12 November 2014

To: All Councillors

As a Member of the Council, please treat this as your summons to attend the meeting on Thursday 20th November 2014 at 6.00pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Matlock.

Yours sincerely

Sandra Lamb
Head of Corporate Services

AGENDA

OPENING ADDRESS

A presentation will be given by Howard Griffiths on the success of the Health Walk Scheme.

1. APOLOGIES

Please advise Democratic Services on 01629 761133 or e-mail committee@derbyshiredales.gov.uk of any apologies for absence.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To give members of the public who have given notice an opportunity to ask questions, present petitions or air their views.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

25 September and 2 October 2014.

4. INTERESTS

Members are required to declare the existence and nature of any interests they may have in subsequent agenda items in accordance with the District Council’s Code of Conduct. Those interests are matters that relate to money or that which can be valued in money, affecting the Member her/his partner, extended family and close friends. Interests that become apparent at a later stage in the proceedings may be declared at that time.
5. CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements of the Chairman of the District of Derbyshire Dales.

6. COMMITTEES

To receive the non-exempt minutes of the Committees shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Council Meeting</td>
<td>25 September 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Council Meeting</td>
<td>2 October 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corporate Committee</td>
<td>18 September 2014</td>
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<td>Licensing &amp; Appeals Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central &amp; Northern Area Planning Committee</td>
<td>7 October 2014</td>
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<td>Licensing &amp; Appeals Sub-Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central &amp; Northern Area Planning Committee</td>
<td>4 November 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ernest Bailey Committee</td>
<td>6 November 2014</td>
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MINUTE BOOK PUBLISHED SEPARATELY

7. QUESTIONS (RULE OF PROCEDURE 15)

Questions, if any, from Members who have given notice.

8. PEAK DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP DRAFT STATEMENT OF PRIORITIES 2015-2019

To note the key achievements of the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Sustainable Community Strategy over the last five years and to consider the subsequent adoption of a new, more succinct Statement of Priorities 2015-2019 retaining the long term vision of the Community Strategy.

9. DERBYSHIRE DALES CORPORATE PLAN PERFORMANCE 2014/15 AND PRIORITISATION 2015/16

To note the progress made against the Corporate Plan targets for 2014/15 and the results of the Budget Conversation Spending Priorities consultation. Also, to consider the Corporate Plan priorities and targets for 2015/16 as set out in the Corporate Plan 2013/14 and to approve the process for preparing the Corporate Plan 2015-19 as set out in Section 5 of the report.
10. **CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2014/15 TO 2019/20**

To consider the Capital Programme and financing arrangements for 2014/15 and proposals for 2015/16 to 2019/20. Also, to consider a proposal to provide an annual contribution from revenue budgets that will be transferred to reserves to finance future capital expenditure. *(A3 PAPER VERSION OF APPENDIX 1 TO BE DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY).*

11. **REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT**

To note the work undertaken by Planning Officers Society Enterprises so far and to consider the role of members in the on-going review and the appointment of 5 members to fulfil the role.

12. **REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND STATIONS 2014**

To determine whether or not to approve each of the proposed changes to the Derbyshire Dales Polling Scheme detailed in Appendix 1 to the report. Also, to consider delegating any changes to polling places, that are necessary before the next Review, to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the appropriate Ward Members, parish council and election agents.

13. **APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

To consider the appointment of the Head of Housing to serve on the Board of the Erewash Credit Union until the next Annual Meeting of the Council.

14. **SEALING OF DOCUMENTS**

To authorise that the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to those documents, if any, required to complete transactions undertaken by Committees or by way of delegated authority to others, since the last meeting of the Council.

15. **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

At this point the Committee will consider excluding the public and press from the meeting for the remaining items of business for the reasons shown in italics. The Chairman will adjourn the meeting briefly to enable members of the public to speak to Councillors.

16. **PROCUREMENT OF LEISURE MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE AND ONLINE BOOKINGS AND PAYMENTS SYSTEM**

To consider the assignment of Gladstone MRM as a Preferred Bidder for the leisure management system and proposals for funding the system.
(This report is excluded from the meeting because it includes information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)).

17 EXEMPT MINUTES TO BE RECEIVED

Licensing & Appeals Sub-Committee – Minute No. 145A/14 – 30 September 2014.

(This minute is excluded from the meeting because it is likely to reveal the identity of an individual).

NOTE

For further information about this Agenda or on “Public Participation” call 01629 761133 or e-mail committee@derbyshiredales.gov.uk
PEAK DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP DRAFT STATEMENT OF PRIORITIES 2015-2019

SUMMARY

In April 2009, Council adopted the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Sustainable Community Strategy 2009-2014. The Strategy was prepared by the former Local Strategic Partnership which became the Peak District Partnership in 2013. This report identifies key achievements over the last five years, and recommends consideration and subsequent adoption of a new, more succinct Statement of Priorities 2015-2019 retaining the long term vision of the current Community Strategy.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the key achievements under the 2009-14 Sustainable Community Strategy be noted;
2. That Members consider the Draft Statement of Priorities to enable comments to be fed into the current consultation;
3. That, subject to final amendments being agreed by the Council Leader, as the Council’s representative on the Peak District Partnership, the Statement of Priorities 2015-2019 be adopted as the new community strategy for the area;
4. That the vision contained within the Statement of Priorities continues to be incorporated within the District Council’s corporate planning for 2015-19.

WARDS AFFECTED

All

STRATEGIC LINK

The vision of the community strategy is reflected in the District Council’s Corporate Plan. Every strategy, plan and policy of the District Council flows from the Corporate Plan.

1 BACKGROUND

1.1 The Peak District Partnership brings together public, private and voluntary sector organisations working in the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak to deliver a shared vision for the Peak District. The Partnership aims to focus the collective resources of partners on issues best tackled jointly, therefore adding value to the work of individual agencies. The Partnership is chaired by Dr
Peter Dewhurst of the University of Derby and the District Council (as a lead partner) together with High Peak Borough Council provides the secretariat.

1.2 The Peak District Partnership emerged following the review of the former Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) in early 2013. The review found that although there were excellent working relationships between organisations and successes had been achieved, the LSP had at times tried to address too many issues and not retained adequate focus i.e. tried to be ‘all things to all men’.

1.3 Looking forward, partners saw value in maintaining an ‘umbrella’ partnership for the area and in identifying and agreeing a set of priorities which all partners could sign up to.

1.4 As a result, it was agreed to:
   - rebrand the partnership as the Peak District Partnership to retain a voice for the rural Peak District
   - adopt a more focused approach on a smaller number of outcome focused priorities
   - prepare a new statement of priorities in place of the previous Community Strategy 2009-14, building on and continuing its work, but in a more focused way
   - focus joint activity / shared actions going forward (based on current issues and where collectively the Partnership could achieve most impact) on health and wellbeing and the economy, whilst continuing to recognise links with housing, young people and the cross-cutting issues of community safety/cohesion, access to services and the environment / climate change
   - re-organise and improve working arrangements to achieve, smarter, more efficient working
   - identify partnership ‘calls to action’ to address key issues

2 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2009-2014

2.1 The Draft Statement of Priorities highlights a number of achievements through partnership working. These include:
   - Increased opportunities for younger people to access apprenticeships - 169 young people engaged via apprenticeship open days helping to tackle the rise in 16-24 year old’s not in employment, education or training (NEET) and reduce the gap in apprenticeship enrolments with the rest of Derbyshire
   - Overseen £300k NHS Choosing Health funding matched with contributions from local partners for a range of initiatives to tackle health inequalities and improve wellbeing including the Agricultural Chaplaincy which, through a regular presence at the Bakewell livestock market has supported some 64 new clients and made 440 repeat visits to predominantly isolated farmers over the age of 50
• Helped fund a homelessness support worker helping vulnerable 16-19 year olds with complex support needs and facing a housing crisis. Since the project began, 249 young people have been assisted
• Supported a successful Food Bank bid, helping secure £292,000 from the Big Lottery to provide paid workers to meet the increasing demand for food parcels in the High Peak
• Helped people access debt advice by supporting the Derbyshire CAB in GP Surgeries project
• Launched Credit Union services in the High Peak enabled with start-up funding from a range of partners and support from the Derbyshire Financial Inclusion Partnership and helping over 600 clients to access low cost loans (partners are now supporting the development of credit union services in the Derbyshire Dales)
• Championed rural issues by co-ordinating the Peak District response to key consultations including emergency service reviews and lobbying for continued funding for initiatives such as Wheels to Work

3 DRAFT STATEMENT OF PRIORITIES 2015-2019

3.1 The Draft Statement of Priorities (attached as Appendix 1) sets out the purpose, past achievements, evidence for and priorities of the Peak District Partnership. Once adopted, the Statement of Priorities 2015-2019 will provide the new community strategy for the area.

3.2 The Statement will provide the framework for co-ordinating partner actions to improve the quality of life for those living and working in the area. The main roles of the Partnership are summarised below, starting with adopting and actively promoting a shared vision for the area:
3.3 The former community strategy set out a long term vision for the Peak District. This remains the vision for the area for the next five years:

The Peak District will be a distinctive, high quality rural environment with...

...people of all ages who are healthy and safe
...high-wage, high-skill jobs
...affordable, decent homes for local people
...towns and villages that offer a high quality of life

3.4 This vision is what the Peak District Partnership intends the Derbyshire Dales and wider Peak District to become. It is therefore proposed that this same vision is incorporated within the District Council’s corporate planning for 2015-19.

