



Cotswold District Council Corporate Plan 2020-2024

Update Spring 2022



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Message from Councillor Joe Harris, Leader of the Council

The Cotswolds is well known for its landscape, and high quality of life. While we are rightly proud to call it home, we need to face up to the very real challenges of climate change, the ecological emergency, and to promote the economy, the housing and the health and leisure opportunities our residents need. This document sets out how we plan to make our region even better. When the Liberal Democrats took control of Cotswold District Council in May 2019, we had clear aims: to rebuild a council that's proactive and responsive to the needs of our residents and businesses in a fast-changing environment, and to build for the future while respecting our heritage.

These aims are underpinned by our commitment to take radical action in response to the climate crisis, and are more important than ever in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic – and we have reviewed and expanded our intentions as a result.

Our residents, communities and businesses face huge uncertainty as a consequence of the pandemic. We are determined to do everything we can to help them not only recover, and to take advantage of new opportunities in the post-COVID world.

While our fundamental aims haven't changed, our plans and priorities have been altered by events that have developed since the end of February 2020. An important part of any strategic plan is regular review. This refreshed and reviewed Corporate Plan sets out the key achievements against the commitments within the Plan to date. It also highlights the Cabinet's key priorities for 2022/23.

In September 2019 we adopted three principles that act as the foundation for everything we do. In the world in which we find ourselves today, these are more important than ever:

- rebuilding trust and confidence in the council
- providing value for money for our residents and businesses
- listening to the needs of our community, and acting on what we hear

We've already taken steps to demonstrate our commitment to these principles, including live streaming key council meetings to make them more accessible to more people, increasing public engagement and communications with our use of social media, improving our council tax support scheme to help our most vulnerable residents and carrying out a comprehensive wide-ranging budget consultation,

When Covid-19 pandemic threatened our businesses and residents, and risked our service delivery, we rose to the challenge together. During the pandemic, we were quick to ensure our elderly and vulnerable residents are looked after, issued over £50 million of government grants to businesses, enabled our leisure services provider to continue to support the health and wellbeing of our residents, provided free parking permits for NHS and care workers, and kept essential frontline services operating throughout. We did all of this in accordance with our aims and principles. Now our focus is on recovery, we will continue to make Cotswold District a better place.

There's a lot to do. We can't solve every problem in one council term, and we won't get everything right, but by listening to our residents – and acting on their concerns – we can address the big issues that affect their lives.

Aim, priorities and principles

Cotswold District is at the heart of the larger area of the Cotswolds – an area that’s known around the world for its natural beauty and heritage. Around 84,000 people call our district home, and they deserve the services and support that a progressive council can provide. This corporate strategy recognises and embraces the challenges facing the district, and states our aims and ambitions. It is underpinned by a set of action plans that describe in detail how we plan to deliver these ambitions.

Our aims

To recreate a council that’s proactive and responsive to the needs of our residents and businesses in a fast-changing environment, and to build for the future while respecting our heritage.

Our priorities

We will do this by:

- delivering our services to the highest standards
- responding to the challenges presented by the climate crisis
- providing good quality social rented homes
- presenting a local plan that’s green to the core
- helping residents and communities access the support they need for good health and wellbeing
- supporting businesses to grow in a green, sustainable manner, and to provide high value jobs

Our principles

Everything we do is built on the following principles:

- rebuilding trust and confidence in the council by promoting a culture of openness and transparency
- providing value for money for our residents and businesses by using our resources wisely and investing in the district’s fabric and future
- listening to the needs of our community, and acting on what we hear



OUR AIM:

To create a council that's proactive and responsive to the needs of our residents and businesses in a fast-changing environment, and to build for the future while respecting our heritage

OUR PRINCIPLES:

Rebuilding trust and confidence in the council by promoting a culture of openness and transparency

Providing value for money for our residents and businesses by using our resources wisely and investing in the district's fabric and future

Listening to the needs of our community, and acting on what we hear



Deliver the highest standards of service

Develop, implement and deliver a strategy for the Cotswold Water Park.

