



Annual Delivery Plan 2025/26

At the Heart of the Vale

When we will do it







Action on climate change and nature recovery

Protecting and enhancing our environment, building resilience and adapting to the effects of climate change, and leading the district to net zero

- Collaborative environmental initiatives
- Deliver action on climate change
- Enhance nature recovery

- Promote sustainable practices
- Promote green infrastructure

- Council-owned homes decarbonisation programme
- Nature and Climate Action Plan (NCAP) delivery
- Vale of White Horse Net Zero programme
- Proactively engage with and support businesses to decarbonise their own operations and influence others in the community
- Remove fossil fuels from council-operated leisure centres as part of our decarbonisation plans
- Sunningwell Flood Alleviation Scheme
- Technical Services delivery
- Emergency response work programme
- Following publication of Oxfordshire Climate Adaptation Route Map and Action Plan, develop district level adaptation actions for the council and integrate into annual review of the Nature and Climate Action Plan

- Fulfilment of statutory Biodiversity Net Gain obligations
- Promote the development of Habitat Banks in appropriate locations in Vale of White Horse as a key mechanism to drive nature recovery
- Seek opportunities to increase support for and the profile of the Local Wildlife Sites Project as a key mechanism to help deliver Nature Recovery
- Undertake biodiversity audit of corporate land and develop proposals to put nature recovery at the heart of our grounds maintenance operations
- Progress towards adoption of an Oxfordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy and identifying actions for the council to deliver following adoption of the Strategy
- Waste Resources and Street Cleansing Strategy Action Plan
- Great Western Park (Western Valley, East and West Hagbourne) land transfers of public open and urban spaces
- Nature recovery on council-owned land

We will take a multifaceted approach based on direct action, working in partnership, and exerting influence.



How we will do it



Direct Action



Working in Partnership



Exerting Influence

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Within the period of the Annual Delivery Plan 2025/26



Beyond the period of the Annual Delivery Plan 2025/26 (i.e. 2026/27 or later)



Outcomes	How we will do it	How we will measure progress	How we will report it	Reporting
		 Percentage of council-owned homes with an EPC rating of C or above 	• 100% by Q4 2026/27 / RAG & trajectory	Annual
Expand and scale-up decarbonisation activity		Number of council-owned homes with renewable energy systems	• 9 homes by Q1 2027/28 & RAG	Annual
to achieve net zero for the district by 2045	Caral Caral	 Progress towards net zero carbon district by 2045 (Vale of White Horse) 	RAG, trajectory & narrative	Annual
	(Ansial)	Number of council-operated leisure facilities that have undergone decarbonisation	• 2 by 2027/28 (retrospective)	Quarterly
Reduce operational		Reduction in gross operational greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions	• % / RAG & (downward) trajectory (2030 target)	Annual
greenhouse gas emissions		 Number and percentage of council fleet vehicles that are zero emission 	Number and % (increase)	Annual
		 Narrative and number of flood and drainage alleviation schemes facilitated and/or implemented 	1 & narrativeSunningwell - 2025/26	Annual
	(Ansil)	Summary of other activities to reduce risk of flooding	N/A (narrative only)	Annual
Support communities to alleviate and adapt to extreme weather events	Consult of the consul	Narrative and number of locations where expert advice and support provided on flood alleviation	Number, location & narrative (retrospective)	Annual
		Advise communities on emergency response plans	Number of emergency response plans & narrative (retrospective)	Annual
		Develop district level action plan and incorporate actions into annual review of Nature and Climate Action Plan	Yes/No (by Q4 2025/26) & narrative	Annual
	(Ansall	Biodiversity Net Gain reporting (including mean BNG from permitted major and minor developments)	• 10% uplift in Area Units & narrative	Annual
Enhance biodiversity	Consult Consult	Number of habitat banks approved through Section 106 agreements	• 1 per year & narrative	Annual
	Can like and the same of the s	Number of biodiversity units secured through council agreed habitat banks located in Vale of White Horse	50 Area Habitat Units per year	Annual
	Consult Consul	Number of local wildlife sites surveyed	• 7	Annual

