


Appendix A: Progress on Corporate Plan Actions

 Outcome: Improving the happiness and wellbeing of residents					
Activity type: Do					
2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
1. Deliver the approved Community Health & Wealth Strategy and go-live with funding mechanisms to invest in initiatives identified and chosen by our communities.	Cllr Ferguson	Workshops have been held with community and Voluntary and Community Sector representatives to develop a funding model. The initial proposal, based on input, is now being drawn up for the pilot of the Community Health & Wealth Strategy fund. The proposal is that the pilot will run throughout August, followed by a review and amendments, and a launch of the remaining fund will take place in September.	N/a	G	The actions taken have significantly progressed this project, with us now having a clear plan for the pilot.

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
2. Refresh our Social Value Procurement Policy to ensure our spend benefits local communities and ensure our work complies with recent changes to the Procurement Act 2024.	Cllr Davenport-Ray	A working group has been set up with work commencing in the last week of July, and key stakeholders have been invited. Work completed will be taken to the Procurement Board for validation.	N/a	G	The formation of this board has allowed the refreshment process to have the appropriate oversight, helping us to deliver a high-quality service.
3. Improve our evaluation of how we make a difference to local people ensuring we become even better at demonstrating impact	Cllr Ferguson	To support the delivery of our ambition, licences have been bought for a software tool that allows us to capture and quantify the impact of our work on health and wealth building. The principles of the approach were shared with O&S in June 2025.	N/a	G	We will be able to measure, quantify and track the impact we have, and demonstrate back to residents the impact of our work.

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
4. Deliver continued improvements to the One Leisure offer, enhancing existing facilities, implementing recommendations of the One Leisure Long-Term Operating Model and other beneficial opportunities.	Cllr Howell	The One Leisure Website update is in the final stages of redevelopment and is on target for completion in Autumn 2025. Huntingdon Gym & Changing Rooms and Ramsey Gym investment projects are underway and will be completed by Autumn 2025. Huntingdon Sports and Health Hub is progressing to RIBA (architectural stages) stage 2. Work is underway to secure funding for an additional 3G synthetic turf pitch at St Ives Outdoor Centre. Active Lifestyles are continuing to deliver weight management programmes for inactive adults and frailty in older adults activities in partnership with the local Primary Care Network and integrated neighbourhoods.	N/a	G	Better facilities and services for our residents. More activities and options are available for residents. Improvement to OL digital offering for customers and staff. Attendances are up 30% year to date for Active Lifestyles, and One Leisure is 5% ahead of 24/25.



Outcome: Improving the happiness and wellbeing of residents

Activity type: Enable

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
5. Work with partners to further skills and employment opportunities in the District: including direct delivery of funded schemes.	Cllr Ferguson	Through the Workwell initiative, we are proposing to trial an initiative with the voluntary and community sector where they receive a grant for work experience that they offer to individuals who are unemployed/ signed off/ wanting to re-train. Work is progressing with the anchor project. We are awaiting further details on the day-to-day activities from North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust.	N/a	G	Funding is reaching the VCS differently so that they feel encouraged to invest in volunteers through training, courses, etc, meaning that the individual is more 'work ready'.

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
<p>6. Work with other organisations and businesses to maximise the impact they can have on the health and wellbeing of local communities. Our focus will be on piloting new approaches that can be embedded in future years</p>	<p>Cllr Ferguson</p>	<p>Utilising the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, we are working with North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust to identify employment opportunities for Huntingdonshire residents within the build of the new hospital and the roles involved for its operation. This is the first of the anchor institution initiatives that will provide opportunities for young people as well as those looking to reskill or move from unemployed to employed. Through this approach, we are seeking investment from local businesses to duplicate this model and provide opportunities for those who would normally be overlooked.</p>	<p>N/a</p>	<p>G</p>	<p>This ensures that residents are aware of the employment opportunities and associated pathways provided by employers local to them. This will ensure the retention of talent and help those who have no recent work experience to use as part of the application process.</p>

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
<p>7. Focus on maximising physical activity in the district, and work to promote this across local partners.</p>	<p>Cllr Howell</p>	<p>Strategic Sports Development have been working with various partners to ensure S106 is released and spent on projects to improve sporting access across the district, including Warboys Parish Council.</p> <p>1,479 sessions have been delivered in Q1 by Active Lifestyles (Sport and Health), which is our best performance to date for Q1; enabling more people to access safe, effective and fun physical activity sessions across the district.</p> <p>Active Lifestyles has attended thirteen events across the district in Q1, leading to over 1,600 contacts with residents. The events have included Integrated Neighbourhood Board partnership events and Workplace Wellbeing Week in partnership with Living Sport.</p>	<p>N/a</p>	<p>G</p>	<p>When the S106 project is delivered, it will enable Warboys Sports and Social Club Field to be better used and ensure the village is well set for the changes to football pitch sizes being implemented nationally for children.</p> <p>An average of 2,800 individuals have taken part in an Active Lifestyles session since April.</p> <p>The increase in sessions delivered has contributed to the highest Q1 attendances ever at 17,298, and an increase in average attendance per session to 12.</p>

