

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

COUNCIL – 26 MARCH 2024

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PLAN 2024 - 2028

REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL – COUNCILLOR ROGER LEES BEM

Executive Summary

This report presents to Council the new Council Plan for 2024-28. Every four years the Council produces a new Council Plan, following the election of a new Council. Prior to the plan being produced the relevant data sets are updated, including the Place Narrative and the Locality Profile.

These documents feed into the production of the new plan providing insight into the key challenges and opportunities the district faces, whilst also informing the new vision and priorities. A resident survey is also carried out and again survey results are used to inform plan content.

PART A – SUMMARY REPORT

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

1.1 For Council to approve the Council Plan as set out in Appendix 1.

2. SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

POLICY/COMMUNITY IMPACT	Do these proposals contribute to specific Council Plan objectives?	
	Yes	
	Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) been completed?	
	Yes	
SCRUTINY POWERS APPLICABLE	Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been completed?	
	No	
KEY DECISION	No	Report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee
TARGET COMPLETION/ DELIVERY DATE	No	Council Decision 26 March 2024
	1 April 2024.	

FINANCIAL IMPACT	Yes	The Council Plan priorities will be delivered within the Council's financial budgets.
LEGAL ISSUES	No	None
STRATEGIC RISK	Yes	Any potential risks will be mitigated through the delivery of the Council's priorities and associated performance indicators. Regular monitoring will be carried out by the Integrated Performance Management process.
OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS & OPPORTUNITIES including climate impacts and health impacts if applicable	The Council Plan will support the wider agenda around climate change and the health and wellbeing of our communities.	
IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS	No	The Council Plan is a district wide plan.

PART B – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

3. INFORMATION

The Council Plan 2024-28, sets out our ambition for the next four years. The plan has been produced with assistance from a cross party Member Working Group, who have met to discuss the development of the new plan.

The plan is informed by data and intelligence, primarily the use of two key documents; the Place Narrative 2023 and the Locality Profile 2023. Both of which have been updated to include 2021 Census Data for the District.

The resident survey provides a strong voice for our residents. Results of the survey have been utilised to further inform our direction through the new Council Plan and in developing the Council's priorities. Highlights from the resident survey include:

- South Staffordshire is a place where our residents choose to live.
- There is a strong sense of community spirit in our villages.
- Our natural environment is a key factor in making South Staffordshire an attractive place to live.
- Residents identify themselves strongly with the village in which they live, adding to their strong sense of community pride.

The Council Plan 2024-28 is divided into two sections the first section includes:

Introduction – This focuses on the key messages from the resident survey, and what they want to see for the future of our District. It also highlights some of the key challenges and opportunities we face over the next few years.

Council Plan Vision – A Place of Vibrant communities – this was the vision that most resonated with residents through the survey.

Council Plan Priorities – Four priorities have been highlighted - Economic Growth, Sustainable Environment, Empowering our Communities, and Financial Stability. Our priorities are underpinned by key service objectives.

The second section focuses on how the plan will be delivered and includes:

Our Council – How we will deliver the Council Plan through our services. These are all highlighted, alongside our key enabling plans and corporate documents.

The Community lens – Throughout the four years of the plan we will regularly consult and engage with our communities.

Working with partners – This section builds on the Council’s mantra of who is best placed to deliver and acknowledges the importance of partnership working to keeping the district thriving.

Measuring our performance – The Council Plan will be measured and monitored through the Council’s Integrated Performance Management framework, which will include the voices of our residents, staff and peers.

4. IMPACT ASSESSMENT – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

4.1 None

5. PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 None

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

7. APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 – Council Plan

8. RECOMMENDATION

8.1 That Council approves the Council Plan 2024 – 2028

Report prepared by: Dave Heywood – Chief Executive