3.5 To ensure impact, two priorities have been identified as the Partnership’s primary focus for joint activity / shared actions over the next five years:

Priority 1 - Maximise the benefits for Peak District communities from programmes aimed at stimulating economic growth

Priority 2 - Reduce health inequalities and improve wellbeing in the Peak District, focusing on individuals and communities with poorer health or difficulty accessing services

3.6 The Draft Statement also includes proposed actions to help address these priorities, aimed at filling gaps in current delivery.

3.7 The document has been prepared by the Partnership’s Executive group comprising the chair and lead partners drawing on a range of evidence. The Peak District Partnership Board (on which the Council is represented by the Leader and Chief Executive) endorsed the Draft Statement for consultation at its October meeting. This began on 20 October and runs until 28 November 2014. Following the consultation, a final draft Statement of Priorities will be considered at the Partnership’s Board meeting on 16 December.

3.8 Members are asked to consider the Draft Statement of Priorities and, following conclusion of the consultation process, authorise the Council Leader to approve the final document on behalf of the Council.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 Legal

The Department for Communities and Local Government has previously revoked statutory guidance on the duty to prepare a Sustainable Community Strategy. The Deregulation Bill (currently passing through Parliament) proposes to formally repeal the duty. However, prior to the Bill becoming law,
under the Local Government Act 2000 and Sustainable Communities Act 2007, local authorities are still required to prepare a strategy for promoting or improving the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of their area and contributing to the achievement of sustainable development. Adoption of the statement discharges this current duty.

4.2 Financial

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. The costs of implementing any of the priorities would be the subject of future reports to Council if they could not be contained within existing budgets. The financial risk is therefore considered to be low.

4.3 Corporate Risk

Preparing a replacement community strategy is rated 6 (medium risk) within the District Council’s risk register. This risk will be mitigated by the adoption of the new statement.

5 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

In preparing this report, the relevance of the following factors has also been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equalities, environmental, climate change, health, human rights, personnel and property.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Giles Dann, Economic Development Manager 01629 761211
email giles.dann@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Sustainable Community Strategy 2009-14
1. **Introduction**

‘If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself’ (Henry Ford)

1.1 The Peak District Partnership brings together organisations in the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak to provide a ‘voice’ for the area and focus collective resources on issues best tackled in partnership, adding value to the work of individual agencies. By working together, partners aim to achieve more than by acting alone.

1.2 This statement of priorities will guide our work. Building on the Sustainable Community Strategy 2009-2014, it provides the framework for co-ordinating partner actions to improve the quality of life for those living and working in the area. To ensure impact, and to achieve more with the things that we do, partners will focus attention on two shared priorities - Improving the local economy and the health and wellbeing of our communities.

1.3 The Peak District Partnership will:

   i. adopt and actively promote a shared vision for the area
   ii. identify and address gaps in partner delivery and focus on those areas where, by co-ordinating effort, more can be achieved through partnership working
   iii. shape and challenge – as a critical friend – wider activities, initiatives and proposals impacting on the area to ensure they reflect Peak District priorities
   iv. link existing and initiate new actions to support the Economy and Health & Wellbeing priorities of the Peak District
   v. exchange and disseminate best practice amongst and beyond the Partnership
2. **Key Achievements 2009-14**

2.1 Originally formed as the Derbyshire Dales & High Peak Local Strategic Partnership (becoming the Peak District Partnership in March 2013), the Partnership has:

- **Overseen £300k NHS Choosing Health funding** matched with contributions from local partners for a range of initiatives to tackle health inequalities and improve wellbeing including:
  - **Agricultural Chaplaincy** which, through a regular presence at the Bakewell livestock market has supported some 64 new clients and made 440 repeat visits to predominantly isolated farmers over the age of 50 with problems ranging from physical illness affecting the running of the farm to depression, anxiety and distress, often caused by financial pressures (38% of referrals)
  - **Homelessness support worker** supporting vulnerable 16-19 year olds with complex support needs and facing a housing crisis. Since the project began, 249 young people have been assisted, with those with serious physical health or mental health issues introduced to specialised services
  - **Health Walks** led by qualified volunteer leaders providing accessible walks to develop confidence and increase participation in regular physical activity for all age groups and abilities – 25 walks are now regularly held across the two districts

- **Increased opportunities for younger people to access apprenticeships** - 169 young people engaged via **Apprenticeship Open Days** helping to tackle the rise in 16-24 year olds not in employment, education or training (NEET) and reduce the gap in apprenticeship enrolments with the rest of Derbyshire. This was followed up with a **Skills Festival** at the University of Derby, Buxton. Members of the Peak District Partnership have themselves taken on X apprentices to date (figure to be added).

- **Supported a successful Food Bank bid** helping secure £292,000 from the Big Lottery to provide paid workers to meet the increasing demand for food parcels in the High Peak, helping supply over 10,000 days worth of food to people in need

- **Helped people access debt advice** by supporting the Derbyshire CAB in GP Surgeries project and promoting **Derbyshire Dales Debt Advice**, the latter helping over 130 people per year and tackling over £1.2m of debt

- **Launched Credit Union services in the High Peak** – enabled with start-up funding from a range of partners and support from the Derbyshire Financial Inclusion Partnership, the extension of Manchester Credit Union’s services has enabled over 600 clients to access low cost loans with flexible repayment terms

- **Helped promote the benefits of and stimulate demand for higher speed broadband** by encouraging residents and businesses to evidence demand through broadband surveys and promoting a Peak District programme of community events engaging 193 residents / businesses

- **Co-ordinated the Total Place service** mapping alcohol misuse, hosted the local launch of the ‘5 Ways to Wellbeing’ initiative through facilitated workshops and project support and rolled out the **Wealth, Health & Wellbeing** initiative, taking key services aimed at tackling financial and health inequalities directly into priority neighbourhoods in the High Peak

- **Championed rural issues** by co-ordinating the Peak District response to key consultations including emergency service reviews and the growth plans of Local Enterprise Partnerships, and lobbying for funding for initiatives such as **Wheels to Work** and Derbyshire Financial Inclusion Partnership
3. **Area Profile**

3.1 Predominantly rural in character with market towns acting as important employment and service centres, the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak cover 514 square miles. Nearly two thirds of the area is within the Peak District National Park. The population of just over 162,000 people live primarily in the towns of Glossop (33,000), Buxton (25,000), Matlock (10,500), Chapel-en-le-Frith (10,000), New Mills (10,000), Ashbourne (7,500), Whaley Bridge (6,200), Wirksworth (5,500) and Bakewell (4,500), with the remainder dispersed across a large number of small villages. The quality and accessibility of the upland landscape is one of the area’s unique features, creating a sense of place as well as an opportunity to add value to the area’s economy.

3.2 Between 2001 and 2011, the population grew by just 2.4% in the Derbyshire Dales and 1.6% in High Peak (just over 3,000 people). The area has a higher proportion of residents aged 65+ than nationally (especially in the Dales), a lower proportion of younger people aged <25, a slightly higher proportion of people with a disability (day to day activities are limited) and lower proportion of BME residents.

3.3 Overall, residents enjoy a high quality of life with low levels of crime, below average unemployment, lower levels of deprivation and general good health compared with other Derbyshire districts. However, the area also experiences a number of underlying challenges including:

- an ageing population
- low workplace earnings due to employment opportunities locally often being low skilled, part-time and seasonal
- pockets of deprivation and unemployment, often dispersed across a wide area
- health inequalities linked to deprivation, worklessness and rural isolation
- housing affordability and availability
- limited career opportunities for younger people
- limited access to services, public transport and decent broadband in rural areas
- financial exclusion and problems of debt (compounded by rurality)

4. **Our Vision**

The previous Community Strategy set out a long term vision for the Peak District. This remains our vision for the area over the next five years:

**The Peak District will be a distinctive, high quality rural environment with...**

- *people of all ages who are healthy and safe*
- *high-wage, high-skill jobs*
- *affordable, decent homes for local people*
- *towns and villages that offer a high quality of life*

5. **Our Priorities**

5.1 Partners have made a corporate commitment to work towards this vision. In recognition of the fundamental importance of the economy and health and wellbeing agendas to improving quality of life, and to maximise the impact of available resources, the following priorities have been identified as the Partnership’s primary focus for joint activity / shared actions over the next five years:
5.2 Recent research\(^1\) has evidenced both the economic value of the Peak District economy and weaknesses which need to be addressed.

5.3 Despite the rural nature of the area, average productivity per FTE is comparable with wider Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) areas. Business density is high - the area has over 7,500 businesses, including some large / nationally based employers, but the majority (over 90%) are micro businesses (<10 employees). Survival rates for new businesses are high (over 60% survive at least 4 years) and the area has higher than average levels of self employment and homeworking.

5.4 Key employment sectors include: manufacturing, wholesale and retail, the public sector and visitor economy. Although not major employers, farming and quarrying remain important to the local economy. However, forecast contraction in some sectors e.g. the public sector and low workplace wages (20% below the national average) emphasise the continuing importance of diversifying the economy and developing sectors with growth potential offering better paid jobs. Creating more higher quality employment is also key to improving health.

