

Area South Development Plan

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Purpose of the Report

To discuss and approve the Area South Development Plan (ADP) for 2017/18

Public Interest

The plan sets out the work being planned and undertaken locally by the Council to invest in communities across this Area, based on needs analysis and Councillor and community concerns and priorities.

Recommendations

That members approve the Area Development Plan for 2017/18.

Background

The Area South Committee revises local priorities on an annual basis within the framework of the overall Council Plan. Through the ADP and other means, it seeks to make progress on these priorities by allocating resources and working with partners and other services within SSDC to achieve results. Area budgets enable the team to pump prime the work and projects it wishes to implement or support. The use of resources is also reviewed annually. Progress against the ADP is monitored monthly by staff and reported to Committee at 6 months and then at the year end. Further project specific reports are also produced throughout the year at key decision/milestone points.

The ADP captures the main projects and programmes that the team will work on over the year. This is in addition to the normal, day-to-day responsive work with Councillors and communities to address problems and issues that arise throughout the year. It is important to set realistic expectations and prioritise, given the reduced capacity available due to budget pressures and the loss of key members of staff.

The ADP (Appendix 1) will be reviewed and a progress report will be presented to members in November 2017.

Area Development Priorities

The draft ADP is Appendix 1 to this report. It consists of core work such as the enquiry service and direct support to communities, existing projects that have been rolled forward for completion and new work strands developed in response to Councillor priorities.

A range of projects and initiatives are underway to progress the 5 main priority themes which are:
Town centre & neighbourhood management
Economic development, job creation & regeneration schemes
Community-led planning & development

Improving access to services & facilities to reduce inequality
Community Safety

In addition, the Committee and Area Development Team are continuously looking at ways to maintain effective links with parishes and community groups, improve the cost effectiveness of the team and increase income to offset costs.

Financial Implications

The team consists of a full time Team Lead (temporary secondment), two part time Neighbourhood Development Officers and the Yeovil One Administrator. The team work closely with the community support team, managed by the Community Office Support Manager.

Corporate Priority Implications

The priorities have been developed taking into account the overall focus of the current Council Plan see Appendix 2.

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.

Equality and Diversity Implications

This is considered on an individual project and programme basis, as appropriate.

Background Papers:

None.