

Our Cotswolds, Our Plan: Action Plan 2024 Update - Progress by end of Q1 2024-2025

Green	On target
Amber	Off target but action being taken to ensure delivery (where this results in a reviewed target date, this is made clear in the table)
Red	Off target and no action has yet been agreed to resolve the situation
Complete	Action completed
Not Scheduled to Start	
Cancelled	
On Hold	

Objectives	Priorities	Actions	Commencement	Target Date	Cabinet Member, Lead officer(s)	RAG Rating	Comment for Q1
Delivering good services	Ensure our workforce can deliver for the council and our community	Deliver a programme to bring Council services back in-house, maximising responsiveness and democratic accountability	Nov-23	Projected timeframe of two years, until 2025	Cllr Joe Harris Robert Weaver	On Target	The detailed transition plan, building on the recommendations from the Local Partnerships report, has been finalised and was presented to and approved by Cabinet and Full Council in July.
		Lease spare office space at Trinity Road	Dec-23	Jul-24	Cllr Mike Evemy Claire Locke Suzanne Barton		On Target
	Ensure effective oversight of our services, to ensure value for money and good standards	Review the waste service, and undertake an options appraisal	Dec-23	Jun-24	Cllr Mike Evemy David Stanley		
	Enhance our financial resilience and make best use of our assets	Continue to ensure that the Council's MTFS five year strategy reflects economic conditions and the government's funding settlement	Feb-24	Reviewed annually	Cllr Mike Evemy David Stanley	On Target	The Revenue Budget, Capital Programme, and Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for 2024-25 were presented and approved at the Full Council Budget meeting in February 2024. To be reviewed in February 2025.
		Implement the Council's new asset management strategy and asset plans	Apr-24	Review April 2025	Cllr Mike Evemy David Stanley	On Target	The Asset Management Strategy was presented and approved by Cabinet in May. The Council has adopted the strategy and instructed its consultants, Carter Jonas, to review its existing assets in line with the strategy.
	Play our part in maintaining and enhancing the public realm across the district	Instigate second phase of activity to replace worn and damaged street nameplates	Feb-24	Feb-25	Cllr Joe Harris Claire Locke	Off Target, but action being taken to ensure delivery	List has been reviewed and agreed, with all available budget now allocated. Ubico preparing full delivery plan.
	Responding to the climate emergency	Reduce CO2 from Transport: We will actively encourage and support the transition to EVs and increased use of public and sustainable transport such as cycling and walking.	Develop and deliver an Electric Vehicle Charge Point Strategy	Jan-24	Jul-24	Cllr Mike McKeown Claire Locke	On Target
Work with partners to implement the Sustainable Transport Strategy			Adoption as part of the Local Plan - projected June 2025	Apr-28	Cllr Juliet Layton Charlie Jackson	Not Scheduled to Start During Quarter	

		June 2025		James Brain	Quarter	
	Taxi Transition - explore the opportunity for the creation of an EV Taxi policy	Apr-24	Nov-24	Cllr Mike McKeown Jon Dearing Mandy Fathers	On Target	The policy regarding Electric Vehicles (EV) for licensed vehicles is set to be reviewed later this year.
	Cut Council Carbon Footprint, implementing sustainable practices in all council operations, emphasising energy efficiency and renewable energy adoption, across our buildings, fleet and suppliers.	Create a Climate Board, agree governance arrangements and key outcomes.	Jan-24	Review January 2025	Cllr Mike McKeown Olivia McGreggor	On Target
Increase renewable energy generation within the district, ensuring local benefit		Support and promote community owned renewables initiatives	Dec-23	Review June 2024	Cllr Mike McKeown Olivia McGreggor	On Target
	Explore the business cases for the installation of solar panels on Council owned assets.	Jan-24	Jul-24	Cllr Mike McKeown Claire Locke	Off Target, but action being taken to ensure delivery	Work has commenced at Trinity Road to install the Solar PV, with the battery pack and controls being installed. Scaffolding will be erected in July for the installation of PV panels, which will be completed in phases to limit on site disruption. Discussion progressing with New Brewery Arts but final agreement is not yet in place.
Champion initiatives to address the ecological emergency and nature recovery, focusing on reducing CO2 and conserving and enhancing the district's biodiversity and natural beauty.	Implement the new requirements around Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)	Jan-24	Review July 2024	Cllr Juliet Layton	On Target	Progress persists in the implementation of Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG), especially concerning the allocation of secured funds to fulfil necessary mitigation measures. The first mandatory BNG applications have been received and are presently under review. The primary focus has shifted towards decision notices, S106s and the legal support and capacity that is required.
				Adrian Harding		
Reduce CO2 from Buildings: Foster community-led climate action, supporting residents and businesses adopting renewable heating and improving energy efficiency.	Continue to promote and deliver Cotswold Home Solar, in partnership with MakeMyHouseGreen	Jan-23	Review July 2024	Cllr Mike McKeown Olivia McGreggor	On Target	Cotswold Home Solar continues to be promoted and delivered
	Consider the business case on optimising the delivery of high quality retrofit advice and support	Jul-24	Jul-25	Cllr Mike McKeown Cllr Juliet Layton Olivia McGreggor	On Target	Options to optimise delivery of high quality retrofit support are currently being explored and considered. A Gloucestershire-wide consortium bid was submitted to South West Net Zero Hub (SWNZH). This bid has been successful and CDC can employ a retrofit engagement officer. CDC are also contributing to creation of a Gloucestershire-wide retrofit support offer being developed through CLG (Climate Leadership Gloucestershire) partnership. Finally, CDC bid for funding from the MSC Foundation as part of a consortium. The bid was unsuccessful.
Ensure our planning policies deliver our	Subject to proposed legislative changes, complete full review of the Local Plan	Jan-24	Jun-25	Cllr Juliet Layton	On Target	CDC is currently partially updating its adopted Local Plan to make it green to the core. A consultation was held on the draft Local Plan policies between 1 February 2024 and 7 April 2024. Consultation responses are currently being considered and further supporting evidence is being produced before a final version of the Local Plan will be consulted on early in 2025. The Local Plan update will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate before June 2025 for an Independent Examination in Public led by a government appointed Inspector.
				Adrian Harding Matt Britton		
				Cllr Juliet Layton		

