

Report to: Cabinet



Date of Meeting 12 July 2023

Document classification: Part A Public Document

Exemption applied: None

Review date for release N/A

New Council Plan Process

Report summary:

This report is provided to get agreement on the process for developing a new council plan. It includes a draft timetable for that process.

Is the proposed decision in accordance with:

Budget Yes No

Policy Framework Yes No

Recommendation:

- 1) That Cabinet agrees the suggested approach to the development of the new council plan including the member workshops with support from external consultants.
- 2) That cabinet recommend to Council a budget of £10,000 for this work.
- 3) That Cabinet review and agree the timetable for the development of the new council plan.
- 4) That Cabinet agree the continuation of the three council priorities with the inclusion of a fourth covering central services.

Reason for recommendation:

To progress the development of the new council plan with member inclusion and SMT+ support.

Officer: Mark Williams Chief Executive East Devon District Council

Portfolio(s) (check which apply):

- Climate Action and Emergency Response
- Coast, Country and Environment
- Council and Corporate Co-ordination
- Democracy, Transparency and Communications
- Economy and Assets
- Finance
- Strategic Planning
- Sustainable Homes and Communities
- Tourism, Sports, Leisure and Culture

Equalities impact Low Impact

Climate change Low Impact

Risk: Low Risk;

Links to background information

Link to [Council Plan](#)

Priorities (check which apply)

- Better homes and communities for all
- A greener East Devon
- A resilient economy

Report in full

To support the process of developing a new council plan we propose to run series of member workshops led by external consultants Ann Reader and Dave Burn. This approach was well received by members last time and again we will be looking to workshop each plan priority individually. All members will have the opportunity to attend the workshops and be part of the process. Listed below are the current council plan priorities and the continuation of these needs' agreement.

- Better homes and communities for all
- Greener East Devon
- A resilient economy

To highlight the work of the central support services and to record and monitor some organisational transformation a recommended fourth priority will be added to the list for member's debate.

- Core service delivery/Services that matter

To tie in service planning with the council plan development there is an opportunity through the summer for SMT+ to consider future projects that could be fed into the workshops for members views. Also, the outcomes of the workshops can be fed back to SMT+ for any items that need to be added to service plans.

The draft timetable below sets out how the process will run and includes timings for the workshops and consultation with our stakeholders on our plan.

Draft timetable

	Start	Finish
Report to Cabinet to agree the approach to the new council plan process	12 July 2023	
Joint SMT Cabinet meeting, initial discussions on the collation of the plan and its priorities	26 July 2023	
Pre service planning and workshop preparation by SMT to feed into the workshops	July 2023	September 2023
Council plan workshops with members and SMT+ facilitated by an external consultant, Dave Burn and Ann Reader	September 2023	October 2023
Resources available review by Director of Finance	November 2023	December 2023
First draft to be shared with SMT+ as part of the Service planning process.	November 2023	
First draft to Cabinet	29 November 2023	

Consultation on the plan with residents and other stakeholders	November 2023	December 2023
Results of consultation to be shared with Cabinet	January 2024	
Cabinet adoption of plan	February 2024	
Council adoption	March 2024	
Final Version of Plan Published	March 2024	

Financial implications:

The 2022/23 Outturn report included on the Cabinet agenda recommends that the £10,000 budget required is met from underspends in the budget from 2022/23.

Legal implications:

The Council Plan is an important document that sets out the council's vision, values and priorities moving forward.