

Report to: **Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Date: **16 November 2021**

Title: **Maximising Council Resources Thematic Delivery Update**

Portfolio Area: **Councillor Chris Edmonds**
Lead Member for Maximising Council Resources

Wards Affected: **All**

Urgent Decision: **N** Approval and clearance obtained: **Y**

Date next steps can be taken:

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Recommendations:

That Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

1. Consider the Thematic Delivery Update for the Plan for West Devon theme of Maximising Council Resources
2. Make any recommendations to the Maximising Resources Advisory Group.

1. Executive summary

- 1.1 The Council adopted its long term strategic plan, A Plan for West Devon, in September 2021 alongside a new Performance Management Framework.
- 1.2 The Performance Management Framework sets out how progress on delivering the plan will be monitored. The framework includes a role for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider delivery updates on a theme by theme basis.
- 1.3 This report sets out an update on our priority focus area of Maximising Council Resources and is the first such thematic update report to be considered since the adoption of the plan.

2. Background

- 2.1 A Plan for West Devon was adopted by the Council in September 2021. In addition to setting the longer term vision for West Devon, it sets out specific actions that will underpin delivery of that vision.
- 2.2 Each priority focus area is the responsibility of a Lead Councillor of the Hub Committee. They are supported by an Advisory Groups of Councillors which have all met to agree the draft plan.

It is envisaged that these groups will meet a number of times throughout the year to consider updates and recommend any amendments to the thematic delivery plans.

- 2.3 There is a key role for members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to focus on scrutinising performance against the thematic delivery plans to ensure that progress is being made.

3. Outcomes/outputs

- 3.1 The 'Maximising Council Resources' Thematic update report is set out at Appendix A and includes a number of updates on actions contained within the adopted Plan for West Devon.
- 3.2 While the plan was only recently adopted (September 2021), the appendix highlights the positive progress in achieving the actions included within the Thematic Delivery Plan for 2021/22.
- 3.3 Future thematic update reports will follow the same format and are intended to be easy to understand by anyone that chooses to read them.
- 3.4 Following consideration by Overview and Scrutiny, each thematic update report will be published on a new webpage which will include all updates on A Plan for West Devon. This can be found here:- <https://www.westdevon.gov.uk/plan-for-west-devon>

4. Proposed Way Forward

- 4.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to consider the thematic delivery update attached at Appendix A and make any recommendations on the report to the Resources Advisory Group.
- 4.2 After consideration by the committee, it is proposed that the report be published on the web pages for A Plan for West Devon (www.westdevon.gov.uk/plan-for-west-devon) as a public record of progress against delivering the actions.

6. Implications

Implications	Relevant to proposals Y/N	Details and proposed measures to address
Legal/Governance	Y	Transparency in reporting on performance of our strategic priorities is a key aspect of good governance.
Financial implications to include reference to value for money	Y	The thematic update report includes a narrative about the Councils progress in ensuring its future financial sustainability and in lobbying for fairer funding for rural services. It also sets out the steps that the Council is taking to continually review its services in order to ensure value for money.

		The report does not make any recommendations that will lead to any financial implications.
Risk	Y	The Thematic Delivery Update (Appendix A) considers risks related to each individual action within the delivery plan.
Supporting A Plan for West Devon	Y	This report sets out a progress update for the Maximising Council Resources theme and enables Councillors the opportunity to monitor progress.
Consultation and Engagement Undertaken or Proposed	Y	A Plan for West Devon was shaped based on consultation and engagement spanning some 12 months including a public consultation on the final plan. The thematic delivery update is purposefully written to be clear and understandable by all. Once considered by Overview and Scrutiny, it will be published on our webpage as a record of progress for this theme.
Climate Change - Carbon / Biodiversity Impact	N	This report does not have any direct implications in respect of Climate Change / Biodiversity
Comprehensive Impact Assessment Implications		
Equality and Diversity		None
Safeguarding		None
Community Safety, Crime and Disorder		None
Health, Safety and Wellbeing		None
Other implications		None

Supporting Information

Appendices:

Appendix A – Maximising Council Resources Thematic Update Report

Background Papers:

A Plan for West Devon sets out our high level ambition. It can be found here: <https://www.westdevon.gov.uk/plan-for-west-devon>

The Thematic Delivery Report can also be found at the same link above.

Process checklist	Completed
Portfolio Holder briefed/sign off	Yes/No
SLT Rep briefed/sign off	Yes/No
Relevant Heads of Practice sign off (draft)	Yes/No
Data protection issues considered	Yes/No
Need for a Communications Plan?	Yes/No
Accessibility checked	Yes/No