	Ensure our planning policies deliver our corporate priorities and promotes both carbon neutral development and infrastructure	Develop a new Cotswold Design Guide – building for the future in the Cotswolds	Sep-23	Sep-24	Adrian Harding Matt Britton	On Target	City Science have been commissioned to help deliver the new Cotswold Design Code (note guide!). A draft Design Code has been shared for comment. The final Design Code is currently being worked up.
		Work with Cirencester Town Council on the coordination of the Cirencester Town Centre Masterplan and the Cirencester Neighbourhood Plan policies	Jan-24	Review February 2024	Cllr Juliet Layton Adrian Harding Matt Britton	On Target	A consultation was held on the draft master plan between 1 February 2024 and 7 April April 2024. Consultation responses are currently being considered, which will inform a more detailed version of the masterplan. Mace, a highly experienced consultancy with a proven track record of delivering masterplans, have been appointed to assist with the delivery of the masterplan. CDC has also been working with Cirencester TC on their Neighbourhood Plan policies and comments have been provided on the draft NDP policies.
Delivering Housing	Working with our partners to explore innovative routes to deliver more affordable homes	Explore innovative approaches to housing delivery	Feb-24	Aug-25	Cllr Joe Harris Robert Weaver Alan Hope	On Target	New Strategic Housing Manager appointed in May and work has begun exploring alternative models and financing for additionality, along with seeking partnerships to support the Council's ambitions.
		Deliver an exemplar zero carbon affordable housing development in Down Ampney	Dec-23	Apr-28	Cllr Joe Harris Robert Weaver Claire Locke	On Target	Planning application submitted so awaiting outcome.
	Understanding everyone's housing needs	Support refugees to retain adequate housing	Jul-23	Review March 2025	Cllr Joe Harris Jon Dearing Caroline Clissold	On Target	This is an ongoing situation with the Housing Team working with s151's and our countywide partners to ensure that no refugee is left to rough sleep.
		Continue to monitor housing needs, using Homeseeker Plus, to inform housing strategy and implementation	Jan-24	Mar-25	Cllr Joe Harris Jon Dearing Caroline Clissold	On Target	Monitoring housing needs is ongoing with recent increases in homelessness noted. Causes for these increases are varied, but homelessness is rising in most local authorities, leaving more households competing for the same amount of available affordable accommodation. Housing is working with Strategic Housing to source additional long term temporary accommodation as well as working with local indepenant business to increase the supply of short term accommodation. A possible suitable property in Cirencester has recently come onto the market and is currently being investigated for viability.
					Cllr Joe Harris		The Cotswold Housing First project is recognised across the

