



**OPEN REPORT
COUNCIL**

Council – 24 November 2022

**CORPORATE PLAN 2020-24 – PERFORMANCE 2022/23 AND PRIORITIES
2023/24**

Report of the Director of Regeneration and Policy

Report Author and Contact Details

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Wards Affected

District Wide

Report Summary

The report advises Members of performance against the District Council's Corporate Plan targets during the first six months of 2022/23. The report also sets out for Members consideration a proposed set of Corporate Plan priority target areas for 2023/24, which if adopted will enable service planning and budget preparation to take place in good time for March 2023. Work on the future Corporate Plan post-2024 is noted.

Recommendations

1. That progress during Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 against the Corporate Plan targets and actions for 2022/23 be noted.
2. That the Corporate Plan priority target areas set out in Appendix 2 to this report be adopted for 2023/24.
3. That a further report be presented to the Council budget setting meeting in March 2023 with specific targets for each of the priority areas set out in Appendix 2, with the acknowledgement that these may need to be scaled back if the Local Government Finance Settlement for the District Council is poor.
4. That initial steps taken to prepare for a future Corporate Plan post-2024 are noted.

List of Appendices

Appendix 1 Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 progress: Corporate Plan actions 2022/23

Appendix 2 Proposed Corporate Plan target/action areas 2023/24

Background Papers

Outturn performance against the District Council's Corporate Plan Targets and Key Performance Indicators for the full year 2021/22

[Agenda for Council on Tuesday, 26th July, 2022, 6.00 pm - Derbyshire Dales District Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](https://www.moderngov.co.uk/Agenda-for-Council-on-Tuesday-26th-July-2022-6.00-pm-Derbyshire-Dales-District-Council)

Consideration of report by Council or other committee

N/A

Council Approval Required

Yes

Exempt from Press or Public

No

Corporate Plan 2020-24 – Performance 2022/23 and Priorities 2023/24

1. Background

1.1 Following extensive public consultation and discussions with Members, the District Council’s Corporate Plan 2020-2024 was adopted at a meeting of Council on 5th March 2020. It sets out the District Council’s top priorities for the Derbyshire Dales, and is the key strategy from which the District Council’s Budget and Service Plans cascade.

1.2 The adopted Corporate Plan 2020-24 identified three themes, and for each a number of priority target areas and actions that the District Council would seek to implement to achieve them. The three themes are:

- ‘People’ – **Providing You with a High Quality Customer Experience**
- ‘Place’ – **Keeping the Derbyshire Dales Clean, Green and Safe**
- ‘Prosperity’ – **Supporting Better Homes and Jobs for You**

1.3 The traffic light system referred to in this report reflects the following criteria.

Green	Target is on course to be met by the target date set
Amber	Uncertainty that Target will be met by the target date set
Red	Target will not be met by target date set, but may be met later than planned.

2. Corporate Plan 2022/23 Performance – mid year [Q1 and Q2]

2.1 At the end of the second quarter of 2022/23, 18 of the 26 targets are on track for achievement by the target date set; and 8 of the indicators are at risk of not being achieved by the target date set.

2.2 In respect of each of the three priority areas, performance has been as follows:

Priority Area	No.	Green	Amber	Red
People	2	1	1	0
Place	10	10	0	0
Prosperity	14	7	7	0
TOTAL	26	18	8	0

2.3 There are no targets that will not be met, if performance continues at this level.

2.4 Some highlights from the quarterly updates include;

- A successful ‘green exhibition’ to showcase solutions to the climate crisis took place in Hall Leys Park, Matlock, in September 2022

- The development of educational programme promoting recycling is complete. All primary and junior schools within the district were contacted. 11 schools have now confirmed, and the first visit took place in October 2022 at Rowsley
- Forty businesses have been supported so far through signposting, referral or assistance with grant funding, from a target of 75
- The Clean and Green review is progressing with a report containing an action plan targeted at Council in January 2023. Once approved, the actions are planned for implementation from March 2023

