

Area East Draft Chapter of the Council Plan 2019/20

Service Manager: Jan Gamon, Lead Specialist Strategic Planning
Lead Officer: Jan Gamon, Lead Specialist Strategic Planning.
Anna Maria Lenz, Specialist, Strategic Planning (East/South)
Tim Cook, Locality Manager

Contact Details: anna-maria.lenz@southsomerset.gov.uk
tim.cook@southsomerset.gov.uk

Purpose of the Report

To present the draft Area Chapter for Area East.

Public Interest

The new operating model will be introduced in January 2019 and the way that area priorities are identified and resourced will change. The Committee's priorities will become a chapter of the council plan with resources pulled from across the organisation in Area + teams. This report gives members an opportunity to consider and agree the priorities that will be included in the Area Chapter for 2019/20.

Recommendation

That members agree the priorities for the Area to be presented to District Executive for consideration for inclusion in the Council Plan.

Background

The Area+ proposal states that "The Council will become strategy led and data informed", which puts the annual strategic planning process at the heart of driving delivery in the Areas.

The Area+ Implementation plan sets out the new way of addressing area priorities and details how resources will be allocated from across the organisation to improve area working.

Area Plans will be developed for adoption as chapters of the Council Plan in February 2019 and will 'go live' in April of that year. The SLT Sponsor for each area will have an overview of the emerging Area Plans.

Draft priorities were identified by members of Area East at a workshop after the July meeting of the committee. Content from the workshop, along with information from the latest Area Development plans and other service plans has been used as a starting point to develop the Area Chapter.

Draft Area Chapter - Area East

The priorities for each area have been used to influence the development of the Council Plan for 2019/20. Some priorities identified are proposed as corporate projects and will be presented for consideration by District Executive in February 2019. Some priorities identified clearly have an area focus and are better placed in an Area Chapter. For the first time, the Area Chapter attempts to present key projects and areas of work planned for the coming year by teams from across the whole organisation.

Delivery plan

Once the priorities for the area have been agreed, officers with the knowledge, skills and experience will develop a delivery plan in consultation with ward members. Delivery plans will set out the outcomes, milestones, key activities and resources.

Progress of the delivery plan will be monitored by the Area Committee. The overall approach to delivery will be based on the principle that we will enable others to deliver where we can, partner where it makes sense and only deliver if absolutely necessary.

Area+ teams

Officers required to deliver elements of the Area Chapter will become the Area+ team.

Area+ teams can begin to be established as soon as the details of the Area Plans are known. Input from Specialists will be needed in the development of the delivery plans. However, many people won't start new roles until January 2019 and the transition period will have an impact on when teams can make a start on delivery.

Current work

Other key projects such as the S106 Transport Study, Food Fair, Common Road footpath and Waterside are at advanced stages of delivery and have been resourced.

Budgets

Work will be required to align the area budgets and available resources (capital programme, appropriate S106, etc) with the new Area Plans. There needs to be recognition that resources are finite and will be allocated according to need. Any new work will be assessed in order to establish relative priorities.

Next Steps

- Draft council plan workshops with Scrutiny and DX in week beginning 7th January
- Final Council Plan for adoption in February (SLT: 21st Jan; Scrutiny: 5th Feb; DX: 7th Feb; Full Council: 26th Feb)

The SLT sponsor for Area East is Clare Pestell who will be an advocate for the Area Plan through the adoption process and maintain an overview of progress. The SLT sponsor will provide high level input into the development of Area Plans making sure that they contribute towards the broader aims of the council and take account of relevant regional and national policy.

Financial Implications

There are no new financial implications arising directly from this report.

Corporate Priority Implications

The priorities have been developed taking into account the SSDC Corporate plan priorities.

Carbon Emissions & Adapting to Climate Change Implications (NI188)

This is considered on an individual project and programme basis as appropriate. The overall priority is to seek to create more balanced communities where people can live, work and get access to the services and facilities they need on a daily basis. Area working (Area+) helps to improve access to facilities, activities and services, reducing the need to travel.

Equality and Diversity Implications

This is considered on an individual project and programme basis as appropriate. All Area Plans will have an Equality Impact Assessment.

Background Papers: *Area+ proposal, Area + Implementation Plan*
