

TITLE: Corporate Plan

Committee: Council

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Issue

1. The updated Action Plan for 2026-27 to support the implementation of the 2023-27 Corporate Plan.

Recommendations

2. Members are requested to approve the updated Action Plan for 2026-27 at Appendix 1, and
3. Note the completed actions and progress made during 2025-26.

Background/Options

4. The Corporate Plan 2023-27 was agreed by Council on 13 July 2023 (ref agenda item 9) together with an action plan for 2023-24. The Action Plan to support the implementation of the Corporate Plan is updated annually.

Arguments/Conclusions

5. The proposed Action Plan for 2026-27 is attached in Appendix 1. Paragraph 6 outlines the achievements of the Council in meeting the 2025-26 commitments agreed by Council in September 2025.
6. Significant progress has been made in 2025-26, specifically:
 - A council Tax freeze for a 13th consecutive year.
 - The new waste collection service was successfully rolled out.
 - A [Pathway to Net Zero report](#) was approved by the Council in November 2025, providing a detailed action plan of how we will aim to meet our emission target.
 - The Council's business grant schemes supported 51 businesses, delivering 19 jobs, 5 apprenticeships, and wider gains in skills, innovation and productivity.
 - 987 individuals accessed Health & Wellbeing physical activity programmes delivered or supported by the Council.

- The Council introduced a bespoke CIL grant scheme for Inclusive Play & Open Spaces to provide match funding to assist with the delivery of inclusive play and open spaces.
 - A scheme to provide match funding to parishes producing Neighbourhood Plans was set up, and to date, 2 Parish Councils have been awarded £5,000.
 - Three £100k Homes have been allocated; a further six will be made available during 2026/27.
7. Some actions will need to be carried over, specifically, development of an Inclusive Play Strategy, the opening of the Bereavement Centre, and completion of the development at Arbour Square, Ely.
- Develop an Inclusive Play Strategy - the findings of the District Council audits will be incorporated into the Strategy to be considered by Members in September 2026.
 - Open the Bereavement Centre – the project is on track, and the Bereavement Centre is due to open in Summer 2026.
 - East Cambs Trading Company will complete the development at Arbour Square, Ely, which will deliver 27 homes (100%) affordable housing as social rent properties - 7 of the properties at Arbour Square, Ely were completed and sold to Havebury for Social Rent between February and March 2026. The remaining 20 will be completed and sold to Havebury for Social Rent between June and August 2026.
8. The key issue affecting the delivery of the Action Plan and wider Corporate Plan will be delivering Local Government Reorganisation alongside business as usual.

Additional Implications Assessment

9.

Financial Implications No	Legal Implications No	Human Resources (HR) Implications No
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) No	Carbon Impact Assessment (CIA) No	Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) No

Appendices

Appendix 1: Updated Action Plan 2026-27.

Background documents

[Council 13 July 2023 - Agenda Item 9](#)



East Cambridgeshire
District Council

Corporate actions

2026 to 2027

Sound financial management

Priorities

Ensure the council is financially sustainable.
Minimise the financial (cost) impact of the council on its residents.
Be more commercial, but within reason - 'commercial for community'.

Actions

Council to approve the 2027/2028 budget and Medium Term Financial Plan in February 2027 only increasing Council Tax as a last resort.

Work with other councils and agencies in the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough region to ensure the transition to any new local government structures delivers the most financially sustainable outcomes for East Cambridgeshire's residents possible.

Cleaner, greener East Cambridgeshire

Priorities

Improve the public realm.
Reduce environmental crime across the district.
Enhance the natural environment and build on our sustainability goals.
Design a resilient waste and street cleansing service fit for the future.

Actions

Increase recycling rates to 65% (by 2030) under the new Simpler Recycling regime, building on our enhanced waste collection service.

Deliver the Climate and Nature Top 20 actions for 2026/2027 including a focus on nature improvements, reducing our carbon emissions, and adapting to a changing climate.

Support the development of a network of Agricultural Reservoirs across East Cambridgeshire.

Improve the look and feel of the city and town centres, including replacement street furniture and graffiti removal.

Secure funding for PV panels and install at the Bereavement Centre.

Renew the Environmental Crime Enforcement Policy.

Sustainable communities

Priorities

Support our residents to live happy and healthy lives.
Support our businesses to thrive in East Cambridgeshire.
Improve our roads and local transport.
Deliver genuinely affordable housing that enables people to live and work locally.
Invest in community infrastructure.

Actions

Support local businesses via our Business Grant Fund.

Work with Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority and partners to deliver improvements to active travel, road and rail infrastructure, including bus franchising, the BP Witchford Road Non-Motorised User (NМУ) crossing, A10 Ely to A14 improvements scheme, support local rail improvements including Soham Railway Station phase 2.

Continue to support existing Community Land Trusts (CLTs) across the district and work with communities to establish and develop new CLTs.

Open the Bereavement Centre in line with the business plan, delivering compassionate support to our communities.

Adopt the Inclusive Play Strategy and deliver actions.

Implement the districtwide anti-social driving Public Spaces Protection Order.

Use the LIFT and CRF funds to enable our residents to maximise their income and become more financially resilient.

East Cambs Trading Company will work with Haddenham CLT to submit a planning application for phase 2.

Facilitate the delivery of an amphitheatre in Ely.

Encourage housing providers to improve maintenance standards in affordable housing stock in East Cambridgeshire.