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
<p>8. Maximise, and report on, the benefits of a targeted approach to support residents to improve their quality of life through the promotion and delivery of relevant services.</p>	<p>Cllr Ferguson</p>	<p>The Residents Advice and Information Team continues to provide day-to-day services, and so does the Active Lifestyles Team.</p> <p>In addition, the WorkWell programme is helping ~40 residents into work each month by supporting residents from sickness to working.</p>	<p>↔</p>	<p>G</p>	<p>This action enables us to ensure help is available to those who need it, improving our residents' quality of life.</p>



Outcome: Improving the happiness and wellbeing of residents

Activity type: Influence

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
9. Continue to work with statutory partners to secure improvements to transport options for Huntingdonshire, including active travel.	Cllr Sanderson	This quarter has seen active engagement with our colleagues at Cambridgeshire County Council to help influence the delivery of transport improvements, resulting in the Tiger Bus scheme being successfully renewed for under-25s by the CPCA. We have also been actively trying to influence this through the delivery of planning applications.	↔	G	Through our work with CCC and the CPCA, we can help influence the delivery of transport improvements within the district, improving the mobility and quality of life of our residents.

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
<p>10. Embed the priorities of Huntingdonshire Futures across the work of the Council and Partners whilst influencing and enabling communities to do the same.</p>	<p>Cllr Conboy</p>	<p>A project to determine the value of establishing a self-designated landscape in the Great Ouse Valley in Huntingdonshire was initiated, working in partnership with the Great Ouse Valley Trust. Consultants have begun to research and develop the business case.</p> <p>Huntingdonshire Futures grants were also re-launched, with renewed criteria focusing on building Pride in Place in Huntingdonshire, building on the success of the 2024 scheme. 35 applications were received before the scheme closed early due to demand. 19 organisations from across Huntingdonshire were awarded small grants of £500 - £2,500, totalling circa £40,000.</p>	<p>N/a</p>	<p>G</p>	<p>Grants have enabled 19 community groups, charities, and Town and Parish councils to deliver activities and events in their communities. The events support Pride in Place, celebrating what makes Huntingdonshire and its communities special.</p>



Outcome: Keeping people out of crisis

Activity type: Do

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
11. Report regularly on progress on the delivery of an integrated financial vulnerability model between HDC and partners (PROJECT).	Cllr Ferguson	Recommendations have now been shared from the Cambridgeshire Poverty Commission, reflecting some of the work started by Huntingdonshire. Discussions are underway with partners to utilise the RAI Team as a 'single front door' for residents aligned to tackling poverty via sustained independence as opposed to short-term help. Conversations have taken place with Places for People to directly support their highest need tenants, who are struggling with debt and arrears, to find long-term solutions, including securing employment.	↔	G	Recognition of the need to align support for residents, as well as ensuring that longer-term solutions to situations are found, as opposed to relying on expensive short-term solutions. In turn, this is guiding the model that we will, in time, implement.

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
12. Act on opportunities for early intervention and regularly report on learning and impact.	Cllr Ferguson	Close working has begun between the RAI and CAB to ensure a single approach and that the customer tells their story once and receives the correct support from the outset. As part of the way of working, we are moving towards an expectation from all of a 10% focus on prevention to move away from a reliance on public services. Conversations are taking place with RPs in relation to providing direct support to residents experiencing issues, as well as with CCC on delivery of the outcomes from the Poverty Commission. This additional work would be delivered on a paid basis.	↔	G	Aligning support to customers ensures that they receive the right support from the outset and also helps to establish a sustainable service.



Outcome: Keeping people out of crisis

Activity type: Enable

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
13. Maximise, and report on, the benefits of a targeted approach to support residents at risk of experiencing crisis through the promotion and delivery of relevant services (e.g. improve data sharing with the police to inform a targeted on-the-ground door-knocking campaign to help prevent crime).	Cllr Ferguson	We are working with the Police on a potential expansion of the successful trial to share data and help tackle the risks of serious violence in the District. In Q1, we met with CCC, Police and Camb Insights to work up a set of proposals.	↔	G	Working with partners allows us to make a bigger impact on the quality of life of local people, and preventing the risk of serious crime occurring would be a welcome contribution
14. Prevent the causes of homelessness wherever we can by our own efforts but also by working with other partners to tackle the root causes where we can	Cllr Ferguson	Reviews of the homelessness prevention pathways relating to care leavers, prison leavers, and vulnerable young people have all commenced. These aim to be completed this year, with the substance misuse toolkit and pathway also due to start later in the year.	N/a	G	These pathways aim to deliver a multi-agency early intervention approach across all agencies working with residents at high risk of homelessness. The pathways are being reviewed to ensure they are working effectively and maximise opportunities to intervene early, and will be amended where necessary so that all partners are working together to tackle the root causes of homelessness.



