
CORPORATE PLAN 2021-2023 (UPDATED)

Committee: Council

Date: 14 July 2022

Author: Chief Executive

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1.0 **ISSUE**

1.1 The updated Corporate Plan 2021-2023 for East Cambridgeshire District Council.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 Members are requested to:

- (i) approve the updated Corporate Plan set out in Appendix 1;
- (ii) note the completed actions and progress made during the past 12 months;
- (iii) instruct the Monitoring Officer to amend the Constitution (ref: Article 1 paragraph 1.05) to make necessary amendments to reflect the new Corporate Plan.

3.0 **BACKGROUND**

3.1 The updated Corporate Plan 2021-2023 sets out the Council's priorities and details in Appendix 1 the commitments for 2022/23. The Corporate Plan will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis to Council.

3.2 There will be a requirement to make consequential amendments to Article 1 of the Constitution to reflect the updated Corporate Plan.

4.0 **PROPOSALS**

4.1 The proposed updated Corporate Plan 2021-2023 is attached at Appendix 1. Paragraph 4.2 outlines the achievements of the Council in meeting its 2021-2023 commitments agreed by Council on 15 July 2021 (ref: Agenda Item 9).

4.2 The activities of the Council in 2021/22 continued to be affected by the COVID 19 pandemic, although the Council has focused on the recovery in the latter part of the year. Nevertheless, the Council has maintained its focus on the delivery of its 2021/2023 Corporate Plan. Significant progress has been made in 2021/22 specifically:

- Council Tax freeze in 2021/22 for the ninth consecutive year.
- Continued development at Haddenham and Ely to provide CLT homes to the local community.

- Approval of £7.5m secured loan to the Council's trading company to facilitate the development of the former Paradise Pool site, MOD Phase 2 and MOD Phase 3 to provide CLT and £100k homes and social and community infrastructure.
- Achieved 16 of the pledges in the 2021/22 Environmental Plan and made significant progress on the remaining 4 which have been carried forward to the new 2022/23 plan.
- £100k Homes at The Tannery development in Ely was completed.
- Opening of Soham rail station in December 2021.
- The East Cambridgeshire Cycling and Walking Routes Strategy was approved by Finance and Assets Committee in November 2021.
- Sustrans have produced 5 route feasibility studies which will be used to seek external funding for their delivery.
- Secured CPCA Market Towns funding to part fund the delivery of the Wicken to Soham cycle route.
- Submission of planning application for an environmentally sustainable crematorium, natural burial site and pet cemetery in Mepal with access for recreational activity that respects the biodiversity needs of the site as directed by the Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs and Northants.
- The Council continued to administer COVID-19 Business Grants. As a result of the Business Growth Fund scheme, applicant commitments will see the creation of 80+ new jobs and additionally 15+ apprenticeships.

4.3 The Corporate Plan has been updated to reflect these achievements. The delivery of the updated 2022/23 Corporate Plan will face considerable challenges, most notably; cost of living, recruitment and retention of staff in key sectors and changing priorities and capacity concerns at the Combined Authority.

4.4 Nevertheless, the revised 2022/23 Corporate Plan acknowledges these new challenges and reiterates previous commitments, specifically and notably:

- Launch the £2m Growth and Infrastructure Fund for applications in 2022/23.
- Completion of CLT schemes at Ely and Haddenham.
- Supporting Parish Councils with their local climate and nature action plans and encouraging more Neighbourhood Plans.
- Taking action to ensure stable and sustainable quality Waste and Recycling and Street Cleansing services in the medium and long term through investment in our workforce, vehicles and equipment.

- Actively work with partners to secure finance for key transport schemes eg Snailwell and Dullingham loops; A10 dualling and junction improvements; A142/A14 junction improvements and Soham to Wicken cycleway.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 Any financial implications arising from the implementation of the Corporate Plan, not included in the Council's agreed annual budget, will be subject to the formal Member process.

5.2 Equality Impact Assessment not required at this stage.

6.0 APPENDICES

6.1 Appendix 1: Draft Corporate Plan (Updated) 2022-2023 – circulated separately

Background Documents

Council 15 July 2021
(Agenda Item 9)

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Room 103
The Grange
Ely

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