

Agenda

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Dorset County Council



Meeting: Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Time: 10.00 am
Date: Monday, 26 March 2018
Venue: Committee Room 1, County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1XJ

Ray Bryan (Chairman)	Cherry Brooks (Vice-Chairman)
Jon Andrews	Andy Canning
Jean Dunseith	Spencer Flower
Peter Hall	Jon Orrell
Margaret Phipps	David Shortell

Notes:

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Public Speaking

Members of the public can ask questions and make statements at the meeting. The closing date for us to receive questions is 10.00am on 21 March 2018, and statements by midday the day before the meeting.

Debbie Ward
Chief Executive

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Date of Publication:
15 March 2018

1. Apologies for Absence

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. Code of Conduct

Members are required to comply with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 regarding disclosable pecuniary interests.

- Check if there is an item of business on this agenda in which the member or other relevant person has a disclosable pecuniary interest.
- Check that the interest has been notified to the Monitoring Officer (in writing) and entered in the Register (if not this must be done on the form available from the clerk within 28 days).
- Disclose the interest at the meeting (in accordance with the County Council's Code of Conduct) and in the absence of a dispensation to speak and/or vote, withdraw from any consideration of the item.

The Register of Interests is available on Dorsetforyou.com and the list of disclosable pecuniary interests is set out on the reverse of the form.

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| <p>3. Minutes</p> <p>To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2018.</p> | <p>3 - 10</p> |
| <p>4. Public Participation</p> <p>To receive any questions or statements by members of the public.</p> | |
| <p>5. The Government's 25 Year Environmental Plan and Dorset County Council "green assets"</p> <p>To consider a report by the Coast and Countryside Service Manager. This item will also include presentations on The Healthy Places Project (Rupert Lloyd), Stepping into Nature (Julie Hammon), Social, Economic and Environmental initiatives on our Coast (Bridget Betts) and The Low Carbon Dorset Project (Antony Littlechild).</p> | <p>11 - 30</p> |
| <p>6. Outcomes Focused Monitoring Report, March 2018</p> <p>To consider a report by the Corporate Director for Environment and Economy.</p> | <p>31 - 62</p> |
| <p>7. Review of Integrated Transport held 26 February 2018</p> <p>To receive a verbal update from Councillor Derek Beer on the Review of Integrated Transport held on 26 February 2018.</p> | |
| <p>8. Work Programme</p> <p>To consider the Committee's work programme.</p> | <p>63 - 68</p> |
| <p>9. Questions from County Councillors</p> <p>To answer any questions received in writing by the Chief Executive by not later than 10.00am on 21 March 2018.</p> | |



Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held at County Hall, Colliton Park,
Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1XJ on Wednesday, 24 January 2018

Present:

Ray Bryan (Chairman)
Cherry Brooks, Andy Canning, Jean Dunseith and Jon Orrell.

Members Attending

Deborah Croney, Cabinet Member for Economy, Education, Learning and Skills
Daryl Turner, Cabinet Member for Natural and Built Environment.

Officers Attending: Mike Harries (Corporate Director for Environment and Economy), Matthew Piles (Service Director – Economy), Andrew Martin (Service Director - Highways and Emergency Planning), Andy Smith (Assistant Head of Finance), Kate Tunks (Transport Planning Team Leader), John Alexander (Senior Assurance Manager), Doug Gilbert – (Advisor - Children’s Services), David Northover (Senior Democratic Services Officer) and Heather Lappin (Group Finance Manager).

Also attending

Hilary Trevorah – Chief Executive of Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils.

(Note: These minutes have been prepared by officers as a record of the meeting and of any decisions reached. They are to be considered and confirmed at the next meeting of the Committee to be held on **Monday, 26 March 2018.**)

Apologies for Absence

44 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jon Andrews, Spencer Flower, Peter Hall, Margaret Phipps and David Shortell.

As this was the final meeting Andy Smith would be attending before retiring from the County Council, the Chairman, on behalf of the Committee, took the opportunity to thank him for his contributions to the Committee over the years and wished him every success for the future,

Code of Conduct

45 There were no declarations by members of disclosable pecuniary interests under the Code of Conduct.

Minutes

46 The minutes of the meeting held on 16 October 2017 were confirmed and signed.

Matter arising

Arising from minute 37, the Committee were being given the opportunity to nominate a member to be appointed to serve on the Brexit Advisory Group.

Resolved

That Councillor Cherry Brooks be appointed to serve as the Committee’s representative on the Brexit Advisory Group.

Public Participation

47 There were no public questions received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 21(1).

There were no public statements received at the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 21(2).

Update on "Working Together Highways" Initiative

48 The Committee considered a report and received a presentation from the Service Director, Highways and Emergency Planning updating on progress being made with the "Working Together Highways" initiative - a partnership arrangement with the Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils which was designed to enable individual parishes and towns to contribute towards and undertake routine highways maintenance works for themselves. The presentation was designed to show how the initiative was working in practice; what, if any, obstacles there were; what part each was playing; how this was being co-ordinated; was it achieving what it was designed to do; and was it delivering on its outcomes.

This approach was based on the fact that the highway's service routine maintenance funding could now only provide for the delivery of a basic and fundamental service that would fulfil its statutory obligations and ensure the safety of the highway network by that means. It also recognised that local communities had a considerable knowledge on what assets they had, where these could be found and what was needed for them to function as they should. Such knowledge was invaluable in communities being given the choice to determine for themselves where they considered their priorities to be and what benefits would be gained. This initiative also gave local councils the opportunity to undertake works in excess of those able to be done by the County Council, so that enhancements could be made if desired, with the costs of these being borne by the town or parish council's precept budgetary provision.

A consultation exercise into this initiative had been widely publicised in the summer of 2016 and had generated considerable interest from the majority of parishes whom the DAPTC represented. Officers confirmed that this offer had also been extended to those parishes which were not aligned to the Association, ensuring all had the scope to partake if they so wished, with interest being shown by them too. Access to a specialised webpage for parish and town councils to be able to identify the maintenance needs in their parish, had been made available to all.

The presentation detailed what type of maintenance work could be – and was being – undertaken; how this was being done; what this entailed and who was involved. How contractual agreements would be managed was outlined as well as what necessary legal obligations needed to be fulfilled so that these arrangements complied with governance standards. How risk was assessed, as well as how volunteers could be recruited and managed and what the relationship was for their supervision by County Council employees – at no charge to them - were all detailed as part of the presentation. This clearly demonstrated the County Council's commitment to the initiative.

The means of identifying opportunities to supplement the County Council's operations were outlined, with four commissioning options being available to parishes as a means of progressing matters. Option 4 – Parish/Town Councils entering into an Agency Agreement with the County Council – had proven to be the most popular, beneficial and practical option for those who had already committed to the scheme. The process for reaching agreement on this was outlined. What maintenance could be done, by whom and by what means was explained as part of the option appraisal process.

The presentation gave a sense of indicative outputs in terms of typical works that could be undertaken, typical costs for these and typical hours required to do said tasks. Those Councils which had signed up to the scheme, or were in the process of

signing up, were shared with the Committee together with what works that had agreed to undertake. It was confirmed that some of the towns that had signed up had made arrangements of with adjoining parishes to undertake minor routine works on their behalf as the town council had the capacity to do so.

There was some concern expressed that standards had been seen to lapse but the reason for this was understood as savings had to be made. However there was an acknowledgement that there was a strong case for continued investment to maintain the quality of the road network to avoid future deterioration - i.e invest to save. Given what the initiative was designed to do, members considered that the reasoning for this should be more readily explained to local communities and the wider public to ensure they were familiar with that message.

On this the Committee considered it beneficial establishing a Policy Development Panel on Highway Maintenance Management to assess what was being done; how it was being done; what the priorities were and; what, if any, improvements could be made. It was considered that this was an opportune time to look again at this in light of there being a new code of practice. Likewise, comparisons were made with other highway authorities to establish how the County Council was performing, with details of this being provided to members. Whilst highway maintenance was fundamentally a revenue issue, capital investment had a bearing on what level of maintenance was necessary and, on that basis, it was agreed that the Dorset LEP should be invited to any meeting where the fabric of the network was being assessed on what capital implications there were.

Given that such an exercise had been undertaken in the recent past, the Panel would be provided with some context as to the reasoning for the decisions previously taken and the basis on which those decisions were made so that a more meaningful assessment could be made on what needed to be done.

The Chairman was of the view that emphasis should be given to ensuring that all Dorset MP's fully advocated the need for sufficient funding to be made available for the delivery of necessary services, with highway maintenance seen to be a priority.

Hilary Trevorah complemented the Service Director's presentation in being able to provide a perspective on behalf of the parishes on how the partnership arrangements were working and what benefits this working relationship brought. The issue of how Dorset MP's supported sufficient funding provision could be raised at a DAPTC management meeting during 2018.

The Committee were pleased to see how successful this initiative was proving to be and that the partnership arrangements with local communities to identify and meet their specific needs was a positive approach being taken. They thanked Mrs Trevorah for the contribution she had made to their understanding.

Resolved

That the progress being made to date with the Working Together Highways Initiative be endorsed and that a Policy Development Panel on Highway Maintenance Management be established to review what arrangements were in place and how applicable these were to meet the needs going forward, with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman – whose suggestion it was - being nominated to serve on this, with up to three other members to be determined in due course.

Reason for Decision

To ensure that a successful collaborative arrangements between the County Council and local communities was established in relation to the delivery of minor highway maintenance activities.

Application of the Local Transport Plan

49 The content of the report by the Service Director Economy on the application of the Local Transport Plan, what it was designed to achieve and the means by which this was to be done was considered by the Committee. The Plan was designed to target where improvements were most beneficial and would achieve the most and the means by which this could be delivered.

How the LTP worked in practice between the three highway authorities of Dorset County, Bournemouth Borough and the Borough of Poole was seen to be an exemplar of what could be achieved by collaborative working arrangements. The LTP continued to prioritise safety measures, as well as the practical means of applying transportation measures, with emphasis being placed on active travel schemes to support better health outcomes and transport schemes to support economic growth outcomes.

The Committee were informed about how transport improvement schemes were prioritised; what the LTP funding delivered; and the major achievements of the 2014-17 and the key priorities of the 2017-2020 LTP Implementation Plans respectively. Emphasis was being placed on reducing the need to travel; urban air quality /transport solutions and green technologies. There was working with Clinical Commissioning Groups, focussing on public health in ensuring there was opportunities for every individual to be able to play their part in contributing to society. The work being done in collaboration with Sustrans warranted special mention in delivering sustainable transport solutions where practicable.

Emphasis was also being placed on education and working within schools in instilling healthy transport practices amongst students. Housing allocation and supply was integral to what could be achieved and had a bearing on what transport solutions could be delivered. The travel to work area in the south east conurbation had implications for all three highway authorities.

The Committee were pleased to see that the health agenda was being actively promoted. With reference to Weymouth, improvements were being targeted at strategic junctions and key hubs to ensure that sustainable methods of transport could be achieved and the Weymouth Masterplan and the Western Dorset Growth Strategy would have a bearing on the means for this to be realised. South Western Railways has a part to play in the ability for cycle provision on their trains and links were being made to ensure this could be delivered. Similarly, the Growth Deal funding took into account how to better deliver sustainable transport solutions.

The Chairman was pleased that community led initiatives – such as that recently agreed Traffic Regulation order at Regulatory Committee for a 20 mph zone in Iwerne Minster – could be fulfilled, wherever practicable, and showed what could be achieved with some thought.

The way in which footway conditions were assessed and managed and how maintenance of the these was addressed was explained. A particular issue raised was the condition of a footway, on a school route, adjacent to A31 near St Leonards. Officers confirmed the importance of road safety education in encouraging children to walk to school where they could and what bearing this had on the health and wellbeing agenda and that they should have adequate means of them being able to so. Given this they would investigate the matter drawn to their attention.

The Service Director - Economy explained that the LTP was designed to look at

transportation needs holistically, so that the most beneficial solutions could be found as necessary. It was recognised that the needs of urban transport differed markedly from that which the rural areas required. An Integrated Transport Focus Day was being held on 26 February to allow discussion on this by interested parties.

The Committee recognised the importance of an integrated parking strategy between the County and Borough/District councils, in order to sustain and deliver managed parking in practice to cover on-street and off-street provision. The LTP provided the means for this to be delivered and formed the basis for how this could be achieved. The pilot scheme established for Dorchester through the Dorchester Transport and Environment Plan (DTEP) was seen to be a good basis for other schemes in market towns, given the collaborative working across all their tiers of local government to achieve this.

The Committee considered that, where practicable, generating income from sponsorship of highway, and County Council, assets should be pursued as there appeared to be considerable opportunity to do this. The Service Director-Economy confirmed that much success had already been realised from doing this and had proved beneficial in terms of income generation. He was pleased to say that current roundabout sponsorship attracted some £150,000 per annum, with a dedicated team identifying opportunities to make further gains where possible, with any rationalisation of local government in Dorset providing greater opportunities still.

The Committee were pleased to see what practical achievements could be made from the collaborative working of the LTP and that the priorities identified were ones which met the County Council's own corporate outcomes and aims.

Recommendations

- 1) That the LTP and Corporate Plan outcomes be approved as a method of prioritising the local transport projects to be delivered in Dorset.
- 2) That the transport project areas identified in the Service Director's report be approved.

Reasons for Recommendations

The LTP priorities have been previously agreed and are fixed in the LTP 2011. The Corporate Plan 2017 outcomes have been added to ensure alignment with the County Council's aims and objectives, with particular reference to health, physical activity and economic growth. The types of projects being delivered meet these priorities and outcomes.

Outcomes Focused Monitoring Report, January 2018

50 The Outcomes Focused Monitoring report - as at January 2018 - set out progress against the 2017-18 Corporate Plan. The report provided relevant data on the population indicators within the prosperous outcome and:-

- performance measures - by which the County Council could measure the contribution and impact of its own services and activities on the outcomes
- risk management information - identifying the current level of risks on the Corporate Risk Register that related to outcomes and the population indicators

The Committee were being asked to make an assessment of current progress and to identify any priorities for further investigation. Attention was drawn to productivity and how there was scope for improvement to this. The suppression of wages and what this meant for standards of living in certain areas of deprivation in the county – parts of Weymouth being one - was acknowledged. Typically the commercial vibrancy of seaside towns was influenced by seasonal trade, employment and attractions. What scope there was for this to be addressed and improvements made was discussed. Officers recognised those areas in particular need and confirmed that action was

being targeted so that issues could be addressed through the skills agenda. From this, improvements could be made, with scope for social mobility being actively pursued through this means. Moreover, Government funding had been allocated to 12 identifiable “Opportunity Areas” countrywide – socially deprived regions that would benefit from a funding injection to meet particular needs. The Committee considered that there could be a good case made for socially deprived wards within Weymouth being included in such designated areas, with evidence supporting this, and efforts should be made for this to be actively pursued. The County Councillor for Weymouth Town agreed to play his part in ensuring that the Melcombe Regis Board had some input into this. He was also keen to promote what attributes Weymouth had, asking that consideration be given to promoting wave and tidal power and the benefits this could bring.

From the report it could be seen that the condition of county roads had slightly deteriorated and this could be attributed to the reduction of road maintenance funding available. In reducing the need for travel could have a reduction on the abrasion of the road network and, in turn, maintenance needs would not be so great.

Turning to Children’s Services, Doug Gilbert outlined the performance of attainment levels amongst pupils, how these had been assessed and what might be done to see improvements being made. A contributing factor to this was the way in which nationally grading had been changed – in going from an alphabetical to numerical system - which was not necessarily conducive to comparison. Moreover, how Ofsted had “raised the bar” in now adjudging the performance of schools was also reflected in the performance standards being shown. The County Council had a part to play in ensuring employers, especially small businesses, understood the changes to the grading levels and took this into account when job applications were being made. Ways in which the Dorset LEP could become more engaged in what the skills agenda had to offer was felt to be critical to its success. Efforts would be made for their involvement to be reinvigorated. Similarly schools had an integral part to play in ensuring that children had the right skills to be able to access future opportunities and that they were aware of what options were available to them.

The Committee asked to be updated on a regular basis on what improvements – or otherwise - were being made. This should remain a focus for all that the Committee did, as skills underpinned any success that was able to be achieved. Any funding opportunities should be identified wherever possible, with what other authorities were doing being used as basis for what Dorset could do. This would ensure Dorset was in the best position possible to meet what lay ahead.

Resolved

- 1) That the evidence of Dorset’s position with regard to the outcome indicators in Appendix 1 of the report be noted; and:
- 2) that the issues and opportunities identified in the above text be actively pursued, where possible and practicable.

Reason for Decision

The 2017-18 Corporate Plan provides an overarching strategic framework for monitoring progress towards good outcomes for Dorset. The Overview and Scrutiny Committees provide corporate governance and performance monitoring arrangements so that progress against the corporate plan can be monitored effectively.

