

West Devon Borough Council Delivery Plans				2024/25		2025/26	
Theme	Action Reference	Action Description	Specific Deliverables	New Strategy Request	Other source (Existing)	New Strategy	Other existing sources
Natural Environment							
Natural Environment (Mow)	NE0.1	Refresh our 2020 Climate and Biodiversity Action Plan in line with the Devon Carbon Plan	A refreshed plan				
		Support Devon Climate Emergency Partnership	Support for the communications and engagement function of the Devon Climate Emergency Partnership	£ 2,000		£ 2,000	
Primary Aim 1 - An increase in biodiversity across the borough in the next 4 years							
Natural Environment	NE1.2	Implement a revised grounds maintenance programme for council land to increase biodiversity	Develop specification and identify route to procure / lease equipment				
Natural Environment	NE1.3	Promote successful regenerative farming and natural regeneration sites to inspire our future plans	Create a baseline of agriculture activity				
Natural Environment	NE1.4	Develop a plan for Wildlife wardens with the intention this becomes self-funding in future years	Part-time (2.5 days pw) Wildlife Warden Officer Appointed (12 month fixed term)	£ 20,000			
		Work with Plymouth and South Devon Community forest to identify opportunities for tree planting and biodiversity in the borough	Develop the plan for increasing within WD and to understand the carbon credits	£ 50,000		£ 50,000	
Primary Aim 2 - Continue to make reductions in eCO2 emissions across the Borough to stay on track for net zero by 2050							
Natural Environment	NE2.1	Develop, review and adopt a Local Cycle and Walking Infrastructure Plan for the Borough to inform future strategic planning	An adopted LCWIP				
Natural Environment	NE2.2	Implement the Councils adopted Electric Vehicle charging strategy	Delivery of EV Strategy delivery plan				
Natural Environment	NE2.3	Promote the use of renewable energy sources within the West Devon community	Delivered through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund				
Natural Environment	NE2.4	Promote a thermal imaging camera lending scheme to enable residents and community facilities to identify areas for improving insulation in properties	Review trial and extend (including additional cameras)	£ 5,000		£ 5,000	
Natural Environment	NE2.5	Work with communities, Town and Parish Councils to understand existing plans for, and Identify any future areas within the borough that could be used as allotments	Identify sites that could potentially be used for allotments (such as South Tawton) Develop proposals for consideration				
Natural Environment	NE2.6	Implement a decision making tool to assess climate and biodiversity (in addition to social value / other implications)					
Primary Aim 3 - Lead by example to promote positive action on climate change and biodiversity							
Natural Environment	NE3.1	Reduce Scope 1 and 2 Emissions to Net Zero by 2030 and work towards reducing scope 3 emissions by working with suppliers	Net zero 2030				
			Complete feasibility study for fleet conversion and costs, bringing proposals forward to Council during 2024/25	£ 10,000			
			Develop plans for Decarbonisation of buildings - Kilworthy and wider estate, bringing proposals forward to Council during 2024/25			tbc	
Natural Environment	NE3.2	Improve recycling rates and reduction in residual waste.	Organise visits to Energy from Waste plants and biodigesters to inspire improved levels of recycling and reduction in residual waste				
			Delivery of capital improvements (such as Hayedown) and infrastructure to support an increase in recycling				