Outcomes	How we will do it	How we will measure progress	How we will report it	Reporting
	Consult of the second	Number of local wildlife sites where management advice is provided	• 5 & narrative	Annual
Enhance biodiversity		Percentage of council-owned land managed for nature recovery	% (retrospective) & trajectory (increase)	Annual
	(Many)	Oxfordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy adopted	RAG & trajectory (October 2025)	Annual
Collaborate to achieve our climate and ecological goals		Amount of residual waste per household	kgs per household (decrease) - target of 330kgs per household for 2026/27	Annual
		Percentage of household waste that is sent for reuse, recycling or composting	• % (increase) – ongoing target of 60%	Annual
Increase and enhance green infrastructure	(ACT)	Great Western Park (Western Valley, East and West Hagbourne) land transfers of public open and urban spaces	% of land transfers completed (retrospective) & trajectory	Six- monthly
		Managing meadows on council land	 Trend of the number of meadows (increase) Square meterage (increase) 	Annual Annual

Promoting healthy, sustainable, and inclusive communities

Building vibrant, inclusive, and resilient communities where all residents can lead healthy and fulfilling lives

- Enhance public health
- Strengthen community engagement and inclusion
- Promote sustainable economic development
- Deliver safe and clean environments

- Fulfilment of statutory safeguarding duty
- Anti-social behaviour service delivery
- Domestic Abuse Sanctuary Scheme
- You Move
- Move Together
- Community Lottery Scheme
- Work in partnership with the creative sector to develop and successfully adopt a Culture.
- Heritage and Creative Industries Strategy for South and Vale
- \$106 public art funding
- Health Inequalities Action Plan Healthy Didcot (Didcot Garden Town)
- Health Inequalities Action Plan Abingdon Caldecott
- Work in partnership with strategic health partners
- Leisure projects as detailed within the Capital Investment Programme
- Equalities Road Show

- Community Hub provision
- Economic Development Service delivery
- Business support and engagement
- UK Shared Prosperity Fund 2025-26 delivery
- Rural England Prosperity Fund 2025-26 delivery
- CCTV Hub project
- Great Haseley Trading Estate Vehicle Depot Project
- Implementation of the council's Joint Air Quality Action Plan 2023-2028
- Waste Resources and Street Cleansing Strategy Action Plan
- Food hygiene inspections
- Nature and Climate Action Plan (NCAP) delivery
- Ock Catchment Partnership
- Letcombe Brook Project
- Delivery of council consultations
- Deliver Communications and Engagement Strategy

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Outcomes	How we will do it	How we will measure progress	How we will report it	Reporting
		Total number of safeguarding referrals	Number & narrative (retrospective)	Quarterly
		Number of safeguarding referrals which met the threshold for action	Number/% & narrative (retrospective)	Quarterly
		Number and type of anti-social behaviour (ASB) incidents reported to Community Safety Partnership members	Number & narrative (retrospective)	Quarterly
		 Number of anti-social behaviour (ASB) Community Trigger applications made 	Number & narrative (retrospective)	Quarterly
		 Number of anti-social behaviour (ASB) Community Trigger applications which met threshold 	• % & narrative (retrospective)	Quarterly
		 Number of referrals to South and Vale Domestic Abuse Sanctuary Scheme 	Number & narrative (retrospective)	Quarterly
Work in partnership to enhance health and wellbeing in our		 Number of people (You Move) and families (Move Together) participating in the council's physical activities programmes/events 	Number (increase)	Quarterly
communities		 Outcomes of the council's physical activity programmes/events (You Move & Move Together) 	N/A (narrative only)	Quarterly
		 Number of community lottery tickets sold, and annual estimated income generated 	• Number & £ (retrospective)	Annual
	Consult of the control of the contro	Annual narrative on community lottery causes and awards	N/A (narrative only)	Annual
		Culture, Heritage and Creative Industries Strategy adopted	• Yes/No (Summer 2026)	Annual
		 Drawdown of S106 monies to fund public art both directly and in partnership with external organisations 	• £ S106 monies drawn down and number of projects funded (retrospective)	Annual
		 Health Inequalities Action Plan reporting – Healthy Didcot (Didcot Garden Town) – South and Vale joint reporting 	N/A – narrative only (retrospective)	Six- monthly

