

THE COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2026



OUR VISION FOR THE
STROUD DISTRICT

INTRODUCTION

The Council Plan has been developed collectively by Alliance Members, the Strategic Leadership Team and all services across the Council.

In July 2020 we published our 'Recover, Reset and Renew a strategy for the Stroud district 2020-2021'. The work delivered under the strategy focused on recovery and renewal and identifying opportunities to 'join up' processes and engage with our communities and key partners in a conversation to help define our overall priorities.

As a result of this work and the lessons we have learnt from the pandemic, we have asked what good practice looks like and we have taken stock on how the crisis has affected our finances, organisation, residents, businesses, communities and our district. From this, we have determined our priorities and the activity to undertake to ensure resources are directed to where they will be most effective.

The Council Plan has been built on three tiers consisting of our priorities, our objectives and the key projects and activity we will carry out to achieve our objectives.

The Council Plan is not an exhaustive list of everything we will be doing in the next five years, it sets out the critical activity for the council and ensures this activity is focused through our governance arrangements. Elected Members from all political parties will consider the activity within the plan as it progresses through the Council's governance structure.

FOREWORD



Catherine Braun
*Council Leader and
Green Group Leader*



Natalie Bennett
*Deputy Leader and
Independent Left
Group Leader*



Robin Layfield
*Community
Independents
Group Leader*



Ken Tucker
*Liberal Democrat
Group Leader*

Stroud district is a unique and beautiful part of the world, a place of stunning landscapes and innovation in business and community-led initiatives, but our district also faces significant challenges: the ecological and climate emergency, rising inequality, and the impacts of the pandemic on our health and wellbeing.

The pandemic reminded us how local government and communities working together can make a real difference to people's lives, providing essential services, supporting local residents and businesses, and helping to ensure everyone in our district can continue to lead safe and fulfilling lives.

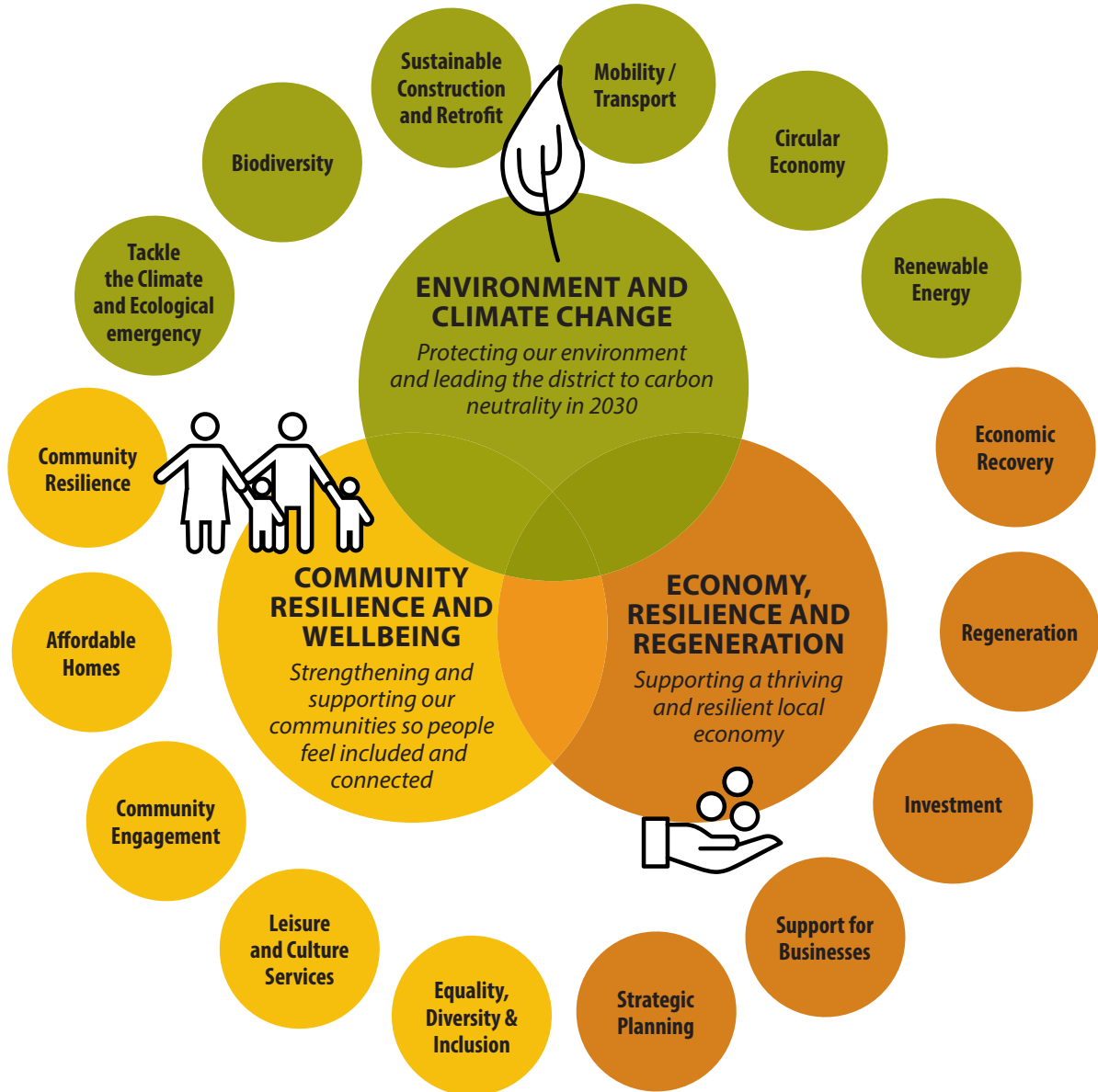
Over the last year, we have listened to what people in our district have been saying about the challenges they face, and what is important to them. This is the basis for our new five-year plan, based on three key priorities: the environment, community wellbeing, and our local economy.