5.5 The resident working age population is highly qualified (36% in the Dales and 32% in High Peak have degree level qualifications or above). Encouraging more higher skilled residents to start businesses in the area will help increase opportunities for higher quality employment locally. There is also a need to develop the skills necessary to enter the labour market or pursue self employment, particularly amongst young people and those living in more deprived areas. Raising aspirations as well as creating higher value employment opportunities locally is also important.

5.6 Access to fast broadband is critical to achieving sustainable communities and to growing the rural economy. However, a recent Ofcom report highlights that between 2011 and 2013, the gap between average download speeds in urban and rural areas continued to widen (from 9.5Mbs in May 2011 to 16.5Mbs in May 2013). The Digital Derbyshire Local Broadband Plan will enable access to superfast fibre broadband for 95% of premises in Derbyshire by 2016. However, there remains a challenge to enhance access in remoter areas due to the distance of many premises from the nearest telephone exchange.

\(^1\) Growing the Rural Economy: Evidencing the Case for the Peak District, Ekosgen Jan 2014
The influence of the urban areas surrounding the Peak District is significant, particularly in terms of travel to work patterns leading to significant out commuting of higher skilled workers and loss of retail spend. However, these economic linkages also offer markets for Peak District businesses and supply chain opportunities to exploit.

In response, the Partnership has helped prepare ‘Enterprise Peak District’, a package of linked interventions to help stimulate economic growth. Delivery of the package will be overseen by Business Peak District which provides the economic ‘arm’ of the Peak District Partnership with funding being sought from LEPs.

The Partnership will support the delivery of Enterprise Peak District and work to bring forward complementary activities. In doing so, particular consideration will be given to exploring the connections with Health and Wellbeing focused initiatives.

Key Actions include:

- supporting businesses and community groups to access the Peak District Leader Programme 2015-2020 (bid submitted September 2014)
- working with partners and local employers to provide opportunities to raise skill levels via work placements and work shadowing
- working with local communities to help address gaps in high speed broadband provision and access the skills required to make the most of the technology
- identifying partner opportunities to promote ‘Inspired by the Peak District’ products and services e.g. stocking products at visitor centres and leisure centres
- exploring the potential for local partners to provide facilities to support youth enterprise and local businesses to offer mentoring support
- working with partners to deliver local workshops on how to bid for contracts / enter new supply chains
- further developing the Pedal Peak initiative to improve the welcome for cyclists and increase both the economic and health and wellbeing benefits locally

These actions will also support the Derbyshire Community Strategy and wider activities of the Derbyshire Partnership Forum, whilst also contributing to the key economic priorities of those LEPs covering the Peak District.

Priority 2 - Reduce health inequalities and improve wellbeing in the Peak District, focusing on individuals and communities with poorer health or difficulty accessing services

Although the population generally is in good health, latest Census data and health profiles provide a deeper insight into the health of individual communities, highlighting common issues as well as particular challenges in each district.

Compared with the rest of Derbyshire, life expectancy is longer in the Derbyshire Dales. There are low levels of early deaths from cancer and circulatory disease and conception rates for <18s are the lowest in the county. 32% of adults regularly take part in physical activity (3x30 minutes a week), one of the highest rates in England although over 40% do none at all.

However, the area has an older age profile, more pensioners living alone and a high number of residents (over 9,000 people) providing unpaid care to a friend or relative. Nearly a quarter of households (24%) live in fuel poverty. Although levels of deprivation are lower than in other districts, Hurst Farm Matlock is within the 20% most deprived areas nationally and 16 of Derbyshire’s 35 LSOAs (Lower Super Output Areas) within the worst 20% nationally for barriers to housing and access to services are within the Derbyshire Dales. The numbers seeking help to prevent homelessness and accessing debt advice remain relatively high, with anecdotal

2 Derbyshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, Derbyshire Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2011-15, Health Profiles for High Peak and Derbyshire Dales 2013
evidence suggesting a need to increase access to mental health support. There is also a higher incidence of high risk (binge) drinking and the Dales has the highest rate of road traffic casualties in Derbyshire.

5.14 In the case of **High Peak**, again whilst the overall health of people living in the borough is good, specific challenges exist, particularly within more deprived areas. These include parts of Gamesley (Glossopdale) and Buxton which fall within the 10-20% most deprived areas nationally and where higher levels of unemployment / longer term unemployment exist, affecting both physical health e.g. through inactivity and poor diet, and wellbeing due to increased risk of mental illness.

5.15 Compared with other Derbyshire districts, High Peak has the highest rate of hospital admissions for alcohol related conditions for under 18s and the highest teenage conception rate. Smoking in pregnancy is above the national average and the rate of breastfeeding below the national average. There is also a life expectancy gap between those wards experiencing higher levels of deprivation and those with lower levels (over 10 years for men). Some 25% participate in regular physical activity but like in the Dales, 40% of adults are physically inactive.

5.16 This evidence has helped shape the public health locality plans for each district which target in particular:

- areas of disadvantage
- vulnerable groups (particular emphasis on older people in the Dales and younger people in High Peak) and
- challenges associated with rurality

5.17 Delivery of the plans is overseen by the Partnership’s **Health and Wellbeing Sub Group** with small grants made available to support local intervention complementing wider Derbyshire programmes. The Partnership will help shape and influence these plans, support their delivery, identify any gaps in interventions and engage partners to help initiate new actions as appropriate. In doing so the Partnership will give particular consideration to exploring the connections with Economy focused initiatives.

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<td>- supporting local initiatives to reduce homelessness, supporting vulnerable households and reducing debt</td>
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<tr>
<td>- increasing awareness of voluntary and community transport schemes and other voluntary sector support to enhance access to services and develop effective signposting via CVSs</td>
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<td>- identifying opportunities for support provision accessible to carers in rural areas</td>
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<td>- supporting the development of local programmes aimed at increasing physical activity, particularly amongst adults</td>
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<td>- supporting local initiatives aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of older people and people living in deprived areas</td>
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<td>- reducing poverty by supporting people into jobs through further development and delivery of the Wealth, Health and Wellbeing project</td>
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<td>- supporting programmes to reduce smoking in pregnancy and promote breastfeeding</td>
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<td>- working with groups using the ‘Five ways to wellbeing’ model to improve community wellbeing</td>
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<td>- exploring the concept of developing ‘community resilience’ by enhancing community and personal networks</td>
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5.18 Again these actions aim to support the Derbyshire Community Strategy and wider activities of the Derbyshire Partnership Forum and the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) covering the Peak District.

5.19 The Partnership also aims to **encourage adjoining actions which cut across both the economy and health and wellbeing agendas** and can achieve mutual benefits.
Key Actions include:
- pursuing opportunities to expand credit union services into the Derbyshire Dales to complete credit union coverage in the area and encourage partners to adopt payroll deduction schemes
- educating partner organisations and other key local employers on the wider benefits of paying the Living Wage
- contributing to other aspects of the Derbyshire Anti-Poverty Strategy 2014-2017
- increasing information sharing and exchange of ideas between the Heath & Wellbeing group and Business Peak District

6. Implementing Our Priorities and Actions

6.1 The Partnership’s actions aim to build on and add to the work already being done by individual partners to improve the local economy and health and wellbeing of our communities. The Partnership Board will oversee implementation of the priorities and activities identified and monitor progress at its meetings.

6.2 Business Peak District and the Partnership’s Health & Wellbeing sub group will lead day to day delivery of economy and health and wellbeing activities, reporting progress to the Board. The Partnership Board will take the lead on driving forward cross-cutting actions. An action plan will be prepared to support implementation.

Partner Signatures:

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<tr>
<th>University of Derby</th>
<th>Business Peak District</th>
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<tr>
<td>Derbyshire Dales District Council</td>
<td>High Peak Borough Council</td>
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<td>Peak District National Park Authority</td>
<td>Derbyshire County Council</td>
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<td>Rural Action Derbyshire</td>
<td>Natural England</td>
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<td>Derbyshire Dales Council for Voluntary Service</td>
<td>High Peak Community and Voluntary Support</td>
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<td>Derbyshire Fire &amp; Rescue Service</td>
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<td>North Derbyshire CCG</td>
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Further Information:

Derbyshire Dales District Council: policy@derbyshiredales.gov.uk Tel: 01629 761211
High Peak Borough Council: policy@highpeak.gov.uk Tel: 01298 28400 ex. 2057
SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to set out progress against the Corporate Plan targets for 2014/15, to set out the headlines from the Budget Conversation, to agree Corporate Plan target areas for 2015/16 based on the findings of the Budget Conversation and to set out a process for undertaking a comprehensive review of the Corporate Plan for the period 2015-2019.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That progress against the Corporate Plan 2014/14 be noted
2. That the results of the Budget Conversation Spending Priorities consultation be noted
3. That the Corporate Plan priorities and targets for 2015/16 remain as set out in the Corporate Plan 2013/14
4. That the process for preparing the Corporate Plan 2015-2019 as set out in Section 5 of the report be approved.

WARDS AFFECTED

All Wards

STRATEGIC LINK

Every plan, strategy policy, and action of the District Councils flows from the Corporate Plan. The Corporate Plan is put into effect by the Performance Plan and Budget, which in turn is supplemented by service plans, policies and strategies. Through the Personal Development Scheme (PDS), employees’ activities and appraisals are linked to the Corporate Plan. The Corporate Plan reflects the Peak District Partnership Statement of Priorities 2015-2019, which highlights national and local priorities and how they affect the Derbyshire Dales. We describe this linking of common priorities from the Peak District Partnership, through our Corporate and Performance Plan, and ultimately to service plans and individual employees’ Personal Development Plans, as our ‘golden thread’.

