

**CORPORATE DELIVERY PLAN PROGRESS QUARTER 1 2020/21
(UNCOMPLETED ACTIONS ROLLED FORWARD FROM 2019/20)**

1. BACKGROUND AND FOREWORD

- 1.1 The Corporate Delivery Plan incorporating Key Actions for 2019/20 was agreed at full Council on 16 May 2019 following a number of officer and member workshops.
- 1.2 With the remote meeting protocol in place this report has been provided as an information sheet rather than as a report for the Committee. It has been prepared to show progress as at the end of Quarter 1 2020/21 for those actions which were not completed during 2019/20 due to the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic. Fourteen actions have been rolled forward to 2020/21.
- 1.3 The postponement of the 2020 elections to May 2021 and the coronavirus pandemic has led to a reassessment of priorities, with the Council now working on a 1-year external Recovery Plan and a 2-year internal Modernisation Plan. These will gradually develop into a longer term renewal strategy which will form the basis for a new Corporate Plan in 2021.

2. PROGRESS ON THE KEY ACTIONS FOR 2019/20 ROLLED FORWARD TO 2020/21

- 2.1 Below, under each of the 5 Corporate Delivery Plan priorities, are the headlines of the progress made for each of the remaining 14 CDP Key Actions as at the end of the first quarter 2020/21.

ECONOMY: Help create a sustainable and vibrant economy that works for all

CDP1.1 Continue to allocate funds from the business rates pilot fund in line with the agreed principles: Supporting Local Businesses; Improving the Council's long-term financial position; Local Wealth Building; Supporting a Zero Carbon District; Reducing inequality.

- SDC has been involved with two other authorities in the region on sourcing due diligence work related to the Community bank. This work will help inform recovery plans. The funding from the business rates pilot is available to the recovery board, in line with the original principles on its use agreed by the Strategy and Resources Committee.

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CDP1.3 Progress and deliver the redevelopment of Brimscombe Port by securing planning permission and being ready to seek a development partner.

- Environmental Statement now submitted for the planning application for the infrastructure, but delays still being experienced with receiving responses from third party consultees, i.e. highways and the EA. Covid-19 has severely impacted on their response times and the application cannot be determined without them.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: Provide affordable, energy efficient homes for our diverse and changing population

CDP2.5 Contribute to our identified local housing need, by building new council homes through:

- a) **submitting planning applications for 56 units on 6 sites.**
- b) **agreeing an approach to purchase more land.**

- Planning applications have been submitted on 5 sites and 4 have been granted planning permission. An application has not yet been submitted for Queens Drive due to legal issues associated with the access to the site that need to be resolved first. A Strategy for New Council Homes and Action Plan is to be presented to Housing Committee on the 22 September setting out our approach for the delivery of new homes and the purchase of land.

CDP2.8 Provide high quality, safe temporary accommodation for homeless single people and families within the district.

- Salvation Army estates staff were furloughed in March, resulting in a six-month delay in progress.

ENVIRONMENT: Help the community minimise its carbon footprint, adapt to the changing climate and continue to improve recycling rates

CDP3.11 Implement the revised Environment Strategy and develop an action plan with partners to incorporate our commitment to being a Carbon Neutral district by 2030 (CN2030).

- There has been activity to progress the Environment Strategy via the development of new projects and partnerships that seek to lower carbon emissions and raise community engagement. These activities, the early

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achievements and a wider context of council work has been thoroughly researched and reviewed to deliver the 'Limiting, Adapting, Responding and Recovering Strategy to 2030' and its accompanying masterplan. This is currently undergoing internal review and includes action to bring together the diverse work streams from across directorates that could more visibly contribute to the agenda if they worked together more.

CDP3.12 Work with partners to implement the next phase of the cycling and walking strategy, focussing on routes between Dudbridge-Nailsworth; Dursley-Cam-Uley; Wotton-Kingswood-Charfield.