			Deliver a communications campaign to promote reduce / reuse / recycle / garden waste collections etc				
Natural Environment	NE3.3	Work with South West Water and the Environment Agency with a 'Call for Evidence' on discharge of raw sewage into rivers	SWW & EA to attend Overview and Scrutiny				
			Collaborate with relevant authorities and stakeholders to encourage improvement of sewage treatment infrastructure				
Total				£ 87,000	£ -	£ 57,000	£ -
Built Environment							
Primary Aim 1 - Conserve and enhance existing historic fabric and retain locally distinctive features in the design of building, layouts, street scene and landscapes to guarantee the authenticity and integrity of the World Heritage Site to maintain it for future generations							
Built Environment	BE1.1	Support Town and Parish Councils/ neighbourhood forums in the making of at least two neighbourhood plans a year (including modifications required to existing plans)	Two neighbourhood plans made / modified each year Develop proposals to promote Neighbourhood Plans to Towns and Parishes including case studies of where they have positively supported communities				
Built Environment	BE1.2	Plan and prepare for the review of the Local Plan (JLP) to ensure that this supports the Council's plan and meets the needs of our communities.	JLP review preparation and work programming (Phase 1). Review Climate Emergency Impact Statement (DEV32 requires all development to contribute to the 50% carbon reduction target by 2034, against a 2005 baseline, as well increasing the use and production of decentralised energy). Housing Position Statement	£ 100,000		£ 100,000	
Built Environment	BE1.3	Support the refresh and expansion of conservation area appraisals and management plans throughout conservation areas	Rolling programme of 2-3 CAA's coming forward each year based on prioritisation in line with the JLP hierarchy set out in Policy TTV1, where they contain a Conservation Area: - Main towns - Smaller Towns and Key villages - Sustainable Villages - smaller village hamlets				
Built Environment	BE1.4	Develop a plan for preserving Duke of Bedford Cottages	Plan, developed and agreed to create a Local Listed Development Order with design code to positively manage the Duke of Bedford Cottages				
Built Environment	BE1.5	Contribute and promote the World Heritage Site and partnership and provide a longer-term funding agreement	Invite WHS to O&S / Planning Board in order to support and align to the WHS Management Plan Take steps to raise the profile of the World Heritage Site				
Built Environment	BE1.6	Deliver on our planning improvement plan to make sure applicants continue to receive a better service	Review and update as necessary our Planning Customer Charter. Deliver a planning training session to Town and Parish Councils within 6 months following elections. Enabling them to understand what is important when considering applications Review the current Planning Enforcement policy to ensure we improve transparency of the process Consider progress against the Planning Improvement Plan through future meetings of the Built Environment Advisory Group				
Primary Aim 2 - Ensure that we have the infrastructure in place to meet the future needs of our communities and that these are secured and delivered by new development							

Built Environment	BE2.1	Support the delivery of more affordable and social housing through the planning process	Challenge viability studies to ensure we maximise the amount of affordable and social housing delivered in the borough				
Built Environment	BE2.2	Ensure that through our planning processes that the natural environment is fully considered and managed	Delivering Biodiversity net gain through the planning process				
			Managing trees and hedgerows positively through the consideration of PLanning and other applications to preserve important trees and hedgerows and protect trees through appropriate legislation.				
Built Environment	BE2.2	Progress with the Local Cycle and Walking Infrastructure Plan	Delivery of the Local Cycle and Walking Infrastructure Plan (linked to Economy Deliverable)				
			Promoting accessible routes to/from the Transport Hub - promoting them to residents.				
Built Environment	BE2.3	Delivery of Okehampton Parkway Station and Integrated Transport Hub	Progress with the delivery of the Transport Hub		£ 13,575,000		Balance of 2024/25
Built Environment	BE2.4	Support community infrastructure and facilities through timely allocation of developer contributions to community schemes	Securing funding through S106 (Developer Contributions) towards local facilities and ensuring contributions are received and directed towards delivering these.				
			Work with WDBC Members, town and parish councils to identify appropriate schemes for S106 allocation				
Built Environment	BE2.5	Support Network Rail and Devon County Council with the development of the business case to reinstate five miles of track and deliver a new single platform station at Tavistock, which would serve communities in Tavistock, Horrbridge, Lamerton, and Mary Tavy	Co-ordinate and champion local support for the project including with local MP's and other stakeholders				
Total				£ 100,000	£ 13,575,000	£ 100,000	£ -

LUF funding plus our contribution

Housing							
	H0.1	Update our Housing Strategy delivery plans					
Primary Aim 1 - Help our communities to bring forward affordable housing in the area							
Housing	H1.1	Work with housing associations and community land trusts to improve the number of affordable, safe and good quality homes delivered for our residents	Develop a package of support for adoption by the council to deliver these outcomes. Including WDBC working with landowners etc to identify opportunities pre-planning and to understand from Housing Associations their future plans for acquisitions and disposals within the borough.	£ 50,000		£ 50,000	
Housing	H1.2	Lobby government for changes to right to buy legislation to reduce the loss of existing rented housing stock particularly in rural areas					
Housing	H1.3	Lobby Government for an increase in the local housing allowance, which does not reflect the true cost of rented accommodation	increased LHA already implemented				
Housing	H1.5	Develop new policies that influence the proportion of new development that is affordable and social rented accommodation particularly in rural areas.	Council policies to support outcomes				
Housing	H1.6	Implement 200% Council Tax Charging on second homes in 2025.	Countywide discussion on utilising the additional Council Tax contributions				