Work Programme

- 51 The opportunity was taken to assess the Work Programme and decide what needed to be considered and scrutinised in the upcoming months. The Chairman encouraged all members to contribute items to the programme as they saw fit. Topics identified for the next meeting included “Green Infrastructure “ and The Industrial Strategy” – with

the Dorset LEP's involvement in this.

It was also considered beneficial that, looking ahead, economic development teams across Dorset strengthened their collaborative working arrangements for the benefit of all.

Noted

Questions from Councillors

52 No questions were asked by members under Standing Order 20 (2).

Meeting Duration: 10.00 am - 12.10 pm

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Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Dorset County Council



Date of Meeting	26 March 2018
Officer	Dr Ken Buchan (Coast and Countryside Service Manager)
Subject of Report	The Government's 25 Year Environment Plan and Dorset County Council's 'green assets'
Executive Summary	<p>The Government published its 25 Year Environment Plan in January 2018 to deliver on the ambition to be 'the first generation to leave the environment in a better state than we found it'. The plans set out a wide-ranging and ambitious agenda for cross-government action, which has similarly wide-ranging implications for local authorities and their partners. This paper:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) summarises the key implications for Dorset County Council arising from the 25 Year Environment Plan; (ii) highlights some of the opportunities and issues arising from the Plan; (iii) presents the interim conclusions of a review of DCC 'green assets' conducted in this context.
Impact Assessment:	<p>Equalities Impact Assessment:</p> <p>There are no equalities impacts arising from this paper though the 25 Year Plan sets an ambition to help people from all backgrounds engage with the environment which could be supported by local action.</p> <hr/> <p>Use of Evidence:</p> <p>The paper is informed by the evidence set out in the 25 Year Plan, supplemented by local data.</p>

The Government's 25 Year Environment Plan and Dorset County Council's 'green assets'

	<p>Budget:</p> <p>There are no immediate budget implications arising from the recommendations though the long-term financial impact of failure to manage environmental risks, and the opportunities for developing economic benefits to Dorset and financial benefits for the County Council, are significant. It was recently estimated that Dorset's environmental economy is worth between £0.9 billion - £2.5 billion per annum.</p> <hr/> <p>Risk Assessment:</p> <p>Having considered the risks associated with this decision using the County Council's approved risk management methodology, the level of risk has been identified as:</p> <p>Current Risk: LOW Residual Risk: LOW</p> <hr/> <p>Other Implications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property and Assets: DCC green assets have been reviewed in the context of this paper • Physical activity: DCC green assets provide opportunities for physical activity to support public health and wellbeing
<p>Recommendation</p>	<p>That the Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the implications of the 25 Year Environment Plan across the full range of local authority services and County Council functions as summarised in section 2. 2. Consider the opportunities arising from the 25 Year Environment Plan in section 2 and support officers in pursuing these. 3. Comment on and endorse the interim conclusions of the 'green asset' review summarised in Appendix 1.
<p>Reason for Recommendation</p>	<p>To support delivery of corporate outcomes, particularly in respect of 'healthy' and 'prosperous', associated with maintenance and enhancement of Dorset's environment.</p>
<p>Appendices</p>	<p>Appendix 1: 'Green asset' review.</p>
<p>Background Papers</p>	<p>HM Government 25 Year Environment Plan: A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment</p> <p>Dorset Local Nature Partnership: A Natural Place for Business, a Natural Capital Investment Strategy for Dorset</p>
<p>Officer Contact</p>	<p>Name: Dr Ken Buchan (Coast and Countryside Service Manager) Tel: 01305 225132 Email: k.buchan@dorsetcc.gov.uk</p>

1. Background

- 1.1 The Government published its 25 Year Environment Plan in January 2018 to deliver on the ambition to be 'the first generation to leave the environment in a better state than we found it'. The plan sets out an ambitious agenda for cross-government action, which has similarly broad implications for local authorities and their partners.
- 1.2 The Government has emphasised the complementary relationship between its Industrial Strategy, published in November 2017, and the 25 Year Environment Plan. The concepts of 'clean growth' and environmental protection are central to the Industrial strategy and the 25 Year Plan is equally designed to boost productivity by enhancing 'natural capital' – defined as the sum of the land, air, water, minerals, seas, soil and ecosystems that support life and deliver value to communities as 'an essential basis for economic growth and productivity over the long term'. In doing so the Plan seeks to move beyond the dated notion of 'economy' and 'environment' always being in conflict and recognising that future economic development depends ultimately on a healthy environment and sustainable use of natural resources.

2. Summary of 25 Year Plan and implications for DCC

- 2.1 Table 1 summarises the high-level goals of the 25 year Plan and shows how these are relevant to all four of DCC corporate outcomes; Safe, Healthy, Independent and Prosperous.

Table 1: high level goals of the 25 Year Environment Plan and links to DCC outcomes

25 Year Plan goals	DCC outcomes
Clean Air	'Healthy' (air quality as a public health issue)
Clean and plentiful water	'Healthy' (water quality/availability as a public health issue)
Thriving wildlife	'Healthy' (public health and wellbeing issue); 'Prosperous' (fisheries, forestry and agriculture sectors)
Reduced risk of environmental hazards	'Safe' (public safety); 'Prosperous' (development constraints/ opportunities)
Sustainable use of natural resources	'Prosperous' (resource efficiency/cost issues, low carbon economy, food and drink)
Enhancing natural heritage and improving engagement with the natural environment	'Healthy' (public health and wellbeing issue), 'Independent' (life skills and experience)
Climate change mitigation and adaptation	Safe, Healthy, Independent, Prosperous (cross-cutting impacts especially for vulnerable groups)
Minimising waste	Healthy (public health issue), Prosperous (economic impacts of resource use)
Managing exposure to chemicals	'Healthy' (public health issues)
Enhancing biosecurity	'Safe' (public safety issues)

- 2.2 In the wake of publication of the 25 Year Environment Plan the Local Government Association highlighted in Parliamentary Briefings the key implications for local authorities as relating to waste, flood risk and air quality. The LGA said it supported the Government's ambition to eliminate avoidable plastic waste, highlighted recycling food waste as a key priority, called for devolution of flood risk funding to councils and argued that plans to improve air quality needed to be adequately funded. The implications for communities and local authorities arising from the Plan are, however, significantly broader than the issues highlighted by the LGA.
- 2.3 Table 2 summarises some of the specific policy commitments arising from the Plan which are most relevant to local government functions across Dorset, and highlights the implications, issues and opportunities which these may raise.

Table 2: specific policy commitments and implications for local government

25 Year Plan Policy Commitment	Implications for local government
<i>Chapter 1: using and managing land sustainably</i>	
Embedding an 'environmental net gain' principle for development, including housing and infrastructure plus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stronger new standards for green infrastructure • Expansion of protected species licensing to improve protection whilst streamlining process • High environmental standards for new development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher expectation that spatial planning policies and decisions will deliver 'net environmental gain' (not just avoiding damage), and promote green infrastructure, strengthening the existing National Planning Policy Framework • Suggests that approaches pioneered in Dorset (e.g. Dorset Biodiversity Protocol) will align well with new emphasis • New focus on sustainable construction
Improving how we manage and incentivise land management through a new environmental land management system, plus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with farmers to use fertilisers efficiently • Protecting crops while reducing the environmental impact of pesticides • Action to improve the health of soils on which food production ultimately depends • New woodland creation grant scheme to deliver environmental and carbon goals and increase 'home grown' timber production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundamental shift in emphasis of financial support for agriculture from food production to delivery of public goods, principally environmental enhancement • Significant implications (potentially very positive) for rural economy, agriculture as a sector and the County Farms Estate • Opportunities for new income streams for good management of public land (already a significant income generator for DCC through agri-environment schemes on countryside sites) • Further restrictions on neonicotinoid pesticides would support efforts of local authorities and communities to boost numbers of beneficial pollinating insects
Reducing risks from flooding and coastal erosion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updating the national flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy in 2019 • Review of funding needs beyond 2021 to attract non-public sector investment • Measures to increase flood resilience and avoid flood risk through planning system • Expanding the use of 'natural flood management systems' • Increase the uptake of sustainable drainage systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased emphasis on climate resilience and adaptation in spatial planning • Potential policy changes in National Planning Policy Framework and Planning Practice Guidance to reinforce this • Further changes to arrangements for managing surface water flooding and the outcomes delivered by Lead Local Flood Authorities (a Dorset Highways function) • Greater emphasis on supporting communities and individuals to make their own properties more flood resilient where flood risk can not be eliminated
<i>Chapter 2: Recovering nature and enhancing the beauty of landscapes</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a Nature Recovery Network to complement and connect our best wildlife sites • Action to restore the loss of marine biodiversity • Restoration of 75% of the 1 million hectares of terrestrial and freshwater protected sites • Creation/restoration of 500,000 hectares of wildlife-rich habitat outside the protected site network • Recovery of threatened, iconic or economically important species • Reduced impact of plant/animal disease • Tackling of invasive non-native species and improved biosecurity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of ambitions will require cross-boundary, partnership working – Dorset is well placed to lead in this given strong track record of partnership working and delivery • Potentially greater role for councils to manage non-native, invasive species (we already have some responsibility for this) • Implications for arboriculture services arising from the Tree Health Resilience Plan and biosecurity policies designed to tackle disease (e.g. Ash Dieback) • Implications for trading standards in relation to biosecurity measures

The Government's 25 Year Environment Plan and Dorset County Council's 'green assets'

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new Tree Health Resilience Plan in 2018 	
<p>25 Year Plan Policy Commitment</p>	<p>Implications for local government</p>
<p>Respecting nature in how we use water by reforming water abstraction, increasing water supply and incentivising water efficiency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce abstraction of water from rivers and groundwater • reach or exceed objectives for rivers, lakes, coastal and ground waters that are specially protected • reduce leakage by at least an average of 15% by 2025 • minimise harmful bacteria in designated bathing waters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implications for strategic planning, the pattern and nature of future development to take account of water availability, water quality, and the need for water efficiency and/or water resource development • Consultation in 2018 on a National Policy Statement for water resources • Tougher approach to abstraction licensing could have implications for sectors like agriculture as well as communities generally, requiring innovative approaches to make better use of water as a scarce resource
<p><i>Chapter 3: Connecting people with the environment to improve health and wellbeing</i></p>	
<p>Helping people improve their health and wellbeing by using green spaces including through mental health services, plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging children to be close to nature, in and out of school, with particular focus on disadvantaged groups • Helping primary schools create nature-friendly grounds • Considering how environmental therapies could be delivered through mental health services • Ensuring high quality, accessible, natural spaces close to where people live • Development of a 'Natural Environment for Health and Wellbeing' programme to support local authorities, health partners, teachers and planners to promote the environment as a pathway to health and wellbeing • A programme to support schools and Pupil Referral Units in most disadvantaged areas get pupils in contact with nature/the environment • Support for a national expansion of care farming, trebling the number of places to 1.3m per years for children and adults in England 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong emphasis on improving access to the natural environment as a preventative measure for a range of physical/mental health benefits – Dorset already pioneering this approach via the 'Healthy Places' workstream of the Dorset Sustainability Transformation Plan • Emphasises need for continued close working between Dorset Health and Wellbeing Board, Local Nature Partnership and Local Enterprise Partnership members to pursue these opportunities • Opportunities for landscape services to deliver public realm/school improvements • Implications/opportunities for outdoor education services • Implications for provision of services to vulnerable adults and children, and opportunities for these to make greater use of greenspace assets to deliver benefits to these and other service users • Opportunities to expand care farming initiatives (already operated at Holtwood Community Farm, part of the County Farms estate) with implications for adult care services and County Farms
<p>Greening towns and cities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating more green infrastructure in line with a national framework of green infrastructure standards to be reviewed by summer 2019 • Supporting local authorities to assess green infrastructure provision against these new standards and incorporating them into national planning policy guidance • Manual for local authorities to shape procurement and maintenance practices for urban trees • New requirements for councils to consult before removing street trees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implications for local authority spatial planning, development management and greenspace management functions • Implications for local authority arboriculture services arising from plans in relation to tree stock

The Government's 25 Year Environment Plan and Dorset County Council's 'green assets'

25 Year Plan Policy Commitment	Implications for local government
<i>Chapter 4: Increasing resource efficiency and reducing pollution and waste</i>	
<p>Maximising resource efficiency and minimising environmental impacts of waste. Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieving zero avoidable plastic waste by the end of 2042 A new Resources and Waste Strategy in 2018 to promote resource efficiency Reducing littering and fly-tipping Preventing marine plastic pollution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implications for waste management policy and practice Provides national backing for locally led behaviour change campaigns such as Dorset Litter Free Coast and Sea (led by Dorset Coast Forum, hosted by DCC) – corporate communications issues/opportunities
<p>Reducing pollution, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publishing a Clean Air Strategy in 2018 Meeting legally binding targets to reduce emissions of key air pollutants Ending the sale of new conventional petrol and diesel cars by 2040 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implications for local transport planning, highways, fleet and public health. Longer-term, more fundamental implications for re-design of transport systems (e.g. provision for Electric Vehicles) as a result of 'de-carbonising' transport systems
<i>Chapter 5: Securing clean, healthy, productive and biologically diverse seas and oceans</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introducing a sustainable fisheries policy to replace the Common Fisheries Policy Achieving good environmental status in our seas while allowing marine industries to thrive Maintaining clean recreational waters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implications for coastal economy, fisheries and visitor economy which all depend on sustainable management of the coastal and marine environment
<i>Chapter 6: Protecting and improving our global environment</i>	
<p>Tackling climate change mitigation and adaptation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cut greenhouse gas emissions including from land use change, agriculture and waste Make sure that all policies, programmes/ investment decisions take account of climate change Implement a second National (Climate) Adaptation Programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implications for Local Resilience Forums, emergency planning functions arising from the National Adaptation Programme Review Climate impacts and extreme weather have implications for infrastructure (e.g. highways) and disproportionate impact on vulnerable groups - therefore implications for a wide range of public service providers
<i>Putting the plan into practice</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation on 'a new independent body to hold government to account and a new set of environmental principles to underpin policy-making' 'Developing a set of metrics to assess progress towards our 25-year goals' Strengthening leadership and delivery through better local planning, more effective partnerships and learning from pioneer projects Establishing a new green business council and exploring the potential for a natural environment impact fund 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wide-ranging implications for environmental regulation and enforcement Potential implications for local authority performance management regimes Implications for local planning and partnerships Implications for business community and LEPs and potential opportunities to access new funding streams

3. Dorset County Council's "green assets"

- 3.1 Prior to publication of the 25 Year Environment Plan, DCC's Coast and Countryside Service Manager, with input from the Senior Estate Surveyor (Rural Practice), had been reviewing DCC's 'green assets' with a view to understanding their strategic significance, their value relative to their cost and the case for their retention or disposal. Interim conclusions of this review were presented to the

member-led Country Parks Liaison Panel on 26 January 2018, which provides advice to officers on the management of green assets including and beyond the Country Parks. Members of the Panel endorsed the approach taken and it was suggested that the interim conclusions be summarised in this paper and presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for its consideration. This is at Appendix 1, and the Committee's comments would be welcome.

4. Conclusions

- 4.1 The Dorset Local Nature Partnership's recent annual forum was addressed by a senior DEFRA official who summarised the key points of the 25 Year Environment Plan and paid tribute to the partners already working in Dorset to put the principles within the plan into action. She particularly welcomed the fact that environmental partners in Dorset were not waiting for Government to give the signal to act, but were already acting to deliver practical environmental improvements on the ground. This suggests that Dorset is already at the forefront of the agenda set out in the Plan. As such the Plan appears to present little in the way of risk or negative impact, and importantly presents significant opportunities for places like Dorset where the quality and value of a healthy environment is already well recognised. The green assets within the County Council's ownership and influence offer further opportunities to leverage these benefits.

Matthew Piles

Service Director – Economy, Natural and Built Environment

March 2018

APPENDIX 1: 'GREEN ASSET' REVIEW

A. Introduction

The Coast and Countryside Services within the Environment and Economy Directorate is a front-line delivery service supporting provision of the essential environmental goods and services necessary to maintain economic growth and community wellbeing. The Service has responsibility for operating and maintaining a wide range of public environmental assets – country parks, visitor centres, local countryside sites, trailways, national trails, rights of way, and picnic sites. These can be defined as our 'green assets'.

The County Council owns and manages a number of these green assets, and manages several others on behalf of other public bodies such as the District, Town and Parish Councils, and there are some County Council green assets managed by others on our behalf. This review considers the sites owned by the County Council.

