

Report to: Cranbrook Placemaking Group



Date of Meeting 18 November 2024

Document classification: Part A Public Document

Exemption applied: None

Review date for release N/A

Cranbrook Town Centre

Report summary:

The Town Centre Masterplan was endorsed by Strategic Planning Committee on 29 October 2024.

A town centre programme will be established to provide coordination and oversight of individual town centre projects.

Is the proposed decision in accordance with:

Budget Yes ☒ No ☐

Policy Framework Yes ☒ No ☐

Recommendation:

1. That members note the endorsement of the Town Centre Masterplan by the council's Strategic Planning Committee.
2. That members note the proposed establishment of a programme to provide coordination and oversight of individual town centre projects.

Reason for recommendation:

Having a coordinated approach to the delivery of additional development in the town centre is important for the vitality and vibrancy of the town and to ensure that the right facilities are brought forward to support the growing community.

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Portfolio(s) (check which apply):

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

Equalities impact Low Impact

Climate change Low Impact

Risk: Medium Risk; Each individual project that is established as part of the town centre programme will carry its own level of risk. These risk levels will vary depending upon the circumstances.

Links to background information Cranbrook Town Centre Masterplan [Agenda for Strategic Planning Committee on Tuesday, 29th October, 2024, 9.00 am - East Devon](#)

Link to [Council Plan](#)

Priorities (check which apply)

- ☒ A supported and engaged community
 - ☐ Carbon neutrality and ecological recovery
 - ☒ Resilient economy that supports local business
 - ☒ Financially secure and improving quality of services
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Report in full

1. At its meeting on 29 October 2024 the council's Strategic Planning Committee endorsed the Cranbrook Town Centre Masterplan, included as appendix A to this report. The endorsement means that the document will now be used by project teams looking to develop facilities on the town centre land and by the local planning authority as a material consideration of planning applications.
 2. In order to have a coordinated approach to the delivery of the public buildings in the town centre it is intended that individual projects are managed as part of an overarching programme. The programme governance is yet to be finalised but is likely to involve oversight by this Placemaking Group. The intention is for the programme governance to be established before the end of the year.
 3. At the time of writing, individual projects have not yet been set up and so this paper does not seek to set out in detail the progress of each. It is worth noting the following points:
 - Work to transfer parcel TC1 to Devon County Council for an Extra Care facility is continuing.
 - Work to transfer parcel TC2 to the council is continuing.
 - The council and Cranbrook Town Council are working together to deliver Cranbox.
 - The council has funds remaining from the One Public Estate programme in order to make further progress on the Health and Wellbeing hub and reach planning application stage.
 - A Senior Leisure Officer has taken up post at the council, with a leisure centre for Cranbrook included in their work programme.
 - An enforcement notice has been served to seek the removal of the Taylor Wimpey sales centre from the phase 2 retail land. The notice takes effect on 28 November 2024 and gives the owners three months to remove the cabin and restore the land. The land owners have a right of appeal against the service of the notice.
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Financial implications:

There are no specific financial implications impacting the council at this stage.

Legal implications:

There are no substantive legal issues to be added to this report.