Deliver an excellent Town and Parish engagement programme

Roll our cashless car parking to our car parks across the district, including an exemplar car park at Bourton on the Water

Ensure that road & street cleaning across the district is undertaken proactively and to a high standard, as part of the 'Clean and Green Cotswolds' initiative



Respond to the Climate Crisis

Tackle the climate crisis at home

Install EV charging points across the district

Deliver the planned environmental improvements to our own assets - leading by example and saving carbon cash

Develop, facilitate and deliver an exemplar public engagement programme in relation to carbon reduction



Provide Socially Rented Homes

Embed a Housing First approach to tackling homelessness

Deliver a Council led, carbon neutral social housing scheme on the Down Ampney site

Progress a Council led, carbon neutral social housing on Council owned sites in Kemble and/or Southrop

Work with housing providers to improve the affordability and sustainability of



Make our Local Plan Green to the Core

Deliver a high quality Local Plan Consultation

Development a new Cotswold Design Guide - building for the future in the Cotswolds

Work in partnership with Cirencester Town Council on the Cirencester Neighbourhood Plan and Town Centre Masterplan

Explore the potential of natural capital and the Community Infrastructure Levy in relation to delivering natural resilience to mitigate or minimise the risks



Support Health and Well-being

Deliver the Council's Leisure Strategy

Coordinate an asset based community development approach

Work with partners to support our young people's transition into adulthood

Continue to support and communicate the Crowdfund Cotswold



Enable a Vibrant Economy

Support the visitor economy through digital transformation

Focus on growing commercial revenues in the Council that underpin a 'Green Evolution'

Work with partners to grow and attract sustainable business

Accelerate the Recovery Investment Fund to bring large scale investments to the Capital Investment Programme Board in order to reach our £1m revenue

Deliver the highest standard of services

Why is this important?

As a council, we exist to provide vital services to our residents, businesses and visitors. We will deliver our services both effectively and efficiently, ensuring they're designed to reflect our commitment to climate change, a green economy and the delivery of truly affordable homes.

What will we achieve?

Our services will be responsive, flexible, and focused on addressing the problems, concerns and needs of our residents and communities. We will increase engagement with the public to improve the detection and enforcement of enviro-crime such as fly-tipping and dog fouling, and develop a proactive approach to planning enforcement to increase the sense of civic pride that exists across the district. Above all else, we will put our residents at the heart of everything.

How will we do this?

- Establish financial resilience to enable investment in our priorities
- Create maximised flood protection measures for residential and commercial properties
- Establish excellent working relationships with town and parish councils
- Create and deliver a comprehensive parking strategy
- Provide an efficient and competitive building standards service
- Provide modern and clean public toilets
- Promote and implement civic pride initiatives

What we have done

- We responded to severe flooding over Christmas 2020, and followed up with Flood forums attended by over 100 residents. Working with Gloucestershire Rural Community Council, we invested £14,000 in a Volunteer Flood Warden scheme which launched in November 2021, recognising the knowledge and commitment of local residents, and their vital role in preventing and mitigating the impact of future flooding events.
- We have rolled out cashless parking to five of our car parks across the district, providing better payment flexibility and enabling more cost-effective management.
- We let a new contract to improve the cleanliness of our Public toilets, winning a Toilet Hygiene Award from the British Toilet Association.
- We have introduced replacement, higher quality street nameplates, enabling damaged or worn street signs to be replaced.
- We have created a civic pride initiative 'Clean and Green Cotswolds' through which we have created 2 new enviro-crime posts to tackle littering and flytipping, backed up with £100k seed funding to support local initiatives
- In October 2021, when Covid-19 restrictions allowed, we held two forum events for Town and Parish Councils, one at Trinity Road, and the other at Moreton Area Centre, with a focus on improving relationships, working together and supporting each other as well as other topics such as planning and the budget. 28 participants attended Cirencester, and 21 in Moreton. Looking ahead, a schedule of engagement events has been drafted which includes both forums for discussing topics such as 'Clean and Green', and community projects as well as the provision of training on items such as planning.

Priorities for 2022-23

- ***Ensure that road and street cleaning across the district is undertaken proactively and to a high standard, as part of the 'Clean and Green Cotswolds' initiative. (a, f)***
- ***Deliver an excellent Town and Parish Council engagement programme. (a)***
- ***Roll out cashless car parking to our car parks across the district, including an exemplar car park at Bourton on the Water (a, f)***
- ***Develop, implement and deliver a strategy for the Cotswold Water Park (a,b,e,f)***

Responding to the climate crisis

Why is this important?

