to increase their resilience. 2. Work with partners and communities to protect and enhance the environment, manage our water better and produce less waste. 3. Make sure that Somerset remains a safe place to live, work and visit. 4. Support and promote enjoyment of Somerset's rich heritage, culture and natural environment. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tackle inequalities and poor social mobility across Somerset so everyone can realise their potential and give more to our economy and society. 2. Maintain the Council's focus and commitment to make Somerset a place where all children are healthy, safe, and have good physical and emotional wellbeing. 3. Ensure all children in Somerset have access to high quality schools, high quality educational, professional and support services, teachers and leadership teams. 4. Equip Somerset's workforce of the future with the skills they need, and enable them to aspire and achieve in Somerset's economy. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explore, define and implement robust health and social care integration. 2. Focus efforts on improving health and wellbeing outcomes, especially for those in greatest need. 3. Foster an environment which promotes healthier choices and supports people to take responsibility for their own health and wellbeing. 4. Support people to remain independent and within their homes and communities, without formal social care support wherever possible and for as long as possible.

Strategic Outcome	A county infrastructure that drives productivity, supports economic prosperity and sustainable public services
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Priority

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| <p>1. Ensure that the Council is financially sustainable and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Has sustainable services. ○ Makes decisions based on evidence and need. ○ Has the organisational, people and digital capacities and capabilities to deliver efficiently and effectively. |
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Activity to deliver this priority
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<p>With immediate effect, the Council's top priority is to become financially sustainable. To achieve this, we will:</p>
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus primarily on delivering financial sustainability during this financial year. • Develop and implement a Medium Term Financial Plan, that also responds to Peer Challenge recommendations regarding financial sustainability. |
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<p>Define and implement a robust financial plan for Children's Services including:</p>
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a strategy for managing demand in high-cost services, as a top priority. • Developing a model to fund the continuing improvement journey for Children's Social Care through all-service budget management, communicated to all staff. |
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<p>Commence discussions on local government review for Somerset.</p>
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<p>Embed our People Strategy to improve the way we work with stakeholders.</p>
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<p>Complete our library redesign programme to provide a modern and sustainable libraries service.</p>

<p>Support new business start-ups for economic growth, which in turn will increase Business Rate income.</p>
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<p>Provide Business Intelligence and other management information to support better outcomes, through:</p>
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective commissioning and delivery of services based on need. • Effective management information to monitor performance. |
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<p>Ensure our IT systems promote and enhance collaborative working and data sharing with public sector and other partners.</p>
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<p>Develop and embed a Data Strategy that works in common with our partners.</p>
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<p>Find new ways to map data at levels that support better, more focussed commissioning and decision-making.</p>
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<p>Improve asset management across the corporate property estate:</p>