1 BACKGROUND

1.1 The Corporate Plan sets out the vision, and aims of the District Council for the coming years, and lists the key improvement priorities. The Corporate Plan is a key strategy for the District Council as it sets out specific new action targets to maintain and improve service delivery in the coming year.
1.2 The current Corporate Plan was adopted by Council on 6th March 2014 and reflected Member Workshops held in Autumn 2013. It identifies two Improvement Priorities with five target areas during 2014/15; a third priority to maintain essential services valued by local people; and an underpinning priority recognising the need to manage financial pressures.

### PRIORITY AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT 2014/15

**Make savings necessary to achieve a sustainable budget**

1. **Increase affordable housing**
   - Identify and deliver new affordable housing sites
   - Improve housing opportunities for vulnerable people

2. **Increase business growth and job creation**
   - Help new businesses to start
   - Help existing businesses to grow
   - Promote key development sites

**Maintain street cleaning, waste collection, safe and healthy communities**

1.4 The Corporate Plan 2014/15 sets out 11 priority targets related to the five target areas identified above:

- Enable the provision of 60 new affordable homes
- Provide adaptations to the homes of 35 disabled people
- Support 150 social housing tenants affected by Welfare Reform to access financial and budgeting advice and where necessary, help move home
- Enable 35 new businesses to start
- Provide support to 85 established businesses in the Derbyshire Dales, enabling the creation of local jobs
- 15 Derbyshire Dales businesses supported to access grants or loans from Government and the Local Enterprise Partnerships
- Adopt a new Derbyshire Dales Local Plan by November 2014 allocating up to 19 Ha of land
- Introduce Fixed Penalty Notices for litter and dog fouling
- Increase the proportion of household waste recycled or composted from 56.1% to 56.7%
- Implement a Public Health funded Affordable Warmth Initiative to help the most vulnerable households
- Undertake a programme of efficiency savings and service reviews with a target of generating £1m savings within the next 3 years
2 PROGRESS AGAINST CORPORATE PLAN TARGETS 2014/15

2.1 The District Council’s Performance Management Handbook sets out that progress against corporate targets is measured and continually reviewed using the established ‘traffic light’ system where the following classification and interpretation can be used:

- **Green**: Target achieved, or on track to achieve/exceed target
- **Amber**: Target on track to be achieved after the deadline
- **Red**: Target unlikely to be achieved

2.2 The following table sets out a summary of progress overall using the above system:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>No. Targets</th>
<th>Green</th>
<th>Likely to be achieved</th>
<th>Amber</th>
<th>Red</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Achieved</td>
<td>Achieved</td>
<td>On track to be achieved</td>
<td>Unlikely to be achieved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>on or ahead of scheduled</td>
<td>After Deadline</td>
<td>after deadline</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase Affordable Housing</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase Businesses Growth &amp; Job Creation</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintain street cleaning, waste collection, safe and healthy communities</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making savings necessary to achieve a sustainable budget</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.3 Detailed progress for each of the targets is set out in Appendix 1. This indicates that:

- We are more than half way to achieving our target of delivering 35 adaptations to homes for disabled people
- The Affordable Warmth Initiative is on schedule to go live in January 2015, 2 months ahead of schedule
- New Fixed Penalties for Litter and Dog Fouling are hoped to be introduced in February 2015 subject to Member approval, a month ahead of schedule
- Advice to new and established businesses continues to be very popular across Derbyshire Dales
- The ability of the District Council to be able to allocate 19ha of employment land through the Derbyshire Dales Local Plan suffered a set back with the withdrawal of the Local Plan in October 2014
- There is a possibility that the target for the number of affordable houses enabled is missed, primarily as a result of delays in funding availability for sites in Bakewell, Tideswell and Wirksworth

3 CONSULTATION ON SPENDING PRIORITIES

3.1 As in previous years there has been consultation and engagement with the public and Members to determine the extent to which changes are required to the Corporate Plan for the forthcoming year. This year, consultation has sought views on the District Council’s future spending priorities, as a means of achieving a “sense check” on future areas of spending for 2015/16.
3.2 The consultation took the form of a “budget conversation”, which commenced on 6th October and ran until 11th November 2014. The consultation exercise included presentations at Area Community Forums throughout October, where members of the public were encouraged to complete a form either in paper or online.

3.3 Details of the online form were sent to over 350 local residents who had either volunteered to participate in online surveys or were part of the Citizens Panel. An invitation to participate in the survey was also included the latest version of dalesMATTERS.

3.4 At the time of writing the report a total of 291 respondents had completed the survey on spending priorities. The results of the survey indicates the top four areas for spending as:

1. Keeping Streets & Public Areas Clean & Presentable
2. Tackling Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour
3. Creating Local Employment Opportunities
4. Affordable Housing

3.5 The top three areas for spending least on were identified as:

1. Reception Opening Hours
2. Subsidising Special Events
3. District Council Communications

3.6 Any significant deviation from these results will be reported verbally to Council. Appendix 2 to this report sets out the detailed results of the survey.

4 CORPORATE PLAN TARGET AREAS 2015/16

4.1 In order to set budgets and plan services for the 2015/16 financial year, priorities and target areas need to be set. Although a limited survey, the budget conversation consultation affirms that housing, jobs, clean streets and safe communities remain high priorities for residents. It is therefore proposed that the 2014/15 priorities and target areas be retained for 2015/16.

5 REVIEW OF CORPORATE PLAN JUNE-SEPTEMBER 2015

5.1 The District Council’s Corporate Plan sets out priorities for a four year period, with the current plan covering the period 2011-2015. A comprehensive review of the Corporate Plan is therefore required to be undertaken in order to identify the District Council’s priorities for 2015-2019.

5.2 It is proposed that the comprehensive review will commence in June 2015 and entail the following activities:

- Extensive public consultation including random survey and focus groups;
- Online consultation;
- Member workshop;
- Senior Management and Staff Workshops;
5.3 It is anticipated that the new Corporate Plan will be presented to Members for approval at Council in November 2015.

6 RISK ASSESSMENT

6.1 Legal
The Corporate Plan is fully compliant with all relevant legislation. The legal risk is assessed as being low.

6.2 Financial
Service and financial planning is an integrated process. The budget and performance plan are prepared simultaneously, and actions for 2015/16 are to be funded from within budgetary provision for 2015/16. It is considered that the Corporate Plan targets for 2015/16 can be achieved within the proposed budgets. The financial risk is therefore considered to be low.

6.3 Corporate Risk
There is a risk that Corporate Plan targets may not be achieved. Progress is monitored regularly by Service Heads and by Corporate Leadership Team. Whilst priority actions have been developed with managers as part of the combined service planning and budget setting process, given the continuing financial pressures on the District Council, the risk of not achieving corporate targets is classified as medium.

7 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

In preparing this report, the relevance of the following factors has also been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equalities, environmental, climate change, health, human rights, personnel and property.

8 CONTACT INFORMATION

Mike Hase, Policy Manager
Tel: 01629 761251  E-mail: mike.hase@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

9 BACKGROUND PAPERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>File</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

BACK TO AGENDA
### PROGRESS ON CORPORATE PLAN TARGETS APRIL-SEPTEMBER 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target Area</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2013/14 Target</th>
<th>2013/14 Outturn</th>
<th>Risk at start of Q1 2014/15</th>
<th>Risk at start of Q2 2014/15</th>
<th>2014-15 Target</th>
<th>Q1 Performance</th>
<th>Q2 Performance</th>
<th>Improvement Trend</th>
<th>On track to achieve 2014/15 target?</th>
<th>Q2 Progress inc. comparison with same period last year and corrective action planned</th>
<th>Risk at start Q3 2014/15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase Affordable Housing</td>
<td>No. of affordable homes enabled</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td>↓</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>Q2 - 12 units started at St Oswalds, Ashbourne. Since the original allocations made by HCA, Bakewell, Tideswell, Bonsall and Wirksworth schemes have been subject to some delay. Target may not be achieved during current FY but anticipated to come forward during 2015/16</td>
<td>Amber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No. of adaptations provided to the homes of disabled people</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>On course to achieve target</td>
<td>Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No. of social housing tenants affected by Welfare Reform supported to access financial and budgeting advice, and where necessary, help move home</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>Amber</td>
<td>Amber</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>On course to meet target - Overall benefit gained £18,122 and total debt being managed £422,597</td>
<td>Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase Business Growth &amp; Job Creation</td>
<td>No. of new business start-ups enabled by Derbyshire Dales Business Advice</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>Amber</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>Performance is on a par with same period last year</td>
<td>Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No. of established businesses assisted by Derbyshire Dales Business Advice, enabling the creation of local jobs</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>44 established businesses were assisted in the same period last year. On course to achieve target</td>
<td>Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No. of businesses supported to access grants or loans from Government and Local Enterprise Partnerships</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>/</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>A further 6 businesses have been assisted to apply for grants from Global Derbyshire but delay in programme and awaiting outcome. Figure to be reported in Q3</td>
<td>Amber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Derbyshire Dales Local Plan adopted allocating up to 19ha of land for new employment development</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>/</td>
<td>Amber</td>
<td>Nov-14</td>
<td>/</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>Local Plan was withdrawn by Council on 2nd October 2014 - Target will not be achieved</td>
<td>Red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>% of household waste which has been sent for reuse, recycling, composting or anaerobic digestion</td>
<td>54.67</td>
<td>56.1</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>56.7</td>
<td>56.86%</td>
<td></td>
<td>↑</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>On the basis of Q1 performance - on course to achieve target</td>
<td>Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Implement Public Health funded Affordable Warmth Initiative to help the most vulnerable households</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>/</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Mar-15</td>
<td>/</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>Staff recruited, due to go live January</td>
<td>Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Achieve a Sustainable Budget</td>
<td>No. of service reviews completed / £ savings identified (contributing to £1m savings target over next 3 years)</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>/</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2 / £92,894</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Although some progress has been made, the risk of not achieving the savings requirement should be noted</td>
<td>Amber</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Improvement Trend**: 
  - **↓**: Below target
  - **↑**: Above target
  - **-**: No change

