

**Place & Performance - Communities
Area East Development Service Plan**

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Nick Weeks

Manager – Helen Rutter

Set out below are the key projects & programmes being undertaken by the team (either directly or in support of community groups & other partners) where we have a key role in the delivery of the projects. This Plan sits alongside our core work or responding to issues & problems on a day-to-day basis, working with Councillors & other services across the Authority and beyond, to try and resolve them.

Completed	In Progress – On Target	In Progress – Risk of Missing Target	Behind Target	Future Action – not started
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Service Action Plan: <i>Top level actions – more detail is within individual work programmes/project plans</i>					
Priority Area	Action	Target Date	Milestone	Lead Officer	Current Progress
1. Town centre & neighbourhood management	Transfer of Castle Cary Market House to local ownership	Jan 2015	Completion of Capital report and asset transfer agreed via AEC/DX	PW	Building works largely complete only minor snagging outstanding. Meeting to discuss asset transfer is scheduled for Nov 2014
	Support & develop Town Team type work in the market towns to carry out projects that improve the attractiveness of the High St	Ongoing March 2015	Report to AEC on project performance	PW/JD	Targeted work in Bruton : High Street improvements, MTIG projects towards enhancement to the riverside walk and LIC improvements. Wincanton : Strong focus on market delivery, major changes to Town Team representation. Viability of future markets to be assessed at end of this year. Castle Cary : Following successful implementation early this year of the Town Council's weekly market, this continues to flourish.
	Help to resolve local problems by forming short life, solution focused action groups as required	Ongoing March 2015	Report to AEC annually	HR	Multi-agency group working on Deansley Way to ensure new residents are welcomed and to press for rapid delivery of infrastructure improvements
	Local negotiations on transfer of specific SSDC town centre assets to local Councils if required	Ongoing March 2015	Assets transferred, consensus on way forward Report to AEC annually	HR	Community toilets scheme implemented in Bruton. Open to further discussion about car park transfer to local control in Bruton and other villages

2. Economic development, job creation & regeneration schemes	Bring forward further workspace in Wincanton & Castle Cary (corporate ED programme)	Autumn 2014	Specified in project plan	PW	This project to be resourced through Corporate ED programme agreed at DX in October 2014
	Improvement of Wincanton High Street a) Feasibility work to attract significant new retailers/other attractions to Wincanton High St (corporate ED programme)	March 2015	As set out in project plan Report to AEC	PW	Preliminary work to look at retail incubators in the High Street just commencing as a short to medium term initiative. This is in addition to the Corporate ED programme agreed at DX in October 2014
	b) Re-launch targeted Retail Support Initiative	Revised scheme July 2014 Mar 2015	Number & leverage of investment reported to AEC	PW	Wincanton top-up scheme signed off by Members in Oct 2014 and face-to-face business follow-up also undertaken. Updated information circulated electronically to other locations by end of November
	Secure Heart of Wessex LEADER programme to support rural economic development across Area East	Bid submission Sept 2014	Secure programme funding strategy addressing needs through consultation process	HR/JD	The whole of Area East is included in the Local Development Strategy area. Cllr Lewis is on the Steering Group. Workshops planned for November to assist potential projects and decision on funding expected late November 2014
	Marketing of Area East for inward investment/website & brochure	Jan 2015	Report to AEC – Jan 2015	PW	Brochure completed, distributed and available on the website. Press releases issued.
	Common Lane multi-user path	2015	Route opened	PW	Meeting to consider site issues Oct 2014. Now investigating funding options ahead of putting in a planning application
	Help each of the market towns to market & promote themselves	March 2015	Marketing report to AEC annually	PW/JD/TC	Wincanton: Specific press releases issued by Town Team to promote market.
	Ilchester travel plan	January 2015	Report to AEC on completed work	JD	Ilchester travel plan has been condensed into a road improvement scheme led by the Town Council & SCC Highways. Additional work has come out of the initial meetings leading to the Limington cycle path project