Outcome: Helping people in crisis

Activity type: Do

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
15. Continue to support refugees and other guests, seeking to support good community relations and smooth transition into long-term residency or return home.	Cllr Ferguson	Arrivals from Ukraine continue to be minimal, so the focus has been on sustaining accommodation for existing guests and supporting moves within hosts. We have agreed to support an Afghan cohort if suitable accommodation can be procured by the MOD. Asylum seeker numbers accommodated in the district continue to be low, with 17 individuals currently placed in dispersed accommodation. This is due to the difficulties faced by our partners in procuring rental properties.	↔	G	We continue to support our refugee cohort and are actively working with partner agencies and the VCS to ensure that those accommodated in the district have access and support to the services that they need. In turn, this managed approach ensures reduced likelihood of community tensions.
16. Deliver the recommendations of the review into Disabled Facilities Grants undertaken by Officers and Members in 2024/25.	Cllr Ferguson	Action plan in place and underway. We received confirmation from MHCLG in June that the legislation is being reviewed, including the amount of funding awarded to LAs in line with need.	N/a	G	Ensuring effective delivery of this grant means that our most vulnerable residents get the help and assistance that they need.



Outcome: Helping people in crisis

Activity type: Enable

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
17. Maximise, and report on, the benefits of a targeted approach to support residents experiencing crisis through the promotion and delivery of relevant services (e.g. identifying individuals who could benefit from support offered by the Resident Advice and Information team and reporting on outcomes).	Cllr Ferguson	Discussions are underway with CAB to create one offer across CAB and RAI so that issues are identified sooner, improving the outcome for residents. A focus on both services will include a 10% provision focused on prevention - helping reduce repeat cycles of behaviour. The Poverty Commission findings are now published, and conversations are scheduled with CCC for the RAI to be the delivery arm for Huntingdonshire. Meeting with Places for People to consider a payment by results approach to supporting their higher need/ cost tenants and focus on improved outcomes.	↔	G	These conversations are helping explore options for establishing a longer-term and sustainable offer from the RAI team that is funded via multiple partners. This recognises the importance that partners place on this area of work.



Outcome: Helping people in crisis

Activity type: Influence

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
18. Lobby, and support campaigns, for improvements to the living conditions of local residents.	Cllr Conboy	In Q1, officers continued to lobby for Huntingdonshire's communities, with the work to ensure HDC's voice was heard as the County Council and other partners developed a Poverty Strategy being a key task. The report was finalised in May, and we are hopeful that in Q2 this will translate into commitments within the District to support our work on preventing crisis.	↔	G	These actions will help us to support those experiencing crisis and will also be significant for prevention, allowing us to better help those most in need.
19. Be an active partner working with others within health and social care to make sure projects and new initiatives are delivered within Huntingdonshire and maximise the positive impact felt locally	Cllr Ferguson	HDC is a key partner within the integrated care board and North West Care Board. In Q1, the changes in approach to delivering these services as a consequence of changes to the NHS have been a key challenge Alongside this, working with local GPs in neighbourhoods has progressed with impacts from Active Lifestyles and the Workwell Programme leading to strong partnership working.	N/a	G	Influencing key partners for the benefit of Huntingdonshire is a key approach in the Corporate Plan - and with an ageing population, it is vital we maximise the full benefit of the public health system.



Outcome: Improving housing

Activity type: Do

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
20. Develop a new Housing Strategy and Action Plan for 2025-26.	Cllr Wakeford	We have continued to source and compile data to support the new Housing Strategy for later this year. We are also working alongside the Local Plans Team concerning the Housing Needs Assessment as part of the Local Plan evidence. This will support the identification of housing need across the district. Following the completion of this work, the activity on the Housing Strategy will be escalated in the second quarter of the year.	N/a	G	This will enable the Council to have a Housing Strategy based on the most up-to-date information for the district and support the Council's Corporate Plan outcome of Improving Housing. At a practical level, it will enable the Council to have accurate information on the level and type of demand for housing.
21. Continue to use surplus Council owned sites to deliver affordable housing (PROJECT).	Cllr Wakeford	Work has continued to be undertaken by Amplius, formerly Longhurst, to bring forward the first site that is part of the contract of nine sites. At the end of June, a planning application was submitted for this site.	N/a	A	This action will have the ability to support the Council's Corporate Plan outcome of Improving Housing within the District. The use of surplus Council-owned sites to deliver much-needed affordable housing is an important element of the plan and the Council's Housing Strategy.

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
22. Develop policy to support the use of civil penalties with regard to private sector housing enforcement.	Cllr Ferguson	We are currently awaiting further information to allow the policy to best help our residents.	↔	A	Once actioned, this policy will help drive better conditions in private sector housing, improving the living conditions of our residents.
23. Implement the government's new Supported Housing (Regulatory Oversight) Act, review of supported exempt accommodation in the area and introduce licensing regulations.	Cllr Ferguson	The Act became law in August 2023, empowering the Government to introduce: National Supported Housing Standards, Local Licensing Schemes and a duty for Councils to produce supported housing strategies. Govt consultation opened in February and closed in May. We are still awaiting the outcome of this consultation and further guidance on the Act.	N/a	A	This action will support creating a better Huntingdonshire for Future generations by improving housing conditions.



