

# Vale of White Horse District Council

## CORPORATE PLAN 2012-2016: CONSULTATION DRAFT

<b>Excellent delivery of key services</b>	
<b>What we will do</b>	<b>How we will measure success</b>
Put residents at the heart of service delivery and seek to provide an excellent customer experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• percentage of people very satisfied or fairly satisfied with the way the council runs things</li> <li>• percentage of people who agree with the statement that the council does a good job for people like me</li> <li>• percentage of people satisfied with the way the council dealt with their enquiry (all methods of contact)</li> </ul>
Keep residents and other stakeholders informed about our services, activities and spending and ensure we take their views into account before making key decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• percentage of people who say they feel well or fairly well informed by the council about the services it provides</li> </ul>
Deliver high performing services with particular emphasis on achieving excellent levels of recycling, keeping streets and public spaces clean and attractive and ensuring good quality sports and leisure provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• percentage of people who are very satisfied or fairly satisfied with the waste and recycling collection service, keeping the area clean and litter free, and sports and leisure facilities</li> <li>• recycling rate</li> <li>• one of the top ten councils nationally for recycling</li> <li>• reduce the number of fly tips (rolling six month average)</li> <li>• time taken to clear fly-tipping</li> <li>• sports centre users satisfaction survey</li> </ul>

<b>Effective management of resources</b>	
<b>What we will do</b>	<b>How we will measure success</b>
Keep council tax low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to keep council tax for district services in the lowest 20 nationally and work towards being in the lowest 10</li> </ul>
Agree prudent and sustainable medium term financial plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no adverse comment from external auditors in annual governance report</li> </ul>
Reduce energy usage throughout the council's operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• X per cent reduction in gas usage and x per cent reduction in electricity usage in council offices and civic buildings</li> <li>• X per cent reduction in gas usage and x per cent reduction in electricity usage in council sports centres<sup>1</sup></li> <li>• reduce business mileage by x</li> </ul>
Continue to work in partnership with South Oxfordshire District Council to reduce operating costs and enhance services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• achieve joint savings with South Oxfordshire District Council of at least £100,000 per year throughout the corporate plan</li> <li>• examples of services improving through joint working</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> We are currently reviewing possible targets for this to ensure that we align with national targets and county carbon dioxide targets. We are also looking into different options for measuring energy use reduction for example, maintaining combined gas and electricity usage measures or possibly splitting these, cost measures, and the need for weather adjusted targets.

<b>Meeting housing need</b>	
INCREASE THE SUPPLY OF MARKET AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING	
<b>What we will do</b>	<b>How we will measure success</b>
Set housing targets and identify land supply to meet future housing need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• core strategy approved</li> <li>• core strategy targets agreed</li> <li>• regular monitoring of performance against targets</li> </ul>
Process planning applications for housing promptly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 70 per cent major planning applications determined within 13 weeks</li> <li>• 75 per cent minor planning applications agreed within eight weeks</li> </ul>
Secure sufficient financial contributions from development to deliver essential infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• percentage of contributions secured in s106 agreements received by the council at year end</li> <li>• annual report of facilities and infrastructure provided with contribution from developers</li> <li>• Community infrastructure levy (CIL) implemented<sup>2</sup></li> </ul>
Ensure that new developments include a range of different types of affordable housing to meet local needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• new developments deliver the levels of affordable housing stipulated in the core strategy</li> </ul>
<b>What we will facilitate in partnership with others</b>	<b>How we will measure success</b>
Work with developers to overcome obstacles to development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sites with potential problems identified and action plans to overcome these agreed</li> <li>• quarterly report on progress achieved against action plan</li> <li>• number of new developments started</li> </ul>
Work with local communities to identify suitable sites for community led housing schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• annual report setting out the council's contribution towards bringing development sites forward in response to community led and</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> Section 106 agreements and CIL are subject to emerging legislation. Until we are clear about how they will work in the future we do not plan to set a specific target for how much we hope to secure.