It is important that we ensure our green assets are used in ways which best support the needs of the County Council's business and the wider community, hence the need for this review. The countryside asset may have been acquired for that purpose, or became countryside having had a former use such as a landfill, or may have been purchased as part of a landholding acquired for a different reason, such as a highway improvement.

Whatever the original reasons for acquisition, in the light of continuing decline in local government funding, it is timely to undertake a review to ask the question whether retaining the site remains the right answer. There are three main options – for each site we could retain, dispose of part or all, or consider an alternative delivery model involving a third party. In the last category we could consider asset transfer with continued county council support for management, asset retention with a greater role for management by the local community, or lease and management to the local community.

B. Format of the Green Asset Review

This review has considered the value derived from each asset, as well as untapped opportunities, based on the following analysis:

B.1 Financial case

The financial performance of the Country Parks and Hardy's Birthplace Centre is aimed at achieving 'full cost recovery' for above-the-line costs, and in 2016/17 this was more than achieved overall, such that these sites have become significant net contributors to the service. While this may not be possible to replicate for smaller sites, it is important we evaluate the cost of maintaining these assets set against the benefits they provide in terms of environmental quality and social value.

B.2 Environmental quality

A key purpose of green assets should be to maximise their environmental quality and a number of the larger sites are already covered by local, national or international environmental designations in recognition of this. Maintaining high environmental quality is beneficial for its own sake but also to harness the many benefits that a high-quality environment offers to the local economy and to enhancing public health and wellbeing.

B.3 Social value

For our larger green assets, we can monitor visitor experience, both quantitatively by visitor numbers and qualitatively by visitor feedback, such as via Trip Advisor. These measures are consistently positive and attest to the public service value, and associated reputational benefits, which they offer. Our green assets are also important for community engagement, and without the support of the army of volunteers at the Country Parks, and embedded into our practical greenspace management teams, we would not be able to deliver the levels of service we currently do for the people of Dorset.

Increasingly we see our green assets through the lens of their contribution to health and wellbeing. There is now good evidence nationally that the natural environment contributes significantly to prevention at scale, delaying the time when people require medical intervention in their lives, leading to cost savings to the health and social care services. This is clearly expressed in the STP for Dorset, and is being delivered through the 'Healthy Places' workstream led by Public Health Dorset.

B.4 Number of sites

The review considers 31 sites that are allocated to the Coast and Countryside Service for their management. The list includes the larger countryside sites where there are buildings, particularly the Durlston CP, Avon Heath CP and Hardy's Birthplace VC, that have already been considered by other reviews (e.g. Way We Work property review) and by the Country Parks Liaison Panel through the 2017 Income Strategy.

C. Analysis of Green Assets

The Country Parks Liaison Panel, at its meeting on 26 January 2018, considered the Green Asset Review. The Panel endorsed the approach and noted the following highlighted by the review:

C.1 Financial performance

- The continuing strong performance of the Country Parks where income marginally exceeded expenditure in 2016/17 financial year
- Batcombe Picnic site/Hilfield woodland. It is planned to sell the timber from the woodland to the neighbouring Hilfield Friary for use in their biomass boiler
- Once existing Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) and Countryside Stewardship (CS) funding agreements expire we are dependent on whatever schemes are brought forward post Brexit. However, the Government's 25 Year Environment Plan offers us optimism that there will be suitable alternatives. In the future it is possible there will be greater opportunities to secure income for 'provision of public goods'. These public goods would include maintaining biodiversity and landscape quality, carbon sequestration, flood risk management, and contribution to health and wellbeing.
- There is no revenue income for any of the Trailway sites. There should be a focus on trying to draw income to maintain these assets, possibly from sources supporting Active Travel, or sponsorship, or crowd funding, given their popularity with the public
- A significant opportunity has been identified with local stakeholders to create a North Dorset Countryside Centre, perhaps similar in size to the Hardy's Birthplace Centre. This could create a modest income source to help maintain the Trailway, perhaps through catering and bike hire leases, and provide a focus for health and wellbeing activities based along the Trailway. There are a range of options for how this could be operated and by whom, but some input from the County Council is likely to be required to establish its viability
- The small picnic sites scattered across the county do not draw income except in one case. However, they cost very little to manage, just a few hours a month, and always combined with other work in the local area (mainly Rights of Way maintenance)

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- The Winfrith Newburgh Picnic site has a catering lease for a mobile café. This provides a significant net income to the service above the cost of maintaining the site. However, the picnic site is currently in a poor state of management and urgent measures to improve this situation are planned
- Continued management of Jellyfields and Wanderwell Quarry nature reserves gives the Greenspace Management Team access to a pool of active volunteers in the Bridport area, helping us to carry out a range of countryside management activities on Rights of Way and on the Trailway. This access to volunteer effort needs to be borne in mind when considering the headline cost of managing the sites.
- There are already leases in place to Town and Parish Councils, and others, where the local community is in a better place to deliver management

C.2 Environmental designations / interest

- All sites carrying national or international designations, or significant local wildlife interest, are under schemes of management such as HLS or CS which provide us with income to support management
- The historic landscape at Black Down is being enhanced by the grazing management which is likely to reveal the existence of hitherto unrecorded monuments as scrub cover declines
- A few of the smaller sites would benefit from wildlife survey e.g. Five Bridges
- The local wildlife interests of grasslands surrounding the parking areas in the smaller picnic sites would be enhanced through cut-and-collect management, rather than strimming, to reduce long-term maintenance costs
- We are working in partnership with the 'Back from the Brink' partnership of national NGOs along the North Dorset Trailway to offer our land as a place to plant wild Barberry trees. In due course these trees would be likely to sustain the local population of the nationally-protected Barberry Carpet Moth. The largest population of the moth in the UK is currently close to Stourpaine.
- Management of all sites contributes to enhancement of the local landscape

C.3 Social value

- The Country Parks, given their size, offer the greatest opportunity to develop their health and wellbeing offer to the community. Most advanced is the Durlston Pleasure Grounds project, but there is significant opportunity to be developed at Avon Heath
- There remains the potential to recognise Black Down and Thorncombe as a Country Park as a strategic green infrastructure site for the Dorchester area, to help support planned growth of the town, but this needs further work
- There is an opportunity to develop a partnership with Hilfield Friary and other landowners in the local area to Batcombe
- There are opportunities to develop Walkabout Leaflets centred on most of the smaller picnic sites, except those close to the Lulworth Ranges. These leaflets would provide detailed information about accessing the Rights of Way network nearby
- There is an area of land at Okeford Hill that has no public access. This land has no potential for enhancement of its social and community value.

D. Conclusions and Recommendations

The Green Asset review has concluded the following:

- The costs of running larger sites, including the Country Parks, is generally covered by income from a variety of sources. The exception is Hardy's Birthplace VC where this recently established centre is on the pathway to full cost recovery, but not there yet (details within the Income Strategy 2017).

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- Although the smaller sites have very few income sources they cost very little to manage, yet all provide significant social value to the communities they serve.
- The Trailways do not have sources of income but where one cost has been identified for the North Dorset Trailway, this cost is modest set against the social benefit that the facility provides. The Trailways provide safe access off-road into Dorset's countryside and contribute to improved health and wellbeing.
- Sites such as Jellyfields and Wanderwell Quarry could be leased to the local community, but currently the benefit of retaining such sites for access to a pool of local volunteers outweighs the very limited costs of retaining direct management.
- Part of the land at Okeford Hill (c.5ha) provides no social value as it has no public access, although it costs nothing to manage.

The Committee is invited to:

- Consider recommendations for each of the 31 sites, based on their financial performance, and environmental and social values
- Note the opportunities for asset enhancement, and that progress will be reviewed at future Country Parks Liaison Panel meetings
- Support the development of business case for a North Dorset Countryside Centre to be brought to the Country Parks Liaison Panel in due course
- Support a review of sites we manage on behalf of other organisations to be brought to the Country Parks Liaison Panel in advance of LGR
- Approve the Senior Estates Surveyor (Rural Practice) to enquire with neighbouring landowners at Okeford Hill about possible purchase of the scrub/grassland area without public access

Please see attached table.

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Table 1: Dorset County Council's 'Green Asset' Review

		Financial performance				Environmental designations / interest				Social value in local community			Overview	Options
Site name	Gross Area (ha)	Expenditure	Income	net +/-	Comment	Ecological	Landscape	Historic	Opportunities	Local community	Contribution to health & wellbeing	Opportunities		
Avon Heath Country Park	223.3	£229,000	£272,000	£43,000	see Country Parks Income Strategy 2017	International (SAC, SPA) & national designations (SSSI) for lowland heathland interests			Habitat restoration on peripheral areas. Enhancement of natural assets set out in CS agreement	Friends of Avon Heath. 420,000 visitors	Regular opportunities to volunteer. Regular groups of disadvantaged people use site. Contributing to Stepping Into Nature project. Green Flag award	Enhanced playground facilities deigned for disabled access. Respite care opportunities in Holiday Lets.	Good future prospects in public ownership	Keep
Durlston Country Park, Swanage	129.7	£295,000	£337,000	£42,000	see Country Parks Income Strategy 2017	International (SAC) & national designations (SSSI, NNR) for calcareous grassland interests	Dorset AONB	Parts include Grade II listed building (Castle) and Historic Park & Garden	Habitat enhancement set out in CS agreement. Habitat restoration as part of Durlston Pleasure Grounds (P4P) project	Friends of Durlston. 350,000 visitors	Regular opportunities to volunteer. Regular groups of disadvantaged people use site. Contributing to Stepping Into Nature project. Green Flag award	Durlston Pleasure Grounds project. Green Flag award for 2018	Good future prospects in public ownership	Keep
Black Down near Hardy's Monument	113.0	HLS more than covers cost of site management by in-house team / contractors	£19,068		Senior Ranger comment - grant more than covers staff and materials costs currently	National designation (SSSI) on 22ha for lowland heathland / grassland interests.	Dorset AONB	National designation (SAM) on 0.7ha for significant historic burial features in monumental landscape	Further recognition of historic and natural assets following restoration works and SDRLP project	Popular local site	Assessment of value and potential to contribute improving health not yet undertaken	Potential to become Country Park for Dorchester area and to develop community offer and contribution to health & wellbeing	Good future prospects in public ownership	Keep
Hardys Birthplace Visitor Centre & Thorncombe Wood, Higher Bockhampton	24.1	£81,000	£23,000	-£58,000	see Country Parks Income Strategy 2017	Local nature conservation designation of woodland and heathland (SNCI, LNR); on Ancient Woodland Inventory		National designation (SAM) for Roman Road	Enhancement of natural and historic features ongoing & set out in Management Plan	70,000 visitors	Regular opportunities to volunteer. Regular groups of disadvantaged people use site. Contributing to Stepping Into Nature project. Green Flag award	Potential to become Country Park for Dorchester area and to develop community offer and contribution to health & wellbeing	Good future prospects in public ownership	Keep

Table 1: Dorset County Council's 'Green Asset' Review

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Slop Bog, Redwood Drive, Ferndown	22.1	CS more than covers cost of site management by in-house team / contractors	Avon Heath CS includes Slop Bog		Countryside Stewardship to 2023, then opportunities derived from 25YEP / post Brexit scheme	International (SAC, SPA, Ramsar) & national designations (SSSI) for lowland heathland interests			Habitat restoration on peripheral areas. Enhancement of natural assets set out in CS agreement	Slop Bog Guardians friends group. c. 10,000 visits, mainly local residents	Regular opportunities to volunteer. Circular walks well established.	Opportunity to create Walkabout Leaflet for Slop Bog and surrounding area	Good future prospects in public ownership	Keep
Batcombe Picnic Site, Hilfield Hill, Hilfield	15.7	HLS more than covers cost of site management by in-house team / contractors	£2,761		Higher Level Stewardship to 202?, then opportunities derived from 25YEP / post Brexit scheme	Local nature conservation designation of woodland and grassland (SNCI, LNR)	Dorset AONB		Enhancement of natural assets set out in CS agreement. Develop opportunities for use of timber extracted from site at Hilfield Friary	c. 10,000 visits. Valued picnic site in heart of countryside	Volunteering opportunities in Countryside Management Teams	Develop partnership with Hilfield Friary for volunteers living & working at Friary	Good future prospects in public ownership	Keep
Turners Puddle, Heathland & Woodland, Wareham	14.7	cost included in Hardy's Birthplace expenditure	Thorncombe Wood HLS includes Turnerspuddle Heath		Higher Level Stewardship to 202?, then opportunities derived from 25YEP / post Brexit scheme	International (SAC, SPA, Ramsar) & national designations (SSSI) for lowland heathland interests	Dorset AONB		Enhancement of natural assets set out in HLS agreement	c. 1,000 visits. Little known site	Open access site with public footpath	Develop community offer with National Trust at neighbouring Lawrence of Arabia's Cottage	Public value likely to remain limited in comparison with sites closer to communities, but liabilities also very limited. Could consider sale or lease to third party such as NT or Forestry Commission	Keep or consider alternative delivery if opportunity arises
Castleman Trailway	13.1	not known	none		Consider whether financial contributions could come from Active Travel agenda. Review wider opportunities for income generation	Corridor of semi-natural habitats, mainly woodland, linking heathland and woodland sites			Enhancement of natural assets on banks and cutting slopes	c. 100,000 visits by walkers and cyclists	Surfaced trailway was impassable in places before Countryside Management Team input	Opportunities for creating off-road network links across the county under Active Travel agenda	Good future prospects in public ownership	Keep
Blandford Railway Line	12.2	£7,500	none		Consider whether financial contributions could come from Active Travel agenda. Review wider opportunities	Corridor of semi-natural habitats, woodland, scrub & grassland			Enhancement of natural assets on banks and cutting slopes	c. 100,000 visits by walkers and cyclists along North Dorset Trailway	Surfaced trailway was impassable in places before Countryside Management Team input	Opportunities for creating off-road network links across the county under Active Travel agenda	Good future prospects in public ownership. A North Dorset Trailway Centre at The Milldown would add	Keep

Table 1: Dorset County Council's 'Green Asset' Review

					for income generation								significantly to financial viability of the Trailway	
Shillingstone Railway	8.0	cost included in Blandford Railway above	none		Consider whether financial contributions could come from Active Travel agenda. Review wider opportunities for income generation	Corridor of semi-natural habitats, woodland, scrub & grassland	Stourpaine - Shillingstone section in Dorset AONB		Enhancement of natural assets on banks and cutting slopes. E.g. planting of native Barberry for rare moth!	c. 100,000 visits by walkers and cyclists along North Dorset Trailway	Surfaced trailway was impassable in places before Countryside Management Team input	Opportunities for creating off-road network links across the county under Active Travel agenda	Good future prospects in public ownership. A North Dorset Trailway Centre at The Milldown would add significantly to financial viability of the Trailway	Keep
The Pine Clump at Upton Bypass	6.9	CS more than covers cost of site management by in-house team / contractors	Avon Heath CS includes Pine Clump		see Country Parks Income Strategy 2017	International (SAC, SPA, Ramsar) & national designations (SSSI) for lowland heathland interests			Habitat restoration on peripheral areas. Enhancement of natural assets set out in CS agreement	Unknown no. visitors. Open access site promoted as part of Upton Heath Nature Reserve managed by Dorset Wildlife Trust	Circular walk within Pine Clump	Opportunity for tramper access around site via adjacent Roman Road?	Good future prospects in public ownership while CS operational. Could consider lease or sale to Dorset Wildlife Trust in future if this leaves DCC at no financial disadvantage on management of Slop Bog and Avon Heath	Keep or consider alternative delivery if opportunity arises at end of current CS scheme
Okeford Hill Picnic Site, Sturminster Newton	6.2	£500	none		de minimus cost	None	Dorset AONB		Enhancement of natural assets around car park	Car park only has community value. There is no public access to scrub / grassland	Access to extensive public bridleway network from car park	Opportunity to create Walkabout Leaflet for Okeford Hill Car Park	Opportunity to sell c.5ha scrub woodland / grassland to adjacent landowner	Keep car park. Dispose of greater part with no public access
Steeple Hill Picnic Site, Steeple, Wool	5.2	£250	none		de minimus cost	None	Dorset AONB		Enhancement of natural assets around car park	Car park has community value	Stunning views of countryside from car park. Neighbouring land part of Lulworth Firing Range so public access restricted		Public value likely to remain limited in comparison with sites closer to communities, but liabilities also very limited	Keep