			The Council will continue to lobby for legislative and regulatory change to address the challenges that the district faces around second homes and shortterm let holiday accommodation. Specifically, the Council will lobby for the ability to register shortterm lets and to licence them. The Council will then seek the ability to limit the number of holiday lets in a particular area when market penetration of shortterm holiday lets exceeds a given proportion of total homes. Finally, we'll continue to lobby to Support the introduction of a new use class for short term lets, and not to allow changes between the new use class and residential properties without planning permission				
			Policy report to Council to implement 100% premium charging				
Primary Aim 2 - Support the needs of homeless households and provide good quality temporary accommodation and value for money							
Housing	H2.1	Develop new temporary accommodation	Progress plans with the redevelopment of Council owned office space (20 Plymouth Road, Tavistock) for temporary accommodation		£ 650,000		
			Delivery of Local Authority Housing Fund properties for temporary accommodation initially for refugees (Homes for Ukraine / Afghan Resettlement scheme)				
			Consider options for submitting a further bid to Local Authority Housing round 3 in order to secure additional temporary accommodation within the Borough				
			Identify future potential opportunities for temporary accommodation within the Borough with business cases brought forward to Hub and Council			TBC	
Housing	H2.2	Update our Homelessness strategy delivery plans					
Primary Aim 3 - Improve outcomes for care-experienced young people by supporting them to access the housing they need							
Housing	H3.1	Work with Devon County Council and districts through the Corporate Parenting Group to support care leavers access housing					
Housing	H3.2	Promote Council Tax reduction scheme for care-experienced young people					
Primary Aim 4 - Tackle damp and disrepair in rented homes							
Housing	H4.1	Deliver on our Housing Standards Commitment - working with residents and social and private landlords to promote better quality housing in West Devon	Deliver a campaign to educate private and social landlords to be aware of their responsibilities by promoting good housing standards via newsletters				
			Ensure all registered providers understand requirements at an operational level				
			Evaluate the introduction of the Social Housing Bill through to legislation and seek to carry out any opportunity that the legislation presents to				
			Provide an annual update to Members on numbers of Housing Standards issues the Council have addressed				
Primary Aim 5 - Decarbonise the existing housing stock to improve living standards, lift people out of fuel poverty and reduce energy costs for residents							

