

**REPORT OF THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR
TRANSFORMATION**

THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE PLAN – ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN 2024/25

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Cabinet approval for the Council's Annual Delivery Plan for 2024/25.
2. This is a Key Decision due to the fact that it will have a significant effect on two or more electoral divisions.

Information

3. The Nottinghamshire Plan was approved by Full Council in November 2023. The plan established an ambitious, strategic vision for the future of the county and local authority, built on achieving a 'healthy, prosperous and greener future for everyone'.
4. To help meet and progress this overarching vision, an Annual Delivery Plan is produced each year, which details the work that is to be undertaken for the next financial year, against each of The Nottinghamshire Plan's 10 core ambitions. More detail about each of the ambitions is available on the [Council website](#).
5. The Council has a strong track record in delivery on our priorities as evidenced by previous Annual Reports, which detail the progress made in year to support the people and communities of Nottinghamshire. The latest of which can be [viewed here](#).
6. The Annual Delivery Plan for 2024/25 sets out a range of actions that will help the Council work towards the ambitions of the Nottinghamshire Plan over the upcoming year, with key initiatives including our longer-term ambitions of driving local public service reform, reshaping our Council in a sustainable manner, strengthening the building blocks of good health and wellbeing in communities and re-defining our relationship with schools and academies.
7. This Annual Delivery Plan will also form the basis of Nottinghamshire's Productivity Plan, a new requirement for local authorities, announced by the Government in February 2024.
8. Below are just some of the actions which will support the Council in realising the longer-term Ambitions:

- Strengthen the building blocks of good health and wellbeing in communities – working with people, partners and communities to co-create solutions and new approaches to community-based interventions, so that available resources are focussed on the people and communities who will benefit the most from the support and services we offer and through this approach, to build resilience and independence, reducing demand over time for County Council statutory services, and those of other statutory public sector agencies.
- Work with partners to ensure that the needs led front door transformation projects result in improved Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub services for children and families and adults, so that statutory obligations continue to be met and safeguarding concerns are identified and acted upon quickly, to ensure that people are supported to achieve the outcomes they have identified, and risks removed or reduced.
- Deliver on the aims of the Nottinghamshire Food Charter, working with local partners to adopt a Joint Food Plan, so that we address the causes of poor nutrition and food insecurity, improving residents' access to affordable healthy food in Nottinghamshire. This will improve the local food system for better health and wellbeing, as well as improved environmental and economic outcomes.
- Support childcare providers to increase the numbers of funded places offered to children from 9 months of age, as part of the new National Childcare Reforms, whilst ensuring that 2-year-olds from low-income households are still able to take up their funded early education entitlements, so that more children are able to access funded childcare, reducing the barriers to employment and supporting more parents into work.
- Deliver recruitment campaigns to encourage and support people to enter the adult social care sector, so that we can attract and retain individuals who are drawn to caring for others and share our values. This will help ensure that we have sufficient levels of staff, particularly in more difficult to recruit areas, and will develop a strong, passionate, sustainable workforce.
- Work with District and Borough partners to secure funding to create the infrastructure needed (such as schools, transport and roads), alongside housing and commercial development, so that Nottinghamshire's residents can access high quality services in their communities.
- Collaborate with Partners (such as Districts and Boroughs, East Midlands Development Corporation and the Freeport) to access funding available for 'levelling up' and to attract other investment in priority areas. We will support the delivery of these developments/initiatives that will create the conditions and opportunities for residents to thrive and prosper, so that we secure long term major public and private investment, jobs and increased prosperity for Nottinghamshire.
- Work with local partners to improve the reliability of local bus services and to provide services where and when people need them most, so that passengers are confident that they can make their journey, with access to key services being available.
- Work with partners across the County and City, in our role as the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA)-appointed responsible authority, to develop and produce a Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Nottinghamshire and Nottingham, so

that priorities for nature recovery are established and locations to create or improve habitat are identified, that are most likely to provide the greatest benefit for nature and the wider environment, and in doing so contribute to the national Nature Recovery Network.