Minimising and adapting to the effects of climate change is a priority for everyone. The science is settled – climate heating is manmade, and greenhouse gas emissions must be cut to zero. All major international agencies now agree that climate change, and the associated biodiversity crisis, is the biggest threat to our lives. Achieving the necessary reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and delivering nature recovery will not only impact all of us, it will require every single thing we do to change – from transport and energy generation to food production? and the way we use energy in our homes and workplaces.

What will we achieve?

Though our success will play out over a long period, everyone will benefit from a more liveable climate and a healthier, more resilient natural environment. In the short term there will be cost savings for residents and businesses, as well as employment and investment benefits.

Our aims are:

Our own operations: to reduce our corporate net emissions by two-thirds by 2030 and to zero by 2045; 100% true zero carbon electricity use; climate and ecological emergency considerations embedded in all decisions and policy; and all staff trained.

Our policy to partially review our local plan to make it 'green to the core', by 2024 is well underway. The district: to take a leadership role, influencing and working with others, and harnessing the commitment, concern, resources and goodwill of residents and communities, to promote rapid take-up of climate-friendly actions.

- Achieve a reduction in carbon emissions for the district
- Increase renewable energy generation within the district
- Reduce carbon emissions from our own operations
- Influence and encourage residents, businesses and partners to reduce their carbon emissions
- Take a leadership role on the ecological emergency and nature recovery in the Cotswolds
- Reduce the carbon footprint of our waste and recycling service

What we have done

- We adopted a Climate change strategy, that will guide our ambition to reduce our own net emissions by two thirds by 2030, and to zero by 2045
- Working with our Ubico partners, our new waste and recycling service has been rolled out extremely successfully across the district. It is now live and emptying 144,000 containers a week
- We have procured an electric vehicle charge point provider, enabling the Council to roll out EVCPs across the District, including public car parks and Council offices.
- We have been awarded £1.2m Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) funding to install energy efficiency and carbon reduction technologies at Cirencester and Bourton on the Water leisure centres, Moreton in Marsh Area Centre and the Museum Resources Centres at Northleach. This could see savings of up to approximately 1.4 million kWh of gas and electricity annually, deliver energy bill savings of up to £43,000/year, and carbon savings of 242tCO₂e/year and 8,370tCO₂e over the lifetime of the investment, carbon savings equivalent to around 10% of the Council's annual total.
- We have delivered Carbon Literacy workshop for our parish council partners, officers, and councillors
- We agreed in July 21 to issue a Local Climate Bond later this year using the Community Municipal Investment (CMI) model; we are one of the first five UK councils to become part of the Green Finance Institute and Abundance Investment's Local Climate Bond campaign. The CMI model is a way for local communities to invest in climate change projects to support the Council to meet its climate change targets.
- Working with our partner districts in Gloucestershire, we have attracted grant funding for a project to help able-to-pay owner-occupiers invest in energy efficiency and decarbonisation works in their own homes.

Priorities for 2022-23

Tackle the climate crisis at home (b, e, f)

Develop, facilitate and deliver an exemplar public engagement programme in relation to carbon reduction and climate change (a, b, e, f)

Reduce carbon emissions from our own operations (a,b,c,d,e,f)

Install EV charging points across the District (a, b, d, e, f)

Providing socially rented homes

Why is this important?

We are at the centre of a housing affordability crisis. The gap between earnings and house prices is one of the highest in the country, and there is a shortage of good quality, genuinely affordable housing to rent. People struggle to find and afford suitable accommodation, and many of our young people are forced to leave the area because they can't afford to live here. We are committed to providing good quality affordable housing, with an emphasis on social rent and provision for young people, military veterans and families.

We will promote homes that are carbon neutral in their build and fuel efficient in their use. Energy efficient homes that are powered by renewable energy are cheaper to run – contributing to long-term affordability.

We want to ensure that provision for homeless people strikes a balance between meeting their needs and managing our finances. Housing is key to the things we love about living in the Cotswolds – resilient, supportive communities, health and wellbeing, and a safe place to live and thrive. Without a home, none of these can flourish, and so it's vital we tackle the housing emergency and strive to provide a home for everyone.

What will we achieve?

