

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PORTFOLIO PLAN 2006/07

SECTION 1 – CONTEXT

1.1. Introduction

The Planning and Economic Development Portfolio is responsible for the council's Forward Planning function, including the operation of the Local Development Framework, conservation issues and the Council's CCTV system; Development Service's function including the oversight of the planning process and Building Control; Economic Development and Tourism function including marketing, tourism to the District and promoting a thriving economy.

The role of the portfolio encompasses regulatory services like development control, direct provision of services and enabling others to contribute to the district wide vision, as is the case in economic development and tourism where we help partners to support and develop a thriving economy.

1.2 Strategic objectives for the portfolio

- To maintain the Local Development Framework in an up-to-date condition and to successfully implement its policies.
- To maintain an efficient and up-to-date planning service.
- To maintain the unique and distinctive environment (built and natural) of South Wiltshire.
- To secure development that is safe and sustainable.
- To secure Planning Obligations through Section 106 agreements, relevant and reasonable to development proposals.
- To implement the council's economic development objectives including the development of a sustainable future for Churchfields Industrial Estate, rural initiatives and the promotion of business incubation.
- To encourage and manage sustainably the economic benefit of visitors to all parts of South Wiltshire.
- To maintain a safe and secure environment through the operation of the CCTV system.
- To discharge the council's duty as a Category 1 provider under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004

1.3 Service Priorities

The Cabinet has reviewed the prioritisation system. The categories and how they relate to the Planning and Economic Development Portfolio are:

Category 1 Services – key, willing to invest to improve

- Development Control and Enforcement ***
- Forward Planning***
- Future Development of Salisbury

Category 2 Services – important, maintain, seek efficiency savings

- Economic Development and Tourism

Category 3 Services – explore options for reducing costs

- CCTV

1.4 Partnership Contribution

1.4.1. The priorities for the South Wiltshire Strategic Alliance and examples of how this portfolio contributes to these priorities are outlined below:

- AFFORDABLE HOUSING – use of planning obligations to secure affordable housing
- CRIME AND ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – CCTV system to reduce crime and the fear of crime
- Other significant partnerships vital to this portfolio are – the five economic partners – Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Small Businesses, tourism Partnership, City Centre Management and SWEP

1.4.2 The Portfolio Plan underpins the priorities of the community plans as follows:

Community aspiration	Actions to meet the aspirations
Ensure new developments deliver high quality building, and commensurate planning obligations to include community facilities and affordable housing (City, Mere, Nadder, Southern, Stonehenge and Four Rivers)	<i>To be completed by February 2006</i>
Improved delivery of customer services (Mere and Stonehenge)	<i>To be completed by February 2006</i>
Supporting re-development of redundant sites and farm buildings (Mere and Four Rivers)	<i>To be completed by February 2006</i>
Award winning Tourist Information Centre (City)	<i>To be completed by February 2006</i>
Funding of festivals to promote the city center (City)	<i>To be completed by February 2006</i>
Promoting safety and security via CCTV (City)	<i>To be completed by February 2006</i>
Supporting Solstice Park, Salisbury Research Triangle and expansion of DSTL (Stonehenge)	<i>To be completed by February 2006</i>
New supermarket solution for Amesbury (Stonehenge)	<i>To be completed by February 2006</i>

SECTION 2 – PROGRESS AGAINST EXISTING PLAN

This section reports on the council's achievements in 2005/06, with particular emphasis on comparing the delivery of services with commitments made in the 2005/06 plans.

2.1. Integrated Improvement Programme

Actions agreed in 2005/06 Portfolio Plan	Progress Report
Improving Customer Service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transfer of staff and functions to Customer Service Unit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff in Development Services and Forward Planning transferred Business Process Re-engineering revisions undertaken to secure efficiencies
Affordable Housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable Housing secured through the planning process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (???) Affordable dwellings have been permitted to 01.12.05 through the planning process.
Improving Community Safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of CCTV function 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutiny review of CCTV Service likely to report by March 2006
Financial Challenge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure Planning Delivery Grant Funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £517, 574.59 was achieved through improved performance on BVPI 109, 205, with no penalties on 204.
Improving Performance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-location of CCTV and Care Connect Services Establish working group to co-ordinate S106 agreements from planning permissions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deferred pending review of CCTV service Internal working group established to look into S 106 Agreements as part of the Development Services Integrated Improvement Plan.

2.2 External Validation

Accreditation or validation relevant to the portfolio is set out below:

Service	Award	Year	Outcome
Development Services	Indication of removal of Standards Authority from ODPM List	2006/07	Feb 2006
Development Services	Compliance with BVPI 205 on electronic engagement	2005/06	Feb 2006
Salisbury TIC	Charter mark	2006/07	Feb 2006

2.3 **Best Value and Scrutiny Reviews**

The Planning and Economic Development Scrutiny Panel has focused on three reviews:

- CCTV (to expand on progress to date by Feb 2006)
- Hotel and Conference Centre (to expand on progress to date by Feb 2006)
- Sustainable Rural Communities (to expand on progress to date by Feb 2006)

SECTION 3 – LOOKING FORWARD

3.1 Pressures

3.1.1 Changing Legislation

- Ongoing commencement of parts of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

3.1.2 National Factors

- Emerging guidance on LDF system and revisions to planning policy guidance.
- Continuing pressure on target achievement in development control