Housing	H5.1	Improve the efficiency of the existing housing stock within the borough, removing people from fuel poverty and having a positive impact on climate change	Plan to retrofit 55 properties (subject to installer quotes)		£ 990,000		
Total				£ 50,000	£ 1,640,000	£ 50,000	£ -
Health and Wellbeing							
Primary Aim 1 - To protect and improve the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors							
Health and Wellbeing	HW1.1	Support young people with their mental health by commissioning a programme of support in schools	Programme of Mental Health Assemblies	£ 10,000		£ 10,000	
Health and Wellbeing	HW1.2	Delivery and enhancement of Junior Lifeskills programme	Junior Lifeskills delivered annually		£ 10,000		£ 10,000
Health and Wellbeing	HW1.3	Work with the Community Safety Partnership to maximise impact in the Borough to deal with anti-social behaviour and safeguarding, violence prevention, domestic abuse, drugs changing youth culture, exploitation and hate crimes	An agreed annual plan for the Community Safety Partnership working across West Devon				
Health and Wellbeing	HW1.4	Lobby the NHS to financially support exercise referral for those unable to pay and work with Fusion Leisure to promote activities already available	Continue to support the work of CVS particularly around Social Prescribing Communicate the existing programmes available from Fusion Leisure				
Health and Wellbeing	HW1.5	Develop a strategy for the longer-term sustainable delivery plan for leisure services within the borough	Commissioned report into longer term solutions	£ 10,000		£ 10,000	
Primary Aim 2 - Provide direct support to residents through the provision of schemes such as Homes Upgrade Grant, Disabled Facilities Grants and energy grants							
Health and Wellbeing	HW2.1	Efficiently deliver schemes that will directly contribute to the wellbeing of residents	Provision of Disabled Facilities Grants to enable residents to remain in their own homes		£ 994,137		£ 994,137
Health and Wellbeing	HW2.2	Implement a leisure centre access schemes for Children in Care and Care Leavers	Scheme promoted with our leisure provider	£ 5,000		£ 5,000	
Health and Wellbeing	HW2.3	Work with organisations supporting elderly and isolated residents to promote support that is available	Conversations with organisations via Health and Wellbeing alliances to understand existing support in our communities Promote available support through our online support directory				
Total				£ 25,000	£ 1,004,137	£ 25,000	£ 1,004,137
People and Community							
Primary Aim 1 - To ensure that we provide responsive support and good quality frontline services							
People and Community	PC1.1	Carry out a review to ensure we continue to provide good quality, responsive frontline services	Review of our Localities Service to ensure they remain responsive to our priorities.				
			Implement recommendations of Localities Service review to deliver good quality services				
			Monitor the impact of 2023 car parking review				
	PC1.2	Continue to monitor our commissioned frontline services	Contract monitoring and performance of our Waste and Street Scene services (FCC)				
Primary Aim 2 - Build effective relationships with key partners, working together to address local challenges							
People and Community	PC2.1	Formation of Community Development Team	Develop service action plan for the Community Development Team				
			Review of partners aligned to new corporate strategy. Potential inflationary increase (not applied for 5 years)	£ 10,000		£ 10,000	
			Support Community projects through Member Locality budget including reviewing the criteria. Extra £500 each (£1,000 each total per year)	£ 15,500		£ 15,500	
			Develop a plan to support Arts and Culture across the Borough	£ 10,000		£ 10,000	

			Work with the Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) to co-produce a Community Development Action Plan.				
			Support communities to develop community resilience plans.				
			Raise the profile of the Council within the community by attending a series of events to promote Council Services and support	£ 5,000		£ 5,000	
People and Community	PC2.2	Support our communities to deliver projects to enhance open spaces, parks, play pitches and other community assets by awarding funding from developer contributions (Section 106) and capital projects funds.	Utilisation of developer contributions through the planning process for recreation and leisure schemes within the borough.		£ 120,000		
People and Community	PC2.3	Community Governance Reviews	Progress with the Okehampton Community Governance Review				
People and Community	PC2.3	Community Governance Reviews	Progress with Sydenham Damerell Community Governance Review				
People and Community	PC2.4	Provision of Rural England Community Resilience Grants	Grants provided up to £10,000 match funded		uk repf		
People and Community	PC2.5	Introduce a Young Person's Climate and Biodiversity Award to promote positive community action	Continue with awards				
People and Community	PC2.6	Lobby partners for better service provision in West Devon - for example Devon County Council for potholes and youth provision					
People and Community	PC2.7	Develop an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Commitment for the Council					
Total				£ 40,500	£ 120,000	£ 40,500	£ -
Economy and Jobs							
Primary Aim 1 - Maximise on the benefits for business and communities from the successful UK Shared Prosperity and Rural Prosperity Funding Programmes							
Economy and Jobs	EJ1.1	Decarbonisation Plans provided through contract with Libraries Unlimited	Provision of decarbonisation support planning for businesses		£ 30,000		£ 30,000
Economy and Jobs	EJ1.2	Support community energy groups to promote and maximise the impact of their work for West Devon communities			£ 25,000		£ 25,000
Economy and Jobs	EJ1.3	Enable the development of local food and drink distribution projects,			£ 22,500		£ 22,500
Economy and Jobs	EJ1.4	Construction sector decarbonisation support	Audit and support programme for construction businesses		£ 25,000		£ 25,000
Economy and Jobs	EJ1.5	Support businesses to decarbonise	Grants of up to £10,000 (match funded) to businesses		£ 75,000		£ 75,000
Economy and Jobs	EJ1.5	Support businesses to decarbonise	Clean diversification grants programme		£ 75,000		£ 75,000
Primary Aim 2 - Ensure improvement to strategic infrastructure (including digital connectivity) and influencing partners to act							
Economy and Jobs	EJ2.1	Support the progress of the Local Cycling Walking and Infrastructure Plan and work towards its implementation	Delivery of LCWIP and behaviour change strategy		£ 30,000		£ 30,000
Economy and Jobs	EJ2.2	Review the opportunities provided by the Government's new Digital access programme and what that means for broadband and 4g services across the borough					
Primary Aim 3 - Create an environment in which business in all sectors can innovate							
Economy and Jobs	EJ3.1	Work with partners such as Devon Agri-Tech alliance to facilitate networking between and with farms to support the implementation of regenerative farming methods	Provision of agri-tech innovation grants of up to £10,000		£ 75,000		£ 75,000
Economy and Jobs	EJ3.2	Work with local farms to support agricultural diversification	Delivery of Agri-Tech Innovation Project		£ 80,000		£ 80,000