We will deliver good quality housing that is genuinely affordable, and that can be adapted to meet changing housing needs over its lifetime to enable local people on low incomes to stay local. We will ensure that suitable, good quality accommodation is provided for homeless people, and will help them to move into more settled accommodation in the long-term. We will maximise the opportunities presented by our own assets as well as working with developers and partners to progress affordable housing developments within the district.

How will we do this?

- Provide more affordable housing with the emphasis on social rented accommodation
- Provide additional housing to meet the needs of the district
- Deliver the Down Ampney housing development
- Reduce reliance on bed and breakfast and hotels for emergency homeless accommodation
- Deliver social rented and affordable rented accommodation across the district

What we have done

- In 2020/21 we delivered 114 affordable homes for our residents, beating our target of 100 homes for the year.
- Working with Cirencester Housing, we brought 12 rural affordable homes to the market in North Cerney with every effort being made for them to go to local people
- Working with Bromford Housing Association, we are setting up a Contractual Joint Venture to develop social housing on Council-owned sites in Kemble and Down Ampney –delivering the homes we need cost-effectively
- Using monies generated from recent private sector developments, we are investing in two projects to deliver low carbon affordable housing.
 - We agreed a sum of £478,500 to provide 100% social rent on a scheme of 15 units at Davies Rd, Moreton in Marsh; previously an open market scheme with 40% affordable housing only. A further allocation of £102,000 will be used to enhance the environmental sustainability of the homes
 - The second allocation of £332,000 was to Gloucestershire Rural Housing Association, to deliver a rural exception site of 14 low-carbon affordable homes at Sunground, Avening; formerly a market cross subsidy development of six affordable rent and five private market homes. The scheme will provide 9 social-rented and 5 shared-ownership homes for local people.
- We aimed to reduce reliance on B&Bs and hotels for emergency homeless accommodation. Ridgeway House in Tetbury was secured and upgraded to provide nine self-contained units for homeless people, with residents moving in early in 2021. It will also provide better quality accommodation in a more stable environment for homeless local people.
- We approved funding for a 'Housing First' model to reduce rough sleeping within Cotswold District. 'Housing First' is an approach aimed at people with multiple needs who have faced persistent challenges in sustaining accommodation; they are supported by intensive case management and a personalised approach to live in their own, permanent home.
- A planning application was submitted for the Stockwells development, Moreton-in-Marsh, to be delivered by Bromford Housing Association, which will be the first social rented, Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) net zero homes within the District.

Priorities for 2022-23

Deliver a Council led, carbon neutral social housing scheme on the Down Ampney site (b, c, d, e)

Progress a Council led, carbon neutral social housing on Council owned sites in Kemble and/or Southrop (b,c,d,e)

Embed a Housing First approach to tackling homelessness

Work with housing providers to improve the affordability and sustainability of developments across the district

Make our local plan green to the core

Why is this important?

We have declared both climate and ecological emergencies in recognition of the climate crisis and to focus the delivery of our services. We're committed to ensuring the climate crisis is at the heart of a review of local plan and a strategic priority for planning and new development. We will introduce supplementary planning documents that clarify our plans for renewable energy generation and storage, housing resource efficiency, green infrastructure, sustainable drainage and low-carbon transport solutions.

What will we achieve?

While our local plan update follows national guidance, it plays an important part in the delivery of our priorities on climate change and on affordable housing. The local plan will empower us to promote climate change mitigation and to deliver affordable housing in the longer term.

We will succeed by including new climate crisis policies and standards that contribute to a carbon neutral society, and by achieving approval of our plan from the government's local plan inspector.

How will we do this?

- Develop an updated local plan that delivers our corporate priorities and promotes both carbon neutral development and infrastructure
- Create a programme of work that demonstrates our commitment to public consultation and engagement in the planning process
- Develop a coordinated strategy for Cirencester town centre that responds positively to the changing nature of the high street
- Deliver a sustainable transport strategy

What we have done

- We reviewed the adopted Local Plan, and members unanimously resolved to a partial update. a meeting of Full Council in June 2020
- We launched consultation on the Issues and Options stage of the update in February 2022, using our new consultation platform, Commonplace, receiving 250 comments in the first week
- Working with Forest of Dean and West Oxfordshire District Councils, the Local Government Association, and national experts, we've published a toolkit guiding developers and homeowners on how to make properties net-zero carbon. The toolkit has been recognised nationally as good practice as part of the Pass the Planet Campaign
- We have commissioned consultants to develop a Framework Master Plan for Cirencester's town centre, off the back of robust feasibility work and evidence gathering. This evidence will also assist with the continuing development of the Cirencester Neighbourhood Plan, being developed by local volunteers and Cirencester Town Council.
- We appointed Cotswold District Council's first ever Sustainable Transport Strategy Lead officer, responsible for developing and delivering a new sustainable transport strategy in the context of the Council's partial review of the Local Plan.