We recognise that achieving our plan depends on partnerships – with the county council, towns and parishes, the voluntary and charitable sectors, and local businesses.

The next five years bring much uncertainty. Since 2010 we have seen our funding decrease, and the strains of the pandemic are likely to make this worse. However, we will keep working for the best interests of the district, securing funds to invest in our district, in the people and the places where we live. With your support, there is much we can achieve together to make this district a better place for all who live and work here and face the challenges of our time.



OUR PRIORITIES & OBJECTIVES



PRIORITIES

The Council Plan focuses on three distinct priorities...

Environment and Climate Change

Community Resilience and Wellbeing

Economy, Resilience and Regeneration

OBJECTIVES

Each priority has a set of strategic objectives represented in the outer circles.

The Delivery Plan underpins the objectives and outlines the key projects and activities the council will undertake to deliver our objectives.



ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

Protecting our environment and leading the district to carbon neutrality in 2030

Objectives

EC1. Tackle the Climate and Ecological Emergency:

Achieve the commitments set for 2021-2024 of the Strategy to be a carbon neutral and ecologically sound district by 2030

EC2. Biodiversity: Work with local communities and partners to protect and enhance the district's green infrastructure and biodiversity providing accessible environments that people can enjoy and which positively contribute to their good health

EC3. Sustainable Construction and Retrofit:

Work with partners to establish Stroud district as a sustainable construction centre of excellence, investing in the skills and capacity in the local economy so public and private buildings across the district can become low carbon and energy efficient



EC4. Mobility / Transport:

Support development of an integrated active travel (walking and cycling) and public transport network and the development of electric charging infrastructure working with county and regional partners

EC5. Circular economy: Develop the foundations of a sustainable circular economy for the district by minimizing consumption, reducing the quantity of resources sent to incineration and applying the waste hierarchy; prevent, reduce, reuse, recycle, recover and as a last resort, disposal

EC6. Renewable energy: Increase the proportion of energy generated by renewable sources in the district and work on decarbonizing existing networks

We want to ensure our district is a place where people and communities can thrive, while respecting the wellbeing of all people and the health of the whole planet.

In 2018 the council declared a climate emergency and made the commitment to 'do everything within the council's power' to become a carbon neutral district by 2030. We recognise that this ambition needs a huge amount of work not only from the council but across all parts of the district, and our 2030 Strategy mission is to act as an example in the community, to be an enabler and encourager of positive action. The detailed action plan underpinning the 2030 strategy, as adopted by the council in 2020, has informed the objectives of our plan to take the first crucial steps towards net zero and lay the foundations for the work to come.