			Regenerative Farming Support (up to a year of support to diversify per Farm from the Apricot Centre)		£ 36,250		£ 36,250
			Provision of Land Management Support consultancy to WD farms from The Apricot Centre		£ 15,000		£ 15,000
Economy and Jobs	EJ3.3	Work with Town Councils and partners to develop town plans to help shape the economy of our places.	Support each of our Towns to develop Economic Plans should they wish to do so	£ 25,000		£ 25,000	
Economy and Jobs	EJ3.4	Work with businesses in Okehampton to develop plans for a Business Improvement District.	Consult on the formation of a Okehampton Business Improvement District or Chamber of Commerce. Ballot	£ 25,000		£ 10,000	
Economy and Jobs	EJ3.5	Continue to support Tavistock BID	Continuation of existing support for BID operation - WDBC costs for collection of Levy fees	£ 10,000		£ 10,000	
Economy and Jobs	EJ3.6	Continue with advice and support for businesses looking to start-up or scale-up within the Borough	Continuation of Business Advice		£ 10,000		£ 10,000
				£ 60,000	£ 498,750	£ 45,000	£ 498,750
Performance and Resources							
Overarching Aim		Be the best organisation we can be to deliver for our communities					
Primary Aim 1 - Implement the Councils Organisational Development Plan to support our people							
Performance and Resources	PR1.1	Implement Year 2 of the Council's Organisational Development Plan	Deliver targeted and refreshed recruitment approaches to overcome local government recruitment challenges				
			Carry out an annual staff survey to get feedback from staff on how we are doing		£ 1,500		£ 1,500
			Implement our guaranteed interview scheme for Care Leavers, Ex-Forces personnel and candidates with disabilities where they meet the minimum requirements for the role				
			Implement our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Commitment and plan				
			Promote apprenticeship opportunities to develop our own talent.				
Primary Aim 2 - Make sure that we manage the Council's finances well							
Performance and Resources	PR2.1	Set a balanced budget for 2024/25 and 2025/26	Work with the Rural Services Network to lobby Government for fairer funding for rural services				
			Respond to the Government consultation on the Finance Settlement				
			Regular all Member briefings on financial matters and budget setting including via formal reporting process - Capital, Revenue and Treasury Management monitoring reports				
			Carry out a consultation of businesses on our Council Tax setting				
			Annual training or Members on Treasury Management				
Performance and Resources	PR2.2	Demonstrate value for money and efficiency of services through independent assessments	Maintain a high standard judgement from our external auditors on their Annual Audit Report.				
			Continue to make improvements in internal audit assessments				
			Work with Devon Audit Partnership to decide priority internal audit focus for coming year				
Primary Aim 3 - Guarantee efficiency in service delivery by managing performance							
Performance and Resources	PR3.1	Identify further areas for service reviews to make	Localities and Frontline service review				