3.1.3 Local Factors

- Emerging Regional Spatial Strategy; Salisbury Vision; Core Strategy debate and allocations of housing in the context of the LDF; Ongoing pressure to secure more Affordable Housing; Village Design Statements; Quality outcomes of the planning process.
- Development of SW Regional Tourism Strategy with marketing concentrated on major destinations
- Development of Solstice Park
- Expansion of DSTL Porton Down and planned development of Bio Science - Centre
- Combined tourism destination system for Wiltshire

3.1.4 Growth or Change to Customer Base

- Population continues to grow, particularly in the centres of Salisbury and Amesbury
- Planning application trends continue to rise by approximately 5-6% pa

3.1.5 Best Value Review Programme 2006/07

- *A Best Value Review Programme will be developed for Cabinet consideration as part of the Corporate Plan in Feb 2006*

3.1.6 Scrutiny Review Programme 2006/07

- The Scrutiny Panels will be invited to submit their annual scrutiny review programmes in May 2006.

3.1.7 Workforce Planning Issues

Staff recruitment and retention continues to be a significant factor in the councils' ability to meet its statutory targets. Loss of PDG on 2007/08 could significantly impact on performance and retention.

3.1.8 Major Procurement

Procurement Project	Timetable
Ongoing Team Knowledge , GIS and CRM updates and equipment procurement	2006/07

3.2 Summary of key drivers for change

- **the new Local Development Framework**
- **the emerging Regional Spatial Strategy**
- **City Centre vision**

3.3 Integrated Improvement Programme

Key milestones for each of the priorities as outlined below:

Improving Customer Services

2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Team Knowledge purchase	Front office service delivery on PD enquiries	
Web enablement	Web enablement	Web enablement
Developing effectiveness and efficiencies with Customer Service	Developing effectiveness and efficiencies with Customer Service as part of the office project	Developing effectiveness and efficiencies with Customer Service as part of the office project
Adoption of Statement of Community Involvement, (SCI)	Public Consultation phases in line with the adopted SCI	Public Consultation phases in line with the adopted SCI

Delivering more Affordable Housing

2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Development of new policy stances through the pre-submission stages of the LDF, as defined within the LDS document.	Further consultation and an Examination In Public of the new policy stances.	Adoption of new policies and accompanying SPD, to address practicalities.

Improving Community Safety

2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Implementation of recommendations from current CCTV scrutiny review		
Ongoing implementation of planning out crime in partnership with Wiltshire police.	Ongoing implementation of planning out crime in partnership with Wiltshire police.	Ongoing implementation of planning out crime in partnership with Wiltshire police.

Maintaining a high quality built environment

2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
AONB working group established		
Creating Places adopted as SPG		
Production and appraisal of Village Design statements with PC's	Production and appraisal of Village Design statements with PC's	Production and appraisal of Village Design statements with PC's
Appraisal of Conservation Areas	Appraisal of Conservation Areas	Appraisal of Conservation Areas

		Commencement of formal Development Plan Document on design and conservation
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3.4 **Partnership Contribution**

The portfolio will support South Wiltshire Strategic Alliance and the Wiltshire Strategic Board through:

2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
CCTV	<i>To add by Feb 2006 following further analysis of community plans</i>	
Use of planning powers to secure affordable housing	<i>To add by Feb 2006 following further analysis of community plans</i>	

3.5 **Resources**

3.5.1 Unavoidable costs

3.5.2 Efficiencies

3.5.3 Savings

3.5.4 Income – to be finalised by February 2006

The portfolio will support the Medium Term Financial Strategy through delivering any savings / efficiencies / additional income identified – to be finalised in February 2006

SECTION 4 – CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Comparisons against Government target, top 25% and present performance to be provided by February 2006.

4.1 Performance Monitoring

Performance Indicator	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target
% of planning applications completed within Govt targets	65%	65%	65%

4.2 Marketing of Services

Service Unit	Marketing Activity	Target Date - Qtr
Marketing, Tourism and Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor guide • Tourism advertising campaign • Food and Drink festival 	By March 2007 By September 2006 By September 2006

4.3 Consultation

Service Unit	Consultation	Target Date - Qtr
Development Services and Forward planning and Transportation	As described in draft Statement of Community Involvement	As described in draft Statement of Community Involvement

4.4 Risk Assessment

To be finalised by February 2006

4.5 Diversity

Initial Equality Impact Assessments are currently being carried out for service functions, any resulting actions that can be easily implemented will be. Below are this portfolio's service areas where initial assessments are planned for completion by the 31 March, 2006. The initial Assessments will determine further areas that will be subject to a detailed assessment.

Diversity Impact Assessments will be undertaken in the following areas:

Development Services

Building control
Published guidance and planning briefs
Pre-application advice person to person and via internet
Registration of planning applications
Statutory consultation and publicity on planning applications
Processing of planning applications
Decision making process and dissemination of decision
Planning obligations
Appeals
Enforcement – unauthorised development and compliance
Listed building and conservation area consent applications

Forward Planning and Transportation

CCTV
Conservation
Forward Planning
Markets and Fairs

MEDT

TIC
Citizen Magazine
Website content and visual design
Tourism
Events / Exhibitions and Markets
Tourist Information provision
Accommodation booking
Economic Development
Tourism website