We are fortunate in that in our communities there is so much support for making the changes that are needed, and expertise amongst local people, businesses and organisations to help shape solutions, reducing our carbon emissions, and building resilience into our natural surroundings. We also face an ecological emergency, and our plan includes key objectives to protect and enhance biodiversity.

We know we cannot achieve this alone, and through our services, policies and projects, we need to do all we can to collaboratively achieve a just transition to a carbon neutral, resilient, inclusive and equality driven district.



COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & WELLBEING

Strengthening and supporting our communities so people feel included and connected

What matters to us is that local people can live healthy and happy lives whatever their background or life situation, and that the places where they live and work can thrive.

Our objectives under this priority are focused on measures that support people to lead healthier and happier lives, tackle racism and inequality, put people at the heart of decision making, enable residents to live in an accessible and inclusive community and ensure our vibrant local communities continue to grow.

Our district is also a deeply rural place of tiny hamlets and farms. We recognise the specific rural challenges many people face, and we want to make sure that access to services and housing is fair wherever you live.

We will tackle housing needs on a variety of fronts, such as: increasing supply of affordable homes of all tenures, action to prevent housing debt in all sectors, action to provide temporary housing where homelessness arises and action to ensure that best use is made of housing stock in all tenures.

Supporting our residents' health and well-being is also more important than ever. Our leisure services are much valued by our communities and have been especially badly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.



Objectives

CW1. Community resilience: Support communities to help each other and build resilience through a network of community hubs and other community-led networks, with mental and physical health and wellbeing at its heart

CW2. Affordable homes: Build affordable, energy efficient homes and deliver high quality services for all tenants by investing in the renovation of existing council homes and meet a range of housing needs for those who experience disadvantage and creating a culture of tenant engagement and empowerment

CW3. Community engagement: Strengthen local democracy by developing a culture of community engagement to enable greater involvement of residents, council tenants, communities and businesses in decisions on council services and priorities

CW4. Leisure and Culture Services: Adopt a long term investment plan for leisure services and facilities across the district to ensure everyone has access to good quality leisure opportunities that meet their needs



CW5. Equality, diversity and inclusion: Embed equality, diversity and inclusion as a priority across the Council and the District with targeted support for those who experience the most disadvantage in our communities



ECONOMY, RESILIENCE & REGENERATION

Supporting a thriving and resilient local economy

Objectives

ER1. Economic recovery:

Support our high streets and businesses to enable recovery of the local economy from the impacts of COVID-19 and build foundations for a sustainable and inclusive local economy



ER2. Regeneration: Deliver key regeneration sites across the district, especially brownfield sites and long-term empty properties, for local jobs, homes, community facilities and green spaces

ER3. Investment: Promote the Stroud district to attract investment in key infrastructure and high quality jobs with a focus on environmental technologies, engineering and manufacturing and creative industries

ER4. Support for Businesses: Champion local businesses of all types and sizes that lead on environmental and social good practice and support them to grow, keeping wealth in the district, strengthening local supply chains and offering rewarding local jobs

ER5. Strategic Plan: Adopt the new Stroud District Local Plan

Stroud District has begun to recover from the economic impact of the pandemic, but significant challenges remain. It is critical that our high streets are supported in their recovery, and that district's economy remains resilient and makes a rapid transition to the low carbon economy of the future. We will continue to support those sectors of the economy that have been most affected, recognising our local strengths in the visitor economy, manufacturing and the creative industries.

Our district has one of the largest numbers of small and medium sized businesses in the county. Our objectives aim to support the creation of local decent jobs, support our market towns and provide assistance for our home-grown businesses, large and small.

The pandemic has seen a groundswell of innovation and energy in our market towns and communities in creating locally led approaches to economic recovery and revival. Our objectives focus on harnessing that energy and finding local solutions to big challenges.

In 2018 we adopted the principles of 'Community Wealth Building', to maximise the value of local assets and enable the benefits of economic development to be retained locally, spend local on goods and services and wealth created by a community stay in the area in which it was earned. Our objectives under this priority will help us to achieve this.



PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

The Council Plan will sit at the heart of our Performance Management Framework. The Framework is intended to ensure that we are meeting our milestones and objectives, drive change and improvement across the organisation, enable effective measurement of the Council Plan and provide a golden thread throughout the organisation.

As part of delivering our Council Plan, we shall be monitoring and reporting on progress in relation to the delivery. Progress updates will be provided to Strategy and Resources Committee on a quarterly basis, these progress updates will be published quarterly so residents, communities and businesses can see how we are delivering for them as an organisation.

The Council Plan

Identifies our objectives, key projects and activity the Council will take to deliver our priorities

Service Plans

Set out how each service will contribute to the Council priorities and achieve service specific objectives which may not be included in the Council Plan. They also allow us to monitor performance on a regular basis and include key performance indicators and risks for individual services

Performance Measures

Enable the Council to monitor itself on a quarterly basis to ensure that the targets we have set are being achieved

Personal objectives

Individual aims and objectives are agreed with staff and link to their service plans



DELIVERY

The Delivery Plan translates the priorities and objectives into tangible work to be undertaken and commitments to be achieved through its lifespan.

Our priorities and objectives are cross-cutting and owned by the whole council, this is reflected in many of the

projects and activities not solely being the responsibility of one service, but a number of services.

The Plans will be delivered in times of uncertainty and therefore the Delivery Plan will be reviewed annually to allow for some flexibility and opportunity for redesign to be built into the process.

THE ROLE OF STAFF AND ELECTED MEMBERS

The Council Plan cannot be delivered without the hard work and contribution of our staff. The Delivery Plan outlines the Lead Officers who are responsible for making sure each activity is delivered effectively. The detail of how and when activity and projects will be achieved sits in underpinning documents, such as business cases and project plans. The responsibility for successfully delivering the objectives sits with the Strategic Leadership Team who ensure the right resources and capacity are in place to support delivery.

Elected Members play an important role in considering the key projects and activities through the governance and decision making arrangements for the council. Committees will drive and scrutinise the effectiveness of delivery for the benefit of the district's residents and taxpayers.

Members will also work with officers to provide input and advice and have oversight of delivery through other governance arrangements such as Task and Finish Groups, Boards and Working Groups.

ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

Protecting and enhancing our environment and leading the district to carbon neutrality in 2030

THE DELIVERY PLAN

				Committee	End date
EC1	Tackle the Climate and Ecological Emergency: Achieve the commitments set for 2021-2024 of the Strategy to be a carbon neutral and ecologically sound district by 2030	EC1.1	Set up a 2030 Core Group to provide high level strategic overview on delivery, identify funding opportunities and develop communication and community engagement	Full Council, Strategy themes to relevant committee	Completed
		EC1.1a	Facilitate continued community engagement through the established 2030 Community Engagement Board to support the delivery of the 2030 Strategy	Full Council, Strategy themes to relevant committee	31/3/2024
		EC1.2	Establish the performance management of the 2030 Strategy across the organisation to monitor and report progress towards the Strategy's aims and commitments	Full Council, Strategy themes to relevant committee	Completed
		EC1.3	Plan and implement the community engagement aspect of the Strategy, to include a 2030 community website and direct activities with residents, linking to the Community Engagement Strategy (CW3.1)	Full Council, Strategy themes to relevant committee	Completed
		EC1.4	Establish an ethics policy for our investments, incorporating work within the Brunel Partnership to divest pension funds from fossil fuels	Strategy & Resources / Audit & Standards	Completed
		EC1.5	Explore and progress additional projects for carbon reduction and /or biodiversity net gain and funding opportunities to deliver them.	Strategy & Resources / Environment	31/3/2026
EC2	Biodiversity: Work with local communities and partners to protect and enhance the district's green infrastructure and biodiversity providing accessible environments that people can enjoy and which positively contribute to their good health and well-being	EC2.1	Work with partners to boost biodiversity by developing the Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy and delivering its objectives through a district-wide Local Nature Recovery Action Plan, working with stakeholders	Environment / Full Council	30/9/2024
		EC2.2	Deliver the natural flood management project (Stroud Rural SUDS) for the Frome Valley in Stroud in partnership with the Environment Agency, working closely with landowners and communities using innovative flood management techniques	Environment	Completed
		EC2.3	Develop and establish an action plan to increase our tree canopy, woodland and forestry in line with the Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership Tree Strategy ambition for 20% canopy cover across the County by 2030	Environment	30/9/2024
		EC2.4	Work with partners to protect and enhance green spaces in residential neighbourhoods and town centres, promote 'No Mow May' and adopt best practice for road verges to encourage wildflowers and reduce pesticide use	Environment	31/3/2026
		EC2.5	Use, promote and support the Building with Nature standards for Local Plan sites and key regeneration sites across the district	Environment	31/3/2026