Outcome: Improving housing

Activity type: Enable

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
24. Maintain the level of new housing delivery, which meets the needs of Huntingdonshire residents, including the type of home and tenure (open market and social housing).	Cllr Wakeford	The Council continues to work with partner Housing Associations and Developers to deliver new housing, including affordable homes. Most construction tends to take place over the spring/summer months, and we therefore tend to achieve higher numbers of units in the last two quarters of the year. Officers are also looking to bring forward innovative opportunities to increase supply when the opportunity is available.	↔	A	This action will have the ability to support the Council's Corporate Plan with Improving Housing in the District. The delivery of new housing across all tenures is an important element of the plan and the Council's Housing Strategy.
25. Work in partnership to look at best practice and funding to improve housing conditions, including retrofit programmes in social and private housing.	Cllr Wakeford	As and when opportunities occur, the Council's Housing and Climate teams work in partnership to ensure there is take-up on retrofit and other housing programmes to enable the improvement of housing in the district.	↔	A	This action supports the Council's Corporate Plan action in Improving Housing.



Outcome: Improving housing

Activity type: Influence

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
26. Work with Registered Providers to improve conditions in existing accommodation through regeneration schemes.	Cllr Wakeford	The Council is working with Places for People (P4P) on a regeneration project in Huntingdon. Residents have now been made aware, and discussions have commenced with Planning colleagues as part of a PPA. Regular quarterly meetings are now taking place with P4P to address issues that are identified by the Corporate Team. Awaab's Law comes into effect in October 2025 in relation to hazards around damp/mould and all emergency hazards, with further elements over the next 2 years. This will give greater ability by the Regulator of Social Housing and Environmental Health Teams to take action.	↑	G	This action supports the Council's Corporate Plan action in Improving Housing.

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
27. Work with partners to address barriers to housing delivery and support housing delivery rates.	Cllr Wakeford	The Council continues to work with partner Housing Associations and Developers to deliver new housing, including affordable homes, in a timely manner. The housing and planning teams work closely together to ensure barriers to delivery of sites with planning permission are considered and supported as soon as they occur.	N/a	A	This action supports the Council's Corporate Plan action in Improving Housing.
28. Work with Health and Social Care Providers to explore future models of housing, support and care, enabling people to live independently for longer.	Cllr Wakeford	Housing profiles are now available on specialist housing need in the district, this informs our discussion on housing sites being brought forward by Developers and Housing Associations. The new Housing Needs Assessment and Housing Strategy will further enhance the data held.	↔	G	This action supports the Council's Corporate Plan action in Improving Housing.

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
<p>29. Produce sustainable housing guidance for developers that encourages sustainable construction methods and new homes to be of high environmental standards.</p>	<p>Cllr Wakeford</p>	<p>This work will centre on low carbon construction, including off-site fabrication to align with Part L(2025), including improved insulation, triple glazing, solar PV and heat pumps and ensure compliance with Future Homes Standard (2025) for net zero-ready homes. It will also include use of low VOC and prioritise lifecycle carbon assessments and sustainable transport integration, and aim for BREEAM excellent or Passivhaus opportunities.</p>	<p>N/a</p>	<p>A</p>	<p>This action will support creating a better Huntingdonshire for Future generations by lowering carbon emissions and providing good quality housing.</p>



Outcome: Forward-thinking economic growth

Activity type: Do

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
30. Promote Huntingdonshire as a destination for high value inward investment, prioritising businesses that are proactively reducing their carbon emissions, and produce an annual report on activity.	Cllr Wakeford	We have launched a new "Invest Huntingdonshire" website, featuring a sustainability section to guide businesses on reducing their carbon footprint. Additionally, we have introduced the Huntingdonshire Business Awards, including two categories dedicated to green initiatives.	↔	G	The launch of the new Invest Huntingdonshire website, featuring a dedicated sustainability section, has equipped local businesses with practical guidance to help reduce their carbon footprint and adopt more environmentally responsible practices. Complementing this, the introduction of the Huntingdonshire Business Awards—with two categories focused on green initiatives—has raised the profile of sustainability within the local business community, recognising those leading the way and encouraging others to follow suit.

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
31. Deliver the business grants within the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) programme.	Cllr Wakeford	<p>Please note that due to significant progress between Q4 2024/45 and Q1 2025/26, some of the programmes have been completed, so the action has been renamed.</p> <p>Prep work has begun for the final year REPF grants this quarter, including the signing of the REPF formal agreement, ready for delivery in August. We are currently awaiting sign off from the CPCA for the UKSPF; due to the recent mayoral changes, however, this is not expected to impact rollout in quarters 2 and 3.</p>	↔	G	These grants will help local businesses expand and invest, driving local economic development.

