

Developing Dorset Council's Plan

September 2019



Dorset Council was formed from 6 previous county, district and borough councils on 1 April 2019.

Why did we come together to form a new unitary Council?

- To protect frontline services by reducing costs and duplication. The money saved is being reinvested into services
- To give Dorset a stronger voice nationally which will help attract business investment, government funding and support local economic growth.
- To better meet the needs of communities across Dorset by bringing all services together in one council, working jointly for local people.

Dorset Council:

- Has 82 elected councillors serving 52 wards
- Serve 376,480 people living in 177,934 dwellings
- Delivers over 450 services
- Is part of over 80 partnerships
- Has a net budget of £295m for 2019/20
- Has 8000 employees and of these, 3000 are employed in schools

Our plan for our residents



Dorset Council will publish its first plan in 2020

This will set out their ambitions for 2020 – 2024 following Local Government Reorganisation of the 6 previous councils.

It also incorporates the political vision of the new 82 Councillors elected in May 2019.

Dorset Council have a vision to make Dorset a great place to live work and visit and they are seeking your views on how to best do this.

Defining council priorities

- Member led activity reflecting political vision for Dorset
- Inviting input on priorities from residents, town and parish councils, partners and colleagues
- Raise awareness of the council's role and budget pressures
- Prioritising what can be delivered within financial constraints



Dorset Council Councillors and Senior Leaders have together defined 5 draft priorities and are seeking your views on these as part of a conversation with residents, partners and employees during autumn 2019.

This public, stakeholder and employee conversation is an opportunity for you to have your say on what their priorities should be for the next 4 years

Dorset Council believe that the key to delivering their priorities successfully is to recognise their financial constraints and to focus on doing the right things differently and more efficiently.

Our Priorities



Here are the draft priorities with a high-level description of what each will do:

- Economic Growth
- Unique Environment
- Suitable Housing
- Strong, Healthy communities
- Staying safe and well

Discuss – do you have any immediate thoughts or views?

Is there anything you would wish to capture and share with Dorset Council on this?

Economic growth

What will we do?

- Enhance Dorset as a place to do business and attract inward investment
- Support the creation and growth of new businesses, and in turn support job creation
- Improve transport and digital connectivity across the area
- Enhance people's aspirations and skills to improve social mobility



This is the draft priority for economic growth.

This sets out WHAT Dorset Council will do. Is this right? Are there any comments or thoughts you would like to feedback to Dorset Council?

The council have also set out HOW they will do this:

- Adopt a new Dorset Council Local Plan by 2024
- Explore the roll out full fibre technology and 5G in Dorset to enable people to travel less and access opportunities in other areas
- Work to improve rail services, public transport and reliability of journey times
- Enable growth of good quality jobs at Dorset Innovation Park as our designated Enterprise Zone
- Support growth in key sectors, including advanced engineering/manufacturing, agritech, maritime commercial opportunities, aquaculture and tourism
- Work with schools, colleges, universities and business to raise career aspirations and improve skills
- Stimulate local opportunities through Council procurement
- Work with partners to review the Dorset brand

Who will they work with?

- Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership
- Dorset Local Nature Partnership
- Schools, colleges, and universities
- Local business community
- Government departments
- Investors and developers
- Business support networks
- Town and parish councils

Unique environment

What will we do?

- Provide an environment that attracts business investment, tourism and a skilled workforce
- Enable and improve access to our coast and greenspaces
- Deliver services in a way that protects and enhances our natural, historic and cultural environments
- Support behavioural change to reduce waste
- Provide leadership and contribute to tackling climate change
- Support local communities to respond to climate change
- Capitalise on Dorset's unique environmental assets to support our priorities
- Instil community pride in our environment to help keep it clean and safe
- Support the development of appropriately located renewable energy



This is the draft priority for Dorset's unique environment.

This sets out WHAT Dorset Council will do. Is this right? Are there any comments or thoughts you would like to feedback to Dorset Council?

The council have also set out HOW they will do this:

- Develop and implement a strategy to engage with communities on how to protect our environment and respond to proposals that impact on the environment
- Develop a climate change strategy working with our partners, particularly town and parish councils and government
- Deliver a highways verge management and street cleansing strategy
- Deliver our pollinators and biodiversity action plan
- Maximise local resource by applying for additional funding and grants
- Responsibly manage the spaces, buildings and land we own
- Support local farmers, woodland owners, foresters and land managers to make environmental improvements through the countryside stewardship scheme
- Actively monitor and assist in managing areas of poor air quality

Who will they work with?