		Continue to build on the success of the Housing First Project with a new county wide approach	Jan-24	Mar-25	Jon Dearing Caroline Clissold	On Target	county as being an exemplary example of how projects of this type should be approached. Successful outcomes are above national averages and the Housing Team continue to work closely with Bromford and P3 to ensure the continued success of this project. There are currently 6 individuals accommodated in Housing First, however external funding has been awarded to P3 to extend the offer to a further 2 clients, giving us 8 spaces in total. Referrals are currently being considered
	Adopting and implementing our new housing strategy	Consult and adopt the Council's new Housing strategy	Dec-23	Jun-24	Cllr Joe Harris Adrian Harding Matt Britton	On Target	
Supporting communities	Strengthen our links with town and parish councils and key stakeholders	Continue the annual programme of Town and Parish Council Forum engagement events	Jan-24	Jan-25	Cllr Joe Harris Angela Claridge	On Target	Event scheduled for 19th June, but postponed due to General Election. Now scheduled for 16th July, with focus on health interventions.
	Address the challenges of flooding and water quality and sewerage discharges	Identify opportunities to influence policy and host a sewage summit with the outcome being reported to the Council in May.	Jan-24	Oct-24	Cllr Lisa Spivey Phil Martin Matt Britton	On Target	The date for the sewage summit has now been finalised and will take place on the 8th July in the Corinium Museum in Cirencester. All 3 Water companies will be attending, along with the EA and representatives from Earth Watch. A report to Council will be present in September following the event.
		Identify gaps and bolster the Cotswold Flood wardens programme	Jan-24	Jun-24	Cllr Lisa Spivey Robert Weaver Phil Martin	On Target	After a year of recruitment and retention challenges, there is an officer in post. Her initial focus is on consolidating the scheme, and ensuring registered flood wardens are still active - at the end of June /early July this exercise is ongoing, but there are confirmed roles in Bourton-on-the Water, Bledington, Cirencester (2), Lechlade, Evenlode, Moreton-in-Marsh (2), Bibury(2) and Southrop.
	Enhance connectivity, and biodiversity in the Cotswold Water park	Continue to work with Gloucestershire County Council on the creation of a safe crossing of the Spine Road	Jan-24	Review in January 2025	Cllr Juliet Layton Andy Barge Philippa Lowe	On Target	Site meetings have been held with Gloucestershire County Council and Cotswold Lakes Trust regarding the design detailing for a new crossing. COMF moneys are funding the final stage of the design work and then a decision will need to be made on progressing towards delivery. There remains the opportunity to access UKSPF/REPF and CIL to enable the works.
		Install cycle racks, in consultation with the local community	Jan-24	Mar-25	Cllr Juliet Layton Andy Barge Philippa Lowe	On Target	On going collaboration with Life Cycle has enabled a further 10 new community bike stands to be installed with funding available for a final 14 stands.
		Work with partners to embed the Nature Recovery Plan for the Waterpark	Jan-24	Review every six months	Cllr Juliet Layton Adrian Harding Sophia Price		
	Embed Healthy Homes Act into the Cotswold Design Code	Jun-25	Jun-25	Cllr Juliet Layton Adrian Harding	Not Scheduled to Start During Quarter		

	Healthy place making through the Local Plan	Introduce a requirement for Community Access Defibrillators in new developments	Jun-25	Jun-25	Cllr Juliet Layton Adrian Harding	Not Scheduled to Start During Quarter	
		Focus on green infrastructure, to enhance biodiversity and community wellbeing	Jun-25	Jun-25	Cllr Juliet Layton Adrian Harding	Not Scheduled to Start During Quarter	
	Develop and deliver a District Council cultural strategy	Commence development of the cultural strategy	Feb-24	Sep-24	Cllr Paul Hodgkinson	On Target	
					Andy Barge Jacqueline Wright		
	Encourage resilient, well-connected and active communities that take responsibility for their own health and wellbeing	Continue to deliver an asset based community development approach	Jan-24	Apr-28	Cllr Lisa Spivey	On Target	<p>Ongoing engagements with community groups, such as the Chesterton Community Project Group, Bromford Housing, and The Salvation Army, aiming to enhance resilience and improve residents' health. The 'Getting Connected' courses for digital inclusion have positively impacted over 60 older adults, with notable participation in Bourton on the Water, Fairford, and Tetbury, where attendees have formed social groups and increased digital inclusion.</p> <p>Planning is complete for the 'DIGI DAY' project in 2024, designed to further support digital knowledge through expert guidance. Successful engagement at the St. Lawrence Church Chesterton Afternoon Tea and Chesterton Primary School Family Hub drop-ins has provided insights into resident needs and improved support for families.</p> <p>Improvements to Argos Alleyway are near completion, transforming it into a safer, brighter space. Community Fun Day events, planned with PCSO's, Bromford, Young Gloucestershire, and local schools, attracted over 300 attendees in Northleach, Stow, Moreton, and Bourton. The 'Big Dig Day' at Chesterton School fostered local family engagement and led to the formation of a gardening club.</p>
					Andy Barge Jacqueline Wright		
		Celebrate success - promote the work being done by partners across the district to inspire communities	Feb-24	Review August 2024	Cllr Claire Bloomer Andy Barge Jacqueline Wright	On Target	Planning for the Unsung Hero Awards has commenced. The scheme will be launched in July with first awards being awarded on September 25th at Full Council.
		Continue to promote community activity through Crowdfund Cotswold	Feb-24	Review August 2024	Cllr Lisa Spivey Andy Barge Joseph Walker	On Target	The Spring Round closed in April. There was one early submission which was quickly successful in meeting its target and six projects as part of the main round, collectively worth over £110k. Four projects were awarded a total of £23,000 grant, with two deferred. As of 1 July, one of the four has already hit its funding target
	Monitor and review delivery of the District leisure contract with Freedom Leisure	Aug-23	Aug-25	Cllr Paul Hodgkinson	On Target	Regular meetings have been scheduled to review performance and to identify and mitigate any risks.	
				David Stanley Andy Barge			