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
32. Establish the Economic Growth Strategy and Action Plan.	Cllr Wakeford	The Economic Growth Strategy is being presented to the Cabinet for final approval in mid-July. Following approval, it will be published on the Invest Huntingdonshire website, accompanied by a launch event to bring everyone involved together and express our gratitude.	N/a	G	Once approved and published on the Invest Huntingdonshire website, the strategy will provide a shared framework for action, aligning partners around common priorities. The planned launch event will help strengthen collaboration, reinforce stakeholder commitment, and recognise the valuable contributions made during its development

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
<p>33. Delivery of the Market Town Programme and their High Street projects. Ensuring their promotion to drive additional economic and social activity.</p>	<p>Cllr Wakeford</p>	<p>In relation to the St Neots projects, the Town Centre Improvement Project has now been completed, and there was an event at the end of May which was supported by thousands of residents. Work has commenced on the Priory Centre and is proceeding well, and we continue to support the owner of the Old Falcon to bring forward the planning application that was considered earlier in the year. Projects in Ramsey are progressing well in partnership with the Town Council, although this is slightly behind schedule. The Digital Screens have now been installed and are being used by the community. Other projects within the programme are progressing well across all Market Towns.</p>	<p>N/a</p>	<p>A</p>	<p>The Market Towns Programme supports the aim in the Corporate Plan of Forward Thinking Economic Growth.</p>

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
<p>34. Continue the update to the Local Plan, including updating evidence bases in line with National Planning Policy, particularly where it relates to Economy, Environment and Housing.</p>	<p>Cllr Sanderson</p>	<p>Local plan strategy and policy development has commenced, informed by the outcomes of the Further Issues and Options and the Additional Sites consultations. Progress is being reviewed by the Local Plan Advisory Group. Evidence is being published on our website as it becomes available. Since April 2025, the Gypsy, Traveller, Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment and the Economic and Employment Needs Assessment have been published. Work is ongoing on the Integrated Water Management Studies, Strategic Transport Study, Infrastructure Delivery Study, Viability Assessment and Habitats Regulations Assessment.</p>	<p>N/a</p>	<p>G</p>	<p>Work is well underway to complete the local plan and is informed by our public consultations. The evidence base is growing and being published online.</p>



Outcome: Forward-thinking economic growth

Activity type: Enable

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
35. Support our market towns and town centres as hubs of economic and social activity.	Cllr Wakeford	We are enhancing town centres by improving vacant unit aesthetics, promoting local markets, expanding events, and collaborating with Huntingdon BID. Efforts include exploring a district-wide BID and boosting online presence through the Discover Huntingdonshire website and Instagram.	N/a	G	These combined efforts are helping to revitalise town centres, attract footfall, support local traders, and strengthen place identity, contributing to more vibrant, economically resilient high streets across the district.
36. Support the visitor economy and culture sector including CPCA Local Visitor Economy Partnership.	Cllr Wakeford	We are currently awaiting an update from the Mayor to understand if this programme is going ahead. LVEP meeting held on 9.7.25.	N/a	A	We are currently awaiting an update from the Mayor to understand if this programme is going ahead. LVEP meeting held on 9.7.25.



Outcome: Forward-thinking economic growth

Activity type: Influence

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
37. Work with the CPCA and partners to support skills development and opportunities.	Cllr Wakeford	This quarter, we collaborated with two secondary schools to deliver enterprise days for Year 9 and Year 10 students, highlighting the variety of careers available in the construction sector, an industry facing long-term skills shortages.	N/a	G	This activity has helped to raise awareness of career opportunities in construction among young people, inspiring future talent and contributing to efforts to address long-term skills shortages in a key local industry.
38. Work with partners to secure investment and growth in Huntingdonshire, maximising the opportunities presented through Local Government Reorganisation and additional devolved powers.	Cllr Wakeford	We held meetings with several key businesses following the UKREiF conference to promote our district as a prime location for growth and investment.	N/a	G	These meetings helped strengthen relationships with potential investors and key employers, hence raising the profile of the district as a competitive and attractive location for future growth and inward investment.

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
<p>39. Influence delivery of infrastructure including East West Rail, A428, A141 Strategic Outline Business Case and future Transport Strategies.</p>	<p>Cllr Sanderson</p>	<p>This quarter, we have entered into a Planning Performance Agreement with East-West Rail to influence their application to the central government, and have seconded a Development Management Officer to assist in the management of the project. On the A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet scheme, our Implementation Team was heavily involved in the Development Consent Order application, and now that construction work is well underway, we still sit on the Project Board to ensure that the delivery of the scheme has its impact on residents minimised. We have also been involved in the A141 Strategic Outline Business Case this quarter.</p>	<p>↔</p>	<p>G</p>	<p>The planning team has been helping with business cases and has been influencing the development of these key infrastructure developments, helping to ensure our residents have access to high-quality transport infrastructure.</p>

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
40. Support and engage in the development of the Local Growth Plan as it is developed by the CPCA, highlighting the inward investment and growth priorities and opportunities for Huntingdonshire	Cllr Wakeford	Officers from the service area are contributing to the Local Growth Plan development through workshops and meetings. The CPCA CMT is scheduled to review the draft Local Growth Plan as part of the CA Board process.	N/a	G	Officer involvement in the development of the Local Growth Plan ensures that local priorities and opportunities are well-represented in the emerging strategy, helping to shape a more place-responsive plan that supports future investment and economic growth across the district.
41. Run and attend a programme of events to promote the profile of Huntingdonshire as a place to invest, grow and deliver economic growth.	Cllr Wakeford	The team engaged with over 100 businesses through these events: We organised and delivered the CEO Breakfast event on 8th May and hosted a stall at the Cambs B2B North Peterborough Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, we arranged and ran the Business Network event on 18th June at the East Anglia Energy Academy and had a stand at the Town and Parish Forum on 19th June.	N/a	G	These meetings and events have strengthened relationships across sectors, increased awareness of local support offers, and provided valuable insight into business needs, helping to shape future service delivery and promote the district as a dynamic place to do business.



