

**Cherwell District Council Business Plan : 2013/2014  
Corporate Pledges : Q1 June 2013**

Objective/Measure Definition	Q4 2012/13 if applicable	Quarter 1 30/06/2013	Direction of Travel	Comments on Performance
District of Opportunity				
<p>Continue to support skills development, apprenticeships and job clubs in order to help support local employment and reduce the number of young people not in education, employment or training</p>	G	G	⇒	<p>Promoting apprenticeships:                      - Leading by example, the 6 Business &amp; Administration Apprentices employed by Cherwell District Council have all progressed well since starting in January 2013. All have passed their NVQ2 tests and are completing coursework clearly associated with making them work-ready. Indeed, one Apprentice progressed so well that she has already gained a trainee accountancy post at a local engineering company - a direct contribution to the development of the local economy and private sector jobs (as was the case with a CDC apprentice in 2012 who works in a neighbouring engineering business).                      - 'Making sense of apprenticeships' events for businesses were held, including one at the Colin Sanders Innovation Centre. A CDC apprentice attended with an HR colleague to help promote the Oxfordshire Apprenticeships scheme.                      Inspiring entrepreneurial young people:                      Continued Chairmanship by CDC of the North Oxfordshire Young Enterprise Award scheme, arranging events to engage school pupils with employers to encourage entrepreneurialism.</p> <p>Engaging local representatives:                      The newly elected County Councillors were briefed on Brighter Futures in Banbury programme on 19 June, enabling a fuller understanding of the links between skills &amp; employment issues and other deprivation factors, and the support services available.</p>
<p>Deliver 150 affordable homes in the district and support opportunities for self build and developing self build skills</p>	G Actual 113 Target 100	G* Actual 34 Target 27	n/a	<p>This includes delivery from Bromford Housing Group on the Kingsmere development in Bicester and the Council's Build! @ programme in Banbury</p>

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Support opportunities for self build & developing self build skills	G	G	⇒	<p>Buildstore have secured a 'lead lender' for the Build programme with a wider panel now developing. An 'on line portal' is being established to enable prospective Build applicants to self assess mortgage options and credit rating. The tender exercise for demolition contractors is underway and we are scoping the specification for ground works.</p> <p>Work is underway to procure a 'preferred builders merchant' through the Procurement for Housing Framework which will provide a local merchant and base to receive materials.</p> <p>A report on the scope of insurance needed for CDC as an 'enabling developer' of self build housing has been completed to inform the procurement of insurance.</p> <p>ACE Training (based in Kidlington) have secured funding to deliver Level 1 and 2 Courses in Brickwork and site carpentry which is to be made available to people on CDC's Housing register who wish to participate in Build! ®</p>
Complete the local plan as the foundation for economic growth in the district	A	A	⇒	The need to consult on focused changes delayed consideration of the Local Plan by full Council. Environmental Impact now due Autumn 2013
Continue to strengthen leisure & retail facilities in Bicester and Banbury Town Centres	G	G	⇒	Work is progressing to bring forward Spiceball and Bolton Road. The refurbishment of Orchard Way is underway as is the feasibility work on the Woodgreen site
A Cleaner, Greener District				
Maintain a household recycling rate of above 57%	A Actual : 55% Target : 60%	G Actual 58% Target 57%	↑	Recycling tonnage in first quarter a little down on expectation. Garden waste tonnage is strong.
Improve local residents' satisfaction with street & environmental cleanliness continuing our successful programme of neighbourhood litter blitzes	G Satisfaction Rate: 69%	G	⇒	Good satisfaction levels awaiting results from Customer Satisfaction Survey 2013. A new programme of neighbourhood litter blitzes commenced in June at Hardwick, Banbury.

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Continue to reduce the Council's carbon footprint by further improving the energy efficiency of our buildings and vehicles	G	A	↓	Reduction of Council's carbon footprint - procurement of biomass boiler for Bicester Leisure Centre has been delayed. However, solar panels have overproduced in the first quarter. Quarter 1 performance data is not available until end of August.
Continue to give Cherwell residents the opportunity to take advantage of low cost insulation by working with partners to set up a "green deal provider"	G	A	↓	Green Deal Together (GDT) is not yet operational so there is no data to report at this stage. Confirmation as a Green Deal Provider is expected in the next couple of weeks and, from that point it is expected that it will take approximately 8 weeks for GDT to become operational. (Report available if required)
Start work on site for the initial housing development at Northwest Bicester	G	G	⇒	A2 Dominion to start work on site in September 2013 beginning with the construction of the spine road to serve the development. Construction of the first homes is expected to begin in early 2014.
A Safe, Healthy & Thriving District				
Continue working with partners to provide support to the most vulnerable individuals & families in the district, building on the Brighter Futures in Banbury Programme	G	G	⇒	2012/13 Brighter Futures Annual Report considered by Executive and Overview & Scrutiny Committee. Good multi agency engagement and integration with the Thriving Families initiative and Homestart. 2013/14 Brighter Futures priorities established and actions underway. Theme leader arrangements in place for all six themes. Connecting Communities events agreed.
Support the local health sector in building a new community hospital in Bicester	G	G	⇒	Commencement of construction of a new community hospital underway
Support the local community & Oxford University Hospital Trust to retain and develop health services at the Horton General Hospital	A	A	⇒	Removal of emergency abdominal surgery from the Horton to Oxford on clinical safety grounds giving rise to local concern. Proposal longer term is linked to increased outpatient appointments, elective surgery and diagnostic services at the Horton which will be the subject of a formal Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group consultation later in 2013/14.
Complete the layout of the sports pitches at the South West Bicester Sports Village and finalise plans for the Pavilion	G	G	⇒	Contractor has completed the sports pitch construction, including drainage, and is about to seed the pitches. The cycle track will be constructed during August/September

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Support the upgrade of sports facilities across the District using the Olympic Legacy Fund	n/a	G	n/a	Work has taken place on the Stratfield Brake sports ground through rejuvenation of pitches and planned work on the pavilion. Work is being planned on replacing the all weather pitch at Kidlington and Gosford sports centre with Parkwood and the Academy
Work with local police & licence holders to ensure our town centres remain safe & vibrant in the evenings	A	G	⇒	No issues reported in first quarter. Early Morning restriction orders unlikely to be imposed or requested as Police Commander watching Northampton Town to see how similar plans there develop. Latest suggests Northampton drop plans.
An Accessible Value for Money Council				
Secure cashable savings of at least £500,000 to help meet the medium term financial deficit & continue to identify non cashable savings in procurement	G	A	↓	Work is underway to secure these efficiencies through our joint working programme and preparation of the 2014/15 budget. The Medium Term Financial Strategy is being refreshed as a consequence of the comprehensive spending review
Improve levels of customer satisfaction focusing on our ASB, Environmental Crime & Car Parking Services	G	A	↓	The survey results are expected in August 2013.
Continue to improve our website, the ease of accessing our services and paying for services online	G	G	⇒	Our online forms package is being migrated to a hosted online platform which enables added functionality e.g.. workflow. With this workflow, it will be able to deliver more complex forms across the Council and have the ability to deliver more services online.