THE DELIVERY PLAN: The Delivery Plan outlines the key actions we are committed to undertaking in order to achieve our objectives. The Delivery Plan was updated in October 2023 and some actions have been marked as completed and replaced with additional actions to reflect the ongoing nature of some of the work, these actions can be identified by the 'a' following the Action reference, e.g. CW1.1a.

			Committee	End date	
EC3	Sustainable Construction and Retrofit: Work with partners to establish Stroud district as a sustainable construction centre of excellence, investing in the skills and capacity in the local economy so public and private buildings across the district can become low carbon and energy efficient	EC3.1	Invest in Council homes to realise optimum emission reductions and achieve an EPC-C rating or above across all council homes by 2030	Housing	31/3/2026
		EC3.2	In line with the Zero Carbon Public Estate project, produce methodology for the retrofitting of identified public buildings and deliver a masterplan for the sites at Beeches Green and the Station/Cheapside areas (including Bath Place)	Strategy & Resources	31/3/2026
		EC3.3	Develop partnerships, provide advice, and support local action to help private home owners and businesses meet the retrofit challenge (CN2030 BE2, BE7 and BE8)	Housing	31/3/2026
		EC3.4	Work with partners to position Stroud District as a Retrofit Centre for Excellence which provides training and develops the skills needed to retrofit homes and businesses	Strategy & Resources	31/3/2026
		EC3.5	Develop planning policies and developer guidance to enable all new buildings to achieve a net zero carbon standard		Completed
		EC3.5a	Produce supplementary guidance and work with developers to enable all new buildings to achieve a net zero carbon standard		31/12/2024
EC4	Mobility / transport: Support development of an integrated active travel (walking and cycling) and public transport network and development of electric vehicle charging infrastructure working with county and regional partners	EC4.1	Support a shift towards active modes of travel by working with the County Council and parish councils to increase use of an enhanced strategic and local walking and cycling network.	Environment	31/3/2026
		EC4.2	In partnership with the County Council, encourage the expansion and improvement of public transport and links to walking and cycling routes – to include bus services and railway stations and services, and bids for new facilities that benefit residents of the District	Strategy & Resources	31/3/2026
		EC4.3	Working with partners, expand the network of Electric Vehicle charging points and increase support for low carbon transport, and a reduction in private car use and explore measures to reduce air pollution such as no-idling zones	Environment	31/3/2026
		EC4.4	Develop initiatives to encourage an increase in the percentage of Low, Ultra Low Emission and Euro 6 compliant taxi and private hire vehicles (CN2030 M8)	Community Services & Licensing	1/4/2025

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ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

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				Committee	End date
EC5	Circular economy: Develop the foundations of a sustainable circular economy for the district by minimising consumption, reducing the quantity of resources sent to incineration and applying the waste hierarchy: prevent, reduce, reuse, recycle, recover and as a last resort disposal	EC5.1	Further reduce the quantity of resources discarded as waste and minimise its environmental impact	Environment	31/3/2024
		EC5.2	Work with our partner Ubico to identify joint opportunities for carbon reduction projects in household collection and management of public spaces	Environment	31/3/2025
		EC5.3	Support the phasing out of single use plastics in the district and encourage and support local initiatives to 'reduce, repair and recycle'	Environment	31/3/2026
		EC5.4	Continue to increase recycling rates across the district	Environment	31/3/2026
EC6	Renewable energy: Increase the proportion of energy generated by renewable sources in the district and work on decarbonising existing networks	EC6.1	Continue to increase renewable generation in the district and to decarbonise existing networks, and support community-owned renewable energy schemes	Environment	31/3/2026
		EC6.2	Deliver the water source heat pump projects at Ebley and Brimscombe Port Mills	Strategy & Resources	Completed
		EC6.2a	Deliver the decarbonisation projects at Stratford Park Leisure Centre, Museum in the Park and The Pulse, utilising Salix funding	Strategy & Resources	31/3/2024
		EC6.3	Increase the proportion of Council and partner fleet vehicles powered by zero or low carbon technologies	Environment	31/3/2026
		EC6.4	Deliver key low carbon exemplar projects	Housing	31/3/2025



COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND WELLBEING

Strengthening and supporting our communities so people feel included and connected

THE DELIVERY PLAN

				Committee	End date
CW1	Community resilience: Support communities to help each other and build resilience through a network of community hubs and other community-led networks, with mental and physical health and wellbeing at its heart	CW1.1	Develop a framework for working with the community and voluntary and social enterprise sector including the network of community hubs	Community Services & Licensing	31/3/2024
		CW1.2	Act to improve the physical and mental health and wellbeing of people in the district through delivery of a new 3 year Health and Wellbeing Plan	Community Services & Licensing	31/3/2025
		CW1.3	Ensure residents continue to receive the advice they need, by continuing our work in partnership with the Citizens Advice Bureau and developing a new Service Level Agreement	Community Services & Licensing	Completed
		CW1.4	Work to reduce the impacts and causes of anti-social behaviour by developing a district wide policy in partnership with the Community Safety Partnership	Community Services & Licensing	31/3/2024
		CW1.5	Work with strategic and operational partners to improve food resilience, access and equity including support for those affected by the cost of living	Community Services & Licensing	31/3/2026

CW2	Affordable homes: Build affordable, energy efficient homes and deliver high quality services for all tenants by investing in the renovation of existing council homes and meet a range of housing needs for those who experience disadvantage and creating a culture of tenant engagement and empowerment	CW2.1a	Deliver new affordable homes across the District, through planning policy and work with partners including community-led housing groups and housing associations	Housing	31/3/2026
		CW2.1b	Design, build and deliver new affordable homes across the District via our own New Homes Programme which will deliver EPC-A rated properties	Housing	31/3/2026
		CW2.2	Invest £30m over the next 5 years to maintain, invest and repair our council homes ensuring they are good quality, safe, fit for purpose places where tenants can live well	Housing	31/3/2026
		CW2.3	Prioritise the prevention of homelessness and invest in temporary accommodation and specialist support, including working with partners to develop the specialist housing and support	Housing	31/3/2025
		CW2.4	Implement robust engagement principles to ensure structured and consistent mechanisms for tenants to be involved in decision making affecting their homes and the places they live	Housing	31/3/2024
		CW2.5	Continue to invest and deliver the programme to modernise our Independent Living homes for older people	Housing	Completed
		CW2.5a	Provide high quality, fit for purpose Independent Living Provision in line with the 2023-2027 Independent Living Strategy	Housing	31/3/2026
		CW2.6	Co-ordinate accommodation and support services for migrants arriving in the district and link to other statutory and voluntary services to support the health and wellbeing of migrant households	Housing	31/3/2024
		CW2.7	Ensure our council homes meet legislative and regulatory compliance standards	Housing	31/12/2024





COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND WELLBEING

Strengthening and supporting our communities so people feel included and connected

