

Corporate Plan Delivery Plan 2021/22 Cabinet 9 March 2021

Vision: Making Uttlesford the best place to live, work and play

Putting Residents First				
We Will:	Activities	Outputs/Milestones	Resources	Lead CM/ Officer
<i>1. Be a council that listens to and acts for residents</i>				
<i>a. Increase the voice and influence of residents in planning and other Council matters</i>	Review the Scrutiny Committee's findings (when received) regarding major planning applications and planning obligations, pending completion of EELGA review	Planning Advisory Service (PAS) final report to Scrutiny by 30 June 2021 Planning Obligations final report to Scrutiny by 30 June 2021	Within existing resources	Portfolio Holder for Planning and Local Plan/Assistant Director of Planning
<i>b. Administer public consultations that are effective, accessible, timely and high quality</i>			BAU: Continuous improvement, within existing resources	Portfolio Holder for Council and Public Services/Assistant Director of Corporate Services
<i>c. Provide opportunities for young people</i>	Provide positive opportunities for young people to engage with their local community and do things that keep them safe, and support improved mental wellbeing.	As a result of the recent change to the Corporate Plan to expand the scope, the details of what is to be provided, when, etc. have not yet been scoped. The plan will evolve as the	Within existing resources	Portfolio Holder for Communities, Youth, Public Safety and the Police and Fire Service Liaison / Assistant Director of Housing, Health and Communities

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We Will:	Activities	Outputs/Milestones	Resources	Lead CM/ Officer
	Work with Town and Parish Councils, voluntary sector partners, county youth service and schools etc. to encourage youth participation in the community.	Covid19 related restrictions ease over time		
<i>d. Improve the council's use of the web and social media to increase communication with residents</i>	To provide enhanced customer contact opportunities including self-service facilities at remote site and extended opening hours through the introduction of 'live chat'	Public launch of live chat facility by 31 August 2021 as part of Uttlesford Moving Forward As part of Uttlesford Moving Forward, a review of self-service facilities for customers will be undertaken. The detailed project plan is not yet complete to expand on precise timing of the review.	Within existing resources	Portfolio Holder for Council and Public Services/Assistant Director of Corporate Services
<i>e. Actively and positively engage with and listen to our town and parish councils</i>			BAU: The Local Councils' Liaison Forum is now well embedded as is the Planning Forum with Town and Parish Councils. Within existing resources	Portfolio Holder for Communities, Youth, Public Safety and the Police and Fire Service Liaison /Chief Executive

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We Will:	Activities	Outputs/Milestones	Resources	Lead CM/ Officer
<i>f. Support town and parish councils to better represent their communities</i>			BAU: EALC regularly attend the Local Councils' Liaison Forum and provide presentations on best practice. Within existing resources	Portfolio Holder for Communities, Youth, Public Safety and the Police and Fire Service Liaison /Chief Executive

2. Deliver local government with outstanding levels of transparency and accountability

<i>a. Implement a corporate change programme to increase accountability, transparency and democracy at the Council</i>	Complete work of Governance Working Group to review current and possible future governance structure	<i>This action falls to the working group of council; any actions arising for Cabinet will be detailed at the appropriate time. GRWG are aiming to present a report of their findings to Council by 31 July 2021</i>	Within existing resources	Leader/Chief Executive
	Planning Committee working group to review arrangements for start time and/or geographical location of applications (north committee/south committee)	Review completed. Recommendations to be considered and adopted when possible post COVID	Within existing resources	Portfolio Holder for Planning and Local Plan/Assistant Director of Planning
	Implement delivery of Equalities Policy	Local Government Equality Framework level 1 to be achieved by 31 March 22	Within existing resources	Portfolio Holder for Environment and Green Issues; Equalities / Assistant Director of Housing, Health and Communities

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We Will:	Activities	Outputs/Milestones	Resources	Lead CM/ Officer
<i>b. Seek external review of and recognition for positive change achieved by the Council</i>	Planning Advisory Service reviewing the process of major planning applications	Action plans to be developed once the outcomes of the review have been presented to Scrutiny Committee by 30 June 2021	Within existing resources and pending completion of EELGA review	Portfolio Holder for Planning and Local Plan/Assistant Director of Planning
<i>c. Deliver a comprehensive continuing member development programme</i>			BAU: opportunities for further development continue to be identified within existing resources	Leader/Chief Executive
3. Be responsible with your money and mitigate the impact of government cuts				
<i>a. Be a self-sufficient Council that generates its own resources from local taxation (Business Rates and Council Tax) and commercial investments thereby removing the reliance on Central Government grants</i>	To actively source commercial investments to support the council revenue streams Strengthen the governance of the Council's investment management to ensure it meets the objectives of the commercial strategy	Complete the commercial investment portfolio of £300m, by end 2021/22. Quarterly reports to the Investment Board Development of a business plan for the portfolio as a whole and each asset individually by 31 December 2021 Development of an Investment Protocol, to include ethical criteria for future acquisitions by 30 June 2021	Within existing resources	Portfolio holder for the Economy and Investment/ Director of Finance and Corporate Services/Assistant Director of IT, Facilities and Assets

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We Will:	Activities	Outputs/Milestones	Resources	Lead CM/ Officer
<i>b. Deliver cost-effective and efficient services that live within the Council's means</i>			BAU: The budgets are regularly monitored and managed in light of the reduced revenue and additional costs. Within existing resources	Portfolio Holder for Finance and Budget/Assistant Director of Resources
<i>c. Constantly seek to improve the quality of contracted out services</i>			BAU: Contract monitoring is used to assure service quality, within existing resources	Portfolio Holder for Council and Public Services/CMT
<i>d. Apply for all relevant grants</i>			BAU: grant applications are made regularly subject to the criteria, work required and likelihood of success, within existing resources	Portfolio Holder for Finance and Budget/Assistant Director of Resources
<i>e. Set a Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) to fund council services by a prudent mix of investment, services and tax income, while maintaining adequate reserves</i>			BAU: a MTFS that reflects the ambitions of the Council and the resources available to it is produced at least annually. Within existing resources	Portfolio Holder for Finance and Budget/Assistant Director of Resources
<i>f. Follow best-practices for investment risk management and board composition</i>			BAU: Regular review of the Commercial Strategy enables latest best practice to be reflected in the working of the council , within existing resources	Portfolio holder for the Economy and Investment /Director of Finance and Corporate Services/Assistant Director of ICT and Facilities