Table 1: Dorset County Council's 'Green Asset' Review

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Corfe Mullen Cycleway	4.6	not known	none		Consider whether financial contributions could come from Active Travel agenda. Review wider opportunities for income generation	Corridor of semi-natural habitats, mainly woodland, linking heathland and woodland sites			Enhancement of natural assets on banks and cutting slopes	c. 100,000 visits by walkers and cyclists	Surfaced railway was impassable in places before Countryside Management Team input	Opportunities for creating off-road network links across the county under Active Travel agenda	Good future prospects in public ownership	Keep
Wanderwell Quarry Nature Reserve, Bridport	4.3	£250	can be drawn from reserve if needed	£42,180 held in reserve for Wanderwell Quarry and Jellyfields for site management	de minimus cost	Local Nature Reserve and Local Geological Site	Dorset AONB		Enhancement of natural assets within site	Strong volunteer support from Bridport community	Public access throughout site. Volunteering opportunities in Countryside Management Teams. Good access to local Rights of Way network	Opportunity to create Walkabout Leaflet in Wanderwell Quarry and surrounding areas	Public value likely to be better delivered currently through direct mngement as this gives DCC links with strong volunteer community in Bridport. They help at this site, on RoW and the Trailways. If that situation changes then could consider lease to BTC	Keep or in future consider alternative delivery if benefits of volunteers no longer available
Dudmoor Park, Christchurch	2.9												n/a - C&C has no interest at present	
Jellyfields Nature Reserve, Bridport	2.8	£250	can be drawn from reserve if needed		de minimus cost	Local Nature Reserve	Dorset AONB		Enhancement of natural assets within site	Strong volunteer support from Bridport community	Public access throughout site. Volunteering opportunities in Countryside Management Teams. Good access to local Rights of Way network	Opportunity to create Walkabout Leaflet for Jellyfields and access onto Bridport - Bradpole Trailway	Public value likely to be better delivered currently through direct mngement as this gives DCC links with strong volunteer community in Bridport. They help at this site, on RoW and the Trailways. If that situation changes then could consider lease to BTC	Keep or in future consider alternative delivery if benefits of volunteers no longer available

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Five Bridges Picnic Site, Shaftsbury Road, Kington Magna	2.6	£250	none		de minimus cost	Unknown, but woodland next to River Cole would be worth surveying - otters?			Enhancement of natural assets within site	Part of site used by Gypsy & Traveller community from time to time	unknown	unknown	Public value likely to remain limited in comparison with sites closer to communities, but liabilities also very limited	Keep
Winfrith Newburgh Picnic Site, Dorchester	1.9	£250	£6,000		de minimus cost to manage the picnic site. Income from lease for mobile café	Unknown: most of site is Blackthorn scrub and plantation, but adjacent road verge has some chalk grassland wildflower interest			Enhancement of natural assets within site, especially road verges which could make picnic site intrinsically more attractive for visitors	Moderate numbers of visitors to mobile café	unknown	Enhancement of picnic area which is currently in poor state	Public value likely to remain limited in comparison with sites closer to communities, but liabilities also very limited, and income from this site significant	Keep
Fosters Field Public Open Space, Sherborne	1.6	£0	none		Lease to Sherborne Area Youth & Community (peppercorn)	None				Yes	Yes; key site in town		Site leased for 87 years	Alternative delivery model in place
Northbrook Road Playing Fields, Swanage	1.4	£0	none		Lease to Swanage Town Council (peppercorn)	None				Yes	Yes; key site in town		Site leased to 2155	Alternative delivery model in place
Land off Barnes Way, Tricketts Cross, Ferndown	1.3	£250	none		de minimus cost to DCC. The site is managed under HLS as part of Parley Common Nature Reserve on our behalf by Amphibian & Reptile Conservation Trust	International (SAC, SPA, Ramsar) & national designations (SSSI) for lowland heathland interests			Enhancement of natural assets set out in HLS agreement between ARC Trust & Natural England	Yes	Access onto Parley Common from the north crosses DCC land, and the land contributes to the wider wellbeing value that Parley Common provides to residents of Tricketts Cross, Parley & Ferndown	Could consider formal lease to ARC?	Public value likely to continue to be delivered through informal arrangement with ARC Trust, but we could consider formal lease	Keep or consider lease to ARC if approached
Whiteway Hill Picnic Site, Tyneham	1.2	£250	none		de minimus cost	None	Dorset AONB		Enhancement of natural assets around car park	Car park has community value	Stunning views of countryside from car park. Neighbouring land part of Lulworth Firing Range so public access restricted		Public value likely to remain limited in comparison with sites closer to communities, but liabilities	Keep

Table 1: Dorset County Council's 'Green Asset' Review

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													also very limited	
Loders to Sun Inn Cycleway, Dorchester	1.0	£250	none		de minimus cost	Not known. Corridor of semi-natural habitats, likely to support Water Vole.			Enhancement of natural assets through cut-and-collect along riverbank would be possible	c. 10,000 visits by walkers and cyclists	There was very limited and largely unsafe access from the north end of Dorchester to the Sun Inn prior to the construction of the cycleway	Opportunity to create Walkabout / cycle leaflets for the area	Public value in this asset is moderate, and management liabilities are very limited	Keep
Buckham Down Picnic Site, Beaminster	0.6	£250	none		de minimus cost	None	Dorset AONB		Enhancement of natural assets around car park	Car park has community value	Stunning views of countryside from car park.	Opportunity to create Walkabout / cycle leaflets for the area	Public value likely to remain limited in comparison with sites closer to communities, but liabilities also very limited	Keep
West Compton Picnic Site, Beaminster (aka Shatcombe Lane Picnic Site, Eggardon Hill)	0.3	£250	none		de minimus cost	None	Dorset AONB		Enhancement of natural assets around car park	Car park has community value	Access to Eggardon Hill and its stunning views, from car park.	Opportunity to create Walkabout leaflet for the area	Public value likely to remain limited in comparison with sites closer to communities, but liabilities also very limited	Keep
King George's Field, Shipton Gorge, Bridport	0.3	£0	none		Lease to Lodders Parish Council (peppercorn)	None				Yes	Yes; key site in village		Existing lease for 99 years	Alternative delivery model in place
Bridport to Bradpole Cycleway	0.2	£250	none		Bridport Town Council undertake most management on our behalf, at no cost to DCC	Limited interest in verge grassland			Enhancement of natural assets on banks and cutting slopes	c. 100,000 visits by walkers and cyclists	Surfaced trailway makes off road access easy	Opportunities for creating off-road network links across the county under Active Travel agenda	Public value likely to better delivered through lease arrangement with Parish Council	Keep
Fontmell Magna Picnic Site & Car Park, Shaftesbury	0.2	£250	none		de minimus cost	None			Enhancement of natural assets around car park	Car park has community value	Stunning views of countryside from car park.	Opportunity to create Walkabout leaflet for the area	Public value likely to remain limited in comparison with sites closer to communities, but liabilities also very limited	Keep

Table 1: Dorset County Council's 'Green Asset' Review

APPENDIX 1 contd.

Bishops Limekiln Picnic Site, Abbotsbury	0.1	£250	none		de minimus cost	None			Enhancement of natural assets around car park	Car park has community value	Stunning views of countryside from car park.	Opportunity to create Walkabout leaflet for the area	Public value likely to remain limited in comparison with sites closer to communities, but liabilities also very limited	Keep
Car park at Old Chalk Pit Track, Chaldon Herring	0.0	£250	none		de minimus cost	None			Enhancement of natural assets around car park	Car park has community value		Opportunity to create Walkabout leaflet for the area	Public value likely to remain limited in comparison with sites closer to communities, but liabilities also very limited	Keep

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Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Dorset County Council



Date of Meeting	26 March 2018
Officer	<p><u>Local Members</u> All Members <u>Lead Directors</u> Mike Harries, Director for Environment and the Economy</p>
Subject of Report	Outcomes Focused Monitoring Report, March 2018
Executive Summary	<p>The 2017-18 Corporate Plan sets out the four outcomes towards which the County Council is committed to working, alongside our partners and communities: to help people in Dorset be Safe, Healthy and Independent, with a Prosperous economy. The Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee has oversight of the Prosperous corporate outcome.</p> <p>The Corporate Plan includes objective and measurable population indicators by which progress towards outcomes can be better understood, evaluated and influenced. No single agency is accountable for these indicators - accountability is shared between partner organisations and communities themselves.</p> <p>This is the fourth and final monitoring report against the 2017-18 corporate plan. As well as the most up to date available data on the population indicators within the “Prosperous” outcome, the report includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance measures by which the County Council can measure the contribution and impact of its own services and activities on the outcomes; • Risk management information, identifying the current level of risks on the corporate risk register that relate to our outcomes and the population indicators associated with them. <p>The Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee is encouraged to consider the information in this report, scrutinise the evidence and commentaries provided, and decide if it is</p>

	comfortable with the trends. If appropriate, members may wish to consider and identify a more in-depth review of specific areas, to inform their scrutiny activity.
Impact Assessment:	Equalities Impact Assessment: There are no specific equalities implications in this report. However, the prioritisation of resources in order to challenge inequalities in outcomes for Dorset’s people is fundamental to the Corporate Plan.
	Use of Evidence: The outcome indicator data in this report is drawn from a number of local and national sources, including Business Demography (ONS) and the Employer Skills Survey (UK CES). There is a lead officer for each outcome on this group whose responsibility it is to ensure that data is accurate and timely and supported by relevant commentary.
	Budget: The information contained in this report is intended to facilitate evidence driven scrutiny of the interventions that have the greatest impact on outcomes for communities, as well as activity that has less impact. This can help with the identification of cost efficiencies that are based on the least impact on the wellbeing of customers and communities.
	Risk: Having considered the risks associated with this report using the County Council’s approved risk management methodology, the level of risk has been identified as: Current: Medium Residual: Low However, where “high” risks from the County Council’s risk register link to elements of service activity covered by this report, they are clearly identified.
	Other Implications: None
Recommendation	That the committee: i) Considers the evidence of Dorset’s position with regard to the outcome indicators in Appendix 1; and: ii) Identifies any issues requiring more detailed consideration through focused scrutiny activity.
Reason for Recommendation	The 2017-18 Corporate Plan provides an overarching strategic framework for monitoring progress towards good outcomes for Dorset. The Overview and Scrutiny committees provide corporate governance and performance monitoring arrangements so that progress against the corporate plan can be monitored effectively.

Outcomes focused monitoring report

Appendices	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Population and Performance October 2017 – Prosperous2. Financial benchmarking information: Adult Social Care3. Value for Money: Economy and the Environment4. Performance comparisons: Children's Services
Background Papers	<p><i>Dorset County Council Corporate Plan 2017-18, Cabinet, 28 June 2017</i></p> <p>https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/corporate-plan-outcomes-framework</p>
Officer Contact	<p>Name: John Alexander, Senior Assurance Manager</p> <p>Tel: (01305) 225096</p> <p>Email: j.d.alexander@dorsetcc.gov.uk</p>

1.0 Corporate Plan 2017-18: Dorset County Council's Outcomes and Performance Framework

- 1.1 The corporate plan includes a set of "population indicators", selected to measure progress towards the four outcomes. No single agency is accountable for these indicators - accountability is shared between partner organisations and communities themselves. For each indicator, it is for councillors, officers and partners to challenge the evidence and commentaries provided, and decide if they are comfortable that the direction of travel is acceptable, and if not, identify and agree what action needs to be taken.
- 1.2 Each indicator has one or more associated **service performance measures**, which measure the County Council's own specific contribution to, and impact upon, corporate outcomes. For example, one of the population indicators for the "Prosperous" outcome is "The productivity of Dorset's businesses". A performance measure for the County Council on this is "Growing Places Fund invested in active interventions", since the Growing Places Fund is one of the ways in which we strive to help support businesses and improve productivity.
- 1.3 Unlike with the population indicators, the County Council is directly accountable for the progress (or otherwise) of performance measures, since they reflect the degree to which we are making the best use of our resources to make a positive difference to the lives of our own customers and clients.
- 1.4 Where relevant, this report also presents **risk management** information in relation to each population indicator, identifying the current level of risks on the corporate register that relate to our four outcomes.
- 1.5 Efforts continue to present an analysis of the **value for money** of County Council services to sit alongside the performance information in this report. In the interim, Appendix 2 of this report provides financial benchmarking information for Adult Social Care, Appendix 3 provides a value for money analysis of some key areas of work for the Environment and the Economy Directorate, and Appendix 4 provides equivalent information for Children's Services.
- 1.6 Outcome lead officers work to ensure that the commentaries on each page of these monitoring reports reflect the strategies the County Council has in place in order to improve each aspect of each outcome for residents. So for example, with the productivity indicator discussed above, the commentary seeks to explain the strategies we have in place to make improvements – including highway infrastructure, the Growing Places Fund, and our success in accessing available funding streams – and then report on the success of those strategies.
- 1.7 Members are encouraged to consider all of the indicators and associated information that fall within the remit of this committee at Appendix 1, scrutinise the evidence and commentaries provided, and decide if they are comfortable with the direction of travel. If appropriate, members may wish to consider a more in-depth review of specific areas. The Planning and Scoping document developed last year will facilitate this process, should the decision be made to undertake a more detailed scrutiny exercise.

2.0 Dorset Innovation Park Enterprise Zone: a good news story

- 2.1 One of the population indicators within the Prosperous outcome is "the rate of start-ups of new business enterprises", and one of our most important strategies for supporting business start-ups and growth is the [Dorset Innovation Park Enterprise Zone](#). The Enterprise Zone was officially launched on Friday 26 January 2018. The event was hosted by Atlas Elektronik, a major Dorset business on the Park, along with

QinetiQ, in the newly completed extension to the Atlas Electronic UK manufacturing building. More than 100 visitors were able to hear about the plans for the Enterprise Zone, and witness the official opening of twenty small business units constructed by Dorset County and Purbeck District Councils, in association with the Dorset LEP.

3.0 Suggested areas of focus

At the beginning of Appendix 1, there is a summary of progress with all of the population indicators and performance measures, and some suggestions for areas upon which the committee might wish to focus its consideration and scrutiny. These areas have been highlighted because they are currently showing a worsening trend. They are briefly summarised below, and full commentaries are provided within the body of the main reports, including the strategies currently in place to drive improvement.

3.1 Population indicators

3.1.1 *Percentage of children achieving the 'Basics' measures at Key Stage 4*

Key Stage 4 no longer has the 5 A*-C type measure, as 2017 saw a change in the grading system for English & Maths to a numbering system; a standard pass is now a grade 4 or above, and a good pass is 5 or above. This is not directly comparable to previous years, but benchmarking is possible. The measure is now: "Average progress 8 score" and we have two years of data. Latest outturn shows that Dorset's 2016-17 score has worsened compared to the previous year.

Related to this, two of our **performance measures** have also shown a deteriorating trend, as follows:

- The number of schools 'below the floor' for Progress 8 rose from one to four (a 'floor standard' is the standard below which it is unacceptable for any school to fall even in one year, and where immediate scrutiny and/or intervention may be required)
- Percentage achieving basics (i.e. Good pass in English and Maths) fell slightly from 65% in 2015-16 to 63% in 2016-17.

DCC works closely with schools to ensure that all pupils can perform to the best of their ability. We engage in performance reviews and risk assessments to identify underperformance. Schools identified as causing concern receive targeted support and intervention. Where appropriate this may also include use of National Leaders of Education, as well as consultation with parties such as the Regional Schools Officers, Ofsted and the Diocese to review the impact of support and agree next steps. Performance advisors and area advisors review Pyramid and Multi-Academy Trust performance using data reviews throughout the year. DCC also combines with high performing schools to apply for improvement or emergency funding where appropriate.

There are different responsibilities for the County Council for those schools that are maintained by the local authority and those that are academies, following a series of national policy changes. A paper was presented to Cabinet on March 7 on the [future relationship between the County Council, schools and academies](#) which will set the direction for the role of the local authority in relation to standards in the future.

3.1.2 *Ratio of lower quartile house prices to lower quartile earnings*

This indicator illustrates how difficult it is for people on lower incomes to access affordable housing. The affordability gap between low earnings and house prices continues to worsen in Dorset and is significantly higher than the national average.

Dorset County Council is neither a Housing Authority nor a Planning Authority in respect of housing. We can facilitate the delivery of housing by controlling and influencing the development and use of the land that we own, working closely with our District and Borough Council partners.

We are, however, a Social Care authority, and the scarcity of affordable housing in Dorset contributes to a shortage of key social care workers. Additionally, we need to address the housing needs of the anticipated 258 Adult Social Care clients who will need rehousing over the next 4 years, including around 160 in the next year, due to discharge from hospital, moving on from home, or current inappropriate accommodation. These are mainly clients with Learning Disabilities or Mental Health problems, many of whom have complex needs, and for whom the limited supply of general needs housing available through the Housing Register is usually inappropriate.

Plans are already in place to use County Council land for a range of innovative solutions to address these needs. These include "care villages" located close to existing amenities in areas such as Bridport and Wareham, which will include care services, extra care housing, and key worker accommodation.

