


SDC Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Principles

How the VCSE input to our current Council Plan

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CW1	Community resilience: Support communities to help each other and build resilience through a network of community hubs and other community-led networks, with mental and physical health and wellbeing at its heart	★ CW1.1	Develop a framework for working with the community and voluntary and social enterprise sector including the network of community hubs
		★ CW1.2	Act to improve the physical and mental health and wellbeing of people in the district through delivery of a new 3 year Health and Wellbeing Plan
		★ CW1.3	Ensure residents continue to receive the advice they need, by continuing our work in partnership with the Citizens Advice Bureau and developing a new Service Level Agreement
		★ CW1.4	Work to reduce the impacts and causes of anti-social behaviour by developing a district wide policy in partnership with the Community Safety Partnership
		★ CW1.5	Work with strategic and operational partners to improve food resilience, access and equity including support for those affected by the cost of living
CW2	Affordable homes: Build affordable, energy efficient homes and deliver high quality services for all tenants by investing in the renovation of existing council homes and meet a range of housing needs for those who experience disadvantage and creating a culture of tenant engagement and empowerment	★ CW2.1a	Deliver new affordable homes across the District, through planning policy and work with partners including community-led housing groups and housing associations
		CW2.1b	Design, build and deliver new affordable homes across the District via our own New Homes Programme which will deliver EPC-A rated properties
		CW2.2	Invest £30m over the next 5 years to maintain, invest and repair our council homes ensuring they are good quality, safe, fit for purpose places where tenants can live well
		★ CW2.3	Prioritise the prevention of homelessness and invest in temporary accommodation and specialist support, including working with partners to develop the specialist housing and support
		★ CW2.4	Implement robust engagement principles to ensure structured and consistent mechanisms for tenants to be involved in decision making affecting their homes and the places they live
		CW2.5	Continue to invest and deliver the programme to modernise our Independent Living homes for older people
		CW2.5a	Provide high quality, fit for purpose Independent Living Provision in line with the 2023-2027 Independent Living Strategy
		★ CW2.6	Co-ordinate accommodation and support services for migrants arriving in the district and link to other statutory and voluntary services to support the health and wellbeing of migrant households
		CW2.7	Ensure our council homes meet legislative and regulatory compliance standards
		CW3	Strengthen local democracy: By developing a culture of community engagement to enable greater involvement of residents, council tenants, communities and businesses in decisions on council services and priorities
CW3.2	Improve customer service for residents by procuring a Digital Platform that provides for centralised first contact ensuring an easier access to services and that provides additional support for those with complex needs		
★ CW3.2a	Improve customer service for residents by developing the Digital Platform to provide centralised customer contact to ensure easy access to services via all contact channels with additional support provided for those who need us the most		
★ CW3.3	Work with Town and Parish Councils to develop, agree and implement a new strategic approach for partnership working between district, towns and parishes including specific support for rural communities.		
★ CW3.4	Promote and encourage the registration of community assets so communities have more control and ownership of local buildings, land and community shops as well as protecting publicly owned land and assets		
CW4	Leisure and Culture Services: Adopt a long term investment plan for leisure services and facilities across the district to ensure everyone has access to good quality leisure opportunities that meet their needs	CW4.1	Continue work and wellbeing by completing appraisal as well as of the leisure
		CW4.1a	Deliver high quality leisure services through directly managed provision at Stratford Park Leisure Centre and The Pulse
		★ CW4.2	Working with partners, increase the number, accessibility, and quality of playing pitches, play areas and outside spaces within the district
		★ CW4.3	Increase physical activity and sports participation through our Healthy Lifestyles Scheme in partnership with the Gloucestershire We Can Move programme
		CW4.4	Complete a conditions survey and review the development implications of longer term development for Stratford Park Lido
		★ CW4.5	Develop a Culture Strategy for the District
		★ CW4.6	Implement the Museum in the Park's free-to-join Supporter Scheme to provide residents with exciting opportunities to engage with the museum and extend community reach to new audiences ensuring the museum remains at the heart of the wider community
CW5	Equality Diversity & Inclusion: Embed equality, diversity and inclusion as a priority across the Council and the District with targeted support for those who experience the most disadvantage in our communities	★ CW5.1	Deliver our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan 2021-25, through engaging with communities, showing leadership and championing equality, diversity and inclusion in all that we do
		★ CW5.2	Adopt effective and transparent policies to reduce inequalities that result from socio-economic disadvantage in line with Section 1 of the Equality Act, the socio-economic duty, as an effective framework for tackling local poverty and economic inequality
		★ CW5.3	Devise and implement a delivery plan to reduce health inequalities, in collaboration with partners from across all sectors to support those most affected by the Cost-of-Living crisis
		★ CW5.4	Promote initiatives which improve skills, celebrate diversity in the workplace and offer equal access to well paid jobs and economic opportunities for everyone
		★ CW5.5	Work with partners to support older people to stay in their homes for longer
		★ CW5.6	Support our Armed Forces Champion and provide help as needed to former members of the armed services who need extra support and continue to deliver the Armed Forces Covenant across the local area