- **On track to achieve 2014/15 target?**: 
  - **✗**: Not on track
  - **✓**: On track

- **Risk at start Q3 2014/15**: 
  - **Red**: High risk
  - **Green**: Low risk
  - **Amber**: Medium risk

- **Q2 Progress inc. comparison with same period last year and corrective action planned**: 
  - **✓✓**: Improvement confirmed
  - **✓**: Improvement not confirmed
  - **✗**: No improvement
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Spend Most</th>
<th>Spend Least</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Affordable, decent housing</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities / activities accessible to all</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public toilets</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council Communication</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime and anti-social behaviour</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local employment and business opportunities</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community/voluntary groups</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recycling and composting services</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local markets including Farmer’s Markets</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities / activities for young people</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Stay Tourism</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clean Streets &amp; Public Areas</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Events</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports and Leisure Facilities &amp; Activities</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintaining parks and recreation grounds</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reception Opening Hours</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>182</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2014/15 TO 2019/20

SUMMARY

This report:
- Determines the revised Capital Programme and financing arrangements for 2014/15;
- Seeks members’ views on a policy to provide revenue funding for future capital projects

RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 That the revised Capital Programme and financing arrangements for 2014/15 in the sum £3,696,019 be noted and approved.

2.1 That the revised Capital Programme proposals for 2015/16 to 2019/20 in the sum of £5,059,344, as detailed in Appendix 1, be noted.

3.1 That members consider the introduction of a policy to provide an annual contribution from revenue budgets that will be transferred to reserves to finance future capital expenditure.

WARDS AFFECTED

All

STRATEGIC LINK

The Council’s Capital Programme takes into account all the priorities and targets within the Corporate Plan and these are identified in the Capital Strategy.

1 REPORT

1.1 BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

Members will be aware that Derbyshire Dales District Council has been facing increasing financial pressures in recent years, mainly as a result in cuts in grants from central government. The financial pressure on the Council’s Capital Programme has also been affected by the reduction in capital receipts arising from the disposal of assets. As a result, the CLT has undertaken an exercise to:

- Identify all known capital liabilities for the next five years
- Prioritise those schemes requested for inclusion within the capital programme to match available funding.

The results of that exercise form the basis of the proposals set out in this report.
1.2 REVISED CAPITAL PROGRAMME FOR 2014/15

1.2.1 Proposed Capital Expenditure 2014/15

The revised Capital Programme for 2014/15 is summarised below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>2014/15 Recommended Capital Programme £</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase in affordable housing</td>
<td>873,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase business growth and job creation</td>
<td>637,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintain street cleaning, waste collection &amp; safe and healthy communities</td>
<td>1,421,184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>734,835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Salaries and Support Service Charges</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>3,696,019</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The spending proposals shown in the table above are the aggregate of the estimated scheme costs. All estimated grants and contributions have been dealt with as part of the financing arrangements (shown below). The major items in the spending proposals where expenditure in 2014/15 is estimated at £250,000 or more are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>£000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ashbourne Leisure Centre Changing Rooms</td>
<td>374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Housing Grants</td>
<td>605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repayment of Derelict Land Grants</td>
<td>637</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.2.2 Financing Arrangements 2014/15

The overall financing package that is proposed for the revised 2014/15 Capital Programme is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>£000</th>
<th>£000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Borrowing</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Receipts</td>
<td>1,827,566</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue Financing</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and Contributions:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing – Disabled Facilities Grants</td>
<td>184,482</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashbourne Leisure Centre Changing Rooms</td>
<td>175,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance claim for fire at Ashbourne Leisure Centre</td>
<td>140,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashbourne Leisure Centre Gym Project</td>
<td>60,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Grants</td>
<td>23,102</td>
<td>582,584</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of Reserves:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car Parking Machine Reserve</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Improvements, Property Repairs &amp; Bakewell ABC</td>
<td>136,636</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carsington Fund</td>
<td>19,768</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct Revenue Financing Reserve</td>
<td>393,465</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants Unapplied Reserve (section 106 contributions)</td>
<td>149,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurances Reserve</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 1.3 REVISED CAPITAL PROGRAMME PROPOSALS FOR 2015/16 TO 2019/20

#### 1.3.1 Proposed Capital Expenditure 2015/16 to 2019/20

The revised Capital Programme Proposals for 2015/16 to 2019/20 are summarised below and are shown in detail in Appendix 1:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>2015/16 to 2019/20 Recommended Capital Programme</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in affordable housing</td>
<td>2,555,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase business growth and job creation</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintain street cleaning, waste collection &amp; safe and healthy communities</td>
<td>771,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (mainly replacement commercial vehicles)</td>
<td>1,698,844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Salaries and Support Service Charges</td>
<td>34,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5,059,344</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 1.3.2 Proposed Financing Arrangements 2015/16 to 2019/20

The overall financing package that is proposed for the revised Capital Programme Proposals for 2015/16 to 2019/20 is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use of Reserves:</th>
<th>£000</th>
<th>£000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Car Parking Machine Reserve</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Improvements, Property Repairs &amp; Bakewell ABC</td>
<td>150,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carsington Fund</td>
<td>16,044</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct Revenue Financing Reserve</td>
<td>823,972</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants Unapplied Reserve (section 106 contributions)</td>
<td>469,244</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invest to Save Reserve</td>
<td>5,768</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Technology Reserve</td>
<td>214,232</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle Renewal Reserve</td>
<td>440,825</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2,170,085</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5,059,344</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.4 REVENUE FINANCING

The table below shows the impact on the Council’s Reserves and Balances of the above proposals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reserve / Balance</th>
<th>B/Fwd 01/04/2014 £</th>
<th>New Receipts £</th>
<th>Used 31/03/2020 £</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Reserves (earmarked for capital schemes)</td>
<td>3,318,787</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>2,827,710</td>
<td>Mostly earmarked for specific projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 106 income</td>
<td>675,671</td>
<td>33,209</td>
<td>618,244</td>
<td>Relies on new receipts being attained</td>
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<td>Capital Receipts</td>
<td>2,494,257</td>
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<td>3,796,825</td>
<td>Relies on new receipts being attained</td>
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<td>6,488,715</td>
<td>1,534,209</td>
<td>7,242,779</td>
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The table above demonstrates that usable (capital) reserves will have been almost fully depleted by 31 March 2020, if the capital programme proposals set out in this report are accepted.

The proposals set out above do not include £1.4m of potential liabilities, identified by the Corporate Leadership Team, which are currently unfinanced.

This demonstrates that additional sources of funding will be required to finance capital projects that have not been included in the capital programme proposals set out in Appendix 1, such as the £1.4m of potential liabilities identified by CLT or any new liabilities that have not yet been identified.

Members might recall that the Sustainable Financial Plan that was reported to Council in September indicated estimated surpluses on the revenue budget of approximately £600,000 a year in 2014/15 and 2015/16 and £250,000 in 2016/17. Some of this surplus could be set aside to finance future capital expenditure. It is therefore recommended that members consider the introduction of a policy to provide an annual contribution from revenue budgets that will be transferred to reserves to finance future capital expenditure. It is proposed that the amount required each year will be determined in relation to potential capital liabilities against the availability of revenue funding, as part of the annual budget setting process.

2 RISK ASSESSMENT

2.1 Legal

Contained within the body of the report.

2.2 Financial

There is adequate funding for the revised capital programme for 2014/15 to 2019/20. Providing annual contributions from the revenue budget towards the funding of additional capital projects will help the Council to meet capital liabilities. The risk, however, remains high.
3 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors is also been considered prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity, environmental health, legal and human rights, financial personal and property considerations.

4 CONTACT INFORMATION

For further information contact:
Karen Henriksen 01629 761284 or
Email: karen.henriksen@derbyshiredales.gov.uk
or
Paul Hambleton 01629 761282 or
Email: paul.hambleton@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

5 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

6 ATTACHMENTS

Appendix 1 Capital Programme 2014/15 to 2019/20

BACK TO AGENDA
## PROPOSED CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2014/15 TO 2019/20

### Increase in affordable housing

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<td>To adapt the homes of disabled people</td>
<td>Tim Braund</td>
<td>220,000</td>
<td>230,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>HCA funding, site assembly continuing</td>
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<td>Village Halls, Village Car Parking, Play Equipment</td>
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<td>30,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
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<td>30,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
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<td>Land drain under A6 - partly fund from revenue</td>
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<td>273,000</td>
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<td>Replacement stock of waste and recycling containers</td>
<td>Heidi McDougall</td>
<td>58,000</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>Access tracks to new car park to be created to allow other areas of land to be developed</td>
<td>Rob Cogings</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>On site, option to purchase to ensure affordable housing</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>Repair work to prevent car park leaking into store</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two stone trenches either side of Agricultural Way to prevent grass grid flooding</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>225,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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</table>
| Increase in business growth and job creation

### ASHBOURNE LEISURE CENTRE

**Completed**

**Repairs/Refurbishment of buildings**

- Ash Watts

**Work underway to improve access to gym for disabled users - includes

- Remodelling of disabled toilet facilities

- Installation of disabled friendly equipment, fully externally funded

- Work started in March 2014, completed in July 2014**

**FIRE DAMAGE**

- Work underway to repair fire damage, should be complete by Jan 2015.