We are already developing advanced proposals, in partnership with Purbeck District Council, to supplement this with high quality, modern, prefabricated modular housing - initially 30 units, with the possibility of this rising to 150 units (see [Supply of housing to meet need of people with Adult Social Care need](#), Cabinet, 7-03-18).

There are a number of advantages to this approach:

- Modular accommodation can be sourced and onsite within a 6 month period compared to up to three years for traditional approaches such as design and build, or purchase and refurbishment.
- It offers flexibility - with modular housing we can develop a portfolio of houses across the County, and site works and utility connections are low cost and allow the units to be easily disconnected and the units moved to another site. This means that we can site the units to meet local demand on sites that the Council owns at relatively low cost. This lends itself to a model whereby sites identified for future development can host modular housing prior to development (often two to three years).
- Modular housing is considerably cheaper at £45,000 per unit against £100,000 for a house in multiple occupancy or £216,000 for single occupancy.

Understandably, the issue of affordable housing is usually discussed within the context of economic growth and prosperity. It is important to note, however, that innovative solutions such as this can make a powerful contribution to all four of the County Council's outcomes, providing **safe** and **healthy** homes for vulnerable people and their carers, alongside appropriate service provision, which can significantly reduce hospital admissions and give people the opportunity to live more **independent** lives.

4.0 Summary of Committee Activity in Response to Outcome Reports

4.1 Road Conditions

- 4.1.1 Recent outcomes reports have highlighted a slight decline in road conditions on both principal and non-principal roads, after an extended period where the percentage of roads in need of maintenance has been very low. The Service Director for Highways and Emergency Planning acknowledged to the committee that this was an issue requiring further investigation. Worsening performance for road conditions is linked to reduced resources available for road maintenance. There was also a busier start to

the winter period compared to recent years, requiring a high number of salting actions, which can impact on performance elsewhere in the service, with staff resource redirected to winter gritting. The recent snow events and subsequent thaw have inevitably exacerbated issues of road conditions and especially localised potholes. The committee welcomed an update on the Working Together Highways Initiative, through which the County Council seeks to support and maximise the contributions that the voluntary and community sector and Parish and Town Councils can make to enhanced road maintenance in the county.

4.1.2 The committee agreed to establish a Policy Development Panel on Highway Maintenance, to review arrangements in place, and to ensure that collaborative arrangements for minor highway maintenance activities remain successful.

4.2 Educational attainment

4.2.1 The January committee discussed Key Stage 4 attainment levels and the inequalities that exist across Dorset. The committee asked to receive regular updates on this issue, and for 2016-17 data to be presented to the committee in March, which is included in this report (see above).

4.2.2 The discussion in January broadened to the issue of social mobility more generally, and the recently reported statistic that Weymouth and Portland has among the lowest rates of social mobility nationally. It was noted that the government had made "Opportunity Area" funding available for a number of areas of the country experiencing low levels of mobility, all of which had higher levels of social mobility than Weymouth and Portland. The committee asked for further investigation as to why Dorset had been unable to secure this funding. In response, the Assistant Director for Children's Services advised that to date, no formal bid or expression of interest for an "Opportunity Area" had been submitted. More generally, the committee had an appetite to look further into the issue of social mobility and its impact on economic growth.

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Prosperous



Outcome Sponsor – Mike Harries

Director for Environment and the Economy



Outcomes Focused Monitoring Report

March 2018

The following pages have been provided to summarise the current position against each outcome indicator and performance measure. This will help the council to identify and focus upon potential areas for further scrutiny. All risks are drawn from the [Corporate Risk Register](#) and mapped against specific population indicators where relevant. Any further corporate risks that relate to the 'Prosperous' outcome is also included to provide a full overview. Please note that information relating to outcomes and shared accountability can be found on the [Dorset Outcomes Tracker](#).

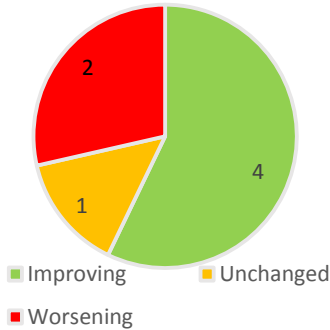
Contents	
Population Indicator	Page No
Executive Summary	3
01: The productivity of Dorset's businesses	4
02: Rate of start-ups of new business enterprises	5
03: Percentage of children achieving the 'Basics' measures at Key Stage 4	6
04: Percentage of residents educated to level 4 (or equivalent) and above	7
05: Ratio of lower quartile house prices to lower quartile earnings	8
06: Rates of coverage of superfast broadband	9
07: Apprenticeship starts as % of population aged 16-64	10
Corporate Risks that feature within PROSPEROUS but are not assigned to a specific Population Indicator	11
Key to risk and performance assessments	11
Contact	12



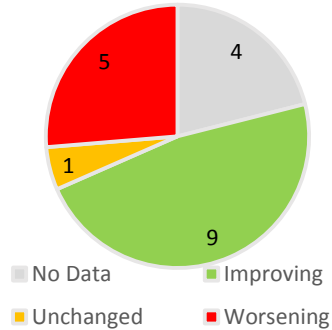
Corporate Plan 2017-18: Dorset County Council's Outcomes and Performance Framework

PROSPEROUS – Executive Summary

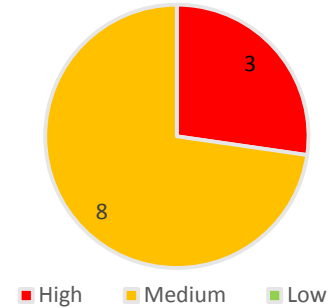
**Population Indicators
(7 in total)**



**Performance Measures
(Currently 19 in total)**



**Risks
(Currently 11 in total)**



Suggested Indicators for Focus

Percentage of children achieving the 'Basics' measures at Key Stage 4

Ratio of lower quartile house prices to lower quartile earnings

Suggested Measures for Focus

Number of schools below the floor (Progress 8)

Average progress 8 score per pupil
Percentage basics (Good pass in English and Maths)

Suggested Risks for Focus

09a Unable to provide sufficient school places (Basic Need)

17c – Insufficient professional capability/capacity to deliver the full programme of change for Local Government Reorganisation within the identified timescales without impacting negatively on Forward Together savings programme

14g – The implications of Brexit (impacts on Dorset businesses and employees)

PROSPEROUS: 01 Population Indicator - The productivity of Dorset's businesses (GVA per hour worked) - Outcome Lead Officer
 Maxine Bodell; Population Indicator Lead Officer David Walsh

DORSET - Previous (2015) 84.9; Latest (2016) 85.3		
DORSET - Trend IMPROVING	G	
COMPARATOR - Benchmark (South West) 89.9 - WORSE	R	

Story behind the baseline: In Dorset, GVA per hour worked (productivity) is below the national average and has been for some time. Dorset compares well with neighbours to the west, but less well compared with neighbours to the north and east. This may reflect a number of factors including: the structure of industry and employment opportunities e.g. high representation of tourism related jobs, availability of appropriately skilled workers - skills shortage vacancies suggest a gap in skilled trades - an above average percentage of part time jobs, lack of dynamism and low competitiveness in the local economy, distance from and lack of significant population centres, connectivity and supply chain issues, and lifestyle choices such as above average self-employment. **Why does it matter?** Raising productivity is key to improving living standards sustainably in the long term. Productivity leads to economic growth, which leads to better income levels and improved well-being. **Partners with a significant role to play:** Dorset LEP, District and Borough councils, Businesses

Performance Measure(s) – Trend Lines	
<p>% of highway network where maintenance should be considered</p> <p>Latest 2017-18 – A Roads 4%, B & C Roads 5%</p>	
<p>Funding secured for the delivery of transport improvement schemes</p> <p>Previous 2015-16 - £2.29M</p> <p>Latest 2016-17 - £5.65M</p>	
<p>Leader indicative allocation invested in active interventions</p> <p>Previous Qtr 1 2017-18 – £0.468M</p> <p>Latest Qtr 2 2017-18 – £0.714M</p>	
<p>Growing Places Fund invested in active interventions</p> <p>Previous Qtr 1 2017-18 – 84.7%</p> <p>Latest Qtr 2 2017-18 – 80.3%</p>	

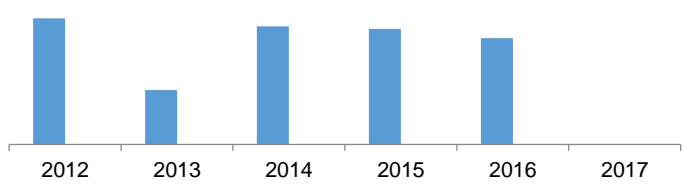
Corporate Risk	Score	Trend
No associated current corporate risk(s)		
Value for Money - UNDER DEVELOPMENT	Latest	Rank

What are we doing about it? Dorset County Council focuses attention on supporting infrastructure such as improving broadband connectivity and maintaining highways, both of which should enable businesses and workers to do their jobs better. Whilst road condition has dropped this year this follows a sustained period of improvement over the last few years. This drop reflects changes to the way the County Council has funded its investment programme. Working in partnership with other local authorities, the Dorset LEP and the Dorset Chamber of Commerce and Industry we also seek out and exploit funding avenues provided by Europe, our Government and other bodies to increase investment in the County. These such as the transport funding reported here are on top of annual government settlements and help us provide infrastructure improvements to unlock growth. Opportunities to bid for competitive government grants or other third-party funding arise on an ad hoc basis and will change from year to year. Our success will also depend on the national agenda. Recently national transport funds have been directed towards the 'Midlands Engine' and 'Northern Powerhouse'. Some funding streams such as LEADER allow us to provide grants to make rural businesses more efficient. Others such as the Growing Fund allow us to provide loans, meaning that money is reinvested back into the fund and hence is available to support the development of more businesses.

PROPEROUS: 02 Population Indicator - Rate of start-ups of new business enterprises - Outcome Lead Officer Maxine Bodell; Population Indicator Lead Officer David Walsh			
DORSET - Previous (2015) 81.9; Latest (2016) 81.9			
DORSET - Trend IMPROVING	G		
COMPARATOR - Benchmark (England & Wales) WORSE 107.3	R		
<p>Story behind the baseline: In Dorset, annual growth in the number of business births per 10,000 population aged 16-64 is below the national average and has changed little in the last three years. This could reflect several factors such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lack of available employment land in the right location, • A lack of choice of suitable employment premises in the right location, • A lack of innovation/dynamism in local economy, or • Quality of life/lifestyle issues meaning that new business owners may not wish to expand <p>Dorset Innovation Park (Enterprise Zone) was officially launched on Friday 26 January 2018. The launch event took place in the newly completed extension to the Atlas Electronic UK manufacturing building, and coincided with the official opening of twenty small business units constructed by Dorset County and Purbeck District Councils, in association with the Dorset LEP. Commercial interest in the units has been encouraging and the first occupants should be in situ soon. The launch also saw the publication of marketing material for use at local and international levels.</p> <p>Why does it matter? Expansion in the number of businesses should lead to more jobs for residents which, in turn, should increase incomes and well-being. Ideally, businesses should offer quality jobs i.e. higher value added to raise productivity levels.</p> <p>Partners with a significant role to play: Dorset LEP, District and Borough councils, Businesses</p>			
<p>Performance Measure(s) – Trend Lines - The Dorset Enterprise Zone came into force on 1 April 2017, so data for these performance measures will accumulate over time</p>			
<p>Amount of workspace created or serviced at the Dorset Enterprise Park</p> <p>Previous Q2 17-18 – 0</p> <p>Latest Q3 17-18 – 20</p>			
<p>Number of new enterprises created or safeguarded at the Dorset Enterprise Park</p> <p>Previous Q2 17-18 – 0</p> <p>Latest Q3 17-18 – 0</p>			
Corporate Risk		Score	Trend
No associated current corporate risk(s)			
Value for Money - UNDER DEVELOPMENT		Latest	Rank
<p>What are we doing about it? Through the workspace and other economic strategies, Dorset County Council is working with local partners to plan for economic growth. In addition, we actively promote inward investment hosting the ‘Property Pilot’, promoting Dorset as a location to do business at fairs and exhibitions and following up any leads with potential investors. As a land owner, the County Council can dispose of its own land for use by Employment and more recently in partnership with Purbeck District Council and the Dorset LEP has purchased Dorset Innovation Park.</p> <p>As the landlord, we are promoting the Enterprise Zone as a location for business and are also developing for sale or lease a range of starter business units. Construction is nearing completion and good levels of interest is being shown from prospective clients.</p>			

PROSPEROUS: 03 Population Indicator - Percentage of children achieving the 'Basics' measures at Key Stage 4 - Outcome Lead Officer Maxine Bodell; Population Indicator Lead Officer Doug Gilbert

DORSET - Previous (2015) 58.7%; Latest (2016) 58%	
DORSET - Trend WORSENING	R
COMPARATOR - Benchmark (England & Wales) BETTER 54%	G



Story behind the baseline: KS4 no longer has the 5 A*-C type measure, as 2017 saw a change in the grading system for English & Maths – from A/B/C etc. to a numbering system: a standard pass is now a grade 4 or above; a good pass is now 5 or above. It isn't directly comparable to previous years but does allow for benchmarking. The measure is now: "Average progress 8 score" and we have two years' worth of data. Dorset figures are 2015/16: -0.04; 2016/17: -0.15. **Note that the figures are negative.** The score involves comparing pupils with similar prior attainment scores (ie at KS2) and their progress across 8 subjects including English and Maths. These can then be aggregated to school or LA level. The principal is that a positive score compares favourably with the national average, whilst a negative score is not so good. Therefore, Dorset's score has worsened compared to last year but this is also the pattern for statistical neighbours. Although the national figure is always 0 it should be noted that the national average for state funded schools is -0.03. For context, the range nationally varies from -0.77 to +0.5. Dorset Progress 8 results dipped in 2017 – as did those in most LAs in the South West. Whilst many schools improved, some dipped in results in 2017, in addition Dorset 'gained' 2 new schools with low results in 2017 (Parkfield School and Dorset Studio School). Performance at a local level is variable and tends to reflect overall school performance.

Why does it matter? Achieving a good education at this stage allows pupils to continue in education or training and increases both employability and life chances.

Partners with a significant role to play: Ofsted, DFE, Regional Schools Commissioner and Wessex School Improvement Board.

Performance Measure(s) – Trend Lines

<p>Average progress 8 score per pupil</p> <p>Previous 2015-16 = -0.04</p> <p>Latest 2016-17 = -0.15</p>	
<p>Number of schools below the floor (progress 8) (a floor standard is the standard below which it is unacceptable for any school to fall even in one year and where immediate scrutiny and/or intervention may be required)</p> <p>Previous 2015 -16 – 1</p> <p>Latest 2016 -17 – 4</p>	
<p>Percentage of coasting schools (where over three years, pupils are thought not to be progressing as much as they should)</p> <p>Previous 2015-16 – 10.5%</p> <p>Latest 2016-17 – 5.6%</p>	
<p>Percentage basics (Good pass in English and Maths)</p> <p>Previous 2016 – 65%</p> <p>Latest 2017 – 63%</p>	
<p>Looked after children GCSE A* to C in English and Maths</p> <p>Previous 2016 – 23%</p> <p>Latest 2017 – 23%</p>	

Corporate Risk	Score	Trend
09a Unable to provide sufficient school places (Basic Need)	HIGH	UNCHANGED

What are we doing? DCC works closely with schools to ensure that all pupils can perform to the best of their ability. We engage in performance reviews and risk assessments to identify underperformance. Schools identified as causing concern receive targeted support and intervention. Where appropriate this may also include use of National Leaders of Education, as well as consultations with parties such as the RSC/Ofsted and the Diocese to review the impact of support and agree next steps. Performance advisors and Area advisors review Pyramid and MAT performance through data reviews through the year. DCC also combines with high performing schools to apply for improvement or emergency funding where appropriate. There are different responsibilities for the county council for those schools that are maintained by the local authority and those that are academies, following a series of national policy changes. A paper is being presented to Cabinet in March on the [future relationship between the County Council, schools and academies](#) which will set the direction for the role of the local authority in relation to standards in the future.

PROSPEROUS: 04 Population Indicator - Percentage of residents educated to level 4 (or equivalent) and above - Outcome
 Lead Officer Maxine Bodell; Population Indicator Lead Officer Anne Gray

DORSET - Previous (2015) 33.9%, Latest (2016) 35.9%		
DORSET - Trend IMPROVING	G	
COMPARATOR - Benchmark (South West) WORSE 37.8%	R	

Story behind the baseline: Level 4 is equivalent to having a Higher National Certificate (HNC). In Dorset, the percentage of residents qualified to NVQ4+ is mostly above the national average but dropped below in the last year. Care: data is drawn from a household sample survey so year to year changes can reflect statistical error. Raising skill levels in the workforce at level 4+ would help reduce skills shortage vacancies, especially for skilled trade’s occupations. Higher level Apprenticeships and the continuation of learning whilst in work would help address this. The development of higher level apprenticeships will be supported by the Apprenticeship reforms 2017, where Levy funding will enable the take up of higher level apprenticeships by employers, and the opportunity to up-skill existing staff to a higher level through the apprenticeship route.