Priorities for 2022-23

Develop a new Cotswold Design Guide – building for the future in the Cotswolds (a, b, c, d, e, f)

Develop an updated local plan that delivers our corporate priorities and promotes both carbon neutral development and infrastructure (a, b, c, d, e, f)

Develop a coordinated strategy for Cirencester town centre that responds positively to the changing nature of the high street (a, b, c, d, e, f)

Explore the potential of natural capital and the Community Infrastructure Levy in relation to delivering natural resilience to mitigate or minimise the risks associated with flooding across the district (a, b, d, e, f)



Support health and wellbeing

Why is this important?

The health and wellbeing of our residents is generally good (above England and regional averages). We're one of the safest districts, with very low crime levels, and we're lucky enough to be surrounded by beautiful countryside. But we do face some challenges – not least barriers to service access, as well as loneliness and isolation, due to the rural nature of our location. The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated how our health underpins our lives, and how great our neighbourhoods are at looking out for one another. We know we cannot take our wellbeing for granted, and that we need to take responsibility for our own health.

We know sustainable behaviour change can only be achieved when residents are involved in the design and implementation of services, and so we're committed to working with community, voluntary and public sector partners to tackle these challenges and improve our residents' health and wellbeing for good.

What will we achieve?

We want our district to be the best in the UK for health and wellbeing. The pandemic taught us a lot about the resilience of our residents: their kindness, their talents, and their generosity. We want to build on this success, to ensure all our neighbourhoods are safe and enjoyable places to live, where we know – and can rely on – our neighbours, where parents take responsibility for their children, and where people feel confident to challenge bad behaviour, knowing they will be supported.

How will we do this?

- Encourage resilient, well-connected and active communities that take responsibility for their own health and wellbeing goals
- Improve equal access to quality services across the district
- Promote both mental and physical health equally, to increase awareness of mental health issues and improve the community response to people in crisis
- Promote healthy lifestyles, fun and self-care for all ages
- Ensure our housing and built environments enable residents to live healthy lives



What we have done

- We launched a new approach to community grants funding. Crowdfund Cotswold, our online crowdfunding platform, has raised an amazing £300,000 of funding from 1,333 backers, supporting 19 community-led projects in only its first year.
- We have developed a Leisure Strategy to support physical activity and sport opportunities for local residents and communities, within and beyond our leisure centres. It has three themes; Healthier District, Connected Community and Active Environment.
- A leisure management options appraisal is being undertaken to determine the most suitable delivery model, contract scope and contract terms for the Council's leisure facilities includes the Council's Corinium Museum.
- We continue to work closely with the NHS and Social Care teams to help Cotswold residents to access physical activity. We've been awarded £100,000 grant funding from the Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group to work with the local Integrated Locality Partnership and others, to build on our community focussed work to reduce health inequalities.
- Through the summer and winter school holidays, our Community Wellbeing team worked with local voluntary and community groups to deliver the 'Holiday Activity and Food programme' (HAF) aimed at children in receipt of free school meals. The purpose was to make sure children were entertained, active, educated, safe, and fed.
- We worked with Young Gloucestershire and Cotswold Counselling to develop Cotswold Lets Chat, a mental health counselling initiative for our young people, many of whom have experienced additional challenges due to Covid-19 restrictions.
- We've also launched 'Cotswold New Start', a service offering tailored support to young people between the ages of 16 -25 who are not currently involved in education, employment or training across the District.
- We worked closely with our partners and especially local groups and towns and parishes to support people self isolating through Covid restrictions. Our Help Hub assisted 543 people, providing direct advice and signposting to partner organisations. We made contact with over XX people classed as Clinically Extremely vulnerable to ensure their needs were being met.