2.5 Areas where progress has been made, but achievement of the action by the target date may not be achieved, include:

- We are still awaiting the Government's announcement of the outcome of the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2023/24
- Thus far there are 116 social media followers of Invest in Derbyshire Dales and the target is a minimum of 400. Further approaches to increase follower numbers are being considered
- The recruitment of the Empty Homes Officer was delayed. However, an appointment was made in November 2022

3. Proposed Corporate Plan priorities for 2023/24

- 3.1 In November each year the District Council considers the Corporate Plan actions to be included in the following year [2023/24]. The annual actions stem from the priorities already determined by the Council for the Corporate Plan period 2020-2024. From these actions, targets are developed and agreed. These are developed after a consideration of the previous year's outturn [2021/22] and the progress thus far on current actions [2022/2023], future needs, opportunities and other local and national drivers.
- 3.2 It is important that as far as practicable, services have the opportunity to plan actions and budgets between November 2022 and March 2023, as the Council has a statutory duty to set a balanced budget at its March 2023 meeting.
- 3.3 With this in mind the Corporate Leadership Team have undertaken a review of actions for the Corporate Plan 2023/24. The priority target areas recommended in Appendix 2 have been compiled based on Members' existing priorities, and include actions already in progress as they were started in 2021/22 but continue over two or more years. So, for instance, Climate Change actions feature strongly, alongside economic recovery.
- 3.4 As a result, it is recommended to Council that the **Corporate Plan target areas prioritised for the year 2023/24 are as set out in the final column of the Table in Appendix 2.** To be clear, Members are not adopting new Corporate Plan priorities. They are simply choosing which elements of their existing Corporate Plan (adopted in March 2020) that they wish to prioritise for activity in the next financial year, which is the final year of the current Corporate Plan.

- 3.5 Members should note that by doing so, they will be choosing those areas for which they want Officers to work up detailed action plans prior to March 2023.
- 3.6 By prioritising these activities recommended in Appendix 2, it will enable the District Council to continue to support a sustainable recovery for Derbyshire Dales, continue to progress other Corporate Plan priorities where resources allow, and at the same time maintain resources to deliver day to day services to residents. It is important to acknowledge, however, that the Council's budget may constrain the scale of ambitions in 2023/24, and that proposals are subject to the Local Government Finance Settlement which has yet to be announced by central government.
- 3.7 Specific targets for each of the above priority areas will be developed as individual Service Plans are drafted for 2023/24. These will be subject to a report to Council for approval on 3rd March 2023 as part of the statutory budget setting process – so it is at the March Council meeting where numbers will be finalised for, for example, adaptations to the homes of disabled people.

4. Corporate Plan 2024-28

- 4.1 Initial work has begun with a view to the preparation of a new Corporate Plan for 2024-28, with a target of adoption at Council in November 2023. Looking ahead, operational pressures post-Covid, together with increasing financial uncertainties, will likely be considerations as a new Corporate Plan is developed. Maintaining focus and channelling finite resources to agreed priorities will test the Council. At this time it is suggested that Members will be supported through the process of developing the new Corporate Plan by consideration of, inter alia, the following:
- analysis of social, economic and environmental data (a 'hard' evidence base)
 - consultation with residents, both through a large-scale survey and face-to-face discussions to refine specific priorities. Analysis of consultation results.
 - consultation with and amongst Members, before and after May 2023
 - consultation with staff, businesses and partners/stakeholders
 - the tough economic outlook for residents, businesses and local authorities
 - human and financial resources
 - on-going advice and support from officers to assist sound decision making.
- 4.2 With regard to the statistical 'hard' evidence base, consultants are being sought to collate and analyse social, economic and environmental data on the District, in order that decisions can be informed by up-to-date factual information.
- 4.3 Procurement is taking place for suitably experienced and expert researchers to carry out a Residents' Survey in the first half of 2023, the results of which will also help inform the development of the next Corporate Plan. Draft questions have been prepared that seek residents' views on satisfaction with District Council services, and on which services they consider are most important. Views on budget priorities will also be sought. The survey will

ask a common set of questions to a statistically representative random sample of residents (seeking to achieve a highly valid 1500 responses, with additional emphasis on recruiting younger people) as well as to our existing online panel of 985 self-selecting residents.