	Promote healthy lifestyles, fun and self-care for all ages	Continue to deliver the Healthier District and Connected Communities objectives and priorities set out in the Active Cotswolds Action Plan, and implement the Playing Pitch Strategy's action plan.	Jan-24	Review January 2025	Jacqueline Wright Cllr Paul Hodgkinson Angela Claridge Andy Barge Jacqueline Wright	On Target	Please see Active Cotswold Programme for updates
		Work with partners to develop a consistent, countywide approach to identify opportunities to support to care leavers	Jun-24	Review December 2024	Cllr Paul Hodgkinson David Stanley Andy Barge Jacqueline Wright	On Target	Through Intergrated Locality Partnership (ILP) funding we have enabled Gloucestershire Young Carers and The Door to offer further support via a safe gaming platform with remote access to youth workers. Further youth clubs are also now in place for young carers.
	Work with partners to ensure vital services cover the district, and offer support to our residents if crises hit	Continue to be a proactive member of the Cotswold Food Network Steering Group and support initiatives under the network's umbrella	Jan-24	Review January 2025	Cllr Claire Bloomer Andy Barge Jacqueline Wright	On Target	The Community Support Food Sustainability Officer role has continued to invigorate partner organisations interested in supporting people to grow their own food and access food support. A second meeting targeting Food Provision Support, in July, brought together 30 attendees looking at working better together and sharing good practice, across the district. We've brought key organisations together to look at better uses of data, to prioritise the most important issues. Our next meeting is scheduled for October. Through ILP funding, via the SLC's fund, we've also allocated funding to support the development of Food Provision working group workshops, mapping, data capacity and a feasibility study, alongside a community grant scheme.
		Continue to work with the NHS Integrated Locality Partnership to support youth mental health	Jan-24	Review January 2025	Cllr Claire Bloomer Andy Barge Jacqueline Wright	On Target	The Integrated Locality Partnership (ILP) continues to support reducing health inequalities and working with us on the distribution of the Strengthening Local Communities (SLC) funding, targeting frailty, reducing isolation and providing youth support. Coordinating priorities of the ILP/Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprises (VCSE).
		Maintain a multi-service response to the cost of living crisis, and other challenges to community wellbeing	Jan-23	Review January 2025	Cllr Claire Bloomer Claire Locke Jacqueline Wright	On Target	Utilising the connections to our partner organisations via the Cotswold Community Network (CCN) meetings and our district lead role with the Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF), we support all ages in accessing support during the cost of living crisis.
		Continue to raise the profile of the Community Safety Partnership to reduce the fear of crime and ensure residents know how, and where, to get support	Feb-24	Review February 2025	Cllr Lisa Spivey Andy Barge Jacqueline Wright	On Target	The Cotswold Community Safety Partnership (CCSP) continue to work with their new Action Plan. The Police and Crime Commissioner has been re-elected with a similar list of priorities going forward including improvements to road safety, particularly older drivers.
				Cllr Lisa Spivey/Cllr Claire Bloomer			