Outcome: Lowering carbon emissions

Activity type: Do

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
42. Maximise opportunities to expand the use of Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) Fuel where there is a business case to do so.	ClIr Kerr	The final stages of tender for the fuel contract of HVO are underway. Once we have a full response from the market with a clear pricing structure, we will approach Finance/Place directors for a financial decision on how the HVO will be financed (fixed price, spot market, etc). Once a contract is in place, we will be launching full fleet usage of HVO, with expected completion at the beginning of July 25, along with engaging with blue light services to access the HVO.	N/a	G	HVO implementation across the entire HDC fleet is now in the final stages. Once rolled out, the CO2 emissions will be reduced by around 82%, aligning with our corporate goals and climate strategy aspirations of net zero by 2040.
43. Maximise decarbonisation of our fleet where there is a business case to do through a fleet strategy.	ClIr Kerr	Final stages of tender for fuel contract of HVO underway. Once we have a full response from the market with a clear pricing structure, we will approach Finance/Place directors for financial decisions on how the HVO is financed (fixed price, spot market, etc). Once the contract is in place, we will be launching full fleet usage of HVO.	N/a	G	HVO implementation across the entire HDC fleet is now in the final stages. Once rolled out, the CO2 emissions will be reduced by around 82% this will align with our corporate goals and climate strategy aspirations of net zero by 2040.

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
44. Minimise use of fossil fuels for energy where there is a business case to do so.	Cllr Kerr	The full rollout of HVO in the service is underway and should be completed by July 25. This will see only a small number of specialist plant and machinery (strimmers, chainsaws, etc) still requiring fossil fuels.	N/a	G	This will significantly reduce the emissions from the HDC fleet, improving the quality of air for our residents and helping us become a greener authority.
45. Showcase and encourage community action to lower carbon emissions.	Cllr Howell	<p>Completion of partnership with Warboys Parish Council and Cambridge Carbon Footprint for the thermal imaging camera project.</p> <p>Sponsorship of 3 sustainability accolades for the 'Invest in Huntingdonshire' business awards</p>	N/a	G	<p>56 people were trained across Great Paxton and Warboys to use the thermal imaging cameras. 73 properties were surveyed, resulting in residents applying measures to reduce their energy bills, including increasing loft insulation, fitting radiator reflectors, and applying draft exclusion measures</p> <p>The sustainability awards will recognise businesses that have made key steps in their carbon savings journey. This will provide an additional platform to promote their brand, as well as become more attractive to eco-conscious customers.</p>

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
46. Identify emissions from HDC IT data centres to include in reporting and establish disposal methods for IT equipment to reduce environmental impact.	Cllr Conboy	This project was completed in early 2025.	N/a	G	This project was completed in early 2025.
47. Delivery of Climate Awareness Training across the Council.	Cllr Howell	Online Climate training is now available for all staff to access through the Learning and Development portal.	N/a	G	All staff now have access to online training to help up-skill them, contributing to HDC's Climate agenda.
48. Maximise use of solar of Council operational buildings (PROJECT).	Cllr Howell	5 Solar installations have been completed and signed off during Q1. Solar Canopy at OLSI (Sport England Funded). OLH, OLSIO, OLSN, OLR (HDC Funded).	N/a	G	Reduction in HDC carbon emissions and reduction in utilities across the one leisure centre.
49. Improve household recycling, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reducing food waste through implementation of household food waste collections (PROJECT).	Cllr Kerr	The project is on target, with vehicles and caddies arriving in 2025. Our back office systems are being updated, routes are modelled and being transferred to an In-cab system. Recruitment of new staff is currently in the planning stages. Comms plan is being finalised.	N/a	G	This project will help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and will help to reduce food waste, reducing the amount we send to landfills each year.



Outcome: Lowering carbon emissions

Activity type: Enable

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
50. Support community projects that reduce carbon emissions. Net Zero Villages (PROJECT).	Cllr Howell	Currently collating evidence for a heat feasibility mapping funding bid for Huntingdon. Partners include HDC, NHS (Hinchingsbrooke Hospital) and Aces Trust. Currently awaiting confirmation from Cambs police. Net Zero Villages - 5 out of 11 projects completed, along with a press release to show updates.	N/a	G	If successful, a survey will be conducted to assess the heat emitted from buildings in Huntingdon. This will then present an opportunity for further funding to examine effective ways to harness this heat, reducing energy bills and subsequently carbon emissions. Net Zero Villages - enabling community group buildings to become more energy efficient, saving on their bills, and reducing carbon emissions.