**IFP Project**

- Ash Watts

**CAR PARKS**

- Additional pay and display machines enabling card payments

**LEISURE CENTRE**

- Replacement of Pay and Display Ticket Machines

**WASTE MANAGEMENT**

- Replacement of Waste Containers etc.

**RURAL CONVENIENCES**

- Waste Management

**MISCELLANEOUS GRANTS**

- Increased business growth and job creation

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<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>and healthy communities</td>
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## PROPOSED CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2014/15 TO 2019/20 (CONTINUED)

### SCHEMES LISTED BY CORPORATE PRIORITY

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<td><strong>BAKEWELL AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS CENTRE</strong></td>
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<td>Trade Effluent Discharge Improvements</td>
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<td>Heidi McDougall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Darley Dale Cemetery Store and Paths</td>
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<td>Heidi McDougall</td>
<td>60,000</td>
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<td>Wirksworth Steeple Arch Cemetery Land Purchase etc.</td>
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<td>Community Grant Fund administered by DDDC</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td><strong>Windows 2008/12 Migration</strong></td>
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<td>Karen Henriksen</td>
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<td>Maletor Town Hall - Bolsover</td>
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Sub Total - Other: 734,835

Sub Total - Other: 3,666,010

3,666,010 + 1,901,544 + 1,563,000 + 635,300 + 531,500 + 428,000 = **8,759,363**
Review of Development Management

Summary

This report informs Members of the actions already taken in respect of the review of Development Management and of the ways in which the remainder of the review will now be progressed. It also seeks guidance on the involvement of Members in various parts of the review process.

Recommendation

1. That the work undertaken by Planning Officers Society Enterprises be noted.
2. That the role of Members in the on-going Review be agreed.
3. That a panel of 5 Members be appointed to fulfil that role in the Review.

Wards Affected

All wards outside of the Peak District National Park.

Strategic Link

The effective administration of the Development Management Service supports all of the District Council’s aims. In particular the review will help to ensure that the District Council continues to provide excellent services.

Background

1.1 The review of the District Council’s Development Management Service is one of 3 major reviews scheduled for 2014/15 and provides an opportunity to re-focus the delivery of the service as well as securing financial efficiencies.

1.2 Development Management is an evolution of the existing Development Control Service and is about the local authority taking a proactive approach to place shaping and positively promoting sustainable development and the overall vision for the area. This evolution requires a move away from the reactive control of development to a more positive role and will require changes in structure and resource allocation, as well as improving customer engagement processes and the ongoing monitoring of the outcomes of development.

1.3 At its meeting on 19 June 2014 Members approved the scope and methodology of the review, including the engagement of Planning Officers Society Enterprises to undertake an independent appraisal of the current service.
2 REPORT

2.1 Following the previous report to Council, Planning Officers Society Enterprises were engaged as recommended. Two consultants spent the week commencing 1 September 2014 in the District Council offices and undertook a thorough evaluation of the existing service. During this week they met with the Development Management Team, with senior managers in Regulatory Services, with managers in connected services, such as Planning Policy, Corporate Services, Business Support, with the relevant Director and with the Chief Executive. They also met with the Chairmen of both Planning Committees and with the Leader of the Council, and observed one of the Planning Committees in session. The consultants believed that they had obtained sufficient information in order to make robust comments on the existing service and far reaching recommendations for the future.

2.2 The consultants’ initial recommendations were received week commencing 22 September 2014 and were discussed at Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) on 2 October 2014. The initial recommendations are reproduced as Appendix 1 to this report.

2.3 The recommendations can be grouped into 5 main themes:

- Integrated Planning Service – mainly dealing with the relationship between Planning Policy and Development Management;
- Development Control to Development Management – dealing with pre-application systems;
- Officer/Member Relationship – dealing with Committee arrangements, the scheme of delegation and the role of Members at the pre-application stage;
- Processes and Procedures – dealing with the use of ICT, other new technology, document management and officer delegations;
- Resources, Structures and Resilience – dealing with the hierarchy of the Development Management Team, validation, enquiries and health and safety.

2.4 It is clear that some of these themes will be of great interest to Members and therefore some areas of the review have not yet commenced.

2.5 However, some other areas of the review are more suited to the input of officers and consequently the Review Team has been established and has held an inception meeting. Following CLT on 2 October the officer team has now been expanded to include Sandra Lamb, Steve Capes and Heidi McDougall. It is expected that this will enable a number of sub-groups to be formed who will work on each of the review themes. As the areas of review become clearer it may be that Review Team members will pass on their role to someone more relevant within their own Services.

2.6 No work has yet begun on the issues of Development Control to Development Management and Officer/Member Relationship. It has been felt that Members will both want and need to play a more active role in these elements of the review.

2.7 Officers feel that Members will need to be an integral part of these elements, helping to shape the final recommendations that will be brought back to Council. Learning
from the experience of Member involvement in the review of Discretionary Grants it is suggested that a Member panel of 5 be formed, taking account of political balance. The purpose of the panel will be to play an active part in the 2 areas of the review outlined in paragraph 2.6 and to help to form options for the future development of the service in these areas.

2.8 As with all service reviews, the Development Management Review will need to produce 3 options, all of which should produce efficiency savings. These options should be low, medium and high risk. The review should also aim to move transactions onto the District Council’s website.

3 RISK ASSESSMENT
Legal

The outcome of the service review will help to identify the options for decision making that balance the principles of delivering effective and efficient services whilst significantly reducing its costs. The legal risks at this stage are considered to be low.

Financial

Efficiency savings should result from the review, and, therefore, the financial risk is low.

Corporate Risk

The corporate risk associated with undertaking the review is low. However, the purpose of the review is to produce 3 options at low, medium and high risk levels. Depending on the option considered most appropriate the level of corporate risk could therefore be low, medium or high.

4 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS
In preparing this report, the relevance of the following factors has also been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equalities, environmental, climate change, health, human rights, personnel and property.

5 CONTACT INFORMATION
Paul Wilson, Corporate Director, Tel: 01629 761324, Email: paul.wilson@derbyshiredales.gov.uk
Tim Braund, Head of Regulatory Services, Tel: 01629 761118, Email: tim.braund@derbyshiredales.gov.uk
Jon Bradbury, Development Manager, Tel: 01629 761331, Email: jonathan.bradbury@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

6 ATTACHMENTS
Appendix 1 – Initial Recommendations from POS Enterprises

BACK TO AGENDA
Derbyshire Dales District Council Development Management Review

POS Enterprises report main recommendations

An integrated planning service

- Review the extent and nature of planning policy support to development management including an appropriate programme of proactive policy advice notes and documents as well as regular development management team briefings on Derbyshire Dales policy issues by members of the policy team.

- Produce an urgent briefing note setting out the implications of the Local Plan Inspectors note for decision making in the absence of an NPPF compliant Local Plan and 5 year housing supply to assist robust and consistent decision making.

- Produce an urgent audit assessment of existing Local Plan policies for NPPF compliance.

- Establish clear delegation in respect of a unified planning view which can be presented to Members.

- Undertake a training needs audit and establish a programme of on-going training for case officers.

- Ensure an NPPF compliant Local Plan is adopted at the earliest opportunity consistent with a robust evidence base and in accordance with all legal requirements.

Development Management from Development Control

- Devise implement and publicise new pre-application service, including performance standards in line with best practice, involving Members as appropriate – (see rec at para 7.x) and establish a schedule of charges.

- Establish internal processes and protocols with key consultees to enable high quality pre-application advice.

Officer / Member relationship

- Consider moving to one planning committee and investigate the use of a single geographically central venue for the meetings. This would make savings on both officer and member time.

- Involve members in pre-application discussions on significant applications in accordance with a new best practice protocol.

- Amend scheme of delegation to a ‘by exception’ system and revise call in arrangements in line with a new best practice protocol at the start of the planning application process.
Amend the order of business at Planning Committee to allow a brief officer introduction and update in advance of public speaking as is current best practice.

Amend public speaking arrangements in accordance with best practice to incorporate an appropriate balance between objectors and applicants/supporters.

Processes and procedures

- Establish robust and resilient officer delegation arrangements (see also officer member recommendations) to include professionally qualified senior planning officers in a tiered approach and arrangements for acting up arrangements when the designated more senior officer is absent.

- Provide a computer workstation in the main reception area for public access to the website to view planning applications.

- Nominate a qualified planning officer to be client officer for the development of UNIFORM to work with business support and to ensure the system is updated to take account of changing legislative requirements.

- Train all planning officers to be able to use UNIFORM as a comprehensive tool to process planning applications.

- Ensure that the document management procurement exercise takes full account of the need to work effectively with the UNIFORM planning modules and to investigate the purchase of UNIFORM Enterprise module (or similar) to assist performance management.

