

## Cherwell District Council Business Plan 2012/13

Some targets will be finalised during March 2012 these have been highlighted in the document below.

<b>A</b> <b>A District of Opportunity</b>	<b>B</b> <b>A Cleaner Greener Cherwell</b>	<b>C</b> <b>A Safe, Healthy and Thriving Community</b>	<b>D</b> <b>An Accessible Value for Money Council</b>
<p><b>Work with partners to tackle disadvantage in the District.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support vulnerable residents through focusing on homelessness prevention and housing advice at current levels of performance</li> <li>Work with our partners to reduce the number of young people not in education employment or training across the district</li> <li>Support local people into work (job clubs and apprenticeships) and prepare for the impact of the Government reform to welfare and the benefits system</li> <li>Deliver the Brighter Futures in Banbury programme</li> </ul>	<p><b>Provide excellent waste collection and recycling services, working to reduce the amount of waste produced and to increase recycling across the district.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the household recycling rate to above 60%</li> <li>Reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill</li> <li>Maintain the current high levels of customer satisfaction with our recycling and waste collection services</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work with partners to support the development of safe and thriving local communities and neighbourhoods.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to provide a wide range of recreational activities and opportunities of young people across the district</li> <li>Work with partners to maintain already low levels of crime in the district</li> <li>Work with partners and businesses to support public health, safety and environmental protection</li> </ul>	<p><b>Provide value for money and a financially sound organisation, minimising the impact of smaller council budgets on frontline and priority services.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and implement an effective approach to address the financial impact of Government welfare reform</li> <li>Understand and plan for the implications of the Local Government Resources Review specifically the changes to localisation of business rates and council tax benefit</li> <li>Secure savings of £800 - £1m taking account of the national changes to Local Government Funding</li> <li>Ensure the Council's budget is matched to strategic priorities demonstrating and promoting the Council's commitment to value for money and effective service delivery.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Balance economic development and housing growth.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver x - TBC new homes including through planned major housing projects</li> <li>Deliver 100 affordable homes in the district</li> <li>Promote local economic development through business advice and support, inward investment and the Local Enterprise Partnerships</li> <li>Progress the Community Housing Project with HCA investment partner (31 dwellings in 12/13)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work to ensure our streets, town centres, open spaces and residential areas are clean, well maintained and safe.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain high levels of residents' satisfaction with street and environmental cleanliness</li> <li>Work with local communities to continue the programme of neighbourhood litter blitzes</li> </ul>	<p><b>Support the local community, voluntary and not for profit sectors to play an active role in the district.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with the local voluntary sector to provide advisory services for the local community</li> <li>Support volunteering across the district</li> <li>Adopt an integrated community development approach to ensure the Council's provides value for money and addresses local need</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work with partners to reduce Council costs.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement/embed shared back office systems and services to secure efficiencies</li> <li>Implement a shared ICT service</li> <li>Explore further opportunities with partners to share or provide services, reducing costs and maximising income</li> </ul>

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<p><b>Develop a robust and locally determined planning framework.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete a draft of local development framework for the district and submit for adoption</li> <li>• Prepare an Infrastructure Plan for Cherwell District and prepare for introduction of Community Infrastructure Levy</li> <li>• Secure implementation of new policy for Developer contributions</li> <li>• Protect and enhance the quality of the built environment by completion of Conservation Area Reviews and strong design guidance for all new developments</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work to reduce our impact on the natural environment, limit our use of natural resources and support others in the district to do the same.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the Council's Carbon footprint by 4% (includes buildings, fleet mileage etc.)</li> <li>• Work with partners to improve the energy efficiency of homes and enable more residents to achieve affordable energy bills</li> </ul>	<p><b>Provide good quality recreation and leisure opportunities in the district.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress the South west Bicester sports pitches</li> <li>• Maintain current levels of visits/usage to district leisure centres</li> <li>• Establish the Trust arrangements to secure the long term future of Banbury Museum and maintaining access for the community</li> </ul>	<p><b>Demonstrate that we can be trusted to act properly for you by being transparent about our costs and performance.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the information available to the public about our costs and performance, and promote understanding, accountability and opportunity</li> <li>• Consult with local residents in a cost effective manner to ensure the Council has a good understanding of local priorities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Work to improve the quality and vibrancy of our town centres and urban areas.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress the commercial development of Bicester Town Centre and consider the plans for development of the community building</li> <li>• Complete a Masterplan for Bicester</li> <li>• Progress the Canal side Regeneration programme in Banbury and redevelopment of the Bolton Road area in Banbury.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work with partners to support the development of Eco-Bicester as a national exemplar, creating a vibrant place where people choose to live, to work and spend their leisure time in sustainable ways.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with partners progress the delivery of the vision for Eco-Bicester</li> <li>• Start work on site for the initial housing development at NW Bicester</li> <li>• Ensure continued opportunities for local people to participate in the Eco-Bicester programme</li> </ul>	<p><b>Support improvement of local health facilities, services and standards across the district.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work to promote active and independent lifestyles amongst older people</li> <li>• Support the local NHS to retain and develop health services at the Horton General Hospital</li> <li>• Continue to support new and improved health services in Bicester and the surrounding area</li> </ul>	<p><b>Work to ensure we provide good customer service through the delivery of high quality and accessible services.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain high rates of customer satisfaction with our Services</li> <li>• Improve levels of satisfaction with and access to information provided by the Council</li> <li>• Improve access to our services and advice by increasing online payment and service options</li> </ul>