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
<p>51. Enabling community action and engagement to achieve greater biodiversity. Biodiversity4All extension to pilot urban nature corridors and natural flood prevention (PROJECT).</p>	<p>Cllr Howell</p>	<p>St Ives Nature Corridor Project - Audits have been completed by the Graduate Ecologists, and the Data has been processed. Some community engagement work has been done through piggybacking on the Dart Green Project, which is being completed in partnership between St Ives Eco Action and the Parks, Countryside and Climate Team.</p> <p>Natural Flood Defence Project - Two sites have been agreed with internal and external stakeholders (Spring Common and Loves Farm). Working in partnership with CCC and ecological audits, archaeological surveys and Topographical surveys have been actioned for these sites. Finding suitable sites for natural flood defences has been challenging, and we are engaging with CCC to identify more potential sites and work with Private landowners.</p>	<p>N/a</p>	<p>G</p>	<p>St Ives Nature Corridor Project - Community and key stakeholders have been engaged and are supportive of the work. The key milestone of the data being processed has been completed and could be used to support the development of management plans for the sites.</p> <p>Natural Flood Defence Project - site identification and evidence gathering have been the main focus. Physical work will come later in the project.</p>



Outcome: Lowering carbon emissions

Activity type: Influence

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
52. Develop the Council's procurement rules to further embed social and environmental value.	Cllr Davenport-Ray	Sustainable procurement and decarbonisation training has already taken place in February 25. Learning will be embedded and the council's position will be captured on the social value toolkit being developed. A Working group is in place, and a meeting is to be held at the end of July.	N/a	G	This will help us to further embed social and environmental value in our procurement service, helping us to be best in class.
53. Expand positive climate action support for local businesses, celebrating best practice and sharing knowledge.	Cllr Howell	Annual Climate Report submitted to Overview & Scrutiny, with Cabinet planned for July 2025. Independent Climate Scorecard results published showing significant improvement and notably a 44% increase in Collaboration and Engagement. Plans have started for our 3rd Annual Climate Conference focusing on Community Resilience.	N/a	G	HDC is delivering against key themes to contribute to the reduction of Carbon in the District, climbing up 13 spaces in the independent climate scorecard.



Outcome: Delivering good quality, high value-for-money services

Activity type: Do

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
54. Refresh our Commercial Investment Strategy to support informed and impactful investment.	CLlr Mickelburgh	Workshop held, draft strategy reviewed by Treasury Management and Capital Group in June. The proposed revised strategy will next go through O&S and the governance process.	N/a	G	This will work to ensure our investments are both impactful and ethical, resourcing us to better help our residents.
55. Delivery of the Workforce Strategy Action Plan equipping the workforce with skills for the future whilst attracting, retaining and nurturing talent (PROJECT).	CLlr Davenport-Ray	The Leadership Development programme is underway - HR Module, Continuous Improvement and Recruitment and Onboarding have commenced. Also, A new one-to-one form titled 'My Conversation' has been launched, and the iCare Awards Ceremony has been held. Procurement commenced on the Electric Vehicle Salary Sacrifice Scheme. Initiatives were held during Mental Health Awareness Week, and the WFS Roadshows were held at all sites and HDC.	N/a	G	Based on Q4 Employment Committee Data (most recent available) - 21 leavers in the quarter compared to 33 in the previous quarter. - 15 existing staff were promoted or moved into other internal positions in HDC. - Sickness absence to the end of Q4 has decreased to 8.3 days per FTE, which is a decrease from 8.5 days per FTE in Q3.

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
56. Continue our Customer Services improvement programme to ensure that our customers are always at the heart of what we do (PROJECT).	Cllr Ferguson	Partnered with Bumps to Baby to provide wellbeing support through webinars to staff on parental and midlife support.	↔	G	The website and FAQ upgrades have resulted in more residents engaging with the website, and for longer periods.
57. Progress the Development Management Improvement programme informed by the Local Government Association Peer Review to deliver continued efficiency in the planning service (PROJECT).	Cllr Sanderson	Of the 16 Peer Review recommendations, four have been completed, with a further 11 started. Four further individual actions have been completed. The Agents & Developers forum is scheduled to take place on 21/7/2025. A new Comms plan has been created and is now being workshopped, a DM process review is happening, and automation is being implemented. Application Validation is being reorganised and improved, the S106 process is being streamlined, AI opportunities are being scoped, and a Community Engagement Platform is being procured.	N/a	G	Following up on our peer review actions will help to improve the planning process, helping us to be best in class and helping to deliver a value-for-money and efficient service for our residents.

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
58. Progress delivery of Civil Parking Enforcement across the District to enforce on-street parking activity (PROJECT).	Cllr Kerr	Communication received suggest that Civil Parking Enforcement will commence in early Aug 25. Works continuing to transition to new service	N/a	G	Works continue to deliver Civil Parking Enforcement in Huntingdonshire, helping to make the streets safer.
59. Build the enhancements to visitor facilities at Hinchingsbrooke Country Park (PROJECT).	Cllr Howell	Planning Permission was submitted for the development in Mar 25, with permission being granted in Jun 25. Communication partner engaged to help manage the messaging.	N/a	G	The project will ensure financial sustainability for not only Hinchingsbrooke Countryside Park, but also the entire strategic parks portfolio.