Why does it matter? Level 4 skills are key to future jobs. Raising skill levels in the workforce would help reduce skill shortage vacancies, especially for skilled trade occupations. Ageing of the workforce means employers need to upskill their workforces for succession planning. Higher skill levels give workers the opportunity to apply for better jobs, have greater job satisfaction and enhances well-being. The availability of a higher skilled labour pool will attract new employers and investment thus raising the quality of jobs and productivity.

Partners with a significant role to play: Dorset LEP, District and Borough councils, Businesses

Performance Measure(s) – Trend Lines

<p>Students going to UK higher education institutions after key stage 5 (including deferred entry)</p> <p>Previous 2014-15 – 52</p> <p>Latest 2015-16 – 54</p>	
<p>Percentage of all apprenticeships taken at a higher level</p> <p>Latest 2014-15 – 1.6%</p> <p>Latest 2015-16 – 3.4%</p>	

Corporate Risk	Score	Trend
No associated current corporate risk(s)		
Value for Money - UNDER DEVELOPMENT	Latest	Rank

What are we doing about it? Dorset County Council works with partners to ensure that they understand that increasing the number of young people entering Higher Education and upskilling adults to Level 4 helps the local economy meet its needs. DCC and partners work together to ensure that all young people and their parents are aware of all post 16 opportunities and are supported and encouraged to use this knowledge when making decisions. DCC are working with the Dorset LEP and partners to provide information about the labour market's need to inform pupil's choices about careers and to assist schools and colleges when designing their curriculum.

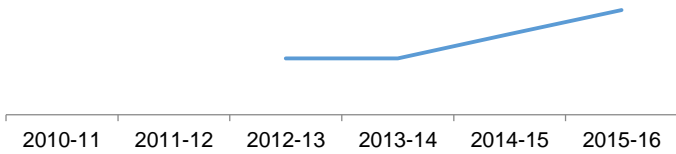
PROSPEROUS: 05 Population Indicator - Ratio of lower quartile house prices to lower quartile earnings - Outcome Lead
 Officer Maxine Bodell; Population Indicator Lead Officer Maxine Bodell

DORSET - Previous (2015) 10, Latest (2016) 10.3

DORSET - Trend WORSENING

R
R

COMPARATOR - Benchmark (England)
 WORSE 7.2



Story behind the baseline: This indicator illustrates how difficult it is for people on lower incomes to access affordable housing. The affordability gap between low earnings and house prices continues to worsen in Dorset and is significantly higher than the national average. The reasons for this are complex, but include:

- relatively lower salaries and productivity levels in the economy
- higher concentrations of certain lower paid sectors in parts of Dorset such as some services and tourism and the rural economy
- constraints on housing land supply such as international habitats

Why does it matter? If young workers cannot afford to live in the area, they are likely to seek employment in other areas where they can. This could lead to a loss of skills and labour. In addition, if employers cannot recruit the skilled people they need, they too may relocate. Also the lack of affordable housing acutely contributes to a shortage of key social care workers. Additionally, we need to address the housing needs of the anticipated 258 Adult Social Care clients who will need rehousing over the next 4 years, including around 160 in the next year, due to discharge from hospital, moving on from home, or current inappropriate accommodation. These are mainly clients with Learning Disabilities or Mental Health problems, many of whom have complex needs, and for whom the limited supply of general needs housing available through the Housing Register is usually inappropriate. See below - **What are we doing about it?** - for further information.

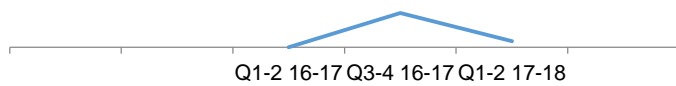
Partners with a significant role to play: Partners: Local planning authorities; Housing providers; Developers; Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership; education and skills development agencies such as local education authorities, universities, FE colleges and employers.

Performance Measure(s) – Trend Lines

Number of new homes to be delivered on DCC land disposals

Previous Q3 - 4 16-17 – 110

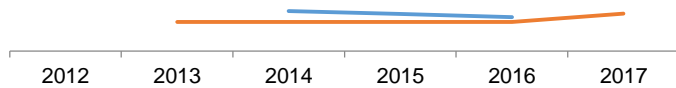
Latest Q1 - 2 17-18 – 20



Landbank of permitted reserves of sand and gravel maintained in Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole (million tonnes) Target 7.00

Previous 2015 – 8.92

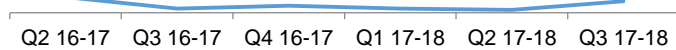
Latest 2016 – 8.2



Responses made on behalf of DCC to consultations on Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans

Previous Q2 17-18 – 2

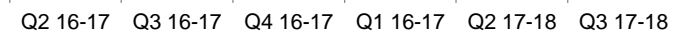
Latest Q3 17-18 – 8



Responses made by Highway Authority to planning applications (within 21 days)

Previous Q2 17-18 – 452

Latest Q3 17-18 – 505



Corporate Risk

Score

Trend

No associated current corporate risk(s)

What are we doing about it? Dorset County Council is neither a Housing Authority, nor a Planning Authority in respect of housing. We can facilitate the delivery of housing by controlling and influencing the development and use of the land that we own, working closely with our District and Borough Council partners. Plans are in place to use County Council land for a range of innovative solutions to address the needs of social care clients and carers. These include "care villages", which will include care services, extra care housing, and key worker accommodation. There are also proposals to supplement this with modern prefabricated modular housing, which is purpose built, quick to provide, flexible, and relatively inexpensive (see [Supply of housing to meet need of people with Adult Social Care need](#), Cabinet, 7-03-18).

PROSPEROUS: 06 Population Indicator - Rates of coverage of superfast broadband - Outcome Lead Officer Maxine Bodell;
Population Indicator Lead Officer Pete Bartlett

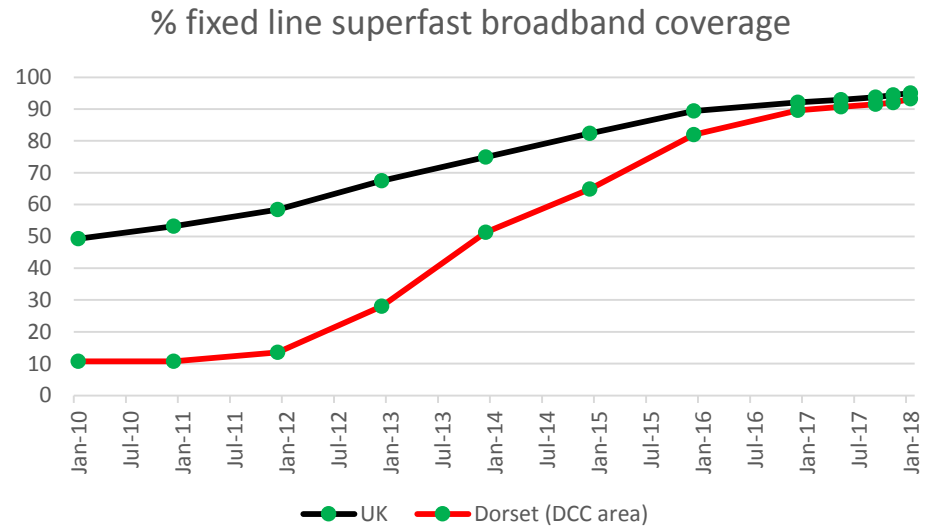
DORSET (DCC AREA) - Previous (2017)
92%, Latest (January 2018) 93.2%

DORSET (DCC AREA) - Trend
IMPROVING

G

COMPARATOR - Benchmark
(UK) SIMILAR 95%

A



Story behind the baseline: Ofcom’s December 2017 report [Connected Nations](#) report summarises the national digital infrastructure position. Detail of Dorset coverage, future and a postcode checker are available here: <https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/superfast>

Superfast Broadband Coverage: National and Dorset coverage data independently sourced from <https://labs.thinkbroadband.com/local/uk> (January 2018 – updated monthly). More local programme data is also available, but this does not provide a valid national comparator. The Superfast Dorset programme is a partnership programme between all district, borough and unitary authorities across Dorset, Poole and Bournemouth. 3 contracts have been let to BT to deliver improved broadband in areas of market failure where there are no commercial plans.

Take up of publicly subsidised superfast broadband is 43% (January 2018), above the contractually modelled 20% target. The first contract was let to BT in July 2013 and has now completed its delivery phase, the second contract let in May 2015 is in deployment, and the third contract let in July 2017 is planned to start deployment at the end of this year. These 3 combined with private sector deployments will provide 98% coverage across the partnership area by completion. Mobile 4G coverage: Performance data on mobile digital coverage levels are not available nationally or locally. Ofcom’s postcode checker is available: <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/phones-telecoms-and-internet/advice-for-consumers/advice/ofcom-checker>

Why does it matter? Wider access to Superfast Broadband saves businesses time and money and allows them to work in new or different ways and access new markets. This leads to productivity gains and new jobs, as job creation is higher in connected businesses than non-connected. Greater connectivity also opens opportunities for employees to work remotely from home thus improving their life/work balance and help reduce carbon footprints.

Corporate Risk	Score	Trend
No associated current corporate risk(s)		
Value for Money - UNDER DEVELOPMENT	Latest	Rank

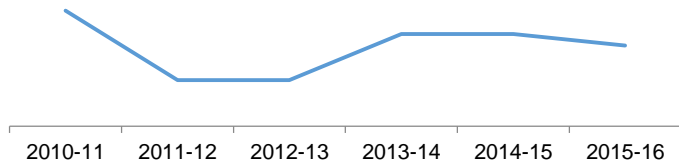
What are we doing about it? Dorset County Council manages the rollout of fixed line digital infrastructure across eligible areas of the county. The move to ubiquitous coverage is being supported by the Superfast Dorset programme working to utilise capital underspends and gain share earmarked for faster broadband, and network expansion, applications have been submitted into the Defra Rural Broadband Infrastructure challenge fund and DCMS Local Fibre Network programme and the [Better Broadband Subsidy Scheme](#) has been extended until December 2018

PROSPEROUS: 07 Population Indicator - Apprenticeship starts as % of population aged 16-64 - Outcome Lead Officer Maxine Bodell; Population Indicator Lead Officer Anne Gray

DORSET - Previous (August 2015) 2.4%, Latest (August 2016) 2.35%

DORSET - Trend UNCHANGED

A
G



COMPARATOR - Benchmark (UK) BETTER 1.5%

Story behind the baseline: In Dorset, Apprenticeship starts of all ages expressed as a percentage of residents aged 16-64 years is above the national average. The number of starts dropped over the year (provisional) both locally and nationally. Qualifications of young people and skill levels in the workforce are a driver of productivity so the availability of good quality Apprenticeships is important for Dorset. The actual number of Apprenticeship starts in Dorset seems to fluctuate. Starts dropped by 100 over the last year, down from 5,650 to 5,550. The number of starts may be affected by:

- Employer awareness of Apprenticeships and the breadth of vocational areas on offer.
- Employers unaware of additional funding for apprenticeships in small businesses.
- Low number of apprenticeship opportunities in rural areas.
- Wider awareness of Apprenticeships as a route to employment and perception of this by schools/parents/young people as a 'second class' option;
- Quality of Apprenticeships on offer in terms of training and employment opportunities.

Why does it matter? Raising qualifications and skill levels through apprenticeships will help raise productivity. The availability of a higher skilled labour pool will attract new employers and investment. Helping workers to gain higher skills opens opportunities for them to apply for better jobs.

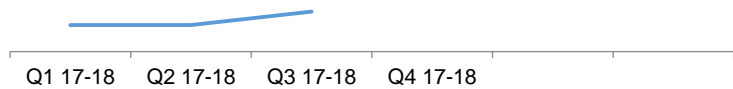
Partners with a significant role to play: Dorset LEP, District and Borough councils, Businesses

Performance Measure(s) – Trend Lines

Cumulative number of new DCC apprenticeships starts between 2017-2021 (NEW SCHEME) against target 209

Previous Q2 17-18 – 32

Latest Q3 17-18 – 38



Corporate Risk

Score

Trend

No associated current corporate risk(s)

Value for Money - UNDER DEVELOPMENT

Latest

Rank

What are we doing about it? Dorset County Council works with partners to ensure that all young people are aware of all post 16 opportunities available and supports and encourages them to use this knowledge when making decisions. As a major employer, it is also a contributor to the governments Apprenticeship Levy which aims to increase opportunities for apprenticeships and it uses this to provide opportunities for apprenticeships across the range of DCC functions.

These include higher level apprenticeships that enable a career to be developed within mainstream professions. The target is to recruit 209 apprentices by 2021. After a promising start the level of recruitment dropped in Q3 due to the need to resolve the process for procuring providers through the new Dynamic Purchasing System. This is now set up and working efficiently with recruitment in Q4 back on track.

Corporate Risks that feature within PROSPEROUS but are not assigned to a specific POPULATION INDICATOR (All risks are taken from the Corporate Risk Register)		
17c - Insufficient professional capability/capacity to deliver the full programme of change for Local Government Reorganisation within the identified timescales without impacting negatively on Forward Together savings programme	HIGH	WORSENING
14g - The implications of Brexit (impacts on Dorset businesses and employees)	HIGH	NEW
17b - Lack of support for proposed structure of local government in Dorset (Local Councils)	MEDIUM	IMPROVING
07a - Failure to sustain an effective relationship across the Dorset Waste Partnership	MEDIUM	UNCHANGED
08a - Failure to maximise income generation opportunities and debt recovery across the Adult & Community Services Directorate	MEDIUM	IMPROVING
08d - Sustainability of our traded education services	MEDIUM	WORSENING
15c - Major service failure associated with transport provision for schools	MEDIUM	IMPROVING
02f - Future negative school improvement inspection	MEDIUM	NEW
01m - Failure to deliver effective home to school transport within a balanced budget (Mainstream and SEN)	MEDIUM	IMPROVING
09f - failure to adapt services and communities to the impacts of a changing climate	MEDIUM	UNCHANGED

Key to risk and performance assessments			
Corporate Risk(s)		Trend	
High level risk in the Corporate Risk Register and outside of the Council's Risk Appetite	HIGH	Performance trend line has improved since previous data submission	IMPROVING
Medium level risk in the Corporate Risk Register	MEDIUM	Performance trendline remains unchanged since previous data submission	UNCHANGED
Low level risk in the Corporate Risk Register	LOW	Performance trendline is worse than the previous data submission	WORSENING

Responsibility for Indicators and Measures	
<p>Population Indicator relates to ALL people in each population</p> <p>Shared Responsibility Partners and stakeholders working together</p> <p>Determining the ENDS <i>(Or where we want to be)</i></p>	<p>Performance Measure relates to people in receipt of a service or intervention</p> <p>Direct Responsibility Service providers (and commissioners)</p> <p>Delivering the MEANS <i>(Or how we get there)</i></p>

CONTACT

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Adult Social Care (Value for Money – Benchmarking)

Demographic change and financial constraints may create significant pressures for adult social care services. The information below was taken from the recently launched LG Inform Value for Money platform. <http://vfm.lginform.local.gov.uk/about-vfm>

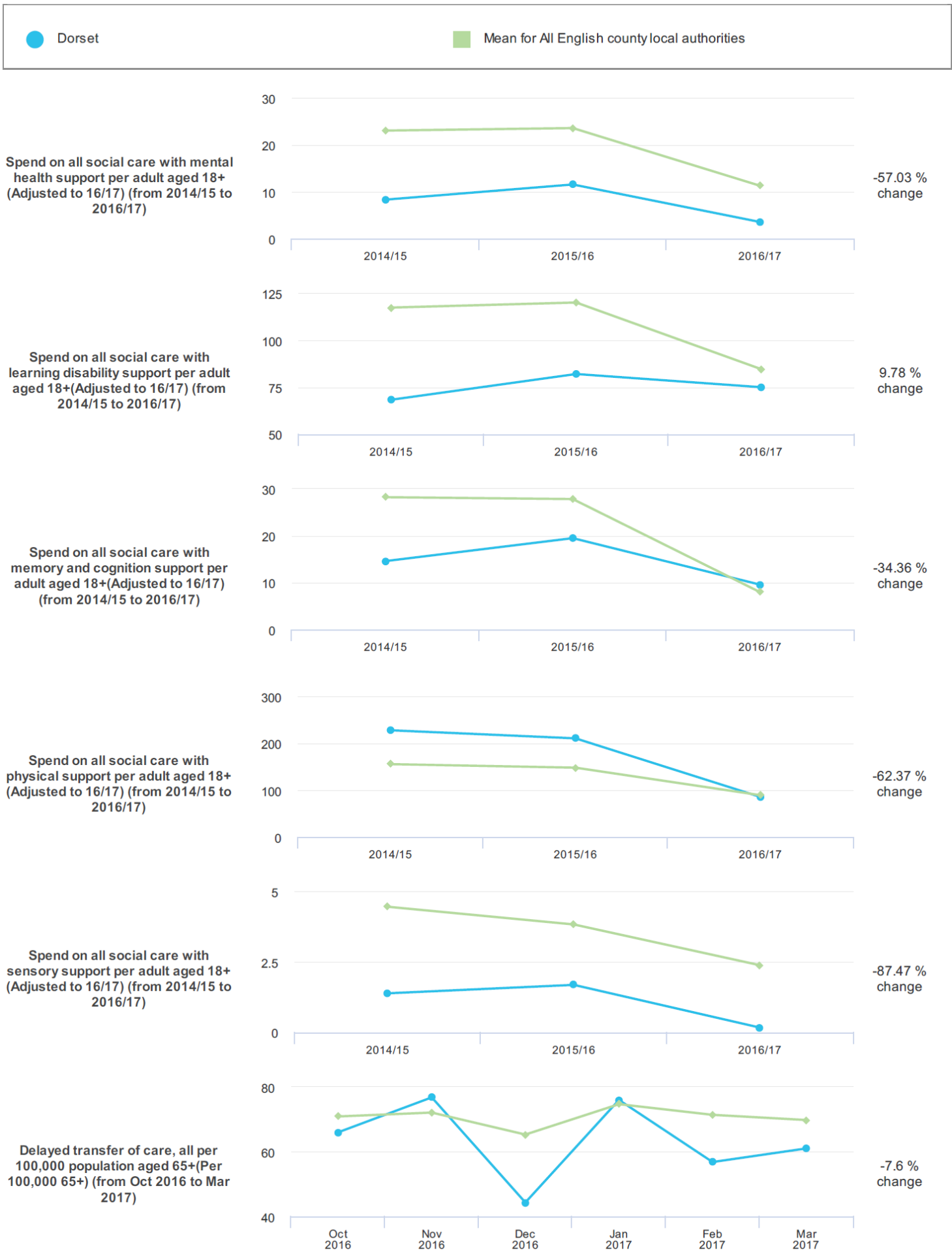
The platform provides information about spending on, and performance for, one of the five client groups (mental health, learning disability, memory and cognition support, physical support and sensory support).