Resources		sure our teams provide a good quality service	Ensure that our KPI's reflect our Council plan and the needs of our communities - launching updated KPI's from April 2024				
	PR3.2	Develop and implement systems that support our staff to deliver the best services for our residents.	Maximise the IT systems currently in use eg. the new Planning and Landcharges systems				
			Develop the resilience of our IT systems		£ 75,000		£ 75,000
			Secure Council resilience for emergency planning, business continuity & safety. One off piece of work	£ 20,000			
PR3.3	Develop and implement a sustainable procurement strategy to secure value for money and support local businesses	Update our procurement strategy to guarantee greater emphasis on reducing climate impact of the Council supply chain and increased social value					
		Commission updated spend and supply chain analysis to inform future strategies	£ 2,000		£ 2,000		
Primary Aim 4 - Council buildings and land meet our future needs							
Performance and Resources	PR4.1	Prepare an asset management strategy to set out how we will maximise the use of our assets	Agree Asset Management Strategy and develop delivery plan				
Total				£ 22,000	£ 76,500	£ 2,000	£ 76,500
Accessibility and Communications							
Primary Aim 1 - To communicate the Councils work and how it benefits the community							
Accessibility and Communications	AC1.1	Proactively and continuously improve the Council communication channels	Develop an annual communications plan aligned to the Councils new priorities including how we'll use all communication channels to promote key messages				
			Refresh the 'Who Does What' Council tax leaflet so that our residents know who to go to in order to get things done				
			Develop a clear commitment to our customers, setting out what they can expect and what we expect of them in working with the Council				
Accessibility and Communications	AC1.2	Continue to enhance our online communications	Monitor satisfaction of online processes and webpages and make improvements where required				
			Improve clarity on our website so customers know when they need to contact someone else (such as Devon County or Town and Parish Councils)				
	AC1.3	Develop other (offline) communication channels	Launch a 'Leaders' Column supported by Lead Members in local newspapers to share key Council news				
			Develop a refreshed Annual Report for the Council setting out what we've delivered in the past 12 months				
			Improve signage and facility of the Kilworthy Park reception area and entrance to the site to include opening days / hours	£ 3,000			
			Review our Member resources to enable our Members to actively engage with residents on key council priorities				
			Measure the effectiveness of our outreach programmes - monitoring levels of engagement				

One-off piece of work to establish requirements

			Consider plans for highlighting how residents can access Council services to those not online - for example posters for parish noticeboards and promote the locality support to partners				
Accessibility and Communications	AC1.2	Review the effectiveness of consultations	Ensure that our platform is user friendly with good response rates				
			Include a summary of our consultations within our Annual Report				
Accessibility and Communications	AC1.3	Planned programme of community event attendance to promote the work of the Council	Health and Wellbeing Conferences / Okehampton Show / Chagford Show / Dickensian /				
Primary Aim 2 - To strive for and achieve a high level of customer satisfaction							
Accessibility and Communications	AC2.1	Customer satisfaction survey	Carry out an annual Institute of Customer Service satisfaction survey				
Accessibility and Communications	AC2.2	Digital Accessibility - continue to monitor online uptake and improve functionality online	Enhance our KPI's to include a measure of satisfaction with online processes				
Accessibility and Communications	AC2.3	Respond to complaints in a timely manner, and implement learning	Refresh our KPI to report on complaints performance				

Total Inclusive and Accessible £ 3,000 £ - £ - £ -

Natural Environment Total	£ 87,000	£ -	£ 57,000	£ -
Built Environment Total	£ 100,000	£ 13,575,000	£ 100,000	£ -
Housing Total	£ 50,000	£ 1,640,000	£ 50,000	£ -
Health and Wellbeing Total	£ 25,000	£ 1,004,137	£ 25,000	£ 1,004,137
People and Community Total	£ 40,500	£ 120,000	£ 40,500	£ -
Economy and Jobs Total	£ 60,000	£ 498,750	£ 45,000	£ 498,750
Performance and Resources	£ 22,000	£ 76,500	£ 2,000	£ 76,500
Accessibility and Comms	£ 3,000	£ -	£ -	£ -
	£ 387,500	£ 16,914,387	£ 319,500	£ 1,579,387

Total Strategy Commitment
£ 19,200,774.00

New Requests total (24/25 and 25/26)	£	707,000.00
Total Funding	£	1,134,000.00
Funding Remaining	£	427,000.00