- Dudbridge-Nailsworth: Resurfacing of the track is all but complete with some further works and finishing off to still be carried out by GCC and the resurfacing contractor. SDC has completed all contributions to this project. Dursley-Cam-Uley: SDC has earmarked £50k to carry out works on a section of footpath CDU14 to make it suitable for cycling and re-designate it as a bridleway. The local cycling group have started a public consultation on this proposal, after which we will work with GCC to implement the proposal. Negotiations are ongoing to finalise the northern section of the route through the North East Cam development following a proposal from the developer. A finalised design for the route between Dursley and Uley also needs to be established. Wotton-Kingswood-Charfield: Following a tender process, Sustrans have been commissioned to carry out the design phase of a feasibility study. SDC is contributing £10k for this piece of work. Stroud-Chalford: No further spending following a £600 contribution towards creating promotional material for the route to present to the public. We will continue to engage with the group leading the project and potentially make contributions to additional work as the project progresses.

CDP3.13 In our role as statutory waste collection authority, support community groups to phase out single use plastics; whilst also reducing its use across council services.

- SDC has supported the work that Chloe Turner, from Stroud District Action on Plastic (SDAP), has been undertaking. This has included answering technical questions and conducting joint presentations. Most recently Chloe announced that Surfers Against Sewage had deemed Stroud District a Plastic Free Community status (<https://www.sas.org.uk/plastic-free-communities/>) - a great achievement.

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CDP3.14 In Partnership with Stroud Town Council and Friends of the Lido submit a bid to National Lottery Heritage Fund for additional funding to refurbish Stratford Park Lido.

- The preparation work has been undertaken by the consultants regarding submission of a bid. However due to Covid-19 this work by the consultants has been completed, but not followed up. They have recommended that we find alternative funding before a submission is made to HLF.

HEALTH AND WELL BEING: Promote the health and well-being of our communities and work with others to deliver the public health agenda

CDP4.17 Make a decision extending the contract for the provision of leisure centre services at Stratford Park and consider options for future provision.

- Just before lockdown this went to CS&L Committee and the decision was taken to extend SLM's contract for a further 3 years.

CDP4.18 Agree a long term investment and management plan for Stratford Park with partners and contractors

- The Strategic Director of Communities will be submitting a report to the CS&L Committee with a tender document for the use of consultants to undertake the Stratford Park review.

DELIVERY: Provide value for money to our taxpayers and high quality services to our customers

CDP5.21 Create a strategic approach to building more effective partnerships with parish and town councils.

- The immediate response to the Covid pandemic put on hold the consultation exercises which were planned with Parish and Town Councils. However, throughout the pandemic SDC has worked with a number of Parish and Town Councils on a variety of projects, including High Street Recovery. The Council's new Policy and Governance Team will now be considering how to take these relationships forward and build on them in a constructive manner.

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CDP5.22 Adopt a clear vision and digital strategy which is fit for purpose to deliver good quality, convenient and efficient services for staff, residents and local businesses.

- Work has been delayed by the pandemic but a vision and digital strategy is now in draft and initial modernisation discussions held with Group Leaders and Strategy & Resources members.

CDP5.23 Explore the opportunities for income generation to help achieve financial self-sufficiency.

- Work proceeded at the expected pace during 2019/20 with the completion of the fees and charges policy and the introduction of a number of additional income streams into the budget. Work has been effectively paused during the Covid-19 pandemic. The focus for financial sustainability is to create a budget strategy which protects the financial position of the Council at this difficult time. The overall aim of financial self-sufficiency has been included as one of the key strategic principles of the modernisation programme.

CDP5.24 Work collaboratively through partnerships and external stakeholders to achieve greater influence to deliver the Council's objectives.

- Significant progress has been made in the One Legal Transfer and this is now expected to complete on October 1st. During the Covid pandemic the Council has worked in partnership with many organisations on critical response and recovery tasks.

2.2 In summary, the majority of the remaining 14 projects are back on track despite the enforced delays due to the pandemic. Ongoing progress will be reported to this committee, with a Q2 update scheduled for the December meeting.

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