THE DELIVERY PLAN

				Committee	End date
CW3	Strengthen local democracy: By developing a culture of community engagement to enable greater involvement of residents, council tenants, communities and businesses in decisions on council services and priorities	CW3.1	Develop Community Engagement Principles that set out how we identify and engage with our communities in a positive and consistent manner, informed by the views of our communities	Community Services & Licensing	31/3/2024
		CW3.2	Improve customer service for residents by procuring a Digital Platform that provides for centralised first contact ensuring an easier access to services and that provides additional support for those with complex needs	Strategy & Resources/ Community Services & Licensing	Completed
		CW3.2a	Improve customer service for residents by developing the Digital Platform to provide centralised customer contact to ensure easy access to services via all contact channels with additional support provided for those who need us the most	Strategy & Resources/ Community Services & Licensing	1/4/2026
		CW3.3	Work with Town and Parish Councils to develop, agree and implement a new strategic approach for partnership working between district, towns and parishes including specific support for rural communities.	Strategy & Resources / Community Services & Licensing	Completed
		CW3.4	Promote and encourage the registration of community assets so communities have more control and ownership of local buildings, land and community shops as well as protecting publicly owned land and assets	Strategy & Resources	31/3/2026
CW4	Leisure and Culture Services: Adopt a long term investment plan for leisure services and facilities across the district to ensure everyone has access to good quality leisure opportunities that meet their needs	CW4.1	Continue work to ensure that our leisure and wellbeing services are fit for the future by completing the Leisure Review options appraisal as well as supporting the recovery of the leisure centres from the pandemic	Community Services & Licensing	Completed
		CW4.1a	Deliver high quality leisure services through directly managed provision at Stratford Park Leisure Centre and The Pulse	Community Services & Licensing	31/12/2024
		CW4.2	Working with partners, increase the number, accessibility, and quality of playing pitches, play areas and outside spaces within the district	Community Services & Licensing	31/3/2026
		CW4.3	Increase physical activity and sports participation through our Healthy Lifestyles Scheme in partnership with the Gloucestershire We Can Move programme	Community Services & Licensing	31/3/2026
		CW4.4	Complete a conditions survey and review the development implications of longer term development for Stratford Park Lido	Community Services & Licensing	31/3/2025
		CW4.5	Develop a Culture Strategy for the District	Community Services & Licensing	31/12/2024
		CW4.6	Implement the Museum in the Park's free-to-join Supporter Scheme to provide residents with exciting opportunities to engage with the museum and extend community reach to new audiences ensuring the museum remains at the heart of the wider community	Community Services & Licensing	Completed

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			Committee	End date	
CW5	Equality Diversity & Inclusion: Embed equality, diversity and inclusion as a priority across the Council and the District with targeted support for those who experience the most disadvantage in our communities	CW5.1	Deliver our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan 2021-25, through engaging with communities, showing leadership and championing equality, diversity and inclusion in all that we do	Community Services & Licensing	31/3/2025
		CW5.2	Adopt effective and transparent policies to reduce inequalities that result from socio-economic disadvantage in line with Section 1 of the Equality Act, the socio-economic duty, as an effective framework for tackling local poverty and economic inequality	Community Services & Licensing	31/3/2025
		CW5.3	Devise and implement a delivery plan to reduce health inequalities, in collaboration with partners from across all sectors to support those most affected by the Cost-of-Living crisis	Community Services & Licensing	31/3/2026
		CW5.4	Promote initiatives which improve skills, celebrate diversity in the workplace and offer equal access to well paid jobs and economic opportunities for everyone	Community Services & Licensing	31/3/2026
		CW5.5	Work with partners to support older people to stay in their homes for longer	Community Services & Licensing	31/3/2025
		CW5.6	Support our Armed Forces Champion and provide help as needed to former members of the armed services who need extra support and continue to deliver the Armed Forces Covenant across the local area	Community Services & Licensing	Completed

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ECONOMY, RESILIENCE AND REGENERATION