	neighbourhood plans <sup>3</sup>
<b>Building the local economy</b>	
TO PROMOTE BUSINESS IN ALL PARTS OF THE VALE	
<b>What we will do</b>	<b>How we will measure success</b>
Continue to invest to improve the viability and attractiveness of our towns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• two hour free car parking introduced in market towns by end of 2011</li> <li>• annual town centre vitality survey, including footfall and vacant shop surveys</li> <li>• impact of public wi-fi scheme piloted in Wantage</li> <li>• market town strategy reviewed and annual action plans developed</li> <li>• progress against annual action plans</li> </ul>
Develop and implement local development orders to stimulate business growth at Milton Park and Harwell Science Campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• development orders in place by June 2012</li> <li>• annual report on the number and square metres of new business units developed under provisions of the development order</li> </ul>
Enter into a commercial partnership to secure redevelopment of Abingdon town centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• refurbishment of Abbey Centre completed by (date tbc)</li> <li>• redevelopment of the Charter substantially completed by end of plan period</li> </ul>
Enter into a commercial partnership to secure new retail development at Botley and use some of the proceeds to improve Westway shopping centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• new retail development built and operating by end of corporate plan period</li> <li>• improvements to Westway shopping centre agreed and implemented</li> </ul>
Review the potential for building a new leisure centre in Wantage/Grove as the town expands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• options study produced by end 2012</li> </ul>

<sup>3</sup> At this stage we do not think it appropriate to identify a specific number of schemes or sites

What we will facilitate in partnership with others	How we will measure success
Roll out faster broadband across the district	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) funding spend secured for Vale of White Horse</li> <li>• all parts of the district to have access to improved broadband and mobile phone coverage by the end of the corporate plan period</li> </ul>
Deliver the Science Vale UK enterprise zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• number of jobs created, number of and square metres of new business units developed</li> <li>• increase in business rates</li> </ul>
Improve Infrastructure to support business growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• strategy for investment for enterprise zone business rates growth agreed with Oxfordshire Local Economic Partnership</li> <li>• strategy implemented and progress confirmed in annual report</li> </ul>
Maintain low levels of crime and anti social behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• at least 97 per cent of people feel safe walking alone in their community in daytime</li> <li>• at least 79 per cent of people feel safe walking alone in their community after dark</li> <li>• monitor performance against priority crime targets in community safety strategy</li> </ul>
Promote the River Thames at Abingdon as a visitor and leisure attraction	Tbc
Build on the 'Choose Abingdon' partnership to create a district-wide business partnership	Number of businesses that are member of the district-wide partnership

<b>Support for communities</b>	
<b>What we will do</b>	<b>How we will measure success</b>
Improve the way we work with local communities and their representative bodies to create opportunities to localise service delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• examples of localised service delivery</li> </ul>
Offer grants to voluntary and community organisations who are delivering projects and services that support our objectives or those in need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• grants criteria aligned with council's priorities</li> <li>• amount of grant awarded and number of projects funded and number of projects completed.</li> <li>• annual report on key grant aided projects setting out benefits to local community and how they have helped to deliver council priorities</li> </ul>
Explore options for the further development of Wantage Civic Hall as a successful community facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• plan agreed for developing Wantage Civic Hall</li> <li>• increase in the number of bookings and users of the Civic Hall</li> <li>• decrease in net expenditure</li> </ul>
<b>What we will facilitate in partnership with others</b>	
Support rural communities to retain or provide facilities where there is local support to do so	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• support development of community-led plans</li> <li>• number of actions in community-led plans progressed with the support of the council each year</li> </ul>
Encourage communities to develop neighbourhood plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• all local councils provided with information about developing neighbourhood plans and sources of advice and support</li> <li>• number of communities engaged in developing neighbourhood plans</li> </ul>
Devolve responsibility for delivery of services to parish councils, community groups and others where it makes sense to do so	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• specific examples of devolved services in place</li> </ul>