Outcomes	How we will do it	How we will measure progress	How we will report it	Reporting
	Consult Consult	Health Inequalities Action Plan reporting - Abingdon Caldecott	N/A - narrative only (retrospective)	Six- monthly
Work in partnership to enhance health	(Passal	Attendance at strategic health meetings	Number & narrative (retrospective)	Annual
and wellbeing in our communities Annual		Number of leisure centre improvement projects underway	• 5 or more	Annual
	Consult Consult	Number of leisure centre improvement projects completed	Number & narrative (retrospective) as projects complete	Annual
Promote equalities, diversity, and inclusion within our communities		 Public participation in equalities road show events: Number of events held Number of attendees Feedback following the event Narrative feedback 	 1 or more events, then report retrospectively on: Number Number Number (smiley-face balls) N/A (narrative only) 	Annual
Support residents via the Community Hub		Number of residents accessing community hub services	 Number of emails and phone calls into the service (retrospective), plus a breakdown of the total into categories (ARAP, Cost of Living, Food, Ukraine, Other) 	Monthly
		Number of Community Employment Plans being supported by Economic Development	 N/A - narrative and retrospective reporting on number supported 	Annual
	Consult Consult	Social and economic value delivered through Community Employment Plans	 £ for social value (retrospective) £ for economic impact (retrospective) 	Annual
Promote a thriving and sustainable local economy	Consult Consul	 Report on the progress of Enterprise Zones, including significant developments, new sites, numbers of jobs reported, job levels, business rates retained, and projects funded 	N/A (narrative only)	Annual
		 Business engagement activities (joint for South and Vale): Number of South and Vale Business Support Newsletter subscribers South and Vale Business Support Newsletter open rate Number of visitors to ScienceVale.com Number of visitors to SouthernOxfordshire.com Number of Visit Southern Oxfordshire Newsletter subscribers 	 Number (increase) 33% (generally accepted industry standard for public sector newsletter open rate) 100 visits per month 1000 visits per month 500 subscribers in year (total) 	Quarterly Quarterly Quarterly Quarterly Quarterly Quarterly

Outcomes	How we will do it	How we will measure progress	How we will report it	Reporting
Promote a thriving and sustainable local economy		 Delivery of direct business support: Planning enquiry supported Businesses supported to improve sustainability Businesses supported to engage in inclusive economy initiatives Businesses supported to access finance Businesses supported to engage with wider council services Businesses signposted to external support Organisations engaging with Visitor Economy Support 	 10 businesses per year 15 businesses per year 15 businesses per year 20 businesses per year 10 businesses per year 15 businesses per year 25 organisations per year 	Quarterly Quarterly Quarterly Quarterly Quarterly Quarterly Quarterly Quarterly
		Delivering the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund 2025-26	 100% of funds committed ahead of the year-end deadline (31 March 2026) - reporting will confirm the amount of funding committed (£), RAG/trajectory and narrative update Funding allocation: UKSPF - £327,146 REPF - £158,381 	Annual
Take action to improve the safety and cleanliness of the local	Consult Consult	Completion of CCTV Hub project	• RAG & trajectory	Annual
		Great Haseley Trading Estate Vehicle Depot Project progress (joint South and Vale project)	RAG, trajectory & narrative update - target completion Summer 2026	Quarterly
environment		Number of Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) in the district	• Number (decrease) – target of 1 for 2026/27	Annual