- 4.4 An informal ‘sounding board’ of Members is involved in the development of survey questions. Moreover, it is proposed that a member Corporate Plan Working Group be constituted in May 2023 to steer the process of developing a new Corporate Plan. It is also proposed that all-Member workshops are held in summer/autumn 2023 to give all Members of the new Council an opportunity to be involved.

5. Options Considered and Recommended Proposal

- 5.1 The first part of this report is reporting past actions, thus no other options were considered.
- 5.2 The second part of the report includes proposed priorities for Corporate Plan actions for 2023/24. The actions stem from the priorities already determined by the Council for the Corporate Plan period 2020-2024.

6. Consultation

- 6.1 The need for consultation on each action will be considered as actions are addressed by the relevant teams.

7. Timetable for Implementation

Task	Council
Draft Corporate Plan actions areas for 2023/24 financial year agreed	24/11/2022
Corporate Plan targets approved for 2023/24 financial year	3/3/2023

8. Policy Implications

- 8.1 The Corporate Plan is put into effect by the Budget, which in turn is supplemented by service plans, policies and strategies. Through the Performance and Development Review scheme (PDR), employees’ activities and appraisals are linked to the Corporate Plan.

9. Finance and Resource Implications

- 9.1 The Council has a statutory duty to set a balanced budget at its March 2023 meeting so targets and plans must be affordable and sustainable.
- 9.2 With regard to Corporate Plan target areas for 2023/24, Members are being asked to choose which elements of their existing Corporate Plan (adopted in March 2020) that they wish to prioritise for activity in the next financial year. By prioritising these activities recommended in Appendix 2, it will enable the District Council to continue to support a sustainable recovery for Derbyshire Dales, continue to progress other Corporate Plan priorities where resources allow, and at the same time maintain resources to deliver day to day services to residents.

9.3 Service and financial planning is an integrated process. The budget and service plans are prepared simultaneously and proposed actions for 2023/24 will be funded from within revenue budgetary provision for 2023/24 and the capital programme to be agreed by Council at the same meeting in March 2023.

9.4 The financial risk is therefore considered to be low at this stage.

10. Legal Advice and Implications

10.1 The Corporate Plan is compliant with relevant legislation. This report is to give Member an update as to the Council's Performance for the current period and to request priority steering. The legal risk at this time connected to this report has been assessed as low

11. Equalities Implications

11.1 Equality Impact Assessments [EIA] were carried for individual actions that have been completed or are ongoing, by the relevant teams in Directorates. Proposed actions will be assessed as they begin to be actioned by relevant teams in Directorates.

12. Climate Change Implications

12.1 The targets proposed in Appendix Two accord with the priorities already determined by the Council for the Corporate Plan period 2020-2024. The plan includes a strong commitment to climate change. They also support the delivery of the approved Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.

12.2 The specific targets will be further developed and climate change impact assessments will be carried out at a target or project level as appropriate

13. Risk Management

13.1 There is a risk that Corporate Plan targets may not be achieved. Progress is monitored regularly by Service Managers and by Corporate Leadership Team. Whilst priority actions will be developed with managers as part of the combined service planning and budget setting process, given the continuing resourcing pressures on the District Council, the risk of not achieving all targets on time is classified as high for 2023/24.

Approvals obtained from:

	Named Officer	Date
Chief Executive	Paul Wilson	16/11/2022
Director of Resources/ S.151 Officer (or Financial Services Manager)	Karen Henriksen	07/11/2022
Monitoring Officer (or Legal Services Manager)	James McLaughlin	16/11/2022