

Performance Pledges 2013/14

A district of opportunity

1. 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.
2. Deliver 150 affordable homes in the district and support opportunities for self build and developing self build skills.
3. Continue to strengthen leisure and retail facilities in Banbury and Bicester town centres.
4. Complete the local plan as the foundation for economic growth in the district.

A cleaner, greener district

5. Maintain a household recycling rate of above 57%
6. Improve local residents' satisfaction with street and environmental cleanliness continuing our successful programme of neighbourhood litter blitzes.
7. Continue to reduce the Council's carbon footprint by further improving the energy efficiency of our buildings and vehicles.
8. Continue to give Cherwell residents the opportunity to reduce their energy costs by working with partners to set up a 'green deal provider' service for low cost insulation and exploring opportunities to develop bulk buying and 'collective energy switching' schemes.
9. Start work onsite for the initial housing development at Northwest Bicester.

A safe, healthy and thriving district

10. Continue working with our partners to provide support to the most vulnerable individuals and families in the district, building on the Brighter Futures in Banbury programme.
11. Support the local health sector in building a new community hospital in Bicester and work to support the on-going delivery of services at the Horton General hospital in Banbury.
12. Complete the lay out of the sports pitches at the South West Bicester sports village and finalise plans for the pavilion.
13. Support the upgrade of sports facilities across the district using the Olympic legacy fund.
14. Work with the local police and licence holders to ensure our town centres remain safe and vibrant in the evenings.

An accessible value for money council

15. Secure cashable savings of at least £500,000 to help meet the medium term financial deficit and continue to identify non cashable savings in procurement.
16. Improve levels of customer satisfaction focusing on our anti-social behaviour, environmental crime and car parking services.
17. Continue to improve our website, the ease of accessing our services and paying for services online.