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
<p>60. Implement the recommendations and suggestions made from the Local Government Association Corporate Peer Challenge, continuing to drive transparent continuous improvement.</p>	<p>Cllr Ferguson</p>	<p>Since the review was published, 22 of the 37 actions have been completed with the evidence base reported to Overview and Scrutiny on 8th July. The remaining 15, which are still in progress, are all reporting as being within target. The Q1 Peer Review Update is currently going through the governance cycle and will be reported to Overview & Scrutiny in September.</p>	<p>N/a</p>	<p>G</p>	<p>The Corporate Peer Challenge supports Priority 3 of the Corporate Plan – Doing our Core Work Well. It ensures the Council focuses on key learning and development areas identified through external peer review. Outcomes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A management structure aligned with Corporate Plan delivery A communications network supporting the corporate narrative A continuous improvement programme informed by peer review An engaged workforce guided by the Workforce Strategy Enhanced member skills through targeted training A developed approach to transformation

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
61. Extend the use of benchmarking data to identify opportunities for transformation.	Cllr Ferguson	Following a recent recruitment, the new Performance and Insight Team are now fully operational. Scoping of the project has been completed this quarter, and a draft proposal is being taken to the next delivery board, ready for the programme to commence in Q2. Data collection has started in Q1 in order to gain endorsement for the model of review and prioritisation, to better inform and test organisational transformation priorities.	N/a	G	The performance and insight team have developed a working model to better enable the senior management team to reflect and assess whether transformation is prioritised and focused on in the areas of greatest impact. This will help drive the maximum benefit for the community and district as a whole, and is scheduled for release in Quarter 2.
62. Expand the use of unit costing within priority service areas to demonstrate productivity and opportunities for transformation.	Cllr Ferguson	The Performance and Insight team is now fully resourced. Following collaboration with other services, scoping of the project has been completed this Quarter, and a proposal is being drafted ready for the Operations Board for Quarter 2.	N/a	G	Scoping has now been completed, and a working model has been developed in Q1 to inform an overall proposal, ready for the Operations board in Q2. Following its approval, the programme will be able to officially begin.

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
63. Identify opportunities to use Artificial Intelligence in a targeted way to support transformation and efficiency in compliance with emergent legislation.	Cllr Ferguson	<p>A number of staff at HDC are using AI to help deliver day-to-day services. Examples include summarising meetings or drafting documents. Work is also underway to look at the potential to summarise conversations with customers in the Call Centre to reduce 'wrap-time' for advisors.</p> <p>In addition, the arrival of the CDIO in 3C ICT has introduced a stronger level of input into our approach and strategy - especially in ensuring compliance within a complex and changing technical environment.</p>	↔	G	Using technology effectively will make the Council more efficient, but this must be done safely and securely to ensure data is used appropriately
64. Listen to local residents and respond to their input on service delivery.	Cllr Conboy	Workshops held with community and VCS representatives to develop a funding model for CHAWS. As part of the local plan, consultation for Additional Sites Land Availability Assessments and Additional Sites Sustainability Appraisals was conducted from 23 April 2025 for 6 weeks to Wednesday 4 June 2025.	↔	G	The Local Plan activity has allowed residents and relevant stakeholders to have their say on how and where growth should take place across the district.

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
65. Engage proactively with Local Government Reorganisation to ensure the priorities, opportunities and efficiencies for our communities are maximised	Cllr Ferguson	Resources have been secured for a research and policy officer, dedicated to LGR, as well as project coordinators, who will be starting in Q2. Two stand-ups a week are in place with the wider LGR team, as well as regular transformation catch-ups with a shared actions tracker. There is now an established single point of contact for all LGR resources and actions to go through, ensuring that priorities are met. We have also been proactive in holding a member workshop on scaling up services and risk, and beginning work early to identify case studies for the creation of the business case.	N/a	G	Actions tracker is in place to ensure deadlines are met and we are less at risk of losing sight of information. We have set up a shared Teams site for capturing information for the business case, and heads of service are aware of their additional responsibilities. A shared risk register is in the process of being created, which will allow us to have greater oversight of any issues/potential workstreams. The LGR 'team' is now well established and embedded within the project.



Outcome: Delivering good quality, high value-for-money services

Activity type: Enable

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
66. Enable our outstanding volunteers in our parks, nature reserves and elsewhere to continue to improve the quality of those spaces.	Cllr Howell	Volunteering continues to be at the heart of our parks and open spaces. With spaces on work parties, delivering volunteering opportunities is being filled quickly.	↔	G	Community engagement and empowerment foster greater ownership of our parks and open spaces, leading to additional usage, footfall and partnership working.



Outcome: Delivering good quality, high value-for-money services

Activity type: Influence

2025/26 Actions/Projects	Portfolio Holder	Progress Update at Quarter 1	Direction of Travel	Latest Status	Impact as a Result of Action
67. Our well-run Council will act as a model for our peers.	Cllr Conboy	<p>We continue to show good delivery of services with multiple demonstrations of this in Q1 - the Peer Review Challenge update, attendance at UKReif, Town & Parish Forum and many other events and positive service delivery demonstrate this.</p> <p>In addition, other actions within this plan (e.g. benchmarking date) are being progressed alongside this action.</p>	↔	G	Demonstrating our impact will enhance our reputation with residents, businesses and other key partners.