



Report to: Cabinet Meeting - 31 October 2023

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Paul Peacock, Strategy, Performance & Finance

Director Leads: John Robinson, Chief Executive and Deborah Johnson, Director - Customer Services & Organisational Development

Lead Officer: Rowan Bosworth-Brown, Transformation & Service Improvement Officer, Ext. 5824

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open Report, Key Decision
Report Title	Community Plan 2023 - 2027
Purpose of Report	This report details the draft Community Plan 2023-2027 and carries forward the comments made by the Policy and Performance Improvement Committee for Cabinet's consideration, prior to the approval of the Community Plan.
Recommendations	That Cabinet: a) review the Community Plan and the accompanying comments carried forward from the Policy & Performance Improvement Committee; and b) endorse and recommend the Community Plan to the meeting of Full Council to be held on 12 December 2023 for approval.
Alternative Options Considered	The report details the process by which alternative options for inclusion in the plan have been considered.
Reason for Recommendations	Members of Cabinet, Chairs and Vice Chairs have worked together to reach a consensus and have developed the Community Plan over the course of a number of months. The Community Plan is the key direction setting document which sets out the priorities and vision for the Council.

1.0 Background

1.1 The Community Plan is the key direction setting document used to outline the priorities and vision of the Council for a four-year term. As a result of the election in May 2023, a new administration was appointed and they have worked together to develop the Community Plan 2023-2027.

- 1.2 The Community Plan has been under development for a number of months, in which the Cabinet, Chairs and Vice Chairs have met a number of times with the aim of developing and shaping the priorities of the Community Plan 2023 – 2027. The draft plan is attached as **Appendix 1** to the report. The results of the Resident Survey 2022 have been used to inform the development of the Community Plan.
- 1.3 Business Managers have reviewed the draft Community Plan objectives and associated actions and had the opportunity to provide feedback.
- 1.4 The Community Plan has been presented to the Policy & Performance Improvement Committee (PPIC) and Members of this committee have contributed a number of comments for Cabinet to consider prior to recommending to the Council for approval. These comments are detailed below:
- 1.5 ‘Review the Council’s leisure offer, including buildings and any necessary programmes of renewal’. Members commented that there is no specific mention of a new Leisure Centre in Southwell which had been budgeted for under the previous administration. Members requested that clarification on this point should be sought, as a new leisure centre would support the objective to improve health and wellbeing of the residents within Southwell.
- 1.6 Members highlighted that within the Community Plan there are not currently any timeframes set out and attributed to specific actions.
- 1.7 Members commented on the current actions and commitments proposed regarding climate change and lowering the Councils carbon footprint. Members urged Cabinet to consider that there is a great deal of green innovation taking place and that technologies are constantly evolving. As such, the Councils progress towards achieving net zero should be handled carefully and using a considered approach to achieve the greatest impact and secure value for money for the taxpayer.
- 1.8 Members commented on the benefits of utilising education for the residents of Newark and Sherwood, in order to encourage sustainable living. This may include the promotion of grants schemes for sources of renewable energy.
- 1.9 Members commented on how the priorities captured within the Resident Survey 2022, have been used and aligned to the priorities of the Community Plan. Specific reference was made to the Heritage, Culture & the Arts Portfolio, which were shared with members of PPIC as supplementary actions, and primarily detailed actions concerning the portfolio.
- 1.10 Members suggested that Portfolio Holders should be invited to future meetings of PPIC where reports directly relate to a specific portfolio and that where actions within the Community Plan are at an exploratory stage, the portfolio holder should be involved in the further development of these actions.
- 1.11 Members requested to be involved during the development of the performance framework.

- 1.12 Members proposed that when reviewing the Councils performance against the finalised performance framework, that focus areas could be pre-selected to allow PPIC to provide focused scrutiny on areas that have been identified.
- 1.13 Members commented on the resource considerations that would be required to support the delivery of the proposed actions set out within the Community Plan and whether this is affordable for the Council.
- 1.14 Members suggested that actions which are a continuation and in progress from the previous Community Plan should be worded to reflect this continuation.
- 1.15 Members acknowledged and agreed that the Community Plan must remain flexible and able to adapt to changes.
- 1.16 Members proposed the presentation of the Community Plan be amended in regard to the portfolio holder, to name the portfolio title opposed to the individual Councillor who holds that portfolio. Councillor Paul Peacock has confirmed that he is happy for this change to be made, which has been updated accordingly within Appendix 1.

2.0 Proposal/Details of Options Considered

- 2.1 It is recommended that Cabinet review the comments carried forward from the PPIC, addressing the comments raised by the Members and reviewing which suggestions may be adopted into the Community Plan.
- 2.2 It is recommended that members of Cabinet review the draft Community Plan with a view to approving and embedding the Community Plan.

3.0 Implications

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations, officers have considered the following implications: Data Protection, Digital and Cyber Security, Equality and Diversity, Financial, Human Resources, Human Rights, Legal, Safeguarding, Sustainability, and Crime and Disorder and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

Financial Implications (FIN23-24/8812)

- 3.1 Where appropriate any resource requirements to enable the delivery of the actions contained with the draft Community Plan 2023-2027 will be built into the budgets/HRA Business Plan/Medium Term Financial that will be approved during February and March 2024.
- 3.2 Once further work has been undertaken to understand the resource requirements to deliver the actions, where appropriate, individual reports will be brought back on the various topics, which will identify any resource requirements to deliver the action whether that be from a one-off perspective or on-going.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

None