- Areas of outstanding natural beauty partnerships
- Dorset Local Nature Partnership
- Jurassic Coast Trust
- Dorset Wildlife Trust
- Natural England
- Marine Management Organisation
- Environment Agency
- Historic England
- Highways England
- Government departments
- Police
- Fire Service
- Town and parish councils
- Voluntary and community sector
- Significant landowners

Suitable housing

What will we do?

- Develop appropriate, affordable and sustainable housing maximising the use of council-owned assets
- Bring long-term empty properties back into use
- Support people to access appropriate accommodation
- Raise standards of privately rented homes
- Promote energy efficiency for healthy homes
- Implement a new single Dorset Council housing register and review choice-based lettings
- Adopt a new Dorset Council Local Plan by 2024



This is the draft priority for sustainable housing.

This sets out WHAT Dorset Council will do. Is this right? Are there any comments or thoughts you would like to feedback to Dorset Council?

The council have also set out HOW they will do this:

- Deliver the Building Better Lives programme
- Provide homes by 2024 in line with land supply target
- Develop a business plan for our housing company Homes Dorset
- Increase the number of new homes of all tenures e.g. shared ownership, starter homes, key worker housing
- Reduce homelessness
- Work to ensure that not less than 35% of all new housing is affordable housing
- Increase the number of households receiving assistance from Healthy Homes Dorset

Who will they work with?

- Registered housing providers
- Voluntary and community sector
- Private landlords
- House builders
- Dorset Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
- Homes England
- Police
- Armed forces
- Town and parish Councils

Strong, healthy communities

What will we do?

- Improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of the area
- Support communities to be cohesive, inclusive, safe and active
- Enable people to feel a sense of belonging and to participate actively in their community
- Aim to increase people's healthy life expectancy and reduce differences between areas
- Work to give residents the same opportunities to live well no matter where they live or what their circumstances are
- Provide additional support to communities with the greatest challenges
- Keep Dorset connected with better transport and digital links between communities



This is the draft priority for strong, healthy communities.

This sets out WHAT Dorset Council will do. Is this right? Are there any comments or thoughts you would like to feedback to Dorset Council?

The council have also set out HOW they will do this:

- collaboratively with town and parish councils and communities to improve local areas
- Provide a directory of community activities to connect people and tackle social isolation
- Help people to claim and receive benefits they are entitled to
- Improve mental health support for children, young people and adults
- Improve and maintain air, food and water quality
- Work to reduce rates of smoking, and gambling, alcohol and drug addiction
- Protect people from harm from rogue traders
- Provide safe and useable cycle ways and footpaths, better bus services and community transport schemes
- Provide and maintain access to rights of way, country parks and countryside
- Recognise when the voluntary
- Work sector is better placed to provide a service and support hem in their work

Who will they work with?

- Residents
- Police
- Town and parish councils
- NHS services
- Fire service
- Community groups and voluntary organisations
- Department of Work and Pensions
- Groups that operate in a virtual world
- Other Councils including Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council

Staying safe and well

What will we do?

- Help families stay together and when they can't, provide the best possible care
- Give children a great and inclusive education that enables them to be the best they can be
- Support adults to live as independently in their own homes, and when this isn't possible, provide high quality care
- Put individuals and families at the heart of everything we do
- Reflect the voices of communities in our work
- Build and support capacity in voluntary and community organisations
- Work to prevent children and vulnerable adults from being exploited



This is the draft priority for staying safe and well.