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EC2	Biodiversity: Work with local communities and partners to protect and enhance the district's green infrastructure and biodiversity providing accessible environments that people can enjoy and which positively contribute to their good health and well-being	★ EC2.1	Work with partners to boost biodiversity by developing the Gloucestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy and delivering its objectives through a district-wide Local Nature Recovery Action Plan, working with stakeholders
		★ EC2.2	Deliver the natural flood management project (Stroud Rural SUDS) for the Frome Valley in Stroud in partnership with the Environment Agency, working closely with landowners and communities using innovative flood management techniques
		★ EC2.3	Develop and establish an action plan to increase our tree canopy, woodland and forestry in line with the Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership Tree Strategy ambition for 20% canopy cover across the County by 2030
		★ EC2.4	Work with partners to protect and enhance green spaces in residential neighbourhoods and town centres, promote 'No Mow May' and adopt best practice for road verges to encourage wildflowers and reduce pesticide use
		EC2.5	Use, promote and support the Building with Nature standards for Local Plan sites and key regeneration sites across the district

EC5	Circular economy: Develop the foundations of a sustainable circular economy for the district by minimising consumption, reducing the quantity of resources sent to incineration and applying the waste hierarchy: prevent, reduce, reuse, recycle, recover and as a last resort disposal	★ EC5.1	Further reduce the quantity of resources discarded as waste and minimise its environmental impact
		EC5.2	Work with our partner Ubico to identify joint opportunities for carbon reduction projects in household collection and management of public spaces
		★ EC5.3	Support the phasing out of single use plastics in the district and encourage and support local initiatives to 'reduce, repair and recycle'
		★ EC5.4	Continue to increase recycling rates across the district

EC4	Mobility / transport: Support development of an integrated active travel (walking and cycling) and public transport network and development of electric vehicle charging infrastructure working with county and regional partners	★ EC4.1	Support a shift towards active modes of travel by working with the County Council and parish councils to increase use of an enhanced strategic and local walking and cycling network.
		★ EC4.2	In partnership with the County Council, encourage the expansion and improvement of public transport and links to walking and cycling routes – to include bus services and railway stations and services, and bids for new facilities that benefit residents of the District
		★ EC4.3	Working with partners, expand the network of Electric Vehicle charging points and increase support for low carbon transport, and a reduction in private car use and explore measures to reduce air pollution such as no-idling zones
		EC4.4	Develop initiatives to encourage an increase in the percentage of Low, Ultra Low Emission and Euro 6 compliant taxi and private hire vehicles (CN2030 M8)

EC6	Renewable energy: Increase the proportion of energy generated by renewable sources in the district and work on decarbonising existing networks	★ EC6.1	Continue to increase renewable generation in the district and to decarbonise existing networks, and support community-owned renewable energy schemes
		EC6.2	Deliver the water source heat pump projects at Ebley and Brimscombe Port Mills
		EC6.2a	Deliver the decarbonisation projects at Stratford Park Leisure Centre, Museum in the Park and The Pulse, utilising Salix funding
		EC6.3	Increase the proportion of Council and partner fleet vehicles powered by zero or low carbon technologies
		EC6.4	Deliver key low carbon exemplar projects