- Encourage the use of new technology so that case officers and enforcement staff can upload site photographs and reports at a distance via mobile phones/IPads.

- Provide assistance to case officers who are unable to adequately type their own reports, perhaps via the provision of voice recognition software.

Resources, structure and resilience

- Establish hierarchy within Development Management to support Development Manager and increase resilience.

- Integrate validation processes to be carried out by administrative/technical staff including appropriate job description, job evaluation and skills matching.

- Administrative/technical staff to have sufficient skills and resources to act as frontline for the majority of planning enquiries and adopt an appointment system for more complex enquiries.

- Implement a robust health and safety site visit policy and protocol for both case officers and enforcement officers
REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS, PLACES AND STATIONS 2014 – FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

SUMMARY

The report informs Members of the progress of the review and comments received during the second consultation period in response to the publication of representations received during the first consultation period and to the comments of the Returning Officer.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Council determines whether or not to approve each of the proposed changes to the Derbyshire Dales Polling Scheme detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

2. That any changes to polling places, that are necessary before the next Review be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the appropriate Ward Members, parish council and election agents.

WARDS AFFECTED

All

STRATEGIC LINK

The provision of accessible polling facilities contributes to the Council’s aims to provide excellent services and to lead the communities of the Derbyshire Dales.

1. BACKGROUND

1.1. Under the Representation of the People Act 1983, local authorities are required to divide their area into polling districts, to designate polling places for those polling districts, and to keep their electoral arrangements under review.

1.2. The Electoral Administration Act 2006 introduced a duty for all polling districts and polling places to be reviewed every four years. The Council’s last Review was carried out in 2011.

1.3. The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 introduced a change to the timing of compulsory reviews of UK Parliamentary polling districts and polling places. A compulsory review must be completed between 1 October 2013 and 31 January 2015 (inclusive). Subsequent compulsory Reviews must be completed within the period of 16 months that starts on 1 October every fifth year after 1 October 2013.
2. **PURPOSE OF THE REVIEW**

2.1. Each Polling District must offer reasonable facilities for voting for all its electors, as far as reasonably practicable in the circumstances.

2.2. In conducting the Review the Council must ensure that:

- all electors in the constituency have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances;
- polling places must contain buildings that are suitable for use as a polling station by all sections of the community;
- so far as is reasonable and practicable, all polling stations are accessible to all electors, including those with disabilities;
- polling places must be located in an area of the corresponding polling district unless special circumstances make it desirable to designate an area that is wholly or partly outside the polling district.

3. **THE REVIEW PROCESS AND PROGRESS TO DATE**

3.1. The Council considered a report on 25 September 2014 that set out the progress of the Review and detailed the responses received in response to consultation on those proposals. The report also included the comments of the Acting Returning Officer and recommendations based on the evidence and comments presented during the Review.

3.2. At that meeting the Council resolved that

- That the report be noted.
- That the Returning Officer's comments be the subject of a further period of consultation.
- That final proposals for the amendment of the Council's Polling Scheme be reported to Council on 20 November 2014.

3.3. Following the meeting, the representations received and the comments of the Acting Returning Officer were published on the District Council’s website and were deposited at the Matlock Offices.

3.4. The original Notice of Review included the dates for the second period of consultation, which was from 30 September to 7 November 2014. Stage 2 comment forms were sent to all consultees as part of the original mailing and the process and dates for the various stages of the Review were explained in an accompanying letter.

3.5. Notifications of the proposed changes were sent to all affected households with an invitation to submit comments by 7 November 2014.

3.6. At Stage 2 comments were invited in response to the representations received and the comments of the Acting Returning Officer. The comments received are detailed in Appendix 2.
4. **PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE POLLING SCHEME**

4.1. Proposed changes to the Polling Scheme are detailed in appendix 1 and relate to the following Polling Places or Districts:

- Sheldon – delete polling place and redirect voters to Monyash
- Atlow – delete polling place and redirect voters to Hognaston
- Curbar – delete polling place and transfer electorate to Calver Village Hall
- Upland Drive (Polling District) – move properties 3, 5, 6, 7, and 8 to Darley Dale polling area SHE, subject to carrying out a Community Governance Review with regard to the realignment the boundary of the associated Polling Districts.

5. **FINAL STAGE OF THE REVIEW**

5.1. The final decision on the Polling Scheme for Derbyshire Dales rests with the Council, which must determine whether or not to approve each of the proposed changes detailed in appendix 1, bearing in mind the considerations set out in paragraph 2.2.

5.2. Details of the final scheme and copies of any representations received will be published.

5.3. There is a right of appeal to the Electoral Commission on the following grounds:

- That the local authority has failed to meet the reasonable requirements of the electors in the constituency
- That the local authority has failed to take sufficient account of accessibility to disabled persons of the polling stations within a polling place.

6. **RISK ASSESSMENT**

6.1. The legal provisions are contained within the main body of the report. The suggested amendments to polling places seek to address elements of risk in terms of accessibility and enhance the voting experience in the more rural areas. The legal risk is therefore assessed as low to medium.

6.2. There are no financial risks arising from this report.

7. **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has also been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equalities, environmental, climate change, health, human rights, personnel and property.

8. **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Sandra Lamb, Head of Democratic Services  
Telephone 01629 761281  
Email sandra.lamb@derbyshiredales.gov.uk
9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Correspondence received in response to review

BACK TO AGENDA
## Proposed Changes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Polling Area</th>
<th>Register Ref.</th>
<th>Current Polling Station</th>
<th>Proposal</th>
<th>Reason for change</th>
<th>Cost per elector in person, based on 39% average turnout at 2014 election</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlow</td>
<td>MAT</td>
<td>Atlow Village Hall, Atlow, Derbyshire</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Significant higher than average cost per voter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Atlow Village Hall, Main Street, Hognaston</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Reason for change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curbar</td>
<td>FCU</td>
<td>Curbar Wesleyan Reform Church, The Hillock, Curbar</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Level access; the internal arrangements are quite tight and uneven, and that secrecy provisions may be compromised</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheldon</td>
<td>HSH</td>
<td>Hartington Memorial Hall, Main Street, Sheldon</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Reason for change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Monyash Village Hall, Church Street, Monyash</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Reason for change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,5,6,7 and 8 Uplands Drive</td>
<td>QMB</td>
<td>Imperial Rooms, Imperial Road, Matlock</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Requested by Matlock Town Council as road is currently split between two polling districts. This change would be dependent upon the outcome of a subsequent Community Governance Review to realign the parish/ward boundaries accordingly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Community Room, Arc Leisure Matlock</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Reason for change</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Review of Polling District Places and Stations 2014