	Keep residents safe, through awareness raising around domestic abuse and fraud	Deliver Rural Domestic Abuse Champions programme in partnership with other rural Gloucestershire districts and Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Services	Feb-24	Mar-25	Andy Barge Jacqueline Wright	On Target	GDASS continue to offer a large number of training dates, attended online, with an aim to train employees at Cotswold and our partner organisations.
		Train frontline staff to identify Domestic Abuse and review internal processes to recognise and support victims of abuse	Feb-24	Jul-24	Cllr Lisa Spivey/Cllr Claire Bloomer Andy Barge Jacqueline Wright	On Target	GDASS continues to offer training sessions to increase the number of Rural Domestic Abuse Champions, in the district. Training is being rolled out to CDC staff, Members and Town and Parish Councillors.
		Coordinate activity under Home Office's safer Streets Fund to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour and violence against women and girls	Feb-24	Review February 2025	Cllr Lisa Spivey Andy Barge Jacqueline Wright	On Target	Violence against Women and Girls(VAWG) and reducing anti social behaviour continues to be a priority. We have added Serious Violence Duty (SVD) to our CSP plan and remain the lowest area in the county. Using information from the Gloucestershire SVD dashboard VAWG numbers in the district have dropped slightly from last year. The Safe Places scheme gives all residents a safe place to go to, in Cirencester and Bourton, with new venues being added gradually as we go through the summer months.
Supporting the economy	Work with partners to develop the skills of our residents	Work with key sectors to create new highly skilled jobs, through promotion of apprenticeship opportunities	Feb-24	Apr-28	Cllr Tony Dale Philippa Lowe Paul James	On Target	Officers continue to work with businesses from key sectors, including agritech, cyber/digital and sustainable aviation to promote employment opportunities. Discussions have taken place with key stakeholders about how to promote apprenticeship opportunities. A campaign will be launched once the new Government's intended changes to apprenticeships have been announced.
		Deliver a programme of activities in year 3 of the Shared Prosperity Fund to help those furthest from the employment market	Apr-24	Mar-25	Cllr Tony Dale Philippa Lowe Paul James	On Target	Being delivered through Gloucestershire County Council's Employment and Skills Hub Outreach programme. Output and outcome targets have been agreed. A legal agreement between the two councils has been agreed and is in the process of being executed.
	Attract and manage investment to boost the local economy	Consider the results of the digital and green survey of community buildings, and enable improvements through Rural England Prosperity Fund	Apr-24	Mar-25	Cllr Tony Dale Philippa Lowe Paul James	On Target	Three projects funded by the REPF grant scheme for village halls have been completed. A grant panel to make recommendations on several other applications is due to be held on 10th July.
		Continue to deliver against the six priorities set			Cllr Tony Dale		Three UKSPF funded projects are now underway: one to identify and promote businesses as Sustainability champions: one to

	<p>Support local businesses and farms, to enhance the vibrancy of our towns and villages, and to manage the opportunity and impact of the visitor economy</p>	<p>Continue to deliver against the six priorities set out in the Cotswold Tourism destination management plan</p>	Jan-24	Mar-25	Philippa Lowe Chris Jackson	On Target	<p>and promote businesses as sustainability champions; one to encourage the development of new experiences; one to bring enhancements and new functionality to the tourism website (www.cotswolds.com)</p>
		<p>Continue to support the Local Visitor Economy Partnership, to ensure better coordination of tourism activity and delivery against national growth targets</p>	Jan-24	Review January 2025	<p>Cllr Tony Dale</p> <p>Philippa Lowe Chris Jackson</p>	On Target	<p>Seven workstreams have been agreed by the partnership, each with an agreed action plan: these include two sustainability strands (one on transport & active travel, the other on business practices & biodiversity), business support and travel trade.</p>
	<p>Work with local and county partners to grow a strong and sustainable economy</p>	<p>Undertake a refresh of the Green Economic Strategy</p>	Feb-24	Apr-24	<p>Cllr Tony Dale</p> <p>Philippa Lowe Paul James</p>	On Target	<p>A report will be brought to Cabinet in October with a draft strategy for consultation, with the aim of bringing a final version to Cabinet in December/January.</p>
		<p>Continue to support the development of the Royal Agricultural University's Innovation Village</p>	Jan-24	Jan-25	<p>Cllr Tony Dale</p> <p>Philippa Lowe Paul James</p>	On Target	<p>The outline planning application has been validated now and will work its way through the process. In parallel, officers and the cabinet member continue to work with the RAU on related issues, including funding opportunities.</p>
		<p>Continue to work with The Growth Hub to support existing businesses and encourage the growth of start-ups, with a focus on the outreach provision supported by the Shared Prosperity Fund</p>	Jan-24	Mar-25	<p>Cllr Tony Dale</p> <p>Philippa Lowe Paul James</p>	On Target	<p>Funding for 2024-25 was approved by the Chief Executive and Cabinet Member in line with the Cabinet resolution. Officers meet monthly with representatives from the RAU/Growth Hub to monitor progress against outputs/outcomes and are confident the targets will be achieved. The Outreach Navigators continue to work across the district and have held a number of events and discovery meetings at the Moreton Area Centre, which are being well-supported.</p>