Please note that from 2014-15 onwards data for adult social care is collected in a new data return, Adult Social Care Finance Return (ASCFR). Comparable data is not available for earlier years.

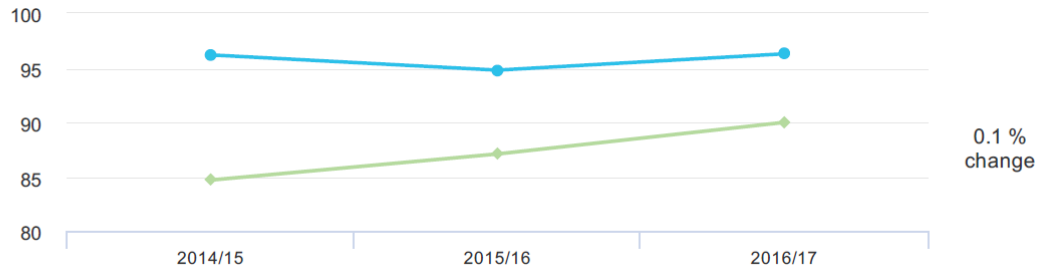
About LG Inform Value for Money profiles: The Local Government Inform (LG Inform) Value for Money (VfM) profiles is the sister tool of LG Inform, and brings together data about the costs, performance and activity of local councils and fire and rescue authorities. The profile can be used by anyone who has an interest in local public services including service users and residents. The data has been presented in a series of theme based reports that provides overview of a given organisation and the services it delivers. For example, in the adult social care section of the council profile there are further sections relating specifically to each of the five different client groups. In Children and Young People there are further sections including education services, schools, Sure Start and early years, looked after children, etc. The content of these detailed sections is designed to allow users to focus on discrete aspects of a service or area of financial management, bringing together measures that provide a focused, but balanced, view of spend and performance.

The VfM profiles use data published by government department and other organisations, much of which are official statistics, and the source of each indicator is included in the detailed metric report.

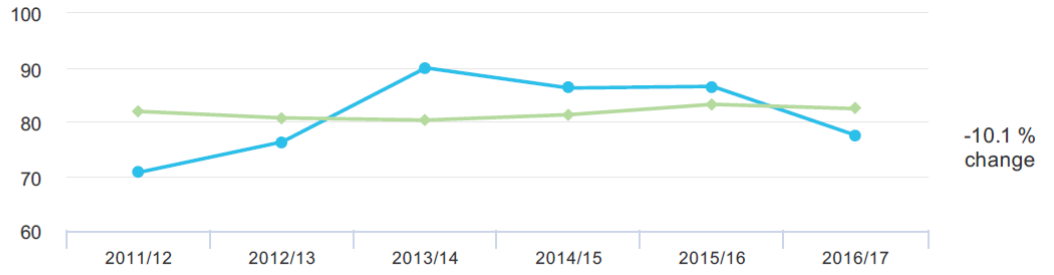
Adult Social Care (Value for Money – Benchmarking)



Adults using social care who receive self-directed support(%)
(from 2014/15 to 2016/17)



Proportion of over 65s who were still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement/rehabilitation services (effectiveness of the service).(%)
(from 2011/12 to 2016/17)



● Dorset

■ Mean for All English county local authorities

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DRAFT Value for Money Measures

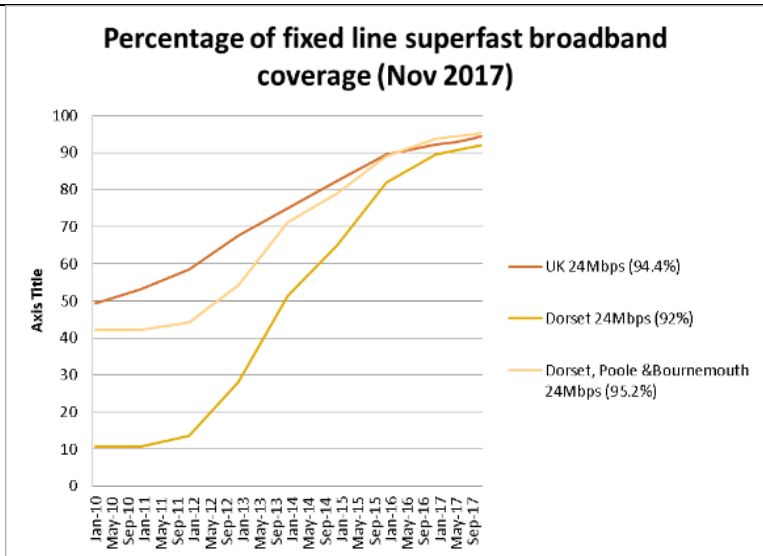
Environment and Economy – January 2018

Coverage of Superfast Broadband

What it tells us: The impact of investment in high levels of fixed line broadband access over 24 Megabits per second (Mbps)

What it doesn't tell us: Benefits come from take up and skilled use of advanced digital services, data is only available for take up on subsidised network infrastructure not across the whole of Dorset

What it means: Digital infrastructure is an enabling infrastructure from which other sectors benefit.

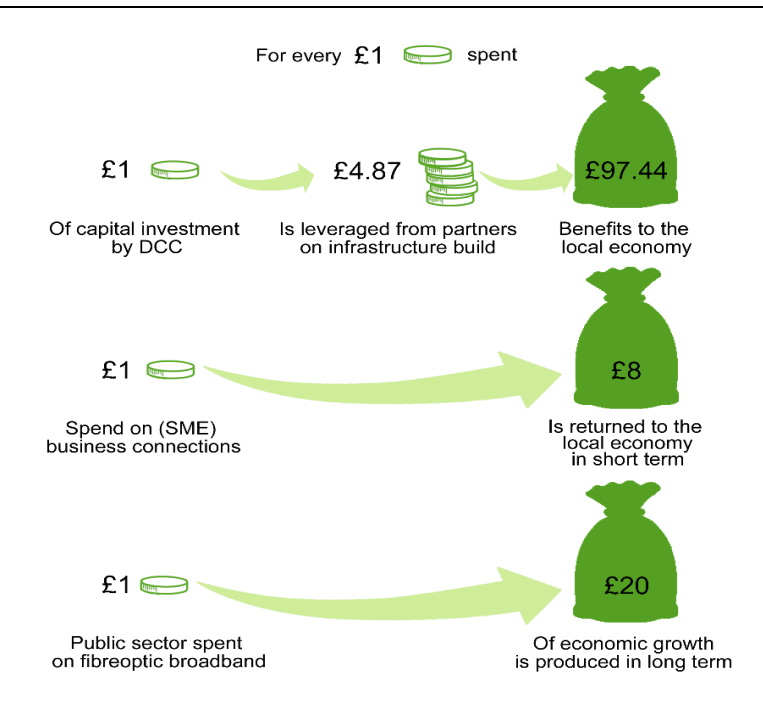


Impact of investing in Superfast Broadband

What it tells us: That the money (£8.6m) invested by DCC levers in a huge investment from other partners and significant benefits to the local economy.

What it doesn't tell us: How many businesses may have been lost because connection is poor. How much demand is still unmet.

What it means: The County Council is making a significant contribution towards making Dorset more productive, more competitive, and better able to attract and grow new businesses.



Dorset Highways Efficiency (Carriageway Maintenance)

What it tells us: How efficiently we deliver our carriageway maintenance function compared to approx. 90 other authorities (on an annual basis – used for DfT Self-Assessment programme for incentivised funding). Rating shows how close an authority is to their theoretical minimum cost, represented by 100%. To aid comparison ratings are categorised into Bands (A top quartile, D bottom quartile).

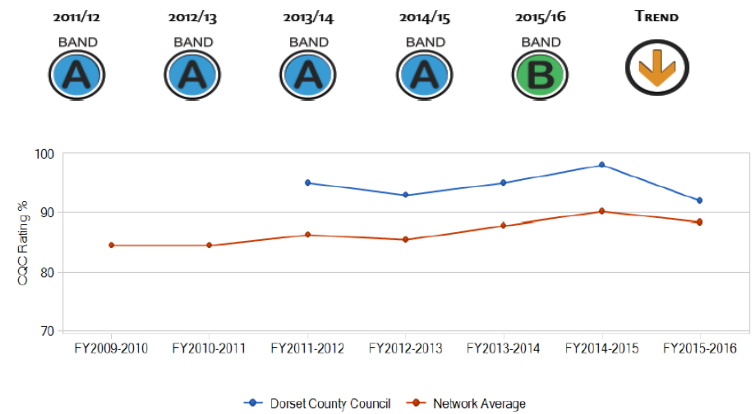
What it doesn't tell us: The statistical model for this exercise is administered by Leeds University. There is still further work to be done to refine the model and methodology to help understand the reasons for change and difference between authorities. Whilst the model considers various factors and statistically adjusts them to compare authorities against an "average minimum cost" to allow fair cost comparisons (such as, network size, traffic, rural/urban split, etc.) it may also still include some factors outside of our control, which may impact on the efficiency score. Once finalised, looking to roll out to other asset groups within Highways. The final 2016-17 report is due in January.

What it means: Comparing expenditure (capital & revenue) with highway condition and customer satisfaction it shows that Dorset is above average for delivery of our carriageway maintenance function. Slight drop in 2015-16 due to drop in customer satisfaction.

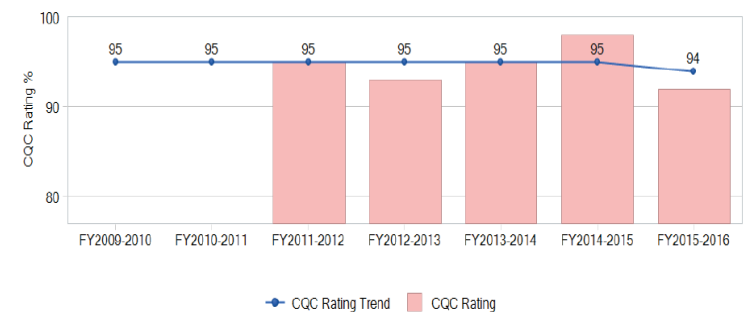
For information – Dorset Highways takes part in many benchmarking exercises. Therefore, further comparisons against our peers is available on request. Further work is also ongoing looking at the correlations between different performance measures (e.g. defects/claims/customer satisfaction).

CQC – Cost, Quality, Customer

Bandings and line chart below represent Dorset's efficiency score when compared to other authorities and the network average.



Graph below shows change in CQC rating over time using a statistical trend line.



DMG Benchmarking Headlines

The top-level headlines below may also help explain our efficiency in delivering our carriageway maintenance function for 2016/17.

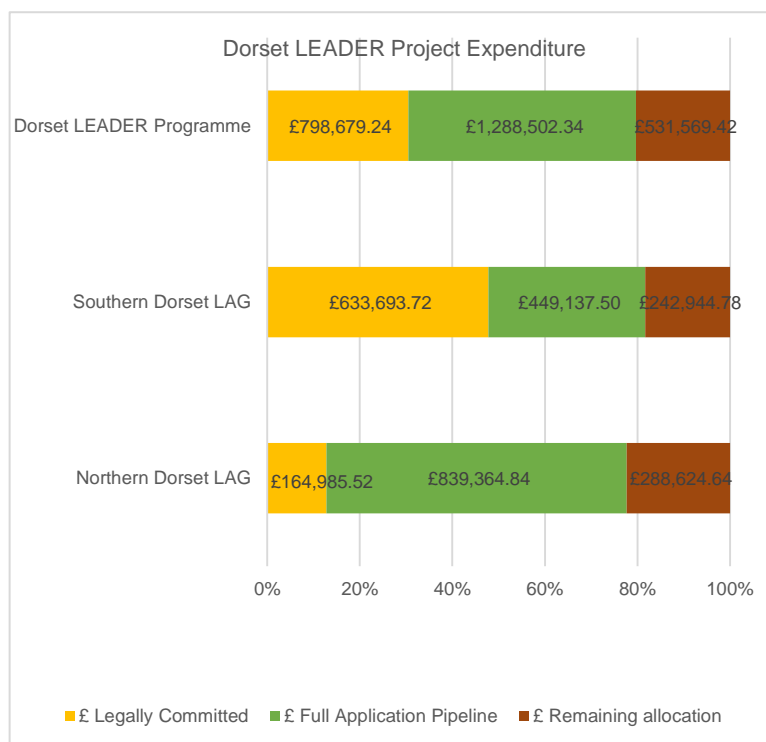
- 2nd lowest revenue works budget (per km) of 18 authorities.
- 9th lowest structural maintenance budget (per km), of 18 authorities, and below average.
- Ranked 15/19 for principal road in need of maintenance (although data range is quite close between authorities).
- 8/19 for non-principal roads in need of maintenance.
- 8/19 for unclassified roads in need of maintenance.
- 10/18 for public satisfaction with road condition and 7/18 for satisfaction with the quality of repair to roads.

Dorset LEADER

What it tells us: LEADER is an EU funded rural development programme, focussed on investment to achieve economic growth. The chart illustrates the amount of funding contracted to projects, the amount tentatively allocated to projects in the pipeline, and the remaining budget to be allocated to projects.

What it doesn't tell us: That all projects are assessed against value for money criteria as part of the assessment process. Neither does it show the impact of the investment in projects. This is being reported and monitored, though most projects are still in the early stages of delivery.

What it means: The proportion of funds committed has increased from £656,000 in Q2 to £799,000 in Q3. The increase in projects in the pipeline reflects a concerted effort to bring projects forward and has reduced the overall remaining allocation to 20% of budget.