**Appendix 2**

## Comments received in response to Stage 2 of the Review

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal to which comment relates</th>
<th>From</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlow (and Sheldon)</td>
<td>Councillor Angus Jenkins</td>
<td>I would oppose a deletion of Atlow polling station. This is very undemocratic just because a polling station has fewer voters is not a justifiable reason to delete it. In a number of urban areas would mean a short walk to the next station, yes that polling station may receive two, three or even ten times more votes but it would be accessible. Hoganston is inaccessible to our few immobile voters, they are totally unable to walk the two miles on TWO graded slopes. Not to mention the lack of paths that mean it's on the road with no protection. Democracy is not a charity and it's provision must be one of our core purposes. The deletion of an urban polling station would not disenfranchise, this would. Whilst I would expect the village to help we should not rely on charity for enfranchisement. I suspect the same stands for Sheldon. Atlow is the parish in which I reside not represent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlow (and Sheldon)</td>
<td>Councillor Andrew Lewer</td>
<td>I have much sympathy with the views expressed by Councillor Jenkins. Although I do not represent Atlow on the District or County, it is one of a number of polling stations in my region as an MEP.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlow</td>
<td>Dr John Gregory</td>
<td>I wish to register an objection to the proposal to close the polling station at Atlow village hall. I understand from Mrs S. Stuart Montieth that the Council are to consider closing the polling station in Atlow. This would mean, if it were to be adopted that voters would have to travel to Hognaston to vote. Not very far, you might say, but far enough in the dark days of winter to discourage voting. Voters would have to use a car, as there is no public transport for this journey; and for the less mobile, and carless members of the community, it may mean not voting at all. Disenfranchisement of even a small number of residents is the last thing we need in the present febrile state of politics in the UK.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proposal to which comment relates</td>
<td>From</td>
<td>Comment</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>I sincerely hope that the Council will think again about this measure and have consideration for a small community which wants to a part of the wider political world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlow</td>
<td>Jean Bond – Village Hall Committee Member</td>
<td>I am concerned about the decision to close the Atlow Mill Polling station at Atlow Village Hall. Whilst I can see that it must make economic sense to the council it affects the upkeep of the Village Hall which is vital to the sense of community here. I am a member of the village hall committee and, small though it is, the sum allocated to the Village Hall for its use as a polling station is a welcome contribution to its upkeep. I also know that there are members of this community who do not have their own transport, and given that the public transport to this village is none existent this would make it difficult for them to vote. I do urge you to reconsider this decision and keep the polling station at the Atlow Village Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curbar</td>
<td>Councillor Cate Hunt</td>
<td>The Methodist Chapel has been the polling station at Curbar for at least 70 years. In that time there have never been any accidents or complaints about access or privacy. There is only one very small step at the entrance and it would be possible to get a wheelchair in if necessary. Only 12 months ago it was proposed that Froggatt voters used Curbar as a polling station. Although Curbar is not the cheapest polling station per head it is not the most expensive to run either. It is unreasonable to expect elderly residents to travel nearly 2 miles up and down a very steep hill to vote. I hope you will reconsider the recommendation for closure of Curbar polling station.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curbar</td>
<td>Mr &amp; Mrs Thorp, Calver</td>
<td>We wish to comment that we totally agree with the transfer of the Curbar polling station to Calver Village Hall to save money.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Curbar                          | Simon Taylor | I think the comments about specific access issues to the facility pale into insignificance compared to having to get to Calver. cont….
As the crow flies it may not seem too far from Curbar to Calver, but the steep terrain between the two places means that a typical Curbar resident won’t find Calver Village Hall Accessible.
Curbar has a higher proportion of retired people who will find the walk too challenging. Curbar is a separate village and shouldn’t be seen as an extension of Calver.
<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>I really don’t see how the current arrangement compromises secrecy. If it does, make a different design of polling booths rather than shut the polling place down. The argument for “above average cost per elector” could be used to shut all rural polling stations. Shall we shut Calver too and go to Bakewell? This is simply a cost cutting exercise, with spurious arguments. If you were open about that, I might be more flexible. But you aren’t, I’m not!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curbar</td>
<td>G A Key – resident</td>
<td>The polling station at Curbar has been in use, to my knowledge, for over 25 years and in that time it has given good service without any suggestion regarding “access issues or potential for compromised secrecy “. With this fact in mind is this review really another means of the Council cutting their costs to the disadvantage of electors if that is the case it would I am sure it will be a trivial sum since the number of times per year it is put to such use can only be two or three. May I suggest that the Returning Officer considers the fact that quite a number of the residents of Curbar are senior citizens who would find even a small journey to Calver very difficult because many have given up driving, there is NO public transport to or from the village, to walk would be impossible for some and difficult for others because the site is located in a very hilly area, the alternative of the community bus has to be pre-booked and is expensive and account must now be given to the fact that other rural villages will no doubt loose their polling stations as well as Curbar so the demand on those types of service may well be to great for them to cope on the day needed. Surely careful consideration and thought most be given to the fact the removal of polling stations from rural sites will, without doubt, reduce the number of persons casting their vote because they have to travel, they will not bother because, well the authorities of the day don’t care so why should we. That of course is even more applicable to the elderly since old people cannot tackle the terrain. The situation that is proposed will certainly REDUCE in no small measure the number of people casting their vote which I understand is not in accordance with government policy since they wish to increase the numbers voting NOT REDUCE. What is also certain is the point that it makes a total mockery of all these statements regarding this country being DEMOCRATIC and further this latest fad of having so called Democratic Services as the author of this Council dictate. Without any shadow of doubt this a total retrograde action made, it appears, only to</td>
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<td>Proposal to which comment relates</td>
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<td></td>
<td>save the Council money, it is against central Government wishes, it reduces voters ability to exercise their democratic right, it is petty in the extreme, it also is levelled against poor people, those who live in rural areas and worse still those who are old.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curbar</td>
<td>Keith Singleton</td>
<td>1. Your letter states there are access issues at this station. My wife was a wheelchair user (formerly scooter user). We used this polling station at every election and had no issues whatsoever with access, externally or internally. 2. Potential for compromised secrecy. There has never, ever been a problem as other voters have always waited at a discrete distance from the polling booth. There are a number of elderly residents in Curbar who have little problem in attending this site. However, travelling to Calver would involve additional time and stress, and transport which is not readily available. The end result would be that some residents would inevitably decide not to vote. This would be a denial of their human rights. I have been a resident for some 43 years. I strongly suggest this polling station remains.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curbar</td>
<td>Professor Tony Crook, CBE</td>
<td>Thank you for your circular letter of 7th October about the proposal to discontinue the Polling Station in Curbar so that we will have to vote in Calver instead. Can I urge you to change your mind please? Democracy is not costless. Whilst there may be access problems at our polling station, these can be overcome. Please consider this in the context of non car owners and disabled people having to walk all the way down the very steep Curbar hill and then into Calver Village to its Hall and back again. This is a 1.4 mile round trip. If members of the authority agree with your proposal it may well reduce the numbers who vote - which are already sadly far too low. I am sure the authority would not wish to accept responsibility for reducing turnout. I am certain your proposal will result in this and may well have a differential impact on voting patterns ie discriminating against non car owners and disabled people. This will be indirect discrimination within the meaning of the Equalities Act and I am sure members of the authority will not wish to act ultra vires.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curbar</td>
<td>Jenny Crook</td>
<td>Thank you for your letter of 7th October about the proposal to discontinue the Polling Station in Curbar, and to transfer to Calver Village Hall. This is very disappointing and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposal to which comment relates</td>
<td>From</td>
<td>Comment</td>
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<tr>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheldon</td>
<td>Alistair Warren, Chair Sheldon Parish Meeting</td>
<td>I fear it will significantly reduce the number of people who vote. It may not be appreciated, but there is an extremely steep hill between the villages of Curbar and Calver, with no pavement for pedestrians, and a busy main road to cross to reach the village of Calver, with no pedestrian crossing point. It would not be possible to push a wheelchair (or pushchair/pram) up or down this hill. Many elderly people would find this hill too steep and dangerous to negotiate on foot, and not all have cars. I am sure your proposal will reduce turnout for older people and those with mobility problems. Is it not possible to improve the access at the current Curbar polling station? Also, in my experience there has never been an issue of compromised secrecy. I urge you to reconsider your proposal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>At our recent Parish Meeting (8th October, 2014) there was a unanimous objection to the removal of the Polling Station at Hartington Memorial Hall in Sheldon. As Chair of the meeting I have been asked to contact you to give the village’s opinion on this important issue. As a small, upland, isolated village the provision of a Polling Station gives us the contact with the democratic process necessary to ensure not only that our voice is heard, but that it is seen to be heard. Value for money is important in all activities, but there is a difference between cost-cutting and ensuring good value. Electronic voting is used in a number of areas of the country, but it demands a good and reliable WiFi or other form of connectivity; Sheldon does not have this facility as our internet connectivity is both slow (important when security issues demand a time-limited data entry) and unreliable (connectivity has been lost several times this year already). The cost of buying and running a computer is also substantial and such systems require a skill level that is not trivial for those who choose not, or because of their age are unable, to use such devices. Telephone voting is used in some areas but mobile signals are poor or absent in our village and certainly not reliable. Landlines are better but the Parish Meeting has heard many times of problems with landline connections that the supply companies seem unable to resolve fully.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposal to which comment relates</td>
<td>From</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheldon</td>
<td>John and Anne Shneerson (residents)</td>
<td>Thank you for your letter of 7 October proposing the closure of the polling station in Sheldon. As you say, the majority of polling stations are in villages, where people live. Their cost may be more than the average (as 50% of all polling stations always will be, even if they were all in towns), but cost has to be balanced against accessibility of the population to vote. Closing Sheldon polling station will restrict those who can vote to the wealthier and more mobile and will disenfranchise the elderly, infirm and less mobile voters. This is hardly a democratic change and is one that I oppose and which you will, I am sure, understand.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sheldon  
Angela Taberner  
No objections to this proposed plan.

BACK TO AGENDA
APPONTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES

SUMMARY

The report invites the Council to appoint a representative to serve on the Board of the Erewash Credit Union.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Head of Housing be appointed to serve on the Board of the Erewash Credit Union until the next Annual Meeting of the Council.

WARDS AFFECTED

Not applicable

STRATEGIC LINK

Affiliation to the Credit Union supports the Council’s aim of providing excellent services and underpins the priority to provide decent, affordable housing.

1. REPORT

1.1 An invitation has been received from the General Manager of the Erewash Credit Union for a representative of the Council to become a Board Director. The role will involve the representative in decision making to fulfil the Union’s objectives and to assist in policy formulation, plan development and growth.

1.2 Apart from common law responsibilities, the representative will also be required to conform to regulatory guidelines as imposed by the financial services regulatory bodies.

1.3 To avoid a potential conflict of interest and to minimise risk to the individual, officer representation is recommended and the Head of Housing has been specifically mentioned in the invitation to become involved.

1.4 Erewash Credit Union Limited is legally constituted as a company limited by guarantee. As such, the individual liability of all directors is limited to £1 each. Any action in law would be against the legal entity "Erewash Credit Union Limited" and indemnity insurance is provided covering the organisation for any losses whether accidental or through fraudulent activity by employees or Board representatives. This is a mandatory requirement set by the Prudential Regulatory Authority. In addition, all directors are required to be registered as "approved persons" by the PRA to ensure that they are "fit and proper persons" to hold a position of significant influence in a regulated financial organisation.
1.5 Currently the Union has an online presence for Derbyshire Dales residents and a full launch of the service is planned to take place before the end of this financial year.

2 RISK ASSESSMENT

2.1 Given the safeguards set out in paragraph 1.2 there is no risk to individual directors unless they commit deliberate fraud, in which case they would be open to criminal prosecution like anyone else. The legal risk is therefore low.

2.2 Financial

There are no financial considerations regarding representation on the Board apart from officer time.

3 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has also been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity, environmental, health, legal and human rights, financial, personnel and property considerations.

4 CONTACT INFORMATION

Sandra Lamb, Head of Corporate Services, Tel. 01629 761281 or email sandra.lamb@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

5 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.