Outcomes	How we will do it	How we will measure progress	How we will report it	Reporting
Take action to improve the safety and cleanliness of the local environment		 Envirocrime data: Number of fly tips Percentage of fly tips with formal investigation Number of abandoned vehicles Percentage of abandoned vehicles with formal investigation 	 Number (decrease) – ongoing target of 130 % (increase) – ongoing target of 95% Number (decrease) – ongoing target of 110 % (increase) – ongoing target of 95% 	Quarterly Quarterly Quarterly Quarterly
		 Food hygiene inspections: Percentage of food businesses with a hygiene rating of 3 or above Percentage of annual food hygiene inspections completed 	 % (increase) – ongoing target of 97% % (increase) – ongoing target of 98% 	Quarterly Quarterly
	Opposition of the same of the	 Number of projects to promote and enhance water quality including driving the improvements in the ecological health of our rivers 	• 2 & narrative	Annual
		 Number of 'you said, we did' articles published on the council's 'Join the Conversation' platform 	Number (retrospective)	Quarterly
Promote community engagement		 Number of consultation reports included in decision-making reports (e.g. Cabinet reports, Individual Cabinet Member Decisions) – demonstrating feedback is included when decisions are made 	Number (retrospective)	Quarterly
		 Responses to council consultations - diversity/representation data and any narrative around engaging specific marginalised groups 	• N/A (narrative only)	Annual
		 Embrace the opportunities that social and digital media channels/ platforms bring – publicising the 'you said, we did' articles on the council's 'Join the Conversation' platform, publicising when decisions are made based on public feedback, and promoting participation in committee meetings ahead of time 	 Number of social posts (target of 5 social posts per quarter on 'you said, we did' 100% public accessibility to committee meetings 	Quarterly Quarterly

Providing the homes and infrastructure people need

Supporting access to high-quality, affordable housing and essential infrastructure that meets local needs and supports wellbeing

- Deliver effective planning and high-quality development
- Increase afforable housing supply
- Support infrastructure integration
- Enable community involvement in planning

- Develop and implement a Housing Delivery Strategy Action Plan
- Garden Towns/Villages Delivery Plan implementation
- Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy delivery
- Refugee Accommodation Programme
- Housing Purchases Programme
- Housing Allocations Policy delivery
- Planning Developer Contributions Administration
- Nature and Climate Action Plan (NCAP) delivery
- Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) programme
- Support the Integrated Care Board (ICB) with delivery of Great Western Park (Didcot) Health Centre
- Planning Service Plan delivery
- Neighbourhood Planning
- Joint Local Plan development

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Outcomes	How we will do it	How we will measure progress	How we will report it	Reporting
		Housing Delivery Strategy Action Plan on track for completion	• RAG	Annual
		Number of accommodation units directly provided by the council as a housing landlord	Number (increase) – target of 80 (including LAHF3) for 2026/27 & narrative	Quarterly
Increase delivery		Number of new and affordable housing units delivered by Registered Providers (RPs) across the district	• Number (increase) – target of 440 for 2025/26	Quarterly
and acquisition of affordable housing	Consultation of the Consul	 Report on the work of Community Land Trusts in operation in the district and the work being done to support them 	N/A (narrative only)	Quarterly
	(Total)	Number and trajectory of total homes delivered – Didcot Garden Town (South and Vale joint reporting)	• 15,500 by 2031 & narrative	Annual
	(Total)	Delivery of Community Delivery Plan – Didcot Garden Town	N/A (narrative only)	Annual
	Consult Consult	Progress through planning system - Dalton Barracks Garden Village	N/A (narrative only)	Annual
		Homelessness prevention rate / percentage of potential homelessness cases successfully prevented	• % (aiming for 80%)	Quarterly
		Housing register numbers - households in housing need	Number (retrospective)	Quarterly
		Number of rough sleepers	Number (retrospective)	Quarterly
Prevent and tackle homelessness		Percentage of nominations to social housing within two days	• % (aiming for 80%) – joint South and Vale target	Quarterly
		Number of Ukraine and Afghan refugee families homed since March 2022	Number (retrospective)	Quarterly
		Number of households in Emergency Temporary Accommodation	Number (decrease) – ongoing target of 8	Quarterly
		Average length of stay in Emergency (hotel/B&Bs) Temporary Accommodation	Days (aiming for 42 days)	Quarterly