Priorities for 2022-23

Continue to support, develop and communicate the Crowdfund Cotswold Spacehive programme. (a, b, e, f)

Coordinate an asset based community development approach (b, e, f)

Deliver the Council's Leisure strategy (a,b, e, f)

Improve equal access to quality services across the district (b, c, e, f)



Enable a vibrant economy

Why is this important?

The Cotswold economy is home to businesses of all sizes and across all sectors forming the cornerstone of our local economy. The visitor economy – built on the back of our beautiful landscape, towns and villages – accounts for a significant proportion of employment and has been severely impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic. However the Cotswold economy is about much more than tourism, and there is potential for even greater diversity. We must encourage investment and enable new infrastructure that provides the conditions for businesses to thrive and grow. Through our economic recovery plan, we want to enable businesses to become more resilient, by enhancing their digital presence and looking at different business models. Our green economic growth strategy putting the climate agenda at the heart of future growth.

What will we achieve?

We want to nurture a dynamic, vibrant and balanced economy, and to grow high value, highly skilled, low environmental impact businesses in the Cotswolds. Our region is already home to some highly creative and innovative businesses. Exciting projects in the agri-tech, cyber and digital, medical equipment and environmental technology sectors promise to provide great opportunities for local people and businesses. As a business-friendly council, we won't just communicate regularly with our local business community – we will work with them and our partners to grow the district's economy to provide better opportunities for local people.

How will we do this?

- Develop a high value, highly skilled, low environmental impact economy that includes agritech, digital/cyber, medical equipment and environmental technologies
- Help our town centres recover from COVID-19 and in the face of changing shopping habits
- Secure successful businesses in the visitor economy with higher visitor spend and more even footfall
- Attract investment in infrastructure



- Offer better qualifications for our young people
- Develop strong networks, collaboration and partnerships with businesses and organisations
- Use our investments and assets to boost the local economy
- Ensure the benefits of the internet and digital technologies are accessible to everyone in the district

What we have done

- We set up the Cotswold Economic Advisory Group and adopted a new Green Economic Growth Strategy. Ian Mean, Director of Business West Gloucestershire said “I was very impressed by their plans and enthusiasm. I was actually inspired to hold the webinar after reading one of the best council reports for a long time - Green Economic Growth Strategy”.
- We have supported local businesses through the Covid lockdown: between April 2020 to September 2021 we disbursed £70,696,028 in Local Business Grant payments, and continue to administer Government support grants
- We have supported our tourism businesses to weather Covid-19 restrictions, and benefit from the opportunities presented by staycations and higher domestic tourism. One hundred and twelve Cotswolds Tourism businesses and experiences are now bookable online via Tourism Exchange Great Britain; and online digital training videos have been watched over 300 times
- We recognise the importance of encouraging investment in the district:
 - the Royal Agricultural University and their development partner Henry Boot Developments (HBD) to bring forward their Triangle/University Gate site.
 - the prospective purchaser of the Mitsubishi site at Watermoor.
 - ZeroAvia, a leading innovator in decarbonising aviation, are developing a hydrogen-electric powered aircraft, has relocated from Cranfield to Cotswold Airport. We are working with GFirst LEP to support them to increase employees from 10 to 50 with the potential to continue to grow significantly
 - We were allocated £81,144 from the ‘Welcome Back Fund’, as an extension of the Reopening High Streets Safely Fund which runs until the end of March 2022. Working with our towns and parishes, we have approved £50,000 for physical works and £30,000 to create a ‘virtual high street’ to assist town centres.
- The construction of Cirencester College’s ‘Applied Digital Skills Centre’ is moving on at pace, completed in early 2022. The Centre presents a great opportunity to develop a workforce with the digital skills needed in the 21st century, and to grow our local digital and cyber sectors.



Priorities for 2022-23

Accelerate the Recovery Investment Fund to bring large scale investments to the Capital Investment Programme Board in order to reach our £1m Revenue (a, f)

Focus on growing commercial revenues in the Council that underpin a 'Green Evolution' (a, f)

Secure successful businesses in the visitor economy with higher visitor spend and more even footfall (b, e, f)

Work with partners to support existing businesses and encourage the growth of start-ups (a, b, d, e, f)



Table of Actions to be added - currently being updated