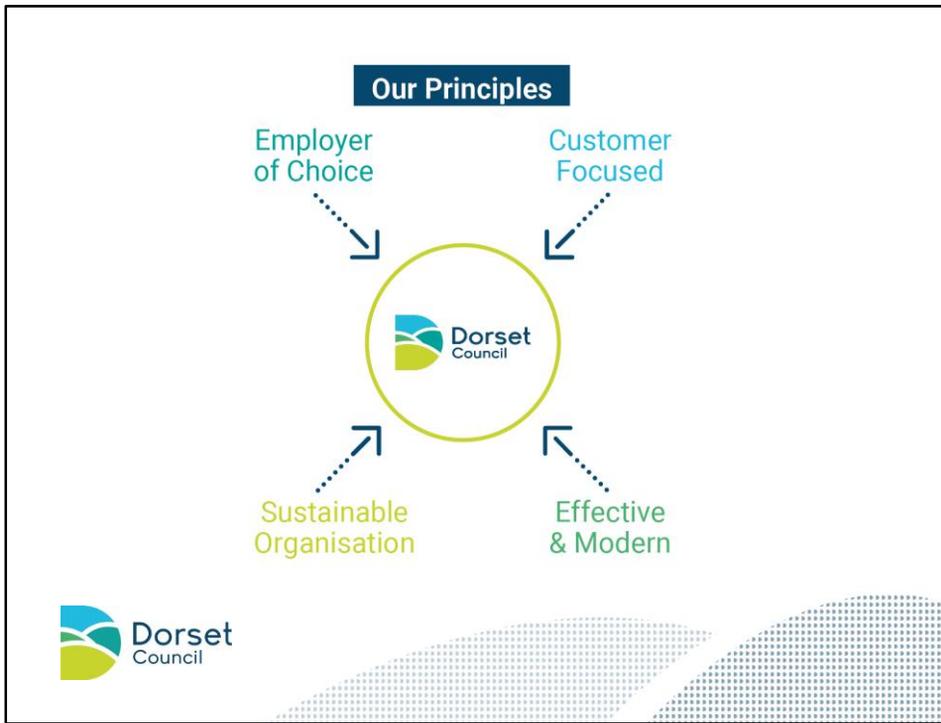
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The council have also set out HOW they will do this:

- Provide good quality social care services
- Provide more specialist education within Dorset for children with complex communication and learning needs
- Provide information, advice and support at the earliest opportunity
- Use technology and explore innovate new ways to improve quality of life and independence
- Improve how social care, education and health services work together through the 'our Dorset' partnership
- Design services with people not for them
- Raise public awareness of exploitation of children and vulnerable adults

Who will they work with?

- NHS services
- GP practices
- Schools, colleges and universities
- Police, probation and youth offending
- Voluntary and community organisations
- Residents and communities
- Fire and rescue service
- Regulators
- Housing associations
- Service providers
- Prisons
- Local enterprise partnership
- Town and parish Councils



As part of how the new Council establishes itself, they have defined principles and values for the journey ahead.

Dorset Council have committed to deliver their priorities by transforming how they provide services according to these principles.

They want to work with you to shape that design, help to provide services differently and make better use of technology.

How can Dorset Council best work with you in designing services? What services would you want most input into?

Our Values

- We are an advocate for Dorset on a local, national and global stage
- We work together with our communities and our partners to make things happen
- We put people first and design services around their needs now and in future
- We are open, accessible and accountable
- We use time and money wisely
- We value people and build on their strengths



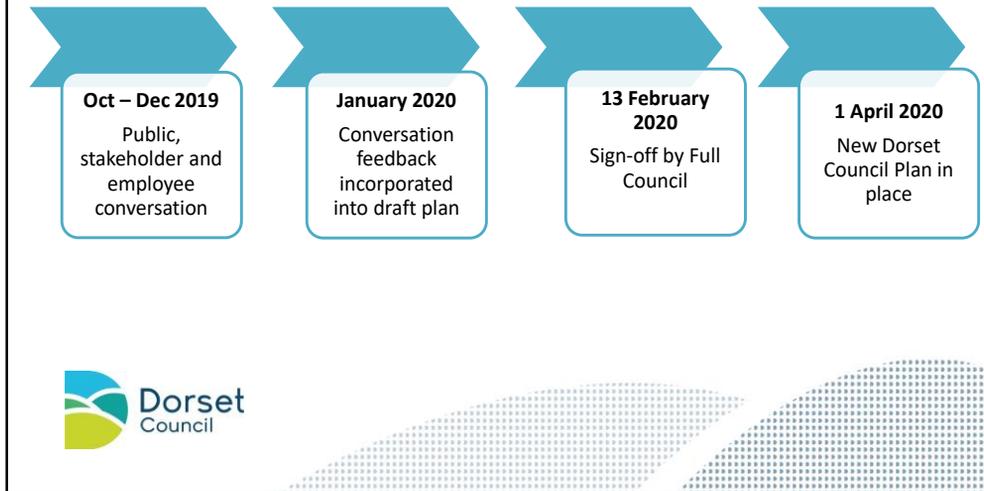
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Timeline for Dorset Council's Plan



This is the timeline for the development of Dorset Council's Plan.

Share your views by 20 December 2019.



FEEDBACK

Please share your thoughts and suggestions. Please tell us which council you are from when you share your feedback

comms@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

By 20 December 2019