Supporting a thriving and resilient local economy

THE DELIVERY PLAN

				Committee	End date
ER1	Economic recovery: Support our high streets and businesses to enable recovery of the local economy from the impacts of COVID-19 and building foundations for a sustainable and inclusive local economy	ER1.1	Develop and implement an inclusive sustainable 'Economic Development Strategy' including supporting market towns and sectors most impacted by the pandemic		Completed
		ER1.1a	Implement an inclusive and sustainable 'Economic Development Strategy' to support a thriving and resilient economy for our businesses, communities and visitors	Strategy & Resources	31/3/2025
		ER1.2	Support high street and other businesses to increase their digital and virtual visibility, through promotion, training, new applications and facilitating the acceleration of highspeed broadband	Strategy & Resources	31/3/2026
		ER1.3	Support local high streets through the 'Think Local, Shop Local' campaign and local initiatives to increase footfall such as markets, events and community-led initiatives	Strategy & Resources	Completed
		ER1.4	Support local high streets to increase footfall and achieve a sustainable visitor economy through delivering and enabling promotional campaigns, markets, cultural and leisure events, growing the night-time economy and by improving sustainable access to local centres from our rural hinterlands	Strategy & Resources	31/3/2026
ER2	Regeneration: Deliver key regeneration sites across the district, especially brownfield sites and longterm empty properties, for local jobs, homes, community facilities and green spaces	ER2.1	Develop Brimscombe Port as a key strategic site to support a thriving community, in line with project milestones which include securing a development partner and delivering infrastructure works	Full Council, Strategy themes to relevant committee	31/3/2026
		ER2.2	Deliver Phase 1b of the Canal Project (Cotswold Canals Connected), incorporating land acquisition, planning application for the 'missing mile', Ocean Bridge works, environment and community programmes in line with National Lottery Heritage Fund bid	Full Council, Strategy themes to relevant committee	31/3/2026
		ER2.3	Progress 'hard to develop' brownfield sites and long-term empty commercial properties across the district, delivering quality local jobs and homes, while preserving and enhancing biodiversity	Full Council, Strategy themes to relevant committee	31/3/2026
		ER2.4	Support the development of a diverse local economy of social enterprises, cooperatives and small businesses by supporting them to find well connected commercial space available for expansion and by exploring the use of land for low cost sites and start-ups	Strategy & Resources / Audit & Standards	31/3/2026

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				Committee	End date
ER3	Investment: Promote the Stroud district to attract investment in key infrastructure and high quality jobs with a focus on environmental technologies, engineering and manufacturing and creative industries	ER3.1	Attract investment by setting out the offer of Stroud District in a new 'Place Prospectus' to showcase the district's achievements and future priorities	Strategy & Resources	Completed
		ER3.2	Promote prosperity and visitors to the district's waterways, by developing a Canal Strategy, which links to heritage and biodiversity objectives	Strategy & Resources	Completed
		ER3.2a	Promote prosperity and visitors to the district's waterways, by delivering physical enhancements and stronger links with our communities, aligned with heritage and biodiversity objectives	Strategy & Resources	31/3/2025
		ER3.3	Work to secure external funding for priority projects, by establishing a task force to review bid options and developing a bid to the Government's Levelling Up Fund and other funding opportunities	Strategy & Resources	Completed
		ER3.4	Work with partners to support the bid to the UK Atomic Authority to secure the first prototype commercial fusion plant and associated research and innovation park at Oldbury & Berkeley		Completed
		ER3.4a	Work with partners including Western Gateway and neighbouring local authorities to promote Severn Edge (Oldbury and Berkeley sites) to be a green energy hub, at the forefront of a renewable energy revolution that delivers an affordable zero carbon future for everyone	Strategy & Resources / Full Council	31/3/2024
ER4	Support for businesses: Champion local businesses of all types and sizes that lead on environmental and social good practice and support them to grow, keeping wealth in the district, strengthening local supply chains and offering rewarding local jobs	ER4.1	Work with business networks and trade unions to recognise and promote access to living wage employers who lead on social and environmental good practice	Strategy & Resources	31/3/2025
		ER4.2	Increase the financial resilience of the district by exploring additional options for community funding	Strategy & Resources/ Audit & Standards	31/3/2025
		ER4.3	Review the Procurement Strategy and develop initiatives to increase spend on low carbon, sustainable and ethical goods and services to create stronger supply chains within the local economy	Strategy & Resources	31/3/2026
		ER4.4	Work with partners to support the development of skills and training for all ages, including the unemployed, young people and apprentices, and across key sectors including the low carbon sector and visitor economy	Strategy & Resources / Full Council	31/3/2026
ER5	Strategic Planning: Adopt the new Stroud District Local Plan	ER5.1	Progress the Local Plan through public examination and secure its adoption	Environment	31/12/2024
		ER5.2	Support the delivery of strategic site allocations contained within the local plan and the key infrastructure required to support it	Environment	31/3/2026
		ER5.3	Work with parish councils to encourage and support local communities to develop Neighbourhood Development Plans and Orders, thereby increasing community planning activities	Environment	31/3/2026

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