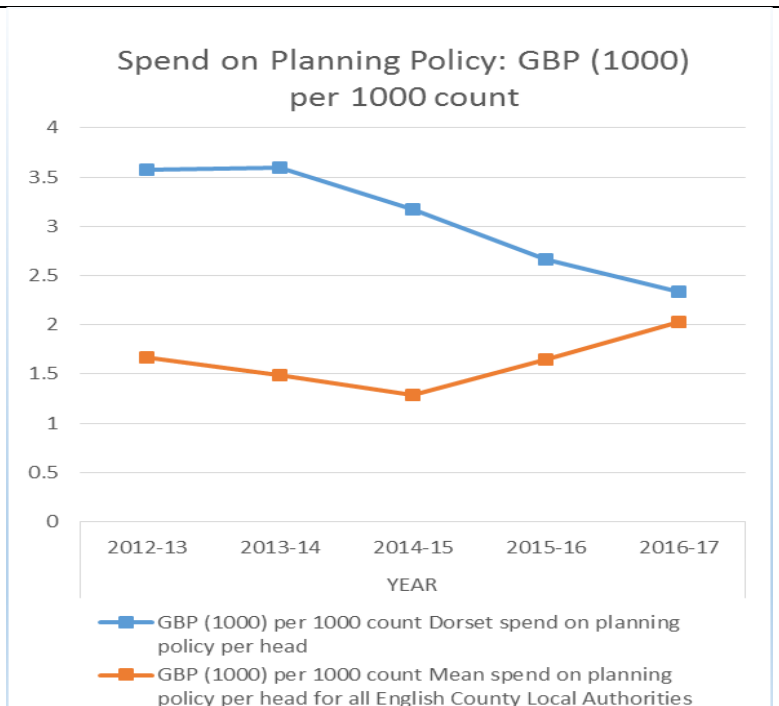


Spend on Planning Policy

What it tells us: Dorset has seen a reduction in spend on planning policy per head of population. Nationally there has been an upturn so the gap has narrowed significantly.

What it doesn't tell us: Dorset has one of the most diverse range of minerals in the country which places a demand upon planning resources. Dorset also receives income from Bournemouth and Poole for delivering the planning policy function on their behalf.

What it means: The planning policy function represents good (and improving) value for money in real terms. However, the benchmark group does also include unitary authorities which have a wider range of planning powers.



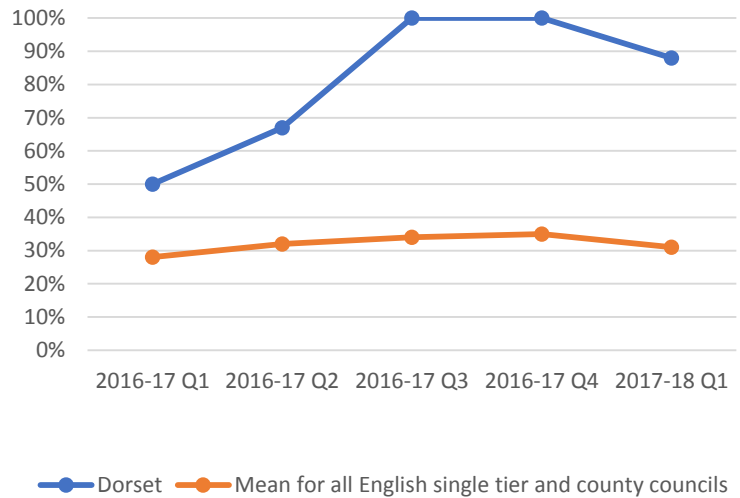
County Matters Applications Determined in a Timely Manner

What it tells us: Dorset is currently performing better than the national average for in the determination of county matters planning applications.

What it doesn't tell us: County matters applications are relatively low in number but high in complexity so performance can be affected by small variations in determination rates.

What it means: The County Council has seen actual and relative improvements in the determination rate of 'major' county matters planning applications. However, the benchmark group does also include unitary authorities which have a wider range of planning powers.

County Matters Planning Applications Determined in a Timely Manner



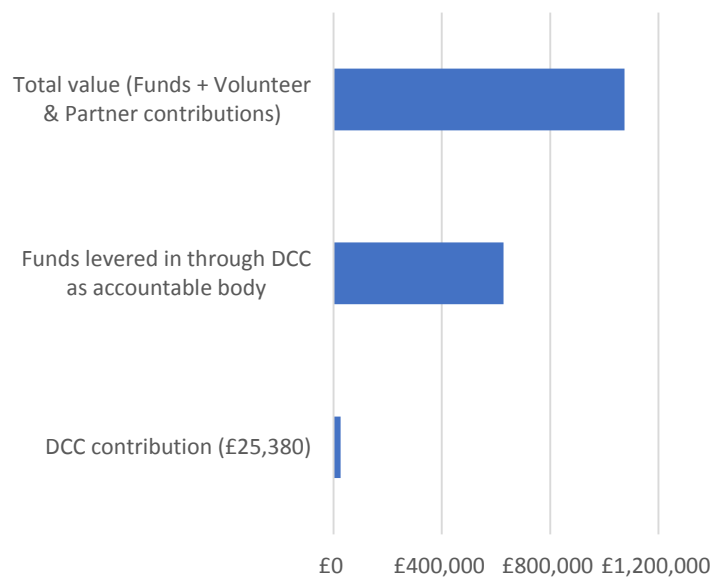
Economic Leverage of County Council contribution to Dorset AONB in 2016-17

What it tells us: The AONB is an effective vehicle for drawing external funds into Dorset for environmental management - each £1 committed by DCC generates £24 in direct spend or £43 in total value.

What it doesn't tell us: The AONB influences £65M in economic output annually (source: Ash Futures, *Dorset's Environmental Economy*, 2015). This broader study cannot be repeated regularly but illustrates the wider value of the AONB's designated landscape.

What it means: The County Council's contribution to the AONB is modest but enables a much higher level of investment in Dorset's landscape which in turn contributes to corporate outcomes on health, wellbeing and prosperity.

Economic Leverage of Dorset AONB in 2016-17

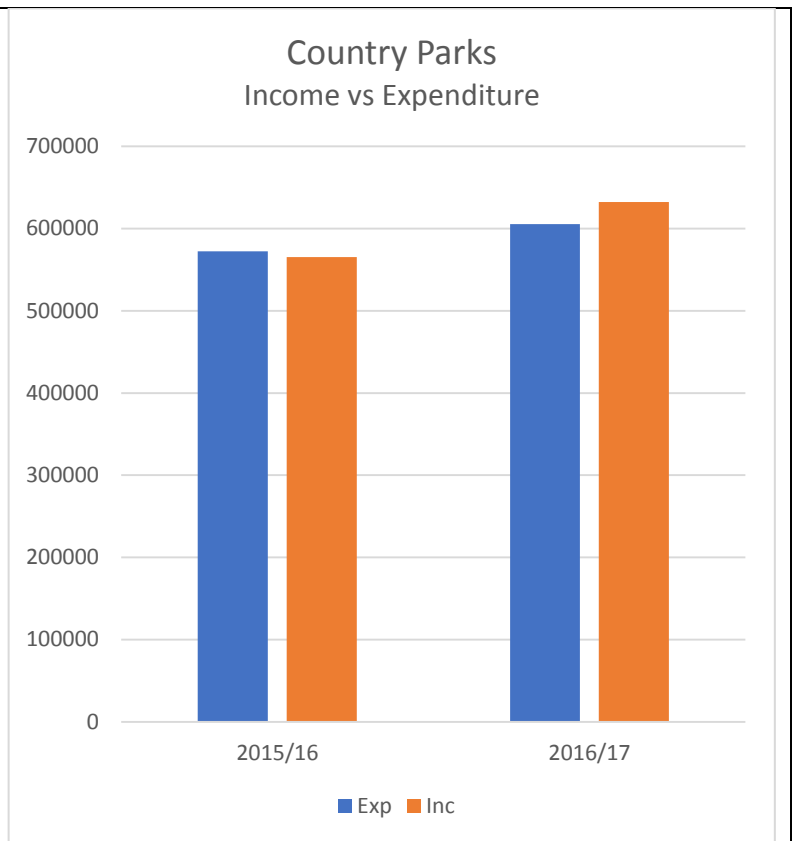


Income and Expenditure at the County Council's Country Parks

What it tells us: The portfolio of Country Parks operated by DCC (Durlston, Avon Heath and Hardy's Visitor Centre) is budgeted to recover above the line costs, with diverse income sources (including catering, events, habitat management and car parking) offsetting expenditure whilst maintaining valued public services.

What it doesn't tell us: As well as being financially sustainable, the Country Parks contribute to corporate outcomes on health and wellbeing (e.g. providing recreational opportunities, access to nature/greenspace) and prosperity (e.g. supporting local businesses and the visitor economy), attracting over 800,000 visitors p.a.

What it means: The modest operating surplus achieved in 2016-17 reflects the continuing focus on maximising income, enabling a high quality public service to be offered at low/no cost to the public purse.



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Statistical Neighbours

Outcomes vs Spend

Local authority name	Overall judgement (OE)	Children who need help and protection	Children looked after and achieving permanence	Children in need – Spend per Head	Looked after children – Spend per Head
Devon	Requires improvement	Requires improvement	Requires improvement	£12,666	£60,834
Devon	Requires improvement	Requires improvement	Requires improvement	£12,033	£46,509
East Sussex	Good	Good	Good	£13,163	£52,698
Gloucestershire	Inadequate	Inadequate	Requires improvement	£10,413	£43,426
North Somerset	Requires improvement	Requires improvement	Requires improvement	£7,631	£36,075
Shropshire	Good	Good	Requires improvement	£9,025	£63,603
Somerset	Inadequate	Inadequate	Inadequate	£12,827	£64,831
Suffolk	Good	Requires improvement	Good	£12,094	£38,946
West Sussex	Requires improvement	Requires improvement	Requires improvement	£14,037	£57,526
Wiltshire	Requires improvement	Requires improvement	Requires improvement	£11,710	£63,448
Worcestershire	Inadequate	Inadequate	Inadequate	£12,870	£57,489

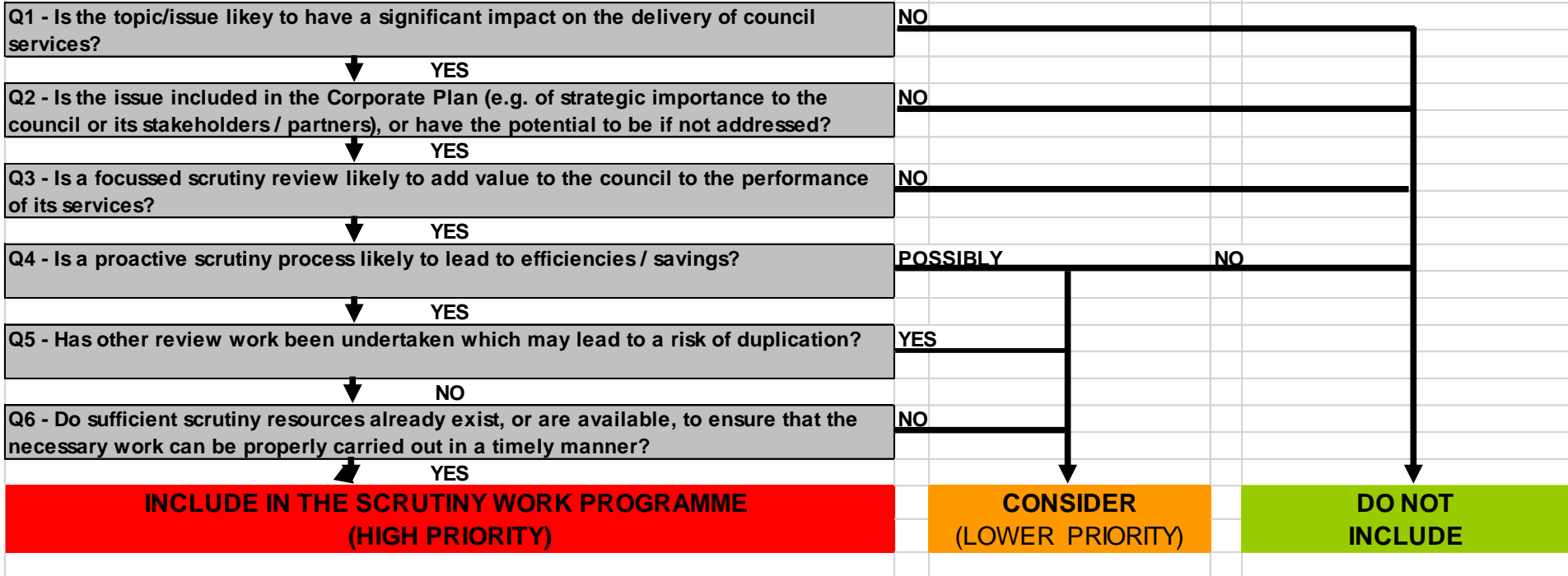
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Economic Growth Overview & Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

Chairman: Ray Bryan
Vice Chairman: Cherry Brooks

Specific issues previously discussed by the Panel for potential further review:	
Priority	<p>For items listed to the left members are asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the prioritisation methodology • Identify lead Member(s) and lead Officer(s) • Provide a brief rationale for the scrutiny review • Indicate draft timescales • Assign the item to a meeting in the work programme
Priority 2 – County Council’s Parking Strategy and Policy – <u>awaiting outcome of Local Government Reform to determine how best to proceed</u>	As parking was seen to be a key economic driver, the Committee agreed that this issue should be added to its Work Programme in scrutinising what the strategy needed take into account to be meaningful, how the policy should be reviewed to apply to the parking needs of today and what success was being seen in managing parking outcomes. Officers to progress.
Priority 3 - Demographic Changes – impact on services and infrastructure	The item raised in relation to ‘Demographic pressures on services – impacts of an increasing population’ has been referred to the Budget Strategy Task and Finish Group as an item affecting budgets for the future.
Priority 3 - Housing – working along-side the People and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee – <u>District/Borough to lead on this – Local Government Reform could affect how this was progressed</u>	The former Chairman (now Portfolio Holder) of the Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee is exploring the scrutiny of housing being led by Dorset Councils Partnership (WDDC, W&PBC and NDDC). The Council could take part in the review as a partner, particularly regarding availability of public land. The County Council has developed a model for care housing using modular construction.
Priority 3 - Renewable Energy and Carbon Footprint (Overview Item)	<p>For items listed to the left members are asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicate draft timescales • Assign the item to a meeting in the work programme • Determine who is to lead and what are the anticipated outcomes • Scoping document to this effect
Priority 3 - Co-operatives - how these could be encompassed to best effect (Overview Item)	

Scrutiny Review Prioritisation Methodology:



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All items that have been agreed for coverage by the Committee have been scheduled in the Forward Plan accordingly.

Date of Meeting	Item/Purpose	Key Lines of Enquiry (KLOE)	Lead Member/Officer	Reference to Corporate Plan	Target End Date
26 March 2018	Assessment of Environmental Assets and Green Infrastructure provision as part of 25 Year Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify implication and opportunities Role of coast and countryside services in delivering this Review of green assets - what benefits they bring, how they can be used, where they are, how they can be accessed Perenco – how Wytch Farm is functioning - what economic, employment and environmental benefits this brings 	Daryl Turner/Deborah Croney/ Ray Bryan/ Peter Moore/Phil Sterling Matt Piles for Perenco	Enabling Economic Growth/Prosperous/Safe, healthy and independent	
	Outcomes Focused Monitoring Report	Opportunity to monitor and assess how the Council's outcomes and aims are being met and by what means and, if necessary, what needs to be addressed.	Mike Harries/ John Alexander/ David Trotter	Enabling Economic Growth/Prosperous/Safe, healthy and independent	

Date of Meeting	Item/Purpose	Key Lines of Enquiry (KLOE)	Lead Member/Officer	Reference to Corporate Plan	Target End Date
28 June 2018	Western Growth Corridor	To determine what part the Committee can play in ensuring the benefits of the Western Growth Corridor can be realised – added arising from County Council 9/11/17 (David Harris raised)	Mike Harries/ Matthew Piles/ David Walsh /David Harris	Enabling Economic Growth	
	Corporate Monitoring and Outcomes	Opportunity to monitor and assess how the Council's outcomes and aims are being met and by what means and, if necessary, what needs to be addressed.	Mike Harries/ John Alexander/ David Trotter	Enabling Economic Growth/Prosperous/Safe, healthy and independent	
	Industrial Strategy	To determine progress with the Government's Industrial Strategy and how it can be applied locally and on what basis. To understand the development of the LEP led "Local Industrial Strategy".	Deborah Croney/ Ray Bryan/ Mike Harries/ Matthew Piles – invitation to Dorset LEP	Enabling Economic Growth/Prosperous	
	Assessment of Adopted Highways Policy	To determine and assess options for the delivery of highway improvements in association with new development and to amend the current policy if necessary	Daryl Turner/ Neil Turner	Enabling Economic Growth/Prosperous	

Date of Meeting	Item/Purpose	Key Lines of Enquiry (KLOE)	Lead Member/Officer	Reference to Corporate Plan	Target End Date
15 October 2018	To be determined	-	-	-	
January 2019	Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan for 2019-2024	To consider what the revised plan should look like, what it should include, how it should be applied and how this should be done - in advance of Full Council adoption in spring of 2019	Mike Harries/ Ray Bryan/ Daryl Turner/ Matthew Piles/Ken Buchan/ Tom Munro.	Enabling Economic Growth/Prosperous/Safe, healthy and independent	