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ER1	Economic recovery: Support our high streets and businesses to enable recovery of the local economy from the impacts of COVID-19 and building foundations for a sustainable and inclusive local economy	ER1.1	Develop and implement an inclusive sustainable 'Economic Development Strategy' including supporting market towns and sectors most impacted by the pandemic	ER3	Investment: Promote the Stroud district to attract investment in key infrastructure and high quality jobs with a focus on environmental technologies, engineering and manufacturing and creative industries	ER3.1	Attract investment by setting out the offer of Stroud District in a new 'Place Prospectus' to showcase the district's achievements and future priorities		
		ER1.1a	Implement an inclusive and sustainable 'Economic Development Strategy' to support a thriving and resilient economy for our businesses, communities and visitors			ER3.2	Promote prosperity and visitors to the district's waterways, by developing a Canal Strategy, which links to heritage and biodiversity objectives		
		ER1.2	Support high street and other businesses to increase their digital and virtual visibility, through promotion, training, new applications and facilitating the acceleration of highspeed broadband			ER3.2a	Promote prosperity and visitors to the district's waterways, by delivering physical enhancements and stronger links with our communities, aligned with heritage and biodiversity objectives		
		ER1.3	Support local high streets through the 'Think Local, Shop Local' campaign and local initiatives to increase footfall such as markets, events and community-led initiatives			ER3.3	Work to secure external funding for priority projects, by establishing a task force to review bid options and developing a bid to the Government's Levelling Up Fund and other funding opportunities		
		ER1.4	Support local high streets to increase footfall and achieve a sustainable visitor economy through delivering and enabling promotional campaigns, markets, cultural and leisure events, growing the night-time economy and by improving sustainable access to local centres from our rural hinterlands			ER3.4	Work with partners to support the bid to the UK Atomic Authority to secure the first prototype commercial fusion plant and associated research and innovation park at Oldbury & Berkeley		
ER2	Regeneration: Deliver key regeneration sites across the district, especially brownfield sites and longterm empty properties, for local jobs, homes, community facilities and green spaces	ER2.1	Develop Brimscombe Port as a key strategic site to support a thriving community, in line with project milestones which include securing a development partner and delivering infrastructure works	ER3.4a	Work with partners including Western Gateway and neighbouring local authorities to promote Severn Edge (Oldbury and Berkeley sites) to be a green energy hub, at the forefront of a renewable energy revolution that delivers an affordable zero carbon future for everyone	ER4	Support for businesses: Champion local businesses of all types and sizes that lead on environmental and social good practice and support them to grow, keeping wealth in the district, strengthening local supply chains and offering rewarding local jobs	ER4.1	Work with business networks and trade unions to recognise and promote access to living wage employers who lead on social and environmental good practice
		ER2.2	Deliver Phase 1b of the Canal Project (Cotswold Canals Connected), incorporating land acquisition, planning application for the 'missing mile', Ocean Bridge works, environment and community programmes in line with National Lottery Heritage Fund bid					ER4.2	Increase the financial resilience of the district by exploring additional options for community funding
		ER2.3	Progress 'hard to develop' brownfield sites and long-term empty commercial properties across the district, delivering quality local jobs and homes, while preserving and enhancing biodiversity					ER4.3	Review the Procurement Strategy and develop initiatives to increase spend on low carbon, sustainable and ethical goods and services to create stronger supply chains within the local economy
		ER2.4	Support the development of a diverse local economy of social enterprises, cooperatives and small businesses by supporting them to find well connected commercial space available for expansion and by exploring the use of land for low cost sites and start-ups					ER4.4	Work with partners to support the development of skills and training for all ages, including the unemployed, young people and apprentices, and across key sectors including the low carbon sector and visitor economy
ER5	Strategic Planning: Adopt the new Stroud District Local Plan	ER5.1	Progress the Local Plan through public examination and secure its adoption	ER5	ER5	ER5	Strategic Planning: Adopt the new Stroud District Local Plan	ER5.1	Progress the Local Plan through public examination and secure its adoption
		ER5.2	Support the delivery of strategic site allocations contained within the local plan and the key infrastructure required to support it					ER5.2	Support the delivery of strategic site allocations contained within the local plan and the key infrastructure required to support it
		ER5.3	Work with parish councils to encourage and support local communities to develop Neighbourhood Development Plans and Orders, thereby increasing community planning activities					ER5.3	Work with parish councils to encourage and support local communities to develop Neighbourhood Development Plans and Orders, thereby increasing community planning activities