

Area West Service Plan

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Purpose of the Report

To gain members approval for the Service Plan and provide an update on the work of the Area West Development Team.

Public Interest

The plan sets out the work being planned and undertaken locally by the Council to invest in communities in and around Chard, Crewkerne and Ilminster (Area West), based on needs analysis and the concerns and priorities identified by the Councillors and the communities.

Recommendation

That Members consider the report and approve the Area West Service Plan.

Background

Each Area Development team has a service plan (see Appendix A) which contains a set of local priorities and a work programme. This document is updated on an annual basis with targets designed to show how the Area West Committee resources are used to address local needs and promote improved quality of life in the towns and villages of Area West.

Area West Priorities

In April 2017, Members completed an online survey and attended a workshop to identify their priorities for the forthcoming year. The 5 main priorities identified, which link in with the SSDC Council Plan, are:

1. Economy
2. Community
3. Homes
4. Health and wellbeing
5. Environment

A range of projects and initiatives are underway to progress the above priorities. A presentation will be given at the committee detailing progress of the work to date in relation to the projects and activities outlined in the Service Plan attached (Appendix A).

In addition to the activities outlined in the Service Plan, the team deals with a wide range of queries from parishes, individuals and organisations. Those queries are generally dealt with by the Neighbourhood Development Officers, some are relatively straightforward requiring on the spot advice and sign posting. Others have led to more work around issues such as registering an Asset of Community value or giving funding advice.

Financial Implications

There are no new financial implications arising from this report. However Appendix B provides an overview of this year's budgets in relation to the Community Grants and the Capital programme.

Council Plan Implications

The Service Plan has been developed to take into account the overall focus of the current council plan.

Carbon Emissions & Climate Change Implications

This is considered on an individual project and programme basis.

Equality and Diversity Implications

This is considered on an individual project and programme basis

Background Papers

- Area West Development Plan and Budget Report June 2016
 - The SSDC Council Plan
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