	Receipt of land & exercising option on car park at Waterside, Wincanton	Autumn 2014	Report to AEC & DX	PW	Active negotiation with landowner, fall back will be to move to arbitration if current discussions do not bring forward solution	
3. Community-led planning & development	Completion of Queen Camel Neighbourhood Plan	March 2015	Final Report and lessons from front runner AEC/DX	TC	Draft currently being considered by SSDC specialist officers. Local stakeholder consultation/meeting early Nov. Deal with issues raised through consultation. Formal consultation period (6 weeks) January before examination (end of Feb). Referendum could happen at the same time as general election voting	
	Support Neighbourhood Plan Wincanton	March 2015	WTC aware of issues they want plan to tackle	TC	Town Council to run a consultation to assess the relative priorities of residents	
	Support Towns & Parishes to carry out quality community research to influence or achieve planned projects and growth	March 2015	Completed parish plans are endorsed at AEC	TC	Rimpton plan completed and endorsed. Plans being produced in Henstridge and the Charltons at an early stage	
	Advise & support Parishes & community groups to achieve new projects & activities	March 2015	Report to AEC on schemes annually	TC/JD	Bruton: Established Bruton Community Partnership who are collectively working on a number of community projects in the town	
	Maximising the benefits of growth a) Better awareness of how S106 /CIL, links with community research, to improve community infrastructure	March 2015	Clearer reporting of 106 investment projects to AEC	ADT Planning	Team working closely with Planning and CH&L teams. Discussions held with Education about Schools investment in Wincanton & Castle Cary. Sample investment 'account' by parish to be developed for parishes to assist with local understanding	
	b) Develop simple method for identifying sustainability factors by settlements to increase prospects of attracting good development	Dec 2014	Feedback from parishes	HR/TC Planning ADTs	Early discussion held with Spatial Policy and Development management. Further work needed before adoption of Local Plan and SS2	
	4. Improve access to services & facilities to	Run a high quality access point & advice service for the public at Churchfield	March 2015	Achieve 98% customer satisfaction rate Reduce cost & improve service	HR/LD	Performance of service reported to AEC October 2014. High satisfaction rate maintained

reduce inequality	Support development of Balsam Centre services in response to local needs to improve its sustainability	Funding report to AEC Aug 2014 & Mar 2015	Meet targets in Development Plan	JD	Work has started with support but it is still quite early days to understand the overall direction of the centre and the level of support they will require. AEC funding conditional on agreed economic targets	
	Support community-led youth work & youth opportunities.	March 2015	Annual report to AEC	TC/JD	Ilchester: initial meeting with regards potential scout hall/youth club at the sports ground is planned	
	Develop Henstridge Templecombe and Milborne Port youth work programme				Initial audit of provision. Conversation with Templecombe, Henstridge Parish Plan to identify need	
	Development of Travel Access Point in Wincanton to improve people's access to existing services & facilities	March 2015	Report to AEC	TC	Project group established. Physical infrastructure improvements to be completed by March 2015. Next meeting to discuss service provision audited and gap analysis	
	New and improved community buildings – intensive support to gain sound feasibility to guide development and funding package	Ongoing March 2015	At least 2 buildings helped to build ready stage. Report annually to AEC	TC/JD	Bruton (Jubilee Park), Castle Cary (scout hall), Ilchester (sports ground) all have been given guidance toward funding & feasibility work needed for a new hall. Funding advice sheet produced for Area East to provide community with a sign posting tool towards larger sums of external funding for community halls	
	Flood resilience – support communities that want to develop flood plans and other resilience measures	March 2015	Feedback from parishes	ADT with other services	Will be included at Annual meeting if required by parishes	
	Master plan for Jubilee Park, Bruton	January 2015	Annual Report to AEC	JD	2 initial meetings have taken place at Jubilee Park with users & partners to discuss master planning and need for a new hall. Positive progression	
5. Effective democratic engagement	Arrange annual parish meeting & workshops in response to demand from AEC, Parishes & groups	March 2015	Report to AEC	HR	Annual Parish Meeting to be held 27 th January 2015	

In addition, the service will deliver actions to deliver key corporate strategies, comply with corporate policies, deliver savings, monitor performance, review and monitor complaints and manage risk within the service