- Assess service delivery models, ensuring we provide or commission services that meet statutory duties as efficiently and effectively as possible. This will include increased use of new technologies and digital tools and delivery of our programme of approved savings/efficiencies through the Council's budget report, so that we are an organisation that continues to be fit for the future, represents value for money and is financially sustainable and that embraces new approaches, including new digital and partnership opportunities.

9. The Plan itself will be made available on the [Council's website](#), with regular quarterly assurance providing the opportunity for internal scrutiny and review. A publicly available Annual Report will be produced at the end of the financial year 2024/25, to outline the progress made in year against the actions themselves.

10. Where possible, the Plan has used the most recent, publicly available data. This will be reviewed/updated during the year as required.

Other Options Considered

11. To not have an Annual Delivery Plan. This would hinder the Council's ability to track and monitor progress against the overarching Nottinghamshire Plan, whilst also limiting visibility for Members and residents alike, as to the priority actions for the year ahead.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

12. The Nottinghamshire Plan articulates the authority's strategic vision and acts as the framework for all Council activity and decision making. The Annual Delivery Plan sets out the actions to be taken in 2024/25 to continue work towards achieving this vision.

Statutory and Policy Implications

13. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

14. Actions within the Annual Delivery Plan 2024/25 directly relate to the Council's most recent budget proposals, which have been presented to Members and are [available here](#).

Crime and Disorder Implications

15. The Annual Delivery Plan includes actions that work towards Ambition 3 of the Nottinghamshire Plan, "Keeping children, vulnerable adults, and communities safe". This

includes Trading Standards' work to investigate and remove unsafe products from the market, as well as the development and implementation of an action plan to deliver the ambitions within the Nottinghamshire Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy 2023-2028.

Data Protection and Information Governance

16. A high-level Data Protection Impact Assessment has been produced.

Human Resources Implications

17. Actions across the plan have implications for recruitment and retention. These include delivering on our Resourcing Strategy; working with Derby, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire to improve the recruitment, training and support available to foster carers through the DfE Recruitment and Retention Project; and delivering recruitment campaigns to encourage and support people to enter the adult social care sector.

Business Support Implications

18. Ambition 5 – “Strengthening businesses to create more good quality jobs” – includes a number of actions to support businesses. This includes targeted support programmes and helping businesses meet new regulatory requirements.

Public Sector Equality Duty implications

19. A high-level Equality Impact Assessment has been produced.

Smarter Working Implications

20. Ambition 10 – “A forward looking and resilient Council” - includes the action to implement the Council's new Data Strategy; this will help employees improve skills and productivity. The Council is also working to deepen the scope of our Buildings and Office Rationalisation Programme.

Safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk Implications

21. There are a number of actions working towards Ambition 3 of the Nottinghamshire Plan, “Keeping children, vulnerable adults, and communities safe”. These include improving our Multi-agency Safeguarding Hubs; working together to better enable people experiencing severe multiple disadvantage to have access to suitable housing and effective, integrated support services; and developing and implementing an action plan to deliver the ambitions within the Nottinghamshire Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy 2023-2028.

Implications for Residents

22. The Plan sets out the steps the Council will take over the next year to achieve the goal of a healthy, prosperous, and greener Nottinghamshire. The Plan will be available via the Council's website for residents to access, and a Q2 assurance report and end-of-year Annual Report will also be made available for residents so that they can stay updated on the progress we make towards the actions set out in the Plan.

Implications for Sustainability and the Environment

23. Actions related to Ambition 9 – “Protecting the environment and reducing our carbon footprint” – help the Council to work towards becoming more sustainable. This includes working with partners to reduce the carbon emissions within the county’s housing stock; adopting a Joint Waste Local Plan with Nottingham City Council; developing renewable energy capacity across the Council’s estate; and working with partners across the County and City to develop and produce a Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Nottinghamshire and Nottingham.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1) That Cabinet approves the Annual Delivery Plan 2024/25.

Councillor Bruce Laughton
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transformation

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (LPW 28.02.2024)

24. The recommendations fall within the remit of Cabinet by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (SES 28.02.2024)

25. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- [The Nottinghamshire Plan 2021-2031](#)
- Annual Delivery Plan 2024-25

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All