Outcomes	How we will do it	How we will measure progress	How we will report it	Reporting
		Amount of S106 housing funding received	• £ & narrative (retrospective)	Six- monthly
		 Amount of CIL funding received for use by the district council and approved for spend, and details of council projects delivered 	• £ & narrative (retrospective)	Annual
		Amount of CIL paid to town and parish councils	• £ & narrative (retrospective	Six- monthly
Deliver integrated		Number of EV public chargers installed on council owned land and their locations	Number (increase)	Annual
infrastructure that meets local need		Utilisation percentage change for EV chargers operated on behalf of the council	• % (increase)	Annual
	(Passill	Great Western Park Health Centre commenced and completed	RAG/trajectory & narrative (commencement in 2025/26,	Quarterly
	(Passal)	Infrastructure projects proposed, planned, underway, or delivered – Didcot Garden Town (South and Vale joint reporting)	N/A (narrative only)	Annual
	(Passill	Infrastructure projects proposed, planned, underway, or delivered – Dalton Barracks Garden Village	N/A (narrative only)	Annual
	S	Increase email alert sign-ups - planning applications	116 (10% above the last three-year average of sign-ups)	Annual
'Increase public and community engagement in planning	(Ansial)	Number of successful Neighbourhood Plan proposals made (adopted)	 Number made (retrospective) Increase in % of total number of parishes covered by Neighbourhood Plans 	Annual
	(Trans	Narrative provided on how Neighbourhood Plans have contributed to enhancing the council's strategic objectives, reporting on the success that has been achieved e.g. protecting green spaces	N/A (narrative only)	Annual
Ensure effective planning policies		Joint Local Plan examined and adopted	Yes/No (by March 2026) / RAG & trajectory	Annual

Financial stability and innovative transformation

Continuous innovation and responsible investment to achieve financial stability and ensure equitable access to services

- Innovate and improve service delivery
- Ensure financial stability
- Deliver equitable access to services

- External funding bid development and delivery
- Budget setting and budget monitoring
- Treasury Management activity
- Asset Management
- Local Government Reorganisation
- Corporate Complaints Policy and Procedure delivery
- Customer Service Centre Service Level Agreement
- Customer Services digital offer
- Council Tax and Benefits digital offer
- Completion of Equalities Impact Screenings/Assessments
- Enable the Culture Forum

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Maximise external		Value of external funding secured (cumulative total)	• £ (retrospective) - increase	Six- monthly
funding opportunities to support our services and		Success rate for external funding bids	• 75%	Six- monthly
deliver great outcomes		Benefits of successful funding bids	N/A (narrative only	Six- monthly
Deliver robust financial reporting and forecasting		Overall forecast/outturn against budget (current year)	• £ / RAG/trajectory & narrative (retrospective	Quarterly
Exercise strong	R	Compliance with Treasury Management Code of Practice	Narrative with some figures (retrospective)	Annual
stewardship of all council assets		Develop Asset Management Plan	Yes/No & narrative	Annual
Deliver strategic and operational change projects to drive transformation	Consult Consul	Two unitary authority proposal delivered on time	Yes/No (November 2025) & narrative	Annual
		Number of upheld/not upheld complaints (stage 1/stage 2/ referred to LGSCO)	Number (retrospective) & narrative	Monthly
Ensure all residents receive great customer service		Adhere to Customer service centre (CSC) service level agreements (figures provided for the CSC only, not applicable to contractor responses)	• 80% calls answered in 20 seconds & narrative	Monthly
		Response times on CRM	100% response time within 10 working days & narrative	Monthly
	SK.	Sign-ups to customer services 'My Account' (where residents can self-serve etc)	Number (increase) & narrative	Monthly
	ST.	Sign-ups to Council Tax and Benefits online portal	Number (increase)	Monthly

Outcomes	How we will do it	How we will measure progress	How we will report it	Reporting
Ensure all residents have equitable and inclusive		 Equality Impact Screening/Assessment (EqIA) undertaken for all new formal decision-making processes¹; public-facing policies, strategies, and consultations; and projects delivering community benefit 	• 100% & narrative	Quarterly
access to council services	Consult Consult	Enable delivery of the Culture Forum	N/A (narrative only) – target of 3 Culture Forums per year	Annual