



STRATEGIC PLAN

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 39/16

13 JUNE 2016

The purpose of this paper is to update Members on progress with the Town Council's Strategic Plan prior to its proposed adoption at the July meeting.

No. DETAIL

1) BACKGROUND

- a) Over the last five years the Town Council has responded actively and positively to a succession of discoveries and developments – deprivation data, the Localism Act and the Isle of Wight Council's Budget cuts - shared through its annual Community Consultation events on the last Monday in each January and culminating in its participation in the government's Our Place programme.
 - b) That programme extended its direct engagement with residents, funded a valuable house-to-house survey that provided over 550 detailed responses and strengthened relationships with the public service providers.
 - c) The resulting Operational Plan, approved by the Department for Communities and Local Government, set out a detailed response to the Town Council's priorities for the town of *improved health and wellbeing, a renewed and refreshed economy and enhanced community capacity*.
 - d) In responding to these opportunities and challenges, the Town Council has developed Salisbury Gardens, taken on management responsibility for Ventnor Central and become responsible for the direct delivery of beach cleaning, grounds maintenance, youth work and public toilets.
 - e) It had become clear that what was now needed was a high-level Strategic Plan identifying the framework for these developments and those that needed to follow over the longer term.
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2) LOCAL STRATEGIC PLAN 2015-25

- a) Based on a reading of the Strategic Plans of 70 local authorities, the Town Council's Economic Development Officer Nicky Cox prepared a draft matching document for Ventnor Town Council that was presented to a Members' Seminar on Saturday 27 February.
 - b) The underlying structure for that substantial document is that of Sustainability as set out in the government's National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) published in March 2012 and accessible by following [this link](#).
 - c) In response to the discussions at the Seminar and subsequently with Members and staff, derivative documentation has been developed that clarifies the connection with the NPPF and identifies the ambitions, aims and objectives that relate to each of its three areas of Economic, Environmental and Social sustainability.
 - d) The resulting documents provide a detailed statement of the strategic framework for the Town Council's work over the next 10 years and a clear rationale for the decisions and actions it will take in progressing it.
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3) NEXT STEPS

- a) The four documents that make up the set are available on the Town Council's web site and are accessible by clicking [this link](#).
 - b) Members are asked to consider them in the period leading up a proposed adoption, with any agreed amendments, at the Town Council meeting of 11 July.
 - c) A printed copy will be provided in response to any requests and staff are